

# The Cold Hollow Woodlots Program

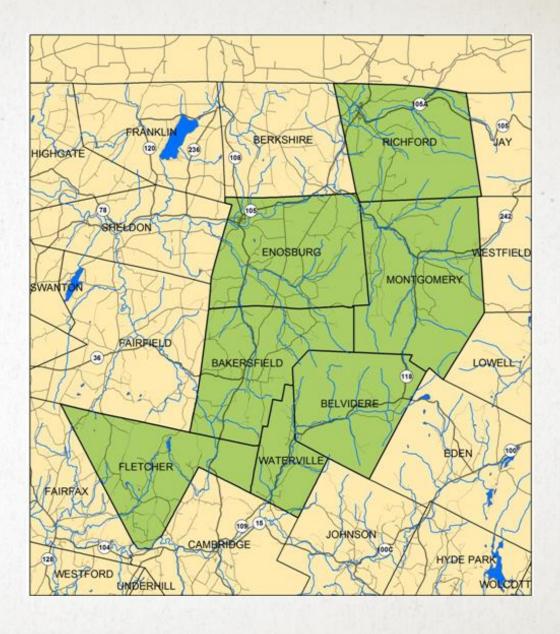
**ENGAGING LANDOWNERS IN LANDSCAPE LEVEL STEWARDSHIP** 

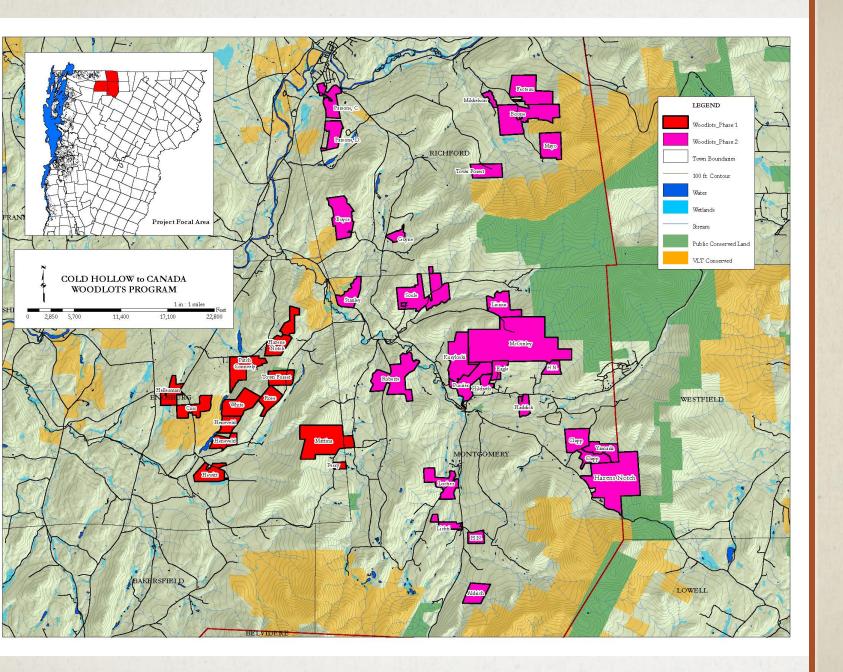


State Agencies
Vermont Land Trust
The Nature Conservancy
Staying Connected Initiative
Two Countries, One Forest
Regional Conservation
Partnerships

**Cold Hollow to Canada** 

Towns
Conservation Commissions
Landowners
General Public







## WHAT IS A WOODLOTS GROUP?

- High priority habitat blocks
- Contiguous Properties
- 50 acres or more







## ONE LOVE: WORKING TOGETHER

- Quarterly Gathering
- Potluck Meal Together
- Bring In Experts
- Walking A Neighbor's Property

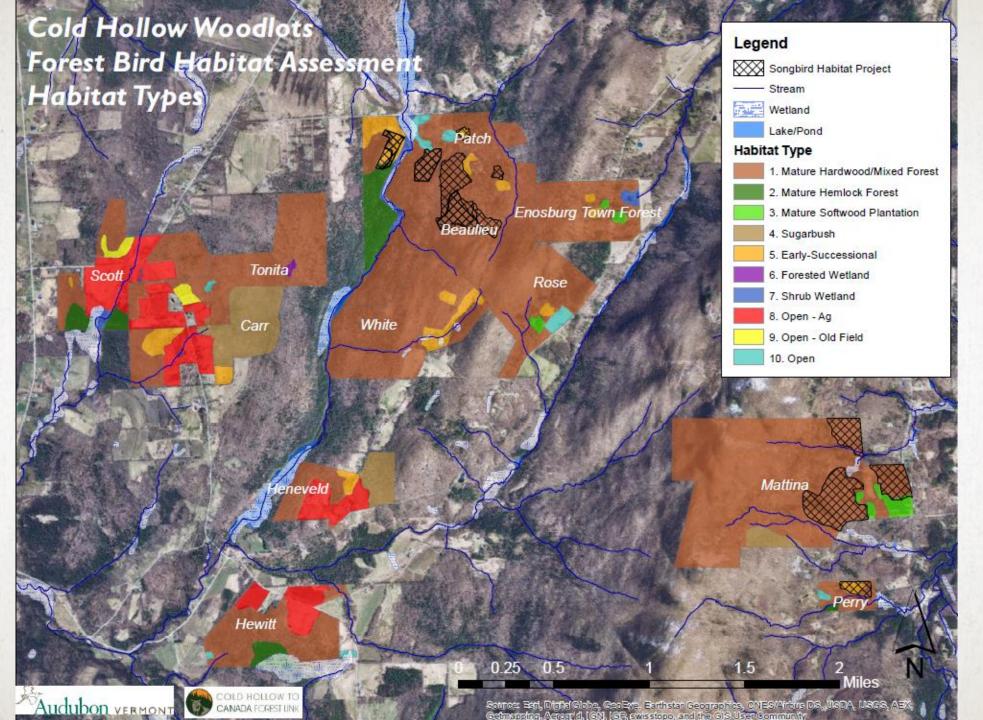




## PARTNER PROGRAM STRENGTHS

- Roughly half of Vermont's birds will see their ranges shift or contract by 50% or more
- Silviculture with Birds in Mind by Audubon Vermont
- Member parcels undergo a bird habitat assessment by Audubon Vermont











## CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION & RESILIENCY

Take a big, scary thing & break it down into collective action.

Creating and Maintaining Resilient Forests in Vermont:

Adapting Forests to Climate Change

Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation

May 2015

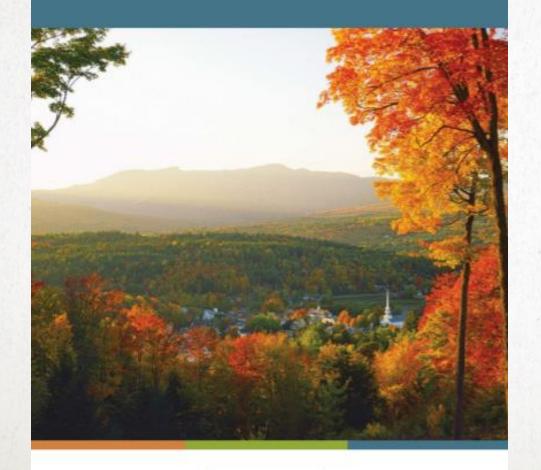




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## Increasing Forest Resiliency for an Uncertain Future





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#### Strategy 9: Facilitate community adjustments through species transitions

#### 9.1—Anticipate and respond to species decline

#### 9.2—Favor or restore native species that are expected to be better adapted to future conditions

Rich soils on portions of these properties provide a buffering capacity against climate change. Sugar
maple and yellow birch are both predicted to be stressed by climate change but the optimum conditions
found on parts of this property provide an advantage to maintaining these species on this site for the
long term: 7 of 12 plans (B, C, Hen, Hew, M, PC, R)

#### 9.3—Manage for species and genotypes with wide moisture and temperature tolerances

#### 9.4—Emphasize drought and heat tolerant species and populations

- Natural red oak regeneration has been released by removing the overstory: 1 of 12 plans (PC)
- Red oak seedlings have been planted: 1 of 12 plans ( PC)
- Red oak acorns have been planted, amended plan: 1 of 12 plans (W)

#### 9.5—Guide species composition at early stages of development

Pre-commercial treatments that guide species are implemented in portions of these properties: 9 of 12 plans (B, C, Hen, M, PC, P, S, R, W)



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USFS Pilot: Climate Change Adaptation Strategies & Approaches www.forestadaptation.org/node/360





## MONITORING & FOLLOW UP

- By design, Woodlots Groups are demonstration sites
- Through plan implementation; forest inventories & invasive monitoring
- Exploring opportunities to engage landowners as citizen scientist/monitors



### THE COLD HOLLOW WOODLOTS MODEL



We believe the CHC Woodlots Program is a solutions based model for engaging an increasing number of individual and family forest owners in forest management practices.

8,000 Acres

1,800 Acres Conserved Leveraging Resources

\$640K RCPP

\$105K Conservation Fund

\$50K LSR