

Greetings,

On behalf of the New England Forest Policy Group, please take a brief survey to help us assess the potential added value of a shared regional approach to advancing land conservation policy.

The New England Forest Policy Group (NEFPG) is a voluntary association of non-governmental organizations that came together in 2011. Over the years, policy agendas and letters of testimony prepared by the NEFPG have been used by partners in Washington, D.C. to lobby on behalf of New England-wide conservation interests.

The NEFPG is now reevaluating its potential role in light of changes to the federal budgetary process caused in part by a combative political climate in our nation's capitol. At the same time, there are several opportunities on the horizon for advancing conservation finance and policy in New England -- the final drafting of a new soon-to-be-published Wildlands & Woodlands report, the next Regional Conservation Partnership Network Gathering this fall, and a national Conservation Finance Roundtable event in early 2017. Of course, the nation itself faces a potential turning point in the coming presidential election.

In this period of transition and uncertainty, we seek to gather information to inform a shared approach going forward, and would highly value your input. Please fill out the following brief survey to let us know your thoughts: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NEFPG-SurveyHZ>

Additionally, Highstead, together with the Harvard Forest, has just released a report outlining trends in public funding for conservation in New England from 2004-2014. The report (as well as an overview and short handouts on each state) can be found here: <http://www.wildlandsandwoodlands.org/public-funding-report>. This report is an example of a product based on a New England-wide perspective that might be helpful to policy & advocacy efforts in each state going forward. Please feel free to use these materials.

Thank you in advance for your time and input -- both are very much appreciated.

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