

Resource: The National Forest Foundation (NFF)

Mission and Values

The National Forest Foundation, chartered by Congress, engages Americans in community-based and national programs that promote the health and public enjoyment of the 193-million-acre National Forest System, and administers private gifts of funds and land for the benefit of the National Forests.

Working on behalf of the American public, the NFF leads forest conservation efforts and promotes responsible recreation. We believe these lands, and all they provide, are an American treasure and are vital to the health of our communities.

Our National Forests and Grasslands are at the core of America's natural riches, and yet, today these treasures are threatened by unprecedented challenges. Working with the U.S. Forest Service and partners, NFF's goal is to leverage our best thinking, conservation capacity, and community action to measurably improve the health of our National Forests and Grasslands.

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Field Programs

Working across the country, the NFF Field Programs connect Americans to their National Forests and foster on the ground restoration projects. NFF field staff act as project managers to engage communities, develop strategies, and enter into agreements with local Forest Service units to respond to immediate needs and get creative to add capacity for projects. Field staff also play an important role in raising and managing funds for projects.

[Explore the work of NFF Regional Offices.](#)

Tree Planting

Natural disturbances such as wildfire, insects, and disease outbreaks are jeopardizing the very things that make our forests so wonderful. 50 Million for Our Forests launched in 2018 to address reforestation needs and raise awareness, and foster connections to our National Forests. Since that time, NFF has planted more than 14 million trees! The process for tree planting projects is as follows: the Forest Service Washington Office puts out a request for proposals twice per year, silviculturists identify planting needs and submit proposals for funding, then there is a request reforestation partner, projects are then compiled at Washington Office and shared with NFF, and then NFF pays for seedling costs through corporate partners, small business partners, individual donors, tribute gifts, and fundraisers. [Learn more here.](#)

Conservation Awards

Through its on-the-ground conservation programs, the National Forest Foundation supports action-oriented projects that directly enhance the health and well-being of America's National Forests and Grasslands and that engage the public in stewardship. Nonprofit organizations dedicated to addressing natural resource issues on National Forests and Grasslands can apply for support to complete projects through [three distinct grant programs](#). Additionally, the NFF provides funding opportunities that address specific strategic initiatives aligned with our mission and goals.

Conservation Connect

A learning network, Conservation Connect serves community-based groups and Forest Service employees involved in collaborative stewardship on National Forest System lands, and complements the NFF's grant programs. Conservation Connect's objectives are to foster peer-to-peer and community-to-agency connections, support exchange of knowledge, tools and best practices, identify common challenges and move to team problem-solving, promote the development of new understandings around the ecological, social, and economic objectives of collaborative forest stewardship, and build the organizational capacity of collaborative groups. [Search the NFF's Collaboration Toolkit.](#)

Helpful links and resources

[Your National Forest Magazine](#)

[Get Involved—Ways to Give](#)

[Treasured Landscapes, Unforgettable Experiences](#)

[Corporate Partnerships](#)

[Annual Reports](#)