



# The Power of Partnerships



# Benefits of Partnerships

- Expand resources
  - Equipment
  - Personnel
  - Funding
- Exchange knowledge/expertise
- Enhance habitat work on our WMAs
- Additional Funding Opportunities
- Not limited by state procurement rules
- Experienced volunteers

# Columbia Lake Dam Removal

---





# Columbia Lake Dam Removal

---

Reopening the area on May 16, 2022





# Prosperatown Lake American Woodcock Habitat Restoration

---

- Enhance habitat for American woodcock
  - 134 smooth alder trees planted
- Approximately 20 volunteers from the American Woodcock Society assisted with planting



*Jersey Shore Chapter of the  
American Woodcock Society*



# Great Bay Boulevard WMA Terrapin Nesting Enhancement Project

---

- To enhance nesting habitat for northern diamondback terrapins
- Sand added to a former marina parking lot
- Area planted with native plants to stabilize the soil and provide habitat to pollinators such as monarch butterflies
- A split-rail fence was installed to prevent damage from vehicles
- In 2021, 152 terrapin nests were protected with cages



*Forked River Power LLC*

# Barnegat Light Restoration Project: Bringing back beach-nesting bird habitat

- Removed vegetation, graded dunes, and created ephemeral pools (feeding areas).
- Restored nesting habitat and created foraging habitat in a human disturbance-free area
- Increased pairs of Piping Plovers at site; achieved high hatch and fledge rate; achieved high rate of recruitment of fledglings into NJ's breeding population.



US Army Corps of Engineers  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Rutgers University  
Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ



# Annual Trash Hunt

---

- Annual trash hunt
- 2022
  - 362 Volunteers
  - **14.51 tons of trash**
  - 72 tires
- White Oak Parking Area
  - Cleaned up trash
  - Mowed brush
  - Installed guard rail and WMA sign



NJ State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs





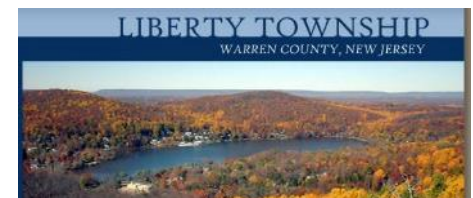
# Mountain Lake Fish Habitat Project: Porcupine Crib

---

- 22 Porcupine Crib (2019 & 2021)
- 10-15 ft contour lines
- Muskies Inc. NJ Chapter 22 (design and funding)
- Fisheries Biologist (oversight)
- Hackettstown Hatchery Staff (deployment)
- Liberty Township (front-end loader and operator)

Cribs offer safe structures where prey species can escape from predators allowing them to survive, grow, mature, and ultimately reproduce.

Muskies Inc.  
Liberty Township





# Money Island Restoration

---

2019

NJ Blue Acres Program  
Stockton University  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
Office of Coastal Engineering  
NJDOT



2022

- Hurricane Sandy
- 5 acres Shoreline Replenishment
- Nantuxent Ck Dredge Material
- Debris Removal
- Wall and Offshore reef structures





# NJ Audubon

---

- Shorebird banding and impoundment water management
- Invasive species control
- Bog turtle habitat creation (ENSP & USFWS)
- Riparian/pollinator planting
- Trail maintenance







Ongoing



# Colliers Mills Del Val NAVHDA Habitat Project

---

- Since 2017, NJDEP Fish and Wildlife has been partnering with Del Val NAVHDA on habitat projects at Colliers Mills WMA
- Projects include:
  - Mowing within safe dates for trials and tests
  - Removal of invasive species
  - Plantings of native grasses
  - Volunteering for NJ Youth Pheasant hunts & EXPO
  - Yearly trash clean up

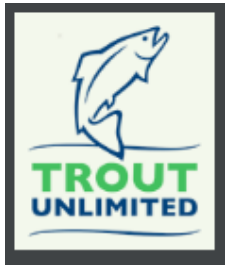


*Delaware Valley Chapter  
North American Versatile Hunting  
Dog Association*



# Aquatic Education Programs and Trout in the Classroom

## Trout Unlimited Chapters in New Jersey

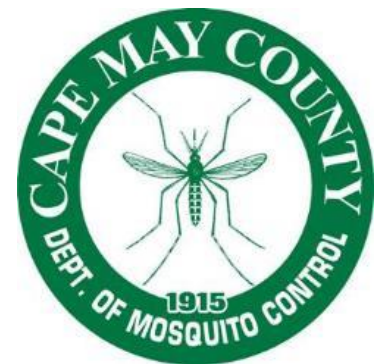


As well as:

Freehold Soil Conservation District  
Ocean County Soil Conservation District

# Mosquito Control Commissions

- **State Mosquito Control Commission**
  - Loan of the long reach excavator to assist dredging of hatchery ponds
- **Cape May County Commission**
  - Routine Maintenance of Pond Creek
  - Blind placement using marsh master for Tuckahoe WMA R3 waterfowl hunt







## *Partners:*

Ducks Unlimited

National Wild Turkey Federation

United Bow Hunters of NJ

Trap Clubs statewide



# Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament

May 15, 2022



## Partners:

NJ State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs  
Jersey Coast Anglers Association  
NJ Beach Buggy Association





# Hooked on Fishing

---



## *Partners:*

4H Clubs

County Parks

State Parks



# Bat Conservation

- CWF helps manage 30 volunteers to assist with acoustic transects & summer bat count.
- Collaborating with NJDOT & USFWS on bridge inspection program to avoid bat impacts during planned maintenance.
- Long-running collab w/ Rutgers to research effects of WNS and investigate treatment.
- Virginia Tech and multi-state nanotag project to track migratory bat pathways.





# Bald Eagle Nest Monitoring Project

## *Partners and Actions:*

130 volunteers statewide.

Collect data January through July to document the nesting cycle.

Nest monitors are good at locating new nests that NJFW maps for Biotics.

Volunteers are locals who maintain good relations with landowners.





# Working Lands for Wildlife: Managing private forests for young forest habitat

## *Partners and Actions:*

- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- NJ Audubon
- Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ
- Private forest landowners

Outreach to private forest owners

Technical Assistance/cost-share  
to develop/amend a forest plan

Cost-share to implement  
prescribed practices

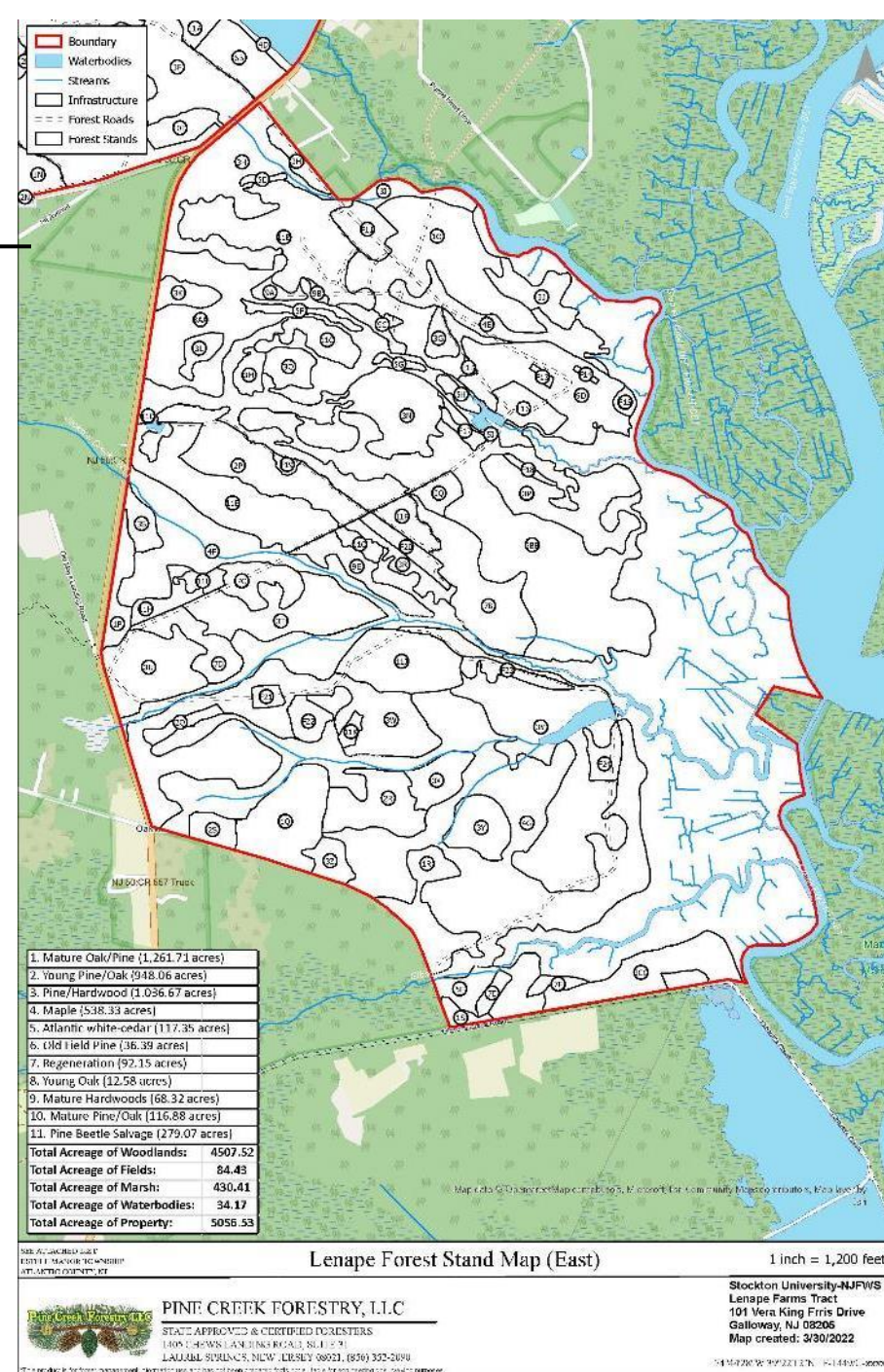
Bird surveys to evaluate success





# Buckshutem Forest Stewardship Plan & Lenape Forest Stewardship Plan

- The development of forest stewardship plans for Buckshutem WMA and the Lenape Tract of Tuckahoe and Maple Lake WMAs encompasses a plethora of internal and external stakeholders.
- Acreage Totals
  - Lenape Tract: **5056.5 acres**
  - Buckshutem: **1445.4 acres**
- Funding Allocation/Expenditures
  - Lenape Tract: \$ 254,933 Statewide Development, complete project costs
  - Buckshutem: \$ 3,970 Habitat Restoration Grant, drafting of stewardship plan
- Contracting
  - Lenape Tract: Stockton University, Pine Creek Forestry
  - Buckshutem: Pine Creek Forestry
- Internal Stakeholders: NJ Fish and Wildlife, NJ Forest Service, NJ State Park Service, NJ State Forest Fire Service, Office of Natural Lands Management, Historic Preservation Office
- External Stakeholders: NJ Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, Conserve Wildlife NJ, Pinelands Alliance, TCNJ, National Wild Turkey Federation, New Jersey Federation of Sportsmen, and more...



# Atlantic Flyway Cooperative Monitoring Programs



- Migratory birds managed in cooperative fashion since 1952 when Flyway Council system instituted. 2 examples of annual programs:
- **Atlantic Flyway Breeding Waterfowl Survey:** 11 states conduct surveys in their states to develop NE area estimate
- **Banding:** all 17 Atlantic Flyway states band ducks and geese to annually estimate harvest and survival rates

**NJFW is involved in  
a number of Multi-State and International Partnerships**



# Eastern Woodcock Migration Research Cooperative

- 20+ partners from Canada to Alabama; state, university, NGO, federal. Univ Maine is coordinator
- **NJFW role**: trap and instrument woodcock in NJ. Pay for transmitters deployed in NJ. Also planning/design
- Assess patterns of woodcock fall and spring migration and landscape patterns affecting migratory stopover
- Supports 2 PhD students



# Atlantic Brant Ecology Research Study

---

- 7 partners including 2 key wintering states, Canadian Wildlife Service, Universities, Cree communities of staging areas of James Bay, Canada
- **NJFW Role:** Study conception, design, funding, instrumenting specimens
- Started as modest NJFW study and drew additional partners with additional AGJV and University funds in excess of \$500K
- 3 graduate students analyzing different aspects of study

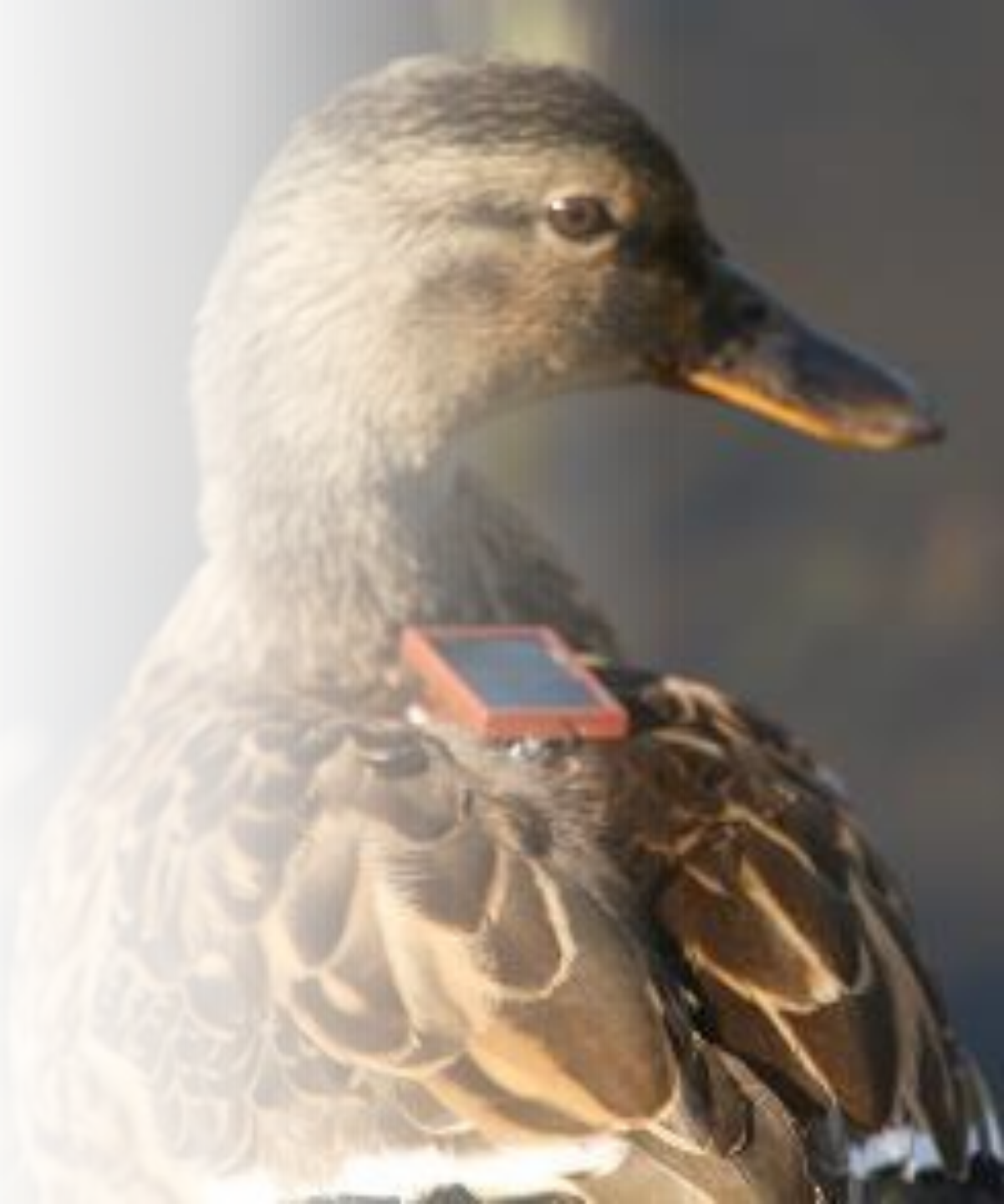




# Eastern Mallard Research Study

---

- 16 Atlantic Flyway state partners, CWS, USFWS, Universities. Univ Saskatchewan lead investigator
- NJFW Role: Capture and instrument mallard specimens. Buys share of transmitters
- Breeding ecology assessments but marks birds across vast wintering areas



# American Black Duck Ecology Research Study

---

- 11 Atlantic Flyway state partners, CWS, USFWS, Universities. Univ Saskatchewan lead investigator with Black Duck Joint Venture funding
- **NJFW Role:** Capture and instrument black duck specimens
- Breeding ecology assessments but marks birds across vast wintering areas

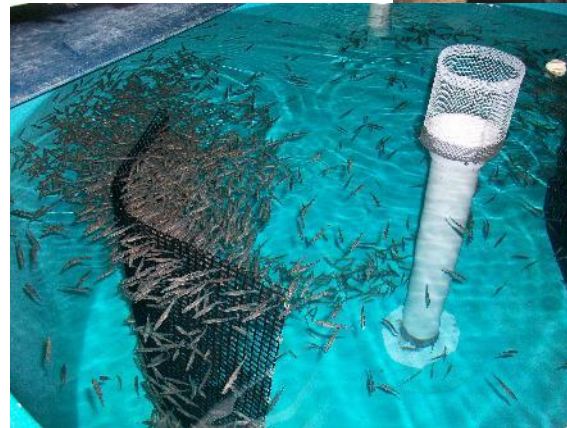




# Interstate Fish Trade

---

- Due to Coronavirus Pandemic concerns the NJ's broodstock collections for Walleye and Muskellunge were cancelled.
- The PA Fish & Boat Commission's Linesville Hatchery provided NJ with 2.7 million eyed Walleye eggs on April 14<sup>th</sup> and 6,000 five-inch Muskellunge fingerlings in August.
- NJ Fish and Wildlife gave PA 4,000 Northern Pike fingerlings and 222,000 Channel Catfish eggs.
- Massachusetts – 3,000 Landlocked Salmon for Northern Pike



Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Virginia, Connecticut, etc...



# Upcoming Projects





# Hyperhumus Wetlands Restoration

---

- Headwaters of the Paulins Kill
- Re-establish sinuous river channel and functional floodplains
- Maintain and enhance habitat.
- Currently advancing 30% design to 100% design and permitting

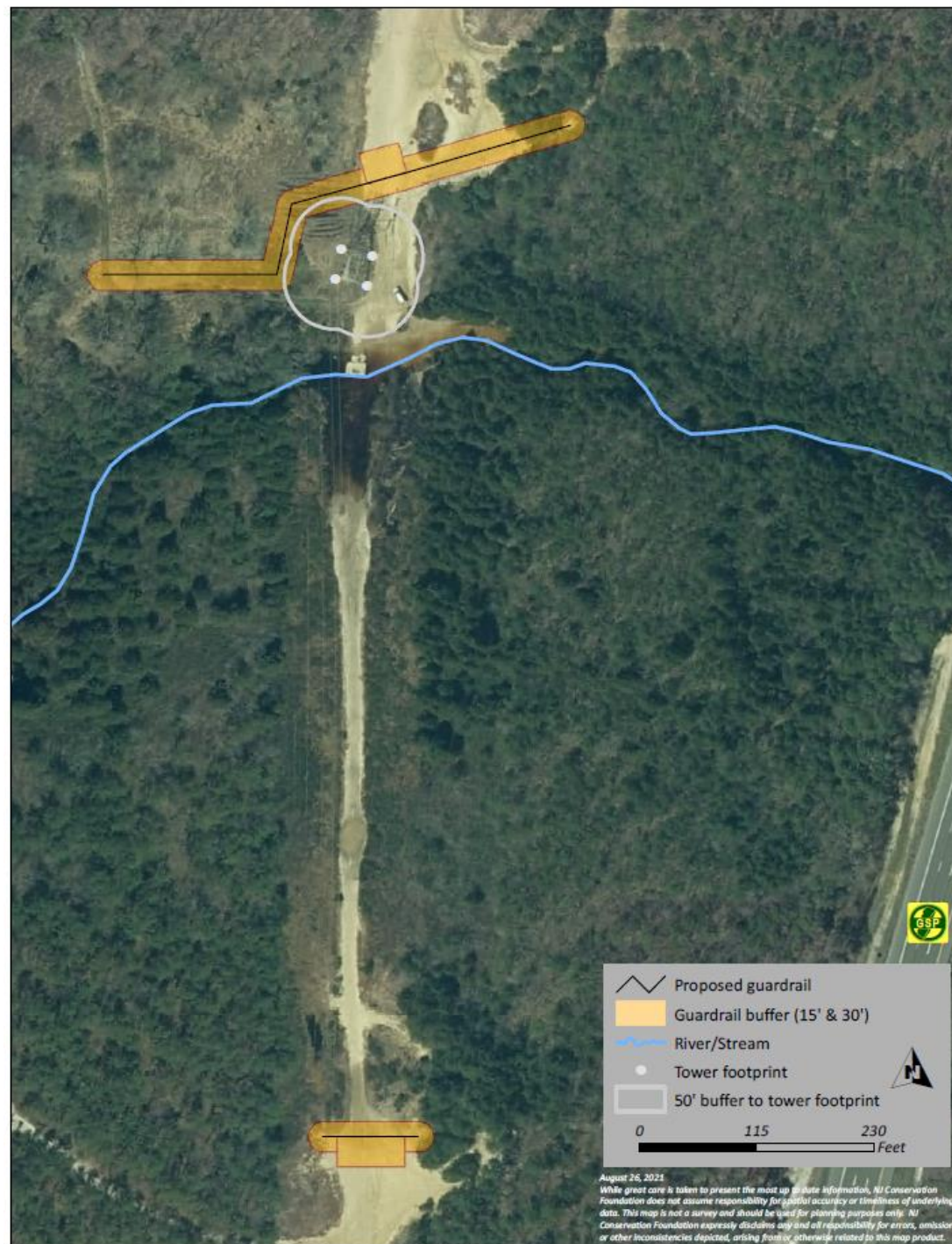
The Nature  
Conservancy





# Forked River Mountain Guard Rail Project

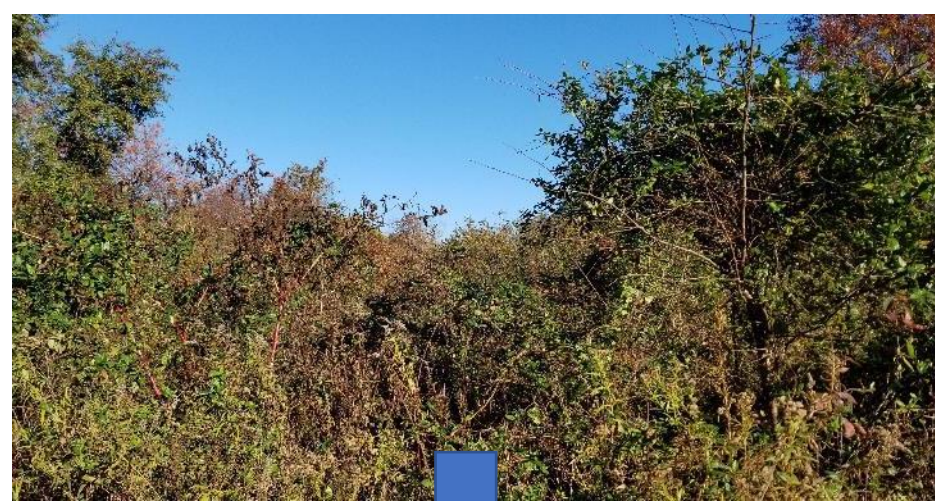
- NJCF received funding to construct guard rails to deter illegal off-road vehicles from disturbing wetlands






# Salem River Woodcock Habitat

- The Mannington Tract (Salem River WMA) was identified as potential woodcock habitat due to the presence of early succession habitat and moist soil types.
- High-density growth not conducive to woodcock or woodcock hunting.
- Contractor forestry mowed 7 acres (March 2022).



May 2022

- Planting 200 Silky dogwood saplings

 **JERSEY SHORE**  
AMERICAN WOODCOCK SOCIETY

**Our 2022 Woodcock Habitat Project  
Come Get Involved!  
Sunday May 22nd, 2022**

The Jersey Shore chapter of the American Woodcock Society in partnership with NJ Fish and Wildlife have identified our Spring 2022 woodcock habitat project at Salem River WMA.


The NJ Fish and Wildlife team has begun the reclamation of a series of fields. They will be hydro axing a total of 7 acres.

Next steps would be to plant 200 silky dogwood seedlings to create staggered growth.


The Jersey Shore chapter of the American Woodcock Society will assist by providing a group of volunteers to plant the silky dogwood seedlings. Then apply seedling protector tubes, bamboo stakes and wire ties so we can protect the seedlings as they mature.


We also would like to thank Animals & Gardens Unlimited (New Egypt, NJ) for donating to our habitat projects and helping offset costs.

Now all we need is you! Please note due to insurance regulations, you need to be an active member of the American Woodcock Society or the Ruffed Grouse Society.



**Questions and Sign Up:**  
Mark Dreyfus – Chairman  
732-580-7196  
jerseyshorenews@gmail.com  
ruffedgrousesociety.org  
Pre-registration as a volunteer is required

 **ANIMALS & GARDENS UNLIMITED**  
14 Jacobstown Road  
New Egypt, NJ 08533  
animalsandgardensunlimited.com

 **130 Years**

*Jersey Shore Chapter of the  
American Woodcock Society*

# Musconetcong WMA Early Successional Habitat Restoration

- Restoration of approximately 86 acres early successional habitat
- Brush management, invasive species removal, and planting of native grasses that also benefit pollinator species
- Focus on habitat creation for American woodcock



*NJ Audubon, NRCS*

## Conservation Plan Map

Date: 4/20/2022

Client(s): NEW JERSEY AUDUBON SOCIETY  
Warren County, New Jersey  
Approximate Acres: 86.43

Assisted By: GABRIEL SALDANA  
USDA-NRCS  
HACKETTSTOWN SERVICE CENTER  
UPPER DELAWARE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Land Units: Tract 660, Fields 2,3,6 Tract 3756, Fields 1,2,8



Prepared with assistance from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

0 752 Feet

Practice Schedule  
PLUs

**Conservation Practice  
Polygons**  
Brush Management  
(314)

Conservation Cover  
(327)  
Upland Wildlife  
Habitat Management  
(645)



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender

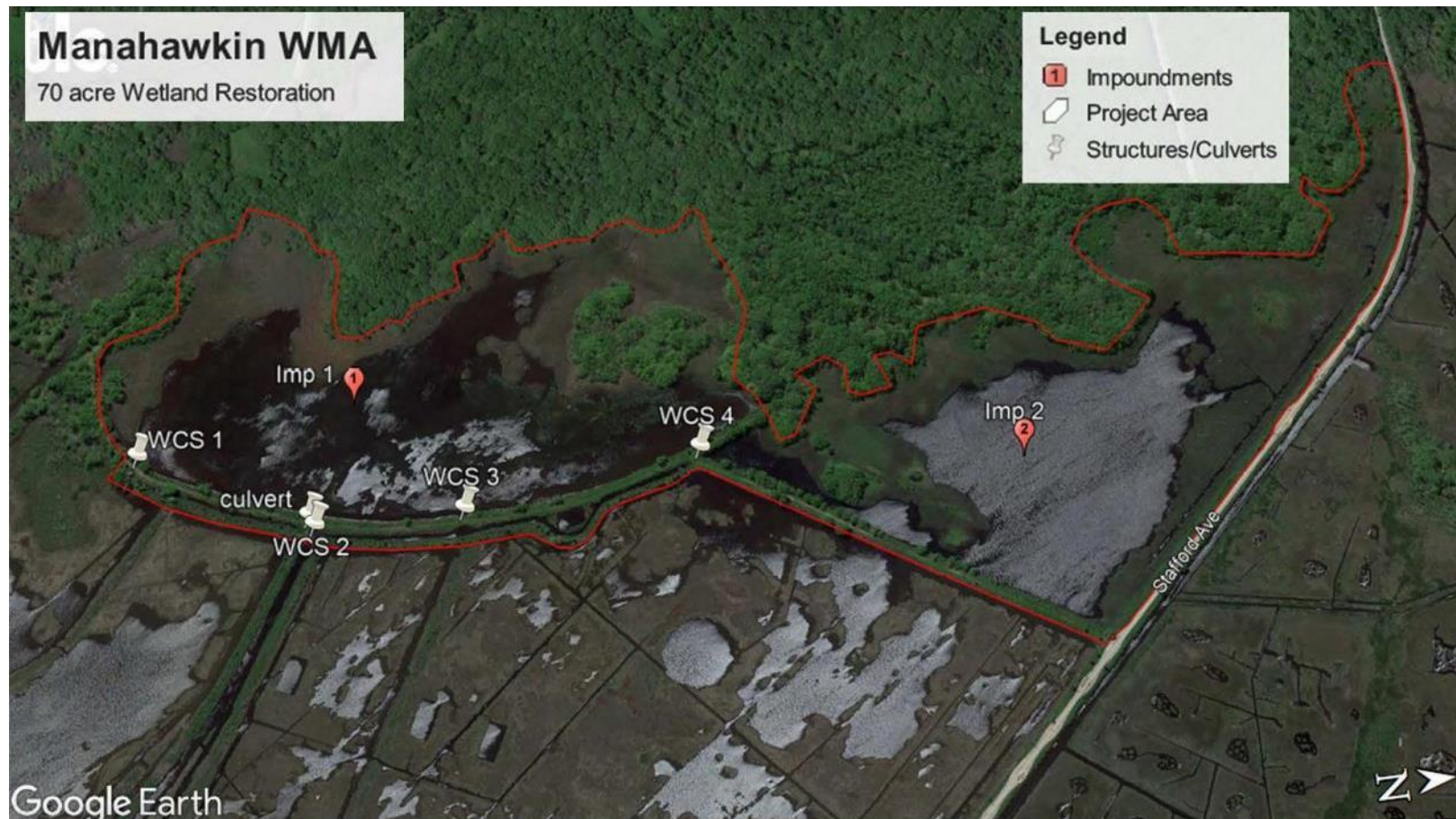


# Manahawkin Coastal Wetlands Restoration

- Restore 70 acres of coastal emergent habitat for migratory birds
- Replace damaged culvert and water control structures
- Currently in design and permitting phases



*Ducks Unlimited*  
*NJ Waterfowl Stamp Committee*



**TO ALL OUR PROJECT PARTNERS**

**Thank You!**