



NFWF

Acres for America 2017 Grant Slate

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ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores our nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats. Created by Congress in 1984, NFWF directs public conservation dollars to the most pressing environmental needs and matches those investments with private funds.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

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Redwood forest, California

OVERVIEW

Acres for America, one of the most effective public-private partnerships in the history of U.S. conservation efforts, announced \$3.8 million in grants to protect and connect wildlife habitat across more than 100,000 acres in California, Hawaii, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, North Carolina and Texas. These grants will leverage an additional \$81.2 million in matching contributions, pushing the total conservation investment to more than \$85 million.

Acres for America is NFWF's premier land conservation program. Since 2005, NFWF and Walmart have been supporting the conservation of critical habitats for birds, fish, plants and wildlife; connecting existing protected lands to unify wild places and protect migration routes; providing access for people to enjoy the outdoors; and ensuring the future of local economies that depend on forestry, ranching and recreation.

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Waimea Bay, Oahu, Hawaii

Since its inception, Acres for America has funded 81 projects in 35 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico to permanently protect more than 1.3 million acres — far surpassing its original goal of 100,000 acres — and connecting over 10 million acres.

The program's priorities include the following:

- Conserve critical habitats for birds, fish, plants and wildlife
- Connect existing protected lands to unify wild places and protect migration routes
- Provide access for people to enjoy the outdoors
- Ensure the future of local economies that depend on forestry, ranching and recreation

Acquisition of the Waimea Native Forest on the Shores of Oahu, Hawaii (HI)

Grantee: The Trust for Public Land

Grant Amount: \$600,000

Matching Funds: \$3,700,000

Total Amount: \$4,300,000

The Trust for Public Land will help acquire the rugged 3,716 acre Waimea Native Forest on the North Shore

of Oahu, Hawaii to complete the protection of the entire Waimea watershed from mountaintop to ocean. The project will secure suitable habitat for rare birds, including the Newell's shearwater and the Oahu elepaio, along with numerous other threatened and endangered wildlife and plant species. The forest will also protect the headwaters of two major streams which flow directly to Waimea Bay and the Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.

Conservation Easement on Mailliard Ranch for the Protection of Redwood Forests in Northern California (CA)

Grantee: Save the Redwoods League

Grant Amount: \$250,000

Matching Funds: \$26,750,000

Total Amount: \$27,000,000

Save the Redwoods League will help place a conservation easement on the 14,898-acre Mailliard Ranch working forest. The grant will help conserve high-quality redwood, oak woodland and riparian forests, including 1,000 acres of old-growth redwoods. The ranch also hosts 28 miles of streams that provide habitat for migrating salmon and

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Canada lynx

steelhead, and will connect with another 82,000 acres of contiguous protected lands.

Acquisition of Temescal Ranch in Southern California (CA)

Grantee: The Trust for Public Land

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Matching Funds: \$4,480,000

Total Amount:.....\$4,980,000

The Trust for Public Land will help acquire the 6,006-acre Temescal Ranch, which will be the largest conservation project in Los Angeles County history. The grant will conserve native forest and shrub habitats, along with wildlife corridors that support sensitive species like the California condor and Southern California steelhead. The project also will expand outdoor recreation opportunities.

Conservation of the Swift

Creek-Stillwater Linkage Area of Montana (MT)

Grantee: The Trust for Public Land

Grant Amount: \$645,000

Matching Funds: \$22,500,000

Total Amount:.....\$23,145,000

The Trust for Public Land will acquire 13,398 acres of critical watershed and forestland in the Swift Creek – Stillwater Linkage Area of Montana. The project will prevent subdivision and development in the neighboring resort town of Whitefish, enhance landscape-scale connectivity for species, from grizzly bear to bull trout, and ensure public recreational access.

Conservation of Texas' Longleaf Ridge (TX)

Grantee: Texas A&M Forest Service

Grant Amount: \$270,000

Matching Funds: \$2,450,000

Total Amount:.....\$2,720,000

Texas A&M Forest Service will restore and protect a portion of Longleaf Ridge connecting the Angelina and Sabine National Forests north of Beaumont. The project will use a conservation easement to permanently protect 5,500 acres

of managed timberland containing longleaf pine woodlands, beech slope forests, spring-fed creeks, pitcher plant bogs and other rare plant species.

Acquisition for Minnesota's Boundary Water

Canoe Area Wilderness in Superior National Forest (MN)

Grantee: The Conservation Fund

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Matching Funds: \$9,500,000

Total Amount:.....\$10,000,000

The Conservation Fund will work towards Phase 1 of this project to serve as a key catalyst toward the ultimate goal of acquiring 50,000 acres of land within and around the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, which spans one million acres within the Superior National Forest of northeastern Minnesota. The grant will help protect habitat for moose, bald eagles, Canada lynx, spruce grouse, Connecticut warbler and boreal owl, among other species. This project will also enable up to an additional 50,000 acres of privately held land to be transferred to the state of Minnesota to provide wildlife habitat, recreational uses and sustainable timber production.

Conserving Michigan's North Point Peninsula (MI)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Matching Funds: \$3,500,000

Total Amount:.....\$4,000,000

The Nature Conservancy will help purchase 1,384 acres on the North Point Peninsula in Michigan, including 4 miles of Lake Huron's shoreline. The acquisition will safeguard this pristine area, which includes habitat for migratory birds and coastal wetlands that are important habitat for fish, wildlife and rare plants. In addition, the project will significantly augment the ecotourism, educational and youth programs of the neighboring Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

Blackwater Rivers Land Protection in North Carolina (NC)

Grantee: North Carolina Coastal

Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy

Grant Amount: \$550,000

Matching Funds: \$8,350,000

Total Amount:.....\$8,900,000

The North Carolina Coastal Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy, as part of a regional partnership, will purchase 5,200 acres of longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood forest habitat along the Waccamaw and Black rivers in eastern North Carolina. This effort will safeguard more than 11 miles of river, provide habitat for dozens of at-risk wildlife species, and create public access for hiking, hunting and boating. This grant will also secure the protection of a stand of 1,600 year-old bald cypress, the oldest known trees east of the Rocky Mountains.