

INTO THE WOODS

NEW ENGLAND FORESTRY FOUNDATION | ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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NEW ENGLAND
FORESTRY
FOUNDATION

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**NEW ENGLAND
FORESTRY
FOUNDATION**

32 Foster Street | P.O. Box 1346

Littleton, MA 01460

978.952.6856 | newenglandforestry.org

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Dear Members and Friends,

In 1944, NEFF's founders had a simple vision for a new conservation organization: bring excellence in forest management to all forest land in New England. They realized that the benefits of accomplishing this goal were many—improved wildlife habitat, better water quality, more rural jobs, better recreation possibilities and a sustainable supply of forest products. What they didn't know is that 75 years later this vision would be surprisingly, remarkably and fortunately resonant in a world so desperately in need of solutions.

Surprising... in the prescience to see across 75 tumultuous years and get it right.

Remarkable... in how precisely the solution fits the needs of today.

Fortunate... in that our mission is so perfectly aligned with mitigating climate change that NEFF staff, Board and membership are granted this one fleeting instant to lead on a global scale.

In my career, I have done a lot of thinking, writing and discussing about environmental leadership with current and past leaders in the field. Some were called to leadership from an early age, others learned along the way and never stopped learning. For some, time and events conspired to thrust leadership upon them. That is where we are now. We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to change the course of history. And you are here to share in it.

We now know that the simple act of fulfilling NEFF's historic mission will store more carbon in our forests, produce the green materials needed to offset emissions from concrete and steel, and give us a fighting chance to keep climate change within tolerable limits. We can't solve the climate crisis if we continue to burn coal. You've heard that one. Well, we can't solve the climate crisis if we continue to build with concrete and steel. Engineered wood from sustainable forestry is the only game in town. We know we are out of time to make the change; it must begin now. For example, most of the buildings in Boston needed over the next 30 years will be built in the next 10. If our emissions haven't leveled off in 10 years and if we aren't down to zero carbon emissions in 30 years, we will lose.

It is as if we possessed billions of carbon eating machines, equipped with a simple toggle switch. All we need to do is turn them on. That switch is policy, and the machines are the 6.7 billion trees living now in New England forests.

Why is this so difficult? We don't need to invent new unproven technology. We don't need to crawl a thousand miles on our hands and knees. This is what we need: each of us needs to commit. Each of us needs to say, 'yes.' Then we lead others to 'yes.' That is all it takes to lead the way and save the world. A simple act of leadership taken again and again, person by person, tree by tree, until we have passed this beautiful earth along intact and healthy.

It has to start somewhere. Me. You. NEFF. Why not now?

I say 'yes.'

Robert Perschel,
Executive Director

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In December 2020, NEFF will take ownership of and ensure permanent protection for the Downeast Woods and Wildlife project's final land parcel. Located along the Dennys River in Downeast Maine, this 2,200-acre property includes extensive woodlands (right) and a wetlands complex (above). Photos by Lauren Owens Lambert

What's Next for NEFF

New England Forestry Foundation (NEFF) is on track to complete a number of key conservation and Exemplary Forestry™ projects by the end of calendar year 2020, but most aren't included in this *Into the Woods* issue, which serves as NEFF's report on our previous fiscal year: May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020. Be sure to read our winter 2020 newsletter to learn about the successful completion of our Downeast Woods and Wildlife project—NEFF will take ownership of and ensure permanent protection for the project's final land parcel in December—as well as another exciting Downeast Maine conservation opportunity that may bring an additional 5,000 acres into NEFF ownership.



MURDER HORNETS, CORONAVIRUS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

WRITING BY NEFF Chief Operating Officer Frank Lowenstein

Unintended side effects of economic and political decisions have landed the world in hot water. Here's how NEFF is implementing lessons learned.

Daily news now resembles post-apocalyptic fiction. A bat virus—now known as COVID-19—that likely traveled through captive pangolins to reach its first human victims has killed hundreds of thousands of Americans. Invasive Asian Giant Hornets 10 times as large as a honeybee are making themselves at home in the Pacific Northwest, and the invasive Asian Longhorned Beetle has established itself in South Carolina—the sixth state infested by this maple-killer, an existential threat to Northeastern forests. And many scientists believe these threats pale in comparison with the climate crisis, which will bring deadly heat to the southern United States and other parts of the planet later this century, and massive coastal flooding through the next, rendering homes and towns across many parts of the planet uninhabitable and leading to hundreds of millions of climate refugees, destruction of ancient cultures and their artifacts, and inevitable loss of life.



There is a commonality to these threats—they all exemplify unintended side effects of economic and political decisions that have prioritized growth over other values, such as safety, stability, resiliency, community, sustainability, and the maintenance of a healthy environment. Much of New England Forestry Foundation's work today is focused on bringing these other values to the front:

[How do we utilize New England's 33 million acres of forests to sustain a livable climate, protect air and water quality, create rural jobs, and build high-quality housing at affordable prices?](#)

NEFF's vision ties to New England bedrock values—self-reliance, conservation of resources (both natural and financial), and community—and places those values in service of today's challenges of ensuring social equity and climate stability.

Pursuit of economic growth has taken the opposite course, promoting globalization and economic efficiency as seminal values. Products are manufactured where they are most cheaply created, and shipped to where they are needed. Computerization and instant communications allow these

products to move around the world via just-in-time supply chains, to be assembled into needed goods and services without the cost of maintaining large inventories. But the turmoil of the coronavirus epidemic has clarified the risks of this model. Coronavirus control was delayed by disruptions in world-spanning supply chains that were supposed to bring surgical masks from China and nasal swabs from northern Italy to Boston and the rest of the United States. But the epidemic hit both China and Italy early, shutting down production.

Globalization ignores these risks associated with longer and longer supply chains, which work fine as long as things proceed as expected. But disruptions are growing more common. The Insurance Information Institute reports that the number of catastrophic losses in the United States increased from 34 in 2010 to 61 in 2019. On a global basis, the leading reinsurance firm Munich Re reports that the number of “natural” disasters has more than tripled since 1980, causing \$5.2 trillion of economic losses, which sometimes resonate through global supply chains. For example, in 2011, floods in Thailand caused parts shortages in auto production plants in Japan, temporarily reducing availability of some cars in the United States.

For many consumer goods, globalization has meant reduced costs for products sold at big box stores—the same in Maine and Milwaukee. This economic paradigm has put a flat screen TV with fantastic resolution and the ability to be controlled by a smart speaker in the living rooms of most Americans. It has also brought economic devastation to manufacturing towns across America—most famously in the Rust Belt, but also here in New England in towns like Millinocket, Maine and Pittsfield, Massachusetts. And with the growth in trade, we’ve also brought a host of unintended consequences in

the form of insects and diseases that threaten crops, forests, and now people.

“It’s a numbers game,” explains Leigh Greenwood, Director of Forest Health for The Nature Conservancy’s North American Region, “Some level of harm is inevitable.” Greenwood was speaking about forest insects, but the trends that bring pests like Asian Longhorned Beetles to North America can as easily facilitate the movement of hornets and deadly viruses. In this century, the number of air passengers per year has tripled to 4.5 billion in 2019. The value of global exports also tripled in the same time period, from \$6.4 trillion to \$19.4 trillion. Those dollars travel as goods on ships, trucks and airplanes, and unintended hitchhikers often come along. Related trends, like the expansion of human settlement into previously wild landscapes, and the rapid transport of sealed shipping containers to areas far from the coast, add to the risk.

The wood market likewise has become global. Forest producers in New England compete against plantation-grown pine from South America, and Siberian spruce and fir. Lower land and labor costs overseas have meant that forest products companies in New England operate on thin margins, and during economic downturns many of the mills close, never to reopen. Forest landowners who might like to practice better-quality forest management must sell their wood into a landscape of fewer opportunities and more competition, and so face financial constraints that inhibit their efforts to improve management.

So, how does NEFF—a medium-sized nonprofit operating in one small region of the nation—plan to change this narrative?

First, our Forest-to-Cities Climate Challenge aims to identify the opportunity provided by New England forests. Signatories—now nearing 100—are pledging their support for using sustainably produced New England wood to construct buildings in the region’s urban areas. This initiative aims to reunite the urban and rural constituencies of the region in support of sustainable local supply chains—and to reduce carbon pollution that drives global warming in the process. Second, our Exemplary Forestry initiative aims to define truly sustainable forest management for the region, practices that will maintain or increase carbon storage in the forest and preserve wildlife habitat at a landscape scale. We are working to spread these practices onto more land, and to stop the loss of forest land to poorly planned development, through tools like the Pooled Timber Income Fund and the Western Maine Habitat Restoration project, and through effective and creative landowner outreach. Through our Build It With Wood program we are aiming to open new, climate-supportive uses for wood, specifically manufacturing New England wood into engineered products that can enable tall wood construction. And finally, we are increasingly bringing our 76 years of forest and forestry expertise to policy-makers—in Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Vermont—to show what New England’s forests can do for all of us.

A tree seedling in the forest today will mature half a century from now. We’re working with a vibrant group of partners to set in place the social and economic systems to be ready for it. Thanks for helping NEFF to do this work. 🌱

FINANCIAL PROFILE



Thanks to the generous support of our donors, regional and national foundations, and government agency partners, New England Forestry Foundation continues to grow to fulfill our role in conserving New England's forests. Your dedication to New England Forestry Foundation resulted in a positive year financially, with increases to \$5.2 million in total revenue and \$39.6 million in total net assets as of the end of the fiscal year on April 30, 2020; NEFF's net assets include \$28.9 million of land, buildings and equipment.

Donor and foundation support for our Downeast Woods and Wildlife campaign and our Exemplary Forestry Center resulted in an increase of 95 percent in contributions from the prior year. NEFF's expenses increased 14 percent from the prior year. This increase is due to added program staff whose work advances NEFF's mission, including enhancing our land protection efforts and stewardship of NEFF's lands.

Our combined balance sheet remains strong and liquid, and our programmatic efficiency remains solid at 78.4 percent. 🌿

FY19 & FY20 Consolidated Results

Sources of Revenue	AUDITED	PRELIMINARY
	FYE April 30, 2019	FYE April 30, 2020
Contributions	\$1,232,996	\$2,371,258
Grants	521,439	1,039,631
Timber Sales	520,030	333,480
Land Contributions (Net)	192,619	975,488
Investment Income	201,823	215,330
Other Income	13,970	18,366
Sale of Conservation Easement	–	248,000
Total Revenue	\$2,682,877	\$5,201,553

Expenses

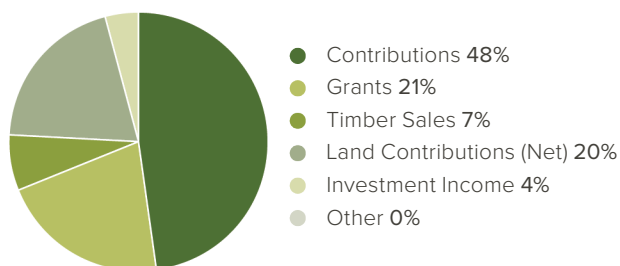
Conservation and Education	\$2,081,633	\$2,504,963
Fundraising	457,739	394,594
Management and General	258,713	296,126
Total Expenses	\$2,798,085	\$3,195,683

Gains (Losses)

Net Realized and Unrealized Gain(loss) on Investments	297,317	(327,855)
Gain on Insurance Claim	6,250	–
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain(loss) on Land Sale	–	414,289
Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets	–	(709)
Total Gains (Losses)	303,567	85,725

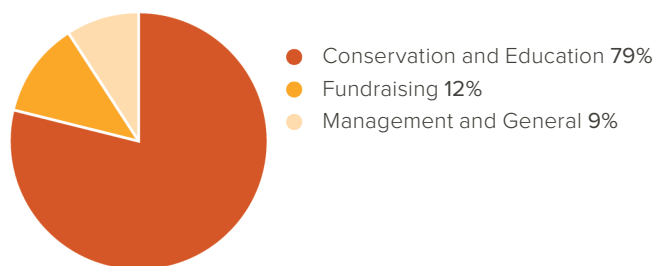
Revenue FY20

May 1, 2019–April 30, 2020



Expenses FY20

May 1, 2019–April 30, 2020



BEGINNING NET ASSETS (May 1, 2019)	\$37,565,111
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$2,091,595
TOTAL NET ASSETS (April 30, 2020)	\$39,656,706*

*Total Net Assets includes Fixed Assets of \$28,991,269 (primarily land and buildings).

At the time of printing, FY 2020 numbers were preliminary pending audit completion. Audited numbers are available upon request.

CONSERVATION REPORT

Completed Projects

May 1, 2019–April 30, 2020

Project Name	Location	Type	Acres	Date
Warner and Myrin	Great Barrington, MA	 Conservation Easement	16	August 15, 2019
Weeks-Hatch Commemorative Woods	Meredith, NH	 Community Forest	72	August 19, 2019
Niantic River Headwaters Community Forest Addition	East Lyme, CT	 Community Forest	34	August 27, 2019
Clendenin Memorial Forest	Granville, MA	 Community Forest	70	August 29, 2019
Merrill Mountain Community Forest	Hiram, ME	 Community Forest	350	December 11, 2019
Antrim Limited Partnership	Antrim, NH	 Conservation Easement	105	December 27, 2019
Serafin	Stafford, CT	 Conservation Easement	365	December 30, 2019

Project Highlights

WARNER AND MYRIN

NEFF is working in Great Barrington to protect land within the highly significant Monument Valley. This conservation effort will link to protected forests within the Beartown State Forest and other nearby conserved areas. Virginia Warner donated a 16-acre tract to NEFF in summer 2019 and NEFF subsequently donated the land to the Myrin Institute, and then purchased an easement for the parcel and an adjacent 200 acres owned by Myrin with funds from the Nion Robert Thieriot Foundation, the Geoffrey C. Hughes Foundation, the

Lennox Foundation, and private donors. Note: NEFF's purchase of this easement took place in fiscal year 2021, which means only the acres originally donated by Virginia Warner in fiscal year 2020 are recorded in the above chart.

WEEKS-HATCH COMMEMORATIVE WOODS

In August 2019, the Hatch family donated 72 acres in Meredith to NEFF in memory of Fred and Virginia Hatch as well as Howard and Myrna Weeks, who were Mrs. Hatch's parents. Virginia Hatch grew up in Meredith, and her

parents purchased just over 60 acres there in 1946. In 1973, they deeded the property to Virginia and Fred, who lovingly stewarded the forest for more than 45 years. The Hatches partnered with NEFF foresters in 1985 to manage the woodland and its white pine and hemlock-hardwood stands as a certified Tree Farm, a forestry partnership that continues to this day through New England Forestry Consultants. The Hatches purchased 13 additional acres in 1993 and permanently protected both parcels through a NEFF conservation easement in 1999, and drafted their

wills with a bequest entrusting NEFF to be the future owner and steward of the forest. After Fred's death in January 2018 and Virginia's in July 2019, the property came into NEFF's hands—and we are honored the Hatches entrusted NEFF with their beloved woodland. Under NEFF's ownership, the forest is now open for public enjoyment and the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests will oversee its conservation easement.

NIANTIC RIVER HEADWATERS COMMUNITY FOREST ADDITION

The Niantic River Headwaters Community Forest project was undertaken in two phases: NEFF first conserved 166 acres of the forest in 2017, and then protected an adjacent 34-acre parcel in 2019. The forest is home to diverse wildlife, plant communities, wetland resources, and topography—as well as a system of hiking trails. NEFF's conservation of the Niantic property is consistent with the State of Connecticut Green Plan, the plans of Conservation and Development of Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, and the town of East Lyme.

CLENDENIN MEMORIAL FOREST

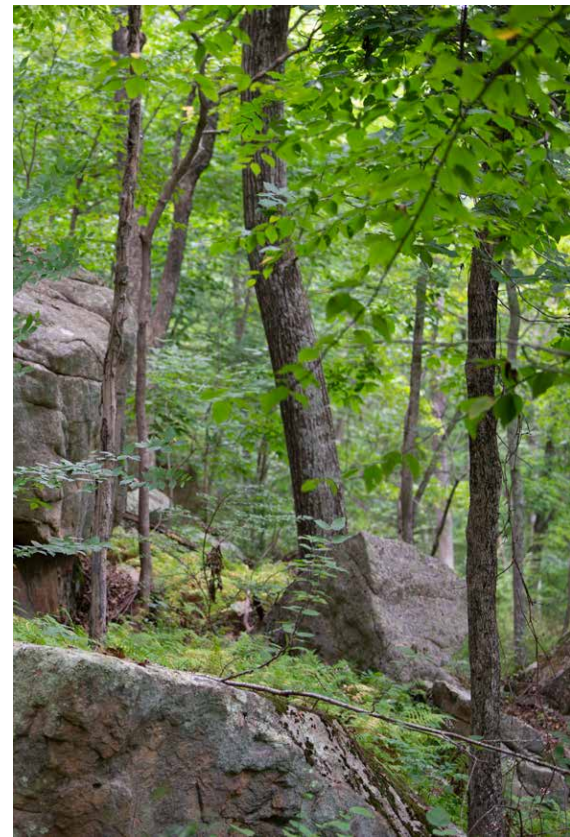
In summer 2019, Greg Clendenin donated his approximately 70-acre Granville lot, which sits across from NEFF's Phelon Forest and is almost entirely wooded. It has been harvested throughout the years and was last treated in 2012, primarily for thinning and general management. The property is currently under Chapter 61, which gives preferential tax treatment to landowners who maintain their property as open space for timber production, and has been in Mr. Clendenin's family since about 1930. This property contains trails and is a great area for recreational opportunities and continuous forest management.

MERRILL MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY FOREST

James Donovan, co-owner of First Light Boatworks in Chatham, Massachusetts, contacted NEFF in August 2018 looking to purchase and conserve recently harvested Maine timberland. NEFF staff steered him toward a variety of tracts, including one in Hiram. James went on to purchase 353 acres in Hiram, and in December 2019 donated the land to NEFF. The property is now known as the Merrill Mountain Community Forest, and encompasses the southwestern slope of Merrill Mountain, the third highest mountain in southern Maine at 1,611 feet. An existing network of woods roads and trails provides recreational access, with fantastic scenic views near the summit. This project advances protection of a significant block of unfragmented forestland, including a state wildlife management area to the east. The land has excellent conditions for white oak, red oak, and white pine.

ANTRIM LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

The Bean family, under the name Antrim Limited Partnership, donated a conservation easement to NEFF in December 2019 that protects 105 acres along the summit and ridgeline of Tuttle Hill. The forest is a mix of northern hardwood and conifer stands, and part of a commercial wind energy farm is situated on the ridge. When the wind operation's lease expires in a maximum of 50 years, the turbines and related infrastructure will be permanently removed and the land will revert to forest. This unique arrangement facilitated the conservation of more than 900 acres in Antrim, including the Beans' conservation easement donation as well as neighbors who have granted conservation easements to the Harris Center for Conservation Education.



Niantic River Headwaters Community Forest. Photo by Tinsley Hunsdorfer

SERAFIN

John Serafin, Jr. donated a conservation easement to NEFF in December 2019, permanently protecting his vast oak-dominated forest and uncommon spruce and cedar swamp. The land is located on and near Charter Hill next to the Stafford-Ellington town line, and borders Northern Connecticut Land Trust's Boothroyd and Bellante Preserves. At 365 acres, the Serafin property is now NEFF's largest easement in Connecticut. Mr. Serafin is part of the third generation of his family to steward this forest; his grandfather Attilio—an Italian immigrant woodcutter—acquired it in the 1930s, and his father John tended it through the 1980s. Mr. Serafin and NEFF received a MassConn Regional Conservation Fund grant, which helped to enable this successful forest conservation project. 🌿



John Serafin on his land in Stafford, CT. John participated in NEFF's landowner outreach programs before donating an easement to NEFF in December 2019. Photo by Lisa Hayden.

POOLED TIMBER INCOME FUND

The Pooled Timber Income Fund (PTIF) is now breaking new ground in land conservation as an innovative tool that offers landowners a way to conserve their land while receiving a steady annual income. There has been a lot of exciting progress with the PTIF in the last year. We are happy to announce the PTIF has accepted its first individual private landowner into the fund; Richard and Cynthia Perkins donated an 88-acre parcel in Royalston, Massachusetts, to NEFF and the fund. In addition, 2019 was the PTIF's first full year operating as a pooled income fund. The fund saw positive financial outcomes for its donors and is prepared for further growth.

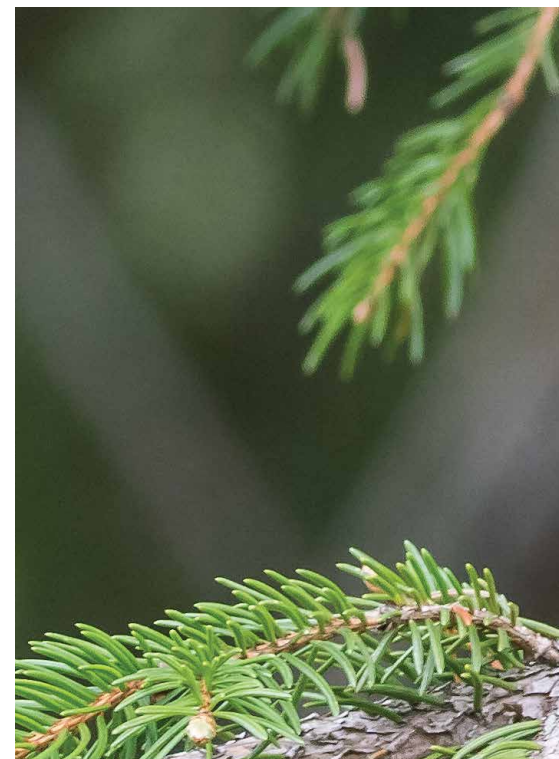
NEFF INITIATIVES

EXEMPLARY FORESTRY

Following the development of Exemplary Forestry standards for the Acadian Forest in Maine and parts of northern New England, NEFF launched work on Exemplary Forestry standards for the North Central and Transition Hardwoods forest that covers much of southern New England. Over the past months, NEFF convened a cross-disciplinary Technical Advisory Group and conducted a broad-scope assessment of regional wildlife and habitats, which informed the selection of umbrella wildlife species characteristic of different forest successional stages. Umbrella species are chosen based on having specific habitat needs that if met will also ensure many other species' needs are met. For example, in the Acadian forest, meeting the habitat needs of Eastern Lynx and American Marten will ensure that habitat needs of approximately 75 percent of all terrestrial vertebrate species are also met. NEFF has also outlined the silvicultural management to be implemented under Exemplary Forestry for each of the major forest types of New England's North Central and Transition Hardwoods Forest, and has drafted a process by which parcel-based management decisions can be made to contribute to landscape-level habitat objectives. Next, NEFF will write the new standards and model Exemplary Forestry treatments using U.S. Forest Service modeling software and analyze results for forest productivity, climate change mitigation, and wildlife habitat enhancement.

EXEMPLARY FORESTRY INVESTMENT FUND

The Exemplary Forestry Investment Fund (EFIF) will leverage increasing interest in impact and socially responsible investing to implement Exemplary Forestry in the Mountains of the Dawn region of western Maine. An initial prospectus was completed in 2019—detailing the rationale, the management approach, and expected returns. Exemplary Forestry calls for building greater stocking on the landscape over time—a strength in terms of potential carbon revenues and opportunities to reduce damaging climate change. In early 2020, NEFF and the Maine Mountain Collaborative were awarded \$240,000 from several private and public funders, including the US Endowment for Forestry and Communities, to launch the EFIF. With foundational work largely complete and the influx of new funding, the EFIF is poised take off.



BUILD IT WITH WOOD AND FOREST-TO-CITIES CLIMATE CHALLENGE

The Build It With Wood (BIWW) program experienced heightened activity with the addition of new staff member Jennifer Shakun in 2019 and the contributions of TerraCorps member Connor Rocket. Key areas of impact over the last year include: analysis of the climate case for Exemplary Forestry and tall wood buildings (which culminated in an op-ed in *The New York Times*), outreach and policy engagement to increase demand for mass timber, and laying the groundwork to source Exemplary Forestry wood for new construction. The Forest-to-Cities Climate Challenge is the new public outreach arm of BIWW—participants sign a pledge to show support for locally-sourced mass timber construction as a climate solution in New England. Nearly 90 individuals and organizations from across sectors have already joined. An associated communications campaign and new website—foresttocities.org—are expanding our reach and visibility. A redesigned BIWW website is also underway, and it will be a go-to information hub about the climate benefits of mass timber, the keys to sustainable sourcing, and the unique characteristics of mass timber buildings.

WESTERN MAINE HABITAT RESTORATION

Exemplary Forestry moved into field application in western Maine over the past year, with NEFF as the lead partner in a project that incentivizes private woodland owners to improve important habitat for 128 fish and wildlife species and integrate climate resilience into forest management. The project, developed by NEFF and the Trust for Public Land with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and enhanced by funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, focuses on five million acres in western Maine. NEFF is currently developing Exemplary Forestry/Habitat Restoration Plans for 14 qualifying woodland owners representing 3,800 acres and will assist those approved for funding through the implementation and monitoring of on-the-ground work. An additional 8,000 acres are currently being assessed. As part of this project, NEFF also teamed up with the Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust to develop a demonstration forest to showcase Exemplary Forestry practices that improve habitat and increase forest resilience, while increasing stocking in western Maine.

LANDOWNER OUTREACH

NEFF continues to share lessons from its groundbreaking report, “From Engagement to Action: Supporting Woodland Owners in Decisions About Their Land,” available for download at newenglandforestry.org/connect/publications. This report calls for more investment in outreach to the 215,000 New England families and individuals who own our forested landscape so they can be part of the climate solution. To date, NEFF and partners have completed 106 visits by trained foresters to owners of a combined 8,500 acres in Massachusetts and Connecticut, providing information on how to keep their woods productive and healthy while responding to a changing climate. Even amid a pandemic, many events are moving online to continue education virtually. Kadie Moonitz, another TerraCorps member, has assisted in moving this outreach work forward. 🌿

Learn more about New England Forestry Foundation's initiatives at newenglandforestry.org/learn/initiatives



NEFF's Western Maine Habitat Restoration initiative works to create diverse forest habitat for species in decline like the Canada Warbler; this photo shows a male perching on his breeding territory in Maine's forest.

LEFT: Photo by Ken James, courtesy of Maine Audubon. Maine Audubon has partnered with NEFF in our western Maine Exemplary Forestry and habitat restoration efforts.

REMEMBERING THREE NEFF BOARD MEMBERS

Three retired members of the NEFF Board of Directors passed away this spring. We grieve their loss, honor their lives, and celebrate all they did for the people and forests of New England.

David B. Kittredge, Jr.

APRIL 20, 1956–MARCH 13, 2020
NEFF BOARD SERVICE: 1993–2017
OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD, 2018

NEFF has lost a long-time forestry advocate, ardent conservationist, and dedicated Board member. Dave was a NEFF staff forester from 1980-1981 before returning to serve as a Board of Directors member some years later, including a stint as Board Vice President from 2000-2003. He taught and mentored both undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, for 30 years while also serving as the Forest Policy Analyst at the Harvard Forest.

Among his hundreds of journal articles, peer-reviewed papers, and research grants, Dave was a co-author on the groundbreaking Wildlands and Woodlands reports that laid out a conservation vision and roadmap to protect 30 million acres of forestland in New England. During his time on NEFF's Board, he championed the MassConn Woods Landowner Outreach Initiative and NEFF's Forest Steward program, expanding a network of volunteers across the region to serve as NEFF's eyes, ears, and advocates in their local communities.

—Chris Pryor, NEFF Director
of Forest Stewardship

George M. Lovejoy, Jr.

APRIL 15, 1930–MARCH 27, 2020
NEFF BOARD SERVICE: 1973–1984
FOREST CHAMPION AWARD, 2009

George M. Lovejoy, Jr. dedicated his life to land conservation, civic engagement, and family. He graduated from Harvard College in 1951 and served in the U.S. Navy as an officer from 1951 to 1954. George then began his very successful real estate career, and also went on to hold volunteer leadership positions in a variety of environmental organizations, such as president of the New England Aquarium.

While he lived and worked in Massachusetts, George's heart was in Strafford, New Hampshire, a beloved second home that informed his commitment to conservation. He and his wife Westy created the Blue Hills Foundation, which has conserved almost 8,000 acres and is dedicated to the preservation of the natural and cultural landscape of New England. NEFF holds conservation easements on 4,032 acres of the Blue Hills, which is considered a model for private landowner conservation aligned with the Wildlands and Woodlands vision. George holds the distinction of being NEFF's longest running annual donor, with his first gift to NEFF made in 1964!

—G. Montgomery (Monty) Lovejoy III,
Member of the NEFF Board of Directors,
and son of George M. Lovejoy, Jr.

Elizabeth Dunn Nichols

SEPTEMBER 23, 1939–JUNE 8, 2020
NEFF BOARD SERVICE: 2009–2017

Betsy graduated from Wellesley College and soon after met her husband, James R. Nichols. They raised their family in Weston, where Betsy began her life-long involvement in volunteerism and public service. In town, she served as president of the League of Women Voters and as Chairwoman on the School Committee; further afield, she was a respected member of several boards, including at NEFF and the Appalachian Mountain Club. Betsy also worked at Nichols and Pratt as Grant Administrator and earned her way into the AMC 4000' Club.

Betsy was a valued member of NEFF's Development Committee who offered creative ideas for donor engagement and recognition, and in 2015, Betsy also joined our new Strategic Marketing and Communications Committee, which successfully led the organization through a comprehensive rebranding initiative. Considered a trusted advisor to staff and fellow Board members, Betsy listened attentively before asking pointed questions and providing solid advice to move forward. We appreciated her wisdom and miss her enthusiasm.

—Penny Flynn, NEFF
Development Manager

OUR DONORS

MAY 1, 2019–APRIL 30, 2020

Generous support from the individuals and organizations listed below has allowed us to continue and expand our efforts to conserve the forest landscape and the environmental, social, and economic benefits it supports. While we have listed gifts and grants of \$100 or more, we want you to know that every gift is important to us and helps us fulfill our mission.

Harris Reynolds Society

\$100,000 OR MORE

Antrim Wind Energy
Greg Clendenin
Jim Donovan
The Hatch Family
Julie and Bayard Henry
Mr. Timothy A. Ingraham
The Reynolds Family
Jörg Christian Stroop*
The Grantham Foundation
for the Protection of the Environment
USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area,
State & Private Forestry

\$50,000–\$99,999

Anonymous (2)
Mr. Robert W. Ackerman
John T. and Jane A. Wiederhold Foundation
Maine Timberlands Charitable Trust
Wilhelm Merck and Nonie Brady
Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

\$25,000–\$49,999

Anonymous (2)
Antrim Limited Partnership
Blue Hill LLC
Frederick and Margaret L. Weyerhaeuser
Foundation
George H. and Jane A. Mifflin Memorial Fund
Gordon and Marjorie Osborne Fndn.
Maine Community Foundation NEFF
Conservation Easement Monitoring Fund
The Nion Robert Thieriot Foundation
The Whitehead Foundation, Inc.
Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation

\$10,000–\$24,999

Anonymous
Mr. Laurence Band
Irene and John Briedis
Mr. Philip Y. DeNormandie
Duke Family Fund of the Greater Lowell
Community Foundation
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