

**Wildlife Habitat Restoration on Private Lands  
Professional Training**

**Engaging and Demonstrating the Value of  
Wildlife Habitat Conservation to Private Landowners**

**Delta Resort**

**May 8 – 9, 2018**

DRAFT AGENDA

**May 8 (Tuesday)**

**Morning Session**

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- 8:00 am      Registration
- 9:00 am      Welcome  
*Andrew Wargo, Chair, Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts*
- Session Moderator: Jonathan Baxter, USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Biologist
- 9:15 am      Effectively Engaging Private Landowners in Conservation  
*Steve Jester, Executive Director, Partners for Conservation*
- 9:45 am      Communicating Economics of Natural Resource Management Practices to Landowners  
*Dr. Matt Pelki, Professor, University of Arkansas – Monticello*
- 10:30 am      Break
- 10:45 am      Agricultural Economic Benefits of Conservation Practices to Producers' Bottom Line  
*Steve Stephens, Desha County producer, Tillar, Arkansas*  
*Mike Daniels, Professor, University of Arkansas*
- 11:15 am      Monetary and Non-monetary Benefits of Natural Resource Enterprises to Landowners  
*Daryl Jones, Mississippi State University*
- 12:00 am      Lunch
- 12:45 pm      Selling the Story: Bobwhite Restoration and Management  
*Marcus Asher, Bobwhite Coordinator, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission*  
*Ryan Diener, Quail Forever*
- 1:30 pm      Field Tour Overview: Converting Rice Fields to CRP for Waterfowl Management  
*Wayne Owens, Co-Owner, Banfield Duck Funnel Hunting Club*  
*Bubba Groves, Asst. Private Lands Supervisor, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission*
- 2:00 – 4:00pm      Field Tour

**May 8 (evening)****Awards Dinner & Ceremony**

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- 5:00 pm Reception and social networking at Delta Resort
- 6:00 pm Dinner
- Dinner Speaker  
*James Cummins, Wildlife Mississippi*
- Wildlife Habitat Restoration on Private Lands Awards Ceremony  
*Jonathan Baxter, Chair*
- Landowner Private Lands Award
  - Early Career/Outstanding/Lifetime Private Lands Conservation Professional Award
- 8:00 pm Team Trivia Contest  
*Ted Zawislak, Private Lands Coordinator, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission*  
*Bubba Groves, Assistant Private Lands Supervisor, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission*

**May 9 (Wednesday)****Morning Session**

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- Session Moderator: Amanda Mathis, Assistant State Conservationist – Partnership Coordination,  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- 8:00 am Arkansas Soil Health Alliance  
*Robby Bevis, Producer*
- 8:30 am Incorporating Native Warm Season Grasslands into Livestock Operations: Summer  
Forage Production Economic Decision Support Tool  
*Dr. Pat Keyser, The Center for Native Grasslands Management, University of Tennessee*
- 9:30 am Precision Conservation: Optimizing Profitability, Production, and Wildlife Habitat  
*Dr. Wes Burger, Professor of Wildlife Ecology and Management, Mississippi State  
University (tentative)*
- 10:30 am More Than Just Timber: Silvicultural Options and Ecosystem Services from Managed  
Southern Pine Stands  
*Dr. Don Bragg, Research Forester, USDA Forest Service*
- 11:00 am Conservation Easements (including USDA; Ducks Unlimited; land trusts; etc.)  
*Joe Krystofik, USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program State Coordinator*
- 11:30 am Update on AGFC Private Lands Program  
*Ted Zawislak, Private Lands Coordinator, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission*
- 12:00 pm Grand Door Prize  
Adjourn