



2001 Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

Program Focus

Priority habitat concerns were identified as areas that:

- Lack grass/shrub transition zones in cropland and hayland fields
- Lack quality nesting habitat and brood rearing areas for grassland nesting birds
- Lack high quality riparian habitats
- Lack early water for waterfowl habitat, shallow water areas, and wetland areas for wildlife
- Lack early successional components in the understory of woodlands dominated by pine or pine/hardwood
- Lack woody and grass corridor habitat in open agricultural areas
- Lack educational areas to identify native habitat components
- Lack habitat components for both federal and state T&E species



Mississippi Summary

Overview

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program for people who want to develop or improve wildlife habitat on private lands. It provides for both technical assistance and financial assistance through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Wildlife priorities, cooperatively developed with interested partners, are based on habitat concerns within Mississippi. Practices to address these concerns were identified for cost share. These practices were selected for the purpose of enhancing upland and wetland wildlife habitat, threatened and endangered species habitat, aquatic habitat, and other types of wildlife habitat on eligible lands. There continues to be a backlog of requests to address these concerns.

Accomplishments

A total of 357 applications were received for funding. Of these, 284 were approved and funded, encompassing 14,758 acres. The predominant practices included 10,853 acres of prescribed burning, 3,759 acres of wetland wildlife habitat management and 12,407 acres of upland wildlife habitat management. Over 5,500 acres of threatened and endangered species habitat were benefited.

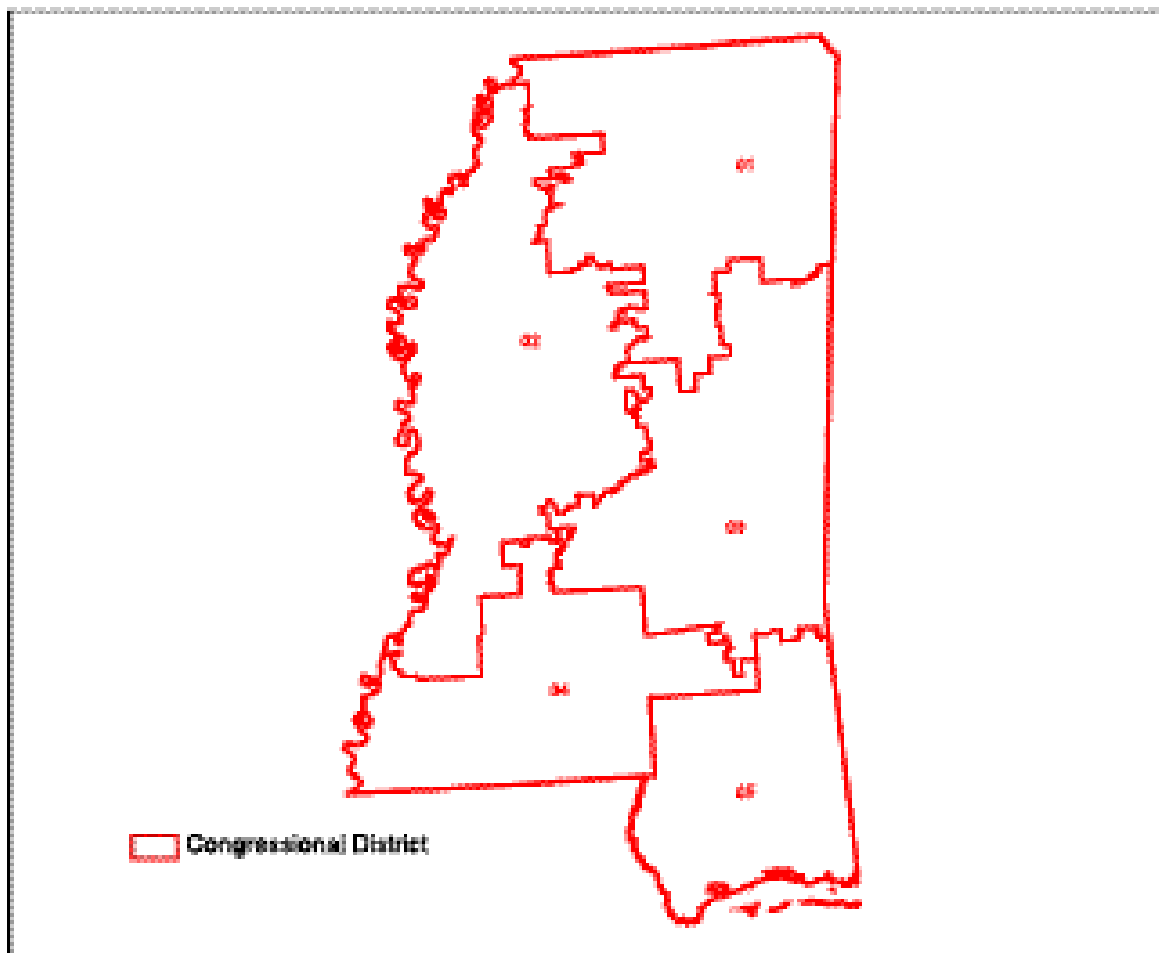
Program Benefits

Implementation of these practices through the program will foster a change in attitude toward wildlife and wildlife habitat and its relationship to the agricultural landscape. Native habitat for declining and endangered species will be restored. Wildlife habitat in general will be improved.

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Mississippi Dollars and Contracts by Congressional District



Mississippi Dollars and Contracts

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2001		Cumulative Total (97-01)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1	199,675	87	446,518	175
District 2	170,647	63	584,311	163
District 3	151,762	47	597,918	199
District 4	115,492	48	300,704	124
District 5	133,579	49	508,208	173
State Totals	771,155	294	2,437,659	834

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