

# DoD As a Sustainability Partner

Where We Are and Where We Can Go

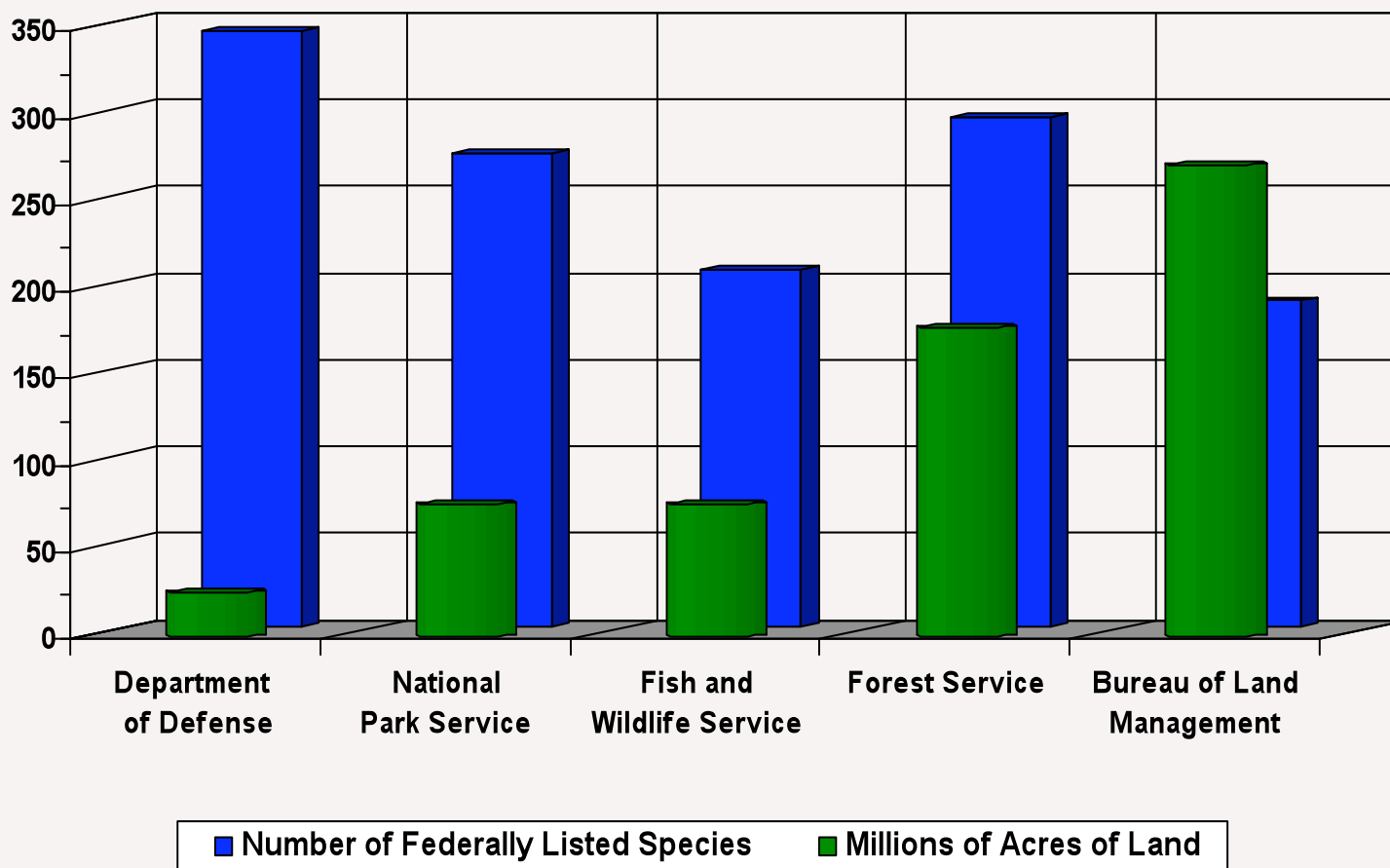
Bob Barnes, The Nature Conservancy

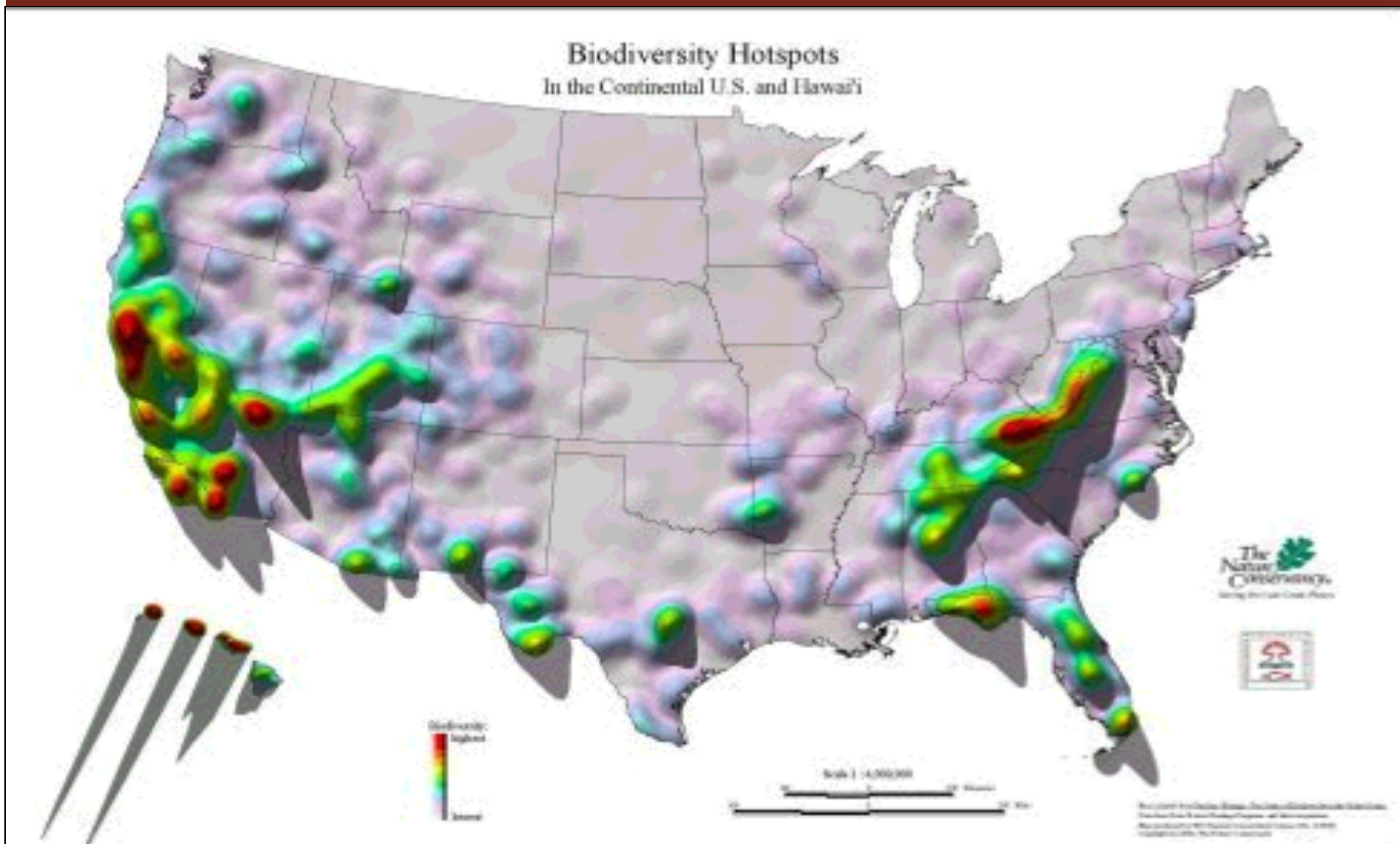
The basic answer to that is straightforward.....

- We share common problems
- We have overlapping objectives
  - Keep DoD test & training ranges open & operating
    - Why do we care about that?
  - Preserve open space and natural areas
    - Why does DoD care about that?
- We both benefit by combining assets & efforts

## DoD is a Natural Partner, Many Shared Objectives

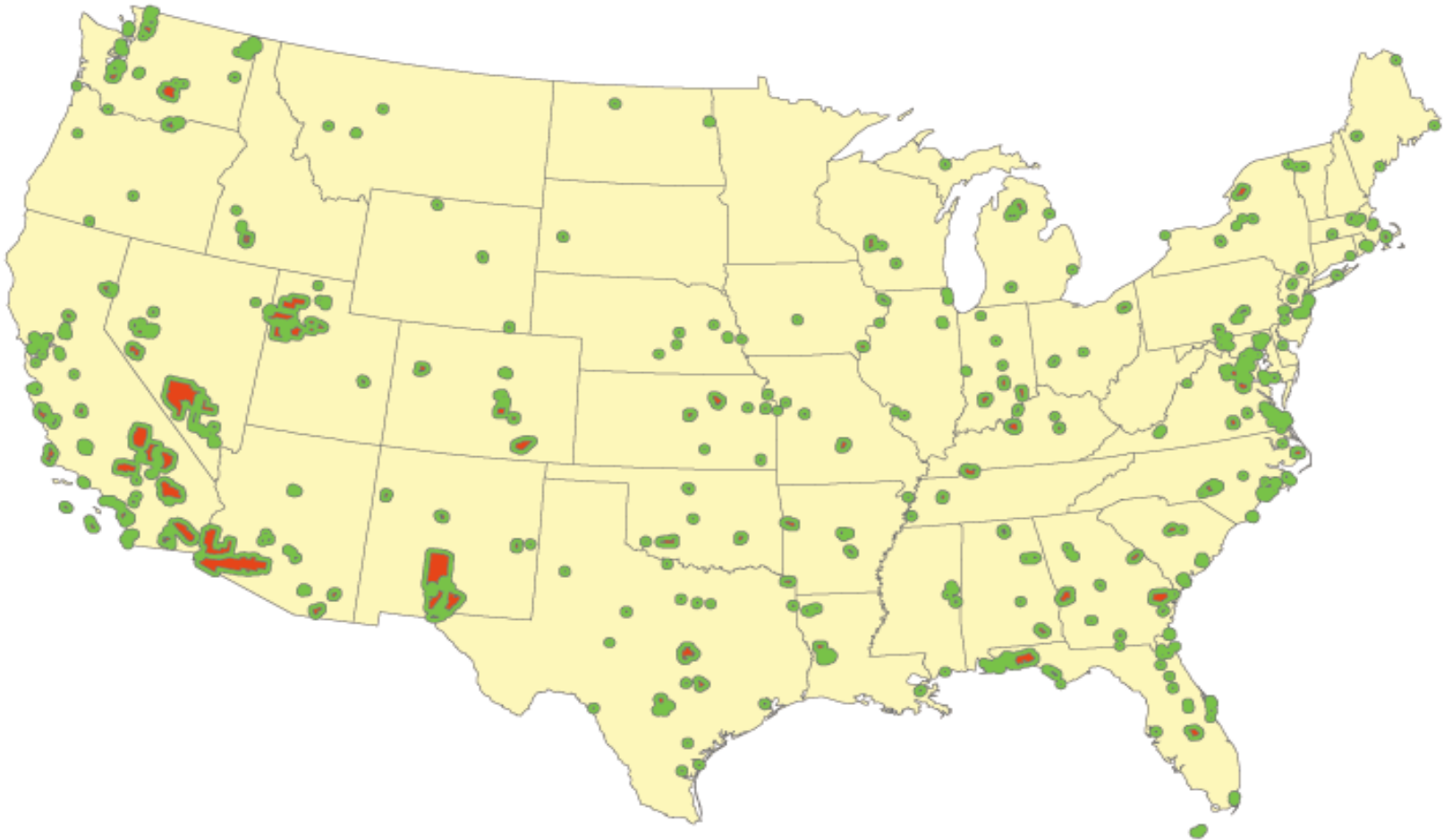
- DoD bases and ranges contain some of the most biologically important habitat in the US
- Fragmentation, habitat loss threatens both our missions
- Both have compelling reasons (and the authority and a significant source of funding) to protect habitat and open space
- We are expanding our partnership to cooperative work at regional and landscape scales
- We are also working together on new approaches to energy and on adaptation to climate change







DOD Facilities with 10 mile Perimeter Buffer



## Why Should We Work With DoD?

- Other advantages to working with DoD may be less obvious
- Demonstrating how conserving habitat in a framework of coordinated local and regional planning benefits DoD can be **very** powerful politically and can build support (and funding) for needed programs and objectives from a variety of non-traditional allies at the national, state, and local levels
- This has led to new federal, state, and local programs and funding for conservation, and has been an important factor in some state and local conservation bond campaigns

- Based on the innovative approach to cooperation pioneered at Fort Bragg
- Formalized by Congress in 2002
- Allows DoD to partner with state and local governments and NGOs
- No formal cost share requirement
  - DoD funding
  - Partners expected to, and do, contribute
  - Can count state funds and funds from other federal programs as partner contribution



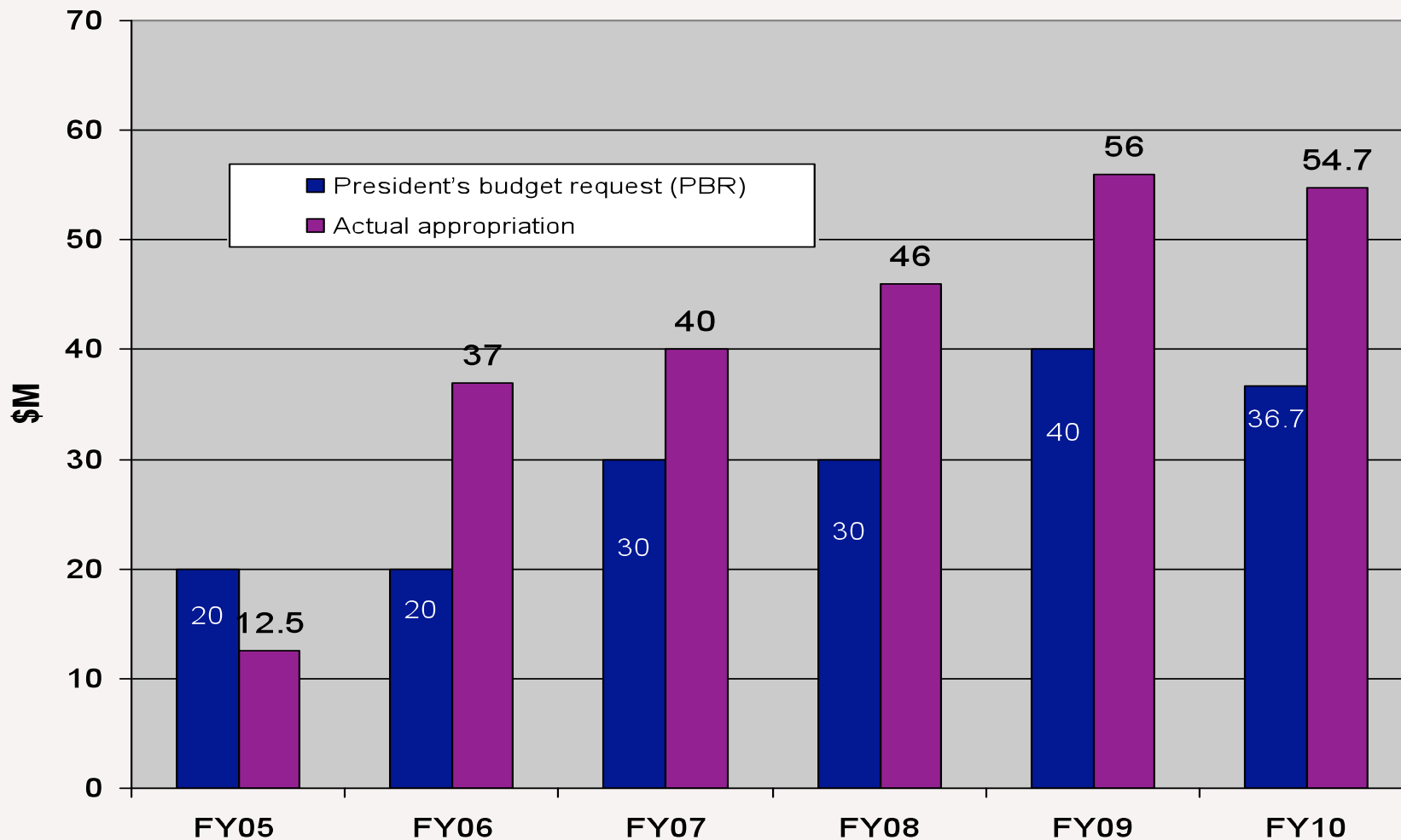
# The Goals of the Buffer Program

- Ensure that DoD is able to meet its military mission
- Preserve lands and habitat in the vicinity of, **or ecologically related to,** DoD installations **and airspace**
- Further integrate DoD into the community
- The program has grown from the original project at Fort Bragg to 59 projects in 23 states as of September 2010 – with more to come

CUMULATIVE REPI-FUNDED PROJECTS: FY05-09 Figure 2-4



# Growing Congressional Support



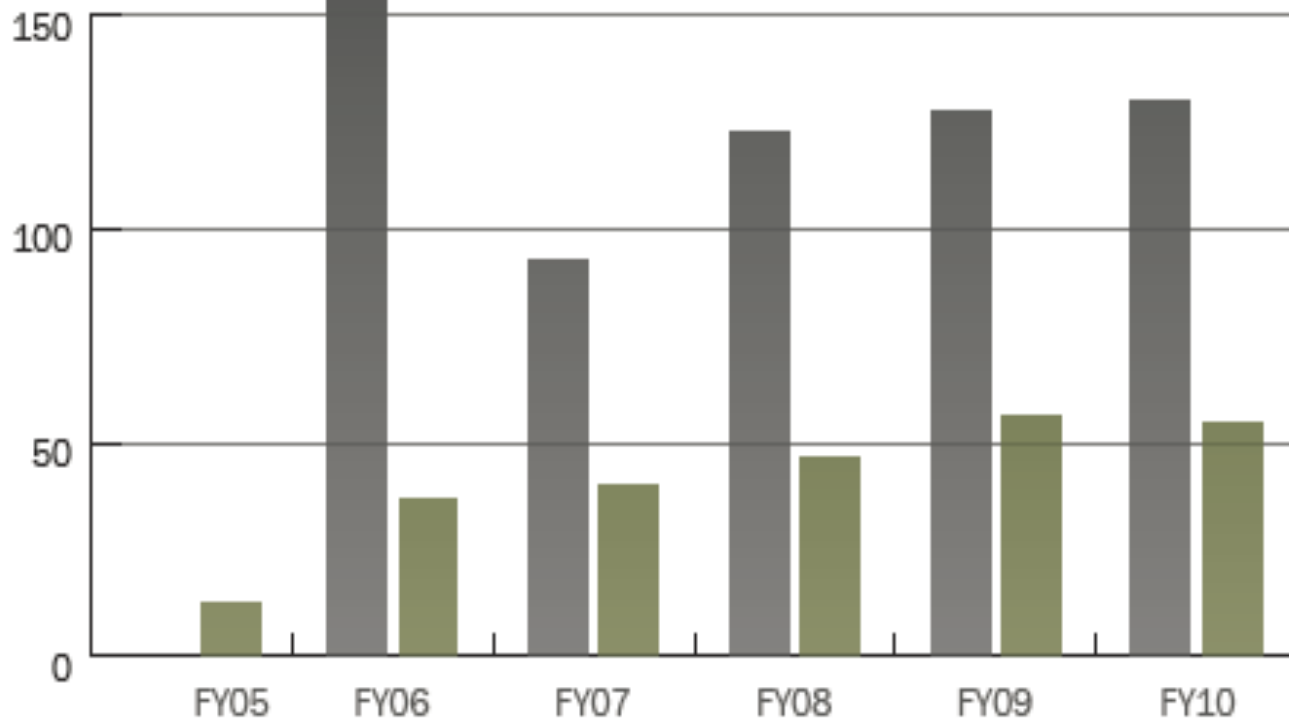


# But Requirements Are Growing Too

TOTAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENT Figure 2-2

Service Funding Requests to OSD vs. REPI Appropriations

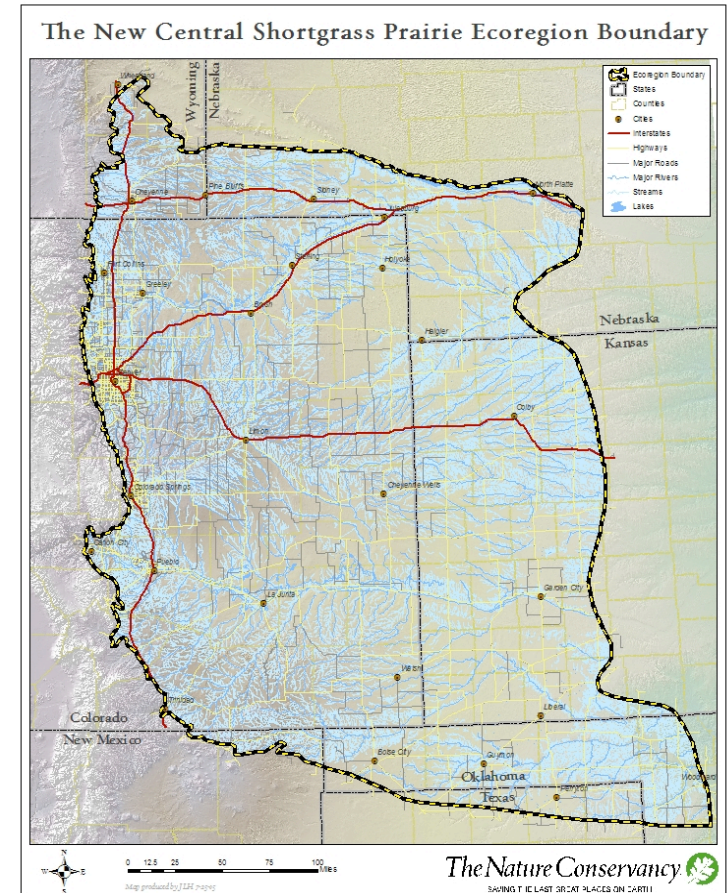
- Combined Service funding requests
- REPI appropriations



Combined Service funding requests in Figure 2-2 reflect only Service requests to OSD for REPI funding. Actual requirements could be greater. The decrease in Service allocations for FY07 reflects program guidance that limited project funding to \$3 million per year.

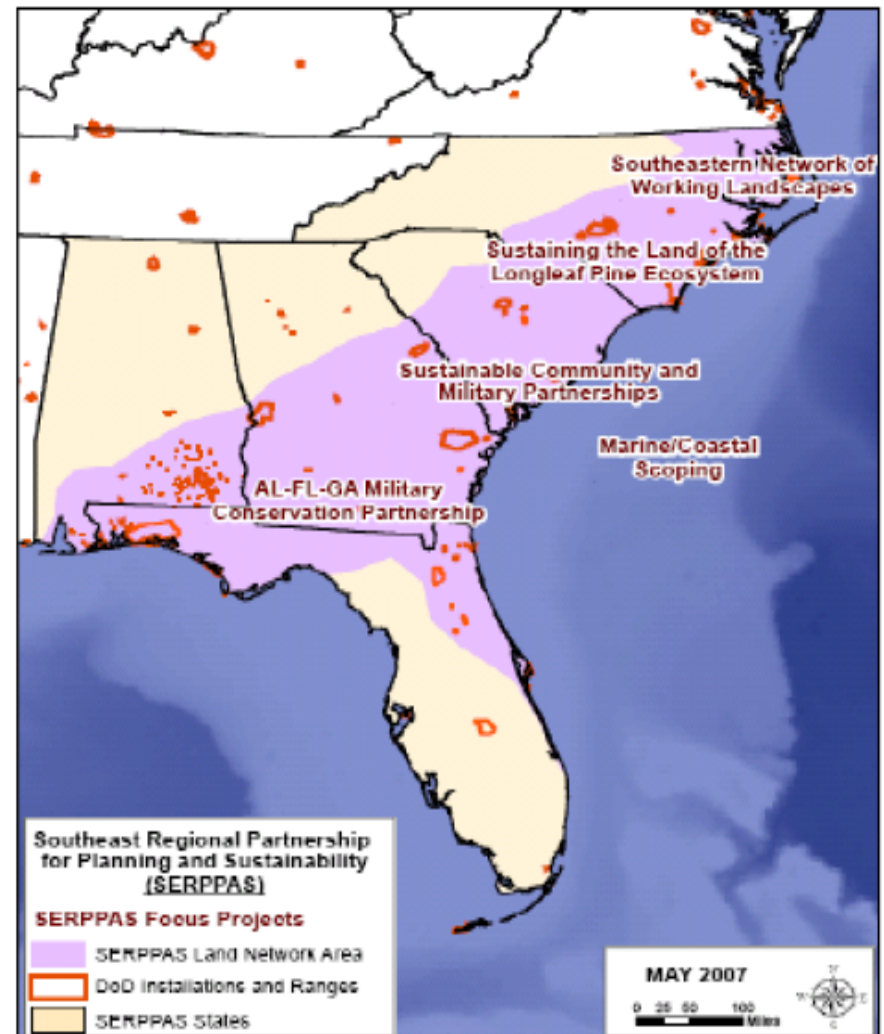
# Moving DoD Partnerships to Scale – Ecoregional Partnerships

- TNC is exploring ecoregional partnerships involving DoD in every ecoregion in the US with areas of DoD concern
- Based on our great experience with DoD in forming the Colorado Shortgrass Prairie Ecoregional Partnership
- Involves multiple partners – landowners, various NGOs, state and federal agencies
- DoD funding and support was and is vital to the success of the CSP effort
- America's Great Outdoors?



# Moving DoD Partnerships to Scale in the Southeast - SERPPAS

- “SERPPAS” stands for “Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability”
- Partnership between DoD and NC, SC, GA, FL, and AL
- Developing multiple landscape scale projects
- A primary focus is restoration of longleaf pine ecosystems throughout the SE
- For info: [www.serppas.org](http://www.serppas.org)



# Moving DoD Partnerships to Scale in the Southwest – the Western Regional Partnership

- DoD is developing a Western Regional Partnership (WRP)
- Working closely with the Western Governors' Association
- Role for Land Trusts
- [www.wrpinfo.org](http://www.wrpinfo.org)



“Just as DoD has served as an engine of progress in developing and taking full advantage of information technology, it can serve as an engine of technical and policy advances related to reducing greenhouse gases, reducing reliance on fossil fuels, greatly improving energy efficiency and conservation, and attaining energy security.”

- From TNC’s “Advice to a New Administration and A New Congress”, October 2008