

# NRI 2017

---

## ANNUAL REPORT

---

Discovery • Stewardship  
Innovation • Engagement



# OUR MISSION

To solve complex natural resource challenges through discovery, stewardship, engagement, and innovation.

# OUR VISION

A future where the benefits of private lands are enhanced and the value of land stewardship is promoted and strengthened.



# WHO WE ARE

We are a team of researchers and extension professionals who work to improve the conservation and management of natural resources through the implementation of interdisciplinary and applied research, partner engagement and land stewardship. As part of Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, and the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the institute is well-equipped to address current and future natural resource problems.

NRI.TAMU.EDU

# OUR PROGRAMS

## Wildlife Conservation and Mitigation

We promote stewardship of plant and animal populations, including game, non-game, endangered and threatened species, and their habitats through the application and translation of sound science.

## Military Land Sustainability

We support the twin imperatives of military readiness and land conservation stewardship through integrated land management and collaborative regional planning based on scientific findings.

## Land Trends and Demography

We develop geospatial tools to promote long-term planning for landscape conservation. We also provide geospatial and data analytic support to research and extension projects to aid in data-driven decision making.

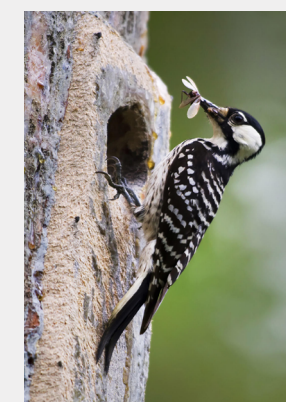
## Private Land Stewardship

We foster stewardship of private lands and their associated public benefits through engagement and partnerships with science-based and pragmatic solutions.



## Species Status Assessments (SSAs)

SSAs are the scientific foundation that supports all aspects of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), including listing and reclassifications. Our work directly informed several SSAs for a number of at-risk species across the U.S., to include Key deer, Red-cockaded woodpecker, and Texas hornshell, to name a few.



# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## Texas Landowner Survey

NRI conducted a statewide survey of private landowners aimed at understanding their needs for programing and technical assistance. This information is currently being used by state and federal agencies and NGOs for increased landowner engagement.



## Gopher Tortoise Translocations & Monitoring

A candidate species under the ESA, Gopher tortoises (GT) are at-risk due to rapid development in Florida. Working in partnership with Eglin Air Force Base and conservation groups, NRI is relocating and monitoring GT into suitable habitat that will be managed long-term. Translocations serve to improve military mission readiness and training flexibility through the acceleration of GT recovery. Over 500 GTs have been translocated to date.

# BY THE NUMBERS



**16.6K people engaged** through extension presentations (86), scientific presentations (74), and workshops (19).



**\$10.7M in funding** for research and innovative extension projects.



**29 students supported** through NRI funding and mentorship.



**77 publications** including peer-reviewed publications (39), extension publications (13), and project reports (25).



**69K blog views** by 44.6K visitors on the NRI and Wild Wonderings websites.

**5.6K people reached** through NRI newsletters—Quail Decline Initiative, Conservation Matters, Wild Pigs, and SERPPAS.

**7.7K social media followers** with 1.3M reaches—Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Youtube channels.



## NRI.TAMU.EDU

Twitter: @TAMU\_NRI

Facebook: @TAMUNRI

Instagram: @TAMU\_NRI

---

## SERVICES

Our team provides the following technical and professional services:

- Project Management and Environmental Planning
- Environmental Monitoring and Field Surveys
- Statistical Analyses and Ecological Modeling
- Geospatial and Remote Sensing Analyses
- Database Design and Web-based Mapping
- Communication and Engagement Strategies

---

## LOCATIONS

To assist in our regional partnerships and projects, our scientists and staff are located at multiple offices: College Station, San Antonio, Dallas and Washington, D.C.

### PHOTO CREDITS

Leslie Lee; Tiffany McFarland;  
Steve Rainwater; Dr. Dale Rollins;  
Mary Snieckus; U.S. Department of Agriculture;  
3rd Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas