



# 2001 Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

## Program Focus

WHIP in Alabama has six priority conservation management systems:

- The woodland wildlife system benefits those species associated with healthy, mature pine forests. This is done through the use of prescribed fire, forest thinning, and light disking through open pine stands.
- The early successional habitat restoration system benefits those species associated with the native blackland prairie through the use of prescribed fire and herbicides.
- The longleaf pine and bottomland hardwood systems establish these trees on sites where they are no longer present.
- Shallow water development for waterfowl system enhances wetlands and provides waterfowl wintering habitat.
- The wetland restoration system restores destroyed or degraded habitats to their original vegetation and hydrology. This system is targeted toward restoration of wetland savannah and cypress swamp ecosystems.

All of these conservation management systems have far reaching benefits for many species of wildlife.

## Alabama Summary

### Overview

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary wildlife habitat development program. Alabama's WHIP seeks to enhance native plant communities and wildlife populations. Emphasis is placed on those populations and habitats that are in decline. The demand for WHIP continues to be strong in the state. Alabama had over 140 applicants requesting over \$700,000 during the 2001 program year.

### Accomplishments

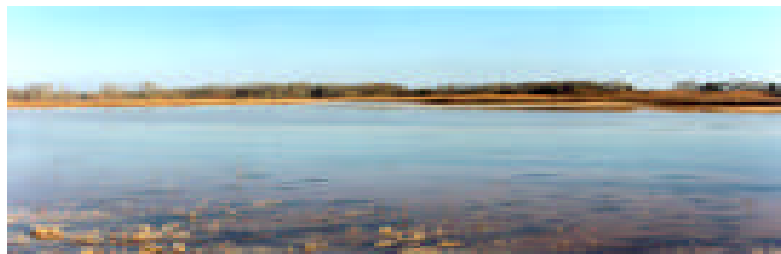
Alabama has a total of 51 funded WHIP contracts for \$164,000. Four thousand and twenty acres of wildlife habitat will be improved across the state. The most popular practices are early successional habitat improvement, shallow water areas for waterfowl, and prescribed fire in pine woodland.

### Program Benefits

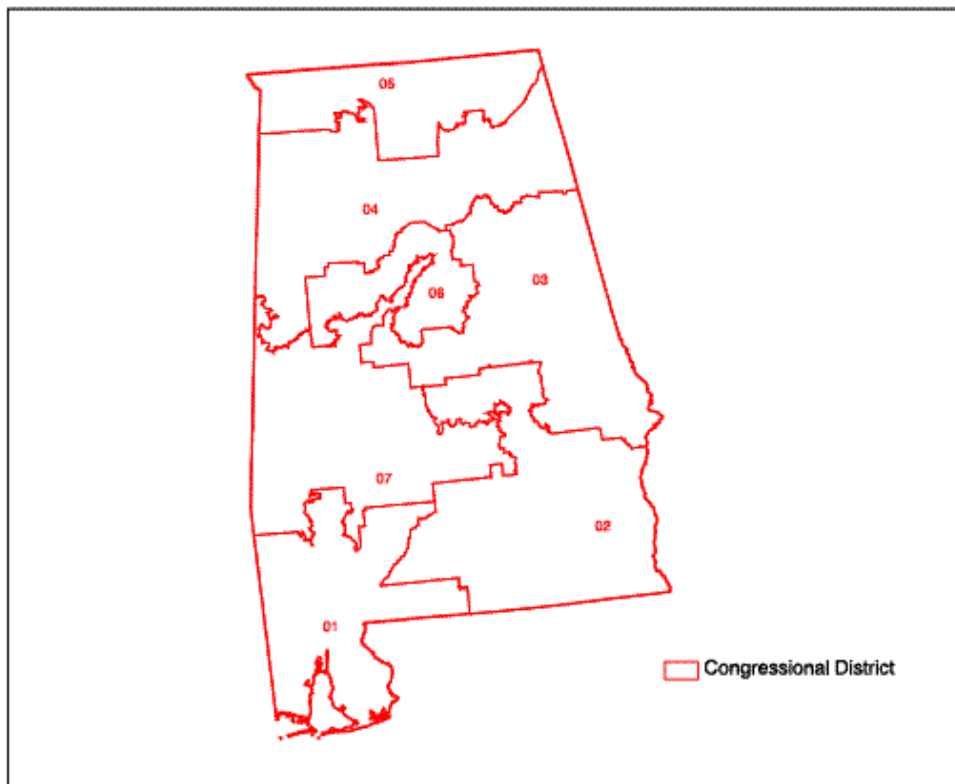
WHIP provides an increase in wildlife benefits to Alabama landowners. This equates not only to increased wildlife viewing opportunities, but also to increased hunting lease prices. In addition to providing habitat for game and nongame wildlife, WHIP in Alabama targets declining habitats and communities. These habitats include longleaf pine, blackland prairie, wetland savannahs, cave/sinkhole systems, bottomland hardwoods, limestone glades, bald cypress swamps, and sandhill habitats. These habitats will not recover without coordinated public and private effort and assistance.

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## Alabama Dollars and Contracts by Congressional District



### Alabama Dollars and Contracts

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2001		Cumulative Total (95-01)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1	\$16,000	5	\$69,100	24
District 2	\$41,100	5	\$147,800	27
District 3	\$10,000	1	\$66,800	24
District 4	\$34,500	14	\$123,300	60
District 5	\$20,000	9	\$71,600	24
District 6	\$8,500	6	\$29,500	23
District 7	\$33,700	11	\$91,400	50
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>\$164,000</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>\$599,500</b>	<b>232</b>

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