

# LANDSCAPE AQUATIC PROJECT

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**March 6, 2014**

**Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center**



# LANDSCAPE AQUATIC PROJECT

- **Summary of what we have heard about BMPs**
  - Forestry BMPs address key water quality factors
  - BMPs are effective as a means to protect water quality and associated aquatic species
  - Implementation rates are high
  - As a land use, the forestry community is very proactive on water quality



# LANDSCAPE AQUATIC PROJECT

- **Summary of what we have heard about certification**
  - **Certified landowners are required to implement BMPs (money in the bank!)**
  - **Requirement to support research (SFI)**
  - **Protection of certain wetlands and vernal pools**
  - **Protection of certain rare forest types and habitats**
  - **Landowner outreach (SFI)**
  - **Utilize trained loggers (SFI)**



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- **SFI Fiber Sourcing**
  - Landowner Outreach and promote use of trained loggers
  - BMP use required in purchase contracts
  - Monitor BMP use
  - Identify BMP improvement opportunities
- **SFI Fiber sourcing leverages BMP compliance beyond certified landowners**



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- **Use of BMPs protects water quality and provides shade.**
- **USFWS comments during CH designation for Fuzzy Pigtoe and several other mussel species indicated that BMPs protect water quality and therefore mussels.**

**How can we provide the Service confidence that BMPs are implemented at the landscape level?**



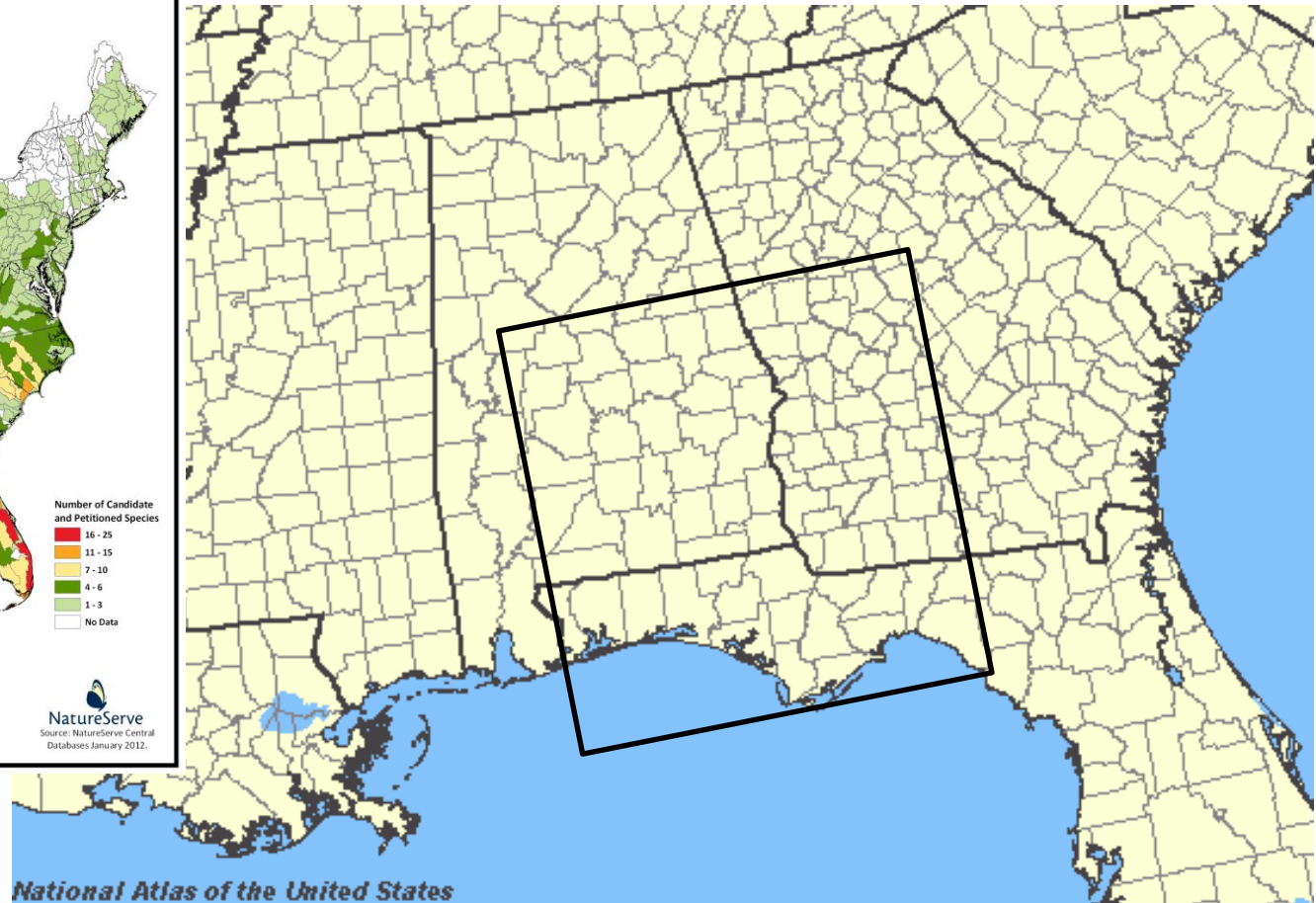
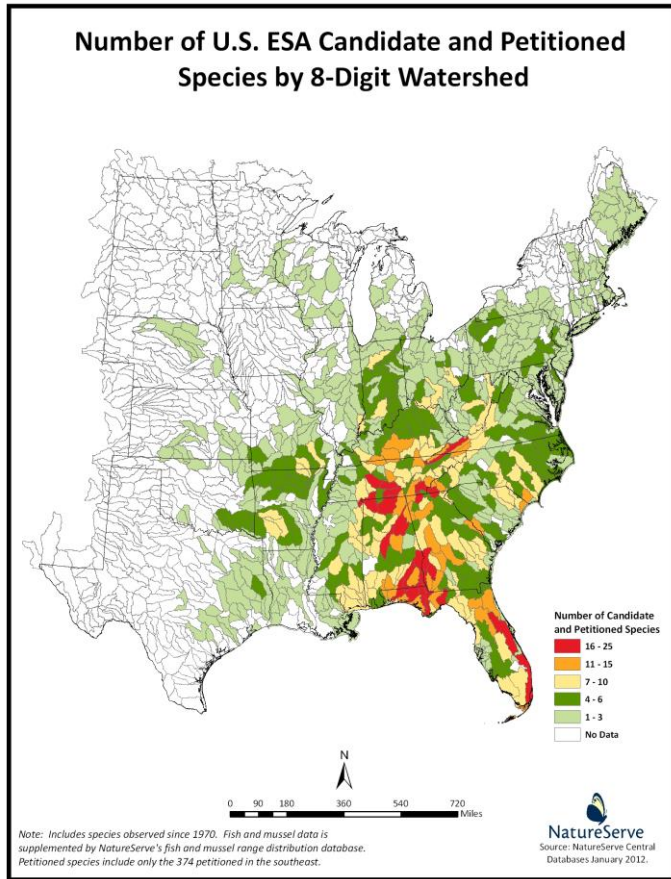
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## Ongoing Work – all NCASI-sponsored

- Biodiversity/BMP relationship literature review by Virginia Tech (Aust)
- BMP Symposium at Virginia Tech – May, 2014
- Streamside salamander project in Arkansas



# FOCAL AREA



# LANDSCAPE AQUATIC PROJECT

- **Given the discussion on BMPs and certification, how can we help the Service confidently rely on BMP use and effectiveness as listing decisions are made?**
  - Pull together data for a selected study area?
  - Field visits?
  - Involvement of state forestry agencies?
  - Other?

