



Agroforestry and National Wildlife Federation

**“Agroforestry Horizons: Experiences,
Challenges, and Reflections”
USDA National Agroforestry Center
April 27th and 28th
Washington, D.C.**

What are your organization's goals and needs?

- Ding Darling: "Wildlife doesn't vote and neither do conservationists..."
- *National Wildlife Federation -- Inspiring Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future.*
- State and territorial affiliates
- Almost 6 million members

Major relevant campaigns

1. Healing Our Great Waters, including Chesapeake, Great Lakes, etc.
2. Grasslands—protecting remaining native grasslands and also increasing grass-based agriculture for wildlife and water quality
3. Bioenergy—supporting growth and use of herbaceous and woody feedstocks that don't harm wildlife and reduce near-term carbon emissions

How might agroforestry help you achieve your goals/meet your needs?

Avoid plantings in places/ways that directly harm wildlife spp of concern:

- Near grassland spp like prairie chickens bc trees provide raptor perches and decrease nesting suitability for interior-nesting birds
- Invasive spp.

Riparian buffers are very important parts of watershed restoration

Short-rotation woody (SRW) biomass planted as field buffers, such as willow or aspen, could grow “additional carbon” for truly carbon-neutral biomass

How might NAC and/or universities, other agroforestry experts help you?

Identify opportunities to achieve additional wildlife benefits or minimize impacts:

- riparian buffers
- SRW biomass plantings
- Using woody spp like cottonwood as nurse trees for slower-growing spp like oaks, particularly if planted in bottomlands, like GreenTrees

Identify plantings/contexts where agroforestry makes financial sense