

## **Diversity and Inclusion Statement**

Since 1995, The Longleaf Alliance has served diverse communities of landowners, managers, policy makers, partners, educators, students and more, across the natural longleaf range and beyond. Just as every tract of land and habitat is unique, so are our staff and the people we serve.

The world is becoming increasingly more complex. But our stance on diversity and inclusion is and will always remain the same - we advocate for creating equal access to opportunities and resources for all people regardless of age, disability, race, color, gender, religion, political opinions, sexual orientation, or national origin. We recognize that systemic challenges exist, and we strive to create an organization where everyone interested in longleaf feels welcome, respected, and valued for the perspectives they bring to the table. Moreover, as we grow as an organization, we will actively seek to engage historically marginalized communities that may have previously been excluded.

We must remain cognizant of the challenges and boundaries that exist for our employees and the public. Our workforce is diverse, but there are communities we need to reach and better engage. The Alliance has formed a Diversity and Inclusion Team to develop strategies and programs that will welcome new faces, cultures, backgrounds, and perspectives. This will make us a stronger and more effective organization. While we are proud of our efforts to promote diversity and guide longleaf restoration thus far, there is much work to be done. We will continue to listen, engage, and grow to better achieve our organizational mission.

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