

Wildlife Habitat Management, Improvements, Projects and Programs

Thursday March 16, 2023

Learn all about incorporating wildlife management practices into forest management and riparian corridor projects. This session will provide an overview of principles of wildlife ecology, management and habitat requirements. Species to be discussed include: songbirds, wild turkeys, ruffed grouse, woodcock and white tail deer. Presenters will also discuss planning requirements, funding opportunities and highlight existing work ongoing throughout New York State.

8:30 – 9:30am – NY Audubon – Landscape-level habitat considerations to benefit a full suite of forest birds, including breeding, migratory, and wintering habitat. Improvements to stand-level habitat characteristics that benefit a number of birds, highlighting a few species. Benefits of riparian forests and the birds that use that habitat. Ongoing forest bird efforts around the state. - Suzanne Treyger Senior Forest Program Manager

9:30 – 10:30am – Wild Turkey Federation: wild turkey habitat requirements, practices to improving habitat for wild turkeys, educating landowners, successful projects around NYS and potential partners – Mitchell Blake, Biologist, National Wild Turkey Federation

10:30 – 10:45am – BREAK

10:45 – 12:00pm – Ruffed Grouse Society: ruffed grouse and American woodcock habitat requirements, practices to improving habitat for both species, educating landowners, importance of riparian buffers and their role, how to improve habitat in riparian buffer areas, successful projects around NYS and potential partners - Todd Waldron, Northeast Forest Conservation Director: Ruffed Grouse Society | American Woodcock Society

12:00 – 1:00pm - LUNCH

1:00 – 2:00pm – National Deer Association: timber management for quality white tail deer, how to establish quick bedding cover for deer, and food plot management – Timothy Russell, Certified Forester, Green Fire Forestry & Wildlife Services

2:00 – 2:15pm – BREAK

2:15 – 3:30pm – USFWS upland habitat projects in NY, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, restoration of upland sites to benefit priority species, potential projects, other funding sources, etc. – Carl Schwartz, Biologist at US Fish and Wildlife Service

3:30 – 4:30pm – NRCS Wildlife Management Planning and incorporating wildlife management components and practices into Forest Management Planning: Qualifications, considerations and components; NRCS practices and cost share incentives; other programs - Michael Fournier NRCS State Forester