

Connecticut River Watershed

Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge
New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut



SILVIO O. CONTE NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE REFUGE | JAMES WELIVER, USFWS

The Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge exemplifies the 21st Century refuge — established at the watershed scale, designed to protect migratory fish and wildlife species through their life cycles, extending from flood plains to resilient high elevation forest, and envisioned to rely on collaboration, education, and community partnerships to accomplish its conservation goals. The Conte Refuge spans four states in the 7.2 million-acre Connecticut River watershed, from its headwaters in the Northern Forest to its mouth at Long Island Sound. The watershed not only provides important habitat to a range of resident and migratory wildlife species, but also provides ecosystem services such as clean drinking water to more than 2.3 million people in urban areas, and provides recreation, livelihoods and solace for many millions more.

With FY16 LWCF funding, the Conte Refuge and its partners have identified 11 of the highest priority parcels for acquisition, located in seven refuge divisions and with distribution among all four watershed states. Last year the Mascoma River Headwaters conservations easement was put into effect thanks to the support of all the partners and the LWCF. The remaining priority focal areas include northern hardwood forest and forested wetlands in the Mohawk River, spruce-fir forest and bogs in the Nulhegan division (VT), grasslands and riparian habitat in the Fort River division (MA), and brook and stream habitat for coldwater fisheries in the Whalebone Cove and Salmon River divisions (CT).



CANADA LYNX

Request Summary

Source:	Land and Water Conservation Fund
Agency:	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
FY16 Request:	\$3 million
Acreage:	13,000 acres
Type:	Conservation Easement
Congressional Districts:	NH-2, VT-0, MA-1, MA-2, CT-1, CT-2, CT-3, CT-5

North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Partners

- Friends of Silvio O. Conte NFWR
- Audubon Connecticut
- Connecticut River Watershed Council
- National Wildlife Refuge Association
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Trust for Public Land
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Natural Resource Values

- Canada lynx, American black bear
- American woodcock
- Wood thrush, Bicknell's thrush
- Canada warbler, bobolink
- Dwarf wedge mussel
- American shad, Atlantic salmon, and Eastern brook trout
- Mixed northern hardwood forest
- Bog, freshwater wetlands
- Open fields, river frontage



SILVIO O. CONTE NATIONAL FISH & WILDLIFE REFUGE - CONNECTICUT RIVER WATERSHED

- Silvio O. Conte Approved Acquisition Boundary
- Conserved Land
- Urban Areas
- Silvio O. Conte National Wildlife Refuge
- FY 15 Potential Project Areas

Source Data: Conserved Land: Protected Areas Database of the United States Version 1.3. USGS GAP Analysis Program. 20121130 USFWS 2012110. Map Date: 4/9/2014

