



NFWF

# New England Forests and Rivers Fund

## NFWF CONTACTS

**Amanda Bassow**

Director,  
Northeast Regional Office  
amanda.bassow@nfwf.org  
202-857-0166

**John Wright**

Manager,  
Northeast Regional Office  
john.wright@nfwf.org  
201-595-2478

## PARTNERS

- Avangrid Foundation
- Zoetis Foundation
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## 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 6,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$7.4 billion.

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

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1133 15th Street, NW  
Suite 1000  
Washington, D.C., 20005  
202-857-0166



Eastern brook trout

## BACKGROUND

The New England Forests and Rivers Fund is dedicated to restoring and sustaining healthy forests and rivers that provide habitat for diverse native bird and freshwater fish populations in the New England states, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont, plus the Lake Champlain, Saint Lawrence River and Upper Hudson watersheds in New York. This program annually awards competitive grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$200,000 each.

From 2015 through 2022, the program has awarded over \$12.3 million in grant funds, matched by over \$22.2 million from grantees for a total conservation impact of more than \$34.5 million, to 93 grants that will restore early successional and mature forest habitat, modify and replace barriers to fish movement, restore riparian and instream habitat, and engage hundreds of volunteers in forest habitat restoration and stream connectivity projects.



(continued)



Wood thrush

**These projects are expected to:**

- Open 1,271 miles of streams for eastern brook trout and river herring through modification or replacement of 168 barriers to fish passage
- Restore 5,663 acres of young forest habitat for New England cottontail and American woodcock
- Restore 7,962 acres of mature forest habitat for black-throated blue warbler and wood thrush
- Engage 2,470 volunteers in on-the-ground conservation
- the management of public and private forestlands to create a mosaic of mixed age forests in the region
- Provide incentives to strengthen habitat conservation on working forests through flexible technical assistance that is appropriate for the forest stage(s) being targeted
- Improve the quality of river and stream systems through targeted riparian and stream restoration
- Reduce barriers to fish passage and increase fish access to high quality habitat
- Accelerate adoption of conservation practices on agricultural lands, with a particular focus on livestock operations

Funding for the New England Forests and Rivers Fund is provided by the Avangrid Foundation, the Zoetis Foundation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Forest Service.

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- Strengthen the health of forest systems by improving

The fund's investments are targeted to contiguous forest blocks of at least 5,000 acres across New England and eastern New York that use a range of forest management practices to create a diversity of age and structure for native bird species, and where populations of brook trout and river herring can most benefit from removal of