



Northeast Association of
Fish & Wildlife Agencies



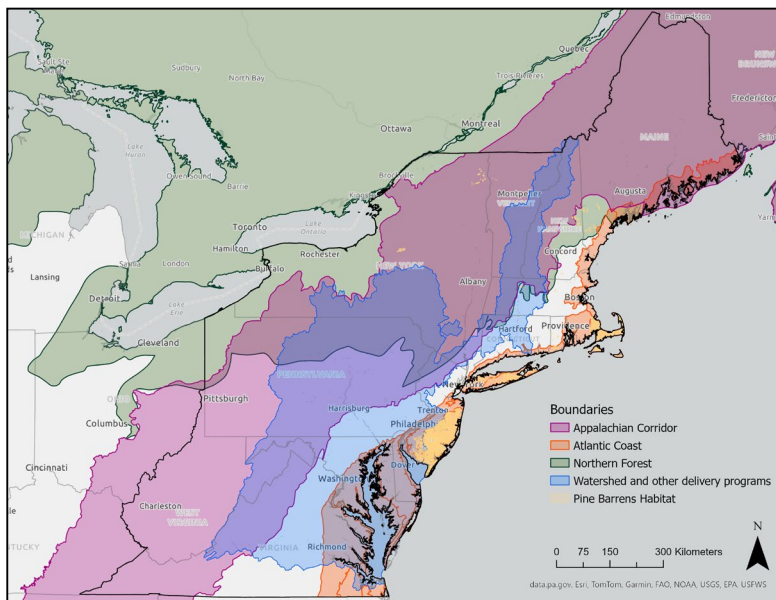
The Northeast Landscape Wildlife Conservation Committee

LANDSCAPES THAT DEFINE AND SUSTAIN US

Iconic landscapes in the Northeast, like the Appalachian Mountains and Atlantic Coast, are cohesive natural systems with unique qualities that support regional economies, communities, and biodiversity.

Keeping these landscapes intact is essential for the well-being and livelihoods of people who live and work there, many of whom are employed in industries that depend on natural resources, like outdoor recreation, farming, forestry, and fishing.

Wildlife also depend on connected natural systems. Many species need to be able to migrate safely throughout landscapes, or up and down rivers, to complete their lifecycles — often crossing state boundaries to reach habitat.



Map: Outlined in black is the Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies region with priority focal landscapes highlighted.

COLLABORATING FOR GREATER IMPACT

The Northeast's unique landscapes are regional treasures — and regional responsibilities. No single agency or organization can address conservation needs across a 2,000-mile mountain range or a multi-state watershed. To sustain growing communities and healthy populations of wildlife, we need to work together across state lines.

For more than two decades, partners in the Northeast have been laying the foundation for collaborative conservation at large scales by gathering information about fish, wildlife, and natural systems that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

Building on these efforts, the Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies formed a Landscape Wildlife Conservation Committee in 2022 to proactively identify and advance shared goals for conserving iconic regional landscapes in the face of growing challenges and emerging needs.

AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE APPROACH

Representing 13 state wildlife agencies, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the committee and its working group bring together knowledge and expertise to efficiently and effectively advance shared goals for conserving priority landscapes in the face of emerging challenges and opportunities.



The Appalachians (left/Elizabeth Stout) and Atlantic Coastal Habitats (right/Matt Poole, USFWS) are the two landscapes of particular emphasis of the NEAFWA Landscape Wildlife Conservation Committee.

CONSERVATION IN ACTION

With input from state and federal agency staff, the Committee selected seven priority landscapes and themes in the Northeast to focus their collaborative efforts:

1. Appalachian Corridor Highlands and Streams
2. Atlantic Coast: Coastal Resilience and Coastal Habitat Restoration
3. Northeast Region: River, Stream, and Watershed Restoration (Source to the Sea)
4. Appalachian and Northern Forests
5. Pine Barrens, Grasslands and other Xeric Habitats and Dependent Species
6. Support and Coordination for Watershed and Other Delivery Partnerships
7. Northeast One Health Initiative: Wildlife Disease Monitoring, Response, Management

To date, the Committee has leveraged more than \$20 million through America's Ecosystem Restoration Initiative and other sources to advance strategic conservation in these landscapes, with a special emphasis on the Atlantic Coast and Appalachian Corridor.

WORKING TOGETHER, WE SUPPORT THE STATES BY:

Fostering Strategic Partnerships

Provides a forum for partners to align priorities, develop shared objectives, and translate vision to on-the-ground conservation action

Mobilizing Resources

Leverages resources and expertise to secure funding and support for large-landscape conservation

Reducing Costs and Barriers

Streamlines costs and reduces administrative barriers to implementation

Building Capacity

Empowers partners with knowledge, tools and resources to address conservation challenges that span borders

For more opportunities to collaborate in priority landscapes, contact:

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