

# **Land Management Restoration Accomplishments**

## **During Fiscal Year 2013-2014 (Oct 1, 2013 - September 30, 2014)**

- The Williford Spring restoration project commenced in May 2014. This \$1.54 million project involves restoring spring bank areas, providing stabilized access to the spring, sediment removal, and recreation improvements including a new parking area, boardwalks, interpretive trails, pavilions, and a canoe tie-up dock that will help prevent future impacts by limiting the number of canoes that enter the spring area. The project will be completed in 2015.
- Two cooperative projects were commenced to improve recreation areas and restore eroding streambanks on Holmes Creek. These projects are being constructed by Washington County with funding assistance from the District.
- A shoreline stabilization project was started at Devil's Hole swallet in Washington County. This project, being implemented by District staff, utilizes a non-structural approach utilizing geotextile bags to stabilize the eroding shoreline with a vegetated retaining wall.
- Seed for District groundcover projects were collected from District land on the Econfina Creek WMA. The District continues to research, refine, and establish new habitat restoration techniques that increase species diversity and ecosystem health.
- The District completed hand planting of 1,483 acres of disturbed longleaf pine, wet pine flatwoods, and wiregrass habitat. These habitat restoration activities enhance groundwater recharge, improve wetland functions, and offset wetland losses caused by FDOT projects. Additionally, 989,500 longleaf pine tubelings were planted within two WMAs. The District also reestablished groundcover habitat, planting 108,900 plugs of wiregrass on disturbed habitat sites at the Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank and the Choctawhatchee River/Holmes Creek WMA.