



An NWTF Southeastern Conservation Initiative



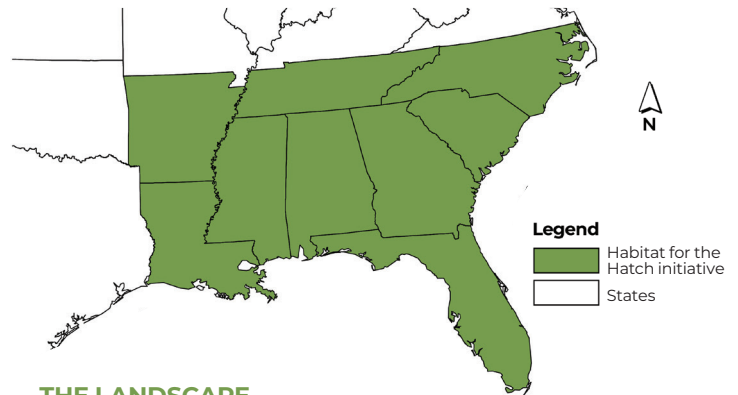
PHOTO: CRAIG KUCHENMEISTER

Healthy Habitat. Stronger Turkeys. A Million Acres by 2033.

The restoration of the wild turkey is one of the greatest North American conservation success stories. However, since the early 2000s, we have seen a substantial decline in recruitment numbers throughout the Southeast.

OUR GOAL

Improve forest and field health and resiliency at a landscape scale across the Southeast by actively managing **1 million acres by 2033**. This will lead to more robust wild turkey populations and healthier ecosystems for generations to come.



THE LANDSCAPE

The Habitat for the Hatch initiative area includes North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana.



YOUR PARTNERSHIP CREATES IMPACT With partner collaboration, our plan is to **enhance over 1 million acres** of early successional habitat on public and private lands.

\$40 MILLION

Total need by 2033 (including partner collaboration)

\$8 MILLION

NWTF fundraising goal by 2033

5:1 LEVERAGE

Anticipated leverage — your gift goes 5x further

2033

Our 10-year initiative deadline to reach 1 million acres

THE PLAN

We focus on the habitat conditions most critical for nesting and brood-rearing success. Key actions include:



- Support scientific research to guide the best management practices



- Educate and engage landowners and partners



- Expand active forest management on private lands



- Increase prescribed fire across forests and fields



- Remove invasive species



- Create early successional habitat through timber stand improvement, thinning, mastication, planting and more

PROOF OF PROGRESS — ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN YEAR 3

- **86,182 acres** conserved/enhanced
- **132,318 acres** influenced via landowner education events
- **184,238 acres** — impacted through prescribed burn team support
- **66,347 acres** — impacted through equipment donated to partners

3-YEAR TOTALS

**237,077.75 ACRES
CONSERVED/ENHANCED**

- **651,327 acres** via prescribed burn team support
- **181,958.6 acres** via equipment donated to partners

Habitat for the Hatch

WHY IT MATTERS

High-quality nesting and brood-rearing habitat is the foundation for strong wild turkey populations and thriving ecosystems.

- More nests. More poult.
- Quality habitat close to nesting areas helps hens raise more poult.
- Healthier habitats.
- Restoring open ground and diverse cover improves soil, water and forests.
- Healthy habitats mean better hunting, more time outdoors and lasting benefits for local economies.
- Stronger communities.

These actions strengthen habitat not just for wild turkeys but for countless other wildlife species and our shared values — clean water, healthy forests, resilient communities and outdoor traditions.

“Habitat for the Hatch is about the future. We’re creating the right conditions today so wild turkeys — and the places we all love — can thrive for generations.” — Derek Alkire

Working together with our members, partners, donors and volunteers, **we can make a difference for the wild turkey and our hunting heritage.**



GET INVOLVED

Find a local chapter near you.

Tyler Briggs

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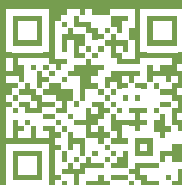
HOW YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPACT

You can help us reach 1 million acres. Your support fuels the work that makes a real difference for wild turkeys, wildlife and the future of our outdoor heritage. **Scan to invest in Habitat for the Hatch today.**

Ryder Leary – Director of Annual Giving
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**LEARN MORE
ABOUT HABITAT
FOR THE HATCH**



DONATE



PRIVATE LANDS PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

The NWTF and Realtree partnered together to host a landowner field day at Realtree farms. The event provided landowners and managers (who represented over 109,000 acres of land) the opportunity to learn from one another on some of the habitat management practices that are used to create quality nesting and brood-rearing habitat for the wild turkey. Using scientific research to educate and promote active management is one way the NWTF is creating better Habitat for the Hatch.



PUBLIC LANDS PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

The Project: Woodland Restoration consisting of timber harvest, timber stand improvement and prescribed fire

Location: Tellico District of the Cherokee National Forest

Impact: 118 acres of quality wild turkey habitat

Cost: \$33,220

Partners: Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency,
USDA Forest Service

Learn how the NWTF is partnering with public and private landowners and managers to create Habitat for the Hatch.

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