



Bill Ulfelder © Theo Morrison

Thoughts from the Executive Director

The Nature Conservancy prides itself on being collaborative, non-confrontational and solutions-oriented. This, combined with our great science, has produced a remarkable legacy of results. It's what we bring to land deals in the Adirondacks, water quality work on Long Island, and efforts to make New York City more resilient in the face of climate change. As our President and CEO Mark Tercek has said, "We are the organization that asks, "How?" How can we produce energy and protect wildlife? How can we farm and ensure that nature is not harmed? How do we find ways for both people and nature to thrive? We are always searching for solutions. And being the organization that asks "How?" means having the ability to say "No" when we need to, when the proposal at hand proves too detrimental for people and nature. Using the best science available, we've developed tools to help answer some of the world's toughest questions. Our wind mapping tool, explained in this issue, is one example of this scientific approach at work in New York. Thank you for supporting us and making our commitment to science possible.

BILL ULFELDER

SUPPORT OUR WORK

Make a donation with the enclosed envelope or at nature.org/donate.



Wind farm turbines situated on a ridge top in the Appalachian mountains © Kent Mason

Mapping the Future of Wind

To meet New York's clean energy goals, renewable energy will need to provide 50 percent of our energy by 2030. Much of this energy could come from wind power. What does this mean for nature? The Nature Conservancy in New York is helping to address that difficult question with a newly released mapping system called the *Biodiversity and Wind Siting Mapping Tool*.

Wind energy affects nature in two main ways: First, by causing collisions between turbine blades and flying animals like birds and bats. Second, wind power results in indirect impacts from the footprint of the turbines and surrounding roads, transmission lines and other infrastructure. Up until now, there has never been a way to see where and how these impacts would happen at a landscape level. This comprehensive tool—which is publicly available online for decision makers, developers and anyone who is interested—represents the first-of-its-kind specific to New York. By giving access to this full spectrum of data, the Conservancy will help New York reach its clean energy goal in a way that's beneficial to both people and nature. Explore the tool at nature.org/nywind.

See how the Conservancy is Building a Toolbox for Nature



Analyzing a map © Rui Rezende for TNC

Around the world, The Nature Conservancy is using the best available science to inform decision making. Here are a few of our most innovative tools:

Climate Wizard

Allows anyone to access climate change data and visualize temperature and precipitation impacts anywhere on Earth at a local scale. climatem wizard.org

Coastal Resilience Tool

Lets communities explore flooding scenarios, analyze the potential impacts

and develop solutions to address these realities. coastalresilience.org
[Urban Water Blueprint](http://UrbanWaterBlueprint)

Analyzes the state of water in more than 2,000 watersheds and 530 cities to provide science-based recommendations to improve water quality. nature.org/waterblueprint



FAST FACT

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Preserves owned by The Nature Conservancy around the state of New York

News and Updates



Lake trout inhabit 100 lakes in the Adirondacks. © Mary Thill

STUDYING THE “DWELLERS OF THE DEEP”
For 10,000 years, the top native predator in Adirondack waters has been lake trout—large, slow-growing fish that inhabit the coldest, deepest lakes. Now, a new study of these fish is helping us learn about climate change. Learn more about the study at nature.org/adirondackslaketroutrout.

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY IN NEW YORK
April is Earth Month, so we are celebrating conservation all across New York. Find an event or volunteer day near you at nature.org/nyearthday.

CYCLE FOR NATURE
Join Team Nature and ride for nature in New York on May 3 at the TD Five Boro Bike Tour in New York City! As a member of the team, you'll get guaranteed entry—plus have the opportunity to support The Nature Conservancy in New York. Get details and sign up at nature.org/nybiketour.

Get Involved

Want to know more about what The Nature Conservancy is up to in New York? There are lots of ways to connect with us!

- Email us: natureny@tnc.org
- Sign up for our free e-newsletter: nature.org/nyemail
- Follow us: [facebook.com/tncny](https://www.facebook.com/tncny) and twitter.com/nature_ny
- Find volunteer opportunities: nature.org/nyinvolved

Q&A

Scientific Sense

Meet New York's new Director of Science Becca Benner



How did you get involved with conservation? I don't remember not being interested in conservation. I grew up in the developing world, as my father worked for USAID. So we lived in large, developing cities where the contrast between natural beauty and urban poverty was rampant. I knew there were ways that nature could provide support for people's well-being and give kids cleaner water to play in and drink, and I became passionate about finding opportunities to work on that interface—that's what led me to The Nature Conservancy.

Why are you excited to lead science in New York? We work on urban conservation; we work to provide wildlife with safe passage over roads; we work to reconnect waterways and everything in between—it's impossible not to be excited about the potential! I hope I can bring some new ideas to the table, especially around the intimate relationship between people and nature, but more generally helping elevate the amazing science already going on across the state.

What inspires you to do this work? My glass is always half full. I see the world in terms of possibilities and having a baby girl last year has made me even more aware of the potential that is out there. I truly believe that the best chance conservation has is to change human behavior, and it's our job to make nature relevant, to make nature something that people understand. Our members give me hope for the future because they are part of the group that is conscious of how our actions affect the Earth's life support systems and of the amazing gifts that nature gives us.

Chaumont Barrens Preserve © Matt Levine/TNC; Rebecca Benner © TNC