



NFWF

Cumberland Plateau Stewardship Fund

NFWF CONTACTS

Jonathan Scott

Program Director

Southern Forests

jonathan.Scott@nfwf.org

202-595-2609

Zachary Bernstein

Program Coordinator

Southern Region

zachary.Bernstein@nfwf.org

202-595-2433

PARTNERS

- USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- International Paper
- Altria Group
- American Forest 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

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1133 15th Street, NW

Suite 1000

Washington, D.C., 20005

202-857-0166



Golden-winged warbler

BACKGROUND

The Cumberland Plateau Stewardship Fund (CPSF) was established in 2013 to restore forest and freshwater habitats to conditions that will improve associated wildlife species and the health of freshwater systems, while advancing strategies to support working forests. The fund helps nonprofits, government agencies, and other local partners work together to accelerate restoration of shortleaf pine and oak savanna, riparian forest, and in-stream habitats in strategic geographies within the greater Cumberland Plateau region.

The CPSF will award competitive grants annually that support five priority strategies: establishing shortleaf pine and oak forests; enhancing and maintaining existing shortleaf pine-oak ecosystems; restoring and enhancing riparian forests and watershed health; expanding and coordinating technical assistance and outreach; and facilitating conservation easements. In nine years, the fund has invested a total of \$8.4 million in 55 projects, leveraging nearly \$20 million in conservation resources.

The CPSF is a public-private partnership, with federal funding provided by the USDA's Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and private funding from International Paper's Forestland Stewards Partnership, Altria Group and the American Forest Foundation's Southern Woods for At-Risk Wildlife Partnership.

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GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

The goals of the Cumberland Plateau Stewardship Fund are to:

- Restore and enhance shortleaf pine and oak savanna forests on public and private lands
- Restore and enhance riparian forests and freshwater habitat
- Increase populations of forest and grassland birds, as well as fish, amphibians and other aquatic species
- Engage private landowners through outreach, training and technical assistance activities that contribute to the restoration and enhancement of habitats and wildlife, and supports working forests by demonstrating their environmental and socioeconomic benefits

The fund's investments are targeted primarily to focal areas that were selected by scientifically analyzing upland and riparian forest and freshwater systems within the greater Cumberland Plateau region. These focal areas represent locations with the greatest potential for forest and freshwater habitat restoration for terrestrial and aquatic species based on resource mapping, interviews with practitioners in the field, and capacity to carry out habitat restoration work.



Freshwater mussels



Black-throated blue warbler