The Forest Legacy Area is consistent with the goals of the program in Texas. The FLP in Texas focuses on protecting large blocks of forest land from parcelization and fragmentation in areas that are important for forest products industry, promote ecological benefits, provide watershed protection, and offer open space for public value. Smaller properties that are either connective or contain key features associated with larger land protection projects will also be a priority. After determining the goals of the Texas FLP based on the benefits the program would strive to protect as well as the trends it would attempt to prevent, the TFLC then established the area of Texas that would be most able to achieve those goals.

While forests in other areas of Texas possess attributes and threats, no other area provides all of the benefits or faces all of the threats as do these 59 East Texas counties. Most notably, when compared to the rest of the state, these 30,163,400 acres are most reliant on the timber industry and face the gravest threat of fragmentation - two of the driving forces behind the FLP.

Figure 12. Texas Map Identifying Forest Legacy Program Area