

# Delta Wildlife

## Quail and Grassland Songbird Habitat Restoration Project

**2002 Project Progress Report - First year report of a 3-year project designed to restore 50 miles of Quail and Grassland Songbird Habitat in the Mississippi Delta**

### 2002 Project Sponsors

Delta Wildlife, Inc.  
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality  
Monsanto  
USDA-NRCS Wildlife Habitat Management Institute  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Wade, Inc.

### 2002 Project Cooperators

Delta Council  
Delta F.A.R.M.  
Delta Wildlife, Inc.  
Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce  
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality  
Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks  
Mississippi State University  
Monsanto  
Private Land Project Cooperators  
USDA-ARS Sedimentation Laboratory  
USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (State and Area Offices)  
USDA- NRCS Jamie Whitten Plant Materials Center  
USDA-NRCS Wildlife Habitat Management Institute  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Joint Water Management District  
FMC  
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation

### Project History & Objectives

White-tailed deer, waterfowl, turkey, and quail have always received the lion's share of conservation, management, and research attention. But over the past decade, water quality and non-consumptive wildlife species have become just as important. Upon recognition of this, Delta Wildlife decided to develop a single project that would address nearly all major wildlife and natural resource concerns in the region.

In the fall of 2000, Delta Wildlife began developing the Quail and Grassland Songbird Habitat Restoration Project. Delta Wildlife assembled a group of water quality specialist, wildlife biologists, natural resource planners, and farmers to establish project goals, objectives, and protocol (Implementation Committee). The results of these efforts yielded a three-year project



In some areas, the volume of run-off is too large to treat with a vegetative filter. In these areas, water control structures are used to stop sediment and create wetlands for waterfowl and wetland dependant species.

designed to reduce non-point source agricultural pollution, reduce sedimentation and soil erosion, improve water quality in adjacent water systems, restore quail habitat, restore grassland songbird habitat, provide travel corridors for white-tail deer, provide bugging and nesting areas for wild turkey, restore wetlands for waterfowl and

other wetland dependent species, improve adjacent fisheries, and provide cover and habitat for small game species on an agricultural landscape, all without effecting current production systems or taking land out of production.