

## Declaration of Partnership American Forest Foundation

The following Declaration of Partnership indicates the intent of American Forest Foundation (AFF) to work cooperatively within the range of longleaf pine in ways that are supportive of conservation and restoration of the longleaf pine ecosystem. Rather than a statement of obligation, this declaration indicates general intent, to be pursued and interpreted within the bounds of AFF's goals and capacity.

### **Mission**

American Forest Foundation ensures the sustainability of America's family forests for present and future generations in conjunction with our strategic partners.

### **Interests**

The American Forest Foundation has been a leader in forest conservation and environmental education for decades through its flagship programs Project Learning Tree and the American Tree Farm System. Other programs of AFF have sought to pilot innovative approaches to advance sustainable forestry on family lands, and to advocate for positive change in forest policy and federal programs.

AFF is currently working with partners to develop new approaches to improve delivery of technical assistance, and to expand the reach of AFF to help longstanding AFF programs reach additional landowners. These pilot efforts are not limited to, but do overlap considerably with the range of longleaf pine. Within these geographies, longleaf pine restoration is likely to figure as a prominent strategy for ecosystem restoration and forest conservation on many private ownerships. By offering this declaration of partnership, AFF recognizes the importance of the longleaf ecosystem in the Southern region, and additionally the value of partnerships in advancing goals of mutual interest.

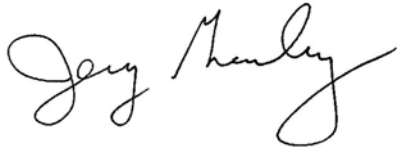
### **Anticipated Contribution and Activities**

The work of AFF within the range of longleaf pine will be supportive of the following objectives articulated within the Range-Wide Conservation Plan for Longleaf Pine:

- Private Lands Objective B: Improve participation in relevant Farm Bill programs
- Private Lands Objective F: Tapping multiple programs to support cooperative conservation and innovate approaches
- Economic and Market-based Strategies, Objective A: Enhance economic opportunities for longleaf forest products and ecosystem services.
- Understory and Overstory Restoration Objective B: Provide sound technical advice and communications to resource managers

Additionally, though not limited to longleaf pine, AFF will work broadly across the South to advance the mission of sustainable forestry on family lands, and to increase the numbers of landowners actively engaged in the management of their own lands.

**Signatory**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jerry Greenberg". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Jerry Greenberg  
Senior Vice President, Conservation Solutions

February 23, 2011