Cover Your A$$ets: Estate Planning, Conservation Planning and Income Options for Forestland Owners, Award winning 2-DVD/1-CD set now available

Whether you own 25 acres or 25,000, Cover Your A$$ets is a useful guide for anyone who owns forest or agricultural land and wishes to see it maintained for future generations.

Forestland ownership and management can be a real challenge in the face of a changing forest product market and the land boom overtaking many areas of the South. It takes careful planning and active management to keep forest property economically viable today and in a productive and healthy condition for generations to come.

Cover Your A$$ets is a resource that provides property owners, county officials and land managers with the tools they need to help maintain ownership and active management of forestland properties in a valuable and sustainable manner. This program won the FANREP 2007 Communications Award in the Outstanding DVD Category. Presented over two DVDs by some of the leading authorities on forestry, land management and financial planning, the program covers topics such as:

• Estate Planning
• Starting a Pine Straw Enterprise
• Conservation Easements
• Hunting Leases for Revenue
• Wildlife Management Assistance
• Silvopasture
• Rural Lands Stewardship
• Ecotourism

A supplementary CD provides information about the project, presenter bios and abstracts, and other publications and Web links for each topic covered on the DVDs. Watch sample video clips on Southern Regional Extension Forestry Site at http://sref.info/video/assets.

Upcoming Conferences

- **Restoration Planning and Techniques for Forested Lands (Natural Areas Teaching Academy)**
  April 15-17, Nature’s Classroom, Thonotosassa, FL
  Register by Friday, March 7 for early registration rate!
  For more information visit: [http://nata.snre.ufl.edu/](http://nata.snre.ufl.edu/)

- **39th Annual SAF/SFRC Spring Symposium**
  April 15-17, Paramount Hotel, Gainesville, FL
  More information will be posted soon at [http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu/events.html](http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu/events.html).

- **Joint Meeting of The Center for Plant Conservation & Florida Rare Plant Task Force**
  April 24-27, Garden House, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Miami, FL
  For more information, contact Joyce Maschinski at maschinski@fairchildgarden.org.

- **28th Florida Native Plant Society Annual Conference**
  May 14-18, Manatee Convention Center, Palmetto, FL (near Bradenton)

- **Carbon Credit Workshop**
  May 6 9am-11am at St. Johns Wind Mitigation Building, St. Augustine, FL

- **Organization of Wildlife Lands and Realty Specialists (OWLS) and Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) 24th Annual Conference**
  May 20-23 at the Hilton Hotel Cocoa Beach, FL
  Theme: “Sustaining Florida’s Wildlife Heritage Amid 21st Century Challenges”
  For more information visit: [http://www.ces.fau.edu/OWLS08](http://www.ces.fau.edu/OWLS08).

Recent Research Finding

**Natal den selection by Florida panthers**

Information regarding habitat types selected by federally endangered Florida panthers (*Puma concolor coryi*) at natal den sites is needed because habitats used for parturition and kitten rearing potentially influence fitness of individuals and viability of the population. We located 51 natal den sites of 30 female panthers and performed a Euclidean distance analysis to determine which habitat types were selected and avoided at dens in south Florida, USA. Panther dens were closer to upland hardwoods, pinelands, and mixed wet forests and farther from freshwater marsh-wet prairie ($P = 0.009$). We recommend that habitat protection efforts prioritize blocks of land that have abundant patches of upland hardwood, pinelands, and mixed wet forests to maintain preferred panther denning habitat.