


Achieving Turtle Conservation on Private Lands




Presented by
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November 5, 2019



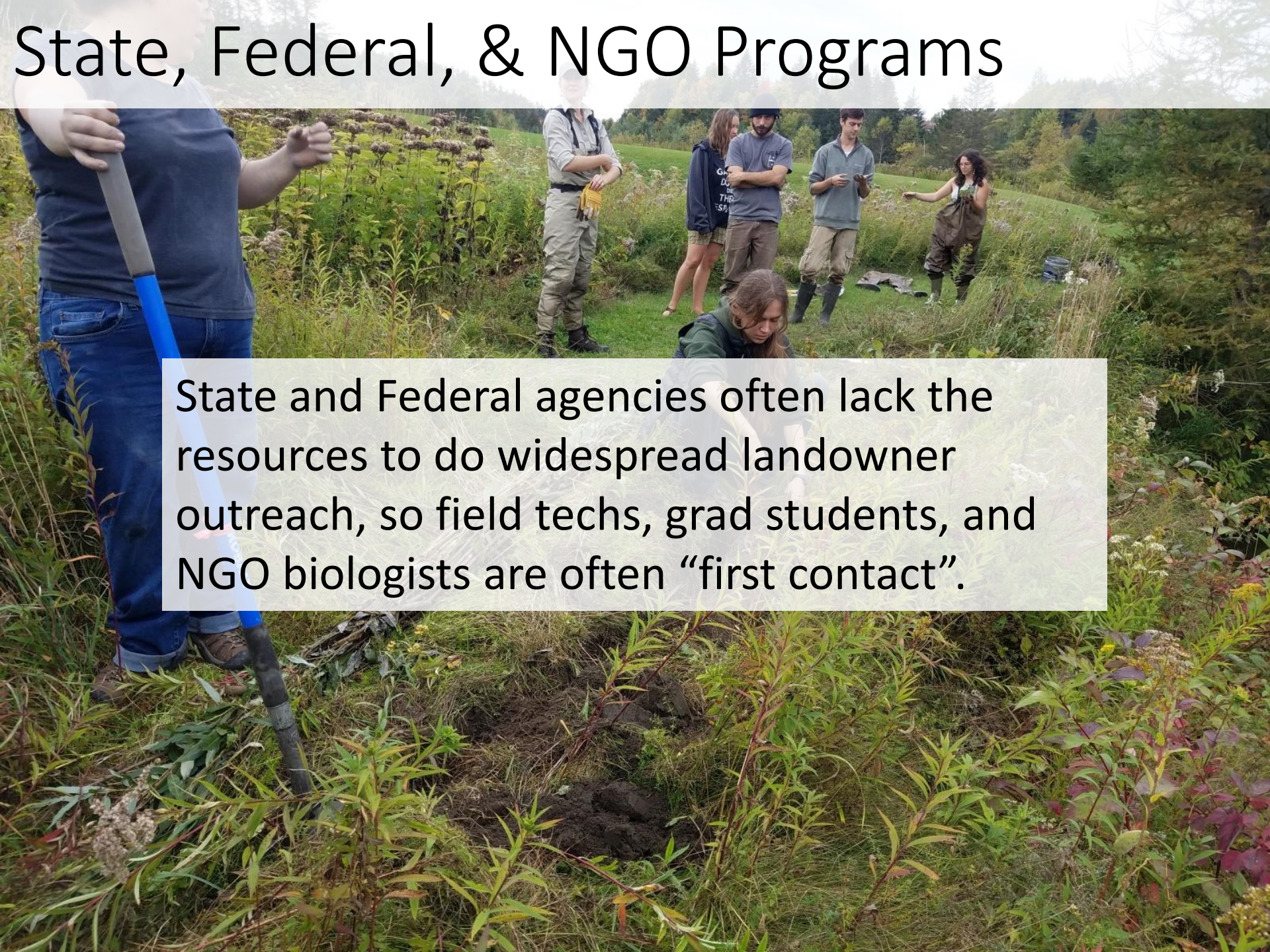
Why is private land important?

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- A photograph of three people standing in a grassy field with a forested hill in the background. On the left, a man in a green baseball cap and a tan jacket looks towards the center. In the middle, a person in a black beanie, a blue jacket, and an orange safety vest holds a long pole. On the right, a man in a grey beanie and a red jacket looks towards the center. A semi-transparent white box with a pink border is overlaid on the image, containing a bulleted list.
- 80-96% of land is privately owned
 - Conservation on a landscape scale must include private lands
 - Many of the most urgent conservation concerns occur on private land
 - Critical Wood Turtle habitat also important to agriculture

State, Federal, & NGO Programs


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- Countless options habitat restoration
 - Farm Bill Programs provide \$\$\$
 - Land Trusts
 - State Programs
 - USFWS Partners Program

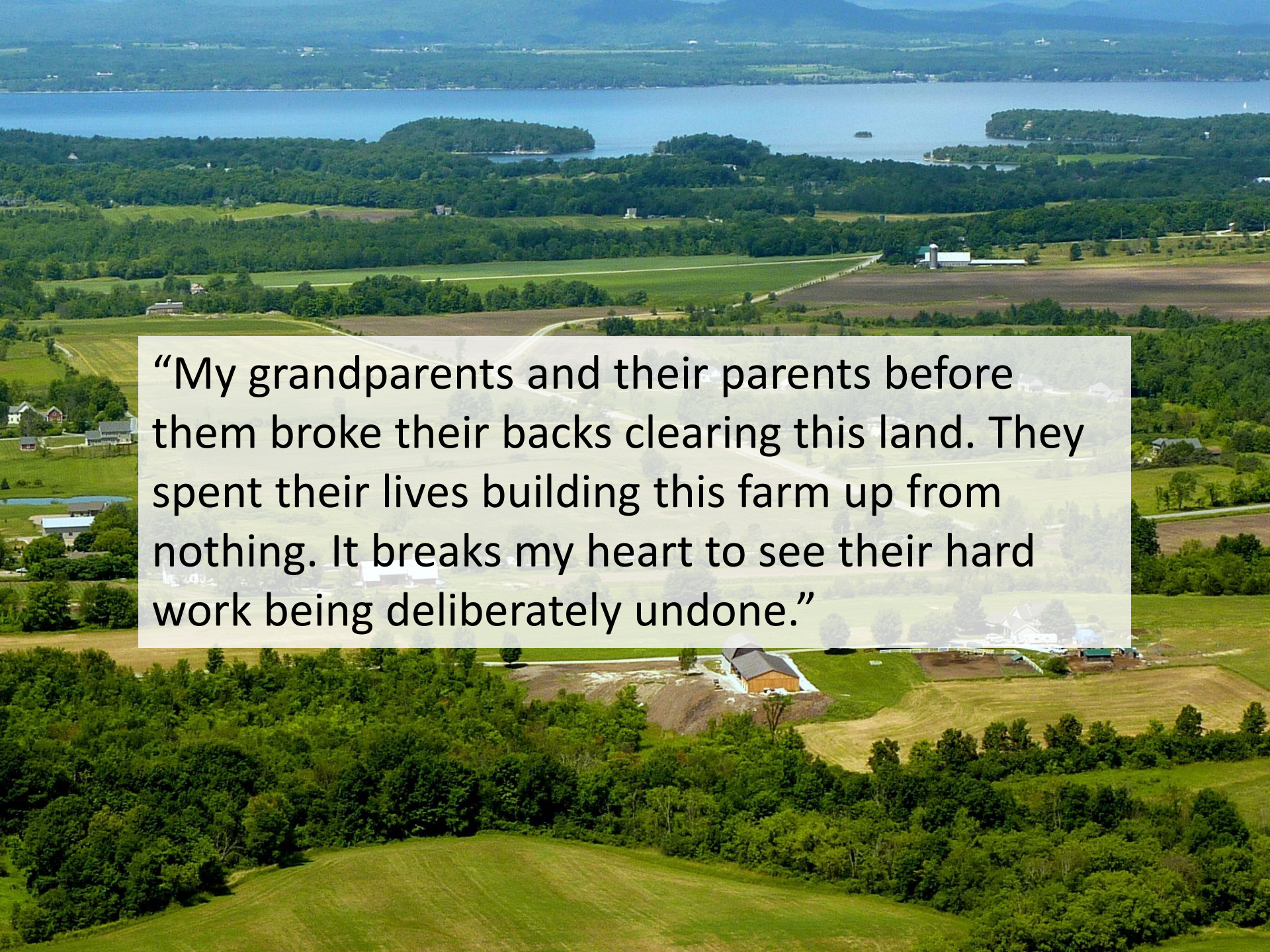
State, Federal, & NGO Programs

A group of people are working in a field. In the foreground, a person is using a blue-handled tool to dig in the soil. In the background, several other people are standing and observing. The field is filled with green plants and some purple flowers. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid on the image.

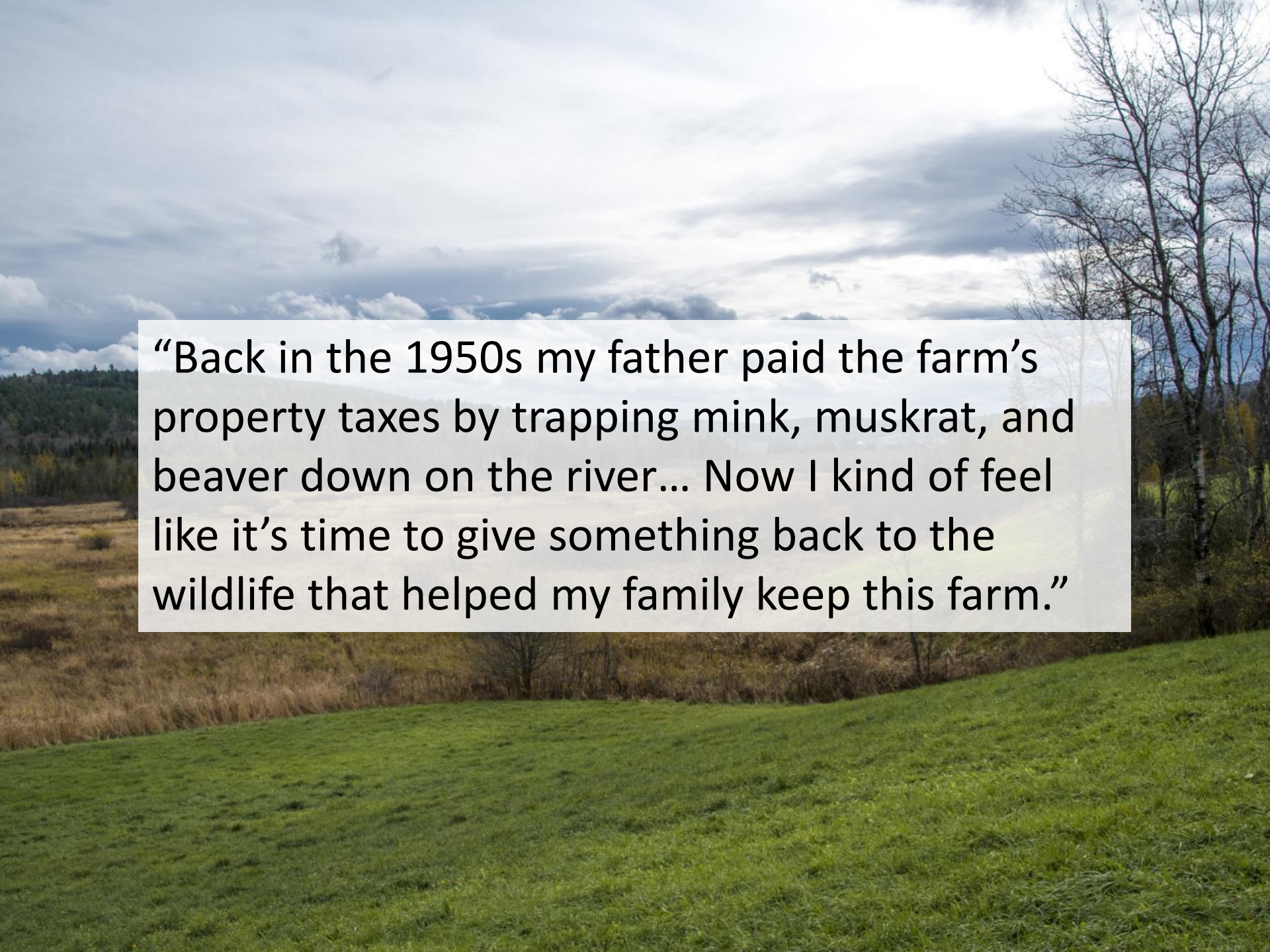
State and Federal agencies often lack the resources to do widespread landowner outreach, so field techs, grad students, and NGO biologists are often “first contact”.

Must consider landowner needs...

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- A photograph of three people in a grassy field. On the left, a man in a green cap and tan jacket looks towards the center. In the middle, a woman in a blue jacket, orange safety vest, and black beanie holds a long pole. On the right, a man in a red jacket and grey beanie looks towards the center. The background shows a line of trees under a cloudy sky.
- Agricultural
 - Timber production
 - Financial asset
 - A home for the kids
 - Retire *to* a farming life
 - Cultural and family history

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there are green fields and a dense line of trees. In the middle ground, a dirt road winds through the fields, and a small farm with a barn and silo is visible. In the background, a large body of water (likely a lake or reservoir) stretches across the horizon, with several small islands and a distant shoreline with more land and buildings. The sky is clear and blue.

“My grandparents and their parents before them broke their backs clearing this land. They spent their lives building this farm up from nothing. It breaks my heart to see their hard work being deliberately undone.”


A landscape photograph showing a green field in the foreground, a line of trees and brush in the middle ground, and a cloudy sky above. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the middle ground, containing text.

“Back in the 1950s my father paid the farm’s property taxes by trapping mink, muskrat, and beaver down on the river... Now I kind of feel like it’s time to give something back to the wildlife that helped my family keep this farm.”

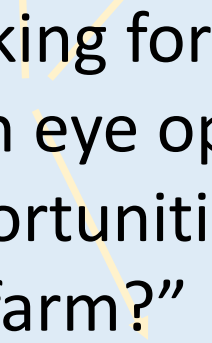
An aerial photograph of a rural landscape featuring a mix of green fields, brown patches, and dense forests. A yellow line traces a boundary across the terrain, starting from the bottom left, curving around a central area, and extending towards the top right. A road or path runs diagonally from the top left towards the center. A red rectangular sign with a white border is superimposed on the map, containing the text 'ACCESS DENIED' in a bold, red, distressed font. The sign is positioned over a central area where the yellow boundary is prominent.

**ACCESS
DENIED**

Common Reasons to Deny Access

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- Financial concerns
 - Misconceptions about endangered species
 - Some wary of government
 - Past experience not always positive
 - ✱ They might have something to hide
 - We are the outsiders!

Getting an “in”...



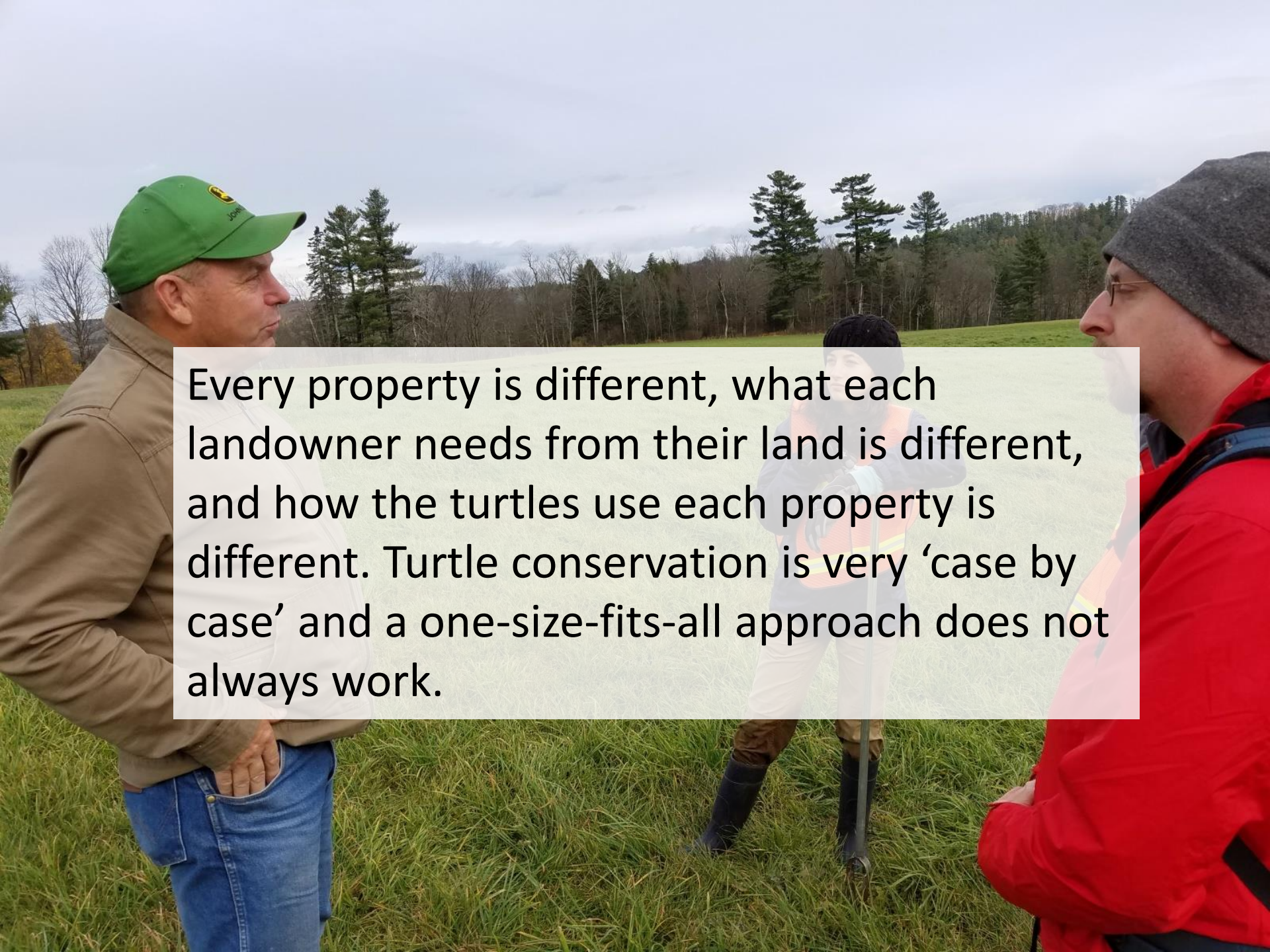
“While I am looking for turtles, would you mind if I keep an eye open for habitat restoration opportunities that might be a good match for your farm?”

MAP REMOVED

Finding the
right
balance...

WETLAND RESERVE
EASEMENT PROPOSAL
MAP REMOVED.

LANDOWNER OFFERED
\$22,000 TO SET ASIDE 11
ACRES FOR RESTORATION
THROUGH FARM BILL
PROGRAM

A photograph of three people standing in a grassy field. On the left, a man in a green baseball cap and a tan jacket looks towards the center. In the middle, a person in a dark jacket and a bright orange safety vest stands with their back to the camera. On the right, a man in a red jacket and a grey beanie looks towards the center. The background features a line of trees and a cloudy sky. A semi-transparent white text box is overlaid in the center of the image.

Every property is different, what each landowner needs from their land is different, and how the turtles use each property is different. Turtle conservation is very 'case by case' and a one-size-fits-all approach does not always work.





**CANADAY FAMILY
CHARITABLE
TRUST**

