

2022 Regional Longleaf Award Recipients Announced

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The Longleaf Alliance Press Contact

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Every two years, individuals, private landowners, land managers, wildlife biologists, conservation groups, consultants, university researchers, forestry professionals, agency and outreach personnel gather for the best and largest longleaf event in the nation: The Biennial Longleaf Conference.

The Regional Longleaf Awards Program, offered in conjunction with the Biennial Longleaf Conference, recognizes individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to longleaf restoration and conservation across the southeastern U.S. Award recipients will be recognized during an Awards Presentation at the 14th Biennial Longleaf conference held at the Ballast Hotel in Wilmington, NC on Wednesday, October 26, 2022.

Individual Awards & Award Recipients

The Bill Boyer Natural Resource Professional of the Year Award: recognizes a natural resource professional who has made outstanding contributions within the field of longleaf ecosystem conservation – ***Stephanie Hertz, Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute***

The Palustris Corporate Achievement Award: recognizes a corporation with long-standing commitment toward conservation of the longleaf ecosystem – ***Milliken Advisors, Inc.***

The Gjerstad/Johnson Landowner of the Year Award: recognizes a private landowner for ensuring the future of the longleaf ecosystem on private land – ***Herbert Hodges & the Willie Hodges Estate Family Farm, Georgia***

The Burner Bob® Prescribed Fire Champion Award: recognizes an individual or organization for outstanding efforts in championing prescribed fire to ensure the future of the longleaf ecosystem on private land – ***Johnny Stowe, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources***

True Longleaf Champion Awards: recognize a lifetime of dedication to the conservation and restoration of the South's iconic forest – ***Randy Browning, Dr. Martin Cipollini, Julie Moore, and Dr. Lytton J. Musselman***

Conservation Partner Awards & Award Recipients

Natural Resource Conservation Service Team Achievement Award: recognizes an NRCS team that has gone above-and-beyond the call of duty in delivering longleaf restoration for private landowners – ***Working Lands for Wildlife – Gopher Tortoise Initiative***

Department of Defense Team Achievement Award: recognizes a DoD team that has excelled in managing and restoring the longleaf ecosystem on Military Installations – **DoD Team at Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point, North Carolina**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Team Achievement Award: recognizes a USFWS team for their exemplary management and restoration of the longleaf ecosystem for wildlife. – **USFWS Team at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, Florida**

USDA Forest Service Team Achievement Award: recognizes a USDA FS team that has significantly improved and expanded the management and restoration of the Longleaf ecosystem on and around the National Forest System – **DeSoto National Forest, Mississippi**

Non-Profit Conservation Partner Award: recognizes a non-profit organization that has significantly improved, protected, and conserved the longleaf ecosystem – **Arbor Day Foundation**

The Longleaf Alliance extends our sincere gratitude to these teams and individuals for their positive efforts to conserve the longleaf forest. “We are honored to be able to recognize such an outstanding group of individuals and organizations this year. Each recipient, in their own way, has made significant impacts on longleaf pine ecosystems, and we greatly appreciate their dedication to ensuring that these forests will continue to grow and thrive for years to come,” said Carol Denhof, President of The Longleaf Alliance.

About The Longleaf Alliance

The Longleaf Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit conservation organization. First organized in 1995, The Longleaf Alliance operates throughout the southeastern United States from Virginia to Texas helping landowners restore their land to functioning longleaf forests while generating income from the very same forest that provides homes for some of the South’s most threatened plant and animal species.

