



NFWF

Acres for America 2019 Grant Slate

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Walmart  **Acres for America**



Mountain lion

ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores our nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats. Created by Congress in 1984, NFWF directs public conservation dollars to the most pressing environmental needs and matches those investments with private funds.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

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OVERVIEW

Acres for America, one of the most effective public-private partnerships in the history of U.S. land conservation efforts, today announced \$3.6 million in grants to conserve important large-scale habitats for fish, wildlife, and plants across nearly 70,300 acres in New York, Colorado, New Mexico, Washington, Oregon, and for the first time, Iowa and Kansas. These seven grants will leverage an additional \$70.2 million in matching contributions, pushing the total conservation impact for the 2019 grant slate to more than \$73.8 million.

Acres for America is NFWF's premier land conservation program. Since 2005, NFWF and Walmart have supported the conservation of critical habitats for birds, fish, plants and wildlife; connection of existing protected lands to unify wild places and protected migration routes; providing access for people to enjoy the outdoors; and safeguarding the future of local economies that depend on forestry, ranching and recreation.

Since its inception, Acres for America has funded 94 projects in 40 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico to permanently protect nearly 1.5 million acres — far surpassing its original goal of 100,000 acres.

(continued)



Grizzly bear with cubs

Acquisition of Mount Adams-Klickitat Canyon Forest (WA)

Grantee: Columbia Land Trust
 Grant Award:..... \$500,000
 Matching Funds: \$16,900,000
Total Amount:\$17,400,000

Columbia Land Trust, in partnership with the Yakama Nation and federal and state agencies, will complete the acquisition of the 9,900-acre Mount Adams-Klickitat Canyon Forest. This award represents the culmination of 25 years of effort to protect and restore the Wild and Scenic Klickitat River and its watershed in Washington State. The canyon will connect federal and tribal protected habitat with thousands of acres of state and private conservation lands; protecting critical habitat for 36 federally and state-listed wildlife species and facilitating wildlife movement across a vast landscape.

Spence Mountain Conservation (OR)

Grantee: Trust for Public Land
 Grant Award:..... \$435,000
 Matching Funds: \$4,500,000
Total Amount: \$4,935,000

The Trust for Public Land will work with Klamath Trails Alliance, Klamath County, and other federal, state and local partners to acquire the 7,500-acre Spence Mountain property in southern Oregon. Located on the shore of

Upper Klamath Lake, Spence Mountain is a complex ecological zone, containing critical fish and wildlife habitat that will now be protected from subdivision and fragmentation; including shoreline habitat for threatened and endangered species of fish, winter range for black-tailed deer, and bird habitat for species traveling along the Pacific Flyway.

Fisher’s Peak Conservation (CO)

Grantee: Trust for Public Land
 Grant Award:..... \$650,000
 Matching Funds: \$24,500,000
Total Amount:\$25,150,000

The Trust for Public Land and partners will permanently conserve a 19,200-acre mountain property located just south of Trinidad, Colorado, which will become Colorado’s newest state park. Fisher’s Peak property will achieve landscape-level conservation by linking intact habitat between the eastern plains of Colorado and the western slopes of Colorado and the Rocky Mountains. Reaching 9,633-feet, Fishers Peak is the nation’s highest peak east of Interstate 25, serving a vital role for the ecological, economic, and the cultural identity of Trinidad and surrounding communities.



Lesser prairie chicken

Protection of Cañon Ciruela for Incorporation into the Sabinoso Wilderness (NM)

Grantee: Trust for Public Land
 Grant Award:..... \$450,000
 Matching Funds: \$4,300,000
Total Amount:\$4,750,000

The Trust for Public Land will work with the Bureau of Land Management to acquire the 8,914-acre Cañon Ciruela property in eastern New Mexico as an addition to the Sabinoso Wilderness. Comprised of high-elevated mesas and deep canyons, Cañon Ciruela provides habitat for elk, deer, bear, mountain lion, wild turkey, long-billed curlew, plains leopard frogs, and other wildlife. The project will result in more than 30,000 acres of protected wilderness and serve as a refuge for wildlife and people to enjoy.

Conservation of Mixed-grass Ecosystems on Ballet Ranch (KS)

Grantee: Ranchland Trust of Kansas
 Grant Award:..... \$650,000
 Matching Funds: \$2,228,000
Total Amount:\$2,878,000

Ranchland Trust of Kansas will partner with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, as well as state and local partners, to place a perpetual conservation easement on 9,250-acres of grasslands on the Ballet Ranch located in the Red Hills of Kansas. The project will ensure suitable habitat for species of concern such as cave-dwelling bats, lesser prairie-chicken, plains minnow, longnose snake, and numerous grassland-obligate and migratory birds, while sustaining local economic viability as a working cattle ranch.

Loess Hills Prairie and Woodland Protection (IA)

Grantee: Iowa Department of Natural Resources
 Grant Award:..... \$270,000
 Matching Funds: \$2,482,200
Total Amount:2,752,200

Iowa Department of Natural Resources will protect an 834-acre tract of untilled prairie and oak woodland in the Loess Hills of western Iowa just outside Sioux City. The Loess Hills landscape provides habitat for grassland and savanna woodland species, including the grasshopper sparrow, dickcissel, cerulean warbler, prairie rattlesnakes, regal fritillary, and Dakota skipper, as well as stop-over habitat for migratory birds. This acquisition will become a state wildlife area within a 10,000-acre conservation area, and ensure that wildlife populations and their habitats are properly managed, and also create opportunities for public hunting, trapping, and wildlife observation.

Establishing a Freshwater Preserve at Follensby Pond (NY)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy
 Grant Award:..... \$650,000
 Matching Funds: \$15,250,000
Total Amount:\$15,900,000

The Nature Conservancy will establish a freshwater preserve at Follensby Pond, located in the heart of New York's Adirondack Park. This effort will protect 14,700 acres adjacent to the 275,000-acre High Peaks Wilderness Area, the third-largest in the northeastern United States. The Follensby Pond property includes a 1,000-acre lake, old-growth forests and recreational access to more than 10.5 miles of the popular Northern Forest Canoe Trail. The property also contains the spot where the Transcendentalist Movement was launched in 1858.