Wildlife Habitat Council Program

2025 Annual Report

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TandemGlobal Business and nature for good

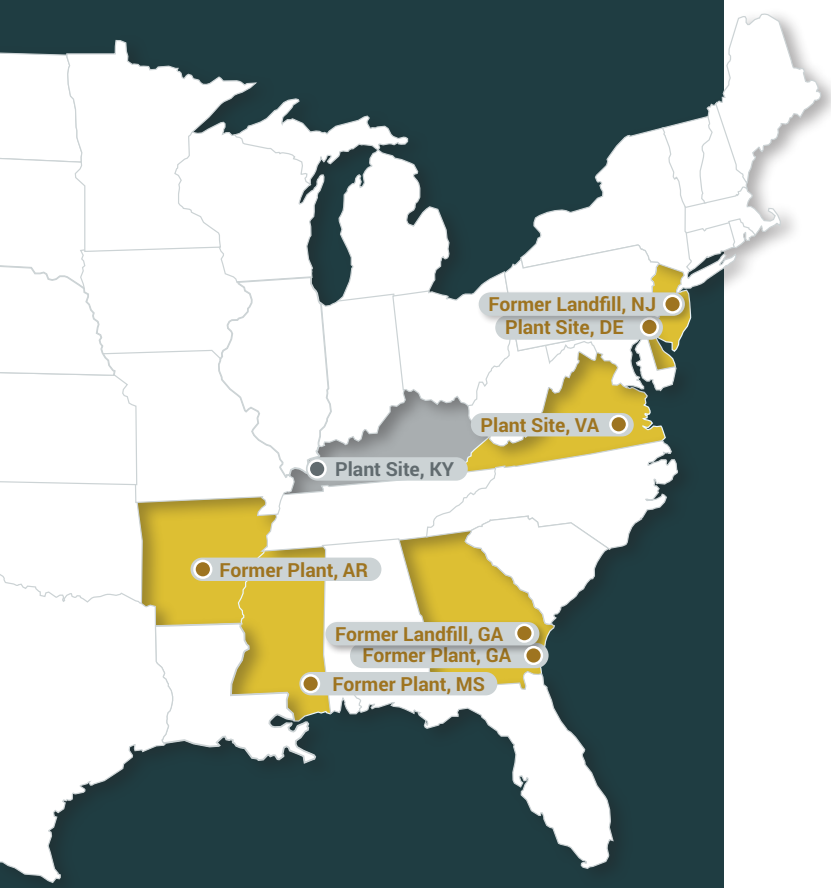
Content

Eastern bumblebee (Bombus impatiens) pollinating a white foxglove beardtongue (Penstemon digitalis) flower at the Plant Site, DE

Woodard & Curran

Ashland is fully committed to supporting biodiversity efforts through conserving key natural resources and protecting habitats in areas that Ashland impacts throughout the company's value chain.

– Ashland, Inc.



WHC CERTIFICATION CERTIFIED GOLD Powered by Tandem Global

WHC CERTIFICATION CERTIFIED SILVER Powered by Tandem Global

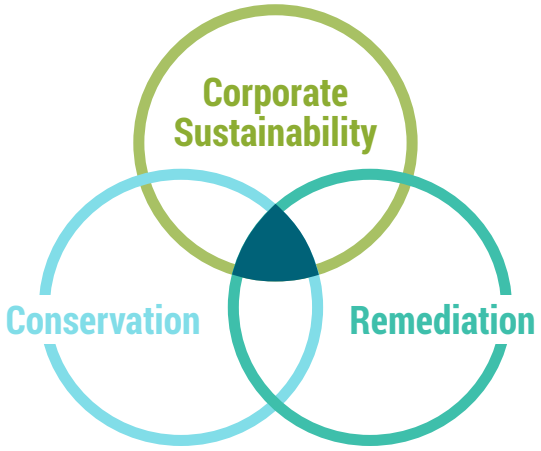
Program Overview

In 2025, Ashland continued to demonstrate leadership in biodiversity enhancement and conservation with the achievement of three gold-tier Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) recertifications.

WHC Certification, powered by Tandem Global, is the world's only voluntary sustainability standard recognizing wildlife habitat management and conservation programs on corporate lands. Ashland has collaborated with the WHC Certification team on the implementation of conservation programs for over fifteen years and currently has eight certified sites, seven of which are gold-certified.

In 2025, Ashland programs were recognized at the annual Conservation Conference with a total of five nominations in the Reptiles and Amphibians Project, Bats Project, and Avian Project awards categories. The Plant Site, VA site was honored as the winner of the Avian Project Award, representing one of the highest-scoring projects in the category.

Ashland remediation manager Ian McCary accepts the Avian Award on behalf of the Plant Site, VA program at the Tandem Global 2025 Conservation Conference.



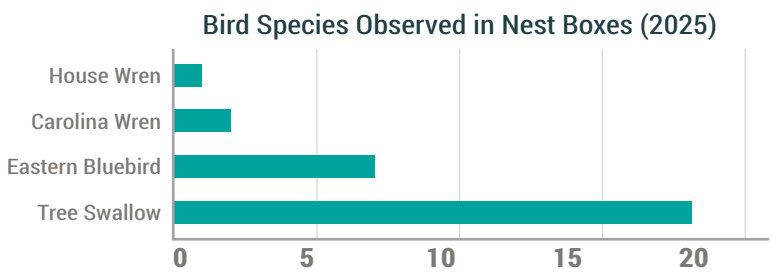
Plant Site, DE

Wilmington, DE

The Plant Site, DE program includes a 2.3-acre managed grassland on the former landfill, a maintained native pollinator garden, and adjacent riparian and forested areas along Red Clay Creek. Together, these habitats support avian, mammal, bat, and pollinator monitoring projects across the site.

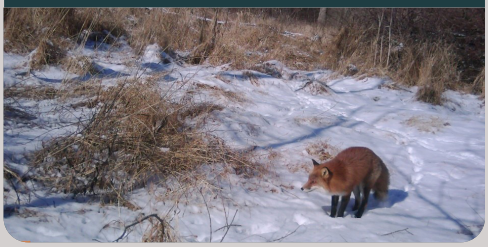
2025 represented the first full monitoring season for new species efforts implemented in the previous year, including game cameras, acoustic bat monitoring, and pollinator boxes. The addition of these species monitoring projects provide year over year data that demonstrates habitat value on site. For example, recorded bat passes increased in 2025 and indicate strong and consistent bat presence on site, including state endangered species - little brown bat *(Myotis lucifugus)* and tricolored bat *(Perimyotis subflavus)*.

Continued management of the grassland and pollinator garden provide important habitat to support bat colonies. For the second consecutive year, the Pollinator Garden maintained high vegetative cover and 100% native species, providing important foraging resources to native wildlife on site. Additional management activities including targeted invasive species mowing in the grassland, and continued maintenance and management of the avian nest boxes, leading to increased success of the project in 2025, with over two dozen nestlings presumed to have fledged from the boxes.



2025

Achieved Gold Certification with 6 species projects and 2 habitats, including the newly added mammals project and expanded bats project.



2023

Research Center program finalist for Bats Project Award and winner of the Remediation Project Award at the WHC Conservation Conference.

2022

Achieved Gold Certification for existing habitat and species projects, and the newly established pollinator garden habitat and associated pollinator species project.

2020

Achieved Silver Certification with the addition of a bat species project that included installation of three bat boxes to promote use of the grassland habitat.

2018

Achieved Silver Certification for grassland and avian species projects which expanded to include wood duck boxes, ground nest monitoring and formal point surveys.

2016

Achieved Silver Certification for grassland and avian species projects with over 75% of nest boxes showing nesting activity.

2014

Achieved WHC Certification through the Wildlife at Work program for conserving grassland habitat and meeting the life cycle needs of native avian species.

Wildlife Habitat Council Program Map

Plant Site - DE

Legend

- Bird and Duck Boxes
- Pollinator Nesting Box
- Game Camera
- Bat Box
- Pollinator Garden
- Grassland Habitat

N

0 190 380 Feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0236122
Map Created: April 2026

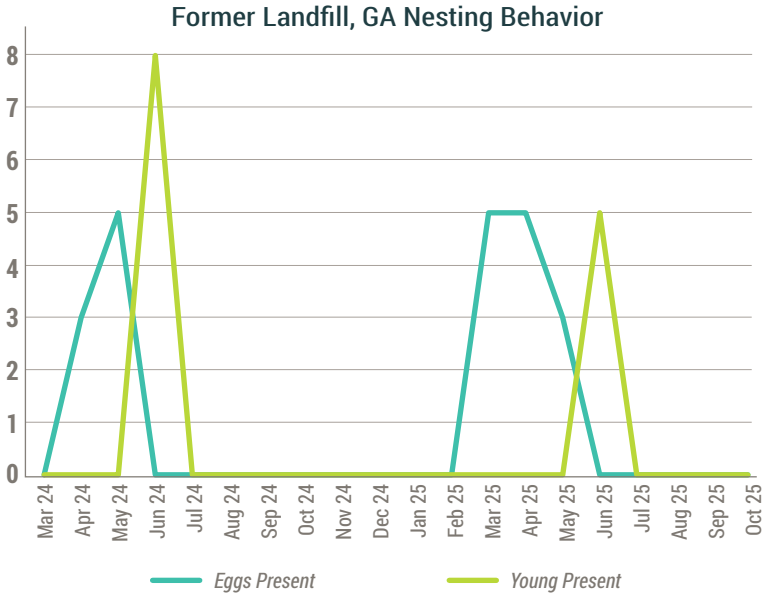
Former Landfill, GA

Brunswick, GA

The Former Landfill, GA program habitats include approximately 3 acres of freshwater ponds and wetland fringe and a 1-acre grassland meadow on the former landfill that support avian, mammal, pollinator, and reptile & amphibian species monitoring projects.

In 2025, the continuation of vegetation management and monitoring in the wetland and grassland habitats contributed to the overall success of the program by providing native vegetation for wildlife. In both habitats, species abundance and diversity has increased and the implementation of quantitative, scientifically rigorous monitoring protocols has deepened understanding of overall habitat health.

Additional management activities including seeding the landfill grassland, replacement of pollinator boxes, and the installation of nest boxes on free-standing poles with predator guards have contributed to the success of habitat and species projects within the program. 2025 continued to see evidence of nesting and fledging by native species from the avian nest boxes.



2025

Achieved Gold certification for seven projects, including remediation and mammals, with game cameras capturing use of the former landfill grassland by red fox *(Vulpes vulpes)*.

2024

Reptiles and Amphibians project highlighted in the WHC White Paper *Enhancing Habitat for Reptiles and Amphibians* for herpatile conservation efforts in the wetland habitat.

2022

Achieved Gold Certification with the addition of separate species projects for the wetlands and waterbodies habitat for ongoing conservation monitoring activities.

2020

Achieved Silver Certification for landfill meadow habitat and species monitoring including avian nest boxes and pollinators.

2018

Achieved WHC Certification for habitat and species projects, including monitoring reptiles and amphibians on basking logs and coverboards in the wetlands and waterbodies habitat.

2016

Achieved Silver WHC Certification status for documentation of native wildlife using the habitats on the site.

2015

Wetlands and Waterbodies and Remediation projects established with game camera and coverboard installation to monitor avian, mammal, reptile, and amphibian use of the habitat.

Wildlife Habitat Council Program Map

Former Landfill - GA

Legend

- Basking Log
- Bird Nesting Box
- Game Camera
- Pollinator Nesting Box
- Coverboards
- Wildflower Field
- Water Wetland

N

0 90 180 Feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0236122
Map Created: April 2026

Former Plant, GA

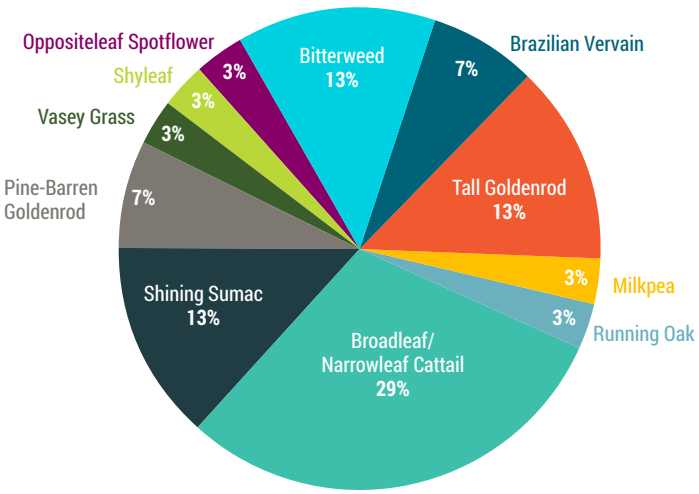
Brunswick, GA

The Former Plant, GA includes 120 acres of grasslands and forest habitat for native wildlife including birds, mammals, and pollinators.

In 2025, habitat monitoring and management have continued to support the growth of native species in the forest and grassland habitats. Notably, the grassland was seeded with a native mix, after which the landfill meadow increased in total cover as well as species abundance and diversity. Bitterweed *(Helenium amarum)*, a native annual wildflower, was observed in the grassland and strongly supports pollinators species.

Notable species observed foraging in the grassland in 2025 include monarch butterflies *(Danaus Plexippus)*, gulf fritillary *(Agraulis vanillae)* and wildlife such as red fox *(Vulpes vulpes)*. Adaptive management will continue to target increasing native plant species and providing habitat and connectivity for wildlife in the surrounding area.

2025 Wildflower Field Relative Abundance



2025

Achieved Gold Certification for habitat and species projects highlighting avian, pollinator, and mammalian wildlife on site.

2022

Achieved Gold Certification for the addition of a mammal species project and continued habitat and species monitoring.

2020

Achieved Silver Certification for the wildflower field, forest habitat and species (avian/pollinator) conservation projects.

2018

Achieved WHC Certification for the ongoing monitoring and maintenance of the wildflower habitat and associated species, as well as invasive species control measures for the mimosa tree.

2016

Achieved Silver WHC Certification for the wildflower habitat project and associated avian and pollinator species projects, along with an educational partnership program with the Coastal College of Georgia to collect scientific data and provide learning opportunities for students.

2014

Achieved WHC Certification through Wildlife at Work program for improving the wildlife habitat and raising environmental awareness following the completion of remedial activities on site.

2011

Stockpile area seeded with native species to serve as a wildflower field habitat and support native wildlife species and projects within the WHC program.

Wildlife Habitat Council Programs Map

Former Plant - GA

Legend

- Pollinator Nesting Box
- Game Camera
- Bird Nesting Box
- WildflowerField
- Forest Habitat

N

0 100 200 Feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0236122
Map Created: April 2026

Third Party GIS Disclaimer: This map is for reference and graphical purposes only and should not be relied upon by third parties for any legal decisions. Any reliance upon the map or data contained herein shall be at the users' sole risk. Microsoft, Vantor

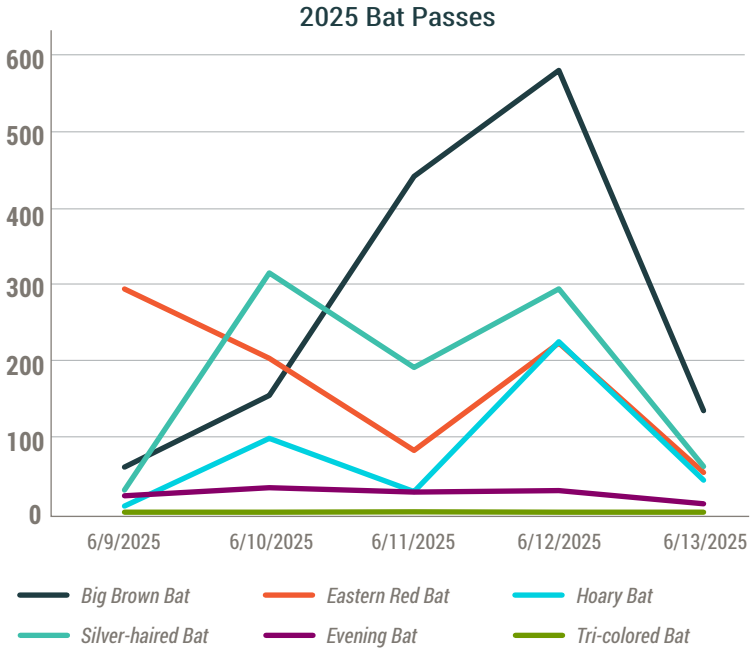
Figure Exported: 4/30/2026 By: Mia Hald Using: \\woodardcurran.net\shared\Projects\Amland Inc\0236122.01 WHC Mgt Firm Landfill GA\wip\GIS\Project Files\WHC Maps\WHC Maps.aprx Layout: Former Plant - GA

Former Landfill, NJ

Burlington, NJ

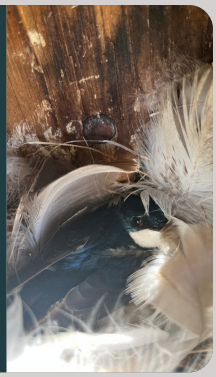
The Former Landfill, NJ site is a 7-acre former landfill that was capped and seeded with native grasses in 2012 to create viable grassland habitat for native vegetation and wildlife. Since then, the program has adapted and expanded throughout its lifespan to address management considerations, regulatory requirements, and new conservation and education opportunities.

In 2025, species monitoring efforts continued, focusing on mammals, bats, and avian nest boxes. Updates to the acoustic bat monitoring program resulted in the identification of six species of bats onsite during the one-week deployment of the acoustic monitor in mid-June. This number has increased from previous summers where only two species were recorded. Five of the species identified onsite have been listed as species of special concern in New Jersey, and one bat identified has been listed as endangered *(*Tricolored bat - *Perimyotis subflavus)*. The enhanced acoustic monitoring dataset of bat presence indicates that the habitats onsite support sensitive bat populations.



2025

The Former Landfill, NJ program was recognized as a finalist for top-scoring projects in the Bats and Avian awards category at the 2025 Conservation Conference.



2024

Achieved Gold Certification with 8 projects bolstered by the addition of pollinator boxes to the grassland habitat.

2023

Featured in a WHC Member Success Story for strong habitat and species programs as well as educational partnership with Rutgers University.

2021

Achieved Gold Certification with the addition of pollinator, invasive species, and remediation projects.

2019

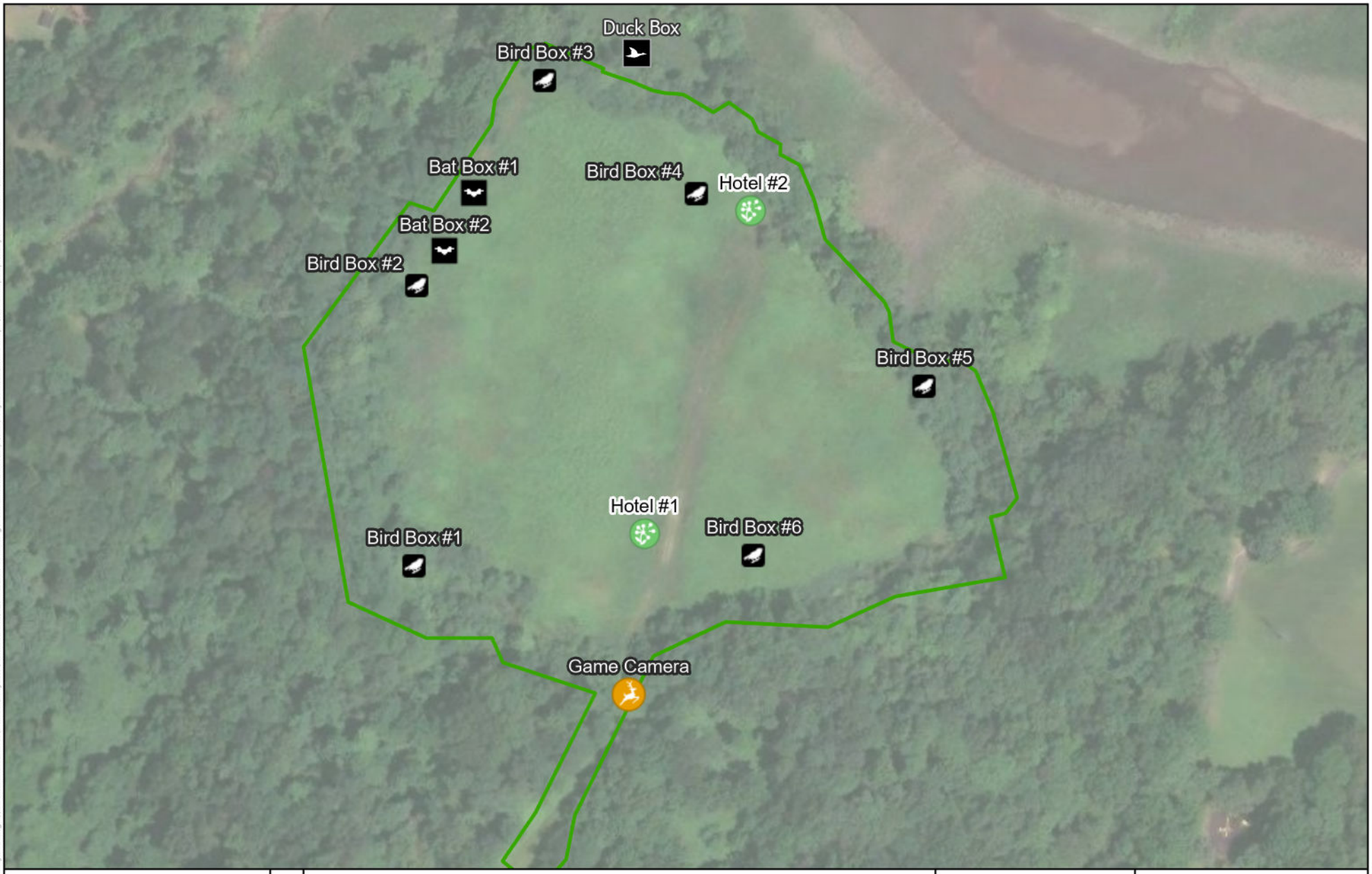
Achieved Silver Certification for existing projects and the addition of a new land mammal camera project.

2016

Achieved Gold Certification for grassland habitat, bats/avian species, and educational projects.

2012

Stockpile area seeded with native species to serve as a wildflower field habitat and support native wildlife species and projects within the WHC program.



Wildlife Habitat Council Program Map

Former Landfill - NJ

Legend

- Bat Boxes
- Bird Boxes
- Duck Boxes
- Pollinator Nesting Box
- Game Camera
- Grassland Habitat

N

0 85 170 Feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0236122
Map Created: April 2026

Plant Site, VA

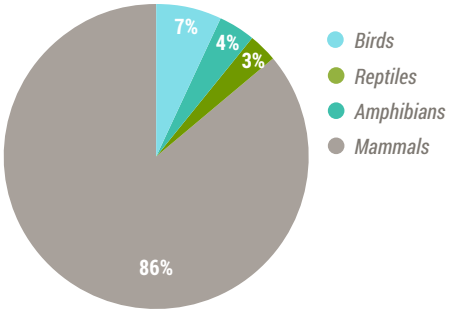
Hopewell, VA

The Plant Site, VA includes an 8-acre landfill cap meadow surrounded by forest and freshwater ponds with associated wetland fringe habitat.

In 2025, these habitats supported several species projects including reptiles and amphibians, pollinators, avian, bats, and mammals. Management of habitats continues to address invasive species with targeted mowing events and annual vegetation monitoring to assess progress towards habitat goals. Due to these management efforts, the presence of target vegetation species in the landfill has increased since 2022 and continues to support a wide variety of native wildlife.

Increased opportunistic wildlife sightings were documented on site in 2025, including overhead bird passes via the Cornell Lab of Ornithology Merlin Bird ID app. These acoustic detections help inform understanding of avian use of the site, in addition to regular nest box monitoring. Targeted cavity nesting songbirds such as Eastern bluebird *(Sialis sialis)*, tufted titmouse *(Baeolophus bicolor)*, and black-capped chickadees *(Poecile atricapillus)* were detected over the grassland as well as a number of waterfowl utilizing the wetland habitat. In addition to increased avian detections, new species of reptiles and amphibians including spring peepers *(Pseudacris crucifer)*, eastern mud turtle *(Kinosternon subrubrum)*, and box turtle *(Terrapene carolina)* were observed on site in 2025.

Opportunistic Wildlife Sightings



2025

The Plant Site, VA program was honored with three project award nominations and winner of the Avian Project Award at the annual Conservation Conference.

2024

Achieved Gold Certification with the addition of separate species projects for the wetlands and waterbodies habitat for ongoing conservation monitoring activities.

2022

Program efforts increased with the addition of bat boxes, an owl box, and coverboards to support native wildlife species.

2021

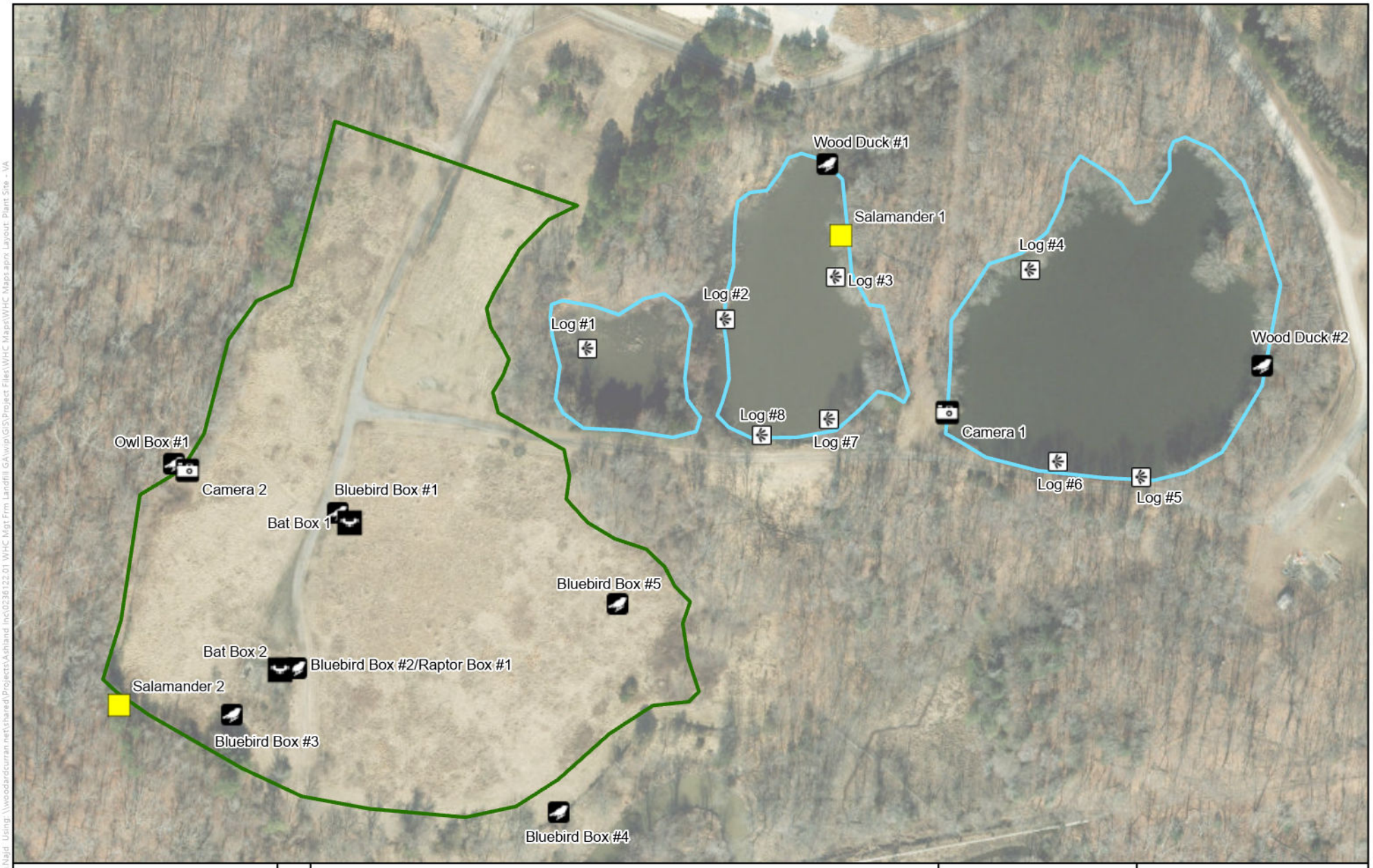
Achieved Gold Certification with five species projects centered around the grassland and wetlands and water bodies habitat projects.

2021

Wildlife Habitat Program restarts efforts after conservation commitment and partnership since 1992.

2017

Landfill cap reseeded with a native wildflower meadow mix to support native wildlife species.



Wildlife Habitat Council Program Map

Plant Site - VA

Legend

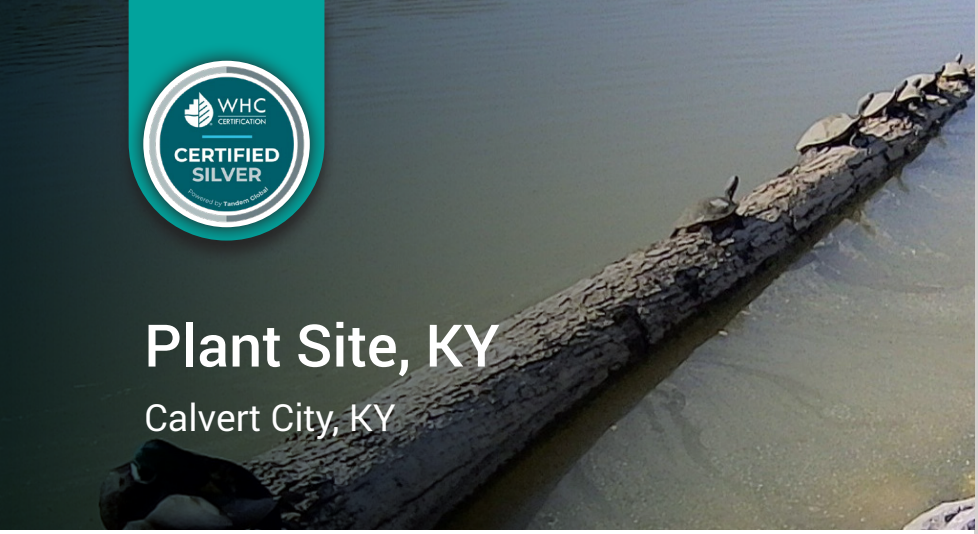
- Coverboards
- Bat Box
- Bird/Duck Box
- Basking Log
- Trail Cameras
- Grassland Habitat
- Wetlands/Water Bodies

N

0 100 200 Feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0236122
Map Created: April 2026



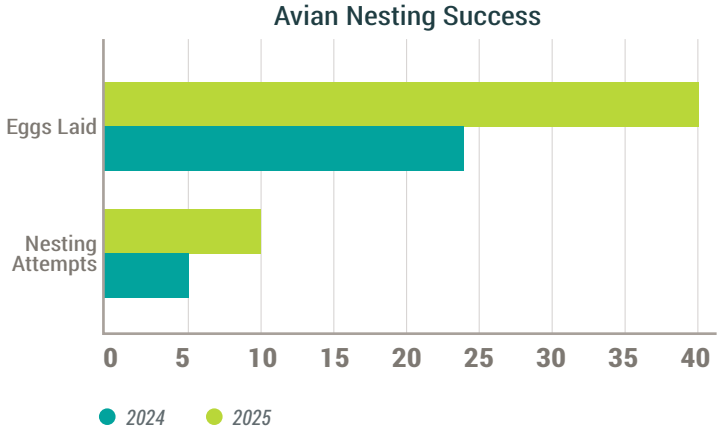
Plant Site, KY

Calvert City, KY

A WHC program was established at the 150-acre Plant site, KY in 2024 with the addition of avian nesting boxes, game cameras, and basking logs to 6 acres of grassland and 1 acre of pond/wetland habitat.

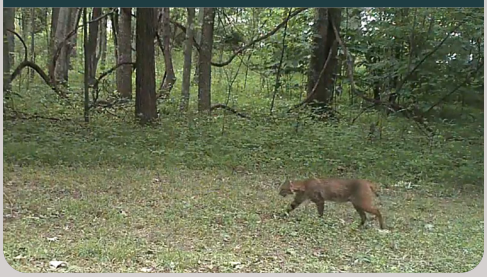
The sedimentation pond water body habitat covers approximately 1 acre and supports reptile and amphibian species. The addition of basking logs to the pond provide habitat for thermoregulation during warm weather.

The closed landfill cap grassland habitat reduced its mowing schedule in 2025 and was seeded with a native mix to promote the growth of native vegetation for the benefit of wildlife. Currently, the grassland supports native cavity nesting songbirds, including tree swallows *(Tachycineta bicolor)* and eastern bluebirds *(Sialis sialis)* through the use of six nesting boxes. All six nesting boxes have been consistently utilized, with multiple nesting attempts per season and competition observed between the two species for the nesting habitat in a few of the boxes. In 2025, over 40 eggs were laid in nesting boxes with most presumed to have fledged by the end of the nesting season. This number is an increase from 24 observed eggs during the first nesting season in 2024, and indicates that the nest boxes and surrounding grassland are providing habitat for target species.



2025

Habitat management activities including strategic mowing, seeding, and management of bird boxes contributed to increased wildlife activity and diversity onsite including bobcat *(Lynx rufus)*.



December 2024

Achieved Silver Certification with three species projects centered around the habitats onsite. Game cameras captured recurring visits from 9 different species of mammals over the course of 4 months.

March 2024

WHC Program established, avian nesting boxes installed around the perimeter of the landfill grassland habitat to provide habitat for cavity nesting songbirds.

2023

WHC Conservation Assessment completed to identify conservation opportunities at the Plant.

Wildlife Habitat Council Program Map

Plant Site - KY

Legend

- Basking Log
- Game Camera
- Avian Nesting Box
- Closed Landfill Grassland
- Sedimentation Pond
- Upland Forest

N

0 200 400 Feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0236122
Map Created: April 2026

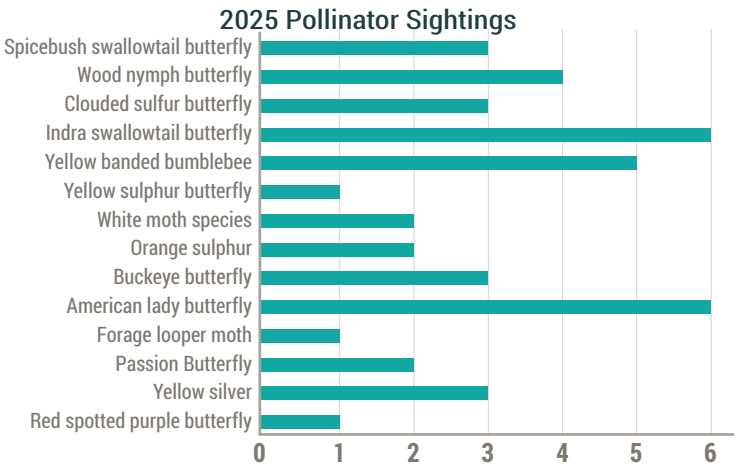
Former Plant, AR

Jacksonville, AR

The Former Plant, AR site contains approximately 93 acres of conserved habitat including forests, grasslands, and wetlands and waterbodies. Ongoing habitat improvements and monitoring at the site since 2000 have supported numerous wildlife conservation projects including game cameras for mammals, pollinator monitoring in the grasslands, and avian nesting boxes for native cavity nesting songbirds and wood ducks. Recent vegetation surveys and adaptive management support continued improvements in the habitats to support native wildlife.

Continued nest box maintenance such as pest and vegetation management led to continued nesting success and encouraged repeat nesting attempts throughout the season. In addition to the 11 nest boxes placed throughout the grassland, opportunistic bird surveys in 2025 also documented high species diversity among avian insectivores. Key species observed include Mississippi kite *(Ictinia mississippiensis)*, indigo bunting *(Passerina cyanea)*, and barn swallow *(Hirundo rustica)*.

In addition to increased bird counts in the summer months, pollinator abundance also peaked on site during the warm season. Fourteen different species of butterflies and moths were observed on site during the monitoring season.



2025

In 2025, success of the nest box program continued with 20 individuals presumed to have fledged. Nesting attempts were made by targeted native cavity nesting songbirds including eastern bluebirds *(Sialis sialis)* and Carolina wren *(Thryothorus ludovicianus)*.

2023

Achieved Gold Certification for six habitat and three species projects.

2021

Achieved Silver Certification for the forest habitat and avian and mammal species projects.

2020

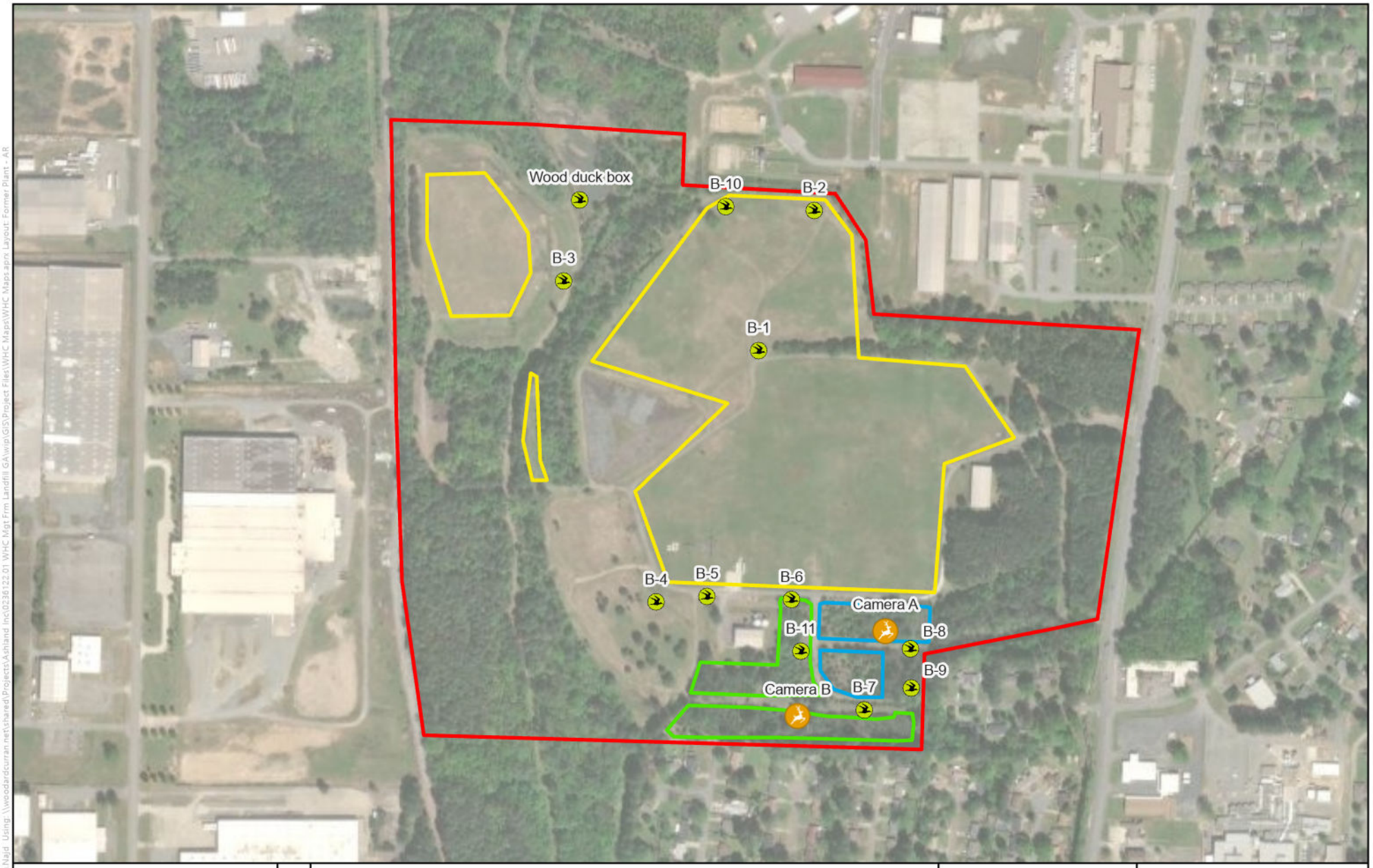
Restarted the formal WHC Program to document the use of forest, wetland, and grassland habitats by native species.

2015

Natural Regrowth and Urban Reforestation habitats were seeded and surveyed for a species inventory to provide a baseline monitoring and demonstrate increased species diversity over time.

2014

Achieved certification through WHC's former Wildlife at Work program for ongoing habitat improvements and wildlife monitoring at the site since 2000.



Wildlife Habitat Council Program Map

Former Plant - AR

Legend

- Bird and Duck Boxes
- Game Cameras
- Site Boundary
- Urban Reforestation Area
- Natural Regrowth Area
- Grassland

N

0 300 600 Feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0236122
Map Created: April 2026

Former Plant, MS

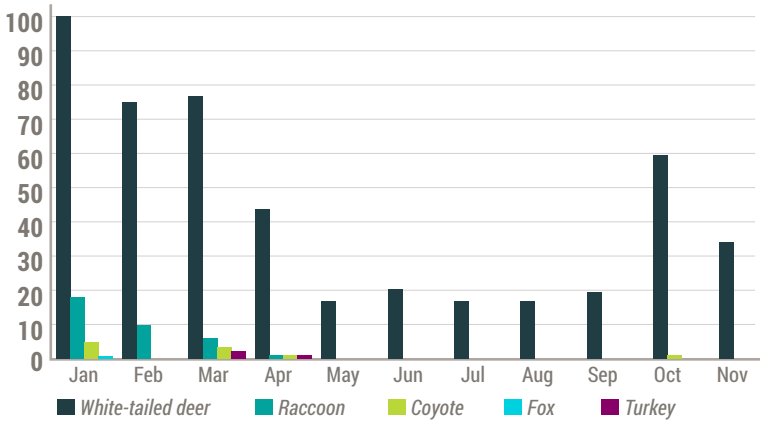
Hattiesburg, MS

The Former Plant, MS contains 5.5 acres of grassland habitat including a pollinator meadow and native food plot for wildlife foraging. Species monitoring targets native cavity-nesting songbirds, pollinators, and mammals that utilize on-site habitats for life cycle needs including breeding, foraging, shelter, and movement.

In 2025, five new avian nesting boxes were installed on site to improve habitat desirability for target species. Early spring monitoring identified nesting attempts by bluebirds in three out of five boxes and a total of twelve eggs laid. Pest prevention includes the application of bar soap to the inside of the boxes to prevent insect, and will be continued in future monitoring season to help support the success of target avian species.

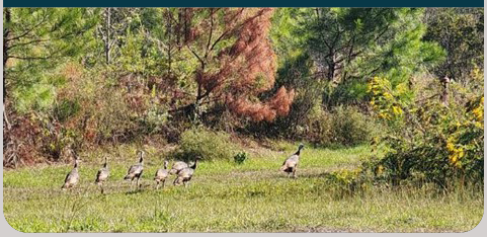
Additional monitoring efforts include two remote sensing game cameras to capture mammal activity in the grasslands, such as white-tailed deer *(Odocoileus virginianus)*, raccoons *(Procyon lotor)*, and coyotes *(Canis latrans)*. 2025 monitoring shows an active mammal community, with white-tailed deer representing the dominant species captured on both cameras. Both cameras saw peaks of deer activity in the winter, consistent with typical winter grouping behavior and increased movement for foraging resources.

Game Camera Observations



2025

The grassland habitat continues to provide nesting and foraging for numerous mammal species including eastern wild turkey *(Meleagris gallopavo)*.



2023

Achieved Gold Certification for the success of the habitat and species conservation projects including game cameras, pollinators, and avian nest box monitoring.

2021

Achieved Silver Certification for the native food plot and pollinator meadow grassland habitats and mammal, avian, and pollinator species conservation projects.

2021

Program expanded with the addition of mammal and pollinator species monitoring projects to evaluate the use of the enhanced grassland habitats by native species.

2020

WHC Program established on site with native food plot and pollinator grassland habitats and avian nest boxes.

Wildlife Habitat Council Program Map

Former Plant - MS

Legend

- Game Camera
- Nest Box Location

Grassland Habitats

Name

- Native Food Plot Area
- Pollinator Grassland

N

0 150 300 Feet

Woodard & Curran

Project #: 0236122

Map Created: April 2026

Companies achieving WHC Certification, like Ashland, are environmental leaders, voluntarily managing their lands to support sustainable ecosystems and the communities that surround them.

– Margaret O'Gorman, CEO Tandem Global

Ashland™
always solving

TandemGlobal
Business and nature for good

Woodard & Curran