

Appendix D. Glossary of Terms

Biological Response-The reaction of fish, wildlife, plants and other living indicators to the project or series of projects.

Candidate Species-Any species for which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has enough information to propose the species for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

Conservation-Any single or group of actions or decisions that are made to support the fish and wildlife values of a habitat. For the purposes of this document, it is intended to be an all-inclusive term including (but not limited to) restoration, enhancement, establishment, maintenance, protection, preservation, monitoring, outreach, coordination, assessment, and education for fish and wildlife habitat values.

G1-Regarding the NatureServe global conservation status ranks, a G1 species is “critically imperiled,” or at risk of extinction due to extreme rarity, very steep declines, or other factors.

G2-Regarding the NatureServe global conservation status ranks, a G2 species is “imperiled,” or at a high risk of extinction due to a very restricted range, very few populations, steep declines, or other factors.

Endangered Species-Any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range, and is federally listed as “endangered” under the Endangered Species Act.

Enhancement-The manipulation of physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of existing habitat to change specific functions.

Establishment-The manipulation of physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a habitat to create and maintain habitat that did not previously exist.

Federal Trust Resources-The group of species including migratory birds threatened and endangered species, inter-jurisdictional fish, marine mammals, and species of international concern, for which the Service has a specific legal mandate.

Federally Listed Species-A species that has been given federal protection in accordance with Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act.

Geographic Focus Area-In this Strategic Plan, geographic focus areas depict those priority habitat areas within the Southeast Region where the Partners Program will direct most of its Program activities on private lands over the next five years (2007-2011). Focus areas are delineated by U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Unit Watershed Codes at the eight digit resolution level (sub-basin scale).

Habitat Improvement-Any habitat restoration, enhancement, or establishment intended to increase the suitability of an area for a species or community.

Imperiled-Any species that is at high risk for extinction due to a very restricted range, few populations, steep declines, or other factors.

Incentive-based-The provision of goods or services, such as financial or technical assistance, for the purpose of motivating the entity to make a favorable decision that might not be made otherwise.

Invasive Species-A species that grows and spreads rapidly, establishes over large areas, and persists in areas where it is not wanted. A nonnative (alien, exotic) invasive species is one that has been introduced to a location outside its native or natural range.

Maintenance-The periodic additional work involving the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics present that is critical for the continuing success of a restoration process.

Monitoring-The collection and assessment of repeated observations or measurements over time to evaluate the effectiveness of actions. The following types of monitoring are recognized:

Baseline: Characterizes existing conditions before an action begins. Establishes a benchmark against which the success of the activity or project can be measured.

Implementation or Compliance: Assesses whether the activity or project was carried out in accordance to the contract, plan, or guidance.

Effectiveness: Determines whether the activity or project has had the desired effect on selected indicators or performance criteria.

Validation: Establishes a cause and effect relationship between the project or activity and one or more selected biological indicators (e.g. the population size of the targeted species the project was intended to benefit.)

Partnership-A group of people and/or organizations that have formed a relationship to promote an activity or idea.

Protection-A long-term action to safeguard habitats of significant importance to fish and wildlife species.

Restoration-The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning the natural functions to lost or degraded landscapes.

Science-based-Founded in information that has been subject to the application of an objective scientific methodology, generally assumed to include rules for concept formation, observation, experimentation, and the validation of hypotheses, and enhanced by review of peers with expertise in the subject matter.

Species of Concern-A species listed for conservation action in State Wildlife Action Plans or other referenced strategic planning documents.

Stakeholder-An individual, group of people, and/or organization that have an interest in an activity or idea.

Technical Assistance-Collaboration, facilitation, or consultation that relates to a habitat conservation, restoration, or enhancement initiative.

Threatened Species-Any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range, and is federally listed as “threatened” under the Endangered Species Act.