



## FORESTRY FOR WILDLIFE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

*Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Wildlife Resources Division  
Private Lands Program*



**The Forestry for Wildlife Partnership Program (FWP) conserves wildlife habitat & provides the public with recreational access on Wildlife Management Areas for hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, hiking, & camping. FWP invites corporate forest landowners to participate in this voluntary, flexible, non-competitive, & participant driven conservation partnership. FWP....**

- ❖ Forms a strong partnership that is proactive.
- ❖ Enhances wildlife conservation on corporate forestlands.
- ❖ Facilitates wildlife technical assistance, training & outreach.
- ❖ Publicly recognizes partners for wildlife conservation achievements.
- ❖ Maintains or increases opportunities for wildlife associated recreation.

In February 1996, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division, with assistance from several other conservation organizations, joined hands with corporate forest landowners from throughout Georgia & developed the FWP. This comprehensive wildlife management program aims to help coordinate the restoration & maintenance of many fundamental characteristics of natural ecosystems throughout lands that are managed predominantly for silvocultural (forest agricultural) purposes.

The abundance & diversity of wildlife rests largely in the hands of its landowners who own 93% of our landscape. Georgia's human population has increased steadily for decades, & from 2000 to 2005 alone, has increased 10.8%. As of 2005, Georgia has an average of 156 people living per square mile. This rapid population growth & expansion is resulting in substantial wildlife habitat loss & degradation, creating a need for landscape level planning to ensure that Georgia's wildlife will remain healthy for future generations to enjoy.

Corporations participating in FWP are among the largest landowners in Georgia & have the potential to impact wildlife habitat on a landscape level. This public/private partnership program provides opportunities to enhance wildlife conservation practices on these lands & to provide companies with public recognition for current & future wildlife conservation achievements. Participating companies are evaluated based on their involvement & forethought regarding wildlife conservation planning, education & outreach, management practices, sensitive sites/special concerns, recreation, & partnerships. Companies that achieve a certain level of wildlife stewardship on their lands will be publicly recognized by the State of Georgia as a well deserving partner.

The hope of FWP & related comprehensive conservation programs is to achieve long-term sustainability of natural resources in Georgia. For more information, please call 770-761-1697 or 478-994-7583.