U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## NORTH ATLANTIC-APPALACHIAN REGION PRIORITIES

These three priorities reflect our region's core values and specify key areas of emphasis. While they do not capture all of the valuable work of our employees, they help prioritize and guide our investments, collaboration and actions across programs.



## Supporting our Workforce

As part of an empowered, engaged, well-resourced, and well-supported team, we will accomplish more conservation together. We will continue to prioritize the development of our workforce and the environment in which we work. We promote collaboration, celebrate our successes, support employee and team development, provide leadership and technical training, encourage career growth opportunities, and strive to ensure that all our employees thrive, engage, and belong.



## **Connecting People to Nature**

We will inspire and help develop the next generation of conservation professionals and environmental stewards. In an increasingly urbanized nation, we will provide opportunities for youth and under-served communities to connect with nature to experience and appreciate the importance of the outdoors and green spaces. We will continue to grow and support our community engagement efforts, with a special emphasis on urban partnerships, and we will continue to focus on youth and urban conservation opportunities. We will use social science principles and adaptive management tools to ensure this work is successful.



## Strategic Conservation

Achieving our mission relies on our ability to connect with states, Tribes, landowners and others to conserve species and habitats at landscape scales. We will work with these partners to prioritize conservation actions and investments using the best available science, adaptive management and decision support tools. This collaboration not only helps us make a difference for wildlife and landscapes, but it also provides important benefits to people, such as supporting working lands, recreation, environmental justice, and public safety. We will use this approach for all of our work, with particular emphasis on at-risk species, aquatic connectivity, and coastal resilience.



We will work collaboratively with partners to proactively conserve at-risk species so that the protections of the Endangered Species Act are not necessary. We will also prioritize and leverage efforts to restore and connect river systems and watersheds, and provide healthy and resilient coastal ecosystems that sustain fish and wildlife populations and protect communities from storms and sea-level rise.