

# Landcare-Like Projects in the Lower Mississippi Basin



National Association of Regional Councils

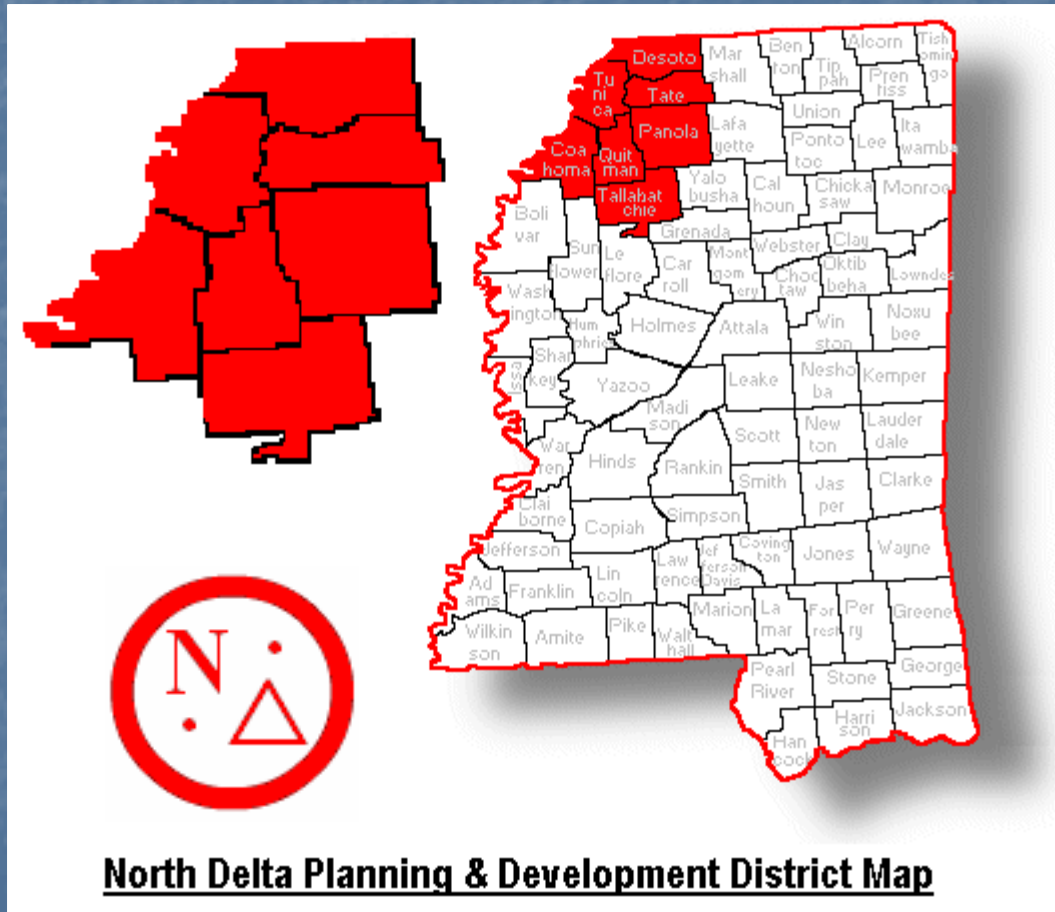
40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

San Antonio, Texas

Thomas G. Hamby, III

North Delta Planning & Development District, Inc.

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# North Delta PDD Population Trends

- From 1990 to 2000 population grew 25.4% from 184,856 to 231,712
- Four counties experienced a loss: Coahoma, Quitman, Tallahatchie, and Tunica
- DeSoto County increased 57.9%, making it one of the fastest growing areas in the nation

# Topography of the District

- All seven counties are in the Mississippi Alluvial Plain
- Coahoma, Quitman, and Tunica are completely in the Alluvial Plain
- DeSoto, Panola, Tate, and a small portion of Tallahatchie have areas in the Bluff Hills and North Central Hills

# Conservation Efforts

- Mississippi Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)
- Ducks Unlimited Conservation Program
- Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks

# Mississippi Wetlands Reserve Program

- 430+ easements enrolled in State
- 165,000 acres - second largest enrollment of WRP acres in nation
- Popularity with landowners has caused backlog of over 50,000 acres

# Mississippi Wetlands Reserve Program

- Reforestation of bottomland hardwood forests on more than 100,000 acres
- Hydrology restoration completed on more than 25,000 acres



# Ducks Unlimited Conservation Program

- Approximately 80% of previously forested land in the MAV cleared and converted to agriculture
- Over 250,000 acres restored by installing several water control structures, construction of terrace levees, and installation of pumps and water distribution systems

# Ducks Unlimited Conservation Program

- Partners include:
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  - MS Dept of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



# Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks

- North Mississippi Fish Hatchery located at Enid Reservoir
- 12 Native species
- Fish used to stock public lakes



# Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks

- Visitors center to promote awareness and conservation
- Aquarium and visitors fishing pond
- Opens Spring 2007





| NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION |        | PERMIT NO. | ISSUE DATE | EXPIRES |
|------------------------|--------|------------|------------|---------|
| NO. 1                  | NO. 1  | NO. 1      | NO. 1      | NO. 1   |
| NO. 2                  | NO. 2  | NO. 2      | NO. 2      | NO. 2   |
| NO. 3                  | NO. 3  | NO. 3      | NO. 3      | NO. 3   |
| NO. 4                  | NO. 4  | NO. 4      | NO. 4      | NO. 4   |
| NO. 5                  | NO. 5  | NO. 5      | NO. 5      | NO. 5   |
| NO. 6                  | NO. 6  | NO. 6      | NO. 6      | NO. 6   |
| NO. 7                  | NO. 7  | NO. 7      | NO. 7      | NO. 7   |
| NO. 8                  | NO. 8  | NO. 8      | NO. 8      | NO. 8   |
| NO. 9                  | NO. 9  | NO. 9      | NO. 9      | NO. 9   |
| NO. 10                 | NO. 10 | NO. 10     | NO. 10     | NO. 10  |

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**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE,  
 FISHERIES AND PARKS**

**GENERAL SITE PLAN**  
**NORTH MISSISSIPPI FISH HATCHERY**  
**ENID LAKE, MISSISSIPPI**

REV. NO. 1  
 DATE 11/15/11  
 C-2

# Benefits

- Bottomland hardwood forests filter out sediments and nutrients that would end up in MS River
- Reforestation of bottomland hardwood forest ecosystems provide critical habitat for fish and wildlife
- Restoration of critical foraging habitat to millions of migrating and wintering waterfowl
- Public waters stocked with healthy fish

# Benefits

- Create revenue for local, state, and federal entities
  - Coordinated efforts of several conservation agencies
  - Recreational opportunities for all ages
- \*Creating a more healthy and sustainable environment

# Contact Information

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