Western New England Regenerative Agriculture Project (RCPP)

PROJECT GOALS

3 KEY PRIORITIES

Scale up Regenerative Farming in the Connecticut River Valley

Support adoption of proven regenerative agriculture practices on 550 livestock farms (25,000 acres) through technical and financial assistance.

Zero in on Ecosystem Potential

Use advanced modeling to target practices with the highest potential for enhancing the environment of the Connecticut River Valley.

Focus on Farm Viability and Resilience in a Changing Climate

Expand farmer outreach to communicate the full impact of the co-benefits of regenerative agriculture for climate resilience, including economic, social, environmental, and farm viability benefits.

OUTCOMES

Improved pollinator habitat installed on **275 farms**.

Mitigation of **22,500 metric tons** of CO2-eq.

375 acres of degraded cropland converted to pasture.

Reduced surface water runoff to prevent **1,875 tons of sediment**, **8 tons of N**, and **3 tons of P** from entering the region's waterways.

HOW IT WORKS

Research

Advanced modeling identifies practices with the highest environmental impact and estimates regional environmental outcomes. A farmer survey quantifies knowledge and adoption of conservation techniques and identifies factors that limit and drive their conservation management decisions.

Technical Tools

Dedicated staff members provide one-on-one technical assistance on conservation and regenerative agriculture practices, with specialized assistance from Xerces on pollinator habitat and from UVM on nutrient management, innovative cropping systems, and more.
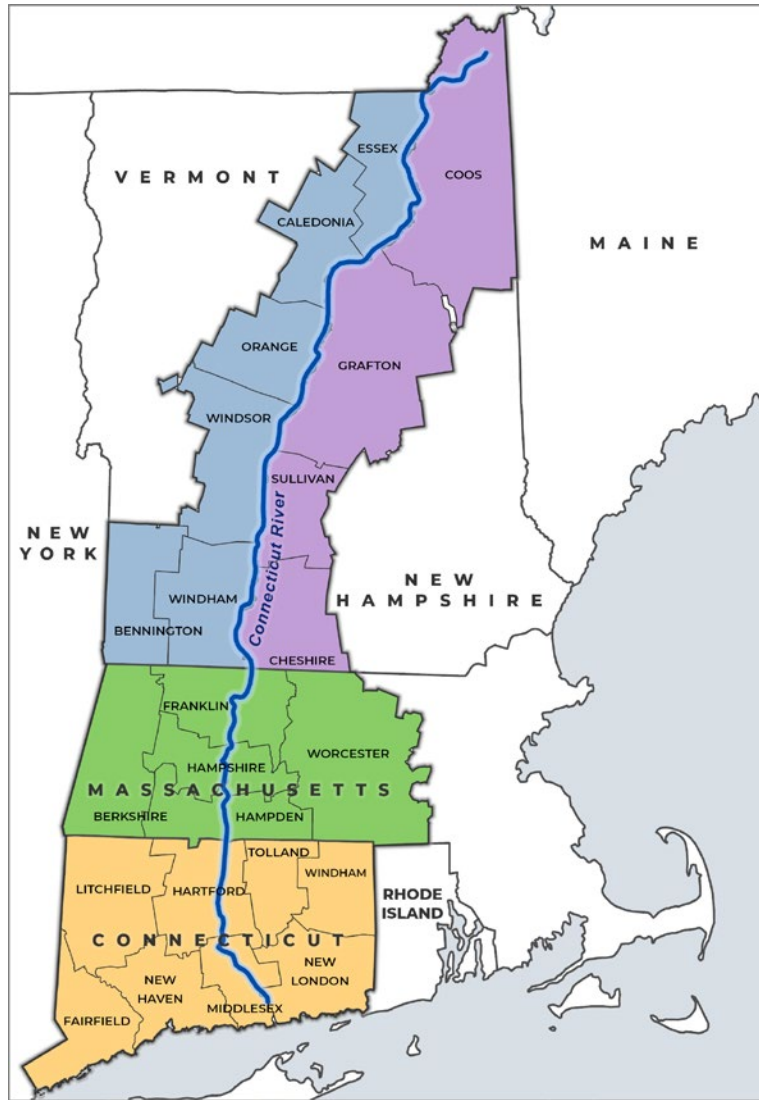
Financial Tools

AFT offers innovative financial assistance such as payment for carbon sequestration, and a micro-grant to support operations or practices that don't qualify for existing financial assistance.

New NRCS Financial Assistance Options

Cost-sharing for traditional and enhanced conservation practices are offered at increased payment rates, and land rental payments will be offered for key practices with targeted conservation outcomes.

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