



Longleaf Landscape 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
 202-595-433

PARTNERS

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

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



Longleaf pine forest

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and eleven partners announced the 2021-year round of funding for Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund projects. Twenty-one new forest conservation grants totaling more than \$5.3 million were awarded. The twenty-one awards announced generated \$6.9 million in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$12.2 million.

The Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund is a landmark public-private partnership that expands, enhances, and accelerates longleaf pine conservation across the ecosystem's historical range. The fund supports projects that advance the longleaf pine ecosystem through collaborative and result-oriented actions that contribute to the restoration goals of the America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative.

(continued)



Bachman's sparrow

Longleaf Pine Restoration on Public and Private Lands in the Fort Stewart/Altamaha Area (GA) - II

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance

Grant Amount:\$275,000
 Matching Funds:\$310,003
 Total Project Amount:\$585,003

Advance longleaf pine ecosystem restoration on public and private lands in southeast Georgia through prescribed burning, forest thinning, longleaf planting, a longleaf awareness social media campaign, and restoration of native groundcover. Project will restore and enhance more than 12,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat on high-priority lands around Fort Stewart, benefitting gopher tortoise, northern bobwhite and other open-pine and grassland-dependent species.

Partnering to Restore Longleaf Pine Across the Chattahoochee Fall Line (AL, GA)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$224,964
 Matching Funds:\$237,850
 Total Project Amount:\$462,814

Accelerate longleaf pine habitat restoration and enhancement on more than 20,900 acres of public and private land in west Georgia and east Alabama, benefitting red-cockaded woodpecker, gopher tortoise and other at-risk species. Project will enhance and maintain existing longleaf pine habitat with prescribed fire and forest thinning, establish longleaf pine through plantings, and engage landowners through outreach and technical assistance, focusing on lands around Fort Benning.

Restoring and Enhancing Longleaf Pine Habitat in the Florida Panhandle (FL)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy - Florida

Grant Amount:\$300,000
 Matching Funds:\$300,000
 Total Project Amount:\$600,000

Restore and enhance more than 30,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat within the Apalachicola Regional Stewardship Alliance area of the Florida Panhandle located between the Aucilla and Choctawhatchee rivers. Project will plant longleaf pine, implement prescribed fire, thinning and invasive species treatments in existing longleaf habitat, and provide financial assistance to priority private landowners for longleaf pine restoration, improving habitat for the eastern indigo snake and Bachman's sparrow.

Conserving Longleaf Forests, Wildlife Habitat, and Water Resources through Innovative Partnerships (FL, GA, LA, SC, TX)

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance, Inc.

Grant Amount:\$411,000
 Matching Funds:\$368,950
 Total Project Amount:\$779,950

Restore and enhance 5,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat within priority drinking water supply watersheds in the Southeast. Project will build partnerships between forestry and conservation organizations, landowners and drinking water supply utilities and provide private landowners with technical and financial assistance to restore and enhance longleaf pine habitat, protecting drinking water supplies and benefitting the gopher frog and other at-risk forested-wetland dependent species.

(continued)



Prescribed fire in a Longleaf forest

Sewee Longleaf Restoration and Enhancement (SC) - III

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$300,000

Matching Funds:\$319,733

Total Project Amount:\$619,733

Restore, maintain and protect more than 60,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat on public and private lands in the South Carolina coastal plain, benefitting birds and imperiled amphibians. Project will deploy a seasonal fire crew to increase prescribed burning, expand private landowner engagement through a forest landowners association, protect working forests and longleaf pine habitat through voluntary conservation easements, and host a fire festival to build a culture supportive of burning.

Project Name: Restoring Longleaf Pine and Species Habitat on Large-Acreage Private Lands (AL, GA, LA)

Grantee: Forest Landowners Association

Grant Amount:\$150,000

Matching Funds:\$382,000

Total Project Amount:\$532,000

Establish 500 acres of longleaf pine and improve 1,000 acres of existing longleaf forest with prescribed fire on large-acreage private lands in Alabama, Georgia, and Louisiana. Project will address barriers to restoring longleaf pine on large-acreage private lands by building trust among stakeholders and developing innovative tools to mitigate risks associated with at-risk and listed species regulations, and providing technical and financial assistance to support planting and management of longleaf pine.

Expanding Longleaf Pine Restoration and Prescribed Fire Delivery in the North Carolina Sandhills

Grantee: National Wildlife Federation

Grant Amount:\$350,000

Matching Funds:\$540,004

Total Project Amount:\$890,004

Advance longleaf pine establishment, application of prescribed fire, and longleaf pine restoration on private lands, which will benefit longleaf pine and grassland adapted bird species, such as Bachman’s sparrow and northern bobwhite. Project will engage 300 landowners through the NC Sandhills Prescribed Burn Association including workshops, field days and one-on-one relationship development, resulting in more than 8,000 acres of prescribed burning and 600 acres of longleaf pine planted on private lands. Partners will continue to build a culture of prescribed burning within the Sandhills landscape through extensive public education programs including fire festivals that will reach 2,000 youth and local citizens.

Habitat and Species Recovery in the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership Landscape (FL, AL)

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance

Grant Amount:\$300,000

Matching Funds:\$1,085,094

Total Project Amount:\$1,385,094

Restore and maintain 149,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat in south Alabama and the western panhandle region of Florida to benefit rare and declining species such as the Bachman’s sparrow, red-cockaded woodpecker, gopher tortoise and northern bobwhite. Project will provide technical assistance to private landowners and deploy an ecosystem support team to implement prescribed burning, plant longleaf pine, remove invasive species, and support rare species recovery on public and private lands.

(continued)

Coordinating Local Implementation Team Capacity and Landowner Technical Assistance and Outreach (AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TX, VA) - V

Grantee: The Longleaf Alliance

Grant Amount:\$250,000

Matching Funds: \$300,000

Total Project Amount:\$550,000

Improve and sustain coordination and exchange of information among 18 multi-partner local implementation teams that organize, plan and deliver conservation actions to restore and enhance the longleaf pine ecosystem. Project will support strategic on-the-ground restoration through conservation planning, as well as tracking and communication of longleaf pine restoration accomplishments.

Restoring Longleaf Using Grazing and Prescribed Fire (LA, TX)

Grantee: Louisiana Tech University

Grant Amount:\$224,500

Matching Funds:\$307,001

Total Project Amount:\$531,501

Enhance 1,000 acres of longleaf pine forests in southwestern Louisiana and southeastern Texas through integrating cattle grazing with prescribed burning. Project will monitor ecological benefits of prescribed burning with cattle grazing on multiple private forestlands on which it is being conducted, and landowners and natural resource professionals will be trained on these benefits as well as the logistics of cattle grazing in longleaf pine through a multi-media outreach program.

Restoring Longleaf Pine and At-Risk Species Habitat in the Cape Fear Arch Region (NC)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$299,942

Matching Funds:\$651,208

Total Project Amount:\$951,150

Increase prescribed burning of longleaf pine habitat, build public support for longleaf conservation through the Fire in the Pines Festival, and mentor private landowners on longleaf pine restoration in eastern North Carolina. Project will establish 160 acres of longleaf pine, complete controlled burns on 22,554 acres, and improve management of an additional 1,099 acres of longleaf pine habitat, benefitting red-cockaded woodpecker and Bachman's sparrow.

Restoring and Managing Longleaf in Northwest Georgia and Northeast Alabama

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$224,999

Matching Funds:\$225,000

Total Project Amount:\$449,999

Plant, maintain, and improve montane longleaf pine stands on both public and private lands in northwest Georgia and northeast Alabama. Project will establish 2,000 acres of new longleaf pine through plantings and improve and maintain an



Gopher tortoise

additional 48,000 acres of existing longleaf pine habitat with prescribed fire, benefiting northern pine snake, fox squirrel and Bachman's sparrow.

Longleaf Pine Restoration and Management on Private Lands in East Texas

Grantee: Texas A&M Forest Service

Grant Amount:\$150,000

Matching Funds:\$150,000

Total Project Amount:\$300,000

Restore, enhance, and conserve longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood ecosystems on private lands in East Texas. Project will plant 700 acres of longleaf pine, improve an additional 4,800 acres of existing longleaf habitat through other forest management treatments, improve 500 acres of bottomland hardwood habitat, and protect 500 acres of existing longleaf pine habitat with conservation easements, benefitting northern bobwhite, Bachman's sparrow and Swainson's warbler.

Increasing the Pace and Scale of Fire in the Central Longleaf Pine Belt of Alabama

Grantee: Tall Timbers Research

Grant Amount:\$275,999

Matching Funds:\$277,594

Total Project Amount:\$553,593

Provide education, outreach and prescribed fire assistance to address impediments to prescribed burning in Central Alabama. Project will develop demonstration sites on public lands, work with local universities to integrate fire ecology into their curriculum and provide technical support to private landowners, including historically underserved landowners, to complete 2,100 acres of prescribed burning on private lands, benefitting northern bobwhite and Bachman's sparrow.

(continued)

Advancing Longleaf Pine Restoration on Private Lands in the South Carolina Sandhills Region

Grantee: Chesterfield County

Grant Amount:\$259,000
 Matching Funds:\$262,040
 Total Project Amount:\$521,040

Establish and improve 3,200 acres of longleaf pine forest on private lands in Chesterfield and Darlington Counties, South Carolina, which will benefit northern bobwhite, Bachman's sparrow, and southern hognose snake. Project will utilize geospatial data to improve outreach to high priority landowners, provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners to restore and maintain longleaf pine, and increase prescribed burning capacity with a burn specialist.

Restoring Native Grasslands on Private Lands in Alabama

Grantee: Alabama Wildlife Federation

Grant Amount:\$118,000
 Matching Funds:\$118,000
 Total Project Amount:\$236,000

Engage private landowners through outreach and technical assistance to improve habitat for northern bobwhite and other grassland dependent species in priority areas across Alabama. Project will develop best management practice recommendations for at least 80 landowners and assist with the implementation of 1,500 acres of native grassland habitat restoration and management.

Expanding Prescribed Fire Delivery to Restore Southeast Forests (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA)

Grantee: North Carolina State University

Grant Amount:\$180,000
 Matching Funds:\$0
 Total Project Amount:\$180,000

Expand and accelerate the implementation of prescribed fire to restore and enhance longleaf pine habitat and other fire dependent forest and grassland communities within the Southeast. Project will engage landowners, including underserved landowners, and fire practitioners through technical assistance, training and outreach including fire training events, and assistance to prescribed burn associations and prescribed fire councils, to increase the use of prescribed fire.

Restoring and Maintaining Longleaf Pine in the Ocala Local Implementation Team Geography (FL) - II

Grantee: Alachua Conservation Trust, Inc.

Grant Amount:\$272,000
 Matching Funds:\$272,000
 Total Project Amount:\$544,000

Enhance 16,000 acres of existing longleaf habitat and establish an additional 1,000 acres of longleaf pine seedlings to benefit red-cockaded woodpecker, Bachman's sparrow, and gopher tortoise in north-central Florida. Project will engage private landowners in longleaf restoration through a prescribed burn association, and will restore and enhance longleaf pine habitat on the Ocala National Forest and public and private lands surrounding Camp Blanding Joint Training Center.

Expanding Longleaf Pine Restoration in South Mississippi

Grantee: Mississippi Forestry Association

Grant Amount:\$295,995
 Matching Funds:\$299,125
 Total Project Amount:\$595,120

Plant 575 acres of longleaf pine, certify 65 family forest tracts into the American Tree Farm Certification Program, improve 450 acres of existing longleaf habitat, provide technical guidance in sustainable management of natural resources on private lands, and educate landowners about opportunities to enhance/improve longleaf forest habitats through technical guidance and cost-share practices. This project will occur within NRCS longleaf counties of South Mississippi.

Restoring Longleaf Pine Habitat in Virginia

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount:\$204,949
 Matching Funds:\$215,480
 Total Project Amount:\$420,429

Advance longleaf pine habitat restoration on 11,860 acres of private and public lands in southeastern Virginia through longleaf seedling planting, prescribed burning, selective timber thinning and groundcover restoration. Project will benefit savannah-dependent bird species, including northern bobwhite, and will support red-cockaded woodpecker recovery through translocation of birds to the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge.

Improving Habitat for At-Risk Species in South Alabama's Longleaf Forests

Grantee: Alabama Forestry Foundation

Grant Amount:\$259,600
 Matching Funds:\$340,000
 Total Project Amount:\$599,600

Engage family forest owners in south Alabama to restore and enhance longleaf pine forests to improve habitat for at-risk species, such as gopher tortoise, eastern indigo snake and eastern hognose snake. Project will reach and educate landowners through direct mail and social media marketing, workshops and field days, restore 13,000 acres of longleaf through plantings, prescribed burning, and invasive species control, and collect gopher tortoise population data on private lands.



Young longleaf pine