



NFWF

Northeast Forests and Rivers Fund

NFWF CONTACTS

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PARTNERS

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Sylvamo
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) works with partners to foster sustainable and impactful conservation solutions so that people and nature thrive together. Chartered by Congress in 1984, NFWF has grown to become the nation's largest conservation foundation. Since its founding, NFWF has funded more than 23,300 projects that have generated a total conservation impact of \$11.3 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org



Bobolink

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Sylvamo, U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced a 2025-year round of funding for Northeast Forests and Rivers Fund projects. Four new grants to restore and sustain healthy rivers, forests and grasslands totaling \$1.1 million were awarded. The four awards announced leveraged more than \$1.2 million in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$2.3 million.

The program seeks to restore the quality and connectivity of stream and riparian habitats with a focus on improving habitat for river herring, Atlantic salmon, brook trout and wood turtles; improving management of forest blocks to enhance age and structural diversity, resulting in improved forest conditions for native wildlife, with a focus on improving habitat for golden-winged warbler and New England cottontail; and promoting hayfield management that allows for successful grassland bird breeding, with a specific focus on habitat for bobolink.

(continued)



Brook trout

Finalizing Planning and Design at Grand Falls to Restore Fish Passage along the St. Croix River (ME)

Grantee: Maine Department of Marine Resources
 Grant Amount: \$299,500
 Matching Funds: \$300,000
 Total Project Amount: \$599,500
 Finalize designs for improved fish passage at Grand Falls on the St. Croix River in Maine that utilize a variety of upstream and downstream fishways that improve access to spawning grounds and increase survival of multiple aquatic species as they migrate. Project will enhance watershed health and deliver final engineered designs that will ultimately open 680 miles of stream for multiple native species, including river herring, Atlantic salmon, American shad, American eel and sea lamprey.

Improving Forest Health and Golden-winged Warbler Habitat on State Land in St. Lawrence Uplands (NY)

Grantee: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
 Grant Amount: \$222,300
 Matching Funds: \$222,400
 Total Project Amount: \$444,700
 Implement forest management best practices on state forests in New York's St. Lawrence Uplands, which will consist of applying a strategic approach using multiple silvicultural techniques to reduce stand density, retain selected hardwoods for vertical structure, control invasive plants, and plant native trees and shrubs where needed to support regeneration. Project will improve forest health and create young forest habitat for golden-winged warblers on 500 acres.

Increasing Adoption of Grassland Habitat Management to Protect Fledgling Bobolink (MA, NH, VT)

Grantee: Massachusetts Audubon Society
 Grant Amount: \$299,600
 Matching Funds: \$429,300
 Total Project Amount: \$728,900
 Build capacity for The Bobolink Project, a regional program in five northeastern states that compensates farmers in high-value grasslands to delay hayfield mowing to improve the reproductive success of ground-nesting grassland birds including bobolink and eastern meadowlark. Project will double the acreage of fields enrolled in delayed haying with an additional 1,400 acres, simplify the process for farmers, and provide technical assistance to farmers and landowners in the region.

Restoring Golden-winged Warbler Young Forest Habitat on Private Land via Strategic Partnerships (NY)

Grantee: The Ruffed Grouse Society
 Grant Amount: \$283,400
 Matching Funds: \$283,500
 Total Project Amount: \$566,900
 Build technical capacity to implement forest habitat restoration and scale habitat delivery across a 59,000-acre landowner network in northern New York. Project will restore early successional and mixed-age forest habitat for golden-winged warbler, American woodcock and ruffed grouse through the addition of a new full-time forester, which will result in 2,400 acres under improved management and 388 acres of direct restoration, and increased landowner engagement through field tours and workshops.