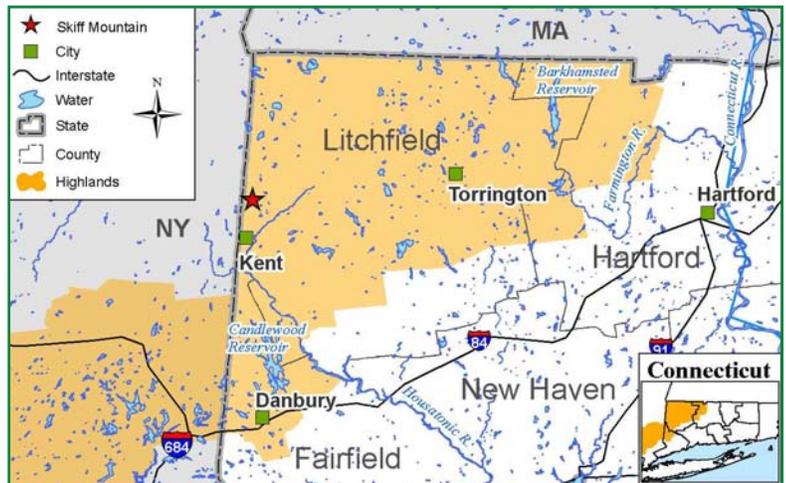


Connecticut's FY08 Skiff Mountain project is 292 acres on three parcels in the north-western towns of Kent and Sharon, an area facing intense large-lot development pressures. This represents Phase II; \$1.2 million in FY06 Forest Legacy funding placed an easement on 427 additional acres. Located among existing conservation lands, and adjacent to the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, Skiff Mountain is part of a contiguous protected network of 7,000-plus forested acres. This land provides important habitat for bears, bobcats, fishers, and coyotes, plus migratory bird species, such as golden-winged warbler, wood thrush, worm-eating warbler, and blue-winged warbler, that rely on intact forests for breeding, foraging, and migration. The State-listed endangered northern harrier, and threatened cooper's hawk and great egret are also found here.

Skiff Mountain is typical of Connecticut's northern uplands-transitional hardwoods zone with northern red oak, white ash and black birch. Northern hardwoods—sugar maple, beech, yellow birch, white oak, black oak, shagbark hickory, and bitternut hickory—are also present. Skiff Mountain is part of the Housatonic River Watershed, which begins in Massachusetts and drains to the Long Island Sound. Macedonia Brook, Skiff Mountain's subwatershed, is considered a Class A stream by the CT Department of Environmental Protection, and contains native brook trout, blacknose dace, longnose dace, and tessellated darter. Skiff Mountain is part of the Housatonic Riverbelt Greenway, which extends through 29 towns in Connecticut and Massachusetts, linking together existing parks and trails for outstanding recreation opportunities.

Skiff Mountain is Connecticut's Number 1-ranked FY08 Forest Legacy project.

For more information: Timothy Abbott, Project Director
The Litchfield Hills Greenprint, tim.abbott@tpl.org/860.672.6678



PROJECT DETAILS

Project Name: Skiff Mountain

Location: Towns of Kent and Sharon, Litchfield County

Acreage: 292

FL Request: \$770,000

Sponsors: The Trust for Public Land/
Kent Land Trust/Sharon Land Trust

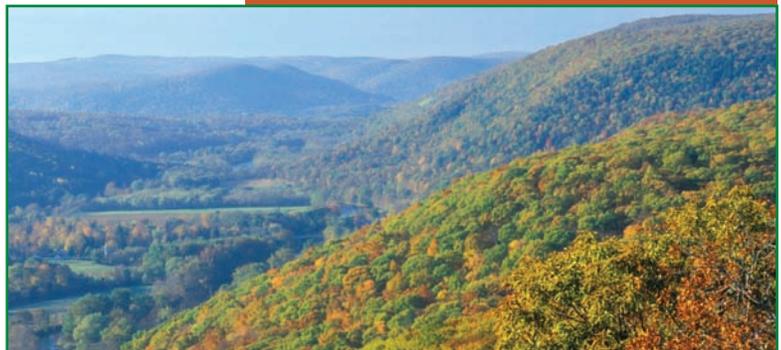
PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Adjacent to Appalachian National Scenic Trail and 7,000 acres of protected land
- Innovative project involving six contiguous landowners
- Contiguous wildlife corridor
- Within Housatonic River watershed
- State-listed endangered and threatened species present

The Highlands region is 3.5 million acres of forest, farmland, and rugged hills extending from south-central PA, through NJ and NY into northwestern CT. These eastern-most ridges of the Appalachian Mountains form a greenbelt for the Philadelphia-New York City-Hartford metropolitan area. The Highlands provide clean drinking water for more than 15 million people and are home to more than 250 endangered, threatened, and rare species.



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Autumn view from Connecticut's Skiff Mountain
By Jerry and Marcy Monkman