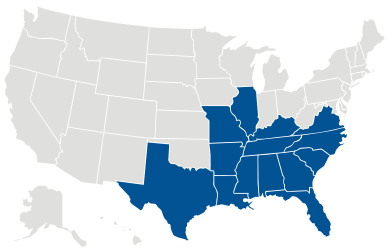
Forestland Stewards

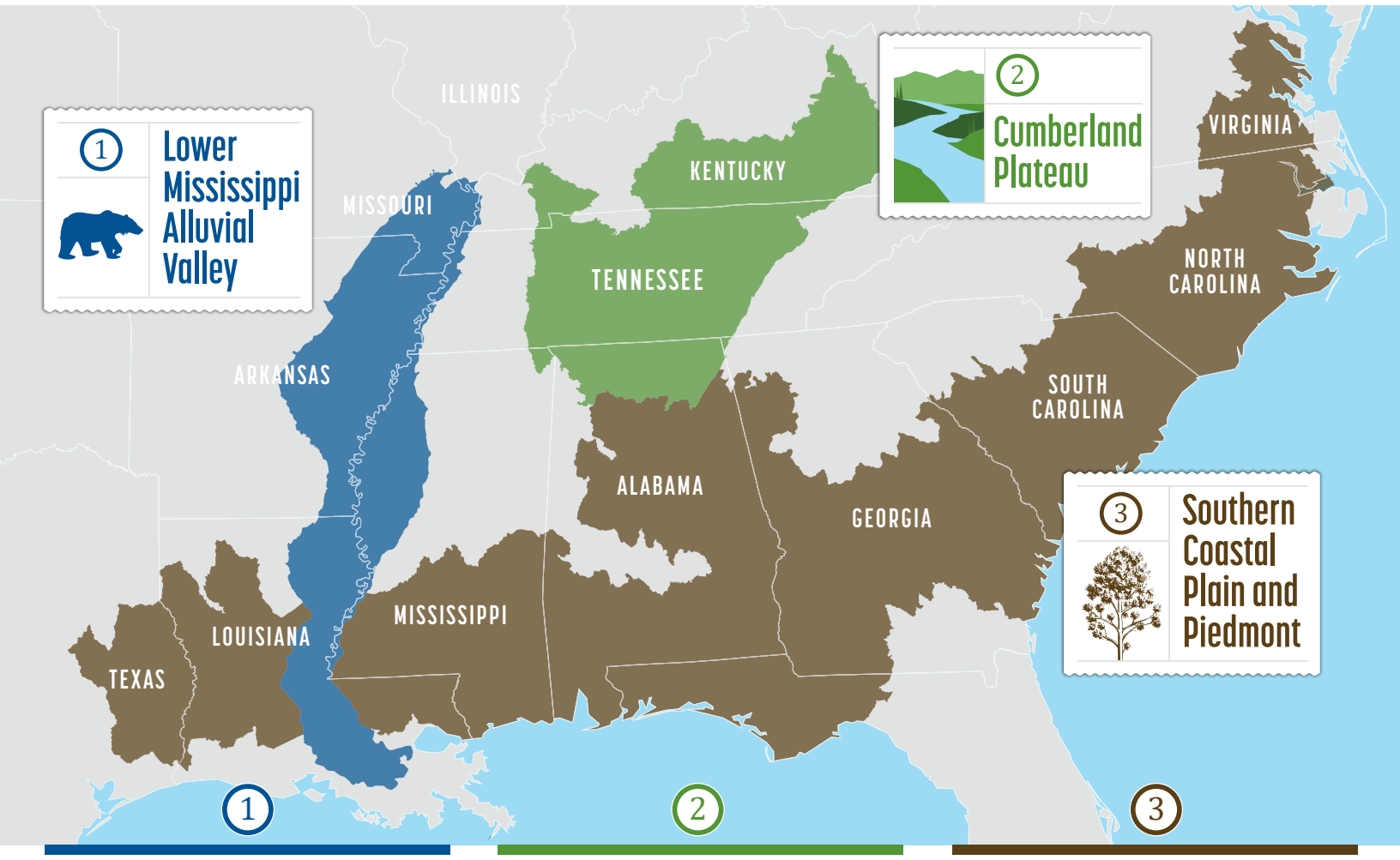
HABITAT AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and International Paper created the Forestland Stewards Partnership in 2013 to establish, enhance and conserve forest habitats, strengthen important fish and wildlife populations, and protect watersheds — while at the same time promoting and supporting working forests in the southern United States.



Where We Work

Forestland Stewards supports conservation projects within the following three priority geographies.



Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley

WHY IT MATTERS:

Once North America's largest forested wetland, the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley lost nearly 80 percent of its forest.

Mississippi River, wetland and floodplain alterations have negatively impacted habitats and communities.

WHAT WE ARE DOING:

Working to restore bottomland hardwood forests, wetlands, rivers and streams, improving habitats for species such as Louisiana black bear, swamp rabbit, forest birds and alligator gar.

Cumberland Plateau

WHY IT MATTERS:

The Cumberland Plateau region features an extensive network of forests, rivers and streams that host species found nowhere else in the world.

Fire suppression and development have led to declines in shortleaf pine and oak-hickory woodlands.

Contaminated runoff to streams and rivers, and human-built barriers, such as dams and culverts, have degraded habitat and restricted natural movement for fish, mussels and other aquatic species.

WHAT WE ARE DOING:

Restoring and conserving forest habitat and improving aquatic habitats by modifying stream barriers.

Southern Coastal Plain and Piedmont

WHY IT MATTERS:

Longleaf pine forests once covered over 90 million acres across the Southern Coastal Plain and Piedmont; less than 5 percent of that acreage remains.

Habitat loss due to fire suppression and land use changes resulted in the decline of wildlife species, such as red-cockaded woodpecker and gopher tortoise.

WHAT WE ARE DOING:

Partnering with public and private landowners to restore healthy longleaf pine forests that benefit wildlife and communities.

The projects we've supported since 2013 will result in:

$302M in total conservation impact

2.8M acres of forest habitat established, enhanced or conserved

79,000 private landowners engaged

More than **789** miles of stream habitat improved

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE? www.nfwf.org/forestlandstewards