



NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER

The Chapter's 2010 Wildlife Conservation Award is presented for this individual's tireless dedication and immeasurable accomplishments for the longleaf pine ecosystem. She was highly instrumental in the launching of America's Longleaf, a range-wide initiative to restore the imperiled longleaf ecosystem by maintaining healthy forests, improving forests in poor condition, and restoring longleaf forests where they have been lost. She served as the Coordinator of this group, helping to coordinate effectively an extremely large and diverse array of nonprofit groups and government agencies having a major stake in longleaf conservation, ranging from turkey hunters to the Department of Defense. After gathering input from over 100 resource professionals, she led the steering committee on the path to developing a range-wide Conservation Plan for longleaf pine. That effort was accomplished and unveiled in March 2009 at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference. Because communication among all participants was so important, she created a website where professionals could provide input on the Conservation Plan and stay abreast of activities related to the initiative. She compiled and edited the Conservation Plan using input from the many participants and ultimately produced a polished document. She is working to step down the regional plan to North Carolina so that on-the-ground accomplishments can be made. She is also actively seeking funds to strategically plan, to educate, and to implement longleaf pine restoration on-the-ground in our state, and she continues to rally local partners to collaborate on an organized approach to accomplishing longleaf pine restoration for the benefit of wildlife.

This year's Wildlife Conservation Award winner is a senior and founding attorney with the Southern Environmental Law Center and serves as the leader of its Private Forest Program. Our award is presented to Lark Hayes, for her outstanding contributions and commitment to environmental protection, improvement of wildlife habitat, and in particular the restoration and enhancement of the unique longleaf pine ecosystems of the southeastern United States.

Presented To

Lark Hayes



IN RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING EFFORTS  
DEDICATED TO THE RESTORATION OF THE  
LONGLEAF PINE ECOSYSTEM IN  
NORTH CAROLINA AND THE SOUTHEAST

11 February 2010

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NCTWS President