



Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program in Arkansas

Background

In an effort to combat the decline of quality fish and wildlife habitat, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (Partners) is working with landowners to restore, enhance, and protect fish and wildlife habitat on private lands. Through alliances with organizations, and individuals, Partners main focus is to restore vegetation and hydrology to historic conditions on private lands. A voluntary program, Partners is working proactively with private landowners for the mutual benefit of declining federal trust species. The future of our nation's fish and wildlife depends on the private landowner. Over two-thirds of our nation's land and three-quarters of the remaining wetlands are in private ownership.

Accomplishments

- ❖ Since 1988, over 220 Partners for Fish and Wildlife Projects have been implemented in Arkansas to restore aquatic and terrestrial habitat.
- ❖ In Arkansas, the Partners program has carried out restoration, enhancement, and protection activities on over 40,000 acres.
- ❖ Over 8 million bottomland hardwood seedlings have been planted on Partners projects in Arkansas.
- ❖ Over 450 project sites have been restored, enhanced, or protected in Arkansas.
- ❖ Arkansas has identified five focus areas for implementation of the Partners Program.

Partners Program Accomplishments 1987-2006

- Restored over 28,000 acres of bottomland hardwoods
- Restored 50 miles of riparian habitat
- Over 220 PFW projects Implemented

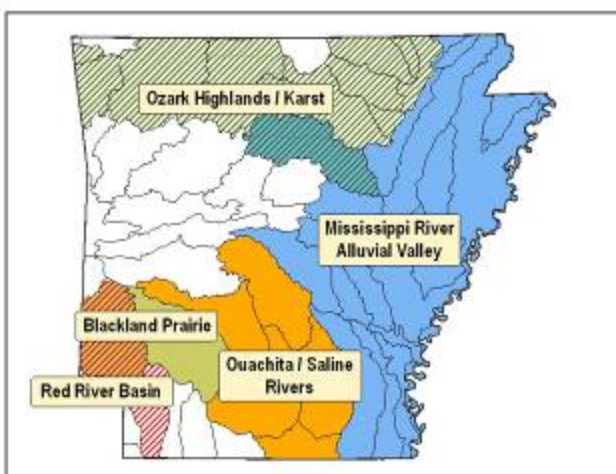
Priorities

The Partners program in Arkansas is using the Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy Plan, developed by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, as a guide to implement projects where they will provide the greatest conservation benefit to federal trust species. The similarity in the Plan's mission and goals to the partners program will be an invaluable tool. Priority habitats include:

- Blackland Prairie
- Forested Wetlands
- Riparian
- Karst
- Streams and Waterways
- Uplands

For More Information

For more information about the Partners Program in Arkansas, contact Melvin Tobin, State Coordinator, (703)513-4473 or via email Melvin_Tobin@fws.gov.



Partners for Fish and Wildlife Focus Areas in Arkansas