

# The Inventory

Issue 27  
September 2012

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## An Update Concerning the SRS FIA Program

### *SRS FIA Information Update*

I recently attended an international meeting that was designed to develop procedures necessary to develop the 2015 Forest Resource Assessment for the world. Part of the deliberations dealt with a questionnaire/form for data submissions that would be used to assemble the final document. As I listened to parts of the conversation, it was gratifying that because of the annual Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) system we have in place in the United States, the effort necessary to provide this information would be less than some of the other countries at the meeting. I am not bragging, I am just appreciative of the efforts of the FIA program and our partners, especially our State partners, for a successful program.

Some of the other questions from the participants focused on the funding for FIA and how did we get support for our program. I stated that part of the success of FIA is our longevity – since the 1930s, FIA's broad group of customers – environmental organizations to forest industry, and in my opinion the most important – the ability of the FIA program to deliver what we said we would do. That is not to imply that issues don't arise that need to be addressed, because they do arise and FIA will deal with them. Problems do occur but our "can do" attitude resolves them as quickly as possible.

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

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### *November Symposium Highlights FIA and Insects*

J.T. Vogt, Deputy Program Manager for SRS FIA and Therese Poland, Research Entomologist for Northern Research Station Forest Insects, are cochairing a symposium at the upcoming National Entomological Society of America meeting in Knoxville, November 11-15, 2012. The symposium is entitled "Bugs, Bytes, and Basal Area – How Forest Inventory & Analysis Programs Support Forest Entomology Research." This symposium will take place from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 14, 2012. A series of nationally-recognized speakers will address insect pest issues including emerald ash borer, gypsy moth, hemlock woolly adelgid, and others – along with how FIA data are used to predict and evaluate impacts. For more information on Entomological Society of America and the 2012 Annual Meeting, go to [www.entsoc.org](http://www.entsoc.org).

***New Employee on Board***

We are very pleased to have Mr. Russ Wilson join the Administrative Team at SRS FIA, as our new Program Specialist. Russ is filling the

Vickie Brooks position within our unit, where his primary responsibilities will include budget, agreements, and reporting.

Mr. Russell T. Wilson (Russ) was born in east Tennessee, where he grew up on a small farm just north of Knoxville. He earned a degree in Forestry from the University of Tennessee, and upon graduation married Sandra Brown. He then spent 3 years in Germany with the Army Corps of Engineers as a Surveyor. Upon discharge from the Army, Russ joined Sandra in Atlanta, where he spent a year working as a Surveyor for the railroad, then earned a Master's of Business Administration from Georgia State University while working for the Georgia Department of Labor.

Upon graduation from Georgia State University, Russ held a series of increasingly complex cost accounting positions, culminating in a position on the corporate financial team for Charter

Medical Corporation in Macon, Georgia, where he consolidated financial and statistical data from their 100 hospitals nationwide. When Charter sold their hospital operations to fund the development of Magellan Healthcare Systems, he left to work for a rural Community Service Board in middle Georgia.

For the past 12 years Russ has served as Fiscal Director and sometimes acting CEO for the Oconee Community Service Board, a public not-for-profit provider of outpatient psychiatric healthcare services in a six county catchment area to clients deemed both most in need and at risk. Russ and Sandra have raised three children in Macon, where Sandra attended Wesleyan College, earned a degree in Music, and now serves as a music teacher in two elementary schools. She also went on to become an ordained minister serving as associate pastor for Heritage United Methodist Church in Macon.

In his spare time Russ has enjoyed coaching little league, being a Scout leader, and serving on multiple church committees including Finance Chair, Chairman of the Board, and youth and adult.

Russ can be contacted at 865-862-2042 or [rtwilson@fs.fed.us](mailto:rtwilson@fs.fed.us).

***FIA Wellness Seminar Highlighted the Need for Quick Action in the Event of a Stroke***

On average, a stroke occurs every 40 seconds in the United States, and someone dies from a stroke every 4 minutes. Jason Fee, a student from South College's Physician's Assistant Master's Degree Program visited the Southern Research Station's Forest Inventory and Analysis research work unit in Knoxville, Tennessee, on August 21, 2012. His presentation "Understanding and Preventing Strokes" was in partnership with the American Heart and Stroke Association. He covered the various types of strokes, as well as the myriad of symptoms that may be present in the event of a stroke. Symptoms are determined by where strokes occur in the brain and may include, but are not limited to: worst headache ever (also known as a thunderclap headache), confusion, loss of vision, slurred speech, paralysis, dizziness, and loss of coordination. Many of these symptoms are often not recognized as being due to a stroke, thus delaying treatment. Jason emphasized that there is an important 3-hour window during which significant damage from a stroke, particularly an ischemic stroke, may be prevented. Risk factors for stroke (that we can do something about) include: high blood pressure, high cholesterol, smoking, obesity, and diabetes.

Follow these guidelines, if you or someone you know shows signs of a stroke and remember to act F.A.S.T. F = face – ask the person to smile, does one side of the face droop?; A = arm – ask the person to raise both arms, does one arm drift downward?; S = speech – ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, are the words slurred, can they repeat the sentence correctly?; T = time – note the time they first started showing symptoms and call 911 or get to the hospital immediately. The Wellness Committee hopes to continue hosting seminars such as this and if you have a suggestion for a topic, or know of someone willing to give a seminar, please contact anyone on the Wellness Committee.



Mike Howell selecting literature furnished by Jason Fee.

For more information, contact Anita Rose at [anitarose@fs.fed.us](mailto:anitarose@fs.fed.us), or 865-862-2029

### *Change in Reserve Status Coding for Version 6.0 of the National FIA Field Guide*

Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) uses “reserve status” to identify lands withdrawn from management for wood products, which are not included in estimates of “timberland.” The FIA classification of lands into reserved status has been a problematic issue. Concerns regarding reserved classification have included:

- Different FIA units may be classifying similarly-designated areas differently,
- Some areas classified as reserved may produce significant amounts of timber,
- Many areas classified as unreserved are not managed to produce timber, and
- Reserve code on a plot may change over time due to differing interpretations of available information and not because of real change in status.

At the October 2007 National FIA Management Team meeting, it was agreed a task team would be formed to examine the issues. The task team was asked to review current procedures and suggest changes, where needed, as well as to develop an “administratively withdrawn” category that would be core optional. The mission of the task team was to implement nationally-consistent interpretations of reserved land status and develop a nationally consistent approach to identifying administratively withdrawn lands within the unreserved category. One issue the team struggled with was public land where timber harvesting is conducted, but only for the purposes of exotic species removal or habitat restoration (e.g., national parks, monuments, and wildlife refuges), not as management for wood production. Another complication is that few State parks or natural area preserves are specifically

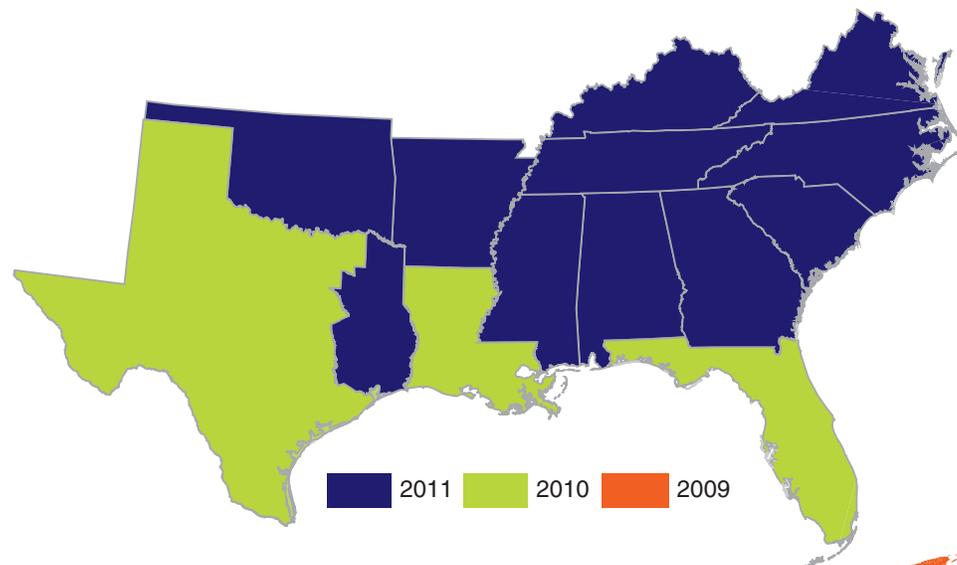
designated in law by the legislature or local government, yet the managing agencies’ mandates often are. In addition, the purpose of these designated areas is usually well-defined, making it highly unlikely they would ever be managed for timber production (or that much timber would ever be harvested on them).

The definition of reserve status was refined and a set of criteria was developed for consistently calling reserve status based on ownership. For national consistency, and in the absence of other knowledge for specific areas, a list of primarily federal ownerships with reserve status was created. National Wildlife Refuges and State and local government lands with the designation “park” will be considered reserved by default. For some, this will mean no change from the past, for others this may be a substantial change. Flexibility was built into the designation of reserve status, such that where specific knowledge of management intent exists, units have the option of changing the reserve code (e.g., State and local government lands). The modified reserved status and the new administratively withdrawn variable will be implemented with the 6.0 field manual. In order to give all units the necessary time to prepare, full implementation (database, FIDO, etc.) is scheduled for spring 2014. To avoid unnecessary impacts to estimates of growth, removals, and mortality in the current data, these changes are being implemented back to the start of the fixed-plot design. As we move forward, we feel that this will result in much better consistency temporally and geographically within the reserve code. As with any change, it will not be without its growing pains.

*For more information, contact Anita Rose at [anitarose@fs.fed.us](mailto:anitarose@fs.fed.us), or 865-862-2029*

### *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](mailto:aconner@fs.fed.us).*

*FY2012 Research  
Publications Published  
Since June 2012*

- Brandeis, C.** 2012. Primary wood-using mills and forest resources: interactions between wood demand and procurement areas. Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee. 116 p. Ph.D. dissertation,
- Brandeis, T.J.** 2011. Implementing a national forest inventory system on subtropical Caribbean islands. [Abstract] In: proceedings of the 2011 society of american foresters national convention. *Journal of Forestry*. 109: 485.
- Brandeis, T.J.; Meléndez-Ackerman, E.J.; Helmer, E.H.** 2012. Forest vegetation cover assessment on Mona Island, Puerto Rico. e-Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-165. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 24 p.
- Brown, M.J.; Nowak, J.; Johnson, T.G. [and others].** 2012. Florida's forests, 2007. *Resour. Bull. SRS-188*. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 132 p.
- Coulston, J.W.** 2011. Chapter 6. Modeling ozone bioindicator injury with micro-scale and landscape-scale explanatory variables: a logistic regression approach. In: Conkling, B.L. *Forest health monitoring 2007 national technical report*. Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-147. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station: 107–116.
- Greis, J.G.; Brown, M.J.; Bentley, J.W.** 2012. Cypress facts for the south, 2010—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-060. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 8 p.
- Hatcher, J.E., Jr.; Straka, T.J.; Harper, R.A.; Adams, T.O.** 2012. Shifting industrial timberland in South Carolina. Columbia, SC: South Carolina Forestry Association. 2 p.
- Koch, F.H.; Coulston, J.W.; Smith, W.D.** 2012. High-resolution mapping of drought conditions. Chapter 4. In: Potter, K.M.; Conkling, B.L., eds. *Forest health monitoring 2008 national technical report*. Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-158. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 45–61.
- McCullum, J.M.; Johnson, T.G.** 2012. Resolving the pulpwood canvass with inventory harvest information. In: McWilliams, W.; Roesch, F.A., eds. *Monitoring across borders: 2010 joint meeting of the forest inventory and analysis (FIA) symposium and the Southern mensurationists*. e-Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-157. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station: 147–153.
- McWilliams, W.H.; Alerich, C.L.; Bechtold, W.A.; Hansen, M.; Oswalt, C.M.; Thompson, M.; Turner, J.** 2012. Algorithmic decision rules for estimating growth, removals, and mortality within a national-scale forest inventory (USA). In: McWilliams, W.; Roesch, F.A., eds. *Monitoring across borders: 2010 joint meeting of the forest inventory and analysis (FIA) symposium and the Southern mensurationists*. e-Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-157. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station: 155–159.
- Oswalt, C.M.** 2012. Kentucky, 2010—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-057. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 5 p.
- Oswalt, C.M.; Oswalt, S.N.; Moser, W.K.** 2012. Potential impacts of year-round sampling on monitoring presence-absence of invasive flora in the Southern United States. In: McWilliams, W.; Roesch, F.A., eds. *Monitoring across borders: 2010 joint meeting of the forest inventory and analysis (FIA) symposium and the Southern mensurationists*. e-Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-157. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 299 p.
- Oswalt, C.M.; Oswalt, S.N.** 2012. Invasive plants found in South Carolina's forests, 2010—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-062. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 5 p.
- Oswalt, S.N.; Oswalt, C.M.** 2012. Invasive plants found in Louisiana's forests, 2009—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-061. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Oswalt, S.N.; Franzreb, K.E.; Buehler, D.A.** 2012. Changes in early-successional hardwood forest area in four bird conservation regions across four decades. In: *Monitoring across borders: 2010 joint meeting of the forest inventory and analysis (FIA) symposium and the Southern mensurationists*. e-Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-157. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 299 p.
- Rose, A.K.** 2012. Ozone. In: Bechtold, W.A.; Bohne, M.J.; Conkling, B.L. [and others], eds. *A synthesis of evaluation monitoring projects by the forest health monitoring program (1998 – 2007)*. Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-159. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 140 p.

*To access an electronic copy of each research publication, click on the publication number.*

*continued*

***FY2012 Research  
Publications Published  
Since June 2012  
(continued)***

*To access an electronic copy of each research publication, click on the publication number.*

**Rose, A.K.** 2012. Virginia, 2001—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-058. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.

**Rose, A.K.** 2012. Virginia, 2007—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-059. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.

**Rose, A.K.** 2012. Virginia, 2010—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-056. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.

**Rosson, J.F., Jr.** 2012. Arkansas, 2011—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-055. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.

**Williams, B.L.; Straka, T.J.; Harper, R.A.** 2012. Size of forest holdings and family forests: implications for forest management in South Carolina. South Carolina Forestry, Vol. MMXII, No.3. Columbia, SC: South Carolina Forestry Association. 2 p.

**Woodall, C.W.; Smith, J.E.; Oswalt, C.M.; Waddell, K.L.** 2010. Comparing standing dead tree carbon stock estimates derived from field inventories and models across forests of the U.S. In: McWilliams, W.; Roesch, F.A., eds. 2012. Monitoring across borders: 2010 joint meeting of the forest inventory and analysis (FIA) symposium and the Southern mensurationists. e-Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-157. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station.

***Status of Current Field Inventories***

State	Cycle start date	Subcycle start date	Cycle and subcycle of current inventory	Percent of current subcycle collection completed
Alabama	2012	June-12	10-2013	11
Arkansas	2010	Dec-11	10-2012	73
Florida	2008	Oct-11	9-2012	74
Georgia	2009	Sept-11	10-2012	91
Kentucky	2010	Apr-12	7-2012	30
Louisiana	2009	Oct-11	8-2011	99
Mississippi	2009	May-12	9-2013	7
North Carolina	2008	Sept-11	9-2012	96
Oklahoma (east)	2010	Mar-12	8-2012	96
Oklahoma (west)	2009	June-12	2-2012	9
Puerto Rico	2011	Jan-11	5-2012	48
South Carolina	2012	Jan-12	11-2012	66
Tennessee	2009	Feb-12	9-2012	47
Texas (east)	2008	July-11	9-2012	87
Texas (west)	2004	July-11	1-2012	77
U.S. Virgin Islands	2009	Aug-09	2-2009	100
Virginia	2012	Nov-11	10-2012	68

Information compiled August 28, 2012.

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

### ***Louisiana – Conclusion of Third Inventory Year of Cycle 8***

The third inventory year of Cycle 8 started October 2011 and the fourth inventory year is on track to start October 2012. The third inventory year of data collection required a group effort from the federal production foresters located in the State and revolving assistance from quality assurance (QA) foresters and Federal production foresters from all three work zones. The on-time completion of the third inventory year could not have been accomplished without these dedicated foresters working at times in the most inhospitable field conditions throughout the year. This past summer Jamal Jones joined the

field crew in Pineville for several weeks. Jamal is a SCEP employee enrolled at Alabama A&M. Jamal is due to be back next summer and is on schedule to graduate December 2013.

Other personnel changes include the temporary promotion of Jim Gray (QA Forester in Georgia) as the Louisiana supervisor and coordinator. Over the next year, Ben Bingham (QA Forester in Alabama) and Greg Smith (QA Forester in Georgia) will follow Jim in this detail assignment.



Production Forester Kirk Ramsey demonstrating data collection techniques to Jamal Jones on a plot in Natchitoches Parish, LA.



Supervisory Forester Jim Gray assessing data collection quality on a cold check plot in Lincoln Parish, LA – August 2012. (photos provided by Kathy Tillman)

*For more information, contact Kathy Tillman at 936-569-7981, ext. 4002, or [kmtillman@fs.fed.us](mailto:kmtillman@fs.fed.us).*

### ***Southern Pulpwood Production 2010 Revision Notice***

The Southern Research Station Forest Inventory and Analysis (SRS FIA) unit is at this time reposting the resource bulletin RB–SRS–186 Southern Pulpwood Production, 2010 due to a revision in the data included in the original text. We had received some incorrect pulpwood production numbers for the 2010 data. We now

have the corrected values and have corrected the report. This document with the revisions may be located at [http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/pubs/rb/rb\\_srs186.pdf](http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/pubs/rb/rb_srs186.pdf). We are not planning to reprint the publication so if you need a hardcopy, please contact us. FIA apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused.

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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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The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), is dedicated to the principle of multiple use management of the Nation's forest resources for sustained yields of wood, water, forage, wildlife, and recreation. Through forestry research, cooperation with the States and private forest owners, and management of the National Forests and National Grasslands, it strives—as directed by Congress—to provide increasingly greater service to a growing Nation.

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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/other/default.asp>

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/>