

"For all of us, it was a labor of love," -Bruce Richardson, RGS' first president.

It remains so today.



GROUSE & WOODCOCK \* CONSERVATION \* MEMBERSHIP \* EVENTS BLOG \* STORE ABOUT US \*

#### Uniting Conservationists to Improve Wildlife Habitat and Forest Health.



photo by NatureExposure.com



## Why Ruffed Grouse?

- Forest dependent
- Thrive in healthy, diverse forests
- Non-migratory

Ruffed Grouse are a bellwether!











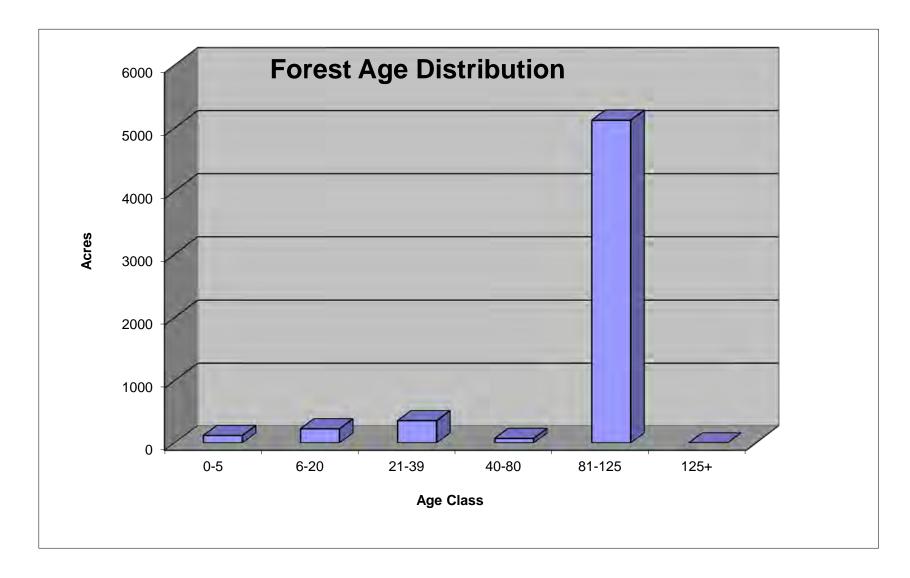
- Grouse populations have declined 50% on average range wide.
- Local extinctions and range contraction are happening.
- The loss of high-quality habitat on a landscape scale makes grouse less capable of coping with stressors like West Nile, predation, and weather events.
- Large scale habitat actions will be needed to sustain ruffed grouse populations in the Eastern U.S.
- Some entities are engaging in local habitat work, but the scope and scale of the decline calls for a different approach at landscape scales.

#### Eastern Grouse Working Group, December 2020

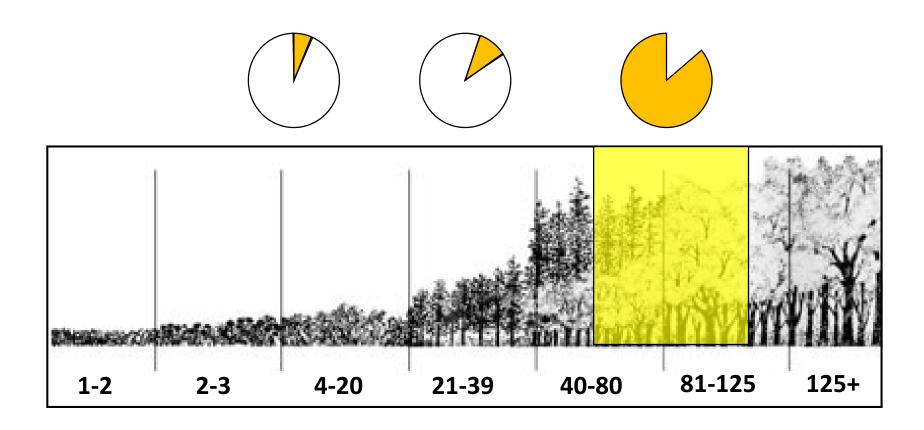




































#### Helping Rural Economies

Not only do healthy forests increase vitality of wildlife habitats, they also support and reinvigorate rural economies. For communities that rely on timber, paper, furniture, construction, and tourism, having healthy, diverse forests will positively impact these regional economies now and in the future.













ESTABLISHED IN 2000





#### A New Model

- Forest Conservation Directors
- Regional Business Plans

   Upper Great Lakes
   Mid-Atlantic
   Northeast
   Southern Appalachians
- Self-Sustaining Network

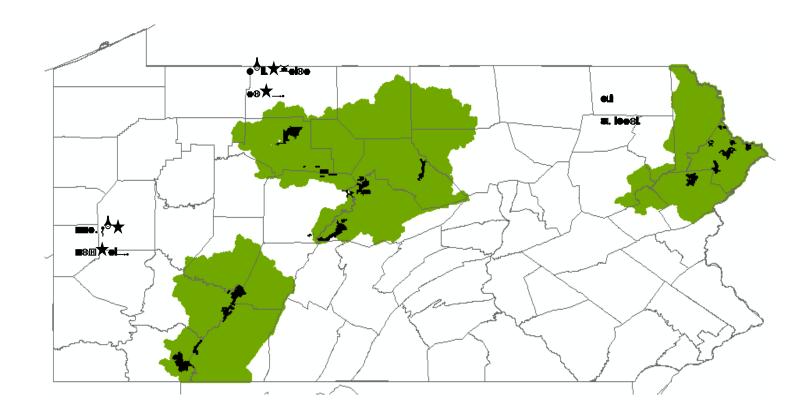




### Dynamic Forest Partnership

Proven in PA

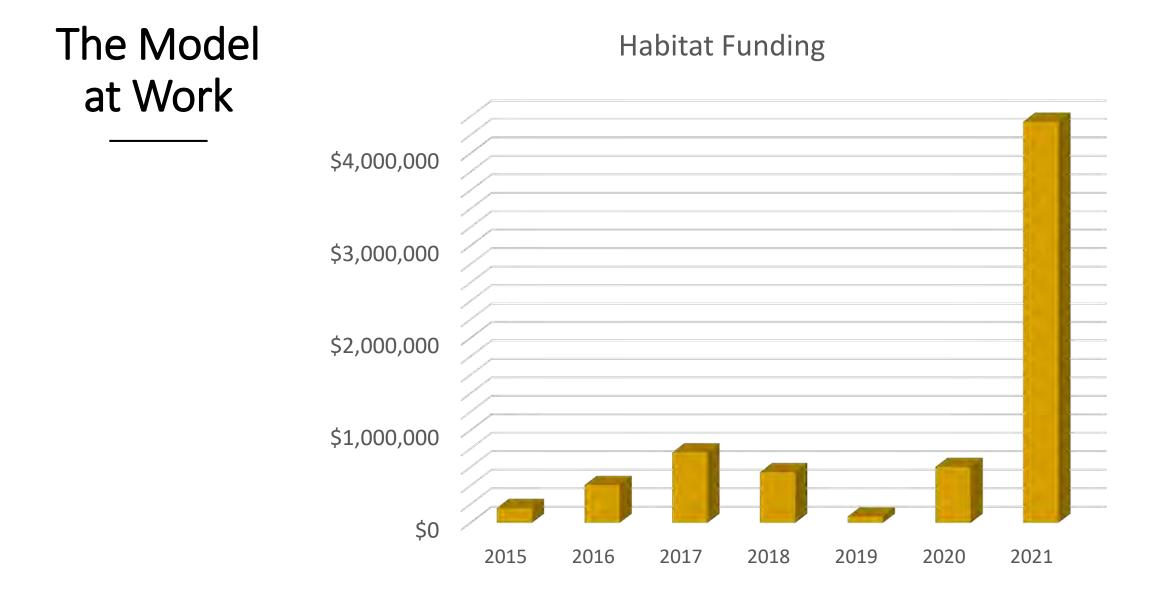
- \$1.6M in habitat funding.
- Over 200,000 acres with increased forest management.
- Adding to the system in 2022.



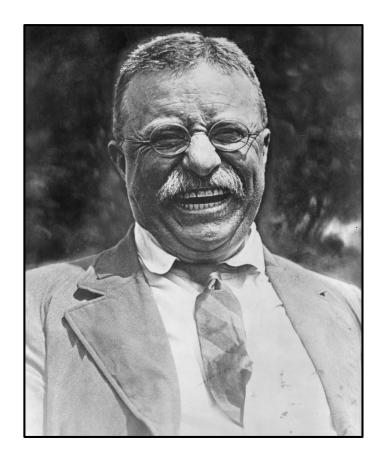




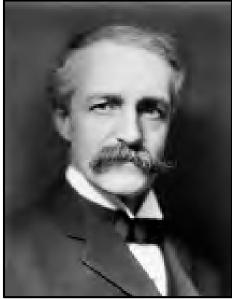




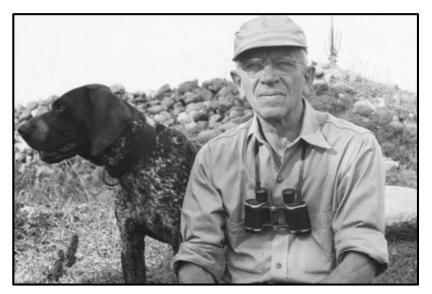














#### Onward!

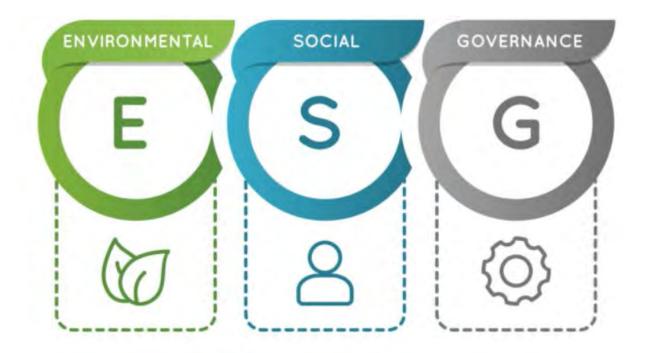
\$1 billion for projects that <u>create market</u> <u>opportunities</u> for commodities, including forest products, that use climate-smart practices.





#### Onward!

Bloomberg projects global ESG assets could exceed \$53 trillion by 2025 – more than 1/3 of total global assets under management.











# RGS JAWS

RUFFED GROUSE SOCIETY | AMERICAN WOODCOCK SOCIETY

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