

During Fiscal Year 2005, approximately 12,230



acres were acquired at 30 refuges throughout the Southeast Region. Land and Water Conservation Funds in the amount of \$9,923,517 were used to acquire 7,771 acres. Migratory Bird Conservation Funds in the amount of \$2,806,023 enabled the Service to purchase an additional 2,015 acres. NAWCA grants in the amount of \$19,000 were used to acquire approximately 1.69 acres. Refuges in the Southeast Region also acquired lands through exchanges, leases, and the generous donations of non-profit organizations, local governments, and private individuals.

2005 Annual Report

New Refuges

On January 23, 2004 as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004, Congress authorized two new refuges in the Southeast Region.

Harvard College Library



Teddy Roosevelt

The Theodore Roosevelt National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is comprised of 6,600 acres of former Farmers Home Administration lands located in Mississippi. The intent of the legislation allows the

Service to exchange these lands for other acreage within a single refuge unit, thereby consolidating ownership and reducing difficulties associated with management of multiple small, scattered tracts.



USFWS/Larry Richardson

Conservation Success Stories

Cache River NWR

By partnering with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), the Service completed the final phase of a large acquisition at Cache River NWR in Arkansas. A phased acquisition of 4,360 acres was initially planned for three to five years. The project is now complete with 4,327 acres being acquired in less than three years. The property consists of over seven miles of important riparian habitat in an area that supports one of the most important wintering areas for mallards in North America.

Also, by partnering with TNC, the Service has initiated another phased acquisition, the Howell Farm, that encompasses approximately 3,100 acres. The Service has completed the acquisition of Phase I encompassing 1,440 acres utilizing Federal Duck Stamp funds. The Howell Farm, once a working rice farm, lies adjacent to existing Cache River NWR lands and lands of the Rex Hancock/Black Swamp State Wildlife Management Area. The entire tract has been completely restored by the previous landowner via the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). Restoration includes planting of bottomland hardwoods, construction of moist soil containment areas, and enhancements to the hydrological functions of the land.

Michael A. Kelly



Planning is currently underway to identify the ultimate location of the new refuge within the vicinity of Theodore Roosevelt's historic bear hunt.

This legislation also renamed the Bogue Phalia Unit of Yazoo NWR and established it as the Holt Collier NWR in honor of the guide who led Theodore Roosevelt on his historic bear hunt. Located along the Mississippi Flyway, the Holt Collier NWR will provide habitat and resources for more than 250 songbird, wading bird, waterfowl and raptor species. Holt Collier NWR is the first refuge named in honor of an African-American.



Holt Collier

Willow Johnson



Above and to the right: Archie Carr NWR

More Conservation Success Stories

Archie Carr NWR

In 2002, Brevard County purchased 1.3 acres of prime oceanfront property for \$700,000, and agreed to hold it for the Service until adequate funding was available. In 2005, the refuge obtained funding in the amount of \$711,124.50 to complete the acquisition. When the property appraised for \$2,565,000, hopes of

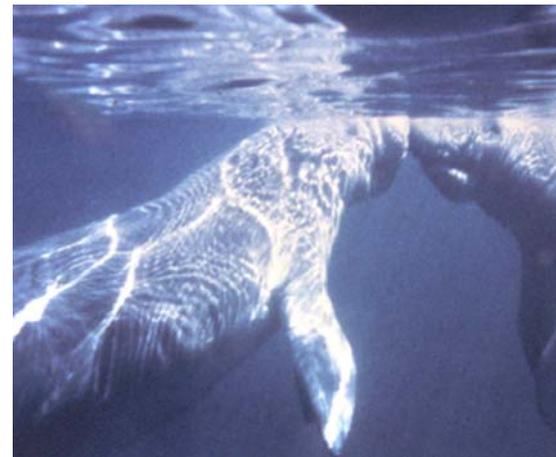
acquiring the property quickly diminished. However, Brevard County generously agreed to sell the land for the \$711,124.50. The County's donation in the amount of \$1,853,875.50 made it possible for the Service to acquire some of the most productive sea-turtle nesting habitat in the western hemisphere.

Cape Romain NWR

The Service worked with TNC to purchase 935 acres within the Cape Romain NWR. The property is comprised of salt marsh and maritime forest and will provide a major protected coastal corridor to buffer the interior portions of the refuge from coastal development along the Intracoastal Waterway.

J.N. "Ding" Darling NWR

The City of Sanibel played an important role in helping the Service acquire two important tracts of land totaling 16 acres. These parcels abut existing refuge lands, and acquisition would enhance land management capabilities. Both the City and the Service believed that both properties would sell for approximately \$750,000, the amount of available LWCF funds. However, due to rapidly rising property costs on Sanibel, the two tracts appraised for \$1,125,000, leaving the



Three photos above: J.N. "Ding" Darling NWR

Three photos above: Cape Romain NWR
All photos on these pages: USFWS



Above and right: Tensas River NWR



refuge to decide which lot to purchase. The City stepped forward and agreed to sell both tracts for \$750,000. Its donation made it possible for the Service to preserve habitat for a variety of native species and migratory birds.

National Key Deer NWR

The Conservation Fund assisted the Service in the acquisition of two acres of endangered Key deer habitat. The lot was appraised for \$328,000, significantly more than the LWCF funds available to the refuge. To make the acquisition possible, TCF sold the property to the Service for \$206,497. The Fund's generous donation of \$121,503 made it possible for the Service to protect valuable wildlife habitat. In addition to helping with the purchase price, TCF paid for all closing fees.



Red River NWR

The Service added 2,074 acres to Red River NWR in Louisiana through a land-for-land exchange involving TCF. The exchange involved the divestiture of three former FmHA properties located 30-50 miles from the closest refuge, which presented significant difficulties in their effective management. The refuge provides habitat and sanctuary for over 350 species of birds and a variety of other species associated with river basin ecosystems.



Two photos above: ARM Loxahatchee NWR

Three photos above: National Key Deer Refuge



Red River NWR

Pending Projects

ARM Loxahatchee NWR

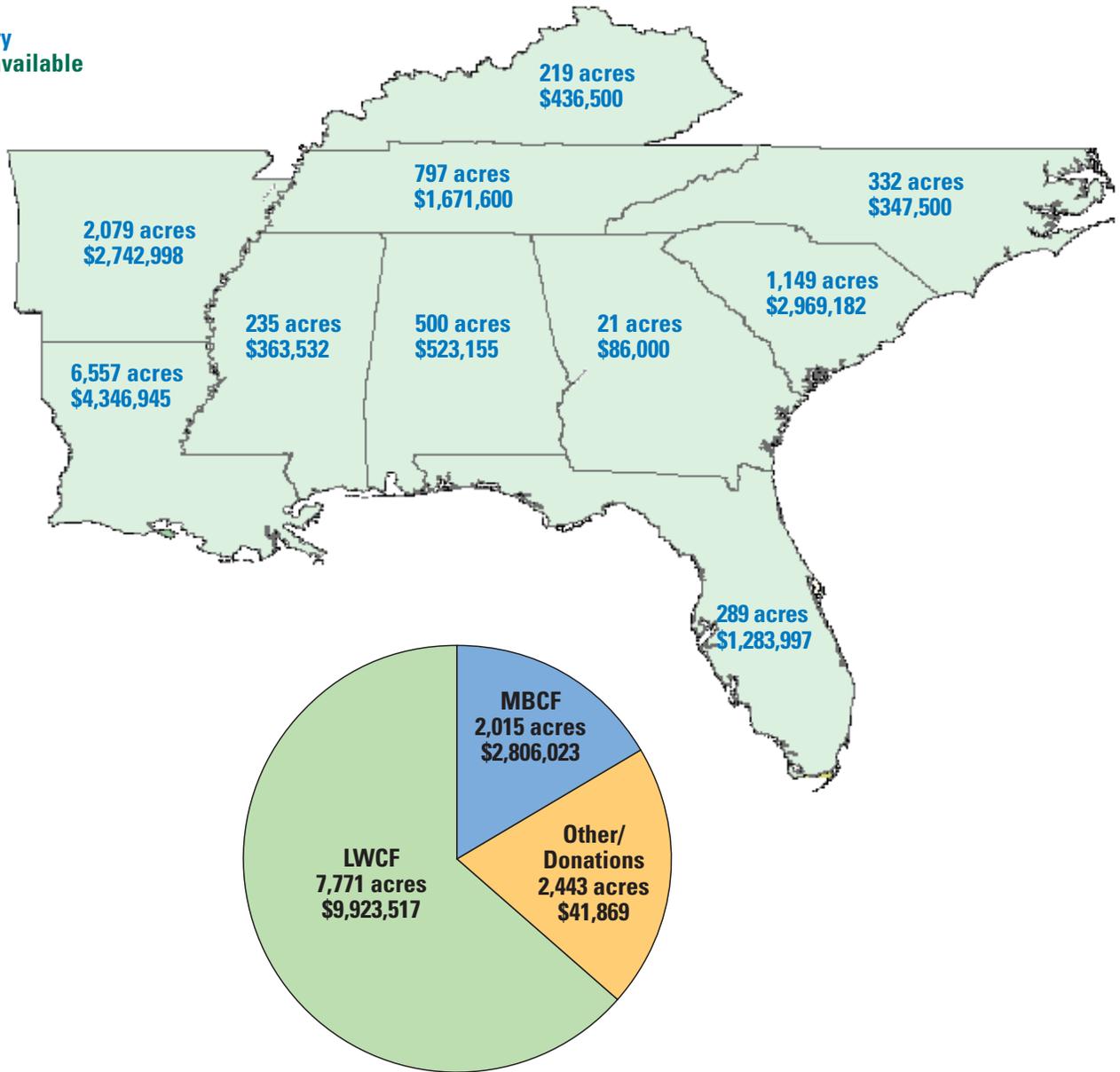
The Service and the South Florida Water Management District will work towards a land exchange at the A.R.M. Loxahatchee NWR. The proposed swap will allow the Service to acquire all or part of the 1,600-acre Strazzulla Marsh to consolidate Service-owned lands and improve management efficiency.

Tensas River NWR

The Service will partner with the Trust for Public Land (TPL) on a multi-year acquisition project to acquire approximately 11,000 acres at Tensas River NWR in Louisiana. Acquisition and reforestation will restore the land to native bottomland hardwood forest, reconnect separated forested tracts, and provide a contiguous wildlife corridor.

The Service appreciates the generosity of all its partners who have assisted in the preservation of valuable wildlife habitat.

Acquisition Summary
MBCF, LWCF, other available
funds/donations.



Contact:
 Sue Oliveira, Chief of Realty
 Phone: 404/679 7201
 Fax: 404/679 7273
 E-mail: sue_oliveira@fws.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Division of Realty
 1875 Century Boulevard
 Atlanta, GA 30345
 Phone: 1-800/419 9582
 Fax: 404/679 7273

New LWCF Money for FY 2006*

Cache River NWR	Arkansas	\$809,000
Cahaba River NWR	Alabama	\$421,000
Clarks River NWR	Kentucky	\$200,000
Tensas River NWR	Louisiana	\$2,000,000

* subject to a 1% rescission by Treasury and a .476% rescission by Interior

