



# Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund

## NFWF CONTACTS

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## PARTNERS

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- International Paper
- Southern Company
- American Forest Foundation
- Arbor Day Foundation
- Altria Group
- Orton Foundation

## ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 5,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$6.1 billion.

Learn more at [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org)

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Red-cockaded woodpecker on a longleaf pine

## BACKGROUND

The Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund is dedicated to restoring, enhancing and maintaining the longleaf pine ecosystem, as well as other ecologically important forests within the historical longleaf pine range. The fund builds on more than a decade of investment to restore vanishing longleaf pine, as well as bottomland hardwoods and other forest systems in the southeastern United States.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) manages the fund in partnership with government agencies, private companies and other foundations. Funding is provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, International Paper's Forestland Stewards Partnership, Southern Company, the American Forest Foundation, the Arbor Day Foundation, Altria Group, and The Orton Foundation, an affiliate of The Moore Charitable Foundation. The fund is accelerating the implementation of America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative's Range-Wide Conservation Plan for Longleaf Pine while advancing the conservation objectives of each partner.

Since 2012, the fund has invested more than \$42 million into projects that will establish more than 120,000 acres of longleaf pine, improve nearly 2 million acres of existing longleaf habitat and the native species that rely on it, as well as support the restoration and enhancement of bottomland hardwood forests within priority focal areas within the historical longleaf pine range.

(continued)





Longleaf pine forest

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals of the Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund are to:

- Establish and enhance longleaf pine forests and other ecologically important forests within the historical longleaf pine range
- Restore and improve the longleaf pine understory
- Support the recovery of iconic and keystone species
- Increase technical assistance and outreach to private landowners
- Strengthen organizational capacity
- Sustain healthy forests that benefit wildlife and communities

The fund targets investments within “Significant Geographic Areas” anchored by military bases and installations, national forests, national wildlife refuges, as well as state and other protected lands to expand, improve and connect existing longleaf pine, bottomland hardwoods, and other ecologically significant forest habitats to establish large-scale, healthy ecosystems. The fund also supports locally-based partnerships dedicated to restoring forest habitats, and providing technical assistance to private landowners across longleaf pine’s historical range. Grant investments seek to achieve specific conservation outcomes, with success tracked to evaluate gains in healthy forests, recovery of native wildlife,

as well as water and carbon benefits provided by well-managed forests.

## 2020 LONGLEAF LANDSCAPE STEWARDSHIP FUND AWARDS

In 2020, the fund awarded more than \$5.6 million in funding to twenty-three projects with a grantee match of \$6.9 million, for a total conservation impact of more than \$12.5 million. Together, the grants are expected to establish nearly 15,000 acres and improve more than 335,000 additional acres of habitat across the longleaf pine’s historical range. Grantees will provide educational and technical assistance related to longleaf restoration to more than 5,000 private landowners, with an anticipated 600 landowners taking action to restore and enhance longleaf pine habitat on their properties.



Artificial cavity for red-cockaded woodpeckers