



| Claude Jenkins, AWF Land Stewardship Biologist

RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

AWF Doubles Efforts to Conserve Wildlife Habitat

Longleaf Ecosystem Restoration Project

In 2007 the Alabama Wildlife Federation (AWF) and National Wildlife Federation (NWF) formed a partnership to address the decline of longleaf pine habitat in Alabama. The partners recognized the commonality of their mission, and for the next three years (the project period) combined resources to deliver technical assistance and information to landowners interested in longleaf habitat restoration. This project was funded through a Longleaf Legacy grant administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) in conjunction with Southern Company and its subsidiaries: Alabama Power, Georgia Power, Gulf Power, and Mississippi Power. By the end of the project period, the partners had worked closely with landowners to restore over 3,000 acres of longleaf habitat!

Fortunately, the partners were awarded another Longleaf Legacy grant to continue the project for another three years! This time, Ryan Mitchell, AWF's newest resource stewardship biologist, will be responsible for implementing the project. Ryan is particularly fit for this project because of his academic training and work experience related to the longleaf pine ecosystem. As I did during the first three years, Ryan will work closely with conservation-minded landowners to restore a habitat important to many wildlife species.

Native Warm Season Grass Demonstration Project

AWF received a grant this year through the NFWF/Southern Company Power of Flight program to develop a native warm season grass (NWSG) demonstration project in support of the Northern Bobwhite Conservation Initiative (NBCI). Grants awarded through the Power of Flight program are used to protect birds, such as the northern bobwhite, through habitat restoration. AWF's project is designed to address barriers to NWSG establishment and management – practices critical for restoring bobwhite populations. To address these barriers, 100 total acres of NWSGs will be established at 10 demonstration sites located in the "High Priority" area for quail conservation as indicated by the NBCI Biologist Ranking Information. Resource professionals and contractors interested in learning about NWSG establishment will work closely with the project manager to develop the demonstration sites. Also, training workshops, including field days held at the demonstration sites, will be offered to resource professionals and landowners; workshop participants will receive an instructional DVD that will be developed from information gathered from the demonstration work. It's AWF's desire that this project will contribute to a better understanding of NWSG establishment and management among natural resource professionals, contractors, and landowners, and thus, more grassland habitat created for quail and other wildlife.

In addition to implementing the specific projects mentioned above, AWF's two resource stewardship biologists will be available to provide wildlife habitat management technical assistance to landowners interested in managing their property for wildlife. So, if you are a landowner interested in managing your property for wildlife, please contact Ryan or Claude for assistance. 📞



Have an interest in restoring longleaf pine habitat on your property?
Contact Ryan Mitchell at 334.285.4550 or rmitchell@alabamawildlife.org.



For more information about the native warm season grass demonstration project, go to www.alabamawildlife.org/pages/?pageID=120 or contact Claude Jenkins at 334.285.4550 or cjenkins@alabamawildlife.org.