

## **John Wigginton**

Regional Director

Mr. Wigginton manages the Southeastern Region office where he oversees site feasibility analysis and selection, bank entitlement, credit sales, land stewardship, and long-range planning. Prior to joining Westervelt, John was employed for 6 1/2 years as wetland ecologist for an engineering consulting firm in Montgomery, Alabama where he helped develop the first stream mitigation bank in Alabama, and the first mitigation banks in both the Montgomery and Birmingham area watersheds. He also specialized in wetland delineations/hydric soil determinations; various federal and state permitting; strategies for mitigation of stream and wetland impacts; conducted threatened/endangered species surveys; stream assessment for natural channel design and restoration; and environmental assessments/NEPA documents.

Originally from Guntown, Mississippi, John attended Lipscomb University where he obtained a bachelor's degree in biology. He received a master's degree in zoology from Auburn University and a master's degree in wetland studies from the University of Florida. In 2000, he received his Ph.D. in forest wetland ecology from Auburn University School of Forestry. His dissertation investigated the effects of restoration on soil organic matter formation of thermally impacted floodplain forests at the U.S. Department of Energy Savannah River Site in South Carolina. John is an active member of the Society of Ecological Restoration, serving as a board officer for the Southeast Chapter, and he is a Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner. He is also a member of the Society of Wetland Scientists and a certified Professional Wetland Scientist.