

Kentucky Natural Lands Trust

Protecting, Connection
& Restoring Wildlands

Expanding Blanton Forest



American black bear

For over 20 years, KNLT has been working to protect wildlands throughout the Commonwealth. Our efforts began at Blanton Forest, the state's largest tract of old growth forest near Harlan. Since the mid-1990s we have helped grow the preserve to over 3,500 acres. In June, after 17 years of negotiations, we protected an additional 982 acres within the original Blanton Forest preserve plan and adjoining 966 acres previously protected by KNLT. This represents a significant victory for our 125-mile Pine Mountain Wildlands Corridor project.

Our time working in the region along with our broad network of partners has positioned us for significant conservation gains within the



Yellow lady's-slipper

corridor over the next few years. We are currently focused on additional acquisitions adjacent to Blanton Forest and thousands of acres near Pineville at The Narrows where the Cumberland River cuts through the mountain. ♪

Glades & Endemic Species



Kentucky glade cress

In October, KNLT purchased 54 acres in Bullitt County protecting the rare Kentucky glade cress, a tiny endemic plant that is found nowhere else in the world except a small portion of Bullitt and Jefferson counties. In 2014, the U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service listed the plant as federally-threatened under the Endangered Species Act because of its declining population due primarily to habitat destruction from urban sprawl.



Glade

Glades are small, naturally open areas with bedrock that is near or at the surface. In Kentucky, they are uncommon and typically small in area but are surprisingly diverse. KNLT is working with a variety of federal, state and nonprofit partners to improve the glade habitat by removing invasive species, and we hope to acquire additional adjacent land to protect more of the glade complex. &

Bat Conservation



Bernheim Forest

The Imperiled Bat Conservation Fund (IBCF) was established in 2009 through a partnership between U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and KNLT. Since its inception IBCF has handled more than \$20 million and has helped protect more than 15,000 acres of important bat and forest habitat throughout Kentucky, while also funding management and research projects.

In 2015, IBCF helped protect several key tracts around the state that provide foraging and summer roosting habitat for Indiana bats and Northern long-eared bats. Funding from IBCF and the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund helped protect two tracts totaling 135 acres that were added to Bernheim Forest, the first land addition to the forest since its inception 86 years ago. In western Kentucky, IBCF helped protect hundreds of acres adjacent

Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge. 



Northern long-eared bat



The next generation enjoying our wildlands

Kentucky Natural Lands Trust by the numbers:

21 years
of saving
wildlands

8,000+ acres
directly purchased
& protected

27,000+ acres
purchased & protected
with our help

Our conservation successes are made possible by our broad support base of individuals, board members and key partners such as the Snowy Owl Foundation and The Forecastle Foundation, along with lead gifts from longtime supporters, Christina Lee Brown and Tom Dupree, Sr. We are very grateful for their vision to protect Kentucky's wildlands.

"The truth is: the natural world is changing. And we are totally dependent on that world. It provides our food, water and air. It is the most precious thing we have and we need to defend it."

David Affenborough

Kentucky Natural Lands Trust

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inside (l): Kentucky glade cress ~ Tara Littlefield, KSNPC * Glade ~ Marc Evans
inside (r): Bernheim Forest ~ Andrew Berry, Bernheim * Northern long-eared bat ~ Al Hicks, NYDEC
back: Next generation ~ Alan Miller, Kertis Creative