

The Inventory

Issue 41
March 2016

Inside this issue:

Southern Forest Products...An Economic Engine – An ESRI Story Map	2
National FIA User Group Workshop	2
Biomass Researchers from ORNL Visit FIA Knoxville	2
FY2016 Publications Published Since December 2015	3
New Kentucky State Forester	3
Current Status of FIA Data Posted	4
Status of Current Field Inventories	4
National and Southern FIA Web sites of Interest	5

Forest Inventory and Analysis
4700 Old Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37919
865-862-2000

An Update Concerning the SRS FIA Program

SRS FIA Information Update

Since the initiation of the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program in the 1930s, the goal of the program has been to make relevant forest resource information available to stakeholders in a timely manner. From those early years until the late 1980s, most of this information transfer was accomplished through printed Forest Service reports and documents targeted to relatively small pool of data users, principle among them private forest industry and public land management agencies. Previous FIA reports focused on a textual interpretation of what the information meant for timber supply supported by a limited number of tables that provided the user of FIA data with partial, highly-selective “access” to FIA data. In addition to the limited accessibility of the data, most documents were written for a narrow and highly specialized audience.

The combination of the expansion of the FIA Program to all forest lands, a broader suite of data collection, and advances in computing capability has allowed FIA to tremendously expand both the variety of data it offers and its ability to distribute those data, information derived from them, and knowledge gained by deeper analysis and interpretation. With this expansion has come a concurrent expansion in the pool of potential data users.

Advances in computing technology have opened FIA data to users of various skill levels and disciplines by allowing the program to tailor delivery mechanisms to specific audiences. Instead of the “one size fits all” mentality of the past, FIA can now deliver a full range of products to meet the needs of a diverse and growing audience for FIA information. We are now targeting a continuum of users that ranges from the layman looking for the most basic information on our Nation’s forests to highly skilled, knowledgeable “super users” that want the data in its rawest form so they can perform their own advanced analyses.

In this issue is a description of one of our first attempts to repackage FIA data for a potentially different audience and utilizing current technology. Southern Forest Products...An Economic Engine – An ESRI Story Map utilizes this new technology and also changes our focus. This is a change from providing data and information to providing knowledge in a map-based interactive system to “tell a story” about the role of forest industry in the Southern United States economy. This is really exciting expansion for the delivery of FIA output!

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.

Bill Burkman
SRS FIA Program Manager
bburkman@fs.fed.us
865-862-2073

Southern Forest Products... An Economic Engine – An ESRI Story Map

A new story map developed by FIA staff allows users to interactively chart the ebb and flow of forest products across the Southern States—and visually tells the story of the decline of the forest products industry over the last decades. The architects for this interactive interface are Chris Oswalt, Ted Ridley, James Bentley, Consuelo Brandeis, and Jason Cooper. Using FIA data loaded onto ESRI's (Environmental Systems Research Institute) ArcGIS Online (AGOL) platform, Southern Forest Products – An Economic Engine, provides a constantly updated guide to southern timber product outputs and the mills that process them, as well as showing change over the past decades.

The Southern Products story map uses layers of maps to show total outputs of different forest products—hardwood and softwood roundwood, saw logs, pulpwood, and veneer—down to the county level. Users can access layers already

developed for a product and map information for specific products at the county, State, and region levels. The story map includes a layer on primary wood processing in the south that allows the user to click on an individual mill for information on the type of wood mix (hardwood or softwood) used. The user can also click on each State for information on the number of mills and the number of people employed in wood processing mills in that State, as well as links to FIA harvest and utilization reports. The layer also includes a link to the mill directory developed and maintained by the Southern Group of State Foresters.

To access the Southern Forest Product – An Economic Engine story map go to the following URL: <http://srsfia2.fs.fed.us/tpo/sfpi.html>.

For more information, contact Chris Oswalt at 865-862-2068 or coswalt@fs.fed.us.

National FIA User Group Workshop

The dates and the location of the National FIA Users Group Workshop have been finalized – April 27 and 28, 2016 in Charleston, SC. The workshop will be at The Hyatt Place, 560 King Street, Charleston, SC, 29403 at the government per diem rate of \$203.00 per night. The workshop agenda will be similar to the past few years with a field trip scheduled the morning of April 27th followed by a few hours of afternoon presentations with a full day of presentations and discussions scheduled for Thursday, April 28th, concluding at around 4:00 pm eastern to allow people to leave on early evening flights on Thursday April 28th. For those who want to remain in Charleston after the meeting ends or arrive early, the Hyatt Place has guaranteed the rate for before and after the meeting if booked at the same time.

The National FIA User Group Workshop is organized by the Society of American Foresters (SAF) and the National Council Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI) is designed to provide users, customers, and partners of FIA a forum for feedback on the direction of the FIA Program. It is also an opportunity for the FIA Program to share information about new developments within FIA.

SAF will be updating the following Web site with additional information regarding this workshop in the near future. For registration and information regarding the 2016 National FIA Users Group Meeting, please visit the following Web site: <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1818680>.

For more information from previous National Users Group Meetings, please visit the following Web site: <http://ncasi2.org/downloads/BWG/>.

Biomass Researchers from ORNL visit FIA Knoxville

On February 1st, 2016 scientists Virginia Dale, Keith Kline, and Esther Parish from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, TN visited the SRS FIA office in Knoxville, TN. Their research on biomass utilization for the pellet industry has created national attention and they are using FIA data to gain increased insight

into the status of the resource. The scientists gave a presentation entitled A Landscape Design Approach for Sustainability of Woody Biomass Production, which was followed by a question and answer session and discussion between FIA scientists and the visiting researchers. Potential collaborative research was also discussed.

For more information, contact Jeff Turner at jturner02@fs.fed.us, or 865-862-2053.

***FY2016 Publications
Published Since
December 2015***

- Brandeis, T.J.; Hartsell, A.** 2016. Forests of Georgia, 2014. Resource Update FS-72. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Coulston, J.W.; Blinn, C.E.; Thomas, V.A.; Wynne, R.H.** 2016. Approximating prediction uncertainty for random forest regression models. *Photogrammetric Eng. & Remote Sensing*. 82(3): 189–197.
- Hartsell, A.** 2016. Forests of Alabama, 2014. Resource Update FS-69. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Iannone III, B.V.; Potter, K.M.; Guo, Q. [and others].** 2015. Biological invasion hotspots: a trait-based perspective reveals new sub-continental patterns. *Ecography* 38: 001–009.
- Iannone III, B.V.; Potter, K.M.; Hamil, K.D. [and others].** 2016. Evidence of biotic resistance to invasions in forests of the Eastern USA. *Landscape Ecol.* 31: 85–99.
- Marcano-Vega, H.; Lister, A.; Megown, K.; Scott, C.** 2016. Applicability of the Design Tool for Inventory and Monitoring (DTIM) and the Explore Sample Data Tool for the Assessment of Caribbean Forest Dynamics. *Caribbean Naturalist Special Issue No. 1*: 35–51
- Marcano-Vega, H.; Roberts, C.; Valles, H. [and others].** 2016. Communication from the National Forest Inventories Working Group of the 16th Caribbean Foresters meeting: proposal for a regional workshop. *Caribbean Naturalist. Special Issue No. 1*: 25–29
- Nowak, D.J.; Bodine, A.R.; Hoehn, R.E. [and others].** 2016. Austin's urban forest, 2014. *Resour. Bull. NRS-100*. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Northern Research Station. 55 p.
- Oswalt, C.M.** 2016. Forests of Tennessee, 2013. Resource Update FS-68. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Oswalt, C.M.; Oswalt, S.N.; Meade, J.R.** 2016. Species composition and succession in yellow pine stands following southern pine beetle outbreaks in Tennessee—preliminary results. In: Proceedings of the 18th biennial southern silvicultural research conference. e-Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-212. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 72–77.
- Potter, K.M.; Koch, F.H.; Oswalt, C.M.; Iannone, B.V.** 2016. Data, data everywhere: detecting spatial patterns in fine-scale ecological information collected across a continent. *Landscape Ecol.* 31: 67–84.
- Rose, A.K.** 2016. South Carolina's forests, 2011. *Resour. Bull. SRS-208*. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 71 p.
- Rose, A.K.; Rosson, J.F., Jr.; Beresford, H.** 2015. Consequences of data reduction in the FIA database: a case study with southern yellow pine. In: Stanton, Sharon M.; Christensen, Glenn A., comps. *Pushing boundaries: new directions in inventory techniques and applications*. Proceedings of the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) symposium. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-931. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 369–373.
- South, D.B.; Harper, R.A.** 2016. A decline in timberland continues for several southern yellow pines. *J. For.* 114(2): 116–124.

New Kentucky State Forester

The Secretary of Kentucky's Energy Environment Cabinet, Charles Snavelly, recently announced that William (Bill) Steele, Jr., had been appointed to be the Director for the Division of Forestry, effective Monday, February 8, 2016.

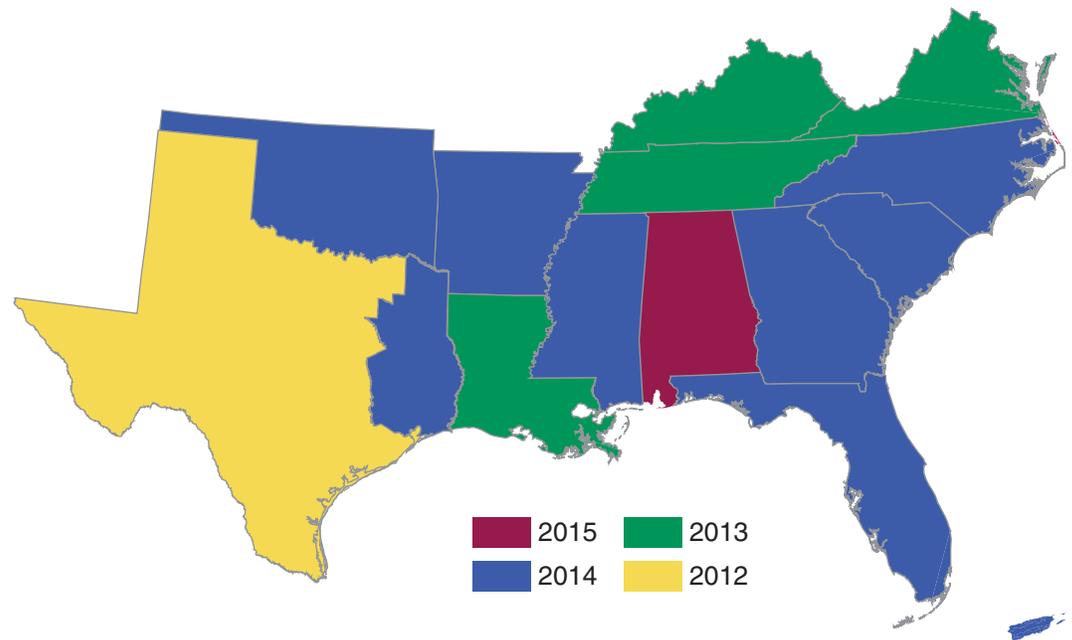
Bill is a native of Columbia, Kentucky, and has been the President and CEO of Kentucky Tie and Lumber Company, a business he founded

and built into a business which employs 80 people, in Columbia. Bill has a BS degree in Forestry from the University of the South (Decatur) and is a past President of the Kentucky Forest Industries Association.

Bill's forestry business experience is a great addition to the excellent forestry management personnel at the Division of Forestry.

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	53
Arkansas	2016	Jan-16	11-2016	6
Florida	2014	Apr-15	10-2015	76
Georgia	2015	Jan-15	11-2015	74
Kentucky	2010	Apr-15	7-2014	72
Louisiana	2009	May-15	8-2015	59
Mississippi	2016	Feb-16	10-2016	3
North Carolina	2016	Nov-15	10-2016	27
Oklahoma (east)	2015	Jan-15	9-2015	100
Oklahoma (west)	2009	May-15	2-2015	47
Puerto Rico	2014	Apr-14	5-2014	100
South Carolina	2012	Jan-16	11-2016	5
Tennessee	2009	Nov-14	9-2014	54
Texas (east)	2013	Feb-16	10-2016	4
Texas (west)	2015	Apr-15	2-2014	83
U.S. Virgin Islands	2014	Sept-14	3-2014	100
Virginia	2012	Sept-15	10-2015	16

Information compiled February 26, 2016.

For more information, contact
Dale Trenda at 865-862-2039
or dtrenda@fs.fed.us.

Southern Research Station
Forest Inventory and Analysis
4700 Old Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37919
865-862-2000



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.

In accordance with Federal civil rights laws and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communications for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

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/>