



RMS and Partners Expand Historic Restoration Program with Second Federally Endangered Species Release

Approximately 150 reticulated flatwoods salamander larvae released in Florida's protected Panhandle wetlands since 2025

SANTA ROSA COUNTY, Fla. (Mar. 23, 2026) — Building on the success of a landmark habitat restoration and species reintroduction project launched in 2025, [Resource Management Service, LLC \(RMS\)](#), one of the world's largest timberland investment managers, and its partners have released an additional 100 larvae of the federally endangered reticulated flatwoods salamander into privately owned wetlands in Florida's Panhandle.

The additional larvae were released into wetlands within 3,179 acres of protected working forest in Santa Rosa County, Florida, a property under a [permanent conservation easement established in 2019](#). Under the agreement, RMS manages the land as a working longleaf pine ecosystem on behalf of its client, providing critical habitat for the reticulated flatwoods salamander and other species while supporting the local sustainable forestry economy.

"Habitat loss and biodiversity decline are urgent threats to our forests', communities' and world's well-being. At RMS, our deep stewardship ethic drives us to take action, rather than stand on the sidelines. We believe private forestland owners have a responsibility to be part of the solution. I'm proud to have RMS and our partners come together to conduct another release on our Florida tract to strengthen the population we established last year," said Alex Hinson, President and CEO at RMS.

A first-of-its-kind agreement through the [Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program](#) has enabled this project to reintroduce the endangered reticulated flatwoods salamander to its historic habitat while removing regulatory risk placed on landowners under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The release marks the second phase of a pioneering public-private partnership among RMS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Eglin Airforce Base, and the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership (GCPEP). In January 2025, RMS and partners completed the first phase by releasing approximately 50 reticulated flatwoods salamander larvae into the same wetland complex. Today, many of them have developed into mature salamanders, and can be spotted throughout the area.

“The conservation of rare, threatened and endangered species depends on collaborative, trust-based public and private partnerships. Thank you to our partners for working with us on this conservation milestone, including USFWS, FWC, GCPEP, the US Navy at Whiting Field, and Eglin Air Force Base,” said Jimmy Bullock, Vice President of Sustainability at RMS.

According to wildlife biologists, habitat loss and degradation are the single largest contributors to the decline in reticulated flatwoods salamander populations. The larvae originated from native populations in the nearby Escribano Point Wildlife Management Area as well as Eglin Air Force Base. They’ve been introduced into carefully restored pine flatwoods wetlands designed to support the salamander’s complex life cycle.

As members of the GCPEP, RMS works closely with [The Longleaf Alliance](#) to restore wetlands within this longleaf pine forest. Efforts include removing hardwoods to provide openings in the forest and timing prescribed burns during the growing season when the salamanders have retreated underground.

To ensure the success of the reticulated flatwoods salamander population, the partners will provide ongoing habitat management, including monitoring the newly reintroduced salamanders. RMS’ forest managers are actively restoring additional surrounding wetlands with the hopes that the salamanders will expand into them and continue to thrive. Additional releases will be evaluated on a five-year basis as the program continues to succeed and larvae populations become available.

About Resource Management Service, LLC

RMS is one of the world's largest and most experienced timberland investment and forestry management services providers. RMS is committed to being a leader in environmentally and socially responsible investing and practicing sustainable forest management on its clients' timberlands. As a company founded, owned and managed by professional foresters, RMS has long been guided by a strong stewardship ethic, understanding that responsibly managing all forest resources meets the needs of its clients, customers, employees, society and future generations. RMS seeks to generate attractive risk-adjusted near-term cash yield and long-term asset appreciation by employing state-of-the-art systems and the world's most sustainable advanced forest management practices. As an independently owned and operated company, RMS has established a legacy by striving to optimize the biological, financial and societal values of every asset its team manages. Based in Birmingham, Alabama, RMS is a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission-registered Investment Adviser with \$5.7 billion of timberland assets under management in the United States and Brazil. Registration as an investment adviser does not imply a certain level of skill or training and is not an endorsement of the adviser by the Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities regulator. For more information, please visit resourcemgt.com.

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