



## Support the Forest Legacy Program

Working forests play an important role in sustaining the economic, environmental, and social well-being of American communities through the jobs they support and the benefits they provide, including clean air and water, wildlife habitat, and space to recreate.

The Forest Legacy Program provides critical federal assistance to states, private landowners, and conservation groups to protect working forests through permanent conservation easements and fee acquisitions. Since 1990, the program has helped to keep working forests working, and in turn, providing a multitude of public benefits on over 2.92 million acres across 53 states and territories.

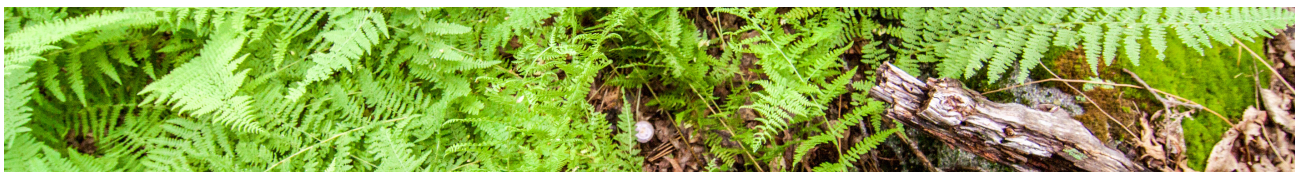
**In FY 2023, state foresters ask that \$128 million be appropriated to the Forest Legacy Program to keep working forests working.**

### 2021 Forest Legacy Successes:

**In Connecticut**, the Forest Legacy Program helped seven private landowners implement conservation easements on 1,553 forested acres within the Whip-Poor-Will Woods (WPWW), a 135,000-acre forested landscape that spans Connecticut and Massachusetts. The WPWW hosts several of Connecticut's endangered wildlife species; it also showcases the benefits of active forest management and helps filter and regulate water supply within the Connecticut River Watershed.

**In Tennessee's Cumberland Plateau**, a conservation easement made possible by the Forest Legacy Program will protect 11,773 acres of hardwood-dominated forest in Fentress and Overton Counties. The Skinner Mountain Forest project completes a three-phase 18,705-acre effort to conserve wildlife and expand public access for outdoor recreation. The site's unique karst topography characterized by limestone geology with caves, sinkholes, and underground streams, provides critical habitat for ten different bat species.

**In the Northwest**, the second Boundary Connections (BC2) Forest Legacy project will protect 2,343 acres of an internationally recognized wildlife corridor and connect over 1 million acres of USDA Forest Service land with the Selkirk and Purcell Mountains of Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Canada. BC2 provides habitat for five federally listed species – grizzly bear, woodland caribou, bull trout, sturgeon, and Canada lynx – and will ensure the conservation of productive forests, that in the last 50 years, produced 48MMBF.



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