



## Impact of deer food plots on songbirds and small mammals

### Volunteers Needed For Bird Surveys in New York and Pennsylvania

We are requesting you to be one of the volunteers for this project. This is the first research study of non game use of deer food plots of this size and scale. There are many unanswered questions on the impacts of deer food plots on non game species, and we encourage you to be part of this groundbreaking research! This project looks great on resumes and is a perfect fit for all birders. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Quality Deer Management Association have funded this project. The project is advised by Dr. Karl V. Miller, a professor of Wildlife Ecology and Management.



**National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**

*Dedicated to the conservation of fish, wildlife and plants, and the habitats on which they depend.*



25 March 2008

Hello:

We invite you to participate in a large scale study examining the impacts of deer food plots on songbirds and small mammals. I am a graduate student at the University of Georgia in the Wildlife Sciences Program working with Dr. Karl V. Miller, a professor of Wildlife Ecology and Management, and Brian P. Murphy, the executive director of the Quality Deer Management Association. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Quality Deer Management Association fund the project. We are looking for people with birding experience and preferably point count experience. Due to your interest in wildlife, we hope you will consider volunteering for this project.

We require volunteers for avian surveys for summers 2008 and 2009. In each year, volunteers will be responsible for conducting point counts during four mornings at each assigned site. There are 20 sites in the north, and volunteers can choose how many they would like to be responsible for. If necessary, housing may be provided for volunteers that drive a significant distance to reach the sites. The surveys need to be conducted in June.

This project will cover 40 total sites, 20 northern and 20 southern, on private, state, federal, and university land. Pennsylvania and New York are the focus areas in the North, and southern focus areas include Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. The sites are planted with perennial clover in deciduous hardwood forest landscapes and are between 1 and 5 acres in size. Small mammal surveys and vegetation measurements will be conducted by a mammalogist in the North. All data collection in the South will be orchestrated and collected by the University of Georgia.

Thank you for considering this offer. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or require additional information. If you are interested, please fill out the application below. I will make a trip to New York and Pennsylvania in April to give more details on the project to volunteers.

Sincerely,

Will Ricks  
Graduate Student  
Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources  
The University of Georgia  
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Enclosure

# Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at The University of Georgia

Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources <http://www.warnell.uga.edu/>

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation <http://www.nfwf.org/>

The Quality Deer Management Association <http://www.qdma.org/>

## Application for Volunteers

*Please type in and email back to me.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Field Seasons you can volunteer (Summer 2008/Summer 2009): \_\_\_\_\_

Years of Birding Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

Years of Bird Survey Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments/Questions/Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

If there are any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me at anytime.

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