

# ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

FY 2010 Annual Report





# Robert Bentley Governor of Alabama



*The Alabama Forestry Commission is a state agency governed by a seven-member Board of Commissioners. Each commissioner, appointed by the Governor of Alabama, serves a five-year term.*

## *Commissioners*



Don Heath, *Chair*



Johnny McReynolds,  
*Vice Chairman*



Jett Freeman



Randy Gilmore



Melisa Love



Kenneth Real



Jerry Smith

*State Forester*  
Linda S. Casey

*Assistant State Forester*  
Patrick Glass

*Administrative Division Director*  
Jerry M. Dwyer

*Forest Management Division Director*  
Walter Cartwright

*Protection Division Director*  
Dan Jackson

*North Regional Forester*  
Hank McKinley - Interim

*Northwest Regional Forester*  
Dan Lassetter

*Northeast Regional Forester*  
Hank McKinley

*East Central Regional Forester*  
Bruce Springer

*Southwest Regional Forester*  
Gary Cole

*Southeast Regional Forester*  
Otis French

### *Our Mission:*

*We will serve Alabama by protecting and sustaining our forest resources using professionally applied stewardship principals and education. We will ensure that Alabama's forests contribute to abundant timber and wildlife, clean air and water, and a healthy economy.*

## FIRE SUPPRESSION

The men and women of the Alabama Forestry Commission (AFC) provide the public, especially forest landowners, excellent wildfire protection 24 hours a day, seven days a week. These firefighters face difficult environmental factors in the course of responding to, suppressing, and returning from wildfires. In all types of terrain, day or night, in adverse weather conditions, facing unknown hazards, AFC firefighters protect the forest from wildfires and other natural hazards.

Due to an unusually wet year, fire occurrences were well below AFC averages across the state. Although rainfall totals for the year throughout Alabama were higher than the previous year, wildfire continued to affect rural and suburban areas, threatening everything from homes to hay bales. In the 2010 Fiscal Year, 2,821 wildfires were reported and suppressed, burning 28,674 acres. Average fire size was 10.2 acres. Wildfires destroyed or damaged 148 structures; however, 2,213 homes were saved. Additional fire statistics indicate 487 structures (other than homes) and 126 vehicles either destroyed or damaged, while 74 structures and 1,170 vehicles were saved.

A major improvement in the field of fire suppression has been the advancement of the AFC's two-way radio system. All dispatch centers have been consolidated and centralized to Montgomery Dispatch to improve efficiency and information sharing. Also, the two-way radio system was narrow-banded to meet FCC guidelines and improve communications.

## TRAINING

The Commission continues to bring its firefighters up to national standards set forth by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG). This effort is also in compliance with a request from the Governor that the AFC lead the state in setting up Incident Management Teams (IMTs) that would be able to move into an area during a disaster and coordinate emergency operations. To this end, the Commission has staffed four Type 3 teams with alternates. Each of the teams was involved in exercises, but there is still some training needed before all four teams are fully qualified to national standards. The Commission is also training a Type 2 Incident Management Team to meet national standards. This team will consist of around 30 positions.

This fiscal year, over 8,500 hours were spent on individual training for these Incident Management Teams. Two National Incident Management Organization (NIMO) teams (from Atlanta and Phoenix) conducted a two-day simulated hurricane exercise for all of the AFC Incident Management Teams. This exercise involved running a state-wide logistics staging area at Maxwell Air Force Base with the Type 2 team and three of the Type 3 teams running different distribution and staging areas in Mobile. The Type 2 team also assisted the Georgia Forestry Commission's Type 2 IMT in June with their state-wide hurricane exercise.

The goal of the Commission's training program is to have employees trained to national standards in both wildland fire fighting and forest management, as well as have employees prepared to provide leadership for other agencies in time of natural disasters or all-hazard emergencies.

## COMPACT FIRE DUTIES

As part of our training program, a total of eight AFC personnel were sent to assist in five in-state and out-of-state Southeastern Fire Compact assignments, while also assisting with federal fires for a total of 612 man hours.

While Alabama experienced a mild wildfire season due to sufficient rainfall, the Gulf Coast Deepwater Horizon/Mississippi Canyon 252 explosion provided support opportunities for AFC assistance. The Commission made a major commitment to assist the Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) with the planning process of the Deepwater Horizon cleanup response. This effort included sending 24 overhead AFC personnel to assist with duties in Planning, Status Check-in, and Public Information, totaling 5,408 man hours. The crews, comprised of three personnel each, were sent on 16-day details utilizing their past training to fill these various roles. Also, as part of this detail, AEMA allowed the Commission to send additional personnel in "trainee" positions to build and create more depth in the various overhead positions here at home.

## HAZARD MITIGATION

Completing over 27,408 acres of prescribed burning across the state, the Alabama Forestry Commission continued to assist landowners in protecting their lands from wildfires. Total prescribed burning in the state (including AFC, private landowners, and contractors) involved 13,567 burns on 828,485 acres, which is slightly below average for Alabama. The primary reason for the low burning acreage was the wet weather in the spring months of the year.

In an effort to increase prescribed burning in the state, the Commission sponsored or supported a series of certification classes for prescribed burn managers, training 118 new burners. The AFC also provided continuing education courses on "Prescribed Burn Planning and Fuel Management," reaching over 68 burn managers there as well. Because of past education efforts, the agency anticipates an increase in prescribed burning across the state in the coming year.

## WILDLAND/URBAN INTERFACE (WUI) AND FIRE PREVENTION

Fiscal year 2010 ended a three-year wildland/urban interface (WUI) southern region project that included \$1.4 million to the AFC from the US Forest Service/State & Private Forests for community wildfire protection, WUI training, and wildfire hazard mitigation.

Two Commission associates were dedicated full time to wildland/urban interface and wildfire prevention activities that promoted the Commission's legislative mandate to educate the citizens about the importance of protecting the forest. Both coordinators were funded in part by a hazard mitigation grant from the US Forest Service. In addition, AFC regions and work units assigned WUI specialists to provide program delivery to our customers in the field.

Two financial assistance programs were funded by the federal WUI Project including 1) Wildfire hazard mitigation to Firewise Communities: Terry Cove Harbor and Historic Blakeley in Baldwin County, Alapine Village in Cherokee County; and 2) Defensible Space Contracts. Contracts were signed with homeowners to assist them in creating defensible space around their homes in high-risk communities. In all, 35 counties worked with 74 homeowners to carry out wildfire hazard assessments, create mitigation plans, and treat wildfire hazards around their homes on a cost-share basis. These homeowners accomplished \$162,900 worth of wildfire hazard mitigation. A total of \$68,791 federal grant funds were dedicated to this effort.

WUI coordinators and field specialists continued a public information campaign by participating in 28 public and private gatherings with table-top displays illustrating challenges and opportunities in the Wildland Urban Interface, reaching approximately 6,875 citizens across the state. Major venues included ADEM's Non-point Source Pollution Conference, Alabama Forestry Association's annual meeting, Your-Town Alabama planning workshop, certified burn manager training, county fairs, home & garden shows, and outdoor expos. WUI coordinators prepared several magazine and newsletter articles, brochures, exhibits, and assisted counties with public presentations on wildfire prevention.

Since July the AFC has featured the wildfire prevention message on two new documents: "Five Ways to Protect your Forestland from Wildfire" and "50 Ways to Protect your Woodland Home."



Throughout the year, "Living with Fire" newspaper inserts were distributed to the public through volunteer fire departments, newspapers, and public displays. County AFCs continued to present wildfire prevention programs to school children across the state.

Fire Prevention / WUI Accomplishments in the Counties	Number
Homeowner Hazard Assessments & Mitigation Plans	455
Community Wildfire Protection Plans	26
Defensible Space Contracts with Homeowners	74
Communities given presentations about Firewise Communities USA	8
Firewise Communities USA nominated or recertified	4
Public Presentations on Wildland Urban Interface	81
Fire Prevention Group Presentations	302

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

The AFC's Law Enforcement program is responsible for protecting Alabama's forest resources, as well as Commission personnel and property. This mission is primarily accomplished through in-depth investigations of alleged illegal burning activities, timber thefts, and thefts of timber harvesting equipment. Our efforts have been greatly enhanced through establishing close working relationships with the forestry community, landowners, and other law enforcement agencies. Forest crimes generate losses of hundreds of thousands of dollars annually to Alabama landowners and forest industry.

### Fire Prevention/Educational Programs

- Utilized "Blaze" the Arson Dog to teach 17 fire prevention programs to more than 1,600 participants
- Trained 90% of AFC personnel in fire scene protection
- Trained 169 volunteer fire departments in fire scene protection
- Taught 12 timber/equipment theft prevention programs



### Enforcement Actions:

#### Investigations - 375

Fire .....	110
Thefts .....	176
Severance Tax/Other .....	89

#### Arrests - 161 Felony

Wildland Arson .....	12
Theft by Deception .....	16
Theft of Harvesting Equipment .....	6

#### Misdemeanor

Illegal Burning .....	28
Timber Theft .....	51
Giving False Information Selling Timber .....	21
Littering/Other Violations .....	27

#### Warnings Issued 35

Fines Imposed .....	\$ 14,150.00
Restitution to Landowners .....	\$ 79,338.00
Suppressions Costs Imposed .....	\$ 2,509.00
Donations .....	\$ 9,200.00
Timber-related Value Reported Stolen .....	\$ 932,680.00
Equipment Value Reported Stolen .....	\$ 584,464.00
Equipment Value Recovered .....	\$ 441,000.00

## VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSISTANCE

The Rural Community Fire Protection (RCFP) program has been renamed by the US Forest Service as Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) program. Along with a name change, administration of this program within the Alabama Forestry Commission has also undergone changes within the past year.

As part streamlining the Commission, what was previously the RCFP Division has been split, with the VFA Coordinator position being assigned to the Executive Division supervised by the State Forester. The Federal Excess Property Program (FEPP) has been reassigned to the East Central Region, supervised by the East Central Regional Forester.

Responsibilities of the VFA Coordinator include administration of grant money available to volunteer fire departments (VFDs) through the AFC, oversight of volunteer fire department certification, and administration of the firefighter tag list for members of VFDs throughout the state. Responsibilities also include serving as the Commission's liaison with the Steering Committee representing VFDs throughout the state and serving as the AFC's representative on the Alabama Joint Fire Council. In addition, the VFA Coordinator serves as the Commission's general point of contact for the volunteer fire service in Alabama concerning AFC-related issues, and for AFC personnel concerning volunteer fire service-related issues.

The name change and streamlining of this portion of the Alabama Forestry Commission has not affected the agency's commitment to supporting and assisting volunteer fire departments across the state, but rather, this change was made to more efficiently communicate with and assist those VFDs.

The 13-member Steering Committee, established by Alabama law, has met two times in the past year in accordance with the state law. The Steering Committee is comprised of ten volunteer firefighters appointed by the State Forester from ten districts across the state as mandated by law, one member of the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments, one member of the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs, and one member of the Alabama Firefighter's Association. The purpose of this committee is to make recommendations to the State Forester regarding how to improve the rural community fire program and how to solve immediate problems including parts exchange, training, and financial assistance through federal grants.

Again this year, the Commission assisted volunteer fire departments by continuing several beneficial programs:

- Formation of two new certified VFDs (Piney Woods VFD in Tuscaloosa County, and Millers Ferry VFD in Wilcox County).
- Administration of \$1,498,410 in grant money, appropriated by the Alabama Legislature, to 1,000 VFDs, equaling \$1,498.10 per department.
- Collaboration with the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments to administer \$90,850 in USFS grants to VFDs across the state to fund wildland fire prevention projects.
- Attendance at numerous VFD meetings and functions across the state to strengthen relationships between agencies and share information.

- Assistance with training volunteer firefighters throughout the state. The number of volunteer firefighters and type of training include:
  - 88 firefighters trained in S-130 (Basic Wildfire Tactics), S-190 (Fire Behavior), and I-100 (Basic Incident Command System)
  - 31 trained in S-215 (Fire in the Urban Interface)
  - 96 trained in L-180 (Human Factors on the Fire Line)
  - 7 trained in L-280 (Followership to Leadership)
  - 86 trained in I-300 (Intermediate Incident Command System)
  - 84 trained in I-400 (Advanced Incident Command System)
  - Numerous volunteer firefighters from 169 VFDs were trained by AFC law enforcement officers in FI-110 (Wildland Fire Observations & Origin Scene Protection for First Responders)

At the local level, Commission personnel continue to be closely associated with and supportive of VFDs throughout the state. Some examples of these relationships include AFC personnel being active members of local VFD, serving as officers in VFD, and serving as officers in local and statewide VFD associations. Agency personnel also serve as the initial point of contact for sharing information between the AFC and VFDs, as well as being actively involved in joint efforts with VFDs to conduct wildfire suppression and wildfire prevention programs.

## FEDERAL EXCESS PERSONAL PROPERTY (FEPP)

The Commission, responsible for obtaining Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) from the Department of Defense (DoD) military installations throughout the southeastern United States, continued to participate in two programs managed by the US Forest Service. Total value of items acquired through both programs was \$350,000 in Fiscal Year 2010, down considerably from \$1.3 million in 2009, due to the budget restraints/travel, etc.

Currently, the AFC is holding inventory of over \$19,392,997 within the Government Services Administration (GSA) Donation Cycle. Under this same program, 197 lots were sold for a total of \$3,167,309 which was returned to the US Department of Treasury.

Through the Firefighter Property Program (FFP), 194 units of equipment were transferred to various Volunteer Fire Departments and Commission offices throughout the year. The total number of trucks and generators issued to the state's volunteer fire departments under this program was 12.

## COMMUNICATIONS

The Alabama Forestry Commission operates and maintains two complete radio systems and over 200 tower sites. Agency personnel utilize the VHF system statewide for routine communication, fire prevention, and suppression operation. The UHF radio system is provided for the volunteer fire service. The AFC provides and maintains these repeaters 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at no cost to the departments.

The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) has mandated that all radio systems be narrow banded by January 1, 2013. Replacement of 400 radios in the VHF system which did not meet specifications for the narrow-banding process has now been completed, plus reprogramming of all radios in our VHF system. We are currently working with the volunteer fire departments to meet the FCC requirement and are on schedule for completion by next summer, well ahead of the deadline.

The AFC radio signal is carried to nine control stations statewide by the Alabama Public Television (APT) microwave system. As this system had aged to the point that it required replacing, funding for this project was identified by APT and the equipment was secured. Completion of this APT update is scheduled for November 2010. Their upgrade has required that we also complete modifications and upgrades to be compatible with their new system. We will continue to work with APT until this process is complete.

## FOREST HEALTH

### Insects and Diseases

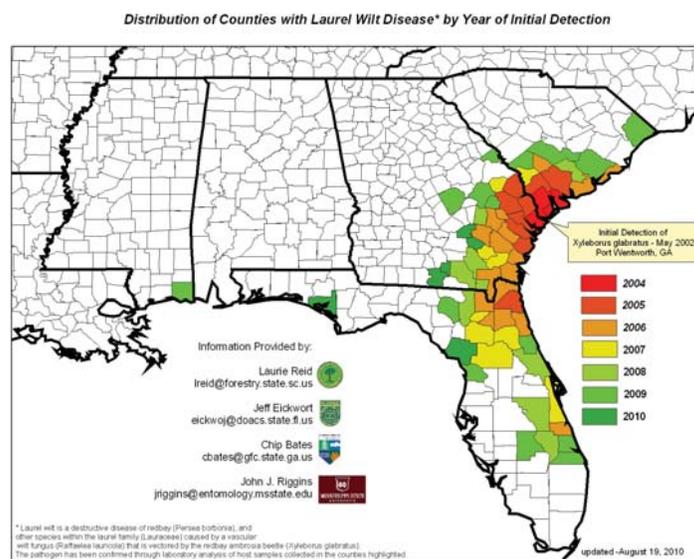
It was another good year for Alabama in regard to southern pine beetle (*Dendroctonus frontalis*) activity; infestation populations were very low. Reconnaissance flights detected very few southern pine beetle (SPB) spots, and; ground monitoring also found few confirmed spots. Isolated cases of beetle infestation were reported, but many were caused by the Ips engraver beetle (*Ips* spp.). The current level of SPB infestation, however, was not surprising, as the data analysis from this spring's survey indicated that the population would be and will remain steadily low.

In 2010, for the second year in a row, the linden looper (*Erannis tiliaria*), a native periodic defoliator, attacked in northeast Alabama, feeding on oak leaves and devouring many of them during the latter days of spring. The looper population explosion in May 2009 posed no serious threat, but in May 2010, the insect expanded its range, attacking more oaks in northeastern Alabama. Many of these host trees recovered with little damage, sprouting new leaves later in the summer.

Because of favorable (cool and wet) weather conditions in early 2010, very few native pest problems were detected in the state. Alabama Forestry Commission county personnel helped manage identified pest problems by completing the following tasks:

Forest Health Activity FY 2010	Assist	Acres
Insect & Disease Assessment SMR	388	26,724.5
Site Restoration SMR	5	273.0
Invasive Plants (Not Cogongrass) SMR	40	930.8
SPB Commercial Thinning	2	293.0
SPB Controlled Spots	1	1.0
SPB Pre-commercial Thinning	1	40.3
SPB Hazard Rating SMR	401	30,347.4
SPB Wildlife Food Plot Construction	2	3.5

This summer, three non-native, invasive pests that are ravishing host trees in other areas of the U.S. finally reached Alabama's bordering states. Three separate news releases were distributed warning of these possible dangers. In July, a pest alert from Tennessee announced that "thousand cankers" disease had been confirmed in a residential area near Knoxville. The next day, a second news release, also from Tennessee, stated that an emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) infestation was positively identified in Knox County. Later that same day, a professor of entomology from Mississippi State University confirmed that laurel wilt disease was very close to the Alabama border, Mobile County specifically. Even though substantial proof is not available, most of these new infestations were believed to have been introduced by transporting infected firewood into the area.



[http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/foresthealth/laurelwilt/dist\\_map.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/foresthealth/laurelwilt/dist_map.shtml)

The threat from sudden oak death (SOD) disease in Alabama continued with positive readings once again of the pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*. For the third consecutive year, two nursery sites – John Deere Nursery and Andy's Nursery both in Birmingham – had stream bait samples that tested positive for the oak-killing pathogen. A potentially serious problem could occur if the pathogen infects terrestrial plants; however, secondary surveys indicate that it has not yet migrated from the infected streams to land vegetation.

### Non-Native Invasive Plants

Because of the recent focus on renewable energy, environmental groups and corporate leaders have been stressing the importance of biomass production and research. Since the Southeast encompasses vast non-industrial private forests, several open forums were conducted this past year to persuade the public to accept this new biofuel technology. Three plants in particular were discussed as potential biofuel products: the jatropha tree (*Jatropha curcas*), a eucalyptus hybrid (*Eucalyptus grandis* x *Eucalyptus urophylla*), and a bamboo variety from Asia. All are non-native to this country, and the main question from forest ecologists is: Could these non-native plants become invasive?

The Cogongrass State and Private Forestry Competitive Resource Allocation Grant has completed its three-year contract. The on-going activities of cogongrass identification, assessment, and location data were collected and entered into the AFC's database. Cogongrass presentations to natural resource professionals and local landowners also continued during fiscal year 2010.

Cogongrass Grant Activity FY 2010	Total #	# of Ac/ Attendee
Cogongrass Spots Mapped (Data Entry)	1,417	1,212
Cogongrass Presentations by AFC Personnel	15	609
Cogongrass Workshops by AFC Personnel	6	125
Cogongrass SMR for Landowners	671	10,856.1

The final analysis for plots in the third cogongrass demonstration project was completed on July 1, 2010, with some familiar results. Herbicide products containing imazapyr (i.e. Arsenal) and/or glyphosate (i.e. Accord) were still proven to be the most effective on controlling this aggressive weed.



Mobile County, Alabama – Replication 1, Treatment 1 (Arsenal 2% with Methylated Seed Oil 2%). Plots treated on June 25, 2009. Final analysis (photo taken) on July 1, 2010.



## AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) PROGRAMS

The Alabama Forestry Commission's role for economic recovery is focused on the implementation of three distinct programs: 1) the Alabama State Cogongrass Task Force's War on Cogongrass, 2) Prescribed Burning and Hazardous Fuel Reduction on Alabama's Rural Lands, and 3) The Regional Longleaf Pine Restoration Initiative and Fuel Reduction. Awards from these grants total \$13.038 million with an estimated 264 seasonal and temporary jobs being created for the duration of these grants as they extend into the 2012 fiscal year for completion.

As conservation awareness continues to rise throughout the southeastern United States, all of these grants focus on accomplishments that address multiple issues. The restoration of 3,500 acres of longleaf pine habitat; improvement of forest health conditions through reduction of fuels for 444 landowners in the rural and the wildland urban interface; and, treatment of 438 acres of the invasive cogongrass for 714 landowners promote healthy and productive forests. Increased

water and air quality, as well as reduced risk for loss of property from wildfire, are additional benefits delivered by participation in these grants.

### Cogongrass Grant

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Cogongrass Grant, a three-year term grant in the amount of \$6.28 million was contracted to Larson & McGowin, Inc. for the main purpose of identifying and controlling cogongrass infestations in Alabama. As of August 2010, the following objectives were accomplished:

- Over 2,500 infestations mapped
- 707 landowners enrolled in the program
- 79 vendors in the database
- More than 6 scouts statewide working either full-time or part-time (some scouts are AFC employees)
- More than 1,500 cogongrass spots sprayed for control
- Herbicide treatment conducted in these counties: Autauga, Baldwin, Bibb, Chambers, Chilton, Coosa, Elmore, Escambia, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Lee, Marengo, Monroe, Perry, Pickens, Randolph, Shelby, Sumter, Tallapoosa, and Tuscaloosa.

### Hazardous Fuel Reduction Grant

The Hazardous Fuel Reduction portion of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) is a \$5 million grant whose purpose is to achieve the following: 1) create jobs and provide economic benefits for the citizens of Alabama; 2) educate Alabama landowners on the importance of hazardous fuel reduction in urban and rural areas; 3) increase the practice of prescribed burning on traditionally underserved landowners; and 4) create awareness of hazardous situations in the Wildland Urban Interface.

For Fiscal Year 2010, over 500 landowners were served, and hundreds of jobs are expected to be retained or created.

### Longleaf Restoration Grant

The Alabama Forestry Commission was awarded an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant of \$1.757 million in July 2009 for restoration of longleaf pine. The Longleaf Alliance was selected as the coordinator for the grant in September 2009.

The Department of Conservation, Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, received two sub-awards for \$285,350 for the establishment of longleaf pine on the Barbour Wildlife Management Area (WMA), as well as \$75,000 for reimbursement of longleaf pine seedling cost for landowners participating in the Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) program.

A grant modification was requested and received from the US Forest Service that added an additional \$40,000 to provide for enhancement of a landowner information booklet and implementation reviews in the four other states



participating in the ARRA longleaf process. Overall progress on implementation accounts for 59 percent of the awarded dollars being utilized since the beginning of the grant. Significant accomplishments achieved to-date include 95 percent utilization of funds for Private Lands support of the "LIP" within the Department of Conservation. Cost savings realized on seedlings within the Department of Conservation WMA projects has allowed for the inclusion of an additional 95 acres of longleaf establishment on the Fred T. Stimpson Community Hunting Area.

The Longleaf Alliance awarded 40 scholarships to landowners to attend Longleaf Academies where they learn about the importance of the longleaf ecosystem and the requirements for reestablishment. Restoration work on the Baldwin, Choccolocco, Little River, and Geneva state forests has created facilities for outdoor education including an outdoor pavilion, and a nature boardwalk with handicap access is planned to be completed by the end of the grant. Regeneration efforts have resulted in 954 acres of longleaf plantings with an additional 400 acres planned, exceeding the target of 875 acres. Rejuvenation of longleaf seed production areas has been accomplished through mulching of 1,906 acres of understory competition, which also exceeded the targeted 1,800 acres.

Through the end of FY10, the total number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions ("jobs") created through the grant had reached 16. The grant was originally intended to create 10 FTE positions during its duration. The projected number at the close of the grant should be in the vicinity of 22 FTEs.

## STEWARDSHIP

Educating landowners to manage their forest resources is a fundamental component of the mission of the Alabama Forestry Commission. The process used by the Commission to educate Alabama's non-industrial private landowners is called Stewardship. The principle that guides Stewardship is "multiple-use management." This concept consists of conserving biological diversity, maintaining forest health, protecting soil and water resources, acknowledging carbon

cycles, sustaining socio-economic benefits, and voluntarily complying with laws and best management guidelines.

The Stewardship process consists of three complementary recognition programs. Each program is designed to enhance the non-industrial private landowner's knowledge and understanding of multiple-use forest management. Landowner recognition begins with the National Stewardship Program. This program is sponsored by the US Forest



Service and introduces multiple-use management concepts through the development of a personalized written forest management plan. The forest management plan functions as a road map helping the landowner plan and achieve stated objectives.

The "American Tree Farm System" is sponsored by the American Forest Foundation and introduces the concept of sustainability. The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) promotes sustainable forest management and is recognized through Tree Farm certification.

The flagship Stewardship program of the Commission is "TREASURE Forest." Sponsored by the Alabama Forest Resources Council of which the Commission is a member, landowners who achieve TREASURE Forest status have demonstrated a sound understanding of multiple-use forest management.

As of 2010, there were 5.1 million acres certified under these stewardship programs in Alabama, representing 22.5 percent of the commercial forestland across the state.

Accomplishments achieved through the Stewardship programs in 2010 are listed in the following table.

Stewardship/Forest Management Accomplishments FY2010			
Program	Landowners Assisted	Impact (Acres, miles, people)	
Stewardship Management Plans	432	62,568	acres
New Certifications	136	42,873	acres
Stand Management Recommendations	4,003	182,839	acres
Tree Planting	207	9,996	acres
Timber Stand Improvement	216	8,347	acres
BMP Investigations/ Consultations	187	24,474	acres
Prescribed Burning	433	25,143	acres
Firebreak Plowing	471	656	miles
Forestry Consultant Referrals	679	N/A	
Wildlife-Specific Recommendations	88	2,436	acres

## LANDOWNER ASSISTANCE/COST-SHARE PROGRAMS

Landowner assistance programs are used to help landowners improve their timber production, enhance wildlife habitats, and conserve "Threatened and Endangered" species and their ecosystems. Forest resource cost-share programs provide financial incentives for a variety of forestry practices. The role of AFC foresters and technicians is to provide technical assistance to forest landowners through on-the-ground assessments and written recommendations.

## Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) Prevention and Restoration Program

The Alabama Forestry Commission monitors southern pine beetle (SPB) activity to help landowners improve forest health and thereby lower the risk of SPB infestations in their pine stands. In 2010 under the Southern Pine Beetle Prevention and Restoration Program, AFC foresters and technicians made 472 stand management recommendations totaling 34,124 acres using state funding.

## Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI)

The Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI) involved AFC employees finding and encouraging traditionally underserved landowners to manage their timber stands to improve forest health and increase growth. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provided the program funding. A total of 29 applications were received and approved from Sumter, Marengo, Macon, Bullock, and Wilcox counties in Alabama's Black Belt Region for a total of \$246,696. These traditionally underserved landowners will receive 90 percent cost-share funding through this special initiative to implement forestry practices on their property.

## Alabama Agricultural & Conservation Development Commission Program (AACDCP)

The Alabama Agricultural & Conservation Development Commission Program (AACDCP) is funded and managed throughout the state by the Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Under this program in 2010, AFC foresters wrote stand management recommendations for 244 landowners covering 13,628 acres.

## Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

The USDA Farm Service Agency administers the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). As Technical Service Providers for CRP, Commission foresters wrote plans for 21,997 acres on 520 tracts in 2010. There was a general sign-up for CRP in 2010 as well as the normal continuous sign-ups.

## Emergency Forestry Conservation Reserve Program (EFCRP)

The Emergency Forestry Conservation Reserve Program (EFCRP) is a USDA Farm Service Agency program instituted after the hurricanes of 2005 devastated much of the forestland in the Coastal Plain areas of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. Although applications were no longer accepted in EFCRP after January 31, 2008, five referrals were serviced in 2010 for 140 acres.

## Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

The NRCS signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Alabama Forestry Commission to help landowners

implement forestry practices on their property. This MOU led to a Contribution Agreement signed on June 14, 2010, that funded AFC foresters and technicians to service Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) forestry practices as well as those under Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). As a result, AFC personnel wrote 104 stand management plans on 6,633 acres under EQIP in FY2010. They also serviced 45 WHIP referrals for 2,099 acres and one CSP referral for 70 acres. This agreement should lead to more dollars being spent on forestry in Alabama.

## BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR FORESTRY (BMPs)

Fiscal Year 2010 set another benchmark by the Alabama Forestry Commission with the Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Forestry program. When the Southern Group of State Foresters (SGSF) Water Resources Committee conducted a Program and Technical Assistance Review during August 2010, it noted no deficiencies, stating the program had made vast improvement since the 2006 review. The AFC is now considered to fully adhere to the SGSF framework for the first time in the program's existence.

Other accomplishments include:

- Publication of a white paper on "Woody Biomass 101 for Alabama Forest Owners"
- Development of a "Selling Your Timber" campaign that emphasizes the use of BMPs. (*Additional information under the "Outreach and Education" section*)
- Completion of another round of BMP implementation inspections that included 245 closed-out tracts. Percent of implementation of BMPs for forestry was evaluated for the following categories listed in the table below.

Category	Year	Implementation	# of Sites
Harvesting	09	96%	246
	10	98%	245
Mechanical Site Prep	09	98%	70
	10	98%	50
Forest Roads	09	93%	243
	10	93%	243
Stream Crossing	09	96%	125
	10	96%	94
Streamside Management Zones	09	92%	202
	10	97%	207
Firebreaks	09	90%	84
	10	97%	70
Chemical Application	09	100%	120
	10	98%	108
Overall Implementation	09	97%	246
	10	97%	245

Alabama's numbers still beat the Southeast regional percentage of implementation by at least 10 percent for each category. However, these inspections showed five tracts to have a significant risk to water quality as compared to only two tracts last year. These inspections covered 187 different landowners representing 24,474 acres of timberland.

The AFC worked with Auburn University and the Alabama Forestry Association to try to pinpoint what areas need more attention during logger education.

Over 1,984 contacts were made and 28 programs were presented that targeted private landowners, loggers, contractors, foresters, and students.

There were 61 water quality complaints addressed by AFC staff. Of those, 58 have been resolved at the AFC level; the other three are still under investigation. Of these 61 complaints, 29 were determined to be "not valid" as silvicultural complaints, while 32 were classified as "valid."

A total of 72 additional inspections were made statewide on active logging operations to promote BMPs and our educational effort. Another 73 internal audits were made on AFC-installed fire lanes as well.

Federal and state agencies, as well as partnering non-government organizations (NGOs), have been very helpful in establishing and/or re-establishing good working relationships that have continued to move this program forward. Successful 319 funding has bolstered the program and helped sustain the level of activity in Best Management Practices for Forestry.

## STATE FOREST ASSESSMENT AND RESOURCE STRATEGY

The AFC released its *Forests at the Crossroads: Alabama's Forest Assessment and Resource Strategy* on June 18, 2010. This document was the result of an 18-month concerted effort of 33 partner organizations, 37 subject matter experts, and 865 citizen respondents who looked at the state of Alabama's forest and then developed a blueprint on how to respond to the many threats facing this natural resource.

Two legislative mandates drove the timing and format for the document. First, the Forestry Commission is, by statute, responsible for producing studies and reports on Alabama's timber and forest resource. Second, the 2008 Farm Bill

includes language that encourages state foresters to develop and submit to the Secretary of Agriculture a "state-wide assessment of forest conditions." The Secretary of Agriculture approved Alabama's *Forests at the Crossroads: Alabama's Forest Assessment and Resource Strategy* as meeting the terms and conditions of this Farm Bill requirement.

Central to the document was the identification of nine threats to Alabama's forest resource: urban growth and development, forest fragmentation and parcelization, invasive species, changing markets, insects and diseases, wildfire, catastrophic natural events, air quality, and climate change. A

total of 27 goals, 65 objectives, and 216 strategies are listed in the document to address these nine threats.

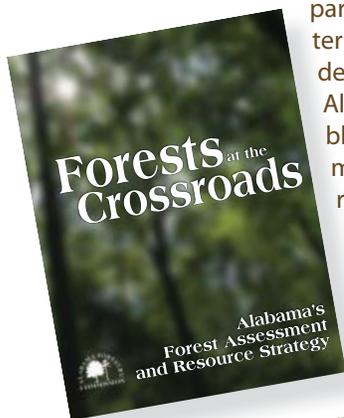
## FOREST INVENTORY & ANALYSIS PROGRAM

Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) is a nationwide timber and forest resource inventory in which Alabama has participated for more than 70 years. Prior to 1997, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) conducted the inventory and produced statistical reports resulting from the inventory. Beginning in 1997 the Alabama Forestry Commission and the USFS entered into an agreement in which the AFC would begin collecting the field data, while the USFS would continue to produce statistical reports from the field data collected.

FIA is the primary source for forest resource information. The forest industry sector heavily relies on FIA data for making million dollar decisions pertaining to new mill development and expansion of existing mills. Foresters also use the information for determining areas in Alabama that may require more intensive forest management, reforestation, and/or protection. FIA data is obtained from permanent inventory plots located primarily on a 3x3-mile grid across the entire United States.

There are a total of 5,572 FIA survey plots in Alabama, with each plot re-inventoried approximately every five to seven years. A wide variety of forest resource information is collected from each plot. This data is then transferred to the USFS Southern Research Station in Knoxville, Tennessee for compilation and analysis. Each year FIA statistics are updated and made available for query on the internet.

- For FY 2010, the Forestry Commission allotted six full-time FIA forester positions to conduct the survey (five field foresters and one program coordinator).
- A total of 814 plots were inventoried by the Alabama FIA crew in FY 2010. This number exceeded the crew's goal as only 796 plots are needed to be inventoried annually to complete the current seven-year cycle.
- 2009 FIA data indicates there are approximately 22.7 million acres of timberland in Alabama; timberland accounts for 68.3% of Alabama's total area. The amount of area comprised of timberland remains virtually unchanged since 2000. Individual or family-owned forests account for 14.4 million acres or 63.5% of the state's timberland.



- 2009 FIA data shows that Alabama is growing timber faster than it is being removed. For the period 2001 to 2008, the rate of growth-to-removals for all species is 1.37:1. For softwoods the growth/removals ratio is 1.26:1, and for hardwoods the ratio is 1.63:1.
- According to 2009 FIA data, “loblolly pine - shortleaf pine” is the predominant forest type group in Alabama, occupying approximately 36.5% of the total timberland area. The “oak - hickory” forest type group ranks second, accounting for approximately 32.2% of the timberland acreage.

## GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

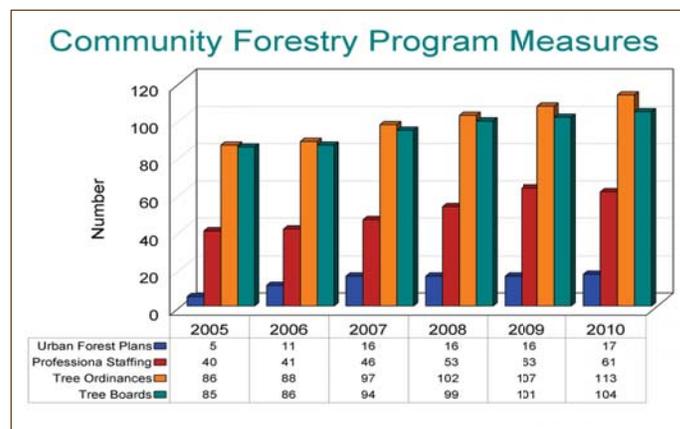
The role of the Forestry Commission's GIS program is to incorporate the use of geospatial technology to aid in the agency's delivery of program services, to develop a core set of up-to-date data layers that are easily available and usable for management and planning purposes, and to educate and make recommendations to potential users and decision makers about the benefits and best use of geospatial technology.

GIS activities for fiscal year 2010 included:

- Development of GIS maps that show priority areas for each of the nine threats identified in Alabama's State Assessment and Resource Strategies document. The priority maps were a requirement of the US Forest Service, identifying areas to focus program delivery.
- Collaboration with the US Forest Service to host a real-world trial of WebDET as a possible web-based data entry and report writing geo-database tool to support Alabama's Forest Stewardship program.
- Exploration of grant opportunities to strengthen the Forestry Commission's GIS program. An application was submitted to the Alabama Emergency Management Agency for funds to purchase raster analysis software to identify priority areas prone to storm-damaged urban forests.
- Participation in the Governor's GIS Advisory and Executive Committees to implement business plan for GIS information at local, state, and federal levels.

## URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM

The AFC's Urban Forestry Program strives to help Alabama towns and cities professionally manage their urban forest for the benefit of people. The agency provides technical and federal financial assistance to accomplish this goal. The primary program measures are communities that hire professional staff, complete tree inventories and management plans, create effective tree ordinances, and establish tree boards. In FY10 the agency provided 382 urban forestry assists. Alabama citizens also contributed a total of 18,940 volunteer hours in support of their local community tree programs.



The AFC administered the following eight Urban & Community Forestry (U&CF) grants using \$190,135 in US Forest Service funds:

- The City of Jacksonville for an urban forest management plan
- The City of Florence to develop a work flow management application using GIS technology and databases to store community forest data
- The City of Montgomery to contract a professional forester to do structural pruning and other work on the city's new tree plantings
- The City of Tuscaloosa to create an urban forest master plan for downtown Tuscaloosa
- The Alabama Cooperative Extension System to develop a Community Forest Management Plan tool for the City of Selma, an Ala-Tom RC&D Council member
- The Central Alabama Regional Planning & Development Commission to expand the scope of urban forest management to all regional planning councils
- The Talladega County School Board to develop an urban forestry educational component on three school campuses
- The City of Montgomery to install a phytoremediation project to remove chlorine solvents in the Capitol City Plume

The AFC was awarded US Forest Service FY10 base funding. Base funds were used to support an Urban Forestry Coordinator position and an Extension Specialist, who works in Community Forestry Volunteer Development. Alabama was one of eight southern states that did not receive FY10 U&CF funding for local competitive grants.

The Commission supported many individual community Arbor Week celebrations primarily through its annual tree seedling distribution through AFC counties and work units. In 2010, the AFC gave away 200,000 tree seedlings to residents, towns, and cities. As one of many successful tools, the tree seedling give-away has three main goals: outreach, promotion of tree planting, and helping small towns and cities get their U&CF program off the ground. Each year, the AFC looks for new ways to interact with the public and get them engaged in forestry.

Since 1979, the Forestry Commission has supported the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA program. In FY10, a total of 83 Alabama communities met Tree City USA standards. This reversed a downward trend that began in 2002. In addition, two communities attained Growth Award status, two utility companies achieved Tree Line USA recognition, and Auburn University was recognized as Alabama's first Tree Campus USA, a program just recently started in 2008.

## MARKETING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The past year continued to be slow for the forest products industry as the global economy stagnated during the first part of the year. A wet spring and new orders caused a spike in timber prices, which declined during the third quarter of fiscal year 2010. Several companies reopened running minimal crews and filling orders that trickled in from various markets. Once again, we have seen an indication of recovery in progress during the last quarter of the year, with timber prices edging slightly upward. Housing starts continue to be below levels needed to spark a full recovery of most forest industries. The New York Stock Exchange has shown steady growth, holding steadfast against mixed economic news from all sectors. Companies continue to invest millions to refurbish and reopen closed mills, and we have seen some major producers add employees as their markets improve slightly across the state.

The Alabama Forestry Commission continued to provide forest resource information as requested to assist companies making financial decisions and planning future investment in Alabama, particularly in the woody biomass sector. Inquiries and rumors of new woody biomass-to-energy plants locating in the state led to speculation that a new market could develop, if financing and investors can be assembled to support their construction. We participated in a small wood conference where woody biomass-to-energy projects were discussed and compared to other countries' efforts and mandates. We continually inventory fixed plots across the state to assess the quantity, quality, and overall health of Alabama's forest resources so we can provide the latest available information, which is updated annually.

The AFC continues to serve as a member of the Alabama Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Advisory Committee that advises the Association of Alabama Regional Planning Councils (AARPC) as they develop programs to measure and monitor the state's economic development efforts. Commission employees in all six regions participate in their local regional planning council's activities. Last year, a memorandum of understanding was developed and signed by the AFC and the AARPC, pledging mutual support in economic development efforts, especially as they affect forest industry and forest resources. The Commission also serves as a board member of the Alabama Agribusiness Council and the Southern Group of State Foresters (SGSF) Services, Utilization and Marketing Task Force, which developed a carbon trading publication endorsed by the SGSF.

Alabama's Forestry Team remains active and shares information and resources as available to provide information on carbon sequestration and carbon trading, along with woody biomass market development and ecosystem services markets being developed. The Alabama Center for Advanced Woodworking Technology, a team member, was relocated to a larger, more efficient center in Haleyville, Alabama, where a world-class facility trains primary and secondary wood industry employees to operate new technology. The Center also serves

as a research and development location, where confidential tests and operations can be conducted to develop more efficient techniques for their respective industries. Links to all these services and activities can be found on our website at [www.forestry.alabama.gov](http://www.forestry.alabama.gov).

## STATE LANDS MANAGEMENT AND ASSISTANCE

The AFC is responsible for managing approximately 26,145 acres of forest land in Alabama, with more than 16,000 acres under the agency's direct control. These include 14 state forests, as well as numerous old fire tower sites. Additionally, the Commission has entered into cooperative agreements with two other state agencies to manage their forestlands: 19 state fishing lakes (4,786 acres) for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and 9 tracts (5,639 acres) for the Department of Mental Health. All of these lands are managed under TREASURE Forest guidelines for multiple uses and sustainability.

On these lands, AFC personnel were involved in a variety of management activities, including preparation of timber sales and oversight of harvesting activities; prescribed burning for wildlife habitat improvement, aesthetics, and wildfire hazard reduction; site preparation and tree planting; forest health monitoring; and road, bridge, and building maintenance. In addition, hunting, fishing, hiking, biking, camping, horseback riding, and other recreational opportunities are available on certain State Forests. Revenue from these management activities is shown in the following table.

Revenues from State Lands Management Program		
Timber Sales	Sale Value	Revenue to AFC
Department of Conservation	\$445,167.00	\$44,517.00
Department of Mental Health	\$162,480.00	\$16,248.00
Alabama Forestry Commission	\$1,426,084.00	\$1,426,084.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,033,731.00</b>	<b>\$1,486,849.00</b>
Prescribed Burning	Acres	Revenue
Department of Mental Health	472	\$12,650.00
Department of Conservation	304	\$6,220.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>\$18,870.00</b>
Management Fees	Acres	Revenue
Department of Conservation	4,786	\$4,786.00
Department of Mental Health	5,614	\$5,614.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,400</b>	<b>\$10,400.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$1,516,119.00</b>

## OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Fiscal year 2010 was a year of continuity for the Alabama Forestry Commission's Outreach Program. After a year under its new structure with six regional Outreach coordinators, the program sailed smoothly through continued initiatives.

The largest of these was the second year of the Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI). In collaboration with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, another \$232,870 was awarded to encourage 31 underserved landowners in five Alabama counties to implement specific conservation practices. For this program, the AFC provides technical assistance (i.e. fire breaks and prescribed burning) to the funded landowners who have three years to complete the agreed-upon work plan.

Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical (A&M) University, Tuskegee University, and the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund all sponsor events in which the Commission gladly participates to promote landowner education, forest health, and the importance of strengthening the ranks of registered foresters. Many of these activities have become annual events on the AFC's calendar.

## ALABAMA FORESTRY CAMP

This past June, 31 high school students from around the state enjoyed a jam-packed week as they were exposed to the natural resource fields at the Alabama Forestry Camp. For the 16th year, the camp was held at the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund's Rural Training and



Research Center located in Epes (Sumter County), Alabama. The five-day event was conducted by an Incident Management Team comprised of AFC personnel who directed each day's varied activities.

The week's agenda featured a tour of a TREASURE Forest, sponsored by the Alabama TREASURE Forest Association; a tour of the Corps of Engineers' Demopolis Lock and Dam; forestry and wildlife activities assisted by Westervelt Company foresters at the Corps' Foscue Park; a fishing trip sponsored by Oakhurst Farms; GPS instruction and activities; as well as a tour of Moundville Wood Products and Moundville Archaeological Park. Other presentations the group enjoyed included urban forestry by Auburn University, water safety by Alabama Marine Police, a wildlife presentation by Alabama A&M University, a laser hunting simulator and fishing class provided by the Department of Conservation, and an appearance by "Blaze" the AFC Arson Dog.

The week culminated with a competition event involving all students in activities such as archery, pulpwood toss, crosscut saw, and bow saw on individual and group levels. Students received instruction in these events and practiced all week for the final competition. Graduates made many friends and enjoyed an enhanced awareness of forestry and natural resources as they returned home.

## BUTLER COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES YOUTH CAMP

For the 15th year, the Butler County Forestry Planning Committee's Natural Resources Youth Camp provided select Butler County youth the opportunity to become more aware of the value of forest resources to Alabama's environment and

economy, and the relationship these resources have to their everyday life. An outdoor classroom was the setting for 30 energetic and inquisitive sixth-grade students, chosen by their school principals and science teachers to attend this three day/two night camp. This camp offered them the opportunity to learn about forestry, wildlife, ecology, tree identification, fire protection, forest products, soil and water conservation, and the people who manage these vast Alabama resources.

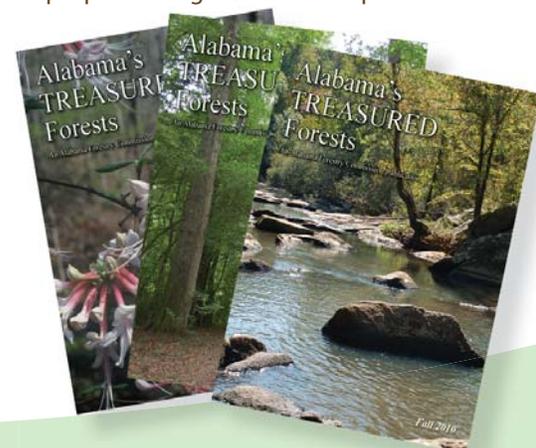


Instructors from the Alabama Forestry Commission, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Butler County Soil & Water Conservation District, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Farm Service Agency, Alabama Forestry Association, Alabama Ornithological Society, and other organizations held "hands-on" classes concerning forestry-related subjects which included native plants, wildlife management and identification, non-game birds, as well as several Project Learning Tree activities. In addition, an on-site visit from Callaway Gardens provided an up-close visit with some local birds of prey. An opportunity to spend time in one of Alabama's many creeks is often a highlight of the camp. Students spend time exploring Mussel Creek, looking for inhabitants, and are often surprised by what they find. The final day provides a chance for the campers to display their marksmanship in different shooting sports events such as shotguns, rifles, black powder, and archery.

Since the beginning of this unique camp experience, the opportunity has been provided at no cost to the students or their families. Funding for this project comes from tremendous support from the forest community, private individuals, and civic clubs. Additional funding is provided through grants from the "Forests Forever" license plate and Rayonier Foundation.

## ALABAMA'S TREASURED FORESTS MAGAZINE

The AFC continued to publish *Alabama's TREASURED Forests* magazine during 2010. This publication, designed to educate forest landowners with proper management techniques and forestry information, is circulated three times per year to over 14,000 subscribers and is also posted on the Commission website.



## “SELLING YOUR TIMBER” CAMPAIGN

The goal of the “Selling Your Timber” campaign was to give forest landowners a better understanding of the issues involved when they sell their timber, hopefully helping them avoid costly errors.

Initially, a four-page full-color “Selling Your Timber” brochure was designed to look at the basics a landowner should consider before he/she begins the selling process. The Alabama

Cooperative Extension System (ACES) volunteered to pay the cost (\$8,000) to print 60,000 copies. Ultimately, these brochures were distributed to all 14 participating partners, with ACES and ALFA both receiving large quantities. The Alabama Clean Water Partnership also delivered more than 1,000 brochures to the public.

This brochure is

available at all AFC county offices or can be downloaded from the Commission website. It was also published in its entirety as a “pull-out” centerfold in the Spring 2010 edition of *Alabama’s TREASURED Forests* magazine.

Other components of the campaign include a “Selling Your Timber” PowerPoint presentation for use during landowner workshops, a laminated tri-fold pocket-size guide, promotional posters, and two “Selling Your Timber” tabletop displays.

At the onset of this campaign, our goal was to have a minimum of twelve workshops statewide by the end of the year. This goal was met and exceeded by AFC associates conducting 36 workshops/presentations reaching approximately 882 attendees participating from 36 counties. A number of these were held as stand-alone workshops, while some presentations were administered in conjunction with other landowner meetings.

## PERSONNEL

With a spirit of cohesiveness, the Alabama Forestry Commission Personnel Office has refined processes through deliberate planning considering the core values of the Commission while providing assistance to employees in transition, facilitating employee career growth and development, and serving as a resource for employees as needed.

Utilizing streamlined personnel management procedures, the Personnel Office has oversight for ensuring actions with regard to appointments and separations, payroll and benefits, readiness and training, safety, and other auxiliary services for over 260 employees statewide.

In light of the Commission’s budget shortfall, the focus this past year was to prepare employees for the impact of layoffs, promote continued operational safety, and encourage overall wellness of AFC employees by:

- Facilitating open dialogue through regional meetings
- Implementing the use of Exit Interviews to evaluate and improve employee/supervisor relationships

- Coordinating professional development and technical training opportunities
- Emphasizing career-broadening opportunities
- Organizing events to include Employee Appreciation Week to stimulate employee morale

Additionally, in the midst of staffing modifications, the Personnel Office professionally adhered to the requirements of the legal compliance check conducted by the Examiners of Public Accounts.

In line with our core values, the Commission remains committed to the prohibition of discrimination in programs, activities, and operations on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital or family status, or disability. Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.

Persons with disabilities who require alternate means of program information are encouraged to contact the Commission’s state headquarters at (334) 240-9300. If an individual believes he or she has been discriminated against by the Alabama Forestry Commission, a complaint may be filed by calling toll free (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD), or by writing to:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250-9410

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The Administrative Division plays a crucial role in the agency, although most of the division’s daily activities and responsibilities are behind the scenes. Each fiscal year the division is tasked with new challenges and problems to overcome, all while operating within state and federal guidelines and laws. One of the main roles of the division is to help the agency operate efficiently with the money and resources provided to our agency. The Administrative Division oversees fiscal services, information technology, personal and real property assets, records retention, and procedures manual updates.

A few of the major projects completed by the division for the 2010 fiscal year included:

- The Information Technology Section created a new timesheet accounting system (along with several reports and enhancements throughout the year) while also redesigning the accomplishment reporting system. Revisions were also made to several databases and reports dealing with real property, fleet management, law enforcement, personnel reporting, grant tracking, fire control, and administrative information.
- The Property Section coordinated sales at two of our closed nurseries. The sale of 53 items at Stauffer Nursery and 265 items at Hauss Nursery resulted in \$77,000 in revenue. The Property Section is responsible for coordinating the management of 5,688 pieces of property valued at \$34,365,913.

## Statement of Operations For Fiscal Years Ending September 30

		Actual		Budget	Balance
		FY09	FY10	FY10	
0100	Personnel	15,212,663	14,464,062	14,464,062	
0200	Fringe Benefits	5,655,336	5,512,618	5,547,292	34,674
0300	In State Travel	278,729	397,252	241,311	(155,942)
0400	Out Of State Travel	40,541	44,828	31,467	(13,360)
0500	Repairs and Maintenance	473,138	428,288	317,798	(110,491)
0600	Rental and Leases	89,333	106,011	94,845	(11,166)
0700	Utilities and Communications	751,097	816,836	763,390	(53,445)
0800	Professional Services	657,357	1,487,556	1,573,716	86,160
0900	Supplies	1,280,966	1,307,569	1,102,729	(204,840)
1000	Transportation Operations	1,559,515	1,641,954	1,599,797	(42,158)
1100	Grants and Benefits	6,054,967	5,700,858	5,648,545	(52,313)
1200	Capital Outlay		256,145	100,000	(156,145)
1300	Transportation Equipment	76,090	799,338	292,475	(506,863)
1400	Other Equipment	165,104	247,544	108,992	(138,552)
1600	Transfers				
031	031 Expenditures	32,294,835	33,210,860	31,886,419	(1,324,442)
<b>Revenue Budget</b>					
<b>AFC Funds:</b>					
1010	Severance Tax	4,407,842	4,650,379	3,766,874	(883,506)
3000	Timber and Turpentine	43,136	40,433	40,433	
3980	Fishing Permits	5,605	4,572	4,572	
5950	Fines and Forfeits	4,892	32,834	32,834	
6460	Radio Leases				
6480	Oil Royalties	8,655	8,407	8,407	
6800	Insurance Proceeds	43,925	71,968	71,968	
6830	Miscellaneous	30,560	20,454	20,454	
6840	Prior Year Refunds	4,443	1,813	1,813	
6910	Contract Services				
6990	Equipment Sales	126,859	100,896	100,896	
7010	Timber Sales	165,127	1,453,831	1,453,831	
7030	Other Sales	52,000	381,000	381,000	
7040	Seedling Sales				
7240	Non-Govt Contributions		94,597		(94,597)
7360	Donations				
7600	Intragovt Sales	21,352	54,917	54,917	
7681	Equipment Rentals				
7682	Other Rents	49,060	46,475	46,475	
9335	Plowing Firebreaks	261,681	196,854	196,854	
9336	Prescribed Burning	490,679	349,006	349,006	

<i>(continued)</i>		Actual		Budget	Balance
	031 AFC Funds	5,715,814	7,508,436	6,530,334	(978,103)
8010	031 State General Fund	14,082,001	13,242,327	13,242,327	
	<b>Federal Funds</b>				
8320	Federal Grants	3,789,555	10,381,829	12,633,737	2,251,908
8521	Federal Agreements		1,500	1,500	
8522	Federal Reimbursements	1,068,438	334,084	334,084	
8523	Interfund Federal Reimbursements	163,725	77,776	77,776	
	031 Federal Funds	5,021,718	10,795,189	13,047,097	2,251,908
	<b>Local Funds</b>				
9331	County Appropriations	47,821	32,033	32,033	
9332	Acreage Assessments	1,771,304	1,770,763	1,770,763	
9337	Local Grants	26,950	44,684	44,684	
	031 Local Funds	1,846,075	1,847,481	1,847,481	
	<b>Budgetary Transfers In(Out):</b>				
0002	Supplement				
0003	Severance Tax - County Share				
0005	Operating Transfers				
0006	Capital Transfers				
	031 Transfers				
	AFC Balance Forward	2,145,857	2,472,338	2,472,338	
	Federal Balance Forward	8,000,000	2,045,841	2,045,841	
	Local Balance Forward				
	<b>Total Forward</b>	<b>10,145,857</b>	<b>4,518,179</b>	<b>4,518,179</b>	
	031 Revenues and Transfers	36,811,464	37,911,612	39,185,418	1,273,806
050	Appropriation Unit 050				
0006	Capital Transfers				
1200	Capital Outlay				
	<b>Unalloted Capital Transfers</b>				
	Reserve for Capital Outlay				
	Agency Funds Available	36,811,464	37,911,612	39,185,418	1,273,806
	Agency Expended and Reserved	32,294,835	33,210,860	31,886,419	(1,324,442)
	Prior Period Adjustments	1,550			
	<b>Ending Cash Balance</b>	<b>4,518,179</b>	<b>4,700,752</b>	<b>7,298,999</b>	<b>2,598,247</b>

Unaudited; includes reserves for encumbered funds



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