

The Inventory

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An Update Concerning the SRS FIA Program

SRS FIA Information Update

I recently attended a meeting focusing on the resource use or timber products output (TPO) component of Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA). The session included representatives from State forestry organizations, forest industry, FIA, and university cooperators. It was during one of the presentations from a university partner that the following statement was made: “*The success of the TPO part of FIA is due to the people involved.*” The individual elaborated that he was extremely pleased on the responsiveness to his requests for information and answers to his questions. This was very gratifying to hear in that Southern Research Station (SRS) FIA staff held up the customer service aspect of FIA.

This also got me thinking. One of the conclusions I reached is that the success of FIA is not because we are doing the right thing—providing nationally consistent forest data with a known level of uncertainty—which is critical. We are successful because of our staff! There are many important programs that provide useful information but how many illicit the response of great customer service? Yes, FIA data is important but if our customers, partners, cooperators, and users of FIA data are not getting what they need, how successful is our program? I believe that the success of the FIA Program is due to the dedicated work of our staff. Their willingness to drop everything to respond to a data query, answer a question, teach someone about FIA data, and/or volunteer to give a presentation to an interested group about FIA is what real success looks like. I want to commend all FIA staff both at SRS and nationally that embrace this concept of customer service. To all FIA staff; keep up the good work! Many a good product is no longer on the market because the company did not make customer satisfaction their highest priority. To sum it up, *the FIA Program is the people; the data is just what they deliver.*

As always, if you have any technical questions regarding FIA, please submit those questions to Charlene Walker (cwalker@fs.fed.us) and we will address them in a future issue of The Inventory. Thank you for your interest in FIA and please let us know how we may serve you in the future.

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FIA's Newest Employees

with the pre-field group digitizing and archiving post-field materials also assisting with the preparation of pre-field materials.

Originally from Michigan, Kyle is a veteran of the U.S. Navy with 6 years as an electronics technician aboard the USS Enterprise where he performed maintenance on the ship's radar, navigation, and communication equipment. He also served in the Michigan Army National Guard for 3 years as a construction equipment technician repairing and maintaining heavy construction equipment. Kyle has been deployed twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and once each for Operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn.

Kyle graduated from Western Michigan University (WMU) last year with a B.S. in

Please help us welcome Kyle Goudreau to the Forest Inventory and Analysis unit as a Forestry Technician in the Methods and Techniques Section in Knoxville, TN. Kyle will be working

Biology, focusing his studies on conservation and freshwater ecology. He plans to apply to the University of Tennessee to get his M.S. in Ecology. While they were students at WMU, Kyle and his wife established the Den Adel Community Garden which provided fresh food as well as food and gardening education to their community. The Community Garden provided fresh, local vegetables to its community members as well as several hundred pounds of fresh produce each year to a local soup kitchen. Last summer Kyle spent 3 months volunteering for Kalmia Gardens in Hartsville, SC where he assisted with grounds maintenance and the removal of invasive privet. Kyle's professional goals include obtaining his red card, learning programming skills such as python and advancing through the Forest Service into the ecology research positions.

He and his wife just bought a house in Dandridge, TN where they operate a small farm raising goats for milk, chickens for eggs, and rabbits for meat with the purposes of improving food security, reducing waste, and increasing sustainability; also creating top notch compost with which they can grow their vegetables. Next spring they plan to add honey bees and fruit trees to the farm. In his spare time Kyle enjoys hunting, fishing, brewing, baseball, and hockey (Go Red Wings!).



Newland, to our pre-field group in Starkville, MS. Originally from Eden, New York, Jeremy comes to us from Delta-21 Resources in Worcester, MA where he was employed as a Forest Health Technician/Quality Control Team Member in the use of ArcGIS and mobile data collection for the Asian long-horned beetle (ALB) eradication program. Before that, he worked summer jobs as a Forest Health Technician for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in Cortland, NY performing presence/absence surveys for the

Forest Inventory and Analysis is pleased to announce the addition of a new Forestry Technician employee, Mr. Jeremy J.

hemlock wooly adelgid and collecting data on permanent plots to monitor changes in hemlock stands; and also as a Research Assistant in Syracuse/Wanakena, NY for The Research Foundation of the State University of New York collecting crown data and monitoring sugar maple borer infestations. While in college, he was Web Editor for the New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF) Communications Office.

Jeremy earned the Associates in Applied Science, Forest Technology (2011) at The Ranger School, Wanakena, NY and a Bachelor of Science, Forest Ecosystem Science (2013) at SUNY-ESF, Syracuse, NY. Some of his favorite leisure activities are hiking and reading the works of authors such as Natsume Soseki, Emile Zola, and Hilary Mantel. Jeremy recently completed his pack test and is anticipating the arrival of his red card.

FIA Program Scientist Shares Experiences on the Implementation of Reforestation Projects with Haitian Counterparts

Humfredo Marcano-Vega traveled to Haiti with scientists from the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) and a representative from the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as part of a task team involved in the exchange of technical knowledge and experiences in the implementation of reforestation and forest research projects. This initiative was organized in response to ongoing efforts in the reconstruction of the State University of Haiti (SUH) after the earthquake of 2010 by helping arrange an exchange program in forestry science and renewable energy while integrating technical assistance to reforestation strategies within the country. The SUH is in urgent need of training at the graduate level in order to grow a pool of candidates that can fill vacant faculty positions in the natural sciences area and developing viable alternatives

that minimize deforestation for the use of wood and charcoal as an energy source.

This activity included meetings with scientists from Haitian Universities as well as visits to reforestation and agroforestry projects to offer insight with professionals involved in those endeavors in Haiti. The task team is ongoing and has contributed to the development of a multi-agency framework for collaboration and to the approval of a proposal to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) for Haitian graduate students to come to the UPR for advanced study in forestry and renewable energy. Previous support mechanisms to Haiti have also been expanded by providing ongoing assistance for the implementation of reforestation projects at the national level.



Community forestry is promoted and celebrated as a promising option by stakeholders of the vicinity of the Gonaïves Arrondissement in the Artibonite Department of Haiti.

For more information, contact Humfredo Marcano-Vega at 787-764-7265 or hmarcano@fs.fed.us.

FY2015 Publications Published Since September 2015

- Brandeis, T.J.** 2015. Georgia's forests, 2009. Resour. Bull. SRS-207. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 59 p.
- Brandeis, T.J.; Burkman, W.** 2015. The forest inventory and analysis program: who are these folks? *Minority Landowner*. 9(1): 14–16.
- Bukowski, C.; Munsell, J.F.; Chamberlain, J.L.** 2015. Taking stock of community food forests in the United States [Abstract]. For the 2015 AFTA conference. Ames Iowa.
- Chamberlain, J.L.** 2015. *Allium tricoccum*—An iconic spring ephemeral edible forest product: a case study. USDA National Report on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture, the U.S. contribution to the FAO 'State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture'. 3 p.
- Connor, K.; Chamberlain, J.; Gibbs, H.; Winn, M.** 2015. Nontimber forest products: ramps in the Waynesville, NC watershed. In: Holley, A.G.; Connor, K.F.; Haywood, J.D., eds. Proceedings of the 17th biennial southern silvicultural research conference. e-Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-203, Asheville, NC: US Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station: 426–430.
- Coulston, J.W.; Wear, D.N.; Vose, J.M.** 2015. Complex forest dynamics indicate potential for slowing carbon accumulation. *Scientific Reports*. 5: 8002. DOI:10.1038/srep08002
- Djanibekov, U.; Dzhakypbehova, K.; Chamberlain, J. [and others].** 2015. Agroforestry for landscape restoration and livelihood development in Central Asia. ICRAF Working Paper 186. World Agroforestry Centre East and Central Asia, Kunming, China. 41 p.
- Dooley, K.J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Bentley, J.W.** 2015. South Carolina harvest and utilization study, 2011. e-Resour. Bull. SRS-200. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 27 p.
- Franklin, J.; Ripplinger, J.; Freid, E.H. [and others].** 2015. Regional variation in Caribbean dry forest tree species composition. *Plant Ecology*. 216: 873–886.
- Frey, G.E. and others.** 2015. 25 years of economic research on nontimber forest products in the United States: history, trends, status, and future priorities [Abstract]. Western Forest Economics and International Society of Forest Resource Economics 2015 Meeting. Portland, OR.

***FY2015 Publications
Published Since
September 2015
(continued)***

- Frey, G.E.; Chamberlain, J.L.** 2015. Collection of nontimber forest products from State forests in the U.S. South. *Journal of Forestry*. 113: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5849/jof.15-043>.
- Guo, Q.; Fei, S.; Dukes, J.S. [and others].** 2015. A unified approach for quantifying invasibility and degree of invasion. *Ecology*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1890/14-2172.1>.
- Homer, C.; Dewitz, J.; Yang, L. [and others].** 2015. Completion of the 2011 national land cover database for the conterminous United States—representing a decade of land cover change information. *Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing*. 81(5): 345–354.
- Huiquan, J.; Radtke, P.J.; Weiskittel, A.R. [and others].** 2015. Climate and soils-based models of site productivity changes in eastern U.S. conifer and hardwood species. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*. 45: 325–342.
- Iannone, B.V.; Oswalt, C.M.; Liebhold, A.M. [and others].** 2015. Region-specific patterns and drivers of macroscale forest plant invasions. *Diversity and Distributions*. 21(10): 1181–1192.
- Kauffman, J.; Chamberlain, J.; Priskey, S.** 2015. Monitoring abundance and distribution of nontimber forest products using the FIA database [Abstract]. 2014 Society of American Foresters Proceedings.
- Koch, F.H.; Coulston, J.W.** 2015. 1-year (2013), 3-year (2011–13) and 5-year (2009–2013) drought maps for the conterminous United States. Chapter 4. In: Potter, K.M.; Conkling, B.L., eds. *Forest health monitoring 2014 national technical report*. Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS–209. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 57–69.
- Kruger, S.; Munsell, J.; Chamberlain, J.** 2015. Underground value: assessing nontimber forest products in Appalachia [Abstract]. Technical Session, 197 forest resources assessment for nonwood forest products for the IUFRO World Congress.
- Lambert, S.; Randolph, K.; Cooper, J.** 2015. *Forests of Oklahoma, 2014*. Resource Update FS–62. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Marcano-Vega, H.; Brandeis, T.J.; Turner, J.A.** 2015. *Los bosques de Puerto Rico, 2009*. Resource Bull. SRS–202. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 115 p.
- Morin, R.S.; Randolph, K.C.; Steinman, J.** 2015. Mortality rates associated with crown health for eastern forest tree species. *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*. 187(3): 87.
- Oswalt, C.M.** 2015. Broad scale inventory of shortleaf pine. Shortleaf Pine Initiative publication. 15. 4 p.
- Oswalt, C.M.; Oswalt, S.N.** 2015. Invasive plants on forest land in the United States. In: Potter, Kevin M.; Conkling, Barbara L., eds. 2015. *Forest health monitoring: national status, trends, and analysis 2013*. Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS–207. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station: 123–134.
- Oswalt, S.N.; Smith, W.B.; Miles, P.D.; Pugh, S.A.** 2014. *Forest Resources of the United States, 2012: a technical document supporting the Forest Service 2015 update of the RPA Assessment*. Gen. Tech. Rep. WO–91. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Washington Office. 218 p.
- Paudyal, R.; Poudyal, N.C.; Bowker, J.M. [and others].** 2015. A value orientation approach to assess and compare climate change risk perception among trout anglers in Georgia, USA. *Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism*. 11: 22–33.
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- Riitters, K.H., Coulston, J.W., Wickham, J.D.** 2015. Detailed assessment of the decline of core forest in the conterminous United States. Chapter 7. In: Potter, K.M.; Conkling, B.L.; eds. *Forest health monitoring 2014 national technical report*. Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS–209. Asheville, North Carolina: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 93–100.
- Roesch, F.A.; Coulston, J.W.; Van Deusen, P.C.; Podlaski, R.** 2015. Evaluation of image-assisted forest monitoring: a simulation. *Forests*. 6: 2897–2917.
- Staudhammer, C.L.; Escobedo, F.J.; Holt, N. [and others].** 2015. Predictors, spatial distribution, and occurrence of woody invasive plants in subtropical urban ecosystems. *Journal of Environmental Management*. 155: 97–105.
- Vogt, J.T.** 2015. African American zoologist/entomologist Charles Henry Turner (1867–1923). *USDA Connecting Cultures Multicultural Outreach and Engagement Newsletter*. 7: 3.
- Trettin, C.C.; Stringer, C.E.; Zarnoch, S.J.** 2015. Composition, biomass and structure of mangroves within the Zambezi River Delta. *Wetlands Ecol Manage.* DOI 10.1007/s111273-015-9465-8.

***World Forestry Congress,
2015***

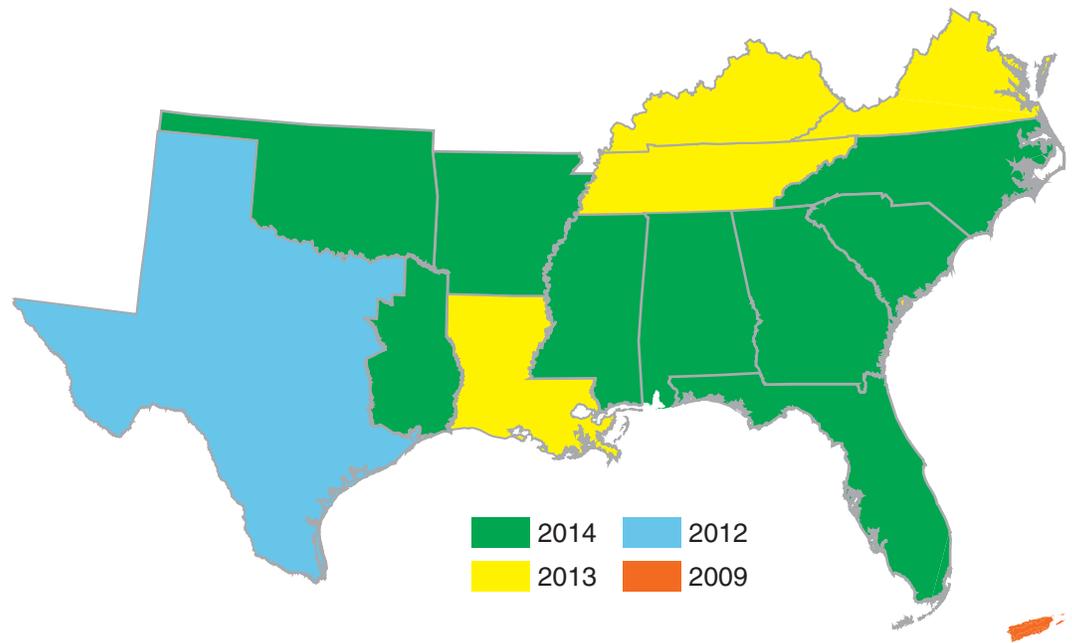
Sonja Oswalt attended the World Forestry Congress in Durban, South Africa in September. She spoke in a side event organized by the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) detailing the value of the FIA Program in the United States. Also speaking at the NASF side event were Jim Karels, Florida State Forester; Brett Butler Research Forester, Northern Research Station (NRS); Chip Scott Research Forester, NRS, and delivering opening remarks was Tom Tidwell, Chief of the U.S. Forest Service. Sonja also spoke at the U.S. Forest Service exhibit hall

booth about the joint development of a borderless, multi-national product called the North American Forest Database. The U.S. FIA Program, as part of the North American Forestry Commission Inventory and Monitoring Working Group, has been working with the Canadian Forest Service and the Comisión Nacional Forestal (CONAFOR–Mexico) on the database project. Database development is ongoing, and publication of a brochure and journal article are expected in FY2016.

*For more information, contact
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Current Status of FIA Data Posted

Most Recent FIA Data by State and Collection Year



For more information, contact Ali Conner at 865-862-2228 or aconner@fs.fed.us.

Status of Current Field Inventories

State	Cycle start date	Subcycle start date	Cycle and inventory year of current inventory	Percent of current subcycle collection completed
Alabama	2012	Sept-15	10-2016	23
Arkansas	2010	Jan-15	10-2015	87
Florida	2014	Apr-15	10-2015	54
Georgia	2015	Jan-15	11-2015	55
Kentucky	2010	Apr-15	7-2014	54
Louisiana	2009	May-15	8-2015	43
Mississippi	2009	Aug-14	9-2015	84
North Carolina	2008	Oct-14	9-2015	100
Oklahoma (east)	2015	Jan-15	9-2015	83
Oklahoma (west)	2009	May-15	2-2015	37
Puerto Rico	2014	Apr-14	5-2014	100
South Carolina	2012	Jan-15	11-2015	96
Tennessee	2009	Nov-14	9-2014	42
Texas (east)	2013	Dec-14	10-2015	83
Texas (west)	2015	Apr-15	2-2014	79
U.S. Virgin Islands	2014	Sept-14	3-2014	100
Virginia	2012	Aug-15	10-2015	4

Information compiled November 30, 2015.

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FIA is a USDA Forest Service research work unit which collects, analyzes, and reports on data pertaining to our forest land in the Southern region. This region includes Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Virginia.

FIA conducts this program of research to improve the understanding of the Southern forest ecosystem.

Government and private agencies utilize this data to monitor forest resources, forest use, and forest health. The collection of data is done on private and public land.

Our system development success is a direct result of our partners, our talented scientists, analysts, computer specialists, and other staff members who have continually contributed to the mission of this complex project.

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National and Southern FIA Web sites of Interest

National FIA Web site: <http://www.fia.fs.fed.us>
National FIA database available at: <http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/tools-data/>
National Timber Product Output (TPO) database available at: <http://srsfia2.fs.fed.us/>
National Woodland Owner Survey Web site: <http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos/>
Information specific to Southern States: <http://srsfia2.fs.fed.us/>
Electronic copies of SRS FIA publications at: <http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/>