

IDENTIFICATION: The Flatwoods salamander (*Ambystoma cingulatum*) is a small black to brown salamander about five inches long. It is often found in open pine areas maintained by prescribed fires.



FORESTRY CONSIDERATIONS: Forest management is compatible with its habitat when activities mimic natural conditions in pine flatwoods. Fire is an essential tool; particularly in the lightning or growing season when salamanders are not breeding or dispersing. Harvests scheduled outside the October to April period will minimize potential for impact on salamander populations. Mechanical site preparation can result in habitat degradation for this species, particularly roller chopping, disking, root raking, and bedding. Keep herbicides and fertilizers away from breeding ponds and essential habitat areas when salamanders are suspected to occur on the site.

DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTY: Flatwoods salamanders are suspected but not documented in Baldwin, Covington, Houston and Mobile counties.

Photo and Text Credit: Threatened and Endangered Species of Alabama: A Guide to Assist with Forestry Activities, Second Edition, USFS



This information is provided by the Alabama Forestry Commission

For more information please visit: www.forestry.alabama.gov