



NFWF

Interim Programmatic Report Narrative

Instructions: Save this document on your computer and complete the narrative in the format provided. The final narrative should not exceed five (5) pages. Once complete, upload this document into the on-line interim programmatic report task in Easygrants as instructed.

1. Summary of Accomplishments

In four to five sentences, provide a brief summary of the project's key accomplishments and outcomes that have been observed or measured to date.

After officially signing paperwork in May, 2013, the Sandhills Longleaf Pine Conservation Partnership finalized contracts with 10 landowners, totaling \$80,941 and encompassing 406 acres. All contracts are scheduled to be completed in the next two planting seasons. These totals put us on track at 50% goal completion.

Since January 1, 2013, the SLPCP has *directly* impacted 462 landowners as indicated by website analytics and field days. Since the Longleaf Initiative started in 2010, the SLPCP and partners in Chesterfield County have written an additional 136 contracts through complimentary programs including additional grants (Partners for Fish and Wildlife) and Farm Bill funding. These external contracts total over 8,300 acres.

2. Project Activities & Outcomes

- Describe and quantify the primary activities conducted under this grant and the progress towards achieving the project outcomes. Please fill in the attached conservation metrics table with the original proposed outcomes listed in the project application, and the progress to date where appropriate. Where indicated, these metrics should also be entered into the corresponding metric category in the separate online module as part of this report.

Over 400 acres have been officially contracted with 10 landowners, totaling nearly \$81,000. This is 50% of our goals outlined in the proposal. Site preparation and planting is taking place now and will continue through next planting season.

In addition, the landowner participant signs have been designed and we are currently taking bids from sign companies for construction.

We modified our existing website so that Landowners could request information or complete the funding application online: <http://www.chesterfieldswcd.com/machform/view.php?id=10382> . In addition, news and information is kept up to date: <http://www.chesterfieldswcd.com/longleaf.html> .

Our spring "Smoke in the Longleaf" landowner workshop was completed with 40 attendees. In addition, a Certified Prescribed Manager Workshop was held in the project area, with 30 attending the full day training. Plans for a winter workshop have already been discussed and a preliminary agenda has been created. Key instructors and the property owner of the site where the field day will be held have already committed.

A press release and promotional check have been created detailing the commitment of the NFWF to funding the SLPCP. A decision to hold the press release until October, 2013 was made for several reasons. When the grant was funded in May, we had an influx of applications for both Farm Bill and Grant funding. Targeting an October press release will generate additional Longleaf interest when we are more equipped to handle inquiries.

- Provide any further information (such as unexpected outcomes and lessons learned) important for understanding project activities and outcome results.

Due to delay in finalizing the NFWF grant, we found alternate funding for the initial 34 applications on file by shifting landowners into Farm Bill programs and additional grant funding. Subsequent applications were received and the SLPCP began writing additional plans and contracts for those landowners through the NFWF grant.

In addition, the delay may cause unforeseen issues with the initial proposed funding rate. When writing the grant proposal in 2012, the SLPCP used standard rates set by the USDA-NRCS to match existing Longleaf cost share programs and eliminate “best-price” decisions between funding opportunities. Since then, the gap between Farm-Bill programs and this grant has risen by an average of \$75/acre. Some high-acreage landowners are waiting to see if their property could be funded through a 2013 Farm Bill longleaf program.

Online forms help us easily track landowner and contractor matching contributions. In addition, contract holders can use an online form to request payment when practices are completed. All forms are located at: <http://www.chesterfieldswcd.com/Longleaf%20Forms.html> .

- Please provide 1- 3 representative photos of project progress and outcomes to date in the uploads section online.
 - Analytics Report showing 392 visitors to website, encompassing 788 visits, 2,000+ page views.
 - Press Release re: Smoke in the Longleaf (Refuge)
 - Photo: SWCD Commissioners Holding Check
 - Photo: Education Field Day at Refuge
 - Photo: Rayfield Site Prep Spray (VERY SOON AFTER SPRAYING)

Conservation Metrics	Expected Project Outcome ¹	Expected Acres on Public Lands ¹	Expected Acres on Private Lands ¹	Actual Project Outcome To Date	Actual Acres on Public Lands To Date	Actual Acres on Private Lands To Date
1. Total Acres of Longleaf Pine Impacted (Includes acreage listed in 2 and 3 below. If multiple activities occurred on same acreage, please count acreage only once)	800	0	800	0	n/a	0
2. Total Acres of Longleaf Pine Established² (Should include any acreage listed in 4c below.) Acres of longleaf seedlings planted.	800	0	800	0	n/a	0
2a. # of seedlings planted	400,000	0	400,000	0	n/a	0
3. Total Acres Treated to Improve or Maintain Longleaf Pine Ecosystem³ (Will be less than the total of 3a through 3e if multiple activities occurred on the same acreage.)	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
3a. Acres of Prescribed Burning ⁴	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
3b. Acres of Over-Story Treatments	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
3c. Acres of Mid-Story Treatments (mechanical/herbicide)	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
3d. Acres of Native Understory Plants Established	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
3e. Acres of Non-native Invasive Species Treatments	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
4. Total # of Private Landowners Engaged in Technical Assistance	Expected Results	N/A	N/A	Actual Results To Date	N/A	N/A
4a. # of private landowners contacted through technical assistance <i>and outreach</i>	500			500+		
4b. # of new landowners committed to enrolling in farm bill conservation programs that benefit longleaf pine (should be subset of 4a) ⁵	34 in our proposal			120 since 2010 (35 in 2013, 21 in 2012, 39 in 2011, 32 in 2010. – 7 cancellations)		
4c. Acres of conservation practices applied on private lands as a result of <i>direct technical assistance</i> to landowners (as part of acreage listed in 2 and 3)	1476 in proposal			For this grant, 0. Technical assistance <i>including FB programs</i> since 2010, 8,000+ acres.		
5. # of jobs created/supported (if not directly supported by requested project funding, please describe relationship to project)	100 in proposal			Currently 0, because practices not started yet.		

6. # of citizens engaged in education and outreach activities (*this total can include 4a. above*)

Hard to quantify except for Item 4a, but could target newspaper circulation?

Notes: ¹ The Expected Project Outcomes should be the same as those included in the original grant application.

² This number should also be entered as the “Acres Restored” metric in the metrics module.

³ This number should also be entered as the “Acres under improved management” metric in the metrics module.

⁴ This number should also be entered as the “BMP implementation for prescribed burns” metric in the metrics module.

⁵ This number should also be entered as the “Outreach/Education/Technical Assistance” metric in the metrics module.



CAROLINA SANDHILLS
NATIONAL WILDLIFE
REFUGE
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

CAUTION
SMOKE
AHEAD

75260
Rags

Sandhills Landbird Pin Conservation Partnership

EXIT



Wade Fletcher
Landowner



Wayne Harris
US FWS

Prescribed fire workshop held at Wildlife Refuge

SUSAN GRIGGS
Staff Reporter

The Sandhills Longleaf Pine Conservation Partnership held a prescribed fire workshop entitled “Smoke in the Longleaf” on April 16 at the Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge. Over 40 attendees listened to information on fire ecology, uses of prescribed fire, legal issues, burning techniques, burn planning, and assistance opportunities.

Partnership chairman and US Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Wayne Harris coordinated the event and was pleased with the turnout.

“Whenever we can educate and encourage landowner interest in longleaf, we are building our goals of re-establishing longleaf in our focus area,” Harris said.

Harris and Chesterfield County Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist Charles Babb were on hand to answer questions regarding cost-share and grant programs available to landowners interested in establishing longleaf on their property.

Babb explained there were technical and financial resources available for longleaf establishment and management.

“If longleaf is a good management option for your property, we can develop a conservation plan and submit an application to financially offset a portion of the prac-



Susan Griggs/Staff Photographer

More than 40 people attended a prescribed fire workshop entitled “Smoke in the Longleaf” on April 16 at the Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge.

tice costs,” said Babb.

The Partnership is composed of Federal and state agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and private landowners who strive to establish, maintain and improve the longleaf pine ecosystem in Chesterfield

County and northwestern Darlington County. This partnership supports a larger effort known as America’s Longleaf Restoration Initiative, with goals of restoring the longleaf pine ecosystem across its historic range in the Southeast.

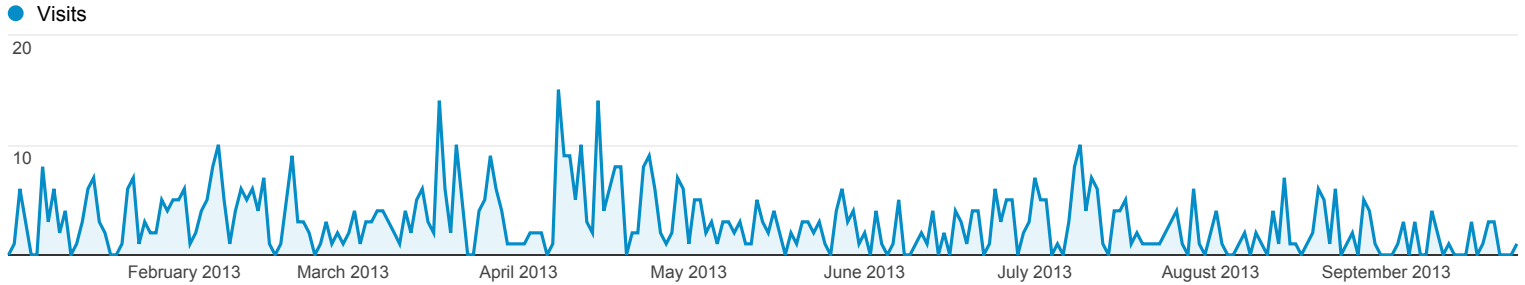
For more information on the partnership, or the re-establishment of longleaf in Chesterfield County, visit www.chesterfieldswcd.com/longleaf or call the Chesterfield Soil and Water Conservation District (843) 623-2187, ext. 3.

Jan 1, 2013 - Sep 24, 2013

Audience Overview

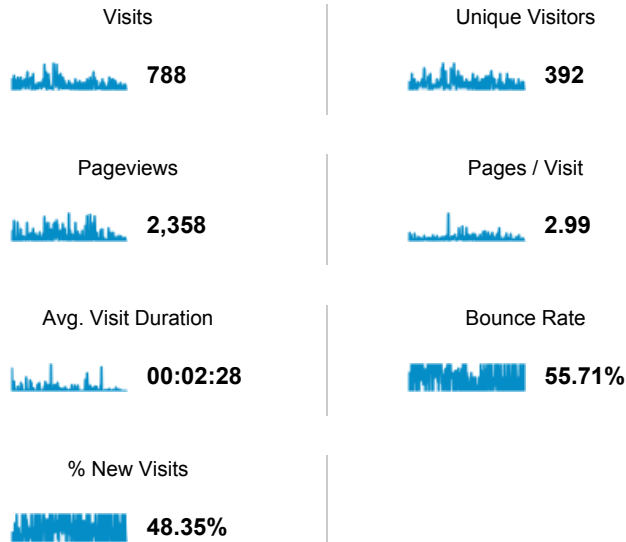
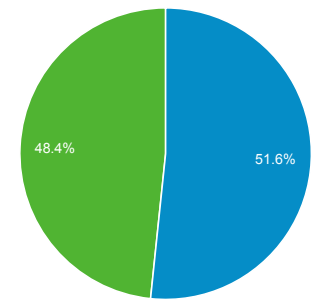


Overview



392 people visited this site

■ Returning Visitor ■ New Visitor



Language	Visits	% Visits
1. en-us	762	96.70%
2. en	16	2.03%
3. c	3	0.38%
4. en-gb	3	0.38%
5. fr	2	0.25%
6. es_AR	1	0.13%
7. ja_JP	1	0.13%

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