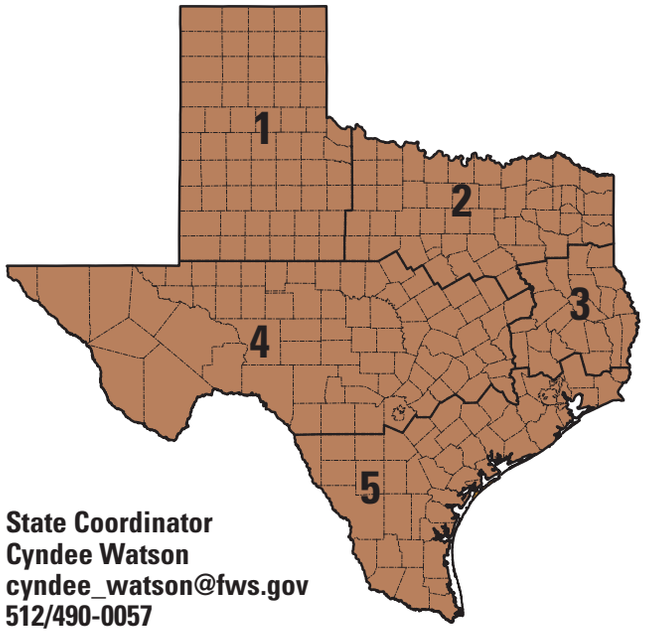
Landowner Friendly Process

1. The landowner contacts the appropriate U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) field office.
2. A PFW biologist will visit with the landowner to determine if a project is feasible.
3. If feasible, a project plan is developed, often with other conservation partner input.
4. A Cooperative Agreement, which contains both the landowner's and FWS's objectives, is provided to the landowner for review and signature.
5. Projects are reviewed, ranked, and selected based on merit and available funding.
6. If selected, the project will be submitted to the FWS Regional Office for processing and final approval.
7. Once approved, the landowner receives an Award Letter from the FWS. At that time the project may begin.

For information about the Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program, contact one of our offices corresponding to your potential project area



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www.fws.gov/partners/

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program

Texas

A voluntary partnership program for private landowners to restore and enhance fish and wildlife habitat

What is the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program?

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) program provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners and non-Federal partners (such as schools, NGOs, and municipalities) to restore or enhance fish and wildlife habitats for Federal trust species (e.g. migratory birds, threatened, endangered, and other declining species). The PFW program has been very well received by our participating Cooperators. Several Cooperators have been honored with both National and Regional Wildlife Conservation awards.

More than 2,000 partnerships have been entered into with private landowners in Texas, resulting in the restoration or enhancement of over 457,840 acres statewide, including:

- 409,176 acre upland habitat
- 48,664 acre wetland habitat
- 110 miles riparian habitat

The cornerstone of the program is partnerships, not only with private landowners, but with non-Federal agencies, conservation organizations, schools, and other entities with an interest in wildlife. These partnerships have generated significant restoration accomplishments on private lands, benefiting both Federal trust and resident wildlife species. The program emphasizes conservation practices, such as invasive species control, directed at restoring habitats which include, but are not limited to, wetlands, riparian areas, bottomland hardwoods, upland forests, native grasslands, savannahs, and brushlands. Priorities include utilizing our natural resources and maintaining trusting relationships with local communities also passionate about conservation.

Where do we work?

Native Grasslands

Native grasslands are some of our most imperiled habitats in North America. Today, less than one percent of the tallgrass prairie in Texas remains in relatively pristine condition. What remains of our native grasslands is being rapidly consumed by urbanization and brush encroachment.

Pollinator habitat in north-central Texas. /USFWS

Unique Restoration Activities

The PFW program also places a high priority on restoring unique or rare habitat types across the State. These include the longleaf pine forest in east Texas, stream flow enhancement, South Texas brush, karst systems in central Texas, as well as specific habitats which support Federally listed plants or animals.

Stream flow enhancement project in east Texas. / USFWS

Outdoor Learning Areas

The PFW program funds outdoor learning areas (schoolyard habitats) which provide students with "hands-on" educational opportunities. These projects benefit fish, wildlife, and the human communities that learn from them.

Creating a conservation stewardship legacy. /USFWS

Wetlands and Riparian Areas

More than half of the wetlands and riparian areas in Texas have either been lost or severely degraded. Restoration of these systems can enhance groundwater recharge and discharge, sediment stabilization, toxicant retention, ecosystem diversity, and help support sustainable populations of fish and wildlife resources for various outdoor recreational activities.

Riparian enhancement in west-central Texas.