

Texas Conservation Alliance honored **(<http://jacksonvilleprogress.com/local/x1812407889/Texas-Conservation-Alliance-honored>)**

Courtesy of Texas Conservation Alliance
Jacksonville Daily Progress (<http://jacksonvilleprogress.com>)

WASHINGTON DC — Texas Conservation Alliance was awarded Affiliate of the Year for 2011 by the National Wildlife Federation at a gala dinner Saturday evening in Washington DC.

The Alliance is a statewide organization with an exceptional record of protecting rivers, forests, and other wildlife habitat. NWF recognizes the Alliance and its 48 member organizations, citing the remarkable cooperation between sportsmen, landowners, land stewards, educators, and conservation activists.

"It is a great honor to be selected NWF's Affiliate of the Year," Alliance chairman Mack Turner told an audience of more than 350 people. "And a special treat to have with us Genie Fritz, who co-founded the Alliance with her husband, Ned Fritz, a legendary name in Texas conservation."

Added Mrs. Fritz, "Ned would be very proud of how Texas Conservation Alliance has taken off in recent years."

Over its 40-year history, the Alliance's efforts have led to public protection of more than 200,000 acres of Texas wildlife lands. The Alliance has connected thousands of Texans to the state's amazing natural world.

"Texas Conservation Alliance has been the Texas state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation for fifteen years," said Janice Bezanson, executive director of the Alliance. "It's very special to be honored by our NWF and the 47 other state affiliates in the NWF-affiliate family."

Together the National Wildlife Federation, Texas Conservation Alliance, and Alliance's member organizations have more than 70,000 members in Texas.