



Red-cockaded Woodpecker Translocation

- The red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW) is a federally-listed endangered species endemic to open, mature and old growth pine ecosystems in the Southeast. Since 1998, the Southern Range Translocation Cooperative (SRTC) has provided the foundation for the successful, regional translocation program. The positive population trends on most public and private lands harboring fewer than 30 RCW groups are a direct result of SRTC efforts.
- RCW translocations are the preferred management tool to expedite the expansion of small, at-risk populations (<30 groups) that ultimately serves to accelerate overall species recovery. Currently, recipient sites have the potential of receiving nearly double the number of birds being provided. The limitation for SRTC efforts is finding biologists to identify surplus birds to move.
- *SERPAS RCW Translocation* – the Principals agreed to endorse and facilitate a 2-year pilot project that includes the hiring of 2-3 additional translocation biologists to monitor and identify surplus RCWs for translocation. DoD will fund the first year, and the states to fund the second. This project would expand SRTC efforts to include South Carolina and North Carolina (i.e., SERPPAS region).
- The two translocation biologists were hired in April 2008 via the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) at University of Georgia and Clemson University. Biologists are stationed at Marion and Osceola National Forests and will be identifying surplus RCWs in the next 2 years.

