

# The Inventory

Issue 33  
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**Inside this issue:**

<b>SRS FIA Information Update (continued)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Status of Current Field Inventories</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>International Visitors to the Knoxville Office and Further Support to National Forest Inventories in Other Countries This Spring</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Current Status of FIA Data Posted</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>FY2014 Publications Published Since January 2014</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>National and Southern FIA Web sites of Interest</b>	<b>5</b>

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## An Update Concerning the SRS FIA Program

### *SRS FIA Information Update*

Well this edition is a little late. Sorry! There has been a lot of activity surrounding the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program over the last 4 months or so. On February 7, 2014, Congress passed the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79), also referred to as the 2014 Farm Bill. Section 8301 of this legislation requires the FIA Program to revise its previous Strategic Plan and submit the new plan to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate within 180 days of the passage of the law or before August 7, 2014. As you can see the timelines are short. The details that need to be addressed in the next FIA Strategic Plan are listed below:

#### *AN ACT*

To reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

**113TH CONGRESS, 2<sup>nd</sup> SESSION (H.R. 2642)**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

- (a) **IN GENERAL.**— SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Agricultural Act of 2014”.

#### **SEC. 8301. REVISION OF STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS.**

- (a) **REVISION REQUIRED.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall revise the strategic plan for forest inventory and analysis initially prepared pursuant to section 3(e) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1642(e)) to address the requirements imposed by subsection (b).
- (b) **ELEMENTS OF REVISED STRATEGIC PLAN.**—In revising the strategic plan, the Secretary shall describe in detail the organization, procedures, and funding needed to achieve each of the following:
- (1) Complete the transition to a fully annualized forest inventory program and include inventory and analysis of interior Alaska.
  - (2) Implement an annualized inventory of trees in urban settings, including the status and trends of trees and forests, and assessments of their ecosystem services, values, health, and risk to pests and diseases.
  - (3) Report information on renewable biomass supplies and carbon stocks at the local, State, regional, and national level, including by ownership type.
  - (4) Engage State foresters and other users of information from the forest inventory and analysis in reevaluating the list of core data variables collected on forest inventory and analysis plots with an emphasis on demonstrated need.

*continued*

### *SRS FIA Information Update (continued)*

- (5) Improve the timeliness of the timber product output program and accessibility of the annualized information on that database.
- (6) Foster greater cooperation among the forest inventory and analysis program, research station leaders, and State foresters and other users of information from the forest inventory and analysis.
- (7) Promote availability of and access to non-Federal resources to improve information analysis and information management.
- (8) Collaborate with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and United States Geological Survey to integrate remote sensing, spatial analysis techniques, and other new technologies in the forest inventory and analysis program.
- (9) Understand and report on changes in land cover and use.
- (10) Expand existing programs to promote sustainable forest stewardship through increased understanding, in partnership with other Federal agencies, of the over 10,000,000 family forest owners, their demographics, and the barriers to forest stewardship.
- (11) Implement procedures to improve the statistical precision of estimates at the sub-State level.

(c) **SUBMISSION OF REVISED STRATEGIC PLAN.**— The Secretary shall submit the revised strategic plan to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

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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### *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	Sept-13	10-2014	47
Arkansas	2010	Jan-14	10-2014	13
Florida	2014	Feb-14	10-2014	14
Georgia	2009	Nov-13	10-2014	34
Kentucky	2010	June-13	7-2013	37
Louisiana	2009	Feb-14	8-2014	8
Mississippi	2009	Aug-13	9-2014	65
North Carolina	2008	Oct-13	9-2014	44
Oklahoma (east)	2010	Jan-14	8-2014	30
Oklahoma (west)	2009	June-14	2-2014	0
Puerto Rico	2011	June-13	5-2013	79
South Carolina	2012	Jan-14	11-2014	16
Tennessee	2009	June-13	9-2013	64
Texas (east)	2013	Nov-13	10-2014	41
Texas (west)	2004	Apr-13	1-2013	43
U.S. Virgin Islands	2009	Aug-09	2-2009	100
Virginia	2012	Jan-14	10-2014	0

Information compiled April 3, 2014.

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

***International Visitors to the Knoxville Office and Further Support to National Forest Inventories in Other Countries This Spring***

Dr. Dionicio Alvarado Rosales, Professor of Forest Pathology, Colegio de Postgraduados, Campus Montecillo, Mexico, visited Knoxville on March 26-27. He met with KaDonna Randolph, Tom Brandeis, and others to discuss analysis of crown and damage data from the forest health monitoring plots that are part of their national forest inventory. He also met with Dr. Mark Windham, plant pathologist, and colleagues at the University of Tennessee to learn more about the outbreak of Thousand Cankers Disease in this area and discuss behavior of this disease complex in its native Mexican habitat. This activity is part of FIA's continued support for Mexico's national forest inventory.

The Knoxville FIA office will also be hosting 10-15 visitors from natural resource management agencies in Honduras and other Central American countries from April 28 to May 2 on a study tour sponsored by U.S. Forest Service International Programs. All members of the group either work on or are planning for national forest inventories in their home countries. Presentations by FIA Knoxville personnel from all sections will address the tour objectives, which are to:

- a) Understand how U.S. national forest inventory objectives are based on resource management information needs, and how these information needs guide inventory design, data collection, information processing and results dissemination.

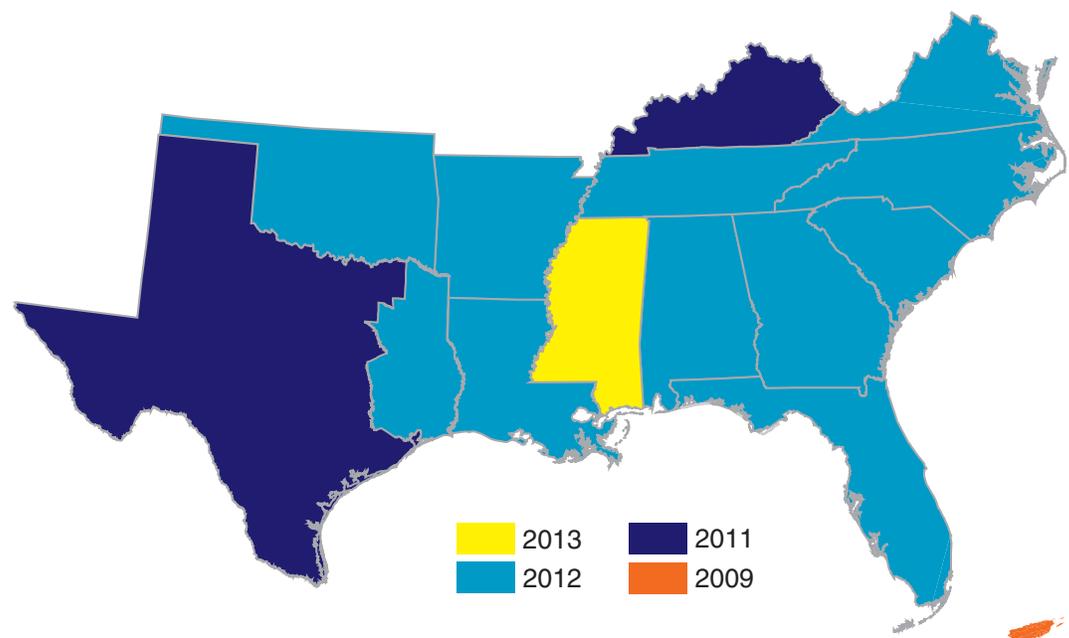
- b) See how data flows through forest inventory systems and multiple feedback loops that provide data quality assurances and control.
- c) Learn about the legislative foundations, funding mechanisms and administrative organization of the U.S. national forest inventory.
- d) Discuss how the information gathered is disseminated to stakeholders and how value is added through those varied products and outlets.

As a follow-up to the study tour, Humfredo Marciano and Tom Brandeis will travel to Tegucigalpa, Honduras to teach a forest inventory data analysis short course to personnel from the Escuela Nacional de Ciencias Forestales (National Forest Sciences School) from May 6-16, again sponsored by U.S. Forest Service International Programs. The Honduran government conducted a national forest inventory in 2005 and an intensified forest inventory in their national parks that was recently completed. They have requested assistance from the U.S. Forest Service in analyzing and presenting the results from these data. The course material, prepared by Humfredo Marciano, Tom Brandeis, Anita Rose, and Chris Oswalt will cover data review, tree volume and biomass estimation, forest carbon measurement, and results presentation. The course will be initially prepared in English and then translated into Spanish for use in multiple countries where FIA and SilvaCarbon are providing technical assistance to national forest inventories.

*For more information, contact Tom Brandeis at 865-862-2055 or [tjbrandeis@fs.fed.us](mailto:tjbrandeis@fs.fed.us).*

***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).*

***FY2014 Publications  
Published Since January  
2014***

- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. Alabama's timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-087. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. Arkansas' timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-088. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. Florida's timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-089. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. Georgia's timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-090. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. Kentucky's timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-091. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. Louisiana's timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-092. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. Mississippi's timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-093. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. North Carolina's timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-094. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. Oklahoma's timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-095. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. South Carolina's timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-096. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. Tennessee's timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-097. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Bentley, J.W.; Cooper, J.A.; Howell, M. 2014. Virginia's timber industry, 2011—timber product output and use—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-098. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Brandeis, T.J.; Cooper, J.A.; Bentley, J.W. 2014. East Texas, 2012—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-086. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Harper, R.A.; Mo, J.; Straka, T.J. 2014. A few additional impacts on South Carolina timber production. *South Carolina Forestry Journal*. Jan/Feb: (1): 6.
- Oswalt, C.M.; Oswalt, S.N. 2014. Invasive plants found in North Carolina's forests, 2010—forest inventory and analysis factsheet. e-Science Update SRS-100. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p.
- Simmons, E.A.; Morgan T.A.; Berg, E.C. [and others]. 2014. Logging utilization in Idaho: current and past trends. Gen. Tech. Rep. RMRS-318. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. 15 p.

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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/>