



NFWF



Longleaf Stewardship Fund

Building on nearly a decade of investment to restore vanishing longleaf pine forests in the southeastern United States, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) established the **Longleaf Stewardship Fund**, a landmark public-private partnership to accelerate restoration of the longleaf pine ecosystem. With the combined financial and technical resources of federal agencies – including the U.S. Department of Defense, USDA’s Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – and private funding from Southern Company, International Paper’s Forestland Stewards Initiative and Altria Group, the Fund is accelerating implementation of America’s Longleaf Restoration Initiative’s *Range-Wide Conservation Plan for Longleaf Pine* while advancing the mission objectives of each partner.

Since 2012, the Longleaf Stewardship Fund has invested more than \$14.1 million into projects that will restore more than 47,400 acres of longleaf pine forest and the native species that rely on it. This builds on a strong foundation of supporting longleaf restoration through the NFWF partnership with Southern Company, which from 2004 to 2011 invested nearly \$9.4 million into projects that will restore over 100,000 acres of longleaf.

The goals of the Longleaf Stewardship Fund are to:

- **Establish** and **enhance** longleaf pine forests
- **Restore** and **improve** the understory
- **Support** the recovery of iconic and keystone species
- **Increase** technical assistance and outreach to private landowners
- **Strengthen** organizational capacity



Only a small fraction of the once-majestic longleaf pine forest remains.

The Fund’s investments target “Significant Geographic Areas” anchored by military bases and installations, National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, as well as state and other protected lands to expand, improve, and connect existing longleaf habitat to establish large-scale healthy ecosystems. In addition, the Fund supports locally based partnerships dedicated to restoring longleaf pine and technical assistance to private landowners across the range. Investments are made to achieve specific conservation outcomes, and success will be tracked to evaluate gains in healthy longleaf forest and the recovery of native wildlife.

In 2015, the Fund selected 22 projects in nine states for funding totaling **more than \$4.6 million**. It is anticipated that these projects will result in more than **11,600 acres of longleaf restored**, and more than **163,000 additional acres** of longleaf wildlife habitat enhanced. In addition, it is expected that more than **2,500 private landowners** will receive education and technical assistance related to longleaf restoration and available cost-share programs, with more than **380 entering into stewardship programs** on private lands.

For more information on the *Longleaf Stewardship Fund*, please visit www.nfwf.org/longleaf.

For more information on *ALRI*, please visit www.americaslongleaf.org.