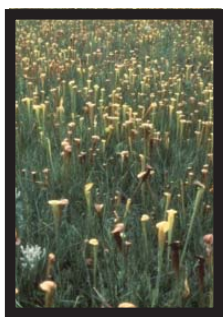


Partners for Fish and Wildlife



In 2001, 671 acres of longleaf pine and 582 acres of native grasses were restored in Alabama with creative partnerships formed through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program.

Photo: USFWS



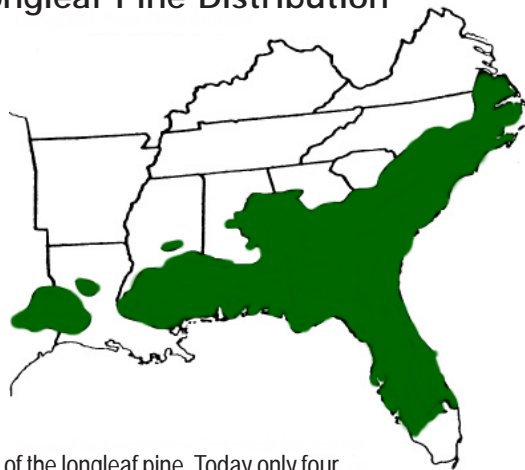
Photo: USFWS

"We need to recognize the landowner as the custodian of public game on all private land...compensate him... with either cash, service, or protection, for the use of his land and for his labor... on the condition that he... safeguards the public interest."

Aldo Leopold



Longleaf Pine Distribution



Range of the longleaf pine. Today only four percent of the longleaf pine forests that originally grew in the Coastal Plain of North America remain.

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Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program



Photo by Erich Hoffman/Department of the Army

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



What is Partners for Fish and Wildlife?

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife program provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners to restore and enhance fish and wildlife habitat on their property. The program focus is to restore vegetation and hydrology to historic conditions. Habitat is provided for migratory and resident waterfowl, wading birds, songbirds, fish, and a host of other wildlife.

Who's Eligible?

Basically, anyone interested in restoring wildlife habitat on their land can become a "partner." Partners include farmers, ranchers, corporations, businesses, private organizations, educational organizations, and conservation organizations.



Restoring natural stream channels on private lands is just one of the many recently completed PFW projects.

Stream channel before restoration (above), and after (right). Photos: Randy Roach



What types of projects are funded?

Slash and loblolly pine areas that are suitable for conversion to longleaf pine are eligible. Cropland and pasture sites are also eligible for re-establishing the longleaf ecosystem.



Controlled burning is one method to help restore longleaf habitat. Photo: Erich Hoffman / Department of the Army.

In addition, areas which have been previously drained or altered or wet areas in cropland and pasture are eligible wetland restoration sites.

Normally in projects involving wetland restoration, landowners restore unproductive areas of cropland and pasture which are too wet to farm efficiently.

Partner projects are typically designed to restore fish and wildlife habitat to historic conditions. Plans may include:

- Planting longleaf pine and native grasses and legumes to restore the longleaf ecosystem.
- Restoring native prairie by planting native grasses and legumes.
- Controlled burning to restore the longleaf ecosystem, pine savannahs, and pitcher plant bogs.
- Planting trees to restore bottomland hardwoods or swamp.
- Installing water control structures, plugging ditches, or building levees to restore hydrology on drained or partially drained areas.
- Protecting and / or restoring riparian areas.
- Moist-soil management / wood duck nest boxes in conjunction with other restoration measures.
- Restoring natural stream channels.

How does the program work?

Landowners interested in habitat restoration should contact us to schedule a site visit to determine suitability and eligibility.



Restoring habitat to historic conditions benefits many species of fish and wildlife. Photo: USFWS

A financial or in-kind contribution from the landowner is not mandatory, but may aid in project selection. If your project is accepted, you could:

- Receive up to 100 percent funding for project expenses.
- Receive financial assistance from other groups (state agencies, conservation districts, other Federal programs).

For more information contact:

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