



Illustris Palustris Award 2013



In 2013, the NC Longleaf Coalition Steering Committee selected Susan Miller as the first recipient of the Illustris Palustris Award. This award is designed to be an annual recognition of a qualified individual with outstanding contributions to the maintenance and restoration of North Carolina's Longleaf Pine ecosystem. Susan was honored at the joint event "Working Together for Longleaf and Prescribed Fire", sponsored by the NC Longleaf Coalition and the NC Prescribed Fire Council.

As a professional wildlife biologist Susan has an outstanding knowledge of the longleaf pine ecosystem and the many species dependent upon it while also serving as advocate for longleaf through active participation in many conservation groups. She shows great leadership capacity by promoting longleaf in our state and by fostering partnerships within the longleaf pine conservation community.

Susan leads the NC Sandhills Safe Harbor Program for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, administering 119 Safe Harbor agreements and working closely with landowners to restore longleaf habitat. She is the coordinator of the NC Sandhills Partnership and an active member of the RCW Recovery Working Group of that Partnership. Susan is a valuable and involved member of the North Carolina Prescribed Fire Council and has served on the Fire Council Board as secretary.

In 2009, as part of her Natural Resources Leadership Institute project, Susan initiated North Carolina Longleaf Initiative, laying the foundation for what became the NC Longleaf Coalition. Susan's efforts in North Carolina followed the America's Longleaf vision and folded into the first facilitated North Carolina Longleaf Pine Coalition Meeting in March 2010 at Yates Mill County Park.

Since that time Susan has been a key leader to the NC Longleaf Coalition. Her excellent motivational and organizational skills have kept the NC Longleaf Coalition running strong and efficiently. Susan is instrumental in the outreach and education efforts of the Coalition, including landowner and natural resource professional workshops, outreach and media events, website development, social media, and list serve communication. Susan is a member of the Longleaf Alliance and the current the co-chair of the Nc Longleaf Coalition. Congratulations to Susan for a well deserved recognition.



Providing instrumental leadership to the NC Longleaf Coalition since its inception in 2010, NCLC recognizes Susan Miller as the first recipient of the Illustris Palustris Award for her vast contributions to longleaf conservation.