

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest Service

Northeastern  
Area



# Forest Legacy Program

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Dear Friend,

I am pleased to present the status of the Forest Legacy Program in the Northeastern Area at the close of Fiscal Year 2000. The Forest Legacy Program provides protection against forestland fragmentation and conversion to nonforest uses. It directly addresses the strategic priority in the Northeastern Area's Strategic Plan to maintain a viable forestland base to ensure the production of economic, environmental, and social benefits over the long term.

The last year presented change for the Forest Legacy Program. A booming economy fueled development, and land was being consumed at an alarming rate. Congress responded by putting more money into land protection programs. The Forest Legacy Program appropriation jumped from \$7 million in 1999 to \$30 million in 2000. Many previously inactive states were realizing the need to protect important forestlands, including three Northeastern Area states that initiated steps to join the Forest Legacy Program. Many landowners responded as well. Some very large land holdings were submitted for consideration for a Forest Legacy easement by private and industrial landowners.

Partners are a key part of successful State Forest Legacy Programs. The voluntary nature of the program, coupled with excellent partner support, has resulted in 20,893 acres of forestland being conserved this past fiscal year in five Northeastern Area States. Our commendation is extended to all that helped achieve this accomplishment.

Sincerely,



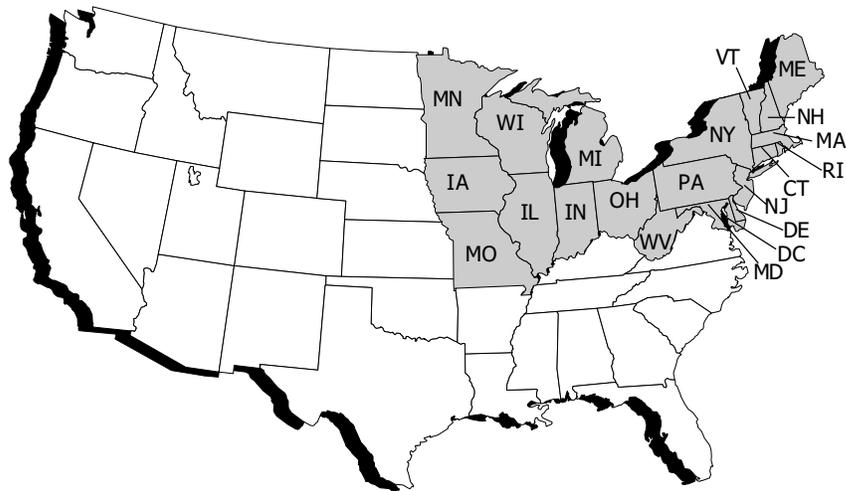
KATHRYN P. MALONEY  
Northeastern Area Director

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Status Report

# Forest Legacy Program



USDA Forest Service  
Northeastern Area  
State and Private Forestry

Bringing Forestry to the People

February 2001



## Northeastern Area Status Report of the Forest Legacy Program



*Forest Legacy fosters protection and better use of forested lands threatened with conversion to nonforest uses by purchasing conservation easement or fee titles from willing landowners.*

## Northeastern Area

### Status Report of the Forest Legacy Program

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## Executive Summary

The Forest Legacy Program (FLP) goal is to protect important forest areas that are threatened by conversion to nonforest uses. Forest Fragmentation and parcelization are two of the top five issues that concern State Foresters in the Northeast and Midwest.

The Northeastern Area Strategic Plan for 2000–2004, Strategic Priority 4, *Maintaining a viable forestland base to ensure the production of economic, environmental, and social benefits over the long term* identifies the following goal — *Reduce forest fragmentation and parcelization, and adopt methods to address the management and technical assistance challenges presented by the growing numbers of forest landowners.*

The Forest Legacy Program is germane to two of the actions listed under this goal. One is to work with states to identify critical forestlands and provide incentive-based approaches such as conservation easements and “regional stewardship areas” to protect and maintain forest productivity. The other is to coordinate existing programs and develop new incentive-based programs and policies designed to retain contiguous forests and a working forestland base. This status report shows how the Northeastern Area is addressing those actions. The following guidance is offered regarding the information contained in this report:

- ☑ The Forest Legacy Program is implemented by states that have elected to join the program, local governments, land trusts, and voluntary landowners, as well as the USDA Forest Service.
- ☑ Although individual Forest Legacy tracts may be widely spaced across the various Forest Legacy areas, each mark on the map may represent a collection of land protection efforts by various entities.
- ☑ Recent accomplishments in the Northeastern Area’s Forest Legacy Program include projects in Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont amounting to 20,728 acres valued at \$11,391,000 for which the Federal government paid \$3,999,000 (Green River not included; counted previously).
- ☑ Each state identifies and prioritizes potential tracts that may enroll in the Forest Legacy Program. The annual budget determines the number of tracts on which acquisition work may begin. Accomplishments generally occur within two years.
- ☑ The budget has been increasing over the past three years from \$7 million in 1999 to \$60 million in 2001.
- ☑ Sixty cases in the Northeastern Area states have been completed amounting to over 100,000 acres. The rights acquired are valued at about \$44 million, for which the Federal government has paid \$19,698,000.
- ☑ Twenty-nine cases are in progress. About one million acres have been identified for Forest Legacy, for which states are seeking about \$43 million.
- ☑ The Forest Legacy Program law stipulates the federal government will pay no more than 75 percent of total program costs. As of the end of FY 2000, the Federal government has paid only 48 percent of total program costs, while keeping administrative costs under 15 percent.

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## **Program Goal**

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*To identify and keep important forest areas that are threatened by conversion to nonforest uses. Conservation easements are the prime tool used to achieve this goal. Priority is given to lands that have important scenic or recreational values; riparian areas; fish and wildlife values, including threatened and endangered species; or other ecological values.*

Primary features of the program are outlined as follows:

- It helps states and regions identify important forest areas.
- When conservation easements are used, the land remains privately owned.
- Other tools include full-fee purchase, voluntary deed restrictions, covenants, and agreements.
- The program is based on a “willing seller and willing buyer” concept.
- State and local partners select priority tracts in cooperation with the Forest Service.
- The interests in land may be held by the Federal government, or by the State, if the state chooses to select the optional State Grant Program as authorized by the 1996 Farm Bill.
- In most cases of Federal acquisition, State or local units of government administer the lands or interests in lands.
- The lands and interests are held in perpetuity. There is no loss of the Federal investment resulting from change of ownership.
- Forest stewardship plans that meet the landowner’s objectives for natural resources management are prepared on all tracts.
- The tracts acquired can remain “working forests” and can forever provide forest resources to meet the needs of the local community and the nation.

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# Issue: Forest Fragmentation

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Forest Fragmentation and parcelization are two of the top five issues that concern State Foresters in the Northeast and Midwest. Fragmentation is the breaking up of contiguous forests into smaller blocks and is associated with conversion to nonforest use. Parcelization is breaking up a single land ownership into many smaller tract ownerships. Fragmentation usually has ecological impacts, while parcelization has more of an economic impact.

Many factors bring about forestland conversion to nonforest uses, including suburban sprawl, escalating inheritance and estate taxes, real estate property taxes and excessive transfer of ownership leading to the land supporting a high debt load. Many forest areas in the Northeast and Midwest are in the midst of a significant continuing trend towards fragmentation and parcelization.

The Forest Legacy Program fosters protection and better use of forested lands threatened with conversion to nonforest uses by purchasing conservation easements or fee titles from willing landowners. Its purpose is to slow the momentum of land conversion and decreasing tract size by restricting the uses and subdivision of the land. Working with partners to focus efforts, blocks of forestland are being protected to counter the trend of parcelization and fragmentation.

Research has shown that forests are important. Trees and forests are critical to the health and function of watersheds; clean water being one of the most important forest products. Forests are important for pollution buffering, for vital wildlife habitats, for community livability, and for state and regional economies.

## Pollution Reduction

Forests buffer the impacts of development and are the best land use to maintain or improve water quality, reduce run-off and flooding, moderate water temperature, filter air and water, and store nutrients. Urban studies done by Tom Schueler of the Center for Watershed Protection have shown that 10-15 percent impervious surface creates stream impacts on water quality and flow regimes causing “flashy” events and increased sedimentation.

## Vital Habitats

The Maryland Biological Stream Survey found that when a watershed reaches 25 percent impervious surface, little aquatic life can survive. Above 15 percent, stream health and biotic integrity is fair to poor, and even at low levels of about 2 percent, sensitive species like brook trout may be lost.

## Community Livability

Retaining forests, wetlands, and farms can be part of a community growth strategy that increases economic property value. Restoring ecosystems is far more expensive and uncertain than conserving them.

## Economic Contributions of the Working Landscape

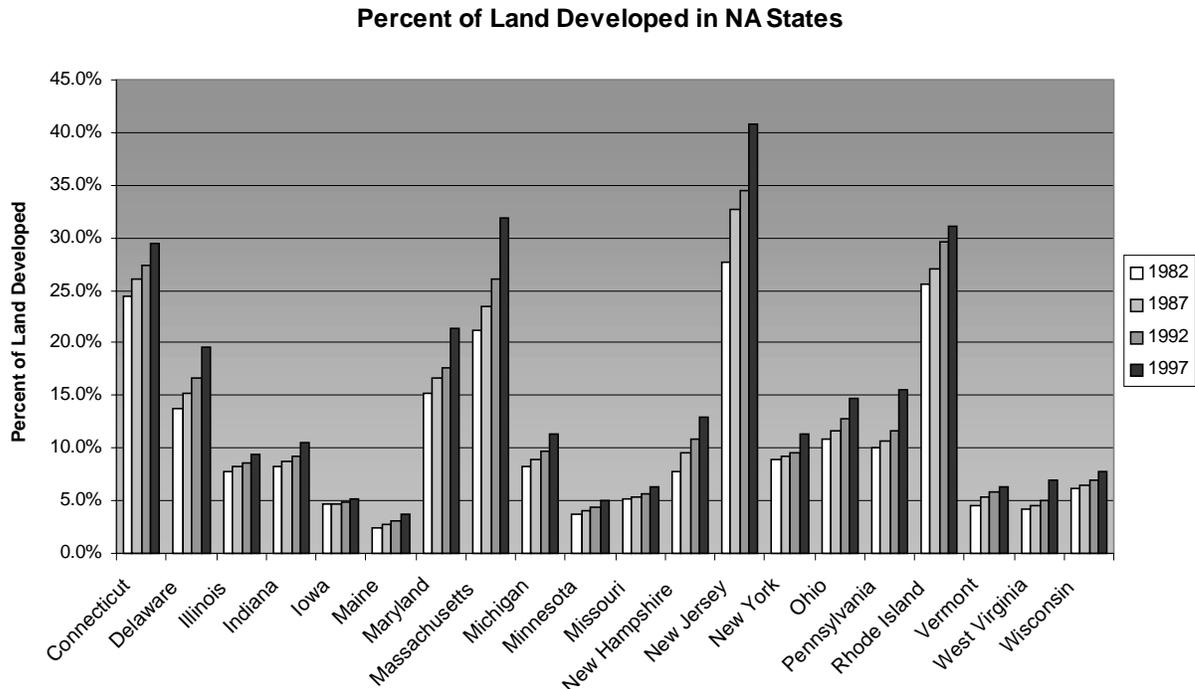
Forests provide a range of goods and services that we use every day, and they make up an important element in our regional economy. One-half of the nation’s wood comes from forests of the northeast and midwest; 80-85 percent of which are privately owned.

The working forestland base is essential to many Northeastern and Midwestern states. For example, Pennsylvania is the Number 1 producer of hardwood in the nation, and forest products is the 4th largest industry with over 4.5 billion annually in sales and 100,000 jobs. It claims the largest hardwood inventory in the nation, and some of the most significant mature mixed hardwood forests on earth.

This important contributor to the economy may be compromised if a study reported in 1996 by Virginia Department of Forestry bears out in other states. Virginia published an assessment of the effects of growth on sustainable timberland in the state. Using Geographical Information System (GIS) data to estimate how population density patterns affect future timber production, the study found that as population densities increase to 150 people per square mile (psm), the opportunity for commercial forest operation approaches zero. At 45 people psm the likelihood of a forest operation is 50:50. The implication is that population growth will affect forest uses and Virginia's timber industry. This assessment has raised concerns about development patterns and the resulting economic impacts of forest fragmentation in other states.

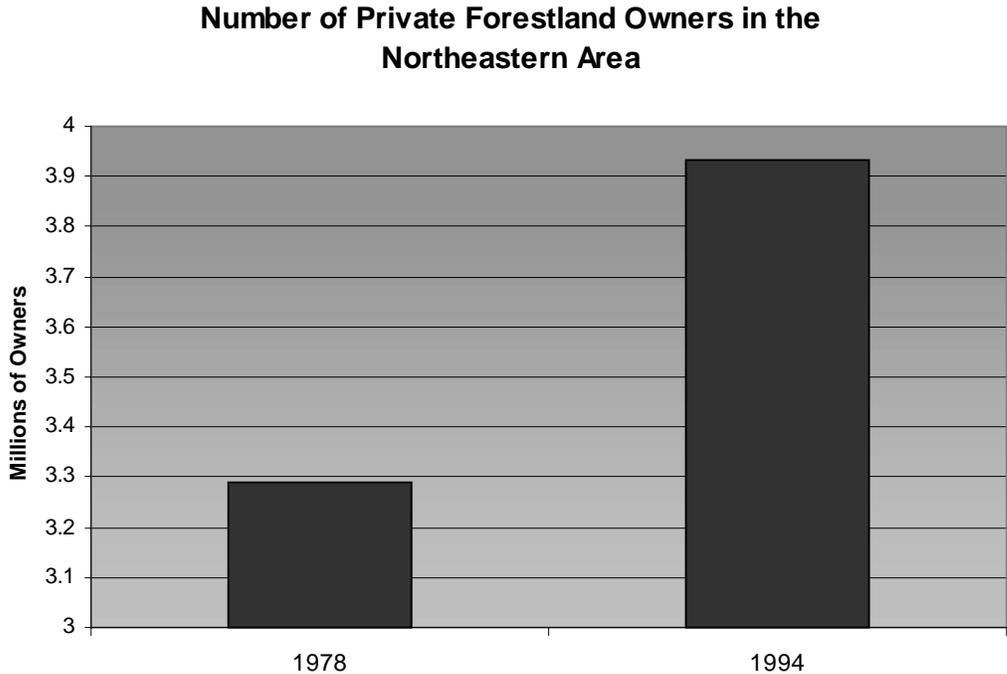
An indirect indicator of the amount of fragmentation occurring is the amount of development taking place. Development erects a barrier, thus breaking up the contiguous forest. Development can consist of roads or buildings. Figure 1 shows that the amount of land that has been converted to development over a 15-year period increased in every state in the Northeastern Area.

**Figure 1**



A trend in the number of nonindustrial private landowners indicates the level of parcelization is rising. Figure 2 shows that the number of private forestland owners in the northeast has increased from 1978 to 1994. The effect of more landowners on forestland tends to be disparate forest management goals leading to less forest management, breakdown of access to forested areas for management activities, and eventually the likelihood that an area will be unable to sustain a viable forest industry. The eventuality is that parcelization may predispose smaller ownerships to conversion to nonforest uses.

**Figure 2**



# Roles in Conserving Private Forests

## The Federal Role

Forests vary in the benefits they provide to the public, ranging in significance from local to national. Small forests provide recreational opportunities and scenery enjoyed primarily by the local community, but they may also provide habitat to a nationally rare wildlife species.

Extensive forests offer values that small forests cannot—a sense of remoteness or an expansive scene, a forestland base sufficient to support industry, or deep woods required by some

wildlife. These forests tend to be nationally significant because the values they provide are becoming more rare. Extensive forests often face the additional challenge of multiple ownerships and numerous political jurisdictions. Through the FLP, the Federal government helps State and local governments look beyond their political boundaries to identify important forests, both large and small, and protect them. The FLP's primary tool, the conservation easement, is a cost-effective way to encourage sound forest stewardship while keeping ownership private and oversight local.



Federal, State, and Nonprofit organization representatives discuss program implementation on a recent program review. Left to right are Warren Archey (State), Tad Ames (Land Trust), Susan Campbell (State), and John Currier (Federal).

## The State Role

States integrate Federal and State resources, as well as non-governmental organization resources to cooperatively protect and maintain a forestland base. The lead agency, usually the state forestry organization, carries out the FLP in the state. This includes collecting information to identify and delineate important forest areas that may be designated as Forest Legacy Areas, consulting with the State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee to focus efforts within the state, prioritizing tracts, addressing land protection and forest management issues, integrating policies and incentives to conserve a forestland base and make the on-the-ground connection with the land. In short, the state is the nexus for maintaining a forestland base.

## The Non-Governmental Organization (Land Trust) Role

Non-governmental organizations, specifically land trusts or similar organizations may take a lead role in administering a Forest Legacy Area. Because of their compatible interest in protecting land for conservation purposes, land trusts can be a primary contact with landowners to negotiate and maintain conservation easements once they are enrolled in the FLP. Land Trusts can work as intermediaries for eventual acquisition of lands or interests in lands. Lands acquired by or donated to land trusts may be counted toward the non-federal cost-share amount of total program costs, provided the interests in lands contribute to the goals of the Forest Legacy Program.

## The Landowner Role

Landowner participation in the FLP is voluntary. A landowner joins the program by either conveying interests in lands to achieve conservation objectives of the FLP or by purchasing or inheriting land that has already been committed to an FLP conservation easement. The landowner becomes a primary practitioner in maintaining a forestland base by implementing management activities to conserve the values for which the land entered the program. The landowner and the monitoring entity establish a relationship that helps the landowner work toward conservation goals.

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## **Implementation**

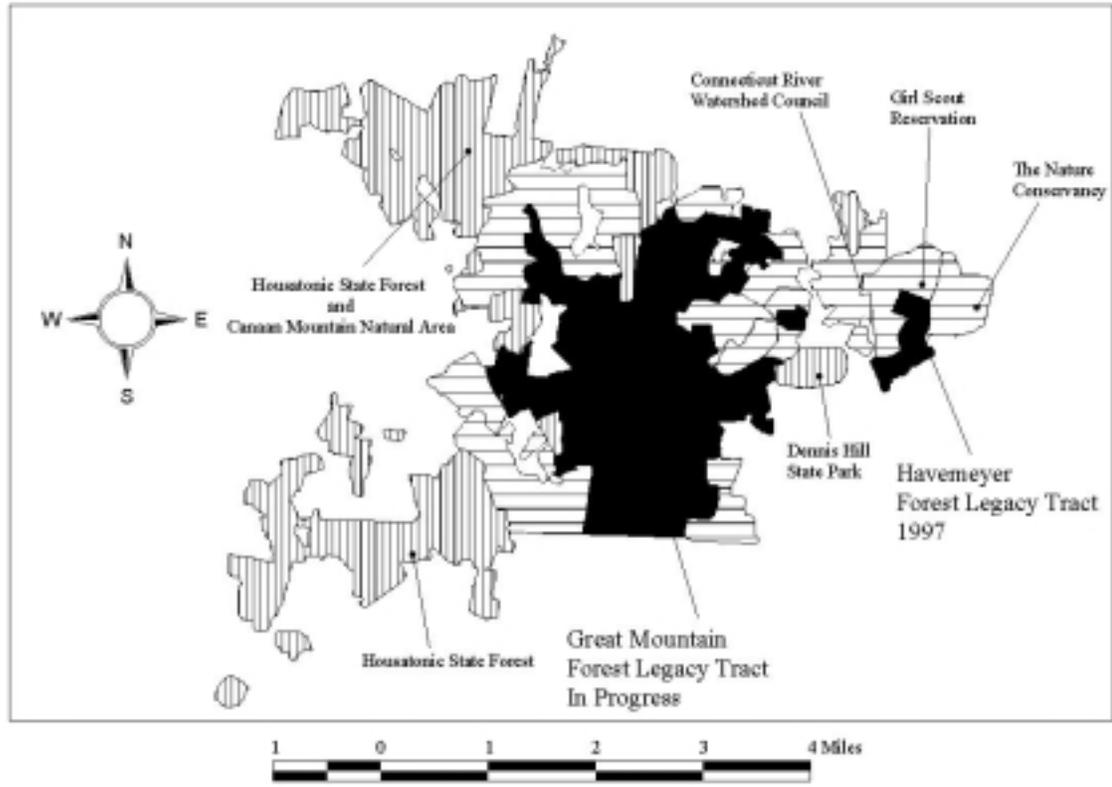
Illustration of the  
Forest Legacy Program's  
Cooperative Effort  
to Connect and Protect

Although individual Forest Legacy tracts may be widely spaced across the various Forest Legacy Areas, the Forest Legacy Program is just one link in the chain of protecting important forests from conversion to nonforest uses.

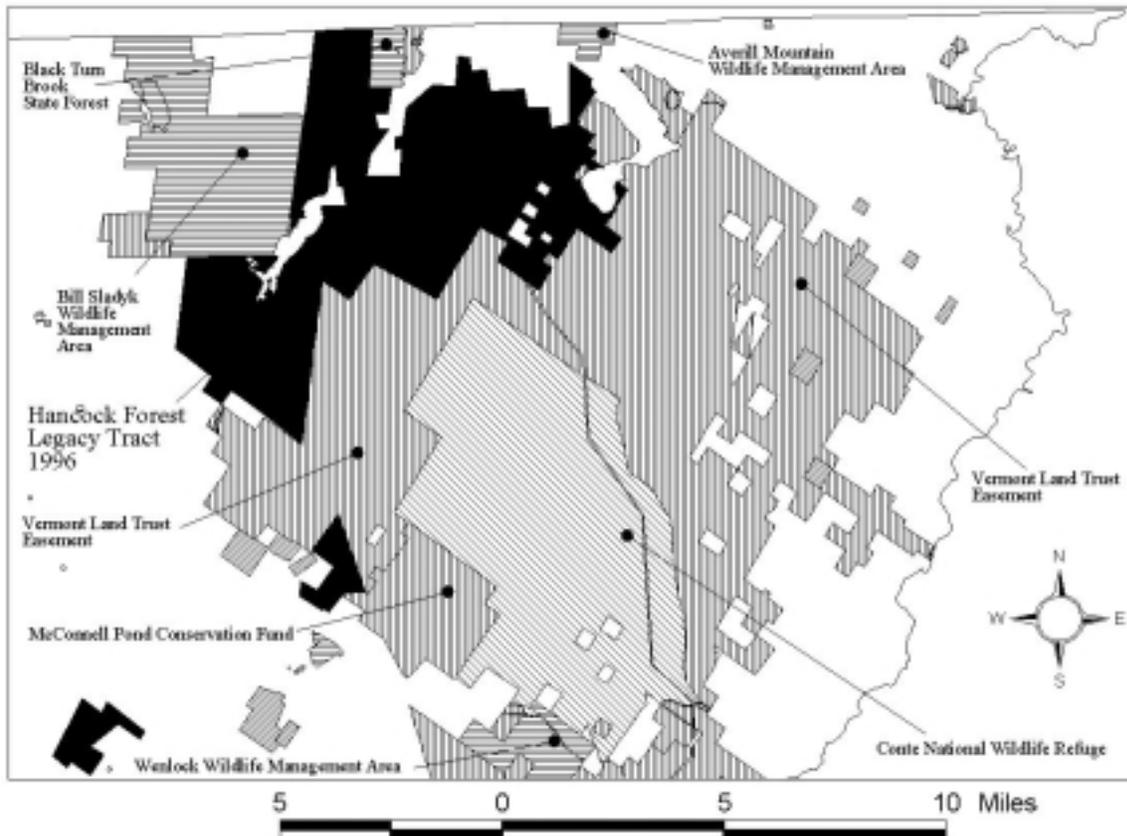
The Forest Legacy Program works with other Federal, State, county, municipal, and private land trusts in connecting protected forests to form larger contiguous protected blocks.

# IMPLEMENTATION

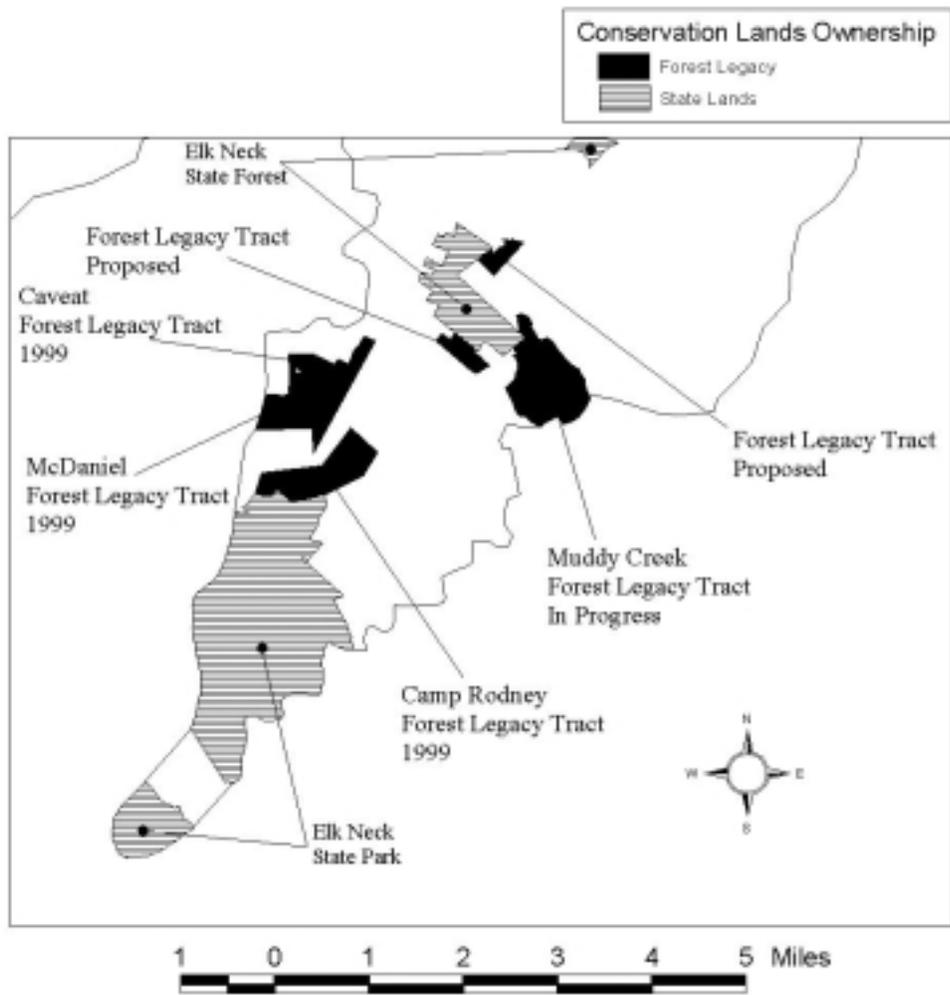
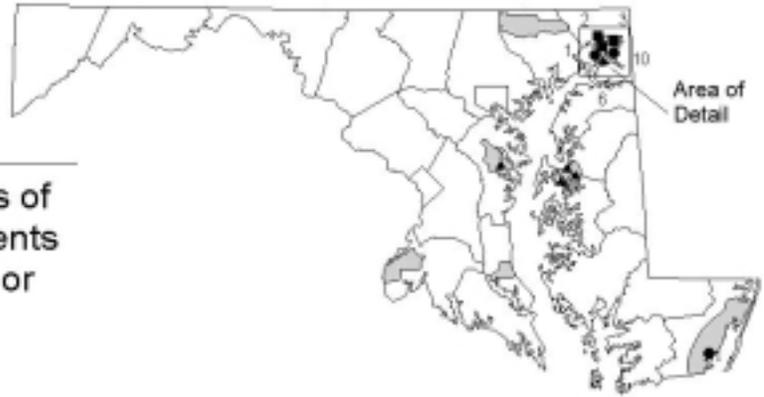
Each mark on the map may represent a collection of land protection efforts.



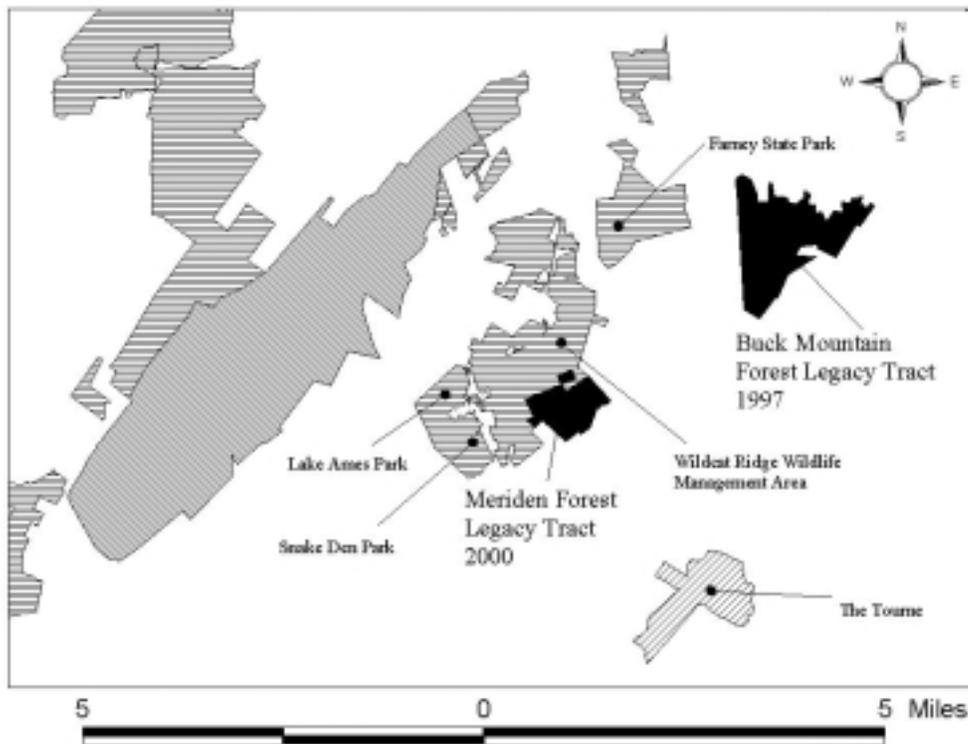
Nonprofit organizations, municipalities, States, and the Federal government may be protecting pieces of a puzzle.



Landowner donations of conservation easements link with State Parks or National Forests to establish corridors and core forests.



Forest Legacy helps focus efforts of others to protect public values.



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## **Accomplishments**

### Recently Completed Forest Legacy Projects

Accomplishments of the Forest Legacy Program include the following projects in the states of Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Green River Reservoir Tract Vermont – March 1999

The New England tradition of allowing public access on private lands unless prohibited by the landowner led to public use of a tract of land owned by the Morrisville Water and Light Company. Known as the Green River Reservoir, it began appearing in vacation guidebooks as a destination. “(People) come from all parts of the region, the United States, and Canada, and for the most part seem to respect the area, enjoying activities that compliment the quality of the surroundings...” said Jim Fox, one-time manager of the Morrisville Water and Light Company.

If the saying “to know, is to love” has any truth, evidence comes from the public support for the protection of Green River Reservoir when it became apparent that the Morrisville Water and Light Company had to sell the land. On March 30, 1999, the State of Vermont’s Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation purchased this beloved 5,113-acre tract outright, with money from the FLP (\$1,385,000), a Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund (\$750,000), and an interim loan by The Nature Conservancy (\$365,000) that made up the \$2,500,000 total. Forest Legacy funds have been used to reimburse The Nature Conservancy (TNC), thus completing the deal this year.



The undeveloped view and public recreation are two of many values that are protected at the Green River Reservoir.

The reservoir and surrounding lands are one of Vermont’s newest state parks. Public recreational use of the area will continue in the natural setting. The tract contains the 653-acre reservoir, which has one of the longest stretches of undeveloped shoreline (approximately 19 miles) in Vermont. The Green River Reservoir is Vermont’s largest body of water dedicated solely to nonmotorized recreation. Extensive wetlands and 10 larger islands associated with the reservoir provide important wildlife habitat, including a loon nesting site. A report of Vermont’s Summer Recreation Inventory and Survey in 1991 stated, “A unique feature of the reservoir is its large size in combination with its wilderness character.”

In the spirit of FLP, forest management will continue on the property. TNC will co-hold an easement on the land with the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, which in itself is quite unique. “It could be the first sustainable forestry easement ever held,” said Bob Klein, executive director of TNC’s Vermont chapter. For nine years, Klein has been trying to coordinate the permutations for protecting the land and finding sources of funds to complete the project. “It’s wonderful to see it happen in my lifetime,” Klein said, “it turned out well and just in time.”

The Green River Reservoir Park was dedicated on July 21, 1999. Many involved with the protection of the Green River Reservoir were on hand at the dedication ceremonies. Vermont Governor Howard Dean noted, “What a legacy for everyone involved in this project.”

## Stockbridge Sportsmen’s Club Massachusetts – September 1999

The USDA Forest Service made a critical acquisition on September 13, 1999, when it purchased an easement on 67 acres owned by the Stockbridge Sportsmen’s Club at the southern end of the Yokun Ridge Forest Legacy Area. The tract represents part of the western flank of West Stockbridge Mountain. Visible for miles from many vantage points, including the Massachusetts Turnpike, this scenic mountainside parcel is integral to the “green corridor” between Stockbridge and West Stockbridge.

The parcel offers excellent access to the ridgeline of West Stockbridge Mountain, though most hikers, aware of the shooting ranges below, take alternate routes. The purchase price of \$60,400 for a per-acre price of approximately \$900 made the protection of this property a relative bargain.

“This acquisition complements land protection efforts currently ongoing under the purview of both private conservation groups and municipal water districts. It is a significant addition to protection of the southern terminus of the Yokun Ridge land form and the myriad resource values represented along the ridge — water supply, working forest, recreational and scenic values. “We were pleased to see it come about,” said George Wislocki, president of Berkshire Natural Resources Council.

And the protection came at the right time for the Stockbridge Sportsmen’s Club. The Stockbridge club is one of the Berkshires’ most successful and sophisticated. Its clean and airy clubhouse, full-service amenities, and wide range of well-run programs for both adults and youth, have put the club at the top of the county ranks for membership, attracting non-hunters as well as hunters.

But the expenses of buying land and building its clubhouse, combined with the ongoing operating expenses of an active program, had left the club in a situation difficult enough that it was being forced to consider sale of some or all of its vacant land.

For several reasons, there were potential problems. For one, a club that sponsors shooting programs is hesitant when it comes to acquiring new neighbors. More critically, a number of youth programs, including an archery course and woodcraft sessions take place at stations throughout the club’s woodland. Selling house lots would have put those programs out of business, or at least would have restricted their use of the area.



View of the Stockbridge Sportsmen’s Club forest.

The Forest Legacy acquisition solved these dilemmas. Today the land remains open for organized programs and managed public access. Even for those who have never set foot on the property, the easement is a boon: A major piece of the scenic and wildlife-rich greenway between Stockbridge and West Stockbridge remains intact.

## **Mt. Tom Trail Tract Rhode Island – December 1999**

A significant forested property abutting the Arcadia Management Area was protected from development on December 28, 1999, with the purchase of a conservation easement by the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management over 145 acres of the 177-acre parcel. The easement was purchased to prevent future development of the property, to enhance the public recreational values and opportunities of the public using the management area, particularly Mt. Tom Trail, and to preserve the aesthetic view for people traveling along Route 165. Several historic sites are located on the property, including a historic home (the Rathbun House, 1804), cemetery, road, and cattle pound. Protecting the forest around those sites preserves their historic character and nature.

Additionally, a small stream that contains native brook trout, and lies within the watershed of a public drinking water aquifer, will be protected. The conservation easement will also promote stewardship of the property's significant forest products resources.

The owners, Robert and Barbara Bates of Exeter, Rhode Island, were paid \$270,000 for the interests acquired that will assure all of the above. The managing entity will be the Rhode Island Division of Forest Environment. The Nature Conservancy was involved in the transaction, paying for the property survey and title insurance.



Historic "Ten-Rod Road," used in colonial times to drive sheep and cattle from inland farms to the port city of Wickford, RI.

Owned by the Bates since 1960, the property features timber quality oak, white ash, American beech, and black birch, as well as white pine. The Bates have been managing the forest primarily for hardwood timber products following a written forest resource management plan, satisfying their personal fuelwood needs by removing the dead and undesirable species through a selective harvesting process. Under the terms of their conservation easement they will continue to do so, improving the future timber resource should they or subsequent owners decide to harvest commercially.

## Nicatous Lake Tract Maine – April 2000

Located in Hancock County, the 20,268 acres protected around Nicatous and West Lakes represent the largest conservation easement in Maine. This area offers hiking, boating, camping, hunting, and fishing opportunities and includes 34 miles of shoreline, wildlife habitat, seven ponds, and a large block of contiguous forestland.



Nicatous Lake and surrounding lands are now protected from conversion to nonforest uses through the purchase of the development rights. Logging and recreational activities on the land will continue.

The Trust for Public Land, the Forest Society of Maine, and Maine Coast Heritage Trust pooled their skills and resources in order to bring the project to fruition. They worked with the landowners, Robbins Lumber and Champion International, to shape a conservation easement on the property. The terms of the easement, held by the Maine Department of Conservation, meet both the long-term forest management goals of the landowners as well as the public’s desire for traditional access. “The Nicatous Lake project stands out nationally as a model of innovative land protection. Not only is it the largest conservation easement in Maine, it also provides very strong protections for both public access and the management of the property’s natural resources, including habitat for bobcat, moose, black bear, bald eagles, and loons” said Whitney Hatch, New England Regional Director of the Trust for Public Land.

According to Jenness Robbins, president of Robbins Lumber, “Easements are important for wildlife and public recreation and are an integral part of Maine’s working forest. We believe in a balance between ecology and economics. While our primary objective on the Nicatous and West Lakes property will continue to be timber growing and timber harvesting, traditional use of the land will also continue, biological resources will be protected, and Robbins Lumber will pay all local and state property taxes.”

“The Nicatous Lake project began with a vision held by Jim and Jenness Robbins,” observed Alan Hutchinson of the Forest Society of Maine, a Bangor-based nonprofit specializing in conservation easements on large productive forestland. “They believed there had to be a way to keep their lands undeveloped, a place the public could enjoy and wildlife could thrive, while generating a sustained flow of forest products. The Forest Society of Maine is extremely pleased to have been part of making their dream come true, and we now look forward to working with them and the state to ensure that the goals of the easement are met in the years ahead.”

Maine’s congressional delegation secured \$3 million from the Forest Legacy Program, and the Land for Maine’s Future Program allocated \$750,000 toward the acquisition. “The Legacy program works particularly well in Maine by uniting, rather than dividing, disparate interests, and I am pleased to have been able to help in securing financing for this project,” said U.S. Senator Olympia Snowe. “The Nicatous Lake project is exactly the sort of project Congress envisioned when it created the FLP. This project represents the type of partnership that should be the hallmark of land conservation efforts throughout the country, with cooperation of the government, private landowners, and private organizations,” said U.S. Senator Susan M. Collins.

## **The Oblate Woods Tract Illinois – May 2000**

On May 25, 2000, the State of Illinois Department of Conservation acquired a conservation easement on a 60-acre tract of land along the Mississippi River from the Oblates Missionary. Reverend Robert Moosbrugger signed for the Missionary Oblates, and Brent Manning, director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR), signed for the state to close the first Forest Legacy conservation easement in Illinois.

The Oblate Fathers are a Catholic order with land on the bluff above the Mississippi River between Alton and Pere Marquette State Park. The Illinois DNR, the Great Rivers Land Trust, and the local Village of Godfrey were all interested in keeping this unique riverfront habitat – formed because of a rare section of the Mississippi that stretches from east to west instead of north to south – from becoming developed. “A new bridge connecting Alton, Illinois, to St. Louis, Missouri, gives commuters a greater ability to work in St. Louis and live in a rural setting,” observed Dave Gillespie, Illinois Forest Legacy Coordinator.

On May 24, 2000, the easement negotiations, stewardship plan development, and landowner name changes all culminated so that an easement on 23 acres of land owned by the Missionary Oblates was protected through a state program called Conservation 2000. This will serve as the Forest Legacy match. This portion of land was valued at \$92,000. On May 25, the same parties signed a conservation easement on 60 adjacent acres funded with \$252,000 from the FLP. Annie Hoagland with the Great Rivers Land Trust spearheaded the effort to implement Illinois’ FLP with these two tracts. The state and the Great Rivers Land Trust continue to add protected land in the area through the FLP with two adjacent tracts that are expected to close shortly.



Large forest blocks are important for many values including wildlife habitat and watershed protection.

## **Meriden Tract New Jersey – June 2000**

Not many people think of standing among nature when viewing the skyscrapers of New York City, but it is possible in the New Jersey Highlands. The Meriden tract will remain in its natural setting because of the efforts of many groups and individuals in the last few years. In recent years a variety of agencies have protected many different tracts of land in the New Jersey Highlands area to create larger contiguous protected areas of undeveloped forest.

Overall more than 30,000 acres have been protected through conservation easements and full-fee purchases of lands from private landowners to protect important ecological areas from development. The most recent is the outright purchase of the 295-acre Meriden tract in Rockaway Township on June 22, 2000.

Money from the USDA Forest Service FLP (\$350,000), Morris County Open Space Trust Fund (\$1,000,000), Rockaway Township Open Space Fund (\$500,000), Green Trust grant (\$1,000,000), Green Trust loan (\$1,000,000), Green Acres State Acquisition (\$650,000), Land and Water Conservation Trust Fund (\$1,000,000), and the Trust for Public Land (\$1,500,000) all contributed to the purchase. The Meriden tract is adjacent to New Jersey’s 2,662-acre Wildcat Ridge Wildlife Management Area, which itself was newly created in 1994 from similar conservation efforts. The State of New Jersey acquired the property which will be managed by the Division of Fish and Wildlife as part of the Wildcat Ridge Management Area.



Observers overlooking the Meriden tract absorb the incredible views that are offered of trees, birds, and New York City.

The Meriden tract adds to the overall goals of the area to protect wildlife habitats, stream and aquifer water quality, a wilderness trail system, and the spectacular views that Wildcat Ridge has to offer. On the ridge overlooking the Meriden tract one can see Interstates 287 and 80, and the New York City skyline, and yet be surrounded by a blanket of trees that covers the surrounding landscape.

Once the leading iron mining area of the country, it is now home to a wide variety of wildlife. Black bears, bobcats, otters, timber rattlesnakes, northern copperheads, wood turtles, wood rats and porcupines all inhabit the area. The Meriden tract had been identified as the largest and most developable tract in the area, and it had even received preliminary subdivision approval for a single-family residential subdivision containing 108 building lots.

At the dedication ceremony overlooking the Meriden tract, New Jersey’s Environmental Commissioner Robert Shinn Jr. commented, “There are lands that just leap out to be protected and this is one of them.” He, as well as many others, acknowledged that because of the high costs of land in the area, a large coalition of private, municipal, county, State, and Federal agencies all contributed financially to the protection of the Meriden tract.

The Meriden tract is certainly a welcome addition to the land protection efforts that have been occurring in recent years. It is an excellent example of multiple agencies working together for a common goal.

## Greene Frog Tract New York – August 2000

On August 17, 2000, the State of New York Department of Environmental Conservation protected the 70-acre Greene Frog tract from development through a full fee purchase. The Frog Pond Corporation was paid \$66,400 for the forestland that is a key piece in rounding out state ownership of the high-ridge forests between Pine Island and Pack Saddle Mountain. The president of the Frog Pond Corporation, George Mason, lives in the area of the land and was concerned about good management of high elevation forests. He decided to sell to the state because his travel schedule kept him away from the area. The State of New York, which has a more consistent presence, will manage the land which adjoins the 10,000-acre Hunter Mountain Wild Forest.

For 10 years, the State of New York had been working on a deal for the Greene Frog parcel. Just as the deal was being finalized, the state ran out of acquisition money. At the same time, the New York Department of Environmental Conservation was completing an amendment to their Assessment of Need to add the Catskills Forest Legacy Area to their FLP.



The forests of the Greene Frog tract will continue to offer traditional forest uses as well as providing wildlife habitat and drinking water protection.

The Catskills Forest Legacy Area’s main objectives are to protect environmentally important privately owned forestlands threatened with conversion to nonforest use and to provide watershed and water supply protection. The U.S. Geological Survey has identified forestry land use as one of the best ways to maintain clean water.

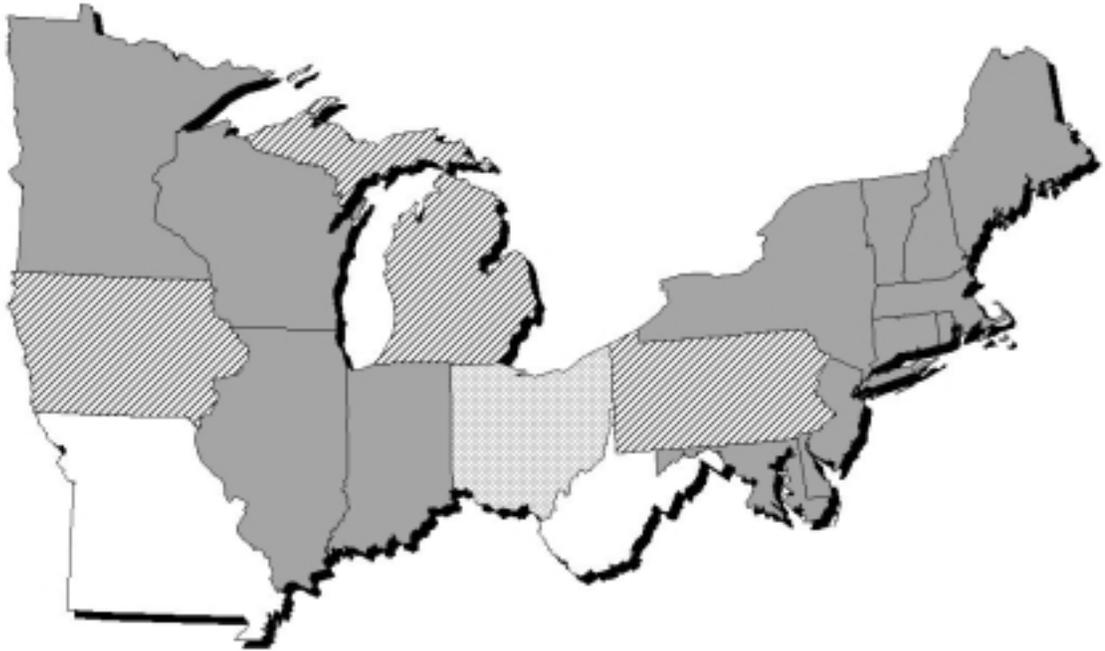
The Catskill watershed reliably provides an average of 1.34 billion gallons of high-quality drinking water to eight million residents of New York City each day. In addition, another one million residents in the counties of Westchester, Putnam, Orange, and Ulster are also supplied with drinking water from the watershed.

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## **Program Activity**

### Program Expansion is Occurring Within the Northeastern Area

Forest Legacy Program activity is steadily increasing within the Northeastern Area. Several states are currently participating in the program, and others are expressing interest and enrolling.



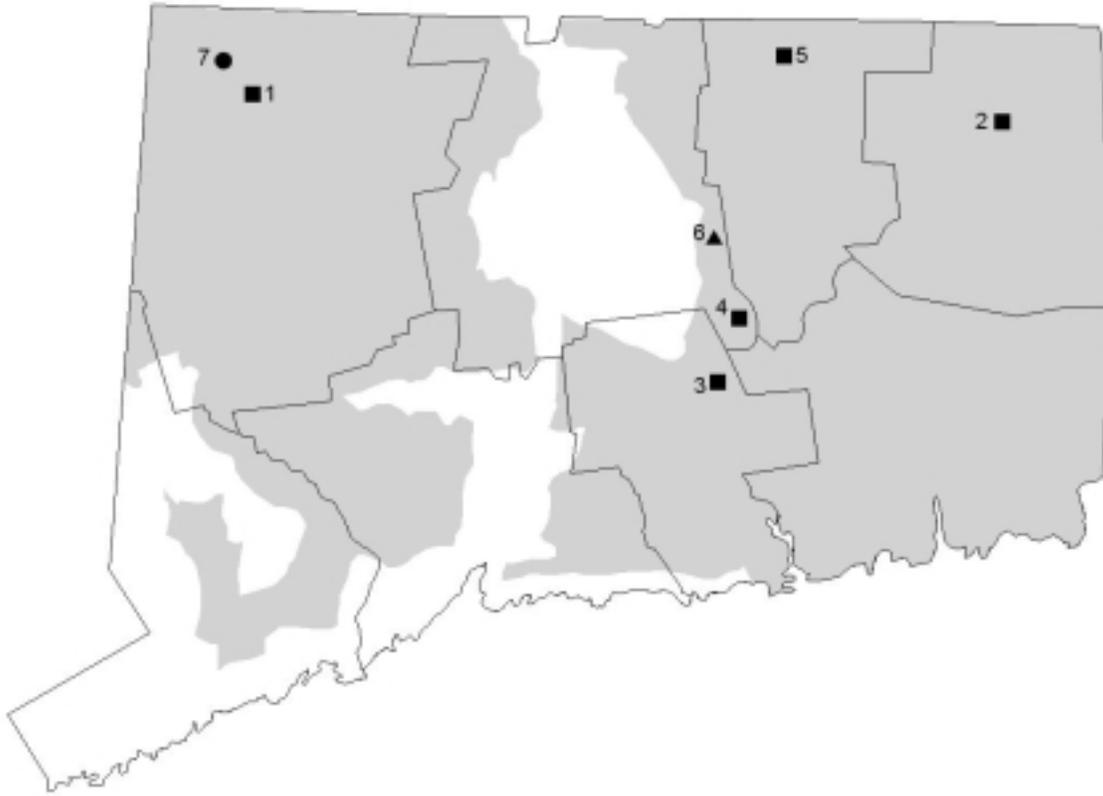
### Forest Legacy Program Activity Northeastern Area

Assessment of Need Status \*  
September 15, 2000

- Completed
- In progress
- Interested



\* A completed Assessment of Need is required before a State becomes an active participant in the program.



### Forest Legacy Activity Connecticut

Acquisition Status

- Completed
- ▲ In progress
- Potential

■ Forest Legacy Area





# CONNECTICUT



For more information, contact  
 Donald Smith, State Forester 860-424-3630, or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

## Completed Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
1	Maplewood Farm	Litchfield County	172	\$210,000	\$210,000
2	Pogmore	Windham County	53	80,000	80,000
3	Pine Brook	Middlesex County	126	100,000	100,000
4	Holcomb	Hartford County	158	315,000	0
5	Worthington	Tolland County	311	597,000	0
<b>Total:</b>			820	\$1,302,000	\$390,000

## Forest Legacy Projects in Progress

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal grant
6	Footehill Farm	Hartford County	125	\$875,000	\$125,000
This 125-acre property abuts Blackledge Falls, a scenic State- and town-owned park. The Blackledge River, a popular river for fishing, flows through the property. Protection of the water resource is important to the landowners, the Town of Glastonbury, and the State of Connecticut.					
<b>Total:</b>			125	\$875,000	\$125,000

## Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
7	Great Mountain Forest	Litchfield County	5,565	\$5,565,000
This 5,565-acre tract abuts 7,000 acres of already protected land. Great Mountain Forest is the largest privately owned forest in Connecticut. It forms the headwaters of Robins Swamp, the largest wetland in the State. It is also home to one of two populations of the eastern timber rattlesnake, an endangered species.				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$5,565,000

## State Forest Legacy Program Goals

- Protect large blocks of forestland
- Provide opportunities for continuation of traditional forest uses
- Work with existing open space initiatives to achieve maximum resource conservation
- Protect water quality



**Forest Legacy Activity  
Delaware**

Acquisition Status

● Potential

■ Forest Legacy Area





# DELAWARE



For more information, contact  
Austin Short, State Forester 302-739-4811, or  
Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

### Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
1	Oversee	New Castle County	125	\$4,000,000
The property is approximately 55% northern hardwood forest, meadows, and some tillable lands. The property sits on one of the highest points in Delaware. Steep forested slopes (greater than 25%) are also a unique feature in a coastal plain state. There are a number of rare and endangered species both of flora and fauna on or near the property.				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$4,000,000

### State Forest Legacy Program Goals

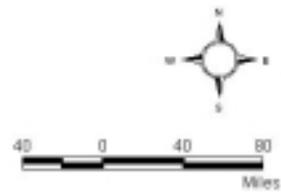
- Identify and protect environmentally important, privately owned forest lands threatened with conversion to nonforest uses
- Reduce forest fragmentation caused by development
- Provide environmental benefits through the restoration and protection of riparian zones, native forest plants and animals, and remnant forest types
- Provide recreational opportunities
- Provide watershed and water supply protection
- Provide employment opportunities and economic stability through maintenance of traditional forest uses
- Maintain important scenic resources of the State
- Provide linkage between public properties, protected properties, and greenways
- Provide protection of rare, threatened, and endangered species of plants and animals
- Promote forest stewardship
- Provide educational opportunities

DELAWARE



### Forest Legacy Activity Illinois

- Acquisition Status
- Completed
  - ▲ In progress
  - Potential
- Forest Legacy Area





## ILLINOIS



For more information, contact  
 Stu Pequignot, State Forester 217-333-5773, or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

### Completed Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
1	Oblate Woods #1	Madison County	60	\$252,000	\$252,000
2	Oblate C2000	Madison County	23	92,000	0
<b>Total:</b>			83	\$344,000	\$252,000

### Forest Legacy Projects in Progress

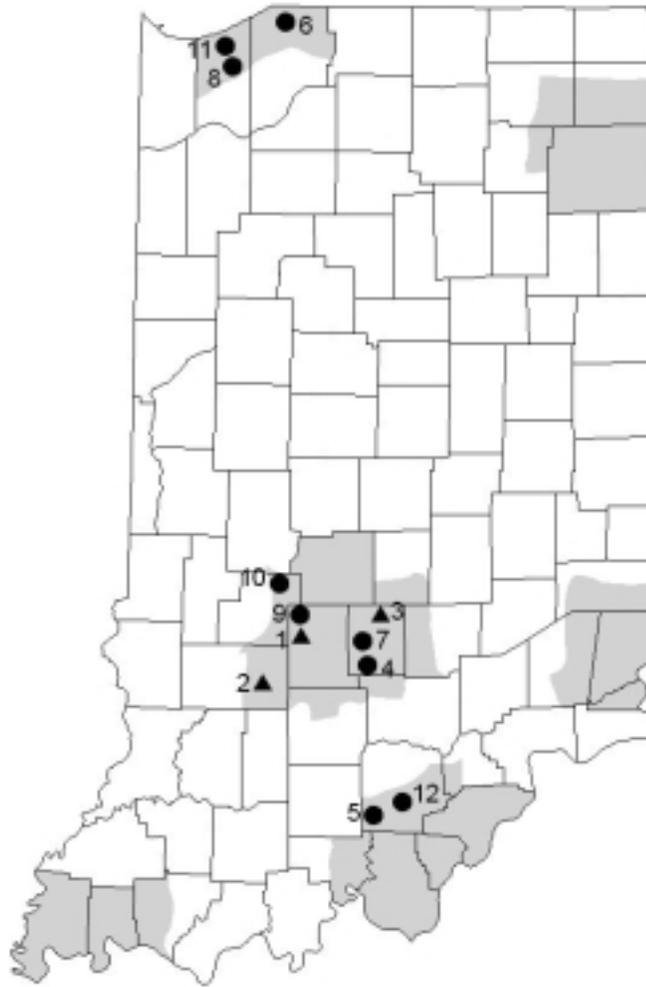
No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal grant
3	Oblate Woods #2	Madison County	60	\$240,000	\$240,000
<p>On the steep bluffs overlooking the Mississippi, this 60-acre tract is part of an undisturbed contiguous forestland. Funds have been set aside for a conservation easement that will provide winter roosting sites for bald eagles and nesting sites for Neotropical migrant birds. This area has become desirable for new home construction because of a new bridge providing access to St. Louis.</p>					
4	LaVista Woods	Madison County	60	532,000	280,000
<p>This 60-acre tract of land borders Oblate Woods #1 and connects Illinois Route 3 with the "Meeting of the Great Rivers National Scenic Byway." It is in close proximity to the City of Alton and the greater St. Louis, Missouri, metropolitan area. This entire forested area is one of the most biologically important tracts of land in the contiguous forest along the bluffs of the Mississippi River north of Alton, Illinois.</p>					
<b>Total:</b>			120	\$772,000	\$520,000

### Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
5	Daysville Forest	Ogle County	89	\$390,000
<p>This 89-acre tract is located east of the Rock River and north of the Kyte River. This tract is primarily oak and hard maple in the upland and typical floodplain species in the bottomland. There are spectacular bluffs overlooking the Rock River, making this area ideal for residential development from the Chicago metropolitan area.</p>				
6	Rattlesnake Ridge	Jersey County	79	158,000
<p>This 79-acre property is near the 8,100 forested acres in Pere Marquette State Park. The property at risk for development provides a large wildlife corridor to the park.</p>				
7	Youngblood Hollow #2	Madison County	76	140,000
<p>This 76-acre parcel borders the LaVista Woods tract. It contains 35 acres of oak-hickory-maple forest with trees 150 to 200 years old. Like the Rattlesnake Ridge and the LaVista Woods tract, this parcel would help complete the acquisition of perpetual easements on 1,000 acres of forested land in the Great River Bluffs Forest Legacy Area.</p>				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$688,000

### State Forest Legacy Program Goals

- Reduce forest fragmentation
- Restore riparian zones
- Provide public recreational opportunities



### Forest Legacy Activity Indiana

Acquisition Status

- Potential
- ▲ In progress

Forest Legacy Area





# INDIANA



For more information, contact  
 Burnell Fischer, State Forester 317-232-4107, or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

### Forest Legacy Projects in Progress

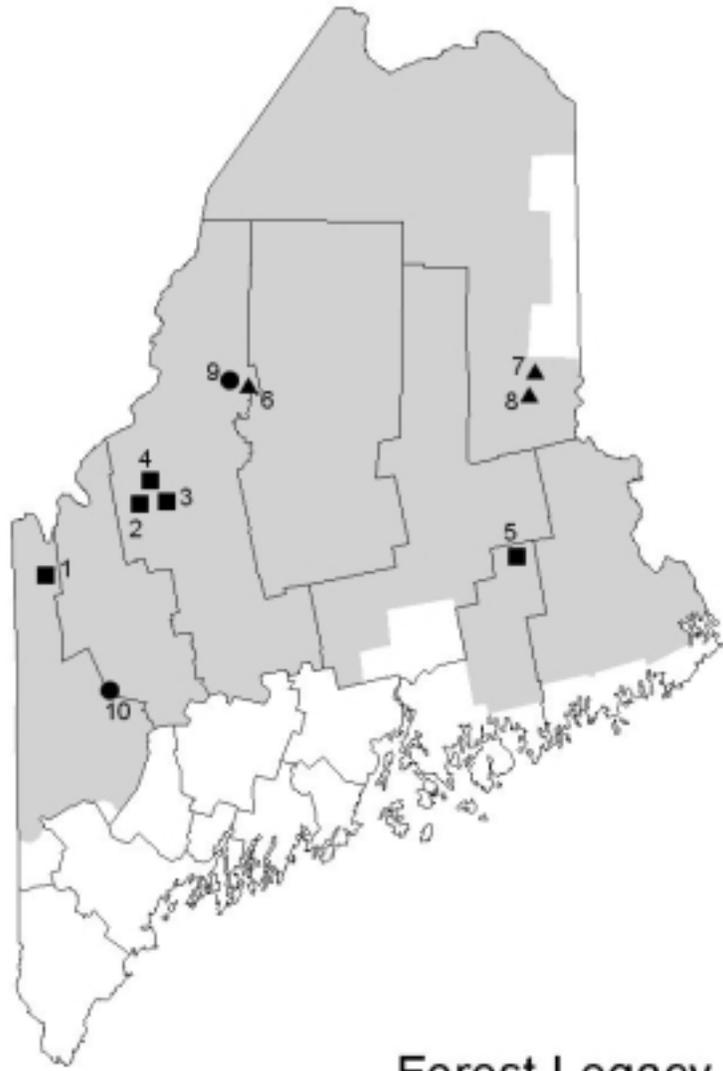
No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal grant
1	Little Richland Creek	Monroe County	300	\$ 239,000	\$ 179,000
This well-managed tract has an historic home site and three ecological communities, including managed white pine stands.					
2	Indiana Mound Farm	Greene County	800+	800,000	400,000
This tract is near a top smallmouth bass fishery and is part of a bobcat research area.					
3	Hills of Gold	Brown County	635	3,046,000	2,285,000
This property is in two tracts and is the site of historic gold and semiprecious stone placer mines.					
<b>Total:</b>			1,735+	\$4,085,000	\$2,864,000

### Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
4	Gnaw Bone Camp	Brown County	1,403	\$2,800,000
In a developing area with good highway access, this tract adjoins Brown County State Park. It has well-developed hiking trails. The current owners assembled the parcel in several purchases since the 1950's.				
5	Big Spring Farm	Washington County	105	125,000
This beautiful parcel overlooks the scenic Blue River and features a series of caves. It is in an area rich in early Indiana history.				
6	Rattlesnake Creek	LaPorte County	120	200,000
An actively managed forest adjoining a prime wetland protected by The Nature Conservancy, this parcel is a mix of wetland and upland hardwoods, containing the largest yellow birch in Indiana. The area is pressured by development from South Bend.				
7	Mt. Tea Ridge	Brown County	1,136	3,672,000
This solid block of relatively undisturbed mixed hardwood forests adjoins a Forest Legacy property pieced together by the current owner. It supports diverse habitats and is actively managed for timber, wildlife, and personal recreation.				
8	River's Edge	Porter County	77	346,000
This large hardwood tract is 1 mile from the National Lakeshore. It borders the Calumet River, a noted trout/salmon waterway. It is part of a large forest block; 17 acres of cropland will be planted to hardwoods as part of the project.				
9	Jack's Defeat Creek	Monroe County	225	450,000
The parcel has 1,000+ feet frontage on Jack's Defeat Creek within 20 miles of Bloomington and Indiana University. In the heart of Indiana's limestone region, the site contains a 150-foot quarry pit silent since the Great Depression.				
10	Indian Path	Owen County	31	81,000
This tract along State Highway 231 contains several ecological communities. The site contains an historic natural sulfur spring used for over a century by early inhabitants. The property is traversed by an old Indian and pioneer trail.				
11	Oasis Forest	Porter County	45	338,000
This hardwood forest is within 2 miles of a major interstate exchange, 3 miles from Lake Michigan, and 1 mile from the National Lakeshore. Most forest in this area has disappeared, making this wetland and upland tract almost an island.				
12	Koetter Caves	Washington County	310	350,000
This rural parcel of well-managed forest contains several ecological communities, including noteworthy karst communities.				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$8,362,000

### State Forest Legacy Program Goals

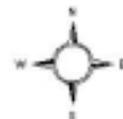
- Identify and protect environmentally important privately owned forestlands threatened with conversion to nonforest uses, keeping them parts of the working natural landscape
- Reduce forest fragmentation caused by development and subdivision of important forestlands



**Forest Legacy Activity  
Maine**

**Acquisition Status**

- Completed
- ▲ In progress
- Potential
  
- Forest Legacy Area





# MAINE



For more information, contact  
 Tom Doak, State Forester 207-287-2791, or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

### Completed Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
1	Cupsuptic Lake	Oxford County	1,272	\$ 843,000	\$ 843,000
2	S. D. Warren	Somerset County	6,773	1,490,000	1,490,000
3	Maine Wilderness Watershed Trust	Somerset County	1,770	210,000	210,000
4	Valentine	Somerset County	1,315	250,000	250,000
5	Nicatous	Hancock County	20,268	4,500,000	3,000,000
<b>Total:</b>			<b>31,398</b>	<b>\$7,293,000</b>	<b>\$5,793,000</b>

### Forest Legacy Projects in Progress

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
6	West Branch Project Phase 1	Somerset County	67,520	\$8,000,000+	\$2,000,000
<p>A conservation easement will protect this tract that encompasses forestland in a number of townships in the Northern Forest Lands area in Maine. Other funding sources will buy in fee 4,200 acres surrounding Big Spencer Mountain and about 9 miles of Moosehead Lake shoreline. The estimated value of the entire project is \$8 to \$10 million. For the conservation easement, \$2 million of Forest Legacy funds plus \$2 million of State funds are being sought.</p>					
7	Pleasant Lake	Aroostook County	9,671	840,000	630,000
<p>This parcel includes over 11 miles of shore frontage on Pleasant, Mud, and Skitacook Lakes, as well as almost 4 miles along both shores of the East Branch of the Mattawamkeag River. The ownership, which has a long history of forest stewardship, includes several deer wintering areas and pockets of old growth forest.</p>					
8	Bible Point	Aroostook County	3,273	490,000	370,000
<p>This tract includes extensive frontage along the southern end of Mattawamkeag Lake as well as the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River. It is in a region that has experienced extensive subdivision and development pressure. The proposed acquisition includes a conservation easement over most of the property and fee acquisition of a 125-acre island.</p>					
<b>Total:</b>			<b>80,464</b>	<b>\$9,330,000+</b>	<b>\$3,000,000</b>

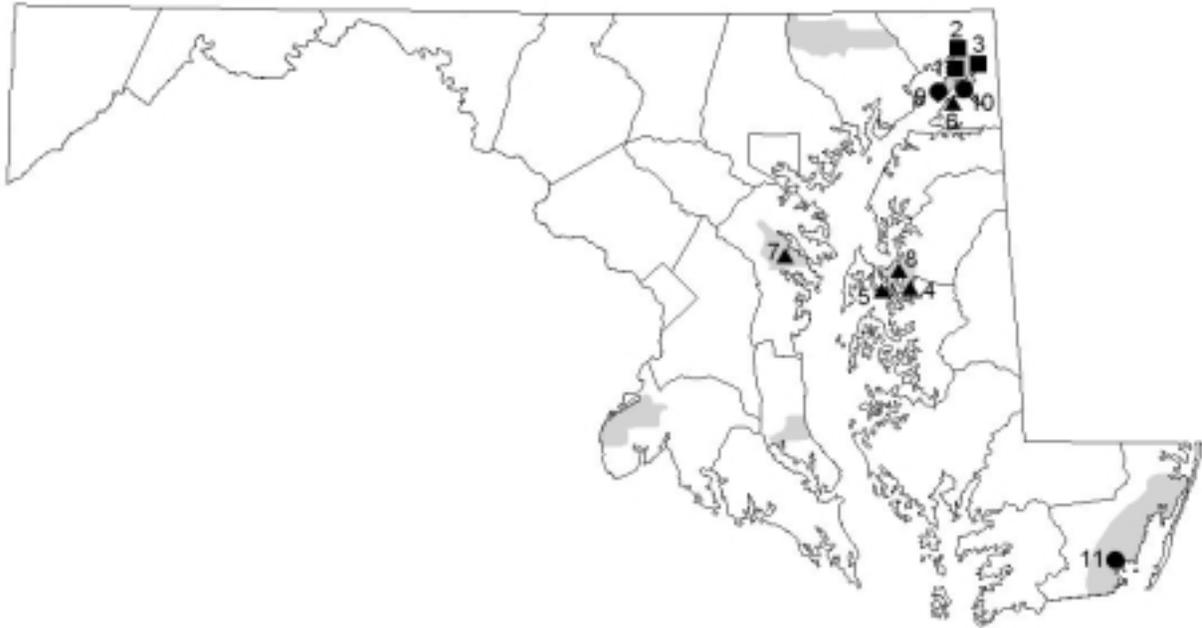
### Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
9	West Branch Project Phase 2	Somerset and Piscataquis Counties	585,000	\$50,000,000
<p>This property, a large contiguous block of forest that has sustained a flow of timber products for more than 100 years, encompasses the headwaters of both the St. John and Penobscot Rivers, and some of the most cherished places in Maine's North Woods. Within its borders are threatened and endangered plants and animals, three rare old-growth forest stands, valuable wetlands, and historic Native American canoe routes. Most of the area will be protected under a conservation easement, while some key acres will be purchased in fee.</p>				
10	Mount Blue/Tumbledown Mountain	Franklin County	33,400	\$9,500,000
<p>This is a region of low but spectacular peaks, popular hiking trails, small alpine ponds, and beautiful Webb Lake. The site includes examples of acidic summit, alpine ridge, and krummholz vegetation. Of the 33,000-acre focus area, about 18,000 acres will be targeted with conservation easement protection; the remainder will be fee purchase. The first phase of the project is estimated to be about \$7 million. Maine is seeking about \$1.2 million in Forest Legacy funds. This project will have subsequent phases with additional acreage, the value of which will be determined as the projects are defined.</p>				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				<b>\$59,500,000</b>

### State Forest Legacy Program Goals

- Maintain traditional forest uses
- Protect water quality
- Prevent development along pristine lakes, ponds, and streams
- Provide public recreational opportunities
- Maintain productive forests

MAINE

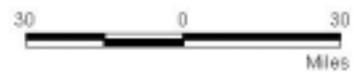


### Forest Legacy Activity Maryland

Acquisition Status

- Completed
- ▲ In progress
- Potential

■ Forest Legacy Area





## MARYLAND



For more information, contact  
 Steve Koehn, Acting State Forester 410-260-8531 or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

### Completed Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
1-3	Camp Rodney, Caveat, and McDaniel Tracts	Cecil County	668	\$775,000	0
<b>Total:</b>			668	\$775,000	0

### Forest Legacy Projects in Progress

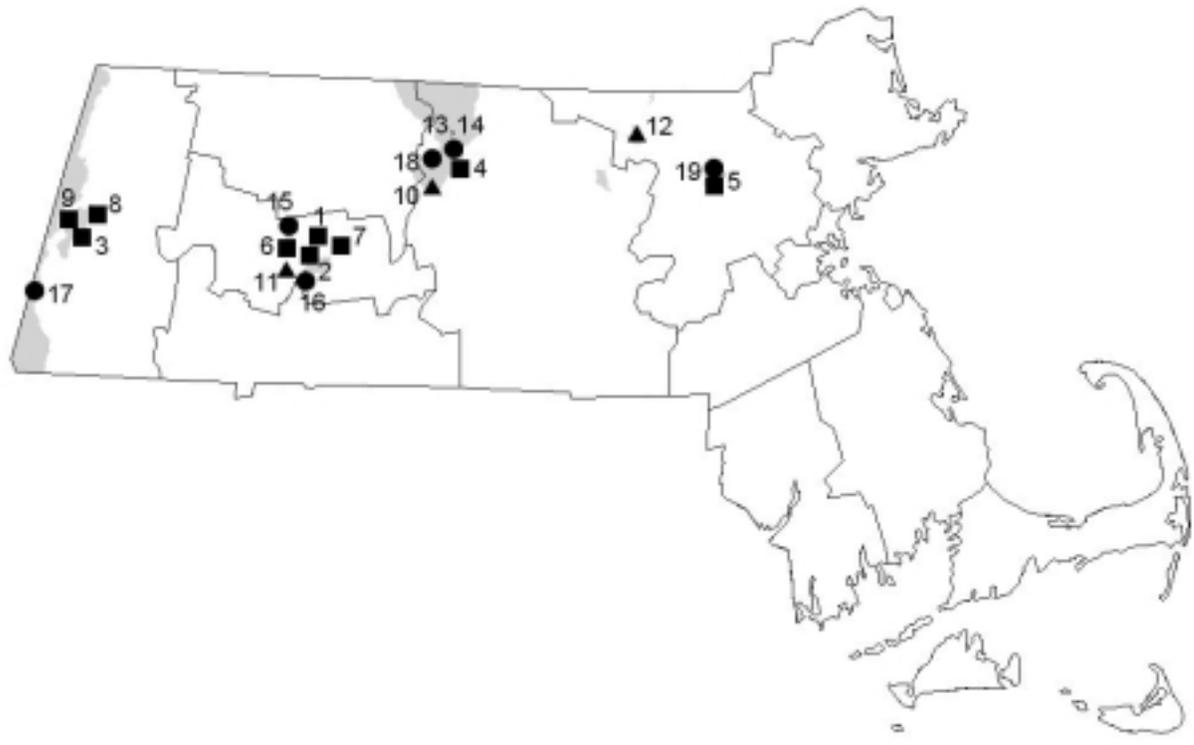
No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal grant
4-5	Goodwill and Talisman Tracts	Queen Anne's County	475	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000
These adjacent properties, totaling 471 acres, border another 1,000+ acres of permanently protected land. This would maintain a very large contiguous block of forest and wetland habitat 15 miles east of Annapolis.					
6	Muddy Creek	Cecil County	200	400,000	400,000
This 200-acre parcel adjoins Elk Neck State Forest, connecting the State Forest to the Elk River, a tributary of the Chesapeake Bay. A bald eagle nest is located on the property.					
7	Green Cathedral	Anne Arundel County	292	1,750,000	650,000
This is a highly sought 292-acre parcel, 5 miles from Annapolis. This project is being done in cooperation with the Trust for Public Land, which is providing \$1.1 million in private funds.					
8	Wye River	Queen Anne's County	253	500,000	250,000
This is a 253-acre parcel in Queen Anne's County, that is about one-half of the largest remaining block of forestland in that part of the Forest Legacy Area. This project was partially funded in 2000.					
<b>Total:</b>			1,220	\$3,955,000	\$2,605,000

### Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
9-10	Elk River and Black Hill Tracts	Cecil County	104	\$200,000
These are two additional properties in the Elk Neck Forest Legacy Area that are contiguous with Elk Neck State Forest. Each property is approximately 52 acres. A conservation easement on these properties would help to ensure economic stability in the area through the continuation of traditional forest uses.				
11	Coastal Bay	Worcester County	95	125,000
This is a 95-acre parcel in the southeastern corner of the State. It is adjacent to a large, existing easement. The area provides migratory bird habitat and also has an active forest industry.				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$325,000

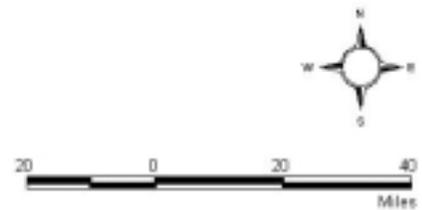
### State Forest Legacy Program Goals

- Reduce forest fragmentation caused by development
- Restore and protect riparian zones, native plants and animals, and remnant forests
- Provide recreational opportunities
- Protect watersheds and water supplies
- Ensure economic stability through the continuation of traditional forest uses
- Maintain important scenic resources of the State
- Provide linkage to public areas and protected areas
- Protect rare, threatened, and endangered species



### Forest Legacy Activity Massachusetts

- Acquisition Status
- Completed
  - ▲ In progress
  - Potential
- Forest Legacy Area





## MASSACHUSETTS



For more information, contact  
Warren Archey, State Forester 413-442-8928, or  
Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

### Completed Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
1	Holich	Hampshire County	113	\$ 220,000	\$ 220,000
2	Anciporch	Hampshire County	106	198,000	198,000
3	Audubon	Berkshire County	75	180,000	180,000
4	Hutchinson	Worcester County	490	616,000	616,000
5	Pippin Tree	Middlesex County	73	4,300,000	1,500,000
6	Boudreau	Hampshire County	56	335,000	321,000
7	Johnson	Hampshire County	47	50,000	48,000
8	Stockbridge	Berkshire County	67	60,000	60,000
9	BNRC	Berkshire County	225	280,000	280,000
<b>Total:</b>			1,252	\$6,239,000	\$3,423,000

### Forest Legacy Projects in Progress

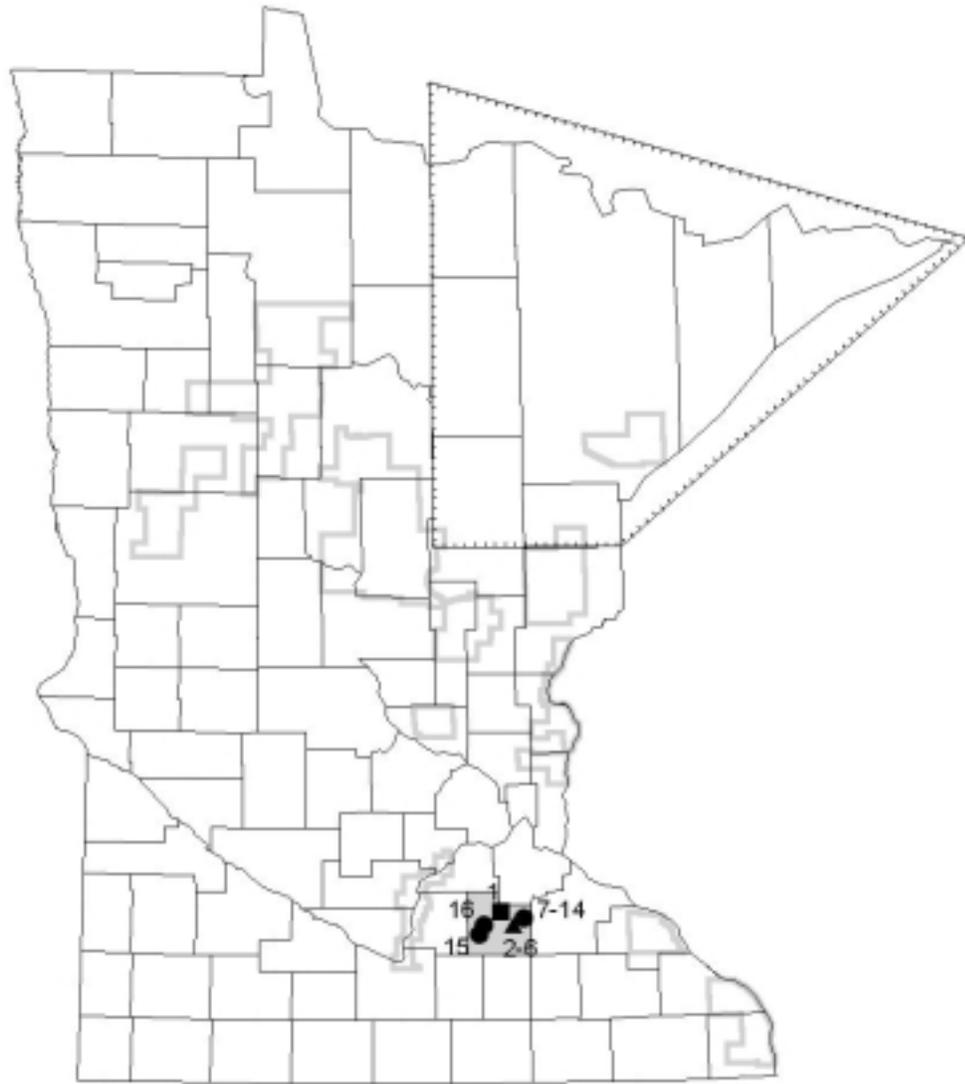
No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal grant
10	2-Mile Landbridge	Worcester County	508	\$ 350,000	\$350,000
The protection of this tract of forest will provide wildlife habitat, water purification to the largest public drinking water source in the State, and continuation of traditional forest management activities.					
11	Hatfield Watershed #1	Hampshire County	66	96,000	76,000
This represents part 1 of a multi-phase project in which the overall goal is to protect the Town of Hatfield's municipal water supply watershed and aquifer from the increasing pressures of residential development.					
12	Pumpkin Brook Link	Middlesex County	136	750,000	250,000
Provides a critical link connecting the Squannacook Wildlife Management Area and the Hunting Hill Conservation Area.					
<b>Total:</b>			710	\$1,196,000	\$676,000

### Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
13-14	Secret Lake and Town Farm Tracts	Worcester County	485	\$ 270,000
These two tracts help protect the quality of water draining into the largest public drinking water source in the State. The landowner will continue managing the forest and running his sawmill.				
15	Lithia Springs	Hampshire County	61	64,000
This tract compliments the nearby Boudreau tract, further protecting an extensive trail system and South Hadley's watershed.				
16	Hatfield Watershed #2	Hampshire County	130	600,000
Part 2 of this multi-phase project adds to the overall goals protecting the Town of Hatfield's water supply.				
17	Alford Springs	Berkshire County	667	1,000,000
This tract is part of a multi-State effort to protect the view and forests along the Taconic Ridge trail. The area is under increasing pressure from second homebuyers and is one of the largest remaining unfragmented forested tracts in the Taconic Range.				
18	Eaglewood Pines	Worcester/Franklin Counties	300	1,203,000
This tract encompasses 3/4 mile of lake frontage on two lakes. It is located adjacent to and a part of a tract that is the site of a proposed highway interchange, which will serve to induce additional development.				
19	School Lot	Middlesex County	40	1,500,000
A critical core parcel in the Estabrook Woods, this tract is rich in colonial and literary history as well as in wildlife habitat				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$4,637,000

### State Forest Legacy Program Goals

- Protect high elevation forests and municipal watersheds
- Encourage traditional forest uses
- Protect threatened and endangered species habitat
- Protect aquifers, river corridors, and wetlands



### Forest Legacy Activity Minnesota

#### Acquisition Status

- Completed
- ▲ In progress
- Potential

- Activated Forest Legacy Area
- Inactive Forest Legacy Area
- Large Sites, Possible Forest Legacy Areas





## MINNESOTA



For more information, contact  
 Robert Tomlinson, Acting State Forester 651-296-4484, or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

### Completed Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
1	Big Woods Heritage Forest	Rice County	140	\$409,000	\$ 0
<b>Total:</b>			140	\$409,000	\$ 0

### Forest Legacy Projects in Progress

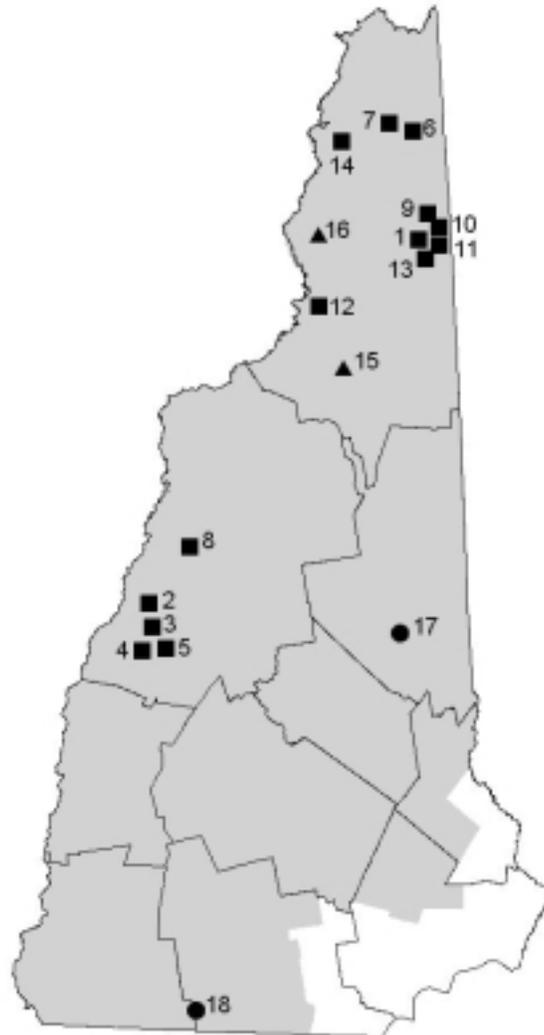
No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal grant
2, 3, 4, 6	Seven-Mile Woods #1-4	Rice County	334	\$612,000	\$439,000
<p>These four tracts are within the larger Seven-Mile Woods, an extensive area of Big Woods-type forest. Seven-Mile Woods is the focus of the Big Woods Project, which is focused on the protection and restoration of the maple-basswood forest type.</p>					
5	Nerstrand Woods #1	Rice County	119	238,000	238,000
<p>This tract adjoins Nerstrand Big Woods State Park, the largest and best example of presettlement Big Woods forest in the State. The tract is to be restored to presettlement vegetation—a mix of woodland and savanna—which will help provide a buffer for nearby colonies of Minnesota dwarf trout lily, a Federally endangered plant.</p>					
<b>Total:</b>			453	\$850,000	\$677,000

### Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
7	Cannon River Wilderness #1	Rice County	62	\$106,000
<p>This tract adjoins the Cannon River Wilderness Area, a Rice County Park. Protection will help buffer the Wilderness Area.</p>				
8-9	Nerstrand Woods #3	Rice County	73	300,000
<p>This tract consists of two separate parcels along Prairie Creek. Protection will help conserve continuity of riparian forest habitat.</p>				
10-11	Seven-Mile Woods #5	Rice County	50	66,000
<p>This tract has oak forest, savanna, and wetlands that provide riparian connectivity between other Forest Legacy funded tracts.</p>				
12	Cannon River Big Woods #1	Rice County	108	254,000
<p>One of the largest privately owned tracts of Big Woods forest in western Rice County, this site includes a family sugarbush operation. The site also protects the headwaters of the Cannon River, an important recreational river in southern Minnesota.</p>				
13	Nerstrand Woods #2	Rice County	10	15,000
<p>This site is surrounded on three sides by Nerstrand Big Woods State Park and contains colonies of the Federally endangered Minnesota dwarf trout lily, found only in this and two adjoining counties.</p>				
14	Seven-Mile Woods #6	Rice County	15	5,000
<p>This site is part of the larger Seven-Mile Woods and would enlarge connectivity along the Prairie Creek.</p>				
15	Cannon River Big Woods #2	Rice County	108	138,000
<p>This tract contains Big Woods remnants, restored forest, and wetlands along the upper reaches of the Cannon River.</p>				
16	Seven-Mile Woods #7	Rice County	21	22,000
<p>This site, which adjoins tract 14, has Minnesota dwarf trout lily and undeveloped forested shoreline along Prairie Creek.</p>				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$906,000

### State Forest Legacy Program Goals

- Prevent conversion of private forestlands most likely threatened by development in the next decade
- Encourage all eligible organizations and agencies to focus on and protect the most threatened forests
- Work with organizations and agencies to protect specific forest tracts from development

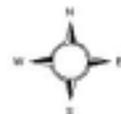


**Forest Legacy Activity  
New Hampshire**

**Acquisition Status**

- Completed
- ▲ In progress
- Potential

■ Forest Legacy Area





# NEW HAMPSHIRE



For more information, contact  
 Philip Bryce, State Forester 603-271-2214, or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

## Completed Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
1	13 Mile Woods	Coos County	2,754	\$ 555,000	\$ 555,000
2-5	Smarts Mountain (Lyme)	Grafton County	3,911	879,000	873,000
6	Jahoda (Pittsburg)	Coos County	344	105,000	105,000
7	Jahoda/Johnson (Clarksville)	Coos County	56	52,000	52,000
8	Piermont Mountain	Grafton County	1,650	219,000	219,000
9	James River	Coos County	3,005	2,000,000	0
10	Oxford Paper Co.	Coos County	602	1,000,000	0
11	Union Water Power Co.	Coos County	24	167,000	0
12	Sullivan	Coos County	122	30,000	0
13	Pingree	Coos County	16	75,000	0
14	Hurlburt Swamp	Coos County	313	30,000	0
<b>Total:</b>			12,797	\$5,112,000	\$1,804,000

## Forest Legacy Projects in Progress

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
15	Pond of Safety	Coos County	9,940	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Acquiring 9,940 acres through a conservation easement will protect the aesthetics along Route 2 (a tourist route), allow nonmotorized recreation along ridge trails, and allow managing the forest for timber, fuelwood, and wildlife habitat.					
16	Bunnell Mountain	Coos County	18,608	1,675,000	1,675,000
A conservation easement will be acquired over productive forestland with hiking and snowmobile trails. The property contains high elevation spruce/fir forest, a significant forest type supporting more rare animal species than any other forest type in New Hampshire.					
<b>Total:</b>			28,548	\$3,175,000	\$3,175,000

## Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
17	Ossipee Mountains	Carroll County	4,800	\$1,600,000
The Ossipee Mountains are a visually defining feature of the landscape of eastern-central New Hampshire and are considered a prime example of "ring dike" of a long-extinct volcano. Acquisition of this conservation easement, together with the abutting protected land, will provide a contiguous block of over 14,000 acres in the heart of the ring dike crater.				
18	Island Pond	Cheshire and Hillsborough Counties	1,560	750,000
This tract is the centerpiece of over 4,500 acres of other protected lands located in rapidly developing southern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts. This tract contains 2 miles of the heavily used Wapack Trail. The easement would provide public access for low impact outdoor recreation and would protect three undeveloped ponds.				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$2,350,000

## State Forest Legacy Program Goals

- Expand existing protected forests
- Provide for traditional forest uses
- Protect large blocks of forestland
- Protect critical wildlife habitat

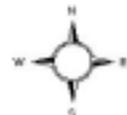


**Forest Legacy Activity  
New Jersey**

Acquisition Status

- Completed
- ▲ In progress
- Potential

■ Forest Legacy Area





## NEW JERSEY



For more information, contact  
 James Barresi, State Forester 609-292-2531, or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

### Completed Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
1	RTC/FDIC	Morris County	145	\$ 412,000	\$412,000
2	Buck Mountain	Morris County	1,200	4,300,000	200,000
3	Meriden	Morris County	295	7,000,000	350,000
<b>Total:</b>			1,640	\$11,712,000	\$962,000

### Forest Legacy Projects in Progress

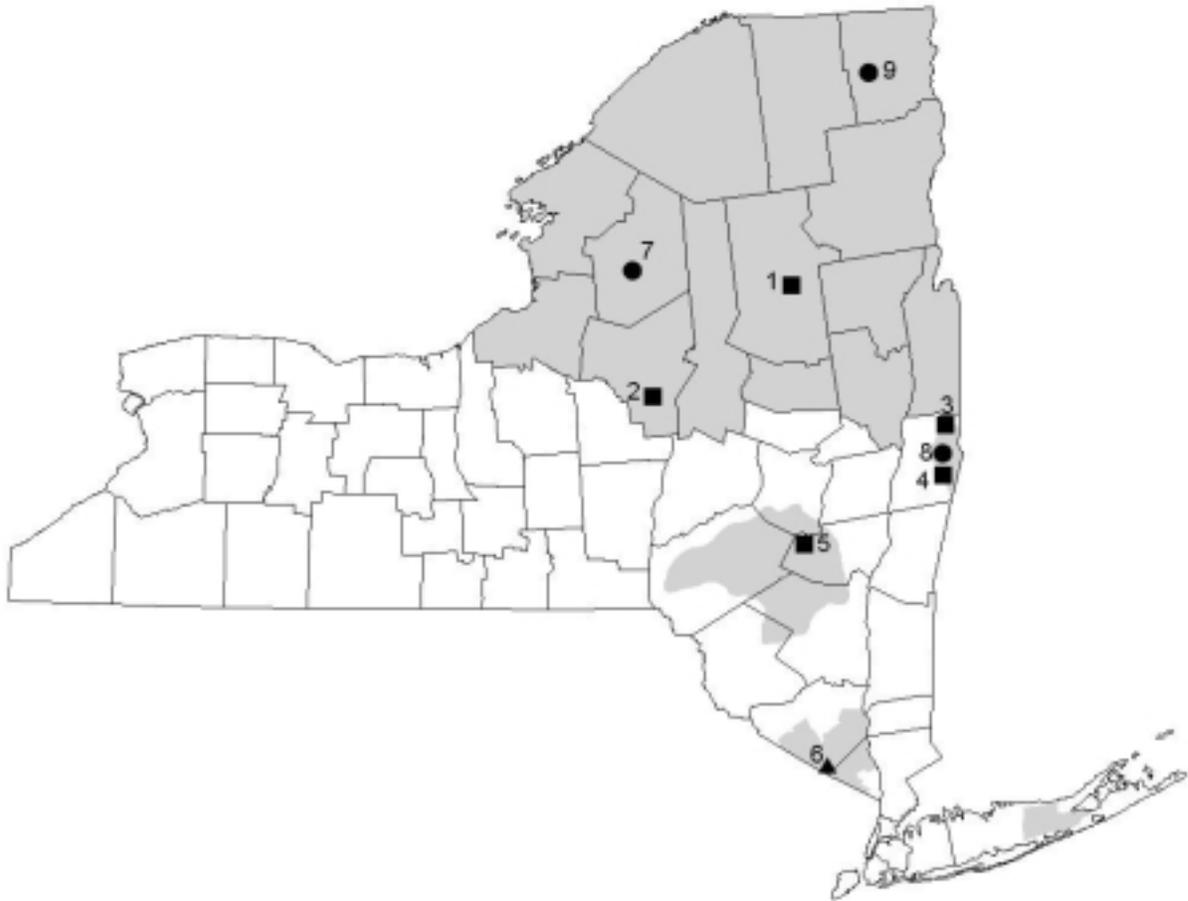
No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal grant
4	Mase Mountain	Morris County	840	\$2,500,000	\$ 600,000
The proposed 700 residential units on this site between Picatinny Arsenal and Lake Hopatcong would adversely impact wildlife.					
5	Macopin Reservoir	Passaic County	700	1,432,000	700,000
This tract is the next phase in a project to protect the bulk of Newark Watershed lands in the Highlands. Nearly 9,000 acres of land with endangered species habitat, trail networks, and water-supply watershed lands have been protected.					
<b>Total:</b>			1,540	\$3,932,000	\$1,300,000

### Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
6	Farny Highlands	Morris County	525	\$3,000,000
A conservation easement purchase would increase the protected area adjacent to Jersey City Watershed lands. The property sits atop the Rockaway Township drinking water aquifer and would remain privately owned and managed.				
7	Newark Watershed—Phase 4	Morris County	2,700	5,900,000
This property is adjacent to permanently protected land acquired with Forest Legacy funding (Macopin Reservoir). It is also within the Newark Watershed Project area, part of an effort to permanently protect 25,000 acres of land.				
8	Highlands Greenway	Sussex County	200	1,000,000
This property is directly adjacent to Sparta Mountain Wildlife Management Area and is a critical link to other protected properties. Development of this property is imminent, as the landowner has several offers from developers.				
9	Blue Heron Lake	Sussex County	675	2,500,000
This three-parcel tract is adjacent to the State-owned Weldon Brook Wildlife Management Area. The property has a small lake and significant wildlife habitat. Development is imminent, as the landowners have received offers from developers.				
10	High Rock Mountain	Warren County	450	1,800,000
This project represents four adjoining landowners, all interested in selling their forested parcels to the State in fee. The properties are a critical component to a larger plan to link Pequest Wildlife Management Area to Jenny Jump State Forest.				
11	Pashman	Sussex County	304	1,000,000
The entire property will be added to Waywayanda State Park. The Appalachian Trail runs through the property.				
12	Allamuchy Connector	Morris County	500	1,000,000
These two properties, one directly adjacent to Allamuchy State Park, have significant views and three mountain peaks.				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$16,200,000

### State Forest Legacy Program Goals

- Protect some of the last extensive unbroken forests
- Provide public recreational opportunities
- Provide a great diversity of natural resources
- Protect high quality drinking water supplies
- Protect important and unique wildlife habitat and critical migration routes



**Forest Legacy Activity  
New York**

Acquisition Status

- Completed
  - ▲ In progress
  - Potential
- Forest Legacy Area





# NEW YORK



For more information, contact  
 Frank Dunstan, State Forester 518-457-2475, or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

## Completed Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
1	Denino/Indian Lake	Hamilton County	141	\$ 86,000	\$ 86,000
2	Brown	Oneida County	119	120,000	120,000
3-4	Pownel, Tanning, and Fox	Rensselaer County	378	131,000	131,000
5	Greene Frog	Greene County	70	70,000	70,000
<b>Total:</b>			708	\$407,000	\$407,000

## Forest Legacy Projects in Progress

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal grant
6	Sterling Forest	Orange County	847	\$4,270,000	\$2,000,000
This tract is part of a major expansion of Sterling Forest State Park that will protect the drinking water for millions of people in the region. The project consists of 1,100 acres fee and 250 acres easement.					
<b>Total:</b>			847	\$4,270,000	\$2,000,000

## Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
7	East Branch Fish Creek	Lewis County	47,300	6,000,000
This tract encompasses approximately 50,000 acres in one of the most rural areas in New York State. It has exceptional wildlife habitat and encompasses the headwaters of the water supply for several cities and communities, including Rome and Oneida. A conservation easement would protect water quality, ensure public access, encourage management of quality timber stands, and maintain diverse wildlife habitats.				
8	George Allen	Rensselaer County	600	350,000
The Taconic Ridge is important to four State land strategies. It shares common borders with NY, CT, MA, and VT. This tract abuts 1,300 acres of State lands to the north and 1,600 acres of fee and easement land to the south that runs through the Town of Hancock, MA. NY is closing on a 400-acre fee tract 2 miles to the north in addition to an accompanying 3,100-acre easement bordering MA. This multi-State cooperative will protect 17 miles of the Ridge in three States, fully protecting 12 miles of trail in NY alone.				
9	Sable Highlands	Clinton County	105,000	8,000,000
Currently marketed in 13 separate tracts, acquisition of a conservation easement will ensure protection of a landscape supporting a mosaic of ecosystems where human needs and ecological health are integrated.				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$14,350,000

## State Forest Legacy Program Goals

- Protect traditional forest uses
- Protect water quality
- Protect wildlife habitat
- Provide public recreational opportunities
- Protect scenic quality



**Forest Legacy Activity  
Rhode Island**

Acquisition Status

- Completed
  - ▲ In progress
  - Potential
- Forest Legacy Area





## RHODE ISLAND



For more information, contact  
 Tom Dupree, State Forester 401-647-3367, or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

### Completed Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
1	Wright	Providence County	132	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
2	Brownell	Kent County	80	155,000	155,000
3	Mount Tom Trail	Kent County	145	270,000	270,000
4	Gammell	Washington County	75	445,000	445,000
<b>Total:</b>			432	\$920,000	\$920,000

### Forest Legacy Projects in Progress

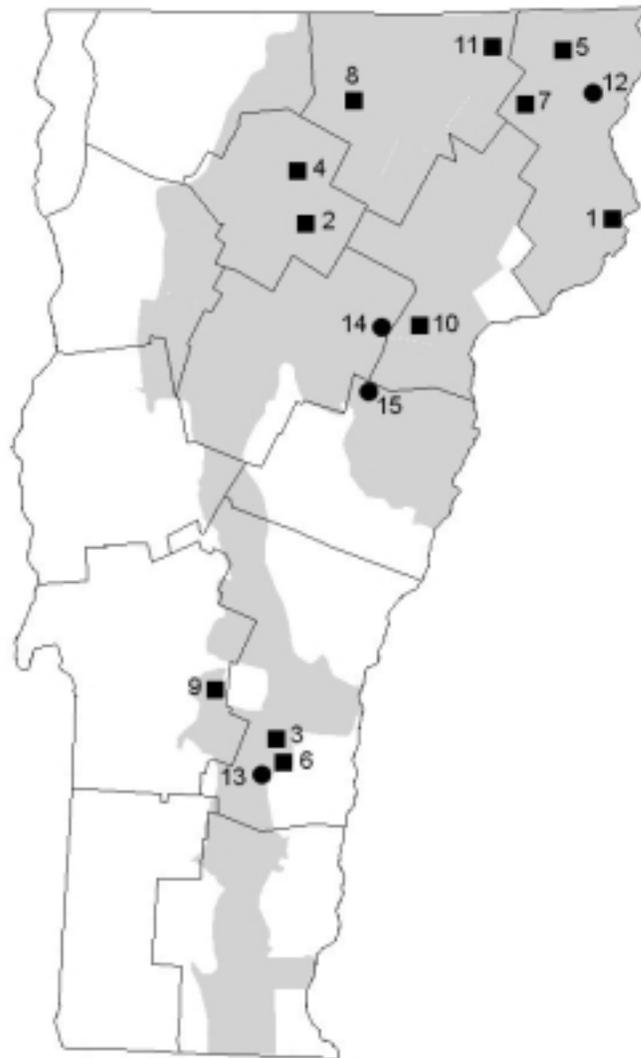
No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal grant
5	Cork Brook	Providence County	49	\$250,000	\$250,000
<p>This parcel abuts property already purchased to protect public drinking water supply. The landowner is in financial need and has preliminary approvals for limited development with septic system waste disposal. An easement will protect the public drinking water values and continue with the high quality forest management that has occurred there over the past few decades.</p>					
6	DuVal Trail Corridor– West	Washington County	166	360,000	360,000
<p>This is a keystone parcel in a greenway corridor. This completely forested tract, managed for timber production, will leverage an additional 93 acres on abutting property. Many partners are participating in the project.</p>					
<b>Total:</b>			215	\$610,000	\$610,000

### Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
7	Long and Ell Ponds– South	Washington County	600	\$ 550,000
<p>This is a complex, multipartner transaction involving up to nine private landowners. Acquisition of a conservation easement would help prevent development on 600 acres and would add to an existing 800 acres of protected land while preserving valuable wildlife habitat, protecting scenic vistas, and enhancing public recreational opportunities.</p>				
8	Great Grass Pond	Kent County	175	328,000
<p>Approximately 175 acres of woodland in a core area of open space, this parcel abuts several large privately held parcels, including one of 2,000 acres. The landowner has valid development offer.</p>				
9	South Road	Washington County	74	296,000
<p>This conservation easement is on 74 acres of reverted farmland in an area experiencing the highest development pressure in the State. The tract is a keystone that may prevent development of abutting parcels and will provide wood products, limited public recreation, educational opportunities, and protect scenic vistas.</p>				
10	Coventry Greenway	Kent County	96	250,000
<p>Securing a conservation easement on this woodland tract surrounding an historic farm will add to the integrity of an intercity greenway. It represents a town and State effort to prevent this highly desirable parcel from development.</p>				
11	Scrabbletown Brook	Kent County	40	400,000
<p>This farm woodlot tract is part of a multipartner effort to protect an historic 90+ acre farm from development and to add to a system of local green spaces.</p>				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$1,824,000

### State Forest Legacy Program Goals

- Protect significant forest tracts
- Add to existing public open space
- Protect threatened and endangered species habitat
- Provide public recreational opportunities
- Protect watersheds of public drinking water supplies



Forest Legacy Activity  
Vermont

Acquisition Status

- Completed
- Potential
- Forest Legacy Area





# VERMONT



For more information, contact  
 Dave Stevens, State Forester 802-241-3678, or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

## Completed Forest Legacy Projects

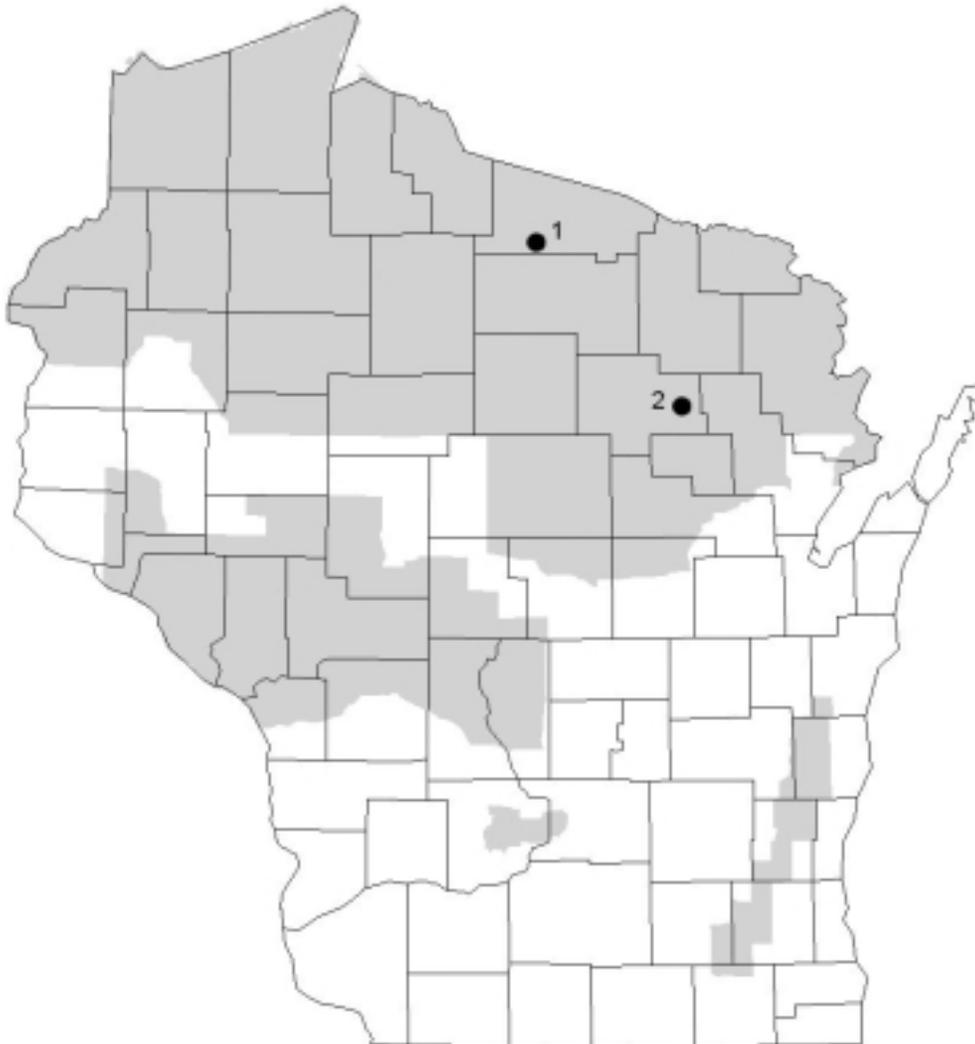
No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Interests value	Federal payment
1	Cow Mountain Pond	Essex County	1,660	\$ 500,000	\$ 271,000
2	Atlas/Wagner Woodland	Lamoille County	2,281	342,000	342,000
3	Wilderness Corp.	Windsor County	2,086	771,000	618,000
4	Green River Reservoir	Lamoille County	5,113	2,500,000	1,776,000
5	Hancock	Essex & Orleans Counties	31,450	2,847,000	2,500,000
6	Conservation Fund	Windsor County	560	200,000	200,000
7	McConnell Pond	Essex County	4,790	928,000	0
8	Lowell Mountain	Orleans County	1,241	177,000	0
9	Pierce	Rutland County	235	141,000	0
10	Peacham	Caledonia County	730	210,000	0
11	Stokey	Orleans County	809	96,000	0
<b>Total:</b>			<b>50,955</b>	<b>\$8,712,000</b>	<b>\$5,707,000</b>

## Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
12	Vermont Northern Forest Tracts	Essex County	1,070	\$ 325,000
This fee-simple purchase of several large tracts totaling 1,070 acres consists of boreal forest wildlife habitat, recreation opportunities, and productive timberland. The parcels are within former Champion properties that have recently been conserved through conservation easement and public fee-simple ownership.				
13	Mt. Holly Wildlife Corridor Lands	Windsor County	1,186	450,000
This proposed conservation easement is on several forested parcels within a key wildlife corridor adjacent to conserved land, including the Wilderness Corp. tract.				
14	Molly's Falls Pond	Washington County	650	800,000
This fee-simple purchase includes a 400-acre undeveloped pond (not included in total acreage). The parcel has extremely high scenic, recreational, and forestry values.				
15	Knox Mountain	Orange County	2,600	550,000
This conservation easement will protect property that is adjacent to State forest land, is within the watershed of a municipal water supply, and contains the summits of two mountains exceeding 3,000 feet in elevation.				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				<b>\$2,125,000</b>

## State Forest Legacy Program Goals

- Protect large contiguous and productive forest blocks
- Protect habitats for wildlife dependent on large contiguous forest blocks
- Protect threatened and endangered species habitat
- Protect State fragile areas and undeveloped shoreline
- Protect significant wetlands
- Protect important recreation corridors



**Forest Legacy Activity  
Wisconsin**

**Acquisition Status**

● Potential

■ Forest Legacy Area





# WISCONSIN



For more information, contact  
 Gene Francisco, State Forester 608-266-0842, or  
 Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service 603-868-7695

## Potential Forest Legacy Projects

No.	Name	Location	Acreage	Price of interests
1	Tomahawk Northwoods	Oneida, Vilas, Marathon, Lincoln, Iron and Forest Counties	92,179	\$17,000,000
The tract includes industrial land in the Northern Forest Legacy Area surrounded by National Forest and dotted with small inland lakes and streams. Several rare species are in this area including the nationally threatened Cerelean warbler. The property provides quality forest products throughout the region.				
2	Wolf River	Langlade County	24,063	6,000,000
The tract provides quality hardwood sawlogs and veneer to local mills and is one of the largest tracts of forestland open to public access within 1-2 hours driving time of large metropolitan areas. Portions of the Ice Age Trail are located on tract.				
<b>Total funding needs:</b>				\$23,000,000

## State Forest Legacy Program Goal

- To minimize fragmentation and conversion of significant forested areas to nonforest uses through wise administration of conservation easements that focus on sustainable use of forest resources

# Forest Legacy Program Budget

**Table 1. Budget History – Appropriations for National Forest Legacy Program**

FY 1992	FY 1993	FY 1994	FY 1995*	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
...Dollars in thousands...									
4,938	9,915	6,948	6,688	3,000	2,000	4,000	7,012	29,933	60,000

\* \$7.8 million of unspent funds were rescinded in FY 1995. The above amounts were the original appropriations before the rescission.

**Table 2. Summary of Completed Forest Legacy Acquisition Projects Within Northeastern Area States – April 1993 through September 2000**

State	Cases	Acres	Value	Federal Payment
Connecticut	5	820	\$ 1,302,000	\$ 390,000
Illinois	2	83	344,000	252,000
Maine	5	31,398	7,293,000	5,793,000
Maryland	3	668	775,000	0
Massachusetts	9	1,252	6,239,000	3,463,000
Minnesota	1	140	409,000	0
New Hampshire	14	12,797	5,112,000	1,804,000
New Jersey	3	1,640	11,712,000	962,000
New York	5	708	407,000	407,000
Rhode Island	4	432	920,000	920,000
Vermont	11	50,955	8,712,000	5,707,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100,893</b>	<b>\$43,225,000</b>	<b>\$19,698,000</b>

**Table 3. Summary of In-Progress Forest Legacy Projects Within Northeastern Area States**

State	Cases	Acres	Value	Federal Payment
Connecticut	1	125	\$ 875,000	\$ 125,000
Illinois	2	120	772,000	520,000
Indiana	3	1,735	\$4,085,000	\$2,864,000
Maine	3	80,464	9,330,000	3,000,000
Maryland	5	1,220	3,955,000	2,605,000
Massachusetts	3	710	1,196,000	676,000
Minnesota	5	453	850,000	677,000
New Hampshire	2	28,548	3,175,000	3,175,000
New Jersey	2	1,540	3,392,000	1,300,000
New York	1	847	4,270,000	2,000,000
Rhode Island	2	215	610,000	610,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>115,977</b>	<b>\$32,510,000</b>	<b>\$17,552,000</b>

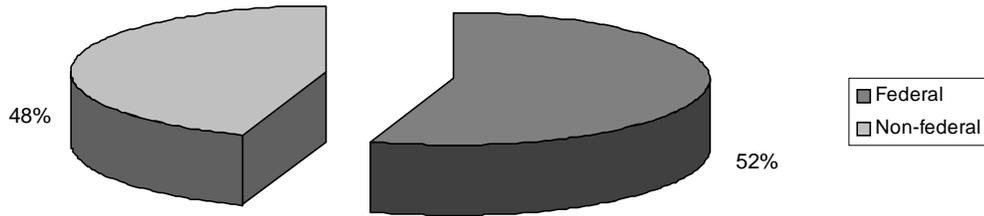
**Table 4. Summary of Prospective Forest Legacy Acquisition Projects Within Northeastern Area States (FY 2001 and Beyond)**

State	Acres	Approximate Total Value	Approximate Federal Payment
Connecticut	5,565	\$5,565,000	\$4,151,000
Delaware	125	4,000,000	TBD
Illinois	244	688,000	648,000
Indiana	3,452	8,362,000	7,145,000
Maine	618,400	59,500,000	19,950,000
Maryland	199	325,000	325,000
Massachusetts	1,683	4,637,000	4,423,000
Minnesota	447	906,000	906,000
New Hampshire	6,360	2,350,000	2,150,000
New Jersey	5,354	16,200,000	TBD
New York	152,900	14,350,000	3,222,000
Rhode Island	985	1,824,000	TBD
Vermont	5,506	2,125,000	TBD
Wisconsin	116,242	23,000,000	TBD
<b>Totals</b>	<b>917,462</b>	<b>\$143,832,000</b>	<b>\$42,920,000+</b>

The FLP requires that the federal government pay no more than 75 percent of total program costs. Currently, the value of land enrolled in the program in the Northeastern Area is twice the value of the Federal investment. The non-Federal contribution of administering this program, measured by the value of in-kind services of non-Federal personnel, exceeds the funds used to support Federal administration of the Forest Legacy Program. Figures 3 through 6 evidence the partnership through the program's cost-share history.

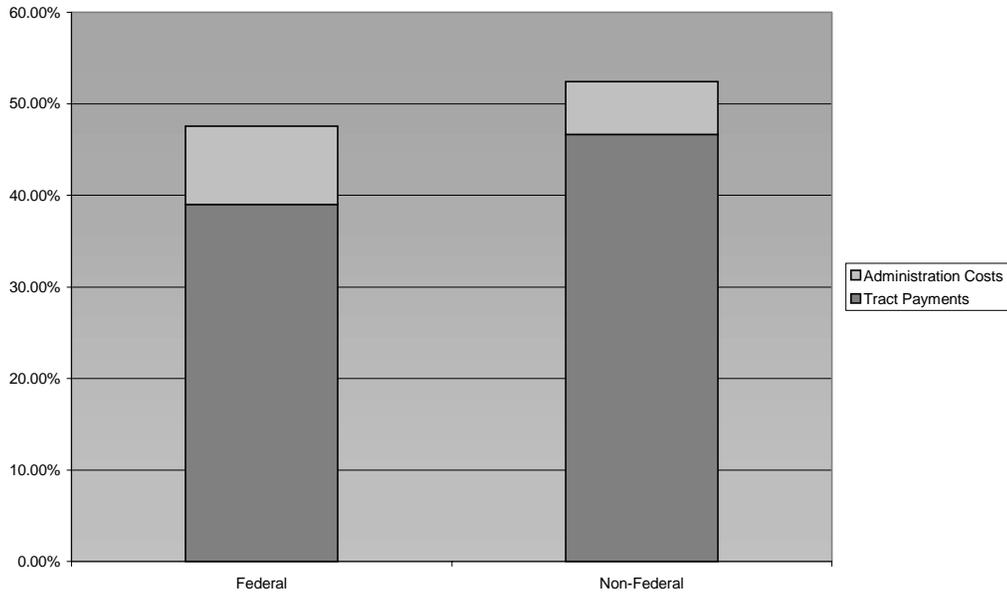
**Figure 3**

**Portion of Northeastern Area Forest Legacy Program Costs by Federal and Nonfederal Entities for the Years 1991-1998**



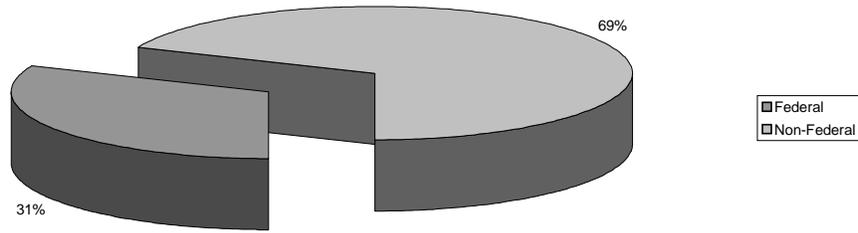
**Figure 4**

**Portion of Total Program Costs Used for Program Administration in the Northeastern Area Forest Legacy Program by Federal and Non-Federal Entities for the years 1991-2000**



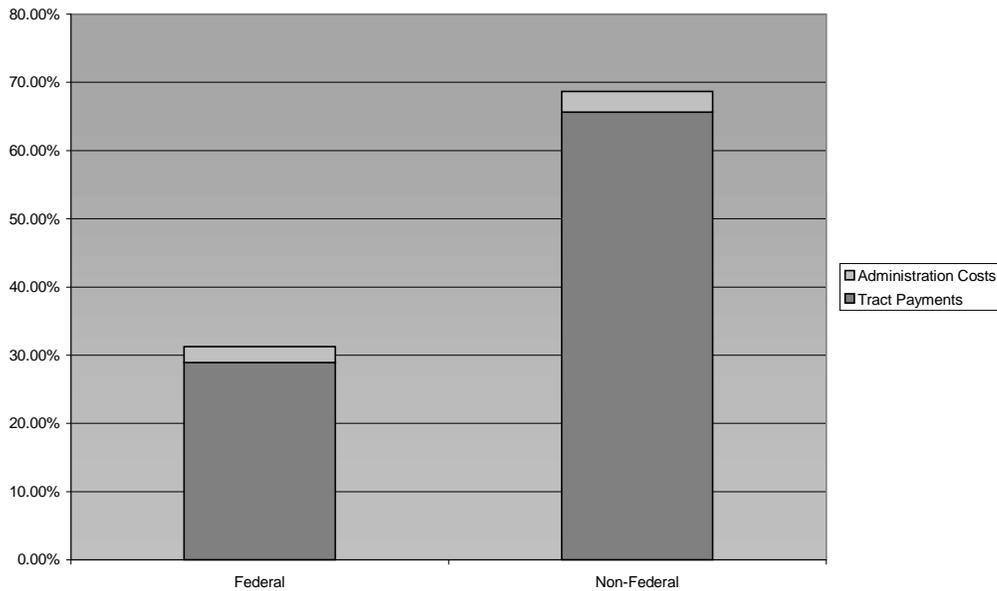
**Figure 5**

**Portion of Northeastern Area Forest Legacy Program Costs by Federal and Nonfederal Entities for Fiscal Year 2000**



**Figure 6**

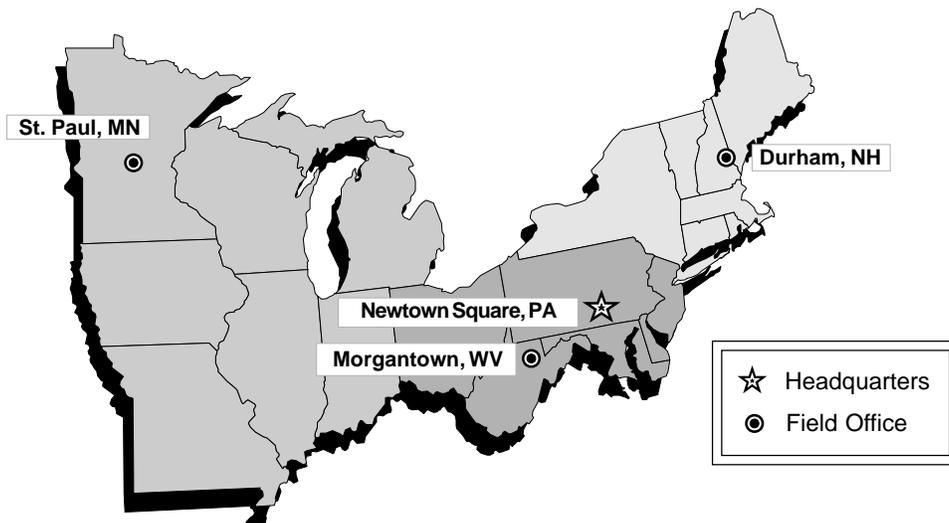
**Portion of Total Program Costs Used for Program Administration in the Northeastern Area Forest Legacy Program by Federal and Non-Federal Entities for Fiscal Year 2000**



In accordance with FLP Guidelines, a maximum of 15 percent of FLP funds will be used for program administration.

# **Northeastern Area Contacts**

## **USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area**



**Bringing Forestry to the People**

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**Staff Specialists for the Forest Legacy Program**

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MN	Dick Peterson Department of Natural Resources 1810 NW 30 <sup>th</sup> Street Faribault, MN 55021	507 – 333 – 2012  507 – 333 – 2008 FAX
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For more information about Northeastern Area, State and Private Forestry programs and initiatives, visit our website at:

**<http://www.na.fs.fed.us>**

A National Information Center has recently been established at the St. Paul Field office to make information about State and Private Forestry programs available via the internet. The site can be visited at:

**<http://www.spfnic.fs.fed.us>**

