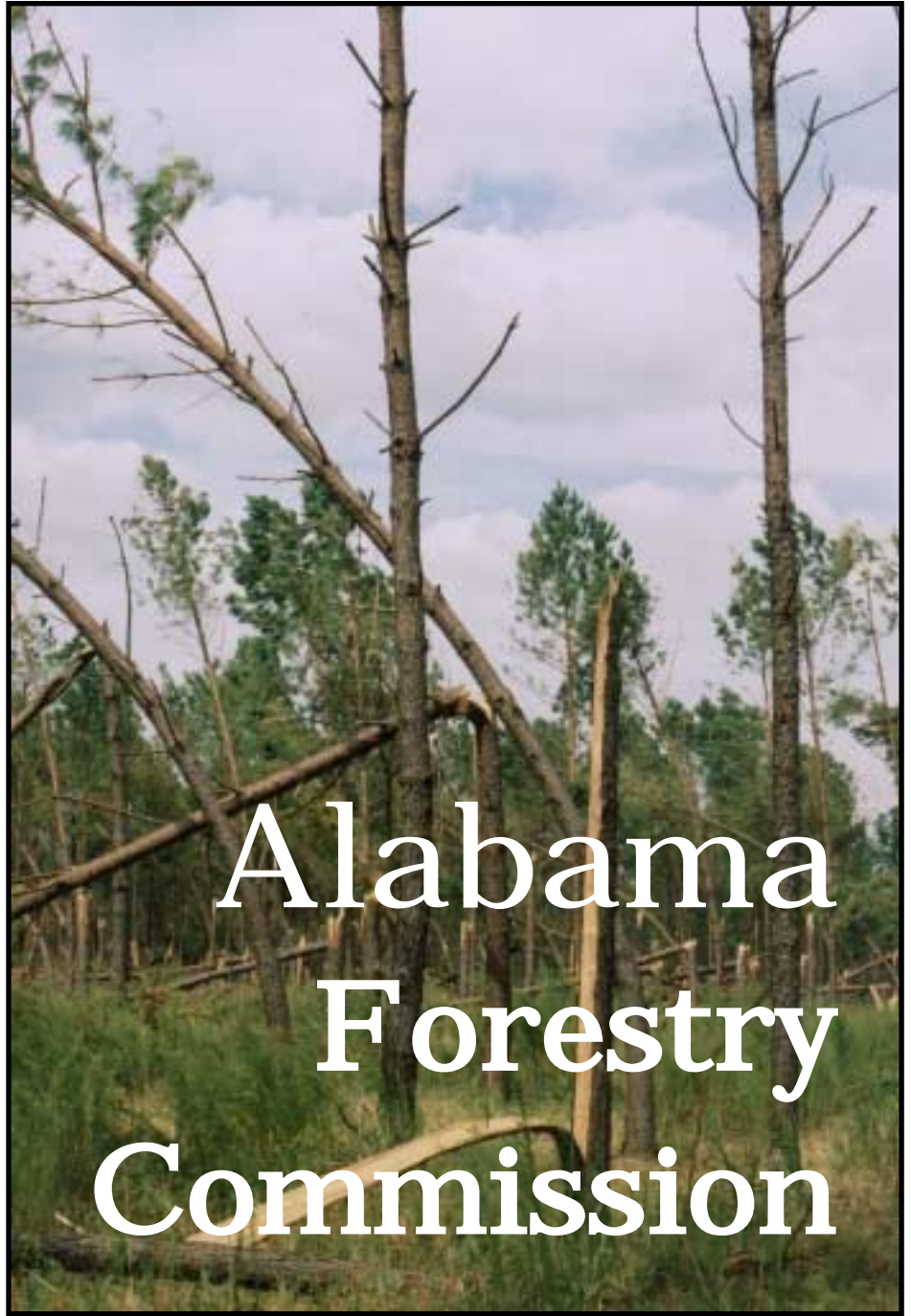


2004-2005



Alabama
Forestry
Commission

ANNUAL REPORT



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Governor of Alabama

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Wayne Strawbridge

Northwest Regional Forester

Phearthur Moore

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Franklin McAliley (*retired*)

Southeast Regional Forester

Gary Cole

Southwest Regional Forester

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ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

October 1, 2005

The Honorable Bob Riley
Governor, State of Alabama
600 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130

It is with great pleasure that I report the Alabama Forestry Commission's accomplishments and services to the public in this 2004-2005 Annual Report.

The 2004-2005 fire season was light with only 1,960 wildfires that burned approximately 30,261 acres. During the year the firefighting efforts of the Alabama Forestry Commission protected 825 homes, 266 other structures, and 727 vehicles from being damaged or destroyed by wildfire. To prevent wildfires from spreading, Commission personnel completed prescribed burning on about 19,872 acres of land and built over 668 miles of permanent fire breaks across the state. We assisted our state's 1,000 rural volunteer fire departments by providing grants, training, and assisting them with equipment.

Our professional foresters and technicians prepared 323 TREASURE Forest management plans during the year affecting 44,004 acres of land. The TREASURE Forest program certified 52 new TREASURE Forests totaling 29,277 acres. This brings the total number across the state to 2,051 with 1.9 million acres of forestland in Alabama under the TREASURE Forest management program.

In addition, professionals prepared 2,941 Stand Management Recommendations for Alabama landowners. The AFC continues its commitment to attracting and serving minority landowners by implementing programs that will directly assist them with the management of their forestland. In the future, much more emphasis is going to be placed nationally and globally on non-traditional forestry issues like forest health; carbon credits; invasive species; watersheds and water quality; endangered, threatened and impaired species; wildlife habitat; as well as insect and disease control. In the past year we have taken steps to prepare for these changes by employing professional foresters to work in the areas of water quality, invasive species, and forest health. Our southern pine beetle detection, mapping, and landowner notification program continues to be second to none in the nation.

The Commission spent much of the year assisting landowners after they received devastating damage from Hurricane Ivan. We helped 180 landowners re-open 360 miles of fire breaks and roads that had been blocked by hurricane debris. We initiated an aggressive fire prevention campaign in the hurricane area including over 10,250 radio announcements, 42,000 fire prevention flyers, and two door-to-door campaigns in high fire-prone areas. In the days immediately following the storm, our relief efforts also involved flying reconnaissance trips over the hurricane-ravaged areas to map the forest damage. Data from these surveys was then compiled into reports that were used not only by this agency, but also by the governor, as well as other state and federal agencies. Over the next few weeks, the AFC coordinated public meetings in the most severely stricken counties, with over 850 landowners attending and receiving information and/or assistance.

Aside from the Hurricane Ivan recovery efforts, Commission relief crews also responded to damage from Hurricane Dennis, and we sent 22 people to southern Mississippi to assist with Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts.

Despite doing long-term disaster relief work, I am proud to say that the associates of the Alabama Forestry Commission have done an outstanding job in their duties. Their names are listed on pages 24 and 25 of this report. The Commission will continue to strive to provide the best quality assistance to Alabama's citizens that we can. Through knowledge, technology, and training we will ensure healthy forests, abundant wildlife, and clean air and water for all citizens of Alabama. We are Making Alabama a Better Place Through Forestry.

Sincerely,



Timothy C. Boyce
State Forester

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Photo by Elishia Ballentine



southern and southwestern parts of the state. Thousands of downed and damaged trees from the three hurricanes will have a dramatic impact on firefighting activities for several years. Timely rains since Hurricane Ivan, which reduce fire starts, have allowed us to better deal with the dangerous situation it created. Unfortunately, the rain will eventually subside, forcing our firefighters to work many extra hours. However, the Commission will continue to transfer manpower and equipment within the state to ensure the safety of our associates, as well as protect the citizens and forest resources of Alabama.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Financial records of the Alabama Forestry Commission are maintained in accordance with accepted accounting procedures and conform to state and federal law as defined by the Comptroller, Examiners of Public Accounts, and the USDA Forest Service.

The 2005 Operating Statement on page 6 (Figure 2) was prepared with unaudited data. Also included in this annual report is a Balance Sheet for Fiscal Year 2004-2005, found on page 7 (Figure 3).

PERSONNEL

The Alabama Forestry Commission continues to struggle with the impact from budget reductions over the past several years. These budget reductions, along with limited numbers of qualified applicants, have forced the agency to further realign personnel to ensure that counties were adequately manned and critical programs were not neglected.

Separations and retirements resulted in the loss of 35 Commission associates, reducing overall staffing to a meager 334 personnel (see Figure 1). Our associates' dedication in protecting the people and forest resources of Alabama, along with their commitment to one another's safety, has allowed us to transfer personnel throughout the state to suppress wildfires. Although moving personnel and equipment is neither efficient nor economical, this commitment is what allows the AFC to continue meeting its

obligations to serve the citizens of Alabama.

Hurricanes Dennis and Katrina placed added strains on the agency as we responded to the challenges associated with these natural disasters, in addition to the remnants of Hurricane Ivan. These two hurricanes caused further destruction this year to the already devastated forest resources located predominantly in the

Figure 1

2004-2005 Alabama Forestry Commission Personnel

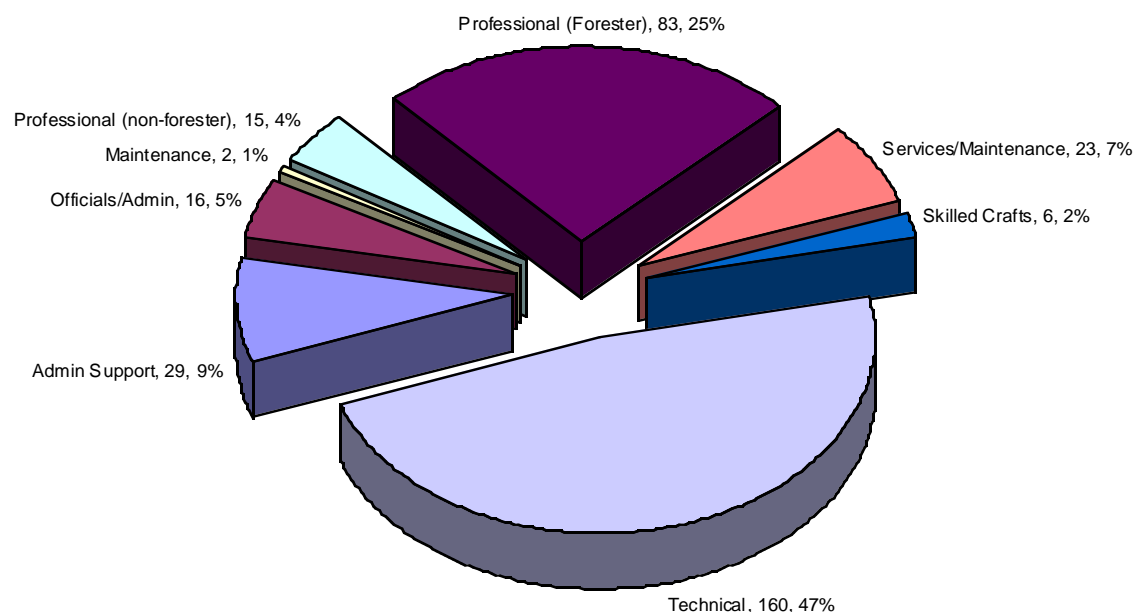


Figure 2

Alabama Forestry Commission Statement of Operations for Fiscal Years Ending September 30

	Actual					
	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY05 Budget	Balance
Expenditures						
Personnel	13,644,792	13,448,098	13,027,129	12,427,941	12,475,934	47,992
Fringe Benefits	3,517,946	3,637,489	3,673,581	4,133,631	4,140,154	6,524
In-State Travel	369,598	228,059	122,166	195,308	282,734	87,426
Out-of-State Travel	9,985	11,283	10,109	20,348	19,800	(548)
Repairs and Maintenance	310,176	310,186	215,309	276,906	201,124	(75,782)
Rentals and Leases	171,217	136,340	121,756	111,396	128,991	17,595
Utilities and Communications	738,412	755,420	669,070	673,355	725,636	52,281
Professional Services	723,419	521,298	389,705	484,754	598,344	113,589
Supplies	1,202,923	1,141,551	1,070,748	999,179	1,501,965	502,786
Transportation Operations	1,244,835	1,208,236	1,143,103	1,457,836	1,157,112	(300,725)
Grants and Benefits	4,630,343	3,941,291	2,081,216	3,471,727	3,922,139	450,412
Transportation Equipment	1,521,530	50,000		2,254,461	2,528,455	273,994
Other Equipment	189,549	295,688	247,690	168,138	238,895	70,757
Excess Available						
Total Expenditures	28,274,726	25,684,939	22,771,582	26,674,979	27,921,282	1,246,303
Revenue Budget						
AFC Funds:						
Severance Tax	5,702,757	5,184,818	5,386,762	5,400,544		
Timber and Turpentine	44,744	41,970	43,098	42,817		
Fishing Permits	1,089	3,454	2,335	1,454		
Fines and Forfeits	6,387	3,407	8,227	3,087		
Radio Leases						
Oil Royalties	7,833	11,128	12,568	14,281		
Insurance Refunds				104,866		
Miscellaneous	3,790	4,724	6,665	47,764		
Prior Year Refunds	90,887	13,964	24,729	120,902		
Contract Services						
Equipment Sales	40,813	44,471	37,968	34,802		
Timber Sales	1,629,997	1,093,377	1,289,421	206,523		
Other Sales	975	6,650	3,503	2,000		
Seedling Sales	606,450	446,878	411,401	275,763		
Donations						
Intragovernment Sales		12,676	23,636	83,467		
Equipment Rentals	49	150	300	473		
Other Rents	18,710	24,939	24,049	30,670		
Plowing Firebreaks	150,515	138,540	176,614	135,541		
Prescribed Burning	165,344	123,912	181,102	163,633		
AFC Funds	8,470,340	7,155,058	7,632,379	6,668,587	6,668,586	(1)
State General Fund	14,269,611	13,273,934	10,048,065	10,215,811	10,215,811	
Federal Funds						
Federal Grants	4,750,389	3,711,591	1,995,212	10,991,751		
Federal Agreements	209,913	13,977	4,343	500		
Federal Reimbursements	26,924	79,010	148,520	82,559		
Interfund Federal Reimbursements				185,910		
Total Federal Funds	4,987,225	3,804,578	2,148,075	11,260,720	8,227,611	(3,033,109)
Local Funds						
County Appropriations	243,261	271,614	203,703	129,523		
Acreage Assessments	1,814,335	1,810,861	1,785,847	1,787,263		
Local Grants	4,349	4,291	8,500	2,303		
Total Local Funds	2,061,945	2,086,766	1,998,051	1,919,089	1,919,089	
Budgetary Transfers In (Out)						
Supplement						
Severance Tax—County Share						
Operating Transfers						
Capital Transfers	(418,060)	(322,900)	(178,606)			
Total Transfers	(418,060)	(322,900)	(178,606)			
AFC Balance Forward	370,512	1,470,900	2,035,254	2,007,121	2,007,121	
Federal Balance Forward	1,958,052	1,954,000	1,702,143	556,000	556,000	
Local Balance Forward				50,657	50,657	
Total Forward	2,328,564	3,424,900	3,737,397	2,613,778	2,613,778	
Total Revenues and Transfers	31,699,626	29,422,336	25,385,360	32,677,984	29,644,875	(3,033,109)
Capital Transfers	418,060	322,900	178,606			
Capital Outlay	197,550	641				
Unallotted Capital Transfers						
Reserve for Capital Outlay	220,510	322,259	178,606			
Agency Revenues	32,117,686	29,745,236	25,563,966	32,677,984	29,644,875	(3,033,109)
Agency Expended and Reserved	28,692,786	26,007,839	22,950,188	26,674,979	27,921,282	1,246,303
Ending Cash Balance	3,424,900	3,737,397	2,613,778	6,003,005	1,723,592	

Figure 3

**Alabama Forestry Commission
Fund Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2005**

	AFC Operations Fund	Emergency Fund	County Taxes Fund
Cash	9,564,069.63	95,778.29	55,286.61
Accounts Receivable	42,171.14		
Due from Other Funds			
Advance Travel			
Assets	9,606,240.77	95,778.29	55,286.61
Vouchers Payable			
Seedling Sale Deposits	14,865.75		
Due to Other Funds			
Due to Other Governments			
Clay County			14,882.29
Henry County			5,240.89
Limestone County			26,534.91
Randolph County			0.16
Blount County			8,628.36
Deferred Revenue:			
Federal Funds			
Local Funds			
Due to Employees	302.90		
Taxes Payable	37.81		
Prepaid Reservations	2,559.40		
Accounts Payable			
Receipts Pending Disbursement			
Liabilities	17,765.86	0.00	55,286.61
Reserve for Pre-Encumbrances			
Reserve for Encumbrances	2,127,367.83		
Reserve for Capital Outlay			
FY 99			
FY 00	579,191.78		
FY 01	157,535.68		
FY 02	220,510.13		
FY 03	322,258.68		
FY 04	178,606.00		
FY 05			
Unalloted Capital Transfers			
Reserved Fund Balance	3,585,470.10		
Unreserved Fund Balance	6,003,004.81	95,778.29	
Liabilities and Fund Balance	9,606,240.77	95,778.29	55,286.61

FIRE DIVISION

FIRE SUPPRESSION

- FY2005 was a light fire season for Alabama.
- About 1,960 wildfires burned 30,261 acres.
- Average size fire was 15.4 acres.
- Wildfires destroyed or damaged 37 houses, 57 outbuildings, 169 vehicles, and 590 large hay bales.
- The efforts of the Alabama Forestry Commission resulted in the direct protection from wildfire of 825 homes, 266 other structures, 727 vehicles, and 557 large hay bales.

HAZARD MITIGATION

- The AFC installed over 668 miles of permanent fire breaks to protect homes and sites within the Wildland Urban Interface.
- The Commission completed about 19,872 acres of prescribed burning across the state. Total prescribed burning (including AFC, private landowners, and contractors) involved 19,628 burns on 63,977 acres. This is slightly below average for Alabama (which is normally about 30,000 burns on 900,000 acres). The primary reason for the low burning rate was the very wet weather last spring.
- In an effort to increase prescribed burning in the state, the Commission and the Alabama Prescribed Burning Council jointly put on a series of eight workshops again this year on Smoke Management, Prescribed Burn Planning, and Fuels Management. Over 200 Prescribed Burn Managers across the state attended these workshops.
- These practices proactively protect our valuable natural resources from the destructive force of wildfires,

while also improving tree growth and forage available to wildlife.

HURRICANE IVAN RECOVERY

Hurricane Ivan damaged the forest on nearly half of Alabama's land base, with the worst damage in twelve southwestern counties. The AFC, working through a federal grant, assisted those Alabama landowners hurt by Ivan to better protect their property from wildfires.

- The Commission and a national fire analysis team developed a formal Fire Behavior and Risk Analysis for the hurricane impact area. This study was the basis for the AFC Recovery Plan.



- The Commission helped 180 landowners re-open 360 miles of fire breaks and roads blocked by hurricane debris.
- Using federal grant funds, the AFC was able to purchase eight new John Deere 650 tractor-ploow units and ten new pickup trucks to improve fire suppression capabilities in the hurricane impact area.
- The Commission ran an aggressive fire prevention campaign in South

Alabama. This included over 10,250 radio announcements, 42,000 fire prevention flyers, and 2 door-to-door campaigns in high fire-prone areas.

- The AFC also enhanced its detection and communication programs in the southern half of the state, again using federal funding. This included an additional 212 fire detection overflights by contract pilots and the replacement of 50 Commission radios.
- The Commission trained 120 volunteer fire fighters in wildland fire fighting tactics and safety, enabling them to better handle any fire situation.

RURAL COMMUNITY FIRE PROTECTION (RCFP)

The Alabama Forestry Commission lended assistance to over 1000 volunteer fire departments over the past twelve months by implementing several beneficial programs.

- Assisted in forming five new departments in areas where fire protection is needed.
- Provided a state contract for fire departments to purchase over 100 items in equipment and firefighter clothing.
- Provided grant application assistance to several volunteer departments that received a total of \$600 million in FEMA grants.
- Administered \$1.9 million dollars of the RCFP federal grant program through appropriations by the Alabama legislature. Divided equally among 994 qualifying volunteer fire departments, this amounted to over \$1,900 for each department.
- Administered an additional \$50,000 provided during a special session of the Alabama legislature that was divided equally among the 994 departments.

- Compiled, updated, and printed the 2006 Fire Tag Roster, a directory containing the names of over 32,000 firefighters eligible to purchase a distinctive firefighter license plate.

COMMUNICATIONS

The AFC operates and maintains two complete radios systems and over 200 tower sites.

- Commission personnel use the VHF system statewide for routine communication, as well as fire prevention and suppression operations. It consists of mobile radios, handheld radios, repeaters, and control stations.
- The UHF radio system, containing over 155 repeaters and 50 control stations, is provided for the volunteer fire service at no charge. The AFC provides maintenance on these repeaters 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to the 785 volunteer fire departments that own and maintain over 6,000 radios (mobiles, portables, and pagers) within the UHF system.
- During the past year, the statewide communication system project was completed to carry the Commission's radio signal through Alabama Public Television's (APT) digital microwave system, allowing the AFC to discontinue expensive rental of phone line. All counties are now operating through this system for annual savings of over \$32,000.
- Another cost-saving project was also completed in which the AFC is sharing communication equipment, equipment costs, and microwave channels with the Game and Fish Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR). Both agencies now have the capability of communicating with personnel in each county from the statewide communication center located in Montgomery.

FEDERAL EXCESS PROPERTY PROGRAM (FEPP)

The Commission is responsible for the acquisition of excess federal property from military bases throughout the southeastern United States. Equipment is screened over the internet, then picked up from the bases. Once received, it is

inventoried, warehoused, and distributed throughout the state for fire control use. This equipment is kept on inventory for the duration of its usable life and is then sold at auction with the proceeds of the sale returning to the Federal government.

During FY2005, items acquired from the FEPP consisted of nine trucks for a total value of \$144,102.

CENTRAL SHOP

The AFC operates an equipment repair shop that is located near Autaugaville. The shop staff consists of two mechanics, two inmate workers, and a supervisor, with two mechanic slots not filled at this time. The shop makes repairs to Commission trucks, tractors, and cars. The staff also inspects Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) as it is received, and makes repairs as needed to ensure that it is in safe operating condition before being issued to volunteer fire departments. Shop activity for FY2005 is summarized below:

- Repaired 70 transport trucks, pickups, and cars.
- Repaired 9 FEPP vehicles.
- Transported 336 items to the state sale lot.

SAFETY

The Alabama Forestry Commission strives to put safety first in everything, the safety program being the responsibility of the Fire Division. Many of the activities in which Commission associates engage are inherently dangerous such as the fire fighting, operation of bulldozers, chainsaws, all-terrain-vehicles, etc. In spite of these dangers, the AFC continues to maintain an excellent safety record. This outstanding record is the result of training, safety equipment requirements, and an accident investigation program.

For fiscal year 2004-2005, there were 20 reportable accidents: 7 personal and 13 vehicular. All accidents were investigated, with 9 being classified as avoidable and 11 determined unavoidable.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

By the end of FY2005, the Commission had 40 law enforcement officers, down from 44 in 2004. Four of these officers are dedicated strictly to law enforcement; the remainder having

forestry and fire control responsibilities in addition to enforcement.

- AFC officers spent 4,423 hours on law enforcement actions, and handled 122 formal investigations during 2004.
- Commission officers made 67 arrests and issued 28 Unlawful Burning Notices.
- A total of 34 additional investigations were transferred to civil actions.
- AFC enforcement actions resulted in \$23,691 being paid to landowners and state agencies in fines, court costs, restitutions, suppression charges, rewards, and civil penalties.

WILDLAND/URBAN INTERFACE AND FIRE PREVENTION

The Commission takes a proactive role in informing and educating the public about the responsibilities of fire prevention in the wildland/urban interface. To promote these efforts, there are now two associates dedicated to the program areas of Wildland/Urban Interface and Wildland Fire Prevention. These programs are funded in part by grants from the National Fire Plan. The National Firewise Communities Program is a national inter-agency program that encourages partnerships among communities, homeowners, private industry, tribes, and public agencies and officials to develop and implement local solutions for wildfire preparedness – before a fire starts.

The AFC continued to work in 2005 with the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments (AAVFD) in providing Wildfire Prevention Grants to volunteer fire departments. The primary intent of this program is to assist the state's volunteer fire departments in the development of wildland fire prevention programs in their coverage areas.

The Commission also continued to work in partnership with The Jefferson/Shelby Wildland Urban Interface Advisory Council and the Wildland/Urban Interface Advisory Council of Southwest Alabama. These two organizations provided local leadership, educational activities, and training for wildland urban interface issues.

MANAGEMENT DIVISION



FOREST MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE

The forests of Alabama provide valuable economic, recreational, environmental, and social resources to every Alabama citizen. They provide the most efficient natural filtration system, shade, and stream bank protection available to ensure clean water. They also provide an abundant habitat for Alabama's diverse population of plants and animals, including threatened and endangered species. Recreational opportunities for the hiker, biker, camper, birdwatcher, hunter, and many other outdoor enthusiasts are added benefits provided by good stewardship of Alabama's healthy forests.

Forestry is extremely important to the economic stability of Alabama with over 50,000 people employed directly and another 70,000 employed indirectly in the industry, representing about 15% of Alabama's workforce. It is the second largest agricultural industry in Alabama with an annual payroll of over \$2 billion. Of the 22.9 million acres of commercial forestland, 78% is owned by private, non-industrial landowners. Last year, over 77% of the harvested timber came from these lands; therefore, it is extremely important that these lands be properly managed. Our foresters and ranger technicians assist non-industrial, private forest landowners with making forest management decisions based on their individual objectives. These landowners range from being extremely knowledgeable to having no knowledge of forestry practices. In addition, our agency refers landowners to licensed forestry consult-

ants and forest industry professionals where applicable. The following programs are the primary avenues used to provide direct and indirect assistance:

- TREASURE Forest and National Stewardship Programs
- Landowner Assistance Programs
- Insect and Disease Protection Programs
- Best Management Practices (BMP) Programs
- Landowner Outreach Education Program
- Nursery and Tree Improvement Programs
- Resource Information, Marketing, and Economic Development Programs
- Forest Inventory and Analysis Survey Program
- State Lands Management and Assistance
- Forest Legacy Program
- Urban Forestry Program

Collectively, Commission assistance through these programs was a catalyst for the implementation of professional forest management practices (8,693 cases) on over 360,000 acres of private forestland in Alabama (Figure 4).

TREASURE FOREST AND NATIONAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

The word **TREASURE** is an acronym for **T**imber, **R**ecreation, **E**nvironment, and **A**esthetics, for a **S**ustained Useable **R**esource. The program, which was established in 1975, promotes sound multiple-use forest management through education and recognition. Education is accomplished through Alabama's **TREASURED Forests** magazine, on-the-ground technical assistance to forest landowners, and various educational workshops. Recognition is accomplished through the certified **TREASURE Forest** award, which is given to landowners that are actively implementing **TREASURE Forest** principles on their land. This helps gauge the progress of increased land management. The Commission gets reimbursed through federal funds for some of these activities.

- During the year, the Commission received 64 web application forms from landowners interested in managing their property under the **TREASURE Forest** philosophy. Each of these was followed up with a visit from an AFC resource professional.
- Our professional foresters prepared 323 **TREASURE Forest** management plans covering 44,004 acres during the year.
- The Commission trained associates on the **TREASURE Forest Plan** writer to

Figure 4

Statewide Forest Management Accomplishments FY05

Program	Landowners Assisted	Acres Impacted
TREASURE Forest Management Plans	323	44,004
New TREASURE Forests Certified	52	29,277
Stand Management Recommendations	2,941	183,558
Tree Planting	242	9,028
Timber Stand Improvements	446	19,283
BMP Investigations/Consultations	37	822
Prescribed Burning	338	19,872
Fire Lane Plowing	668	1,087 miles
Landowner Workshops/Tours/etc.	146	11,711 people
Forestry Consultant Referrals	630	n/a

more efficiently prepare management plans for landowners.

- The AFC conducted training sessions for the GIS mapping system. This program enables the Commission to provide landowners with informative maps of their property and taxpayers with the status of our forests statewide.
- The Commission continued to revise standard management information sheets that incorporate latest technologies in an easy-to-read format for landowners. These new information sheets are available in print or on the AFC web site.
- Under the Stewardship Program, three wildlife biologists provide specific wildlife information to landowners. During the year, they provided assistance to 113 landowners covering 40,132 acres. They also conducted 9 wildlife presentations at landowner tours attended by approximately 367 people.
- Contributed articles to *Alabama's TREASURED Forests*, a magazine that the AFC publishes three times a year. With a national circulation of approximately 14,000 and availability on the Commission's web site, this publication is a valuable tool in getting information to forest landowners.
- During the year, 52 new TREASURE Forests totaling 29,277 acres were certified. Currently, there are 2,051 certified TREASURE Forests in

Alabama that collectively represent 1.90 million acres of forestland under TREASURE Forest management. The number of landowner certifications and acres accepted into the TREASURE Forest Program has increased by 46% during the past ten years (Figure 5).

LANDOWNER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

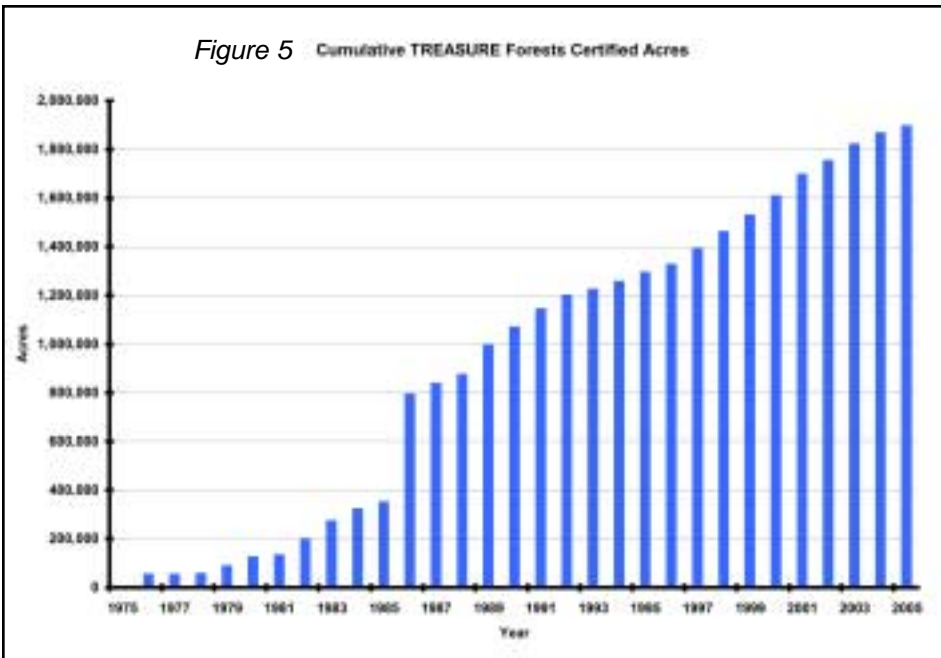
Once a management plan is prepared, the landowner is urged to carry out these activities to maximize the use and benefits from his or her property. The Commission assists private landowners with implementation of these activities through various cost-share assistance programs, direct landowner service, and forestry information and education programs.

One state and three federal cost-share programs provide financial assistance to landowners. AFC professionals serve as technical advisors for each of these programs and make prescriptions for landowners enrolled in these programs. They then follow up to ensure that each practice is completed according to program requirements, ensuring that government funds are appropriately utilized.

- During the past year, Commission personnel provided written guidance and inspected completed forestry practices, such as site preparation, tree planting, timber stand improvement, and habitat improvements, on more

than 908 sites, covering approximately 44,775.

- A large portion of the above-referenced assistance was brought about by the impact of Hurricane Ivan on September 16, 2004. The week following the hurricane, the AFC made aerial surveys to map the damage in the forests of 19 south Alabama counties, then compiled and printed a final damage report. Public meetings were held in the 8 most severely impacted counties in southwest Alabama, educating over 850 landowners. Supplemental Hurricane Ivan funding was made available through the USDA Forest Service that assisted landowners in protecting forests from wildfire, insects, diseases, and invasive plant species. It also set up cost share assistance for site preparation, tree planting, and herbicide release. The Forest Land Recovery Program is providing over \$4 million in cost share payments to landowners for restoration of stands impacted by Hurricane Ivan in 2004. The Alabama Soil & Water Conservation Committee is administering the cost-share program and providing oversight. However, during the sign-up period, over \$11 million in assistance was requested, so payments were limited to \$10,000 per forest landowner.
- Commission employees installed 668 miles of permanent firelanes and completed 19,872 acres of prescribed burning. These practices proactively protect our valuable natural resources from the destructive force of wildfires while also improving tree growth and forage available to wildlife.
- AFC professionals provide technical forestry assistance to landowners on an individual basis who are not under a cost-share program, which usually includes current site conditions, a map, and recommended management prescriptions. During the past year, Commission personnel prepared 2,941 stand management recommendations covering 183,558 acres.
- The Commission also maintains a current list of registered consulting foresters, forestry vendors, and timber buyers known to provide services in the local area. During the year the



AFC referred 630 landowners to other professionals for further assistance.

- This past year, the Commission's Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) crew began a continuous survey of primary and secondary forest industries, while completing the required panel of FIA plots in Alabama. This list is posted on the AFC's website and will be periodically updated as new data is collected and entered into the database.
- The AFC produces many publications designed to educate forest landowners with proper management techniques. Previously mentioned are the new Management Information Sheets that are updated as needed to reflect the latest research and management techniques. As another example, after Hurricane Ivan struck Alabama, the AFC immediately responded by estimating the damages caused by the storm and publishing a damage estimate report. This report, which estimated \$610 million in losses, was made available both in print and on the website.
- The Commission also published several specific information sheets and combined these into a packet of material which was handed out to those landowners attending the public meetings or that requested assistance through our toll-free hurricane help desk.
- The Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP) provides additional financial, technical, and educational assistance to non-industrial private landowners. The AFC has and will be performing the following activities through FLEP:
 - Provided additional technical assistance and educational programs to landowners, including educational workshops and printed publications.
 - Supported other organizations and agencies that provided additional assistance to landowners, such as field tours (500+ attendees) and stand management recommendations (190,000+ acres).
 - Two longleaf pine management workshops and two hardwood management workshops were held in different regions of the state to further train registered foresters in pro-



Prescribed burning in a longleaf pine plantation.

viding landowners with a written management prescription for longleaf pines and hardwoods. A total of 162 professional registered foresters were trained to provide technical advice on proper management of these species.

- Development of a book on Sustainable Forestry (managing forests for game and non-game species, benefits of different types or harvesting and regeneration methods, the use and benefits of prescribed burning, economic considerations, etc.) to serve as a reference tool for professional foresters and landowners.
- Contracted a wildlife biologist to provide forest landowners and farmers in Alabama with professional assistance in managing their wildlife resources. Over 950 landowners representing in excess of 400,000 acres were served by the wildlife biologist. This also included developing several PowerPoint presentations on wildlife management techniques for farm-forest settings, holding public meetings with landowners, and giving presentations to landowner groups.
- Conducted presentations and training workshops on non-native invasive species control to educate landowners with initiatives, such as

the Alabama Invasive Species Plant Council. Informational brochures on Invasive Plants Species were also printed and distributed.

- Reprinted and distributed 16,500 copies of two reference guides about early successional wildlife habitats and respective management techniques for landowners to consider. Also reprinted and distributed 2,500 copies of *A Landowner's Guide to Native Warm-Season Grasses in the Mid-South*. Three two-day regional training sessions were held for 151 natural resource professionals to provide technical information and also distribute the reference guide. Four evening workshops were held which educated a total of 233 forest and farm landowners about early successional wildlife habitats and management techniques.
- Conducted training workshops and provided technical assistance to minority and other under-served landowners who may not be fully aware of how to manage their property for multiple use and benefits. Leading African-American landowners were selected to serve as mentors, form local committees, organize and conduct landowner workshops, and make presentations at those workshops. Digital county

plat maps were purchased to help identify underserved landowners and develop maps showing locations of those landowners for mentoring activities. Technical assistance in Agro-Forestry was provided as well as advice on Forest Recreational Opportunities. Three training workshops were held to educate landowners about forestry cooperatives and marketing opportunities for their land and timber resources.

- Developed, printed and distributed 15,000 brochures entitled *Streamside Management Zones in Alabama: Functions and Management* relating to the benefits of riparian forests in Alabama, showing the different types of streams and riparian areas and how to manage them properly.
- The Commission continues to support other organizations and groups who promote good forest management. These groups actively engage landowners and educators to properly manage and understand our natural resources, and they provide training workshops and mentoring programs to landowners. Examples include the Alabama TREASURE Forest Association, the forestry centers at Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities, the Alabama Wildlife Federation, Wildland-Urban Interface Councils, and the Alabama Farmers' Federation. The AFC helped conduct 146 workshops and tours where over 11,711 people attended.
- The agency has a specialized staff of outreach foresters to locate and provide technical assistance and education to under-served landowners. During the year, Commission employees provided assistance to 370 under-served landowners.

Landowners can obtain valuable forestry information through the AFC website, <http://forestry.state.al.us>. This website, which receives approximately 20,000 visits per month, contains information on southern pine beetles, placing

orders for seedlings, cost-share programs, forest industry directory, forestry vendors, protecting your home from wildfires, forest statistics, links to other information, and much more.

HURRICANE RESPONSE

HURRICANE IVAN - September 16, 2004

When Hurricane Ivan struck on September 16, the Alabama Forestry Commission was part of the Emergency Operations Center at the Alabama Emergency Management Agency (EMA) headquarters in Clanton. At the request of the EMA and in support of the Alabama Department of Transportation



Photo by Colleen Vansant

and several county engineers, the Commission sent strike teams to the hurricane impact area to assist in reopening blocked highways and access roads.

The AFC dispatched eight five-man teams consisting of two chainsaw operators, two "swampers," and a Strike Team Leader, with saws, dozer, and transports. In addition, an Incident Command Overhead Team was sent to coordinate the operation. The Commission's mobile command post was dispatched to be used as an operation center, as well as an

equipment repair shop truck with two mechanics and four communication technicians to begin repairing the AFC's and Volunteer Fire Departments' radio dispatch systems. The team established a base camp in Atmore (Escambia County) on September 17. From there the crews re-opened roads in Escambia, Conecuh, Monroe, and Baldwin counties. On September 22, an additional three crews were dispatched to Greenville (Butler County). These teams reopened roads in south Butler and Wilcox counties, as well as finishing off Escambia County. The teams were recalled on September 27.

In addition to the strike team, AFC personnel in the hurricane impact area responded to requests from county EMA offices for assistance in clearing roads and re-establishing communication systems and distribution of MREs and ice. These responses in Baldwin, Mobile, Clarke, Monroe, Sumter, Covington, Crenshaw, Macon, and Wilcox counties were only part of the statewide response of the Commission to the hurricane disaster.

In response to a request from the Governor's Office, the AFC flew reconnaissance missions to map the extent of the hurricane damage. This work involved five airplanes with pilots and spotters. The flights took place September 20 - 22, with some follow-up flights on October 1 - 2. The Governor and others used the maps developed by the Commission at press conferences and in recovery planning. All these actions were in immediate response to the Hurricane Ivan disaster. Since that time,

the Commission has assisted in helping landowners in south Alabama begin forest recovery.

On October 1, Governor Riley formed the Hurricane Ivan Alabama Forest Recovery Task Force. The mission of the Task Force was to facilitate salvage efforts to maximize the recovery of timber damaged by Hurricane Ivan and limit the loss of timber volume and value to forest landowners. The objectives were:

- Move damaged timber as quickly as possible to wood-using or storage facilities.
- Expand the market for damaged timber beyond wood-utilizing facilities in South Alabama.
- Promote the development of long-term wood storage facilities.
- Decrease barriers to safely, effectively, and economically harvest and transport damaged timber.
- Effectively communicate the challenges and successes of the timber salvage effort to landowners, wood-using facilities, professional loggers, and the public.
- Monitor and record salvage efforts.
- Promote forest health through prompt reforestation and proactive forest protection.
- Ensure compliance with antitrust laws.



The Task Force established the following committees to achieve those objectives:

- Timber Utilization
- Governmental Affairs
- Information and Statistics
- Communications
- Harvesting and Transportation
- Forest Health and Reforestation

State Forester Timothy C. Boyce served as a member of the Task Force; Management Division Director, Bruce Springer, served as chair of the Reforestation Committee; and Management Division Assistant Director, Walter Cartwright, served as chair of the Information and Statistics Committee. The Commission surveyed reforestation needs of landowners as well as availability of tree seedlings, and created databases to both gather and report on salvaged

timber, with monthly reports and a final report to the Task Force. The salvage vs. target information detailed in the final report is shown in Figure 6.

HURRICANE DENNIS - July 10, 2005

Over three dozen Alabama Forestry Commission associates from 30 different counties were dispatched to south Alabama for Hurricane Dennis emergency detail. AFC associates were involved with initial emergency response and assisted in road clearing. One three-man strike team and one four-man strike team from south Alabama were dispatched and on standby Saturday, July 9, to assist the Department of Public Safety in the initial clearing of roads. These chainsaw teams worked alongside state troopers in the first response phase after the hurricane had passed in clearing roads to provide access for emergency personnel.

On Sunday, July 10, two eleven-men strike teams and an overhead team from the Commission's two northern regions were on standby by the Army Aviation Support Facility at Danley Field in

Montgomery, awaiting directions from state emergency officials. On Monday morning July 11, they were activated by Governor Bob Riley to respond to south Alabama to assist in clearing roads. They operated under the Incident Command System (ICS) and were staged at the Atmore City Hall until dispatched to specific areas to work. The crews were equipped with bulldozers and chainsaws, and remained in south Alabama until local officials no longer needed their services.

The crews in south Alabama only represented a segment of the AFC associates that assisted with storm damage cleanup and road clearing. Rangers and foresters from county offices across the state assisted their local emergency officials with localized road clearing and continued to do so for the next few weeks. The Commission has the equipment and specialized skills to do a very important job; clearing roads to provide access for emergency personnel and citizens. The Alabama Forestry Commission is one of the major players when emergencies occur in Alabama. In the past they have responded to hurricanes, tornado damage, ice storms, and they have provided law enforcement details.

HURRICANE KATRINA - August 29, 2005

Once again, when Hurricane Katrina struck on August 29, the AFC was part of the Emergency Operations Center at the Alabama EMA headquarters in Clanton. At the request of the EMA and in support of the Alabama Departments of Transportation and Public Safety, as well as several county engineers, the

Figure 6

Product Target	Salvage Target	Total Volume Salvaged	% of Target
Pine Sawtimber	133.2 MBF	156.5 MBF	118%
Pine Pulpwood	226,000 tons	1,192,397 tons	531%
Hardwood Sawtimber	69.5 MBF	15.7 MBF	23%
Hardwood Pulpwood	19,000 tons	758,708 tons	3,995%

Commission sent a strike team to the hurricane impact area to assist in reopening blocked highways and access roads. The western edge of Alabama had the most damage, with considerable damage to Baldwin and Mobile counties. The Category 4 hurricane came ashore near Gulfport, Mississippi, and dealt a serious blow to forests in that state, Louisiana, and east Texas. AFC pilots conducted several flights parallel to the Mississippi state line to assess damage to Alabama's forests. Scattered timber damage was reported, but no measurable damage was detected. Other flights in the Northwest region revealed scattered light damage and mostly urban damage to isolated trees. As a result of this storm, the Commission estimated that Alabama's timber resources suffered between \$3-5 million damage, scattered over extreme southwest and western Alabama.

The three states most affected by the Category 4 hurricane - Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama - have approximately 25 plywood and oriented strand board (OSB) mills which last year, combined, produced approximately 6.5 billion square feet (3/8" basis) of panels annually, or about 22% of total U.S. production. A few mills shut down or curtailed operations as a result of wind damage, power outages, or the inability of employees to report to work. But most mills in the three states were unaffected or were only temporarily affected, and resumed production fairly quickly.

The impact of the storm on railroad and river access to and from damaged areas affected delivery of wood fiber and other raw materials to mills, as well as the shipment of finished product to distribution points. Most of those infrastructures have been restored as of this report.

INSECT AND DISEASE PROTECTION PROGRAMS

- The most destructive disease to Alabama forests is from a fungus, annosus root rot (ARR). The disease causes mortality to pine stands second only to the southern pine beetle (SPB). These two destructive pests cause more damage than wildfires! An increased control effort is being initiated by including prevention recommendations in all TREASURE Forest management plans.

- Tree stresses from recent droughts continue to show up as 'die back' in many hardwood stands, especially on upland sites. To reduce this loss, the Commission encourages landowners to only plant species appropriate to a specific site and soil type.



Photo by Walter Cartwright

Thinned Pine Plantation for SPB Prevention

- Increasing amounts of invasive, non-native plants infest Alabama's forests and dominate small openings, increasingly eroding forest productivity, hindering forest use and management activities, and degrading diversity and wildlife habitat. The AFC is developing and planning to implement the Invasive Plant Control Program to provide cost-share assistance to landowners who wish to control cogongrass, privet, or Chinese tallow tree. A forester (the Assistant Forest Health Coordinator) was hired to develop and oversee this program.
- Both the Forest Health Coordinator and the Assistant Forest Health Coordinator attended the 7th Annual Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Control Conference / 3rd Annual Alabama Invasive Plant Council Conference regarding invasive plant species. They have also been active with the Invasive Plant Council.
- A new fungus was detected in California and Oregon that has the potential of attacking and killing oak species. The disease associated with this fungus is called "Sudden Oak Death Syndrome." The Commission assisted representatives from Mississippi State University in sam-

pling possible locations where Sudden Oak Death might be in the wild. None has been reported in the state thus far.

- The August/September southern pine beetle detection survey revealed that statewide there were 1,700 infestations containing 56,550 trees. Of these infestations, 75% were in the SW Region (1,278 spots containing 46,410 trees). There were 34 counties with SPB infestations, of which 16 counties (47%) were considered epidemic. Regional SPB maps are posted on the AFC website bi-monthly (Figure 7).
- Additionally, the federally-funded Southern Pine Beetle Prevention and Restoration Program was instrumental in reducing risk of dense pine stands susceptible to the SPB. Through this program, financial assistance was provided to encourage timber stand improvement practices, such as thinning, to reduce the susceptibility of SPB attacks. The Commission assisted 104 landowners amounting to \$288,102 in assistance.
- The USDA Forest Service conducted a Forest Health Review on June 21-23, 2005. Objectives of the review are to ensure that an effective forest

Figure 7

Number of SPB Spots by Detection Flight - FY 2005			
Jan/ Feb	Apr/May	Jun/Jul	Aug/Sep
173	337	1,965	1,700

health program is being carried out in the state and that cooperative forest health funds from the state and federal governments are spent for appropriate activities. The Forest Service, the State Forester, and members of the AFC Forest Health section attended tours of property in Dallas and Elmore counties. The Forest Service commended many aspects of the Forest Health section, including providing forest health recommendations to landowners affected by Hurricane Ivan, increasing the Commission's GIS capabilities, implementing ARR risk rating in management planning, and requiring stump treatment in high ARR areas. Jim Hyland, the AFC's Forest Health Coordinator, was given a personal commendation for all of his work in forest health.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) PROGRAMS

The citizens of Alabama demand protection of our waterways and improvement in water quality. Past research has proven that if forestry practices are conducted while following Alabama's Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Forestry (Environmental Protection Agency-approved guidelines), they both protect and improve water quality. The Commission's role is to ensure that Alabama's BMPs are followed when implementing forestry practices. This is done by randomly monitoring forestry practices for BMP compliance and investigating BMP complaints received from concerned citizens. The AFC also provides education and training to landowners and loggers (pre-harvest consultation), and serves as technical advisors on clean watershed partnership committees.

- The Commission received 22 BMP complaints during the year. Of these, 12 have been resolved and 10 were referred to ADEM for evaluation, some of which were not silvicultural-related. Most complaints were resolved by providing BMP education and voluntary compliance.
- A new BMP Forester was hired by the Commission to investigate complaints, update the BMP manual and video, and educate the public, professional foresters, loggers, and industry on the proper implementation and maintenance

of BMPs. He will also conduct random monitoring of active and recently logged sites with county and regional staff. County reviews of stand management recommendations will be conducted to ensure that landowners are receiving adequate information on the importance of BMPs in protecting streams and overall water quality.

- The Alabama Clean Water Partnerships are coalitions of private and public individuals, companies, and organizations working together to protect and preserve water resources and aquatic ecosystems. One of the major tasks of the partnerships is to write River Basin Management Plans for the ten river basins in Alabama. The AFC has professional foresters assigned to represent forestry interests and provide technical information for each river basin group. The BMP Forester will coordinate Commission participation in the meetings and compile reports on the status of each river basin management plan. A couple plans have completed the review of ADEM and EPA, while the others are in various stages of development. In addition, the Commission tracks accomplishments by river basin.

LANDOWNER OUTREACH EDUCATION PROGRAM

Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University (A&M) and the Alabama Forestry Commission recognized that the missions of the two organizations are focused on the same objectives. Both organizations provide service and outreach to the people of the state and both organizations have expressed a desire to work closely to educate and serve the diverse people of Alabama, regardless of their means, size of land holdings, and other resources.

Alabama A&M University is the only historically black college or university offering a

Bachelor of Science degree in General Forestry accredited by the Society of American Foresters. As such, the institution has the technical expertise in forestry and related areas to support a program geared at preparing students drawn from populations under-represented in the forestry profession and serving traditionally under-served woodland owners.

Over the past year Alabama A&M and the Commission have forged a successful partnership in addressing some of the needs of those who have been historically under-served by or under-represented in the forestry profession. During this time the following activities have been successfully completed:

- Organized nine landowner workshops
- Recruited students for forestry work study and/or summer internships
- Promoted an agro-forestry demonstration project exploring silvopastoral systems
- Partnered with Tuskegee University (TU) and the Federation of Southern Cooperatives (FSC) in planning and delivery of forestry outreach projects
- Developed a detailed database targeted at under-served landowners

These efforts have engaged well over 50 minority landowners, and current and potential minority students in forestry and forestry-related activities. At the same time, with the assistance of partners such as the AFC, the General Forestry program at Alabama A&M University has been greatly enhanced. The Commission aggressively tries to reach, assist,



Photo by James Jennings

and promote good forest management by minority landowners, who in the past did not actively manage their forestland.

The Commission is actively involved in several programs to better assist minority landowners:

- Served on Alabama A&M's Center of Excellence Program
- Established a student intern program with students from Alabama A&M's Tuskegee-based school
- Started a forest ranger/technician apprentice program for students who recently graduated from high school
- Collaborated with the National Network of Forest Practitioners (NNFP) to send over 20 underserved landowners to landowner workshops in other states
- Participated in Fonders Network for smart growth and livable communities. Over 30 foundations are involved in the Fonders Network
- Partnered with Federation of Southern Cooperatives (Ford Foundation) to evaluate 13 Forestry Demonstration Projects throughout the United States
- Planned, organized, and recruited students for the 2005 Alabama Forestry Camp, of which 31 students attended from various counties across the state
- In addition, various presentations were made to promote the Outreach and Education program. Presentations were made to:
 - The Southern Group of State Foresters in Texas on the Alabama Forestry Commission's outreach initiative
 - The Tuskegee Small Farmers' Conference on the AFC's Outreach Program
 - The State Forester's Outreach Advisory Council
 - Alabama Forestry Camp
 - Ujima Math and Science Fun Day (300 students)
 - Cherokee County Farm Safety Day (1000 students)
- Outreach activities also included women landowners. An action plan was developed summarizing possible activities in which the Commission could participate to support The Women in Land Ownership (WILO) group.

NURSERY AND TREE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The objective of the Nursery and Tree Improvement Program is to ensure that Alabama's landowners have access to top-quality, genetically-improved forest tree seedlings at a reasonable price. The AFC has been involved in this program for over fifty years. Over this period the Commission has established orchards producing high-quality pine and hardwood seed. The E. A. Hauss Nursery, established in 1951 near Atmore, has grown and sold over a billion seedlings to landowners.

- During Fiscal Year 2005, the nursery produced 8.85 million pine seedlings and over a half million hardwood seedlings consisting of 20 different species.
- The Commission is currently maintaining pine seed orchards consisting of 40 acres of 1st cycle longleaf, 30 acres of 2nd cycle slash, 20 acres of 2nd cycle coastal loblolly, 30 acres of 3rd cycle coastal loblolly, and 30 acres of 3rd cycle piedmont loblolly. There are also 55 acres of seed production areas for ten hardwood species.
- At Geneva State Forest, the AFC has established an extensive living archive of genetic selections for southern pine species. It is one of the largest at one location in the Southeast.

RESOURCE INFORMATION, MARKETING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

During the year, the Commission completed the *Forest Resource Report*

2004, a publication which contains a variety of economic indicators of the forest industry health in Alabama. Forest commodities, wages, employment, payroll, capital investments and value-added data is gathered and summarized in this report. The entire report can be viewed on the AFC website. A portion of this information, a summary of harvest trends, is shown in the accompanying graphs (Figures 8, 9, and 10).

Alabama has the second largest commercial timberland base in the United States. As stated above, forestry is big business in Alabama. The Commission actively recruits new and expanding markets for forest products, and continues to be the lead agency of the "Forestry TEAM," which brings several agencies and organizations together to more effectively market our natural resources. This team includes members such as the Alabama Development Office, Alabama International Trade Center, Alabama Center for Advanced Woodworking Technology, USDA Forest Service, and the Forest Products Development Center. The AFC receives federal funding for some of this economic resource and marketing work. Some of the accomplishments of the Forestry TEAM during the year include:

The Commission, under the direction of the Alabama Development Office, also a TEAM member, participated in the **2005 LIGNA World Fair** for forestry and wood industries, held in Hanover, Germany, during May 2-6, 2005. By providing a booth at this trade show, Alabama was able to highlight the state's forest resources to many of the 100,000 individuals attending LIGNA (75% of all attendees were involved at some level in

Figure 8: Forest Products Harvests by Year

YEAR	PINE SAWTIMBER (mbf Scribner)	HARDWOOD SAWTIMBER (mbf Doyle)	PINE PULPWOOD (cords)	HARDWOOD PULPWOOD (cords)	
1996	1,543,241	270,395	5,427,060	3,799,505	
1997	1,672,058	274,883	5,663,781	3,596,780	
1998	1,683,977	305,659	5,845,848	3,602,648	
1999	1,487,871	288,412	4,983,089	3,245,549	
2000	1,671,304	283,098	5,126,587	3,752,076	
2001	1,540,799	300,857	5,497,703	2,990,148	
2002	1,593,112	284,160	6,708,523	3,579,703	Revised
2003	1,044,748	179,492	4,186,756	2,106,544	Revised
2004	1,837,828	312,514	6,753,505	3,313,285	
Percent Change 2003 to 2004:	75.9%	74.1%	61.3%	57.3%	67%

Figure 9: Timber Harvest Trends

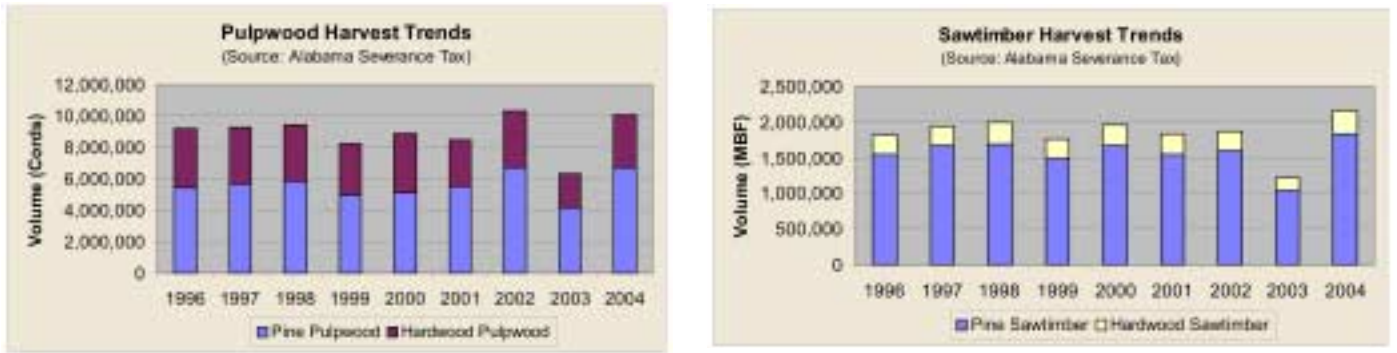


Figure 10: County Total Stumpage



important forestry investment decisions). The quality contacts made at LIGNA were superior. Approximately 13 investment leads, 2 joint venture opportunities, 12 international trade prospects, and 28 other significant contacts were identified at the event, with approximately \$550 million of new capital project prospects. The following quote appeared

in a Panel World article on the LIGNA Trade Show, published by Hatton-Brown Publishers, Inc.: "Sometimes it takes a trip abroad to find out what's happening in your own back yard. Such was the case during the LIGNA wood products trade fair held in Hanover, Germany, May 2-6, 2005. A rumor had been circulating concerning a possible project near Oxford, Alabama, which is only a couple of hours by highway to the north of Montgomery, where this publication is headquartered. The rumor was that Kronospan Group, the big Austrian-based company, was involved, but real information was hard to find. During the first day of LIGNA I continued to hear more bits and pieces concerning the Oxford project, but only when I turned the corner and ventured up yet another aisle of Hall 27 on the fairgrounds did I run into something that I knew

could give me all the answers. That something was the attractive exhibit of the State of Alabama Development Office. I was impressed first of all that Alabama had ventured forth into LIGNA, second that it had landed in Hall 27, the only hall of many halls to be in if you're interested in the international panel industry, and third by the number of bod-

ies who made the trip, among them: Gary Faulkner, senior project manager for economic development with the Alabama Development Office (ADO); Anna Ward with ADO; Bruce Springer, forest management division director with the Alabama Forestry Commission; Mark Sheppard, VP, trade and development, Alabama State Port Authority in Mobile; Jim Glasgow, director of the Alabama Center for Advanced Woodworking Technology at Northwest Shoals Community College, Phil Campbell, Alabama; Greg Barker with Alabama Power Company; and Dr. Hajo Drees, the state's European representative as director of Economic Business Development. This impressive crowd was on hand to entice more foreign investment of a wood products nature in Alabama. If they keep landing the likes of the Kronospan project, other states may start contracting them out. I've been to the biennial LIGNA event nine consecutive times, but I don't remember ever encountering the enthusiasm for the North American market as was the case this year; and more specifically, for the Southern U.S. OSB [oriented strand board] market (here I am in my back yard again). Indeed, before I left for LIGNA, Martco had already broken ground for a new plant in Oakdale, Louisiana. Louisiana-Pacific plans to build one in Thomasville, Alabama. Alas not long after I returned from LIGNA, a groundbreaking ceremony was held at the Alabama site. On hand was Klaus Kohler, managing director of Kronospan USA. Kohler pointed to the area's work force, access to the interstate, and the state's industry-friendly climate as keys to the company's decision. Kronospan is receiving significant city tax breaks as well as enticements for infrastructure development, along with state incentives toward training and infrastructure. The Calhoun County Economic Development Council has also been instrumental in the project."

On May 26, 2005, Governor Bob Riley joined officials with **Kronospan** to break ground on the Austrian company's first manufacturing plant in the United States. The new 700-job plant will cover 18 acres, and at 800,000 square feet, will be almost twice the size of the Louisiana Superdome. Kronospan is the world's largest manufacturer of wood-based panels and particleboard. The \$500 million plant is being built about one mile north of Interstate 20 near Oxford. "This groundbreaking means that some of the hardest working and most productive citizens in America - the people of Alabama - are one step closer to landing the 700 jobs that Kronospan will bring to our great state," Governor Riley said. "This is one of the largest economic development projects in the Southeast, and it marks the beginning of another chapter in Alabama's continuing economic success story."

The Kronospan project in Alabama stems from a trip by the Alabama Governor, Bob Riley, and other officials during summer 2004 to Europe for a meeting with Kronospan officials. The first stage would be the laminate flooring plant, followed by an MDF/HDF (medium density fiberboard/high density fiberboard) plant, and later an OSB (oriented strand board) plant, and very possibly a resin plant.

On September 6, 2005, **Louisiana Pacific Corporation (LP)** held a ground-breaking ceremony for their new plant site near Thomasville, Alabama. Local public officials, economic development officials, representatives from the

AFC and Governor Riley's office were on hand for the ceremony. LP will develop and construct an industrial facility to manufacture OSB products on approximately 820 acres. LP will begin the first phase of plant development in the third quarter of 2005, with production start-up slated for late 2007. LP expects to employ at least 130 people at the plant initially, which will have an annual OSB production capacity of 700 million square feet. LP CEO Rick Frost, attending the ceremony said, "This new mill in Alabama, together with our joint venture OSB mill under construction in British Columbia and LP's strategic \$250 million capital plan to revitalize our existing OSB mills, reinforces our commitment to maintaining LP's leadership position in the structural panels industry with state-of-the-art technology, low-cost manufacturing capacity, and the highest quality for our customers." The new plant will be the second largest OSB plant in North America, utilizing approximately 150-175 loads of wood daily.

"After a thorough site selection process, LP is very excited about locating our new OSB plant in southwestern Alabama," explained Jeff Wagner, LP's vice president, OSB. "Clarke County has proximity to a good wood supply, an excellent infrastructure for the wood products industry, and a strong trained labor force. Just as important, the leaders of Clarke County and the Clarke County Industrial Development Board have welcomed us warmly and worked extremely hard to reach this agreement for the long-term benefit of their community. The

State of Alabama has provided strong support throughout the process. We greatly appreciate these efforts and commitments, and we look forward to rolling up our sleeves and starting construction of the plant. We believe that LP and Clarke County are a great fit."

The Clarke County Development Foundation, which includes private citizens and businesses, the county commission and the mayors of every municipality in the county worked out details of the project with LP. Alabama Governor Bob Riley noted, "We proudly welcome Louisiana-Pacific to Clarke County, and the new jobs and opportunity the company is bringing to this part of Alabama. The quality of Alabama's workforce has led another world-class corporation to our state. Our economy is on the right track, and with the help of companies like LP, it will remain on the right track."

In May of 2005, **Paragon Panels** announced that it would refurbish and restart an idled medium density fiberboard (MDF) plant in Barbour County. The operation will initially employ around 90 people, but is expected to expand to 130 new jobs shortly. The plant will utilize approximately 400,000 tons of wood fiber in the form of sawmill residue to produce 130 million square feet of MDF.

The **Alabama Center for Advanced Woodworking Technology** at Northwest Shoals Community College planned and conducted 25 woodworker and skills training workshops, completed 80 surveys of secondary wood industries, and attended 5 national and international woodworking seminars. They also helped plan and participated in the LIGNA International Woodworking Trade show in Hanover, Germany along with other Forestry TEAM members, stimulating several investment leads for Alabama. Staff at the Center planned and delivered woodworker skills training for ten new and expanding industries, and also delivered woodworker skills training by teleconference from the classroom as requested.

The **Alabama International Trade Center (AITC)**, located on the campus of the University of Alabama, promotes international trade of Alabama-produced forest products. The AITC worked directly on a one-on-one basis with 35 wood product companies in the state and



The Commission participated in the 2005 LIGNA World Fair for forestry and wood industries, held in Hanover, Germany, during May 2-6, 2005.

provided counseling, market reports, and sales leads for doing business in target markets in Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean. Reports and contact directories of importers were prepared and distributed to the Alabama firms on opportunities in China, Belgium, Germany, Spain, Dominican Republic, and Haiti.

The Center also promoted two foreign trade events in China scheduled for September 2005, as part of an effort to encourage Alabama companies to travel overseas and meet with potential buyers. U.S. industry participation at these two events in China was supported by other organizations including U.S. China Build and the Appalachian Regional Commission.

The AITC also fielded inquiries from other forest product companies on export procedures and international standards. In response to direct requests from wood product companies, the Center distributed copies of wood product export guides on the mechanics of exporting and resource guides listing regional companies for export logistics and financing services. They also distributed fact sheets on international pallet standards to Alabama firms that inquired about the treatment of wood packaging materials used in export shipments. The AITC staff provided in-depth training and financing assistance to two rural firms in the state. As a result, AITC staff helped one company secure a government-guaranteed export working loan which was used to support \$9.7 million in export sales. In addition, the AITC reported that new export sales of approximately \$23.2 million were concluded for shipments of Alabama-made lumber and furniture to overseas markets in Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean.

The **Forest Products Development Center (FPDC)**, located on the campus of Auburn University, assists the forest products industry and promotes community development through new and expanding forest products industries. The Center worked closely with both Kronospan and Louisiana Pacific Corporation, providing technical information and assistance used to make Alabama their home for development. A third company, Paragon Panels refurbished and reopened an idle plant in Barbour County with their technical assistance. The FPDC worked with local

economic development authorities to explore a number of different options to get the idled plant back into productive operations. Numerous resource studies were conducted and presented to a variety of potential investors before the final deal with Paragon was put together. The FPDC continues to make its services available to the Paragon team in anticipation of the start-up in early 2006.

Also, the FPDC initiated discussions with two other forest products companies and one private investment group regarding possible major new wood products manufacturing operations in Alabama. Significant work has been conducted on behalf of these potential investors, with detailed resource analyses and site location assistance provided. The FPDC has assisted in hosting two visits from the project location team for one of these projects and has also visited the company's headquarters and manufacturing operations. Further analysis and recruitment work will be conducted in the forward period in pursuit of these significant economic development opportunities. The Center provided assistance to seven new potential investors, guidance to at least fifteen local communities in attracting new forest product manufacturers, and technical information for two expanding companies.

During the year, the Center provided assistance on a case-by-case basis to many other clients, and gave numerous presentations and special studies to various forestry organizations and communities. The FPDC assisted in planning, funding, and follow-up work for the State of Alabama's trade show exhibit at the LIGNA Trade Show in Hanover, Germany. Working in cooperation with the Alabama Forestry Commission, the Alabama Development Office, Alabama Power Company, and others, Alabama's trade show exhibit and related recruitment activities resulted in the development of a substantial number of investment leads. Follow-up work in pursuit of these leads has been done and is ongoing, with the expectation that investment projects could result. Alabama's presence at LIGNA has provided significant exposure to thousands of industry managers attending the show, and has resulted in favorable reports within forest industry trade publications.

Also during the past year, the FPDC worked with entrepreneurs regarding potential projects for the commercialization of **Biomass Energy**. This work resulted in a definitive project proposal for a biomass energy system to a large public organization, which was ultimately declined. An additional proposal for a wood-based electrical energy generation project has been made, with FPDC involvement, and is awaiting acceptance by the service provider involved. Additional project proposals are likely, and could result in the increased utilization of biomass resources to replace fossil fuel alternatives. The FPDC is also assisting private investors in the evaluation of conversion technologies for the commercial production of liquid fuels from woody biomass. Preliminary project development work is being conducted for both cellulosic ethanol and biodiesel operations. This work, which has significant economic development potential, will continue during the forward period. Although significant developmental work remains with these technologies, the potential benefits are highly significant.

The FPDC also initiated work during the period with an international company seeking to locate an agricultural production facility that would utilize a large wood energy system. The FPDC has assisted this company not only with the wood-related aspects of this project, but also with other important information needed for evaluation and location of the project, including site recommendations. Work is expected to continue with this client in pursuit of this multi-faceted opportunity. Woody biomass power is re-emerging as an energy source that can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, stimulate local economic growth, and increase energy reliability and security.

The Alabama Forestry Commission participated in the organization of and joined the Southern Alliance for the Utilization of Biomass Resources (SAUBR), headquartered at the University of Alabama. The Alliance will capitalize on the individual and combined strengths of its members (currently over 150 members) to launch a bio-based industry that will provide an economic stimulus to the rural economy in the Southeastern United States through forestry and agriculture.



FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS (FIA) SURVEY PROGRAM

Most of the information on forest resources and its availability for new and expanding markets is obtained from the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) survey data that is being collected nationwide by the USDA Forest Service and state forestry agencies. This data is obtained from permanent inventory plots located primarily on a 3x3-mile grid across the entire United States. Each plot is re-measured every five years. This is the most extensive and complete data available on our natural resources.

Forest resource planners use this information when considering new plants or expansion in Alabama. Foresters also use the information for determining areas in the state that may require more intensive forest management, reforestation, and/or protection.

- For Fiscal Year 2005, the Commission allotted nine full-time FIA forester positions to conduct the survey. The foresters record a wide variety of information from each plot. This data is then transferred to the USDA Forest Service in Knoxville, Tennessee, for compilation and analysis. The resulting information can then be queried through the Internet by researchers and potential forest industry investors.

- The goal each year is to survey at least 20% of the total number of plots in Alabama. Due to the departure of three FIA foresters (who were not replaced) in Fiscal Year 2005, FIA crews surveyed a total of 867 plots, which falls short of the desired goal. However, because the crews had surveyed more than 20% of the plots in each of the previous four years, the Commission is still on schedule for achieving the overall goal of surveying the entire allotment of FIA plots in a five-year time span.
- Plot data indicates that there are 22.9 million acres of commercial forestland in Alabama. This is one million acres more than there were in 1990. Over 400,000 private, non-industrial landowners own 78% of this com-

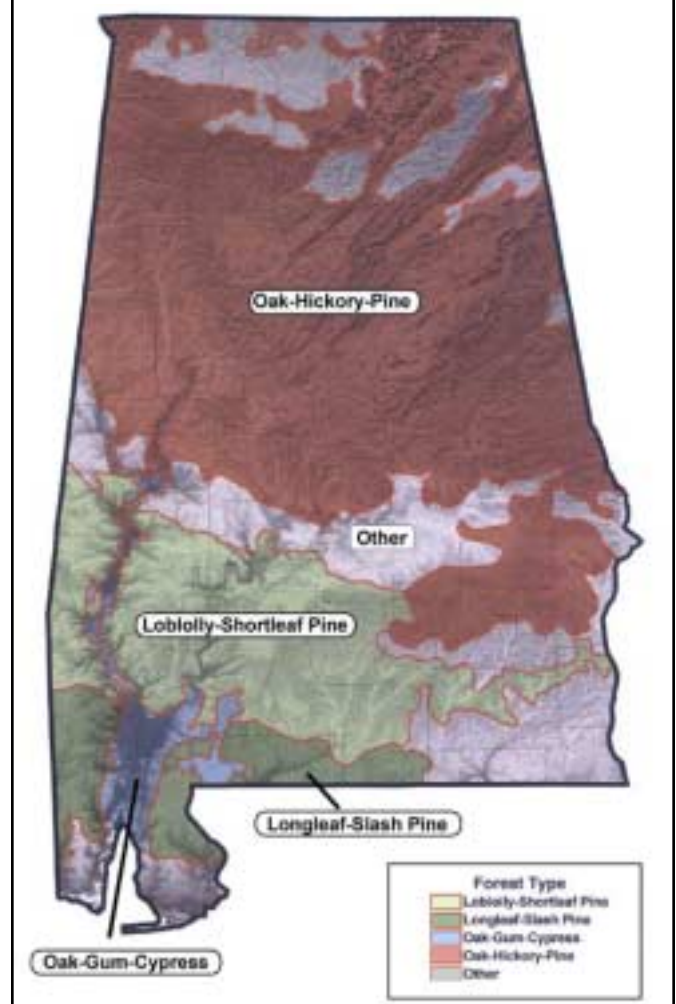
mercial forestland, and the average ownership size is around 80 acres. Ownerships of fewer than 500 acres each comprise nearly 50% of the commercial forestland in Alabama.

- Each year, Alabama landowners plant five trees for every one tree harvested. Hardwood forests make up 46% of the forestland. Oak-pine stands cover 18%; pine stands cover the remaining forest with planted pines making up only 19% of the total (Figure 11). Alabama has four billion more trees than in 1953, with enough lumber to furnish nearly 4 million homes! As previously mentioned, approximately 60% of harvested volume comes from private landowners.

STATE LANDS MANAGEMENT AND ASSISTANCE

Several state-owned forests are under the Commission's direct control. Geneva State Forest, Choccolocco State Forest, and Little River State Forest are the three

Figure 11: Alabama Forest Types



largest tracts that are actively managed by the AFC. In addition, the Commission has cooperative agreements with three other state agencies to help manage their forestlands and public lakes (17,564 acres). All state-administered forestlands are managed under TREASURE Forest guidelines.

- Geneva State Forest, which is also part of the Covington Wildlife Management Area, consists predominantly of longleaf pine. Forestry activities during the year included preparing a timber harvest on 300 acres, road maintenance, bridge repairs, prescribed burning on 700 acres, and other general maintenance. Public hiking and horseback riding

continue on an extensive 26 miles of unpaved roads at Geneva State Forest. The public lake located on the property received more than 1,500 visitors during the year.

- Little River State Forest consists of 2,019 acres of forests, several scattered wildlife openings, and one 35-acre public lake. It also entails Claude D. Kelley State Park, for which management responsibilities had been transferred from the State Parks Division to the Commission just prior to Hurricane Ivan. The storm severely damaged the timber on the forest, and salvage operations continue. Forestry activities during Fiscal Year 2005 included timber harvesting on 300

acres, road maintenance, prescribed burning, and other general maintenance.

- The Commission has an agreement to help manage 15 facilities belonging to the Alabama Department of Corrections totaling 7,810 forested acres; 19 state lakes and one fish hatchery belonging to the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (Fisheries Section) totaling 4,786 acres; and 8 tracts belonging to the Alabama Department of Mental Health totaling 4,968 acres. Through these three cooperative agreements, Commission personnel were involved in preparing timber sales and overseeing harvesting activities, prescribed burning for wildlife habitat improvement, aesthetics, and wildfire hazard reduction, site preparation of 447 acres, reforestation of 65 acres, and monitoring for forest health. The AFC also evaluated timber at Marion State Fish Hatchery and submitted a draft timber management plan on 600 acres to the Fisheries Section.

Revenue from these management activities is shown in Figure 12. The location of all the managed tracts follows in Figure 13.

FOREST LEGACY PROGRAM

Alabama's growing and expanding population is placing tremendous pressure on landowners to convert their forestlands to other uses that are in conflict with important natural resource values and benefits. Forest fragmentation and urbanization is another one of the top four priorities of the USDA Forest Service. The Forest Legacy Program earmarks federal dollars to purchase sensitive and threatened properties from being purchased by developers and converted to urban uses. The AFC administers this program in partnership with the Alabama Forest Resources Center and State Lands Division of the Department of Conservation of Natural Resources. This marks the fifth year that Alabama has been enrolled in this program. Properties purchased with Forest Legacy funds are included with the Forever Wild Program and are managed by the State Lands Division. Forest Legacy accomplishments that the Commission was involved in during Fiscal Year 2005 include:

Figure 12

Revenues from State Lands Management Program

Timber Sales	Sale Value	Revenue to AFC
<i>Department of Corrections:</i>		
Fountain Prison - Hurricane Ivan salvage	158,344.30	15,834.43
Fountain Prison	110,199.00	11,019.90
Fountain Prison	141,307.00	14,130.70
<i>Department of Conservation:</i>		
Monroe Lake - Hurricane Ivan salvage	18,116.60	1,811.66
Barbour Lake - tornado salvage	4,534.10	453.41
Pike Lake	86,600.00	8,660.00
<i>Department of Mental Health</i>		
Thomasville Tract	28,857.00	2,885.70
Searcy Hospital Tract	57,682.50	5,768.25
<i>Alabama Forestry Commission</i>		
Little River State Forest	168,416.00	168,416.00
Total Timber Sales	\$758,532.90	\$227,427.69
Prescribed Burning		
	Acres	Revenue
<i>Department of Corrections</i>		
Draper Correctional Farm	40	\$560.00
<i>Department of Conservation</i>		
Chambers County Lake	60	620.00
Geneva Lake	105	960.00
Lee Lake	40	440.00
Total Prescribed Burning	245	\$2,580.00
Management & User Fees		
	Acres	Revenue
Department of Conservation	4,186	\$4,186.00
Department of Corrections	7,810	7,810.00
Department of Mental Health	4,968	4,968.00
Geneva State Forest (day permits for public lake)		1,741.42
Total Management & User Fees	16,964	\$18,705.42

Figure 13

Location of Lands Managed by the Alabama Forestry Commission



and live oak habitats crucial to neo-tropical songbirds, and the historical/cultural diversity of the coastal lowlands

URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM

Alabama has more urban trees than any other state, except Georgia. This natural resource makes our state's urban citizens healthier, improves the local economy, conserves energy, cleans the air we breathe, mitigates storm-water runoff, and enhances citizenship. Healthy and productive urban forests are not possible without a coordinated effort. They demand professional management at the local level. The Alabama Forestry Commission strives to support the local management of our state's urban forestry

- Serving as one of the four charter members of the Alabama Urban Forestry Partnership. Other members include the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Auburn University School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences, and the Alabama Urban Forestry Association.

- Participating in the revision of Alabama's Five-Year Urban & Community Forestry Strategic Plan. The AFC sent representatives to attend a statewide planning retreat in Montgomery.

- Providing technical assistance to over 80 local tree commissions. The National Arbor Day Foundation certified 84 Alabama towns and cities each as a "Tree City USA."

- Supporting Auburn University in carrying out the "Hurricane Ivan" Urban & Community Forestry recovery program. This USDA Forest supplemental award provides \$1.692 million to help 35 Alabama storm-ravaged communities replant, repair, and assess hurricane damaged urban trees.

- The Cumberland Mountain Project which received federal funding of \$1.2 million for the purchase of the Post-Oak Flat tract. Acquisition of the Post-Oak Flat tract supports the regional conservation effort to protect the biodiversity, karst topography, and cultural resources of the Cumberland Plateau. The area also offers habitat to over 150 listed and rare species including, but not limited to, cerulean warblers, bald eagles, and Morefield's leatherflower.
- The Mobile-Tensaw Delta Bayou Sara Project which was funded \$1.5 million. It provides habitat for black bears, gopher tortoises, green-fly orchids, bald eagles, and over 50 listed and rare species, and will provide protection from residential development that has already been surveyed and planned. Purchase of this tract will support conservation efforts to protect longleaf pine uplands, Atlantic white cedar riparian forests, maritime

resource through innovative state level partnerships and local technical assistance.

Specific accomplishments include:

- Assigning the State Urban Forestry Coordinator to the Alabama Cooperative Extension System through an Interagency Personnel Agreement. This employee helps Auburn University implement the USDA Forest Service's Urban & Community Forestry Financial Assistance Program.
- Transferring the USDA Forest Service's Urban & Community Forestry Financial Assistance Program to Auburn University.
- Staffing a state-level urban forestry specialist. This Montgomery State Office-based employee supports other agency employees in urban forestry-related activities. The specialist also interacts with other state and local agencies.

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION ASSOCIATES

<i>Terry L. Allen</i>	<i>Chad Camp</i>	<i>Earnest H. Edmonds</i>	<i>Rebekah Harrison</i>
<i>Stanley R. Anderson</i>	<i>James R. Cannon</i>	<i>Phyllis Y. Ellis</i>	<i>Chester E. Hatchett, Jr.</i>
<i>Gregory S. Athey</i>	<i>Ruth B. Carden</i>	<i>Benjamin F. Elmore</i>	<i>Betty J. Haynes</i>
<i>Tony D. Avery</i>	<i>William L. Carlisle</i>	<i>Olen (Ken) Elmore</i>	<i>Derrick V. Heckman</i>
<i>Jeffery Baity</i>	<i>James A. Carr</i>	<i>Betty R. Emfinger</i>	<i>John Lowell Helms</i>
<i>Charles L. Baldwin</i>	<i>Steve W. Carr</i>	<i>Johnnie M. Everitt</i>	<i>Terry R. Helms</i>
<i>Adam K. Ball</i>	<i>Walter E. Cartwright</i>	<i>Charles D. Ezzell</i>	<i>Brian R. Hendricks</i>
<i>Elishia Ballentine</i>	<i>Tony M. Chandler</i>	<i>Terry D. Ezzell</i>	<i>Henry J. Henry</i>
<i>James A. Barker</i>	<i>Travis Chesser</i>	<i>Ronald Farmer</i>	<i>Ronnie L. Hickman</i>
<i>Glenn W. Barnett</i>	<i>Danny C. Clark</i>	<i>Lester W. Fields</i>	<i>James M. Highfield</i>
<i>John (Tommy) Barrentine</i>	<i>Larry D. Clark</i>	<i>Bradlee Fite</i>	<i>Madeline W. Hildreth</i>
<i>Jason E. Barrett</i>	<i>Morris D. Clark</i>	<i>Jesse L. Fitzpatrick</i>	<i>Janice C. Hines</i>
<i>(Ted) Ethan Barrett</i>	<i>William H. Clem</i>	<i>Travis E. Ford</i>	<i>Sandra H. Hines</i>
<i>Vernon L. Barrett</i>	<i>Clifton F. Cobb</i>	<i>James N. Foreman</i>	<i>James Arthur Hitt</i>
<i>Joel A. Bartlett</i>	<i>Donald (Cal) Cobb, Jr.</i>	<i>Carolyn T. Fox</i>	<i>Sammy W. Holdsambeck</i>
<i>Paul Bell, Jr.</i>	<i>Kenneth W. Colburn</i>	<i>Brian Craig Frazier</i>	<i>Willie C. Holston</i>
<i>James E. Bennett</i>	<i>Dianna G. Cole</i>	<i>David A. Frederick</i>	<i>John P. Horne</i>
<i>Jason Berry</i>	<i>Felicia E. Cole</i>	<i>Freddie B. Frederick</i>	<i>Leon V. Howell</i>
<i>Denise M. Bethel</i>	<i>Gary M. Cole</i>	<i>Otis G. French</i>	<i>Paul E. Hudgins</i>
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<i>Ruben Keith Blansett</i>	<i>Gary Coleman</i>	<i>Ruth E. Garner</i>	<i>Charles B. Hunnicutt</i>
<i>George H. Bolling</i>	<i>Lemoral Coleman</i>	<i>Judith R. Garrett</i>	<i>Aaron B. Hunt</i>
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<i>Bruce A. Bowden</i>	<i>Stan A. Cook</i>	<i>Daisy (Brigetta) Giles</i>	<i>James R. Hyland</i>
<i>Steve R. Bowden</i>	<i>Forest Core</i>	<i>Jason E. Gillikin</i>	<i>L. Louis Hyman</i>
<i>Timothy C. Boyce</i>	<i>Jeffie A. Cotney</i>	<i>Nancy A. Givens</i>	<i>Daniel J. Jackson</i>
<i>Bruce E. Bradford</i>	<i>James M. Craft</i>	<i>Johnna D. Godsey</i>	<i>Jasper W. Jackson</i>
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<i>Christopher M. Brewer</i>	<i>Benjamin Kevin Crawford</i>	<i>Kenneth L. Grable</i>	<i>James Jennings</i>
<i>James T. Brooks</i>	<i>Billy W. Crumpton</i>	<i>Nicholas Granger</i>	<i>James P. Jeter</i>
<i>Brian Brooks</i>	<i>Richard H. Cumbie</i>	<i>Gene A. Grant</i>	<i>Curtis Johnson</i>
<i>Everette F. Brown</i>	<i>Gladys M. Daily</i>	<i>Daniel K. Green</i>	<i>Herbert R. Johnson</i>
<i>William (Tim) Browning</i>	<i>Jerrold P. Dakins</i>	<i>Ronald D. Grider</i>	<i>Voncile D. Johnson</i>
<i>Brenda Brown-Law</i>	<i>James S. Daniel</i>	<i>Roy J. Griffith</i>	<i>Huey L. Jones</i>
<i>Phillip S. Bryant</i>	<i>Kelvin J. Daniels</i>	<i>Ronald D. Gullede</i>	<i>Steven M. Jones</i>
<i>Mary C. Brye</i>	<i>David A. Davis</i>	<i>Jon M. Gunter</i>	<i>Harold J. Jordan</i>
<i>David D. Bullion</i>	<i>Robert A. DeVaughan</i>	<i>Andrew S. Guy</i>	<i>Calvin Judkins</i>
<i>Benjamin (Gib) Burke, Jr.</i>	<i>William A. DeYampert</i>	<i>Ashley Haden</i>	<i>Jim M. Junkin</i>
<i>Steven Burns</i>	<i>Ann A. Dillard</i>	<i>Charles E. Hall, Jr.</i>	<i>Douglas Lynn Justiss</i>
<i>Mary Burton</i>	<i>Joseph Donnelly</i>	<i>M. Scott Hallman</i>	<i>William J. Keener</i>
<i>Balsie Butler</i>	<i>Phillip N. Drake</i>	<i>Brandon W. Hamilton</i>	<i>Blake R. Kelley</i>
<i>Karl E. Byrd</i>	<i>Robert Phillip DuBois</i>	<i>Kenneth F. Harbison</i>	<i>David S. Kelley</i>
<i>LaKedra C. Byrd</i>	<i>David L. Duckett</i>	<i>John R. Harbison III</i>	<i>Timothy W. Kelley</i>
<i>Prentiss Byrd</i>	<i>Jerry M. Dwyer</i>	<i>Diane C. Harris</i>	<i>David A. Kelly</i>

<i>Kenneth W. Kendrick</i>	<i>Doris P. McGee</i>	<i>Richard T. Porch</i>	<i>Harold P. Taft</i>
<i>Moses Jimmy Kenney, Jr.</i>	<i>Jerry W. McGhee</i>	<i>Ross H. Presley</i>	<i>Gregory T. Taggart</i>
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<i>Robert S. Kimbro</i>	<i>Dana Y. McReynolds</i>	<i>Richard Ryan Prince</i>	<i>James M. Thomas</i>
<i>Michael P. King</i>	<i>James C. Mead</i>	<i>Charles T. Quinn</i>	<i>Gary D. Thompson</i>
<i>Nancy M. King</i>	<i>Kenny D. Mehearg</i>	<i>David D. Rathel, Sr.</i>	<i>Augustus Townes, Jr.</i>
<i>Randy L. Kinman</i>	<i>Gertrude Miles</i>	<i>Charles R. Rawls</i>	<i>Roderic Keith Townes</i>
<i>Justin Kinney</i>	<i>Regina M. Miller</i>	<i>Linda C. Reaves</i>	<i>Linda Valeska</i>
<i>J. (Eddie) Kirkland, Jr.</i>	<i>Jason M. Milligan</i>	<i>David W. Reid</i>	<i>Donald VanHouten</i>
<i>Johnny W. Kline</i>	<i>Johnny K. Mims</i>	<i>Linda Reynolds</i>	<i>Coleen Vansant</i>
<i>Amy D. Knight</i>	<i>Tilda L. Mims</i>	<i>Cary A. Rhodes</i>	<i>Allen Varner</i>
<i>Johnny E. Knighten</i>	<i>Timothy H. Money</i>	<i>Stephanie M. Roberts</i>	<i>Scott Vasser</i>
<i>Laverne W. Knox-Slayden</i>	<i>Phillip M. Montgomery</i>	<i>James L. Robinson</i>	<i>DeWitt Vincent</i>
<i>Jarred K. Kornegay</i>	<i>Robert T. Montgomery</i>	<i>Jeremiah Rodgers</i>	<i>James E. Wade</i>
<i>Edgar (Tim) Kyser</i>	<i>D'mar Moore</i>	<i>Rhonda V. Rogers</i>	<i>Kerry Waggoner</i>
<i>Michael L. Kyser</i>	<i>Gary Craig Moore</i>	<i>Charles W. Salter</i>	<i>Patrick E. Waldrop</i>
<i>Jerry D. Lacey</i>	<i>Phearthur Moore</i>	<i>Dana Sanderson</i>	<i>Timothy Washburne</i>
<i>Stephen O. Lamkin</i>	<i>John S. Morris</i>	<i>Lucious Scott, Jr.</i>	<i>Max L. Washington</i>
<i>Leitha Lamon</i>	<i>Scotty A. Moseley</i>	<i>Randall Seal</i>	<i>Virgina A. Watts</i>
<i>Bradford H. Lang</i>	<i>Lynell J. Mosley</i>	<i>Margaret Diane Shepherd</i>	<i>Nelson H. Watts, Jr.</i>
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<i>Tracy W. Lawrence</i>	<i>Rance E. Neighbors</i>	<i>Joseph Brian Smith</i>	<i>Bruce P. Williams</i>
<i>Kenneth L. Leslie</i>	<i>Roger K. Nichols</i>	<i>Larry S. Smith</i>	<i>James D. Williams</i>
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<i>Garland (Wayne) Ligon</i>	<i>Walter Nolan</i>	<i>Susan Smith</i>	<i>Steven E. Williams</i>
<i>Steve D. Lloyd</i>	<i>James C. North</i>	<i>Clay C. Snider</i>	<i>Samuel W. Williams, Jr.</i>
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<i>Lonnie Manuel</i>	<i>Sarah O'Sullivan</i>	<i>Bruce E. Springer</i>	<i>Zane W. Winsted</i>
<i>Bernard I. Marshall</i>	<i>Mildred B. Owens</i>	<i>Charles W. Squires</i>	<i>Charles E. Wise</i>
<i>Mamie D. Mason</i>	<i>Donnie W. Parker</i>	<i>Gerald T. Steeley</i>	<i>Steve J. Wolfe</i>
<i>Bobby G. Matthews</i>	<i>James H. Payne</i>	<i>Paula J. Stinchcomb</i>	<i>Gregory F. Wood</i>
<i>Roy Maye</i>	<i>Marshall T. Peacock</i>	<i>James T. Stokley</i>	<i>Floyd S. Woodham</i>
<i>Albert W. Mayo</i>	<i>Linda Pearson</i>	<i>S. Wayne Strawbridge</i>	<i>James E. Woods</i>
<i>Franklin L. McAliley</i>	<i>Hubert H. (Clyde) Peden</i>	<i>Paul R. Stuckey</i>	<i>Bobby C. Wooten</i>
<i>Patricia D. McAliley</i>	<i>William S. Perdue</i>	<i>James Sullivan</i>	<i>James L. Wright</i>
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<i>Charles L. McDaniel, Jr.</i>	<i>Robert F. Pitts</i>	<i>Dennis Swank</i>	<i>James R. Yarbrough</i>
<i>Stephen E. McEachron</i>	<i>Houston K. Poole, Jr.</i>	<i>Scott L. Sweat</i>	<i>Max A. Ziglar</i>

DIRECTORY OF ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION COUNTY OFFICES

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<p>Baldwin County 32760 State Highway 59 Loxley, AL 36551 251-964-6391</p>	<p>Coffee County 1155 East McKinnon Street New Brockton, AL 36351 334-894-6734</p>	<p>Franklin County 1004 Highway 36 Russellville, AL 35653 256-332-2460</p>	<p>Macon County 1696 U.S. Highway 29 North Auburn, AL 36830 334-727-3783</p>	<p>Shelby County 54 Kelly Lane #6 Columbiana, AL 35051 205-669-4133</p>
<p>Barbour County 431 Highway 51 South Clayton, AL 36016 334-775-3496</p>	<p>Colbert County 1101 Hwy 72 East, Suite 16 Tuscumbia, AL 35674 256-383-4376</p>	<p>Geneva County 3670 Enterprise Road Geneva, AL 36340 334-684-2876</p>	<p>Madison County 819 Cook Ave., Room 203 Huntsville, AL 35801 256-532-1565</p>	<p>St. Clair County 18909 U.S. Highway 411 Springville, AL 35146 205-629-6421</p>
<p>Bibb County 157 SW Davidson Drive Suite 15 Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-4917</p>	<p>Conecuh County Route 1 Box 456 Evergreen, AL 36401 251-578-3226</p>	<p>Greene County 2385 County Road 167 Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-3980</p>	<p>Marengo County 20540 US Hwy 43 Linden, AL 36748 334-295-5811</p>	<p>Sumter County P.O. Box 104 Livingston, AL 35470 205-652-6500</p>
<p>Blount County 49686 US Highway 231 Oneonta, AL 35121 205-274-2231</p>	<p>Coosa County Route 2 Box 45-B Rockford, AL 35136 256-377-4638</p>	<p>Hale County P.O. Box 417 Moundville, AL 35474 205-371-2202</p>	<p>Marion County 164 Smokey Bear Road Hamilton, AL 35570 205-921-3843</p>	<p>Talladega County 425 Al Hwy 275 Talladega, AL 35160 256-362-4848</p>
<p>Bullock County P.O. Box 392 Union Springs, AL 36089 334-738-3040</p>	<p>Covington County 1803 Dr. MLK Jr. Expswy Andalusia, AL 36420 334-222-0379</p>	<p>Henry County 1462 US Highway 431 South Abbeville, AL 36310 334-585-2403</p>	<p>Marshall County P.O. Box 262 Guntersville, AL 35976 256-582-4212</p>	<p>Tallapoosa County 21070 Highway 280 Dadeville, AL 36853 256-825-4244</p>
<p>Butler County 59 Firetower Road Greenville, AL 36037 334-376-9114</p>	<p>Crenshaw County 1535 Glenwood Road Luverne, AL 36049 334-335-5712</p>	<p>Houston County 4855 Hodgesville Road Dothan, AL 36301 334-677-5454</p>	<p>Mobile County 3572 Fire Tower Road Semmes, AL 36575 251-649-6432</p>	<p>Tuscaloosa County 8115 McFarland Boulevard Northport, AL 35476 205-333-1490</p>
<p>Calhoun County 3985 AL Highway 21 North Jacksonville, AL 36265 256-435-6245</p>	<p>Cullman County 1527 Sportsman's Lake Rd. NW Cullman, AL 35055 256-734-0573</p>	<p>Jackson County 409 South Broad St, Suite 27 Scottsboro, AL 35768 256-574-3217</p>	<p>Monroe County 887 Veterans Avenue Monroeville, AL 36460 251-743-2350</p>	<p>Walker County P.O. Box 1209 Jasper, AL 35502 205-384-6344</p>
<p>Chambers County 101 Jane Place LaFayette, AL 36862 334-864-9368</p>	<p>Dale County 1690 W. Roy Parker Road Ozark, AL 36360 334-774-8112</p>	<p>Jefferson County 6650 Old Highway 31 North Gardendale, AL 35071 205-631-2552</p>	<p>Montgomery County 11261 US Highway 331 Montgomery, AL 36105 334-280-3701</p>	<p>Washington County 893 Carpenter Road Millry, AL 36558 251-847-2972</p>
<p>Cherokee County 1420 East Main Street Centre, AL 35960 256-927-3163</p>	<p>Dallas County 7577 AL Highway 22 Selma, AL 36701 334-875-7131</p>	<p>Lamar County 48878 Highway 17 Sulligent, AL 35586 205-695-7530</p>	<p>Morgan County 4208 Highway 31 South Decatur, AL 35603 256-308-0093</p>	<p>Wilcox County 231 Camden Bypass Camden, AL 36726 334-682-4421</p>
<p>Chilton County 221 County Road 423 Clanton, AL 35045 205-755-3042</p>	<p>DeKalb County 1001 Lebanon Road SW Ft. Payne, AL 35967-8432 256-845-1331</p>	<p>Lauderdale County 1212 Waterloo Road Florence, AL 35631 256-764-4382</p>	<p>Perry County Route 2 Box 6-S Marion, AL 36756 334-683-8537</p>	<p>Winston County P.O. Box 595 Double Springs, AL 35553 205-489-5014</p>
<p>Choctaw County 1715 East Pushmataha Street Butler, AL 36904 251-459-2928</p>	<p>Elmore County P.O. Box 1058 Wetumpka, AL 36092 334-567-5486</p>	<p>Lawrence County 12001 AL Highway 157, Suite 2 Moulton, AL 35650 256-974-8168</p>	<p>Pickens County 12481 Highway 86 W Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-8232</p>	
<p>Clarke County 14833 Old Highway 5 South Grove Hill, AL 36451 251-275-3283</p>	<p>Escambia County 2430 Ridge Road Brewton, AL 36426 251-867-7798</p>	<p>Lee County 651 Lee Road 113 Opelika, AL 36804 334-742-0320</p>	<p>Pike County 4130 County Road 5513 Troy, AL 36081 334-566-3436</p>	
<p>Clay County P.O. Box 453 Lineville, AL 36266 256-396-2441</p>	<p>Etowah County 1511 Crudrup Road Attalla, AL 35954 256-538-2535</p>	<p>Limestone County 1109 W. Market St. Suite F Athens, AL 35611 256-232-7940</p>	<p>Randolph County 60 Hillcrest Avenue Wedowee, AL 36278 256-357-2178</p>	

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