



Longleaf Pine Continue “Contributions Matrix”

Background

The Range-wide Conservation Plan for Longleaf Pine (RCPLP) offers cross-cutting approaches that guide actions related to all of the strategies in the Plan. The RCPLP calls for organizing to:

1. target limited resources to Significant Geographic Areas,
2. communicate, educate, and reach out to support all strategies, and
3. evaluate conservation outcomes of efforts and actions. The vision of the *America's Longleaf Initiative* is to have functional, viable, longleaf pine ecosystems with the full spectrum of ecological, economic, and social values inspired through a voluntary partnership of concerned, motivated organizations and individuals. Meeting this challenge will require the strategic coordination of conservation actions among many partners and sectors that influence land use, with the goal of ensuring long-term sustainability and resiliency of these systems, and their constituent biodiversity.

Upon committing to this vision, the SERPPAS Principals asked USDA Forest Service to lead interested members in determining specifically how SERPPAS could effectively engage in implementation. A product of this effort is the compilation of member organization activities, current and planned, that contribute to achieving the goals of the Plan. Even as the information was being collected, it became apparent the report would add value by helping members improve coordination, leverage resources, and identify opportunities to implement the RCPLP.

Applicable RCPLP Key Actions:

Public Lands Strategy, Objective A, Key Action 1
(page 10):

RCPLP Key Action 1

- ▷ Agencies will determine ongoing and planned management and restoration on public lands. Common definitions and metrics for forest conditions will be developed and a common repository of the information will be established.

Subcommittee Recommendations

It is the opinion of the SERPPAS Subcommittee on Longleaf Pine that a continually updated understanding the nature and extent of member longleaf activities is important to the development of a coordinated effort to implement the range-wide RCPLP. In addition, consolidated reporting would help communicate the impact that SERPPAS and its members have on achieving the Plan's 8 million acre goal. Therefore, the Subcommittee recommends the continued collection of member longleaf activities as a SERPPAS organizational priority. Furthermore, the Subcommittee recommends the SERPPAS Co-chairs (Office of Secretary of Defense and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control) be asked to take leadership in overseeing completion of the contributions matrix to fully capture partner efforts supporting longleaf pine.