Western Maine  The New England Forestry Foundation (NEFF) works with Western Maine woodland owners interested in improving fish and wildlife habitat. We will work with you to assess the habitat value of your woods, provide technical assistance to improve habitat, and connect you with funding to pay for improvements if your land qualifies. Landowners can be reimbursed at a flat rate per practice to do habitat improvements on qualifying private land in a 2.3-million acre area that runs roughly from Bethel to Moosehead and west and north the New Hampshire and Quebec borders.

Why Now?  If we act now, we can continue building resilience into this working forest and wildlife haven that is globally important for nesting birds, serves as a wildlife travel corridor between forests to the south and north, is home to 139 rare plants and animals, provides the last best habitat in the lower 48 for wild brook trout and moose, and is home to the headwaters of two major rivers. If you own 10+ acres of woods, let’s talk.
THE PROCESS

Step 1: If you own 10+ acres in Western Maine, NEFF would like to talk with you about attractive financial incentives for long-term habitat improvements.

Step 2: The NEFF Forest Ecologist will work with you to assess the habitat potential and estimate amounts to be paid to you for specific practices on qualifying forest land.

Step 3: The NEFF Forest Ecologist will work with your forester to integrate wildlife habitat improvements into new or existing forest management planning on qualifying land.

Step 4: NEFF staff will work with you and our funding partner during the application process.

Step 5: After funding approval, NEFF will continue assisting you and work in partnership with you and contractors/operators to complete habitat-improvement practices on the ground.

GOOD FORESTRY IS GOOD FOR ALL OF US

CONTACT INFORMATION

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OTHER PRACTICES AND NRCS PAYMENT RATE

- Forest Trails & Landings: $2/foot
  Includes basic shaping and waterbars to rebuilding or rerouting for erosion control

- Invasive Woody Plant Control: $35-$400/acre

- Non-woody Invasive Control: $35-$960/acre

- Forest Stand Improvement: $210-$450/acre
  Includes pre-commercial thinning, forestry for timber/songbird habitat, competition control, small patch cuts, girdling, more

- Early Successional Habitat $90-$415/acre

- Structures for Wildlife: $15-$385/each

- Stream Crossing: $1,200-$33,000

- Stream Habitat Improvement: $4,500-$16K/acre

- Aquatic Organism Passage: $1,400-$32,000
  Replace small culverts with big culvert or bridge

- Access Road: $6-$14/foot

- Access Gate: $290/each

NEFF works with Maine Audubon and the American Forest Foundation as part of the My Maine Woods-Western Mountains team. Funding comes from the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Conserving Forests
For Future Generations

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