



America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative

Celebrating Five Years: Accomplishments and the Road Ahead

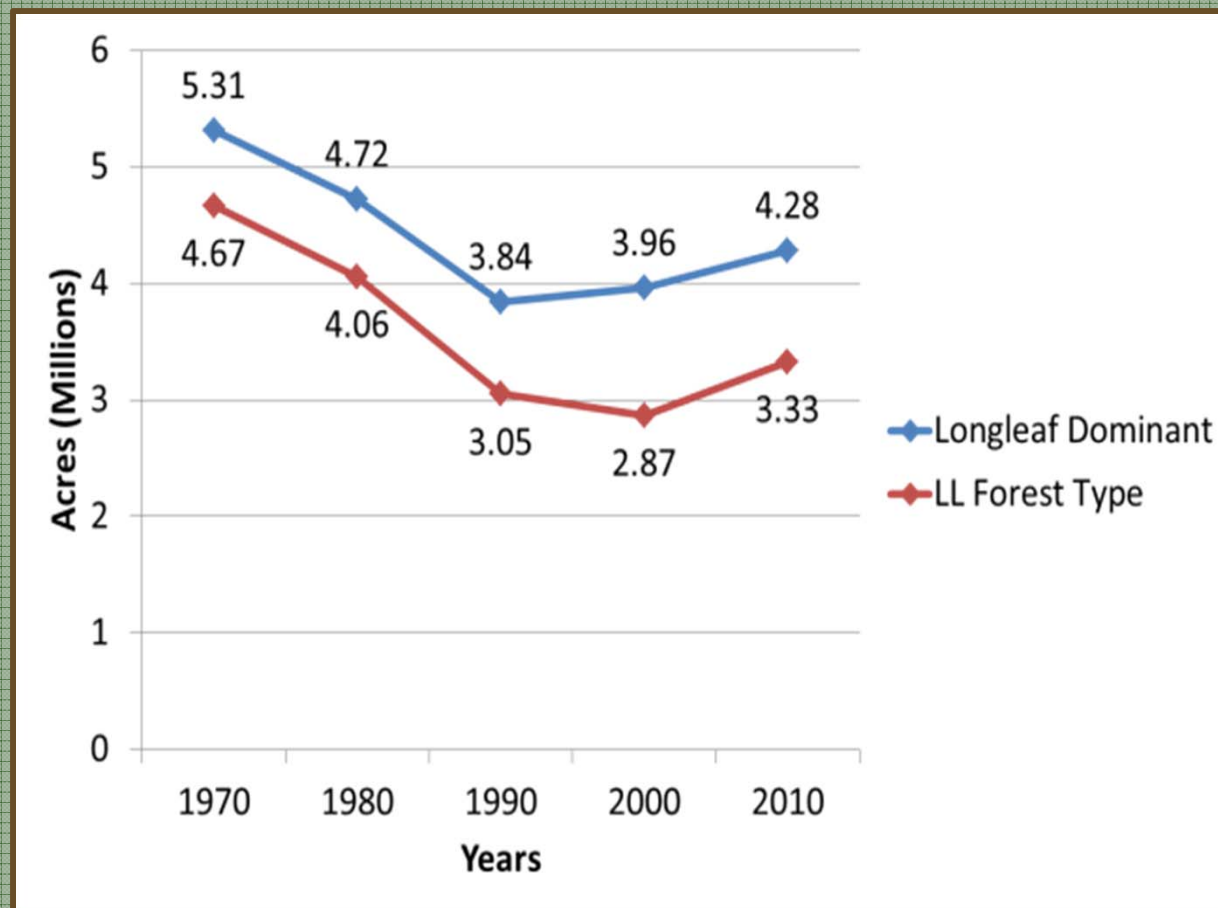
Clay Ware, USFWS

Southern Company/NFWF
Stewardship Partners Meeting
April 9, 2014





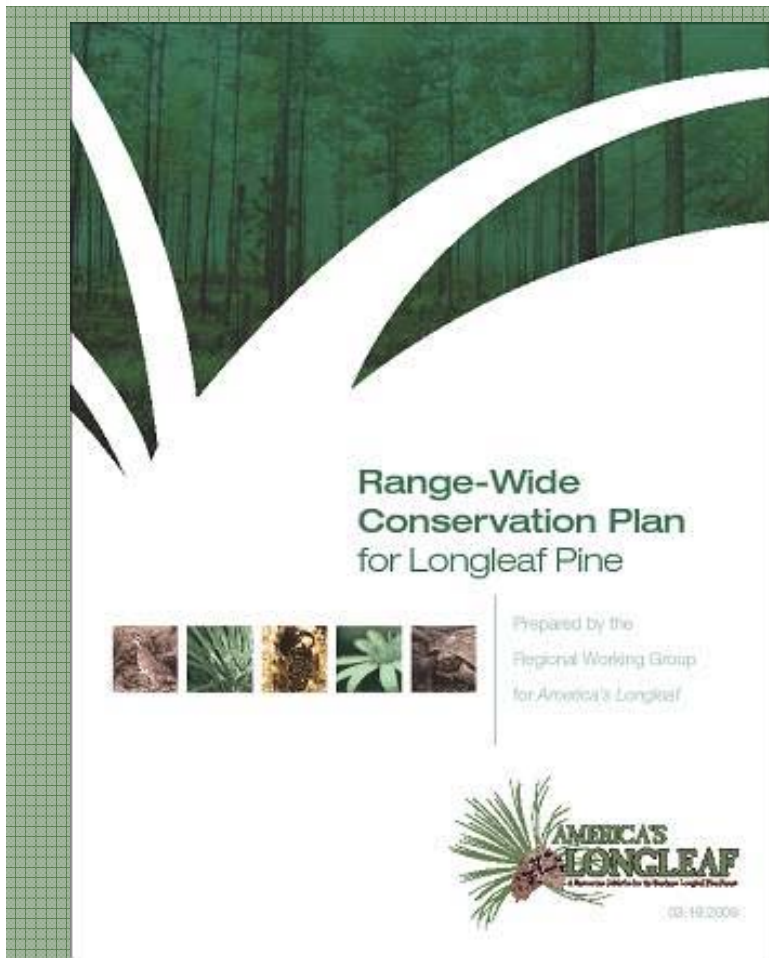
Turning the Corner – Reversing the Decline

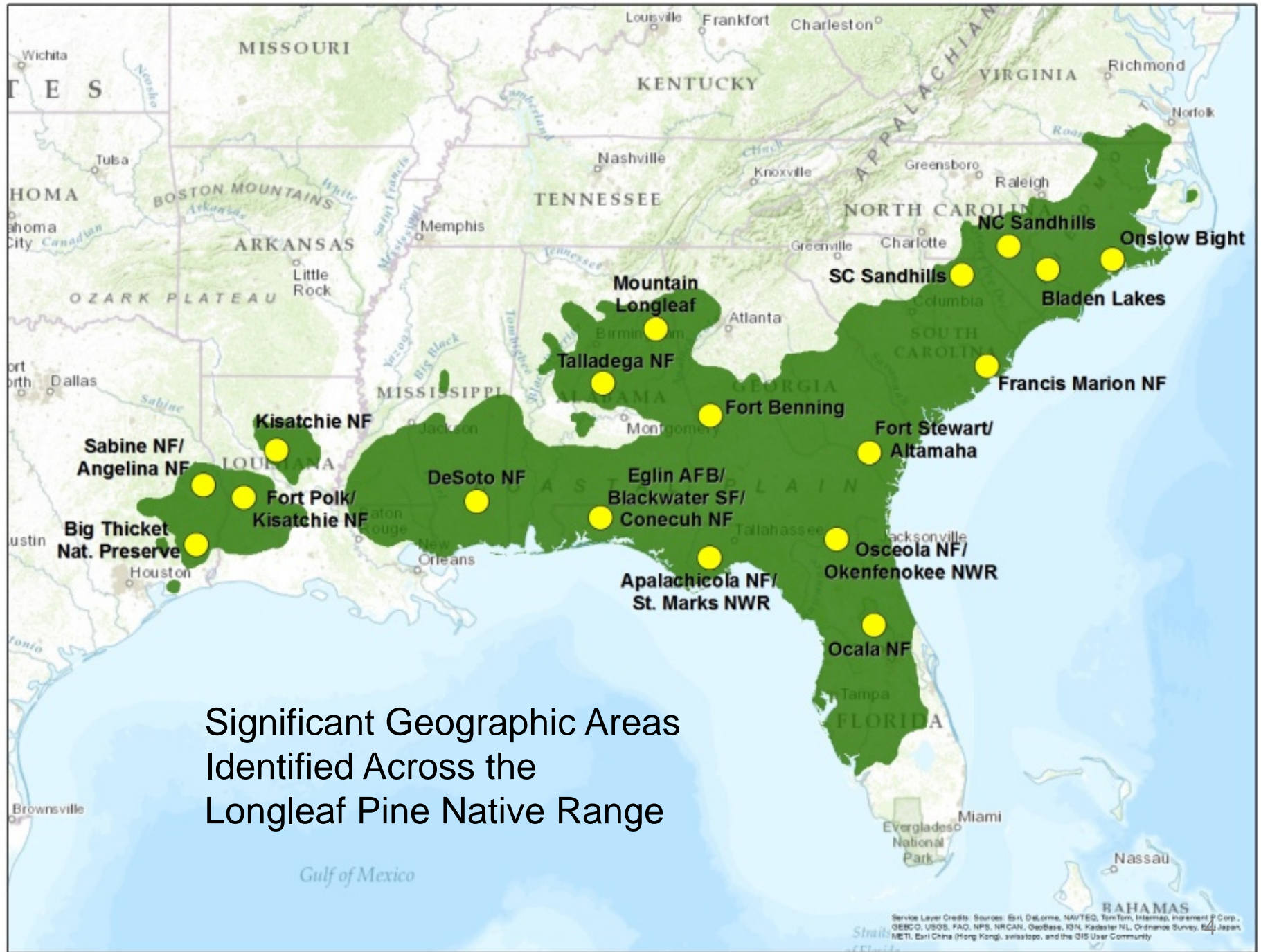




Release of the 2009 *Range-wide Conservation Plan for Longleaf Pine*

- ❖ 5th Anniversary of plan's release
- ❖ Developed by Regional Working Group representing 22 organizations
- ❖ Supported by USDA Forest Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Department of Defense, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- ❖ Identified Significant Geographic Areas for longleaf restoration focus





Significant Geographic Areas Identified Across the Longleaf Pine Native Range

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, iPlanet, P.Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Commitment from Federal Partners through the Federal Coordinating Committee



- ❖ Vital Federal support comes from Departments of Agriculture, Defense, and Interior
- ❖ National MOU signed in 2010 pledged support and created the Federal Coordinating Committee
- ❖ Recognition as key landscape by America's Great Outdoors



America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative; The Longleaf Partnership Council



❖ 33-member Longleaf Partnership Council formed in 2011. Supports or coordinates wide-ranging efforts, including:

- 9 State Coordination Teams
- 16 Local Implementation Teams centered around SGAs
- Range-wide Technical Teams
- Accomplishment reporting



Longleaf Stewardship Fund



- ❖ Heavily supported by the Southern Company and Federal Agencies
- ❖ Administered by NFWF
- ❖ Awarded \$6 million for 31 projects during first two years
- ❖ \$3.3 million available for Longleaf Pine projects in 2014



Private Lands Programs

- ❖ Private landowner participation is critical to reach our restoration goal
- ❖ From FY10 to FY12, the NRCS Longleaf Pine Initiative provided \$25M to restore or plant 145,000 acres on private lands
- ❖ There are currently around 350,000 acres of longleaf pine enrolled through the Conservation Reserve Program administered by FSA





2013 Range-wide Accomplishments

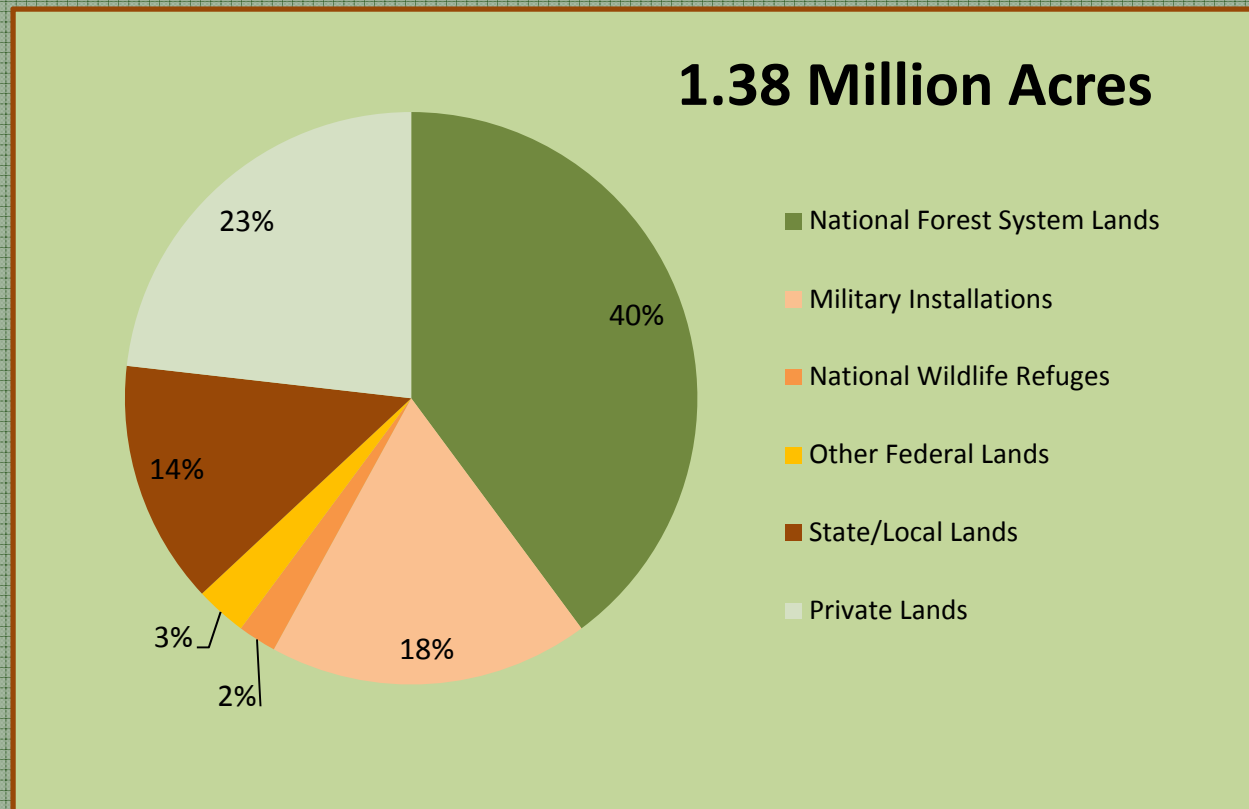
Highlights

- ❖ 1.38 million acres overall habitat improvements
- ❖ 77% of the accomplishments occurred on public lands
- ❖ 70% of the acreage occurred within the SGAs
- ❖ Over 150,000 acres of longleaf established





Federal Lands – Account for 63% of the Restoration Work in 2013





Local Implementation Teams in Place Across the Longleaf Pine Native Range

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, MPO, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Accomplishment Report Recommendations

- Emphasis on increasing activities on private lands
- Technical assistance and outreach
- Implementation of processes for tracking and monitoring conditions of longleaf pine ecosystems
- Identify and map range-wide land protection priorities
- Identify ways to increase funding
- Continue to support Local Implementation Teams and SGA conservation planning/mapping efforts





Case Study #1

DeSoto National Forest/Camp Shelby SGA

Panelists:

- **Ben Battle**
District Ranger, Desoto National Forest
- **Major Kenneth Bradley**
Director, Environmental Programs, MS Army National Guard
- **Dr. Glenn Hughes**
Extension Forestry Professor, MSU Extension Service
- **Becky Stowe**
Manager, Terrestrial Program, The Nature Conservancy





Case Study #1

DeSoto National Forest/Camp Shelby SGA

Question 1:

The Range-wide Conservation Plan for Longleaf Pine generally defines Significant Landscapes as being larger than 100K acres, with significant acreage of intact longleaf, and a combination of partners, opportunities and protection in place to implement longleaf conservation.

What do you feel makes the DeSoto NF/Camp Shelby SGA significant and why is restoring the longleaf pine ecosystem important to you (or your organization)?





Case Study #1

DeSoto National Forest/Camp Shelby SGA

Question 2:

What is your role in supporting restoration activities in the SGA, and how does partnering with other entities play into this effort?

Question 3:

What are the key barriers you face to restoring and managing longleaf pine, and what strategies or opportunities exist to address these barriers? What more is needed?





Case Study #1 DeSoto National Forest/Camp Shelby SGA

Question 4:

A major strategy for advancing restoration and management across SGA landscapes has been the development of local implementation teams that build off existing partnership efforts, incorporate key stakeholders, and work together toward developing mutual objectives and goals, and the strategies needed to address them. Where does this stand in your SGA?





Case Study #2

The Coastal Headwaters Project

Speaker:

Jimmy Bullock

**Sr. Vice President, Forest Sustainability
Resource Management Services, LLC**

The Coastal Headwaters Project
**A Collaborative Large-scale Effort to Restore
Working Longleaf Forested Ecosystems**

