

Harvests for Habitat

Providing financial assistance for forest management that improves habitat for declining forest birds



Wood Thrush.
Photo: Kelly Colgan Azar



Forest habitat with canopy gaps.
Photo: Suzanne Treyger/Audubon-NY



Cerulean Warbler.
Photo: DJ McNeil/USDA

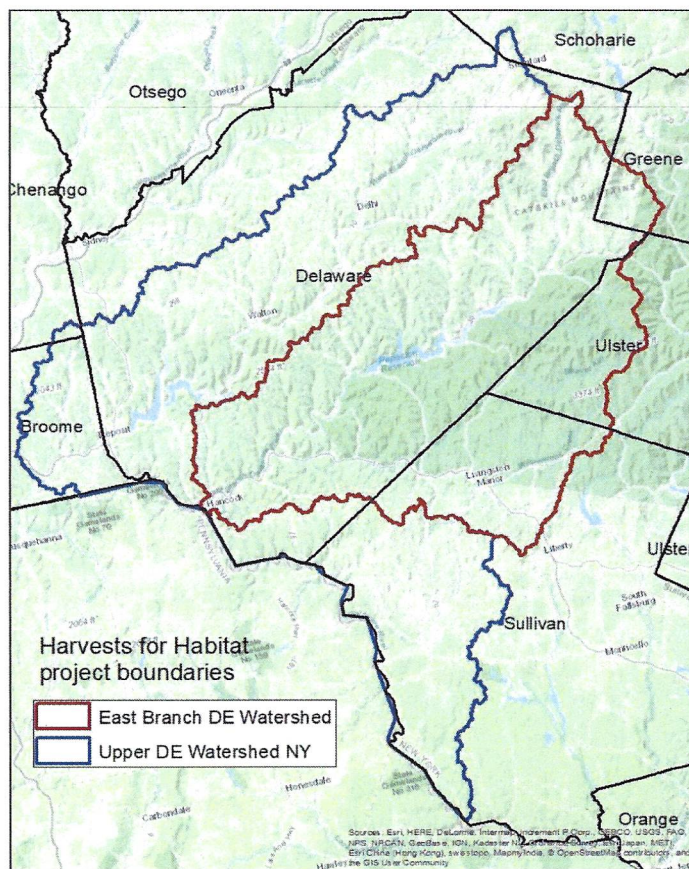
A conservation partnership

Harvests for Habitat is a partnership between Audubon New York, Watershed Agricultural Council, New York Tree Farm Program, and New York Forest Owners Association. This collaboration enables bird habitat improvements through active forest management and financial incentives. The project is focused within the Upper and East Branch Delaware Watersheds because they provide habitat critical to the survival of bird species experiencing population declines, like Wood Thrush, Cerulean Warbler, and many others.

Wood Thrush and Cerulean Warbler need mature forest habitat that has canopy openings, multiple canopy layers, and other complex structures.

Harvests for Habitat is currently seeking landowners that may be interested in creating quality bird habitat on their properties. **Participants must be interested in, or planning, a harvest that improves forest habitat conditions for birds before October 2022.**

Staff from one of our partner organizations will work to provide you with the resources you need to participate in this habitat project, including on-the-ground technical assistance and financial assistance. **To participate, please contact Suzanne Treyger: streyger@audubon.org.**



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TREE FARM PROGRAM



ny.audubon.org/conservation/harvests-habitat-project

Harvests for Habitat Project: Upper and East Branch Delaware Watersheds

Harvests for Habitat is a new collaborative partnership between Audubon NY, Watershed Agricultural Council, NY Tree Farm Program, and New York Forest Owners Association that enables bird habitat improvements through active forest management and financial incentives. The project is focused within the Upper and East Branch Delaware Watersheds where forest habitat is critical to the survival of at-risk bird species such as Wood Thrush, Cerulean Warbler, and many others.

Wood Thrush and Cerulean Warbler are priority birds for Harvests for Habitat, which means we are trying to create better forest habitat for these species through different forest management practices. The information below provides an overview of Wood Thrush and Cerulean Warblers and how forest management can be used to improve current habitat conditions for these priority forest birds as well as many other species that use similar forest habitat.



Cerulean Warbler

Habitat: Mature, deciduous forests with a tall canopy and well-developed understory

Trend: Declining across its range

ID Tips: Sky-blue head and back, white throat and belly, two white wing bars

Song: Series of short buzzy notes, followed by a higher pitched buzz

Management: Use shelterwood or group/patch cuts to improve vertical structure and create a robust understory, retain large diameter trees (> 16 inches DBH), retain native grapevine

(Photo: DJ McNeil/USFWS)



Wood Thrush

Habitat: Mature, moist deciduous woods with mid and understory present with thick layer of leaf litter

Trend: Declining in New York and across its range

ID Tips: Brown back, heavily spotted white breast, large thrush that is a little smaller than a robin

Song: A flute-like ee-oh-layy, ending in a sound like shattering glass

Management: Improve vertical structure and create mid and understory layers through group/small patch cuts

(Photo: Kelly Colgan Azar/Flickr)

For more information about Harvests for Habitat, please contact Suzanne Treyger:

streyger@audubon.org.