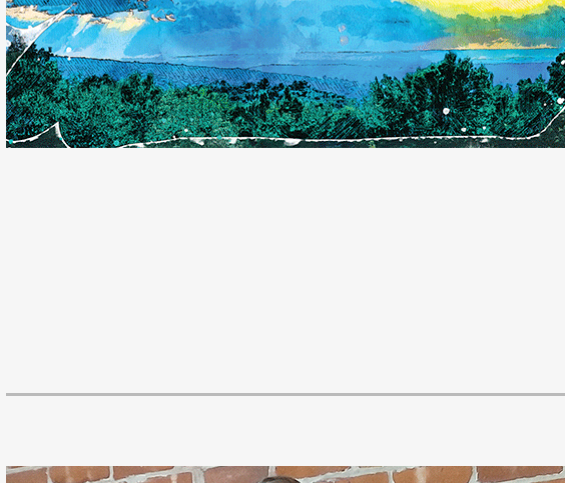


## December: Connecticut Nature News

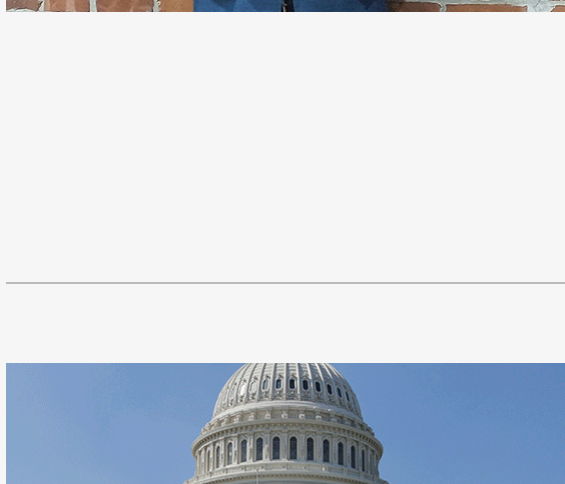
### STORIES NEAR YOU



#### Our 2023 Annual Report

Nature is sending clear signals of change, and with your support, The Nature Conservancy in Connecticut is taking action in bigger and bolder ways than ever before. Learn how this year's work made an impact across the state, from Bridgeport, to New London, to the Berkshire Foothills in Northwest CT.

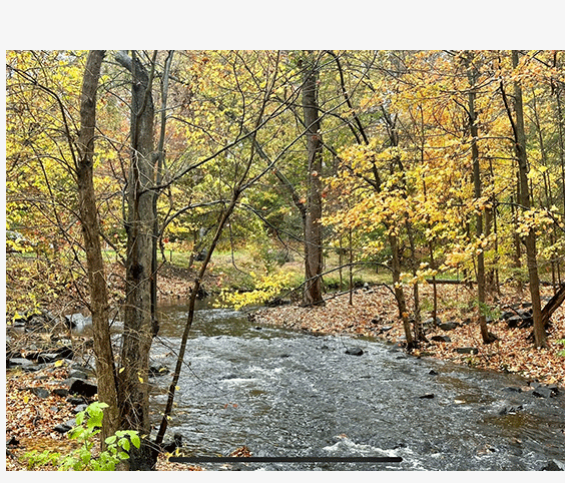
[Listen to Nature](#)



#### Director of Science Honored by Sustainable CT

Dr. Adam Whelchel, of TNC in CT, has worked for over a decade with communities across the state, as well as 14 other states, to develop climate action plans that strive to protect residents, neighborhoods, and natural resources.

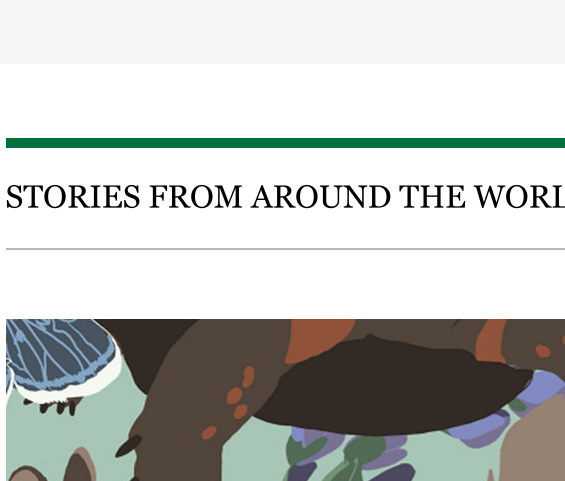
[Learn More About His Work](#)



#### TNC in CT Urges Action on Capitol Hill Trip

Trustees and staff members traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with Connecticut's delegation and give a voice to nature.

[Get Briefed on Advocacy Day](#)



#### New Grant Program Opens for CT

Funding will be awarded to nonprofits, governments, and partners for projects that lead to permanent protection of land in pivotal landscapes.

[Learn About Applying](#)

### STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



© Through the Endangered Species Act and many conservation efforts, numerous species are making impressive comebacks. © TNC

## Nature's Comebacks: Celebrating 50 Years of the Endangered Species Act

On this month's 50th anniversary of the U.S. Endangered Species Act, take a moment to celebrate 50 species central to conservation efforts in your state and beyond.

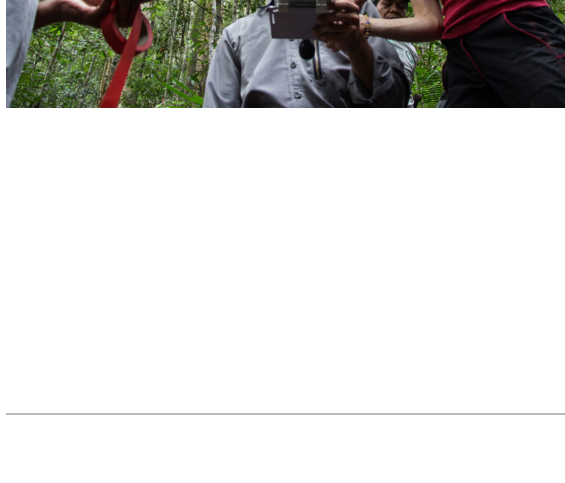
[See the Species in Your State](#)



#### What is UN COP28? Why Is It Important?

And how can you take action? This year's United Nations Climate Conference shouldn't be a mystery. We've put together [this guide](#) to help answer your questions and get you up to speed on key topics.

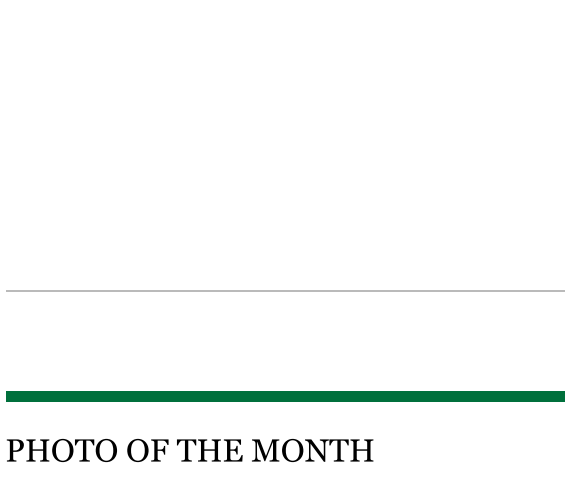
[See Your Guide to the UN Climate Conference](#)



#### New Pathways for New Leaders

Young leaders are developing conservation solutions for their communities—with incredible results—through an innovative career experience developed in partnership by the National Geographic Society and The Nature Conservancy.

[See How the Program Works](#)



#### What Scientists Can Learn from Sound and Silence

Sound holds the potential to help fill one of the most vexing evidence gaps in conservation: How do we know what we're doing is actually working?

[Read the Story in Cool Green](#)

[Science](#)



#### Are You Looking for a Way to Give Back This Holiday Season?

Or are you wondering how you might be more involved in your community and nature in 2024? Volunteering with us is a great way to help further our mission and contribute to lasting conservation results!

[Find a Volunteer Opportunity Near You!](#)

### PHOTO OF THE MONTH



**VIEW FROM ABOVE** Aerial view looking down at snowy trees and land along a creek in New York's Hudson Valley © Derek Robertson/TNC Photo Contest 2023.

Photographer Derek Robertson used a drone to create an abstract image of trees along a creek in Salisbury Mill, New York. This snowy scene was recently awarded third place in the Aerials category of the 2023 Global Photo Contest.

[Discover More Winning Photos in This Year's Contest](#)

### TRENDING NEWS

#### Latest Climate Assessment Reveals How Much Climate Change is Costing Americans

For the first time since 2018, more than 500 experts across the United States came together to analyze data, research, and case studies to determine how climate change is affecting Americans, as part of the Fifth National Climate Assessment. Chief Scientist Katharine Hayhoe was one of five TNC experts that contributed to the report. She recently sat down with PBS Newshour to discuss its major findings.

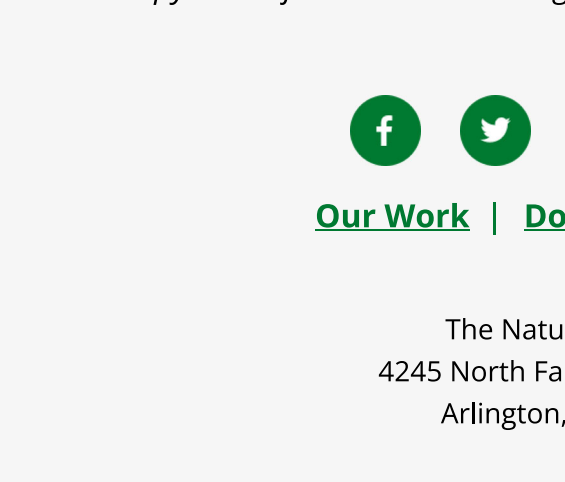
[Watch the segment at pbs.org](#)

#### Photography Shows Us What Matters

The Nature Conservancy's 2023 photography contest came to a thrilling conclusion in November, announcing record-breaking participation and dozens of prize-winning images across 12 categories.

[See Stunning Submissions and Hear from Judges and Winners in This CNN Article](#)

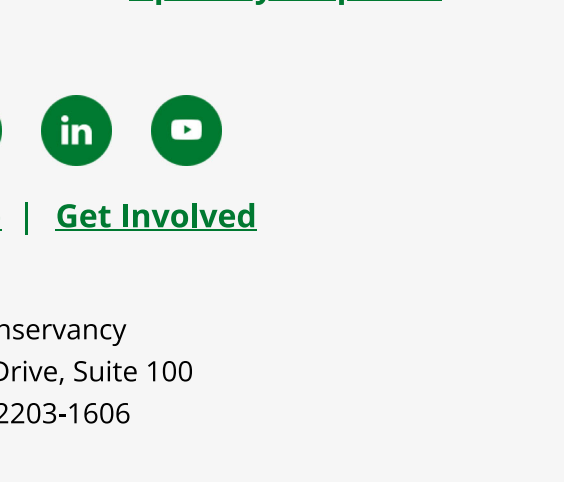
### HAPPENING NOW



#### The Perfect Gift for Everyone (& Earth!)

This holiday season, give the gift of tree planting with our Plant a Grow Hope program. You can grow hope and bring joy to loved ones, and to the planet.

[Personalize Your Gift Now](#)



#### Are you a Microsoft Rewards Member?

When Rewards members switch to Give Mode at Bing.com, their searches earn Rewards points that are automatically donated directly to TNC each month.

[Learn More](#)

*PHOTOS:*  
Stories from Around the World - An illustrated collage of one-endangered species that have made comebacks. © TNC; A wind turbine off the Atlantic coast of Rhode Island, USA. © Ayla Fox; NGS-TNC extern Gabriela Tejeda aims her camera from a helicopter over a controlled burn. © Gabriela Tejeda; NatureNet Science Fellow Zuzana Burivalova works with local community members to deploy acoustic recorders in an Indonesian forest. © Justine Hausheer/TNC; A TNC volunteer carries a tool in New Hampshire. © Megan Latour/TNC;  
Happening Now - Cedar branches capped in snow. © Oliver Starks; A stoat in winter fur seeking prey from a rock. © Bernt Østhus/TNC Photo Contest 2019.

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