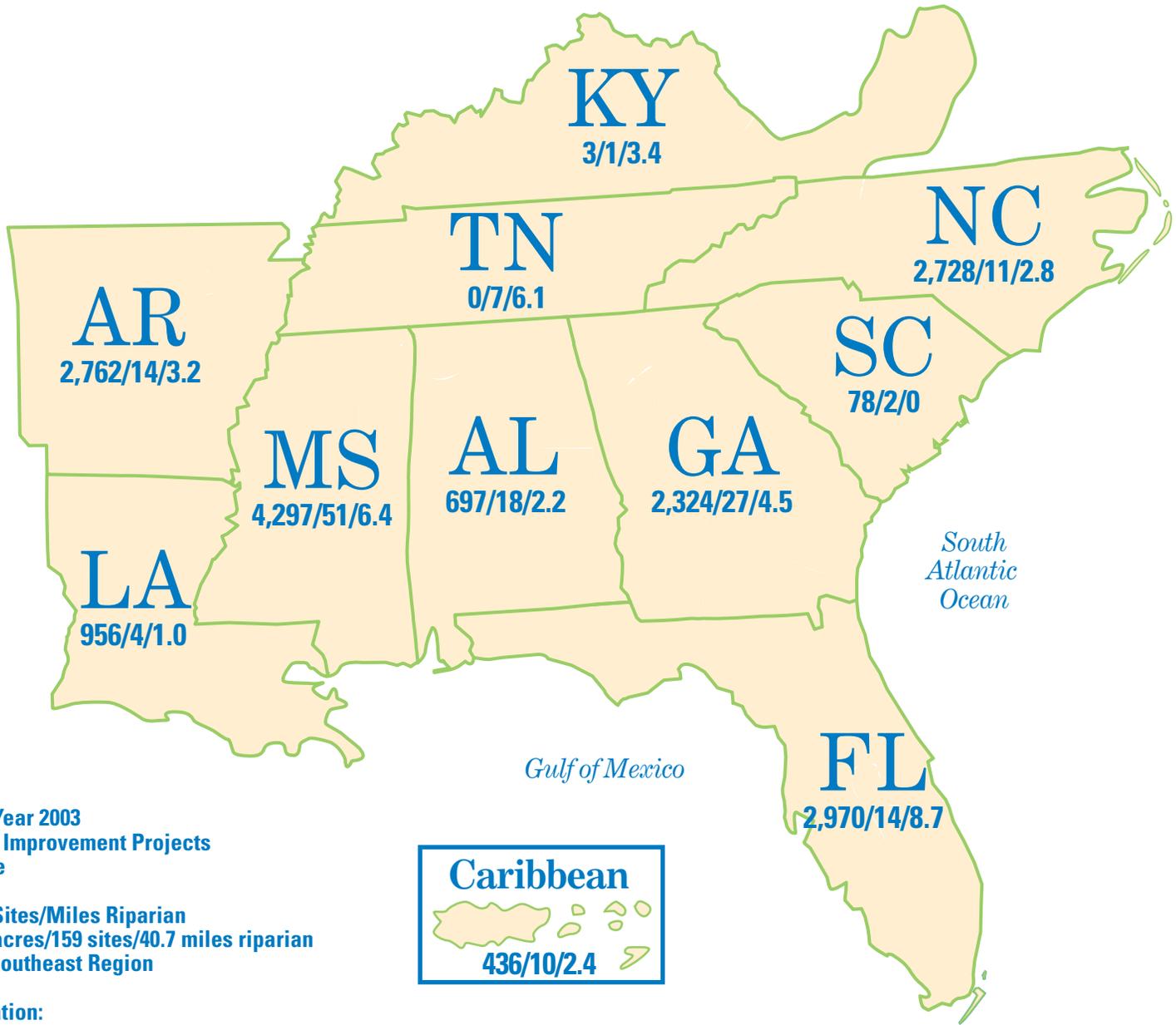




Habitat Improvement by State

(Acres/Sites/Miles Riparian)



Fiscal Year 2003
Habitat Improvement Projects
by State

Acres/Sites/Miles Riparian
17,251 acres/159 sites/40.7 miles riparian
in the Southeast Region

Information:
<http://southeast.fws.gov/partners>
404/679 7138

Habitat Improvement Summary (1988-2003)

State	AL	AR	PR*	FL	GA	KY	LA	MS	NC	SC	TN	Total
Acres	4,692	36,675	1,711	15,844	10,333	63	39,086	84,956	12,137	2,171	2,438	210,106
Sites	123	368	42	117	187	6	296	731	199	35	83	2,187

* Commonwealth





Partners for Fish & Wildlife—Southeast Region



USFWS

Conasauga River Riparian, Georgia



USFWS

Young stand of planted longleaf pine in Georgia



USFWS

Interior Secretary Gail Norton and Partners for Fish and Wildlife biologist reviewing project in North Carolina



USFWS

Restored wetland in the Delta

*Top right: prairie restoration—
North Carolina flowers in field*



USFWS

Other Habitat Restoration Factoids:

- In fiscal year 2003, the Service entered into over 300 new partnership agreements with private landowners and other conservation groups.
- Approximately 9,800 acres of wetland projects were completed, including 6,200 acres of bottomland trees (an endangered habitat type; 85% or greater historic decline) planted in the Lower Mississippi River Ecosystem.
- Over 95,000 acres of bottomland trees have been planted since 1988. Projects that benefit the threatened Louisiana black bear are a priority.
- Upland habitat improvement projects totaled approximately 7,423 acres, of which about 4,000 acres were longleaf pine projects.
- Approximately 13,000 acres of longleaf pine restoration plantings (an endangered ecosystem type; 85-98% historic decline) were implemented in Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi and the Carolinas since 1996. These projects provide benefits to several protected species, including the red-cockaded woodpecker, eastern Indigo snake, and gopher tortoise.
- Riparian and in-stream restoration projects (over 40 miles of streams and 0.5 mile in-stream) benefitted numerous protected and sensitive aquatic species. Over 550 miles of riparian, and 16.5 miles of in-stream habitat projects have been carried out since 1994.
- Over 4,000 acres of projects regionwide were directed toward the elimination of exotics and invasive species with a goal of restoring the native vegetative types. These projects are expected to provide benefits to numerous threatened, endangered, and other species.
- Partners voluntarily contributed over \$3.4 million of services in FY 2003.
- More than 100 private landowners are on our waiting list to receive assistance from the Service through the Partners Program.
- The Service provides important technical assistance to the Natural Resources Conservation Agency and other Federal and State agencies and conservation groups in implementing Farm Bill conservation programs.
- For example, in fiscal year 2003, over 1,500 applications were reviewed under the Wetland Reserve Program, involving habitat restoration planning on approximately 297,000 acres. Also, over 1,400 other Service technical assistance consultations were provided to private landowners and other agencies.