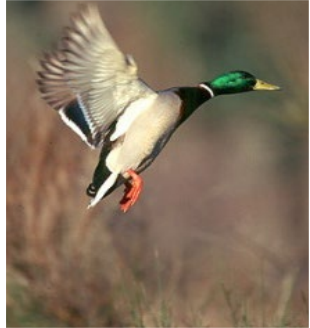
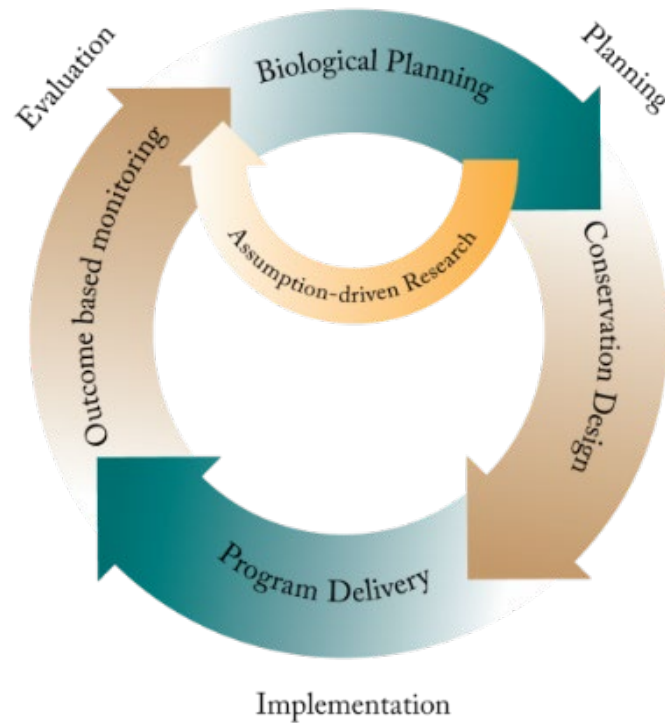
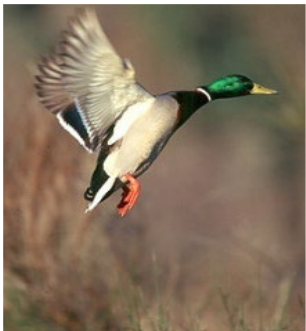


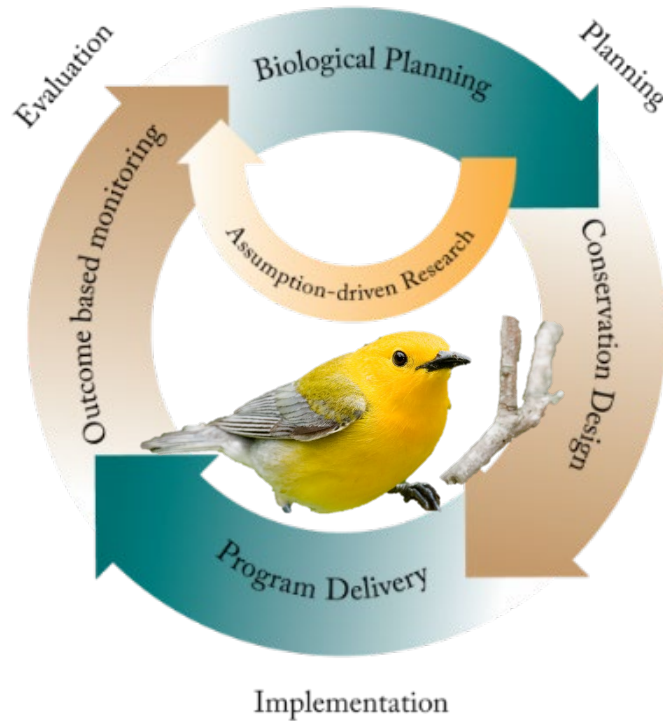
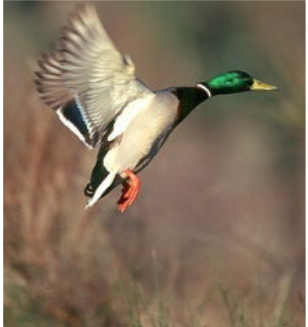
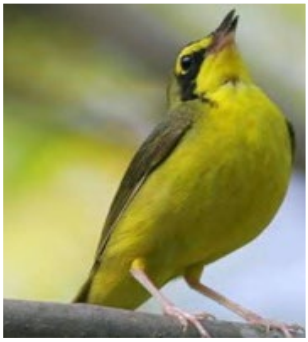
Science



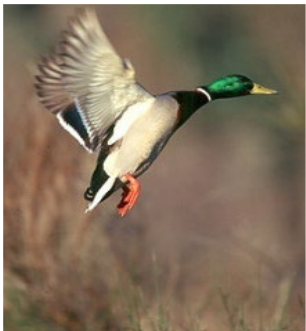
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2012

7.5 million acres

>1 Million Acres Forest Gained!!!!

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the LMJV website. The browser window shows the URL 'lmjv.org' and several navigation icons. The website content is organized into three columns, each with a header, an image, and a short paragraph of text. A blue hand cursor is pointing at the first image.

Restoration by Design
Read more about forests making a comeback in the Mississippi Delta, and the celebration of 700,000 acres of Wetland Reserve Easements protected over 25 years.

Innovative Science
Read or download a summary of the Waterborne Bird Survey pilot, which is sampling breeding birds of forested wetlands using survey routes positioned within rivers.

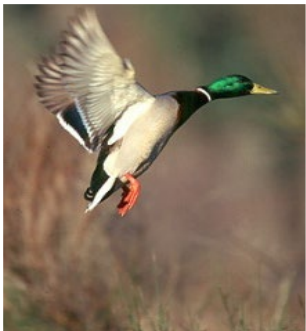
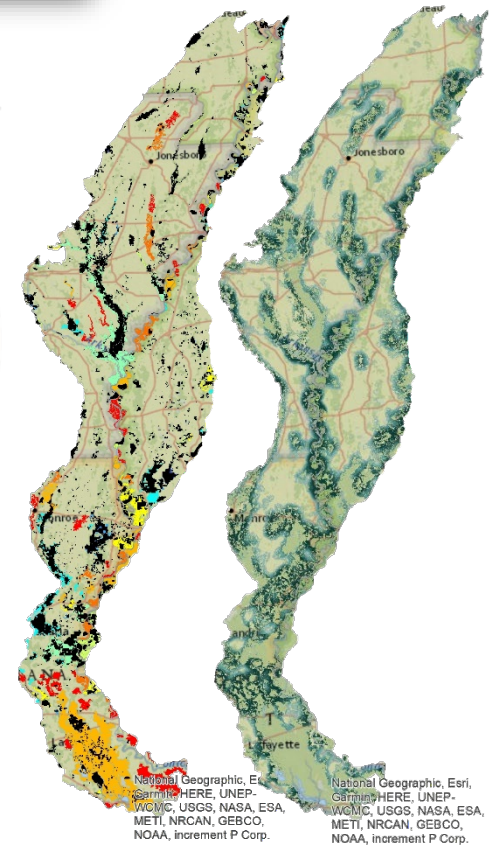
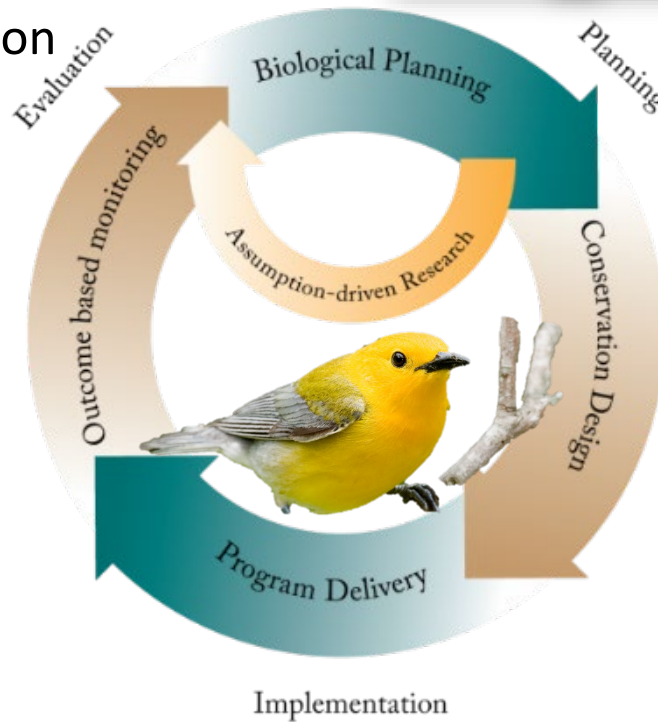
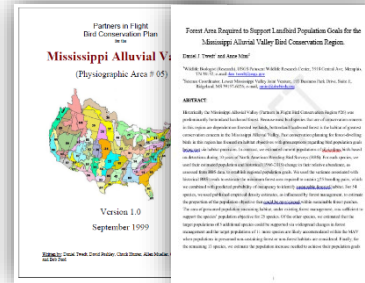
Conservation that Matters
Read more about ongoing restoration of the Lower Cache River in eastern Arkansas from The Nature Conservancy, a Joint Venture

2016



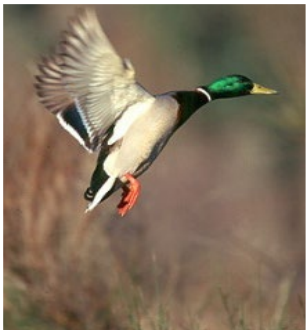
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- Foundation for moving forward
- Common language
- Guides activity strategically
- Communicates purpose
- Basis for evaluation



Life History of JV Science & Planning

Biological Planning & Conservation Design Are Crucial How Do They Come to Be?



**MISSISSIPPI ALLUVIAL VALLEY
WATERFOWL STEPDOWN
STATE SUMMARIES 2015**

The Mississippi Alluvial Valley is among the most important regions for waterfowl in North America. Boasting one of the most productive and ecologically rich forested wetland ecosystems on earth, nearly 40% of the Mississippi Flyway's waterfowl and 60% of all U.S. bird species migrate through or winter in what is known as the MAV.

The Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture (LMJV) is one of the first joint ventures formed to support waterfowl populations and achieve the goals of the [North American Waterfowl Management Plan \(NAWMP\)](#). The LMJV's primary role in waterfowl conservation is provision of non-breeding habitat. Hence, this joint venture's partners have stepped down continental objectives into regional population objectives based on historic bird distributions in mid-winter. Because we assume that non-breeding waterfowl are primarily food limited, the LMJV uses an energy-based model to translate regional population goals into habitat-based goals measured in "Duck Energy Days" (DEDs).

The 2015 MAV Waterfowl Stepdown State Summaries document sets duck foraging habitat targets, broken down by state, as a means of providing guidance on decisions regarding acquisition, maintenance and/or improvement of management practices to meet habitat objectives in support of the NAWMP.

The MAV consists of portions of six states (AR, KY, LA, MO, MS, and TN), each with a DED goal based on the difference between energy demand (of the target NAWMP waterfowl wintering population) and energy supply (calculated using bioenergetic models that estimate energy per acre of the existing land base). The model indicates that the MAV is below its NAWMP objective for duck energy days.

Based on the most recently available satellite imagery and public land data, the bioenergetics model indicates that KY and MO are meeting their goals, whereas AR, LA, MS, and TN are below their goals.

(More detailed information is also available on the LMJV Waterfowl Conservation Planning page at www.lmjv.org.)

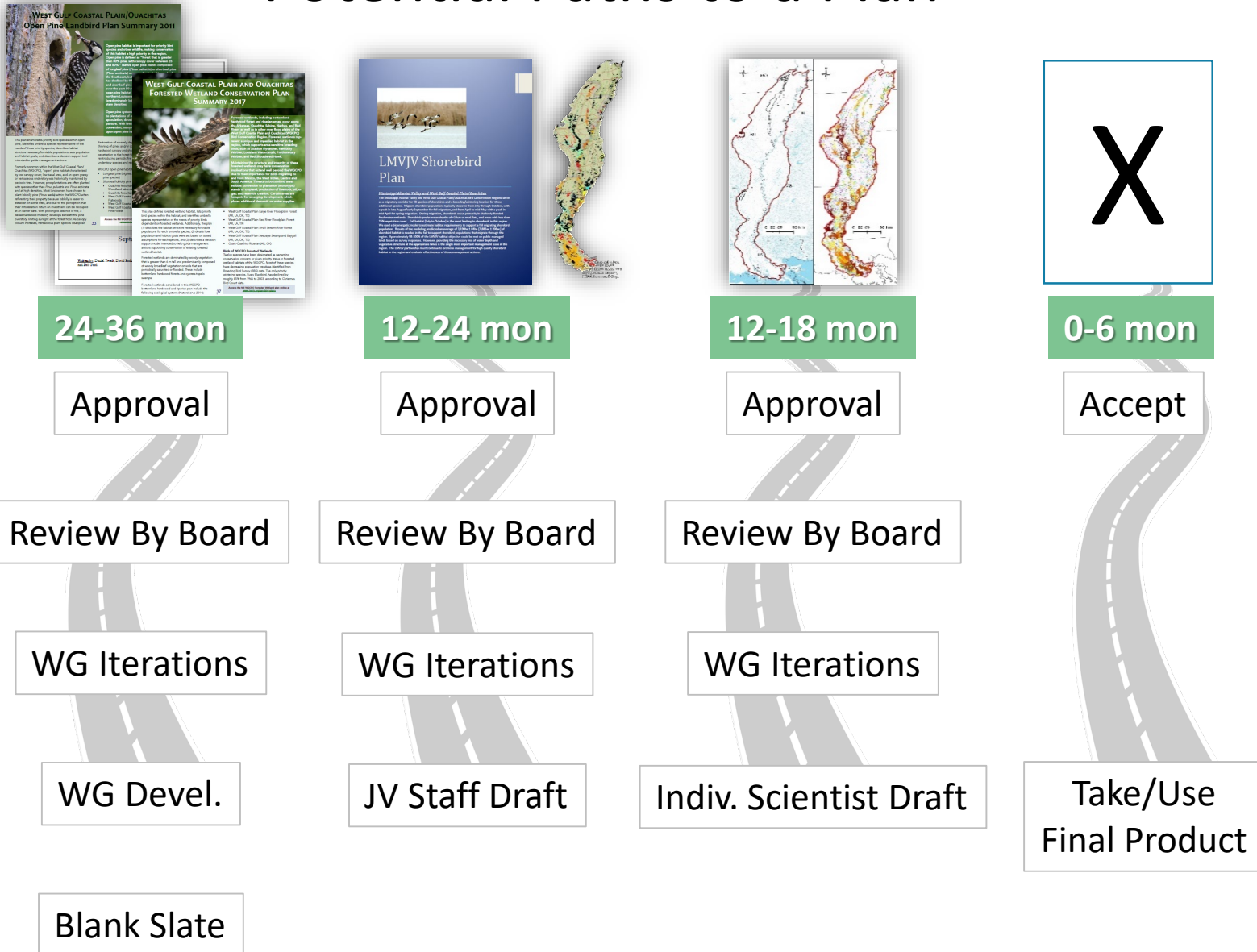
A Duck Energy Day (DED) is equivalent to the energy needs of an average size duck for one day.

The MAV is North America's most important wintering location for Mallard and Wood Duck.

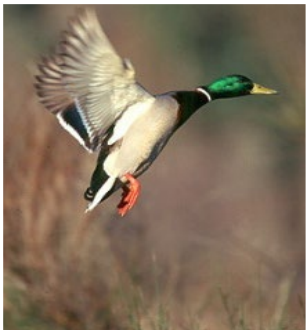


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Potential Paths to a Plan



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Why Not?

Plan/Objectives Development Thru Partnership

- Partner staff bring unique skills/expertise/perspective
- Product is inherently “theirs”
 - Semantics Matters: “Anne’s” or “Ya’lls” Bird Plan vs. “Our Bird Plan”
- Outside funding partners view JV objectives and priorities as collaborative, accepted, endorsed, owned and useful to all 17+ partners

X

0-6 mon

Accept

Take/Use
Final Product



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Potential Paths to a Plan



24-36 mon

12-24 mon

12-18 mon

Approval

Approval

Approval

Review By Board

Review By Board

Review By Board

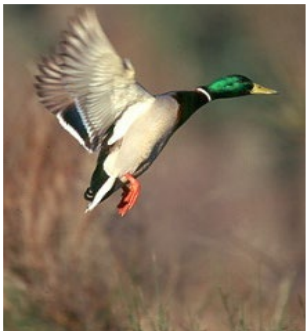
*...partners truly partnering,
sharing resources and responsibility...*

WG Devel.

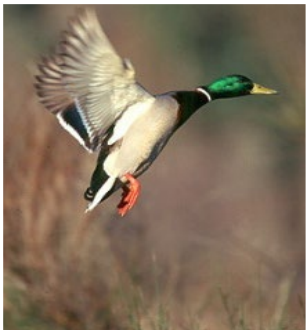
JV Staff Draft

Indiv. Scientist Draft

Blank Slate



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Gaining Ground for Wildlife in The Delta

Forest is Making a Comeback

Environmental disasters, ecosystems in peril, and other conservation challenges are in the news all too often these days. As a result, there are very real conservation problems and challenges facing us all. However, there is a good news story in one part of the continent - the Lower Mississippi River Valley. The floodplain, dubbed by locals as simply "The Delta", straddles the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers at Cairo, Missouri - a distance of 500 miles. At its widest point, it extends west to east remains in The Delta for 120 miles (roughly the distance south of Memphis)! In all, it encompasses 22 million acres of the richest alluvial soil on the planet.

THE WAY IT WAS

What you would see today in a drive across the valley is a landscape dominated by wide open fields of row crop agriculture - corn, rice. The Delta's rich alluvial soils have supported agricultural production since early European settlers arrived. For example, at least 65% of the rice produced in the U.S. is grown in the Delta. And here is where our story requires reaching back because the valley wasn't always this way. Before European settlement, the Lower Mississippi River Valley was the largest and most diverse forested wetland ecosystem in North America. The topography of the floodplain was a mosaic of ridges, sloughs, and backswamps that supported a diverse and ecologically rich wetland community. To grow crops, however, the land had to be not only that, but taming the floodwaters which came with such frequency became a high priority for local, state, and federal government. By the 1950s, as a result of drainage projects, levees, and other infrastructure, only the wettest, most flood-prone portions of the floodplain remained forested - about 9 million acres. And as commodity prices rose, so did motivation to clear significant amounts of forested land. By 1992, less than 6.5 million acres of forest remained. And as you might assume, numbers of forest-dependent species such as black bears, panthers, mallards, and numerous others dwindled as a result. But here's where the story takes a surprising turn!

by Keith McKnight, Coordinator
Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture

For Immediate Release

NWTF partners receive commendation for work in northeast Texas

For more information, contact Pete Muller (803) 637-7698

EDGEFIELD, S.C. — The National Wild Turkey Federation and its partners in the Northeast Texas Conservation Delivery Network's Shortleaf Pine Working Group were recently recognized for their outstanding conservation efforts in northeast Texas.

The group was presented The Shortleaf Pine Conservation Award during the Shortleaf Pine Conference in Van Buren, Missouri, October 1-3, 2013. The group was recognized for their "distinguished contributions to the restoration and management of shortleaf pine forests, woodlands and ecosystems."



Applied Adaptive Management – Alive & Working in Northeast Texas

Conservation partners in Northeast Texas are on a clear trajectory towards fruitful implementation of the adaptive management concept known to bird conservationists as Strategic Habitat Conservation. Through the organizing framework and capacity provided by the Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture, the NE Texas Conservation Delivery Network has made important progress in bird habitat conservation.

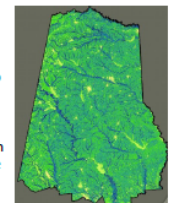
Biological Planning

Population objectives for priority birds dependent upon Open Pine habitats in this region (e.g., Bachman's Sparrow, Northern Bobwhite, Brown-headed Nuthatch) were established in 2011 by the partnership, utilizing best available science (LMJV WGCPO



and bird-plans). These objectives (population numbers, distribution, and other biological basis for relevant and effective habitat

habitat objectives based on known species-habitat relationships (e.g., quantitative (acres, specific habitat factors, etc.) and management recommendations) features. Further, this information was used to develop a decision support map (left) that identifies promising areas where habitat enhancements would be most effective for birds. These priorities are based on a combination of source population, dispersal distance (adequately connected to other forest landscape), and other factors.



The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) developed an Eastern Wild Turkey Suitability Model (see below) to identify focal areas for Wild Turkey restoration.

The CDN was formed in 2013 and quickly set about developing a shared vision of bird conservation for the Lower Mississippi Valley region, cooperates in its implementation, and collaborates in its refinement.

In 2017, the CDN was instrumental in supporting conservation actions within the NETX CDN area. The CDN responded with development of the

The Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture functions as the forum in which the conservation community develops a shared vision of bird conservation for the Lower Mississippi Valley region; cooperates in its implementation; and collaborates in its refinement.