November 20, 2015

Tony Tooke  
Regional Forester  
US Forest Service  
Southern Region  
1720 Peachtree Road, NW  
Atlanta, GA 30309

Dear Tony,

The Alabama Forestry Commission has completed the review of Alabama’s Forest Assessment and Resource Strategy, ‘Forests at the Crossroads’, also known as the Forest Action Plan. The threats faced by Alabama’s forests remain the same as when the document was completed in 2010. The goals and strategies that are being implemented by the Alabama Forestry Commission, stakeholders and partners to address these threats are making an impact but are not yet completed. Therefore, we have not made any updates to the current Forest Action Plan.

Included however, with this letter, is an addendum to the document that addresses how the Forest Action Plan meshes with national themes. Much of the work done in Alabama to address the goals and strategies in the Forest Action Plan also address these national themes. The attached addendum will provide a flavor for that interconnectivity.

Sincerely,

Greg Pate  
State Forester  
Alabama Forestry Commission

Cc: Ken Arney  
    Kyle Jones

Making Alabama Better for People Through Forestry
The 2008 Farm Bill, under Title VIII — Forestry, amends the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978, to include the requirement that each state develop a long-term, state-wide assessment and strategies for forest resources. These assessments and strategies focused on three national priorities:

- Conserve and Manage Working Forest Landscapes for Multiple Values and Uses
- Protect Forests from Threats
- Enhance Public Benefits from Trees and Forests

These documents were developed with a comprehensive team of stakeholders to address cross-boundary, landscape scale actions that would be the most efficient activities to address issues of concern developed for the assessment phase of the Forest Action plan.

This document serves as a record of activities taken by all Alabama stakeholders to address strategic actions taken as part of Alabama’s Forest Action Plan and will be updated annually.

1. **Conserve and Manage Working Forest Landscapes for Multiple Values and Uses**

   **Issue Addressed:** Urban Growth and Development

   **Goal 1:** Reduce the impact of urban development on Alabama’s forest resource

   **Strategy 1.1.8**

   Promote and participate in “Your Town Alabama.”

   **Strategic Action:** The Alabama Forestry Commission financially supported “Your Town Alabama” and sent seven Commission Associates to participate in the program.
PRESS RELEASE

September 21, 2015

For Immediate Release

Seven employees of the Alabama Forestry Commission (AFC); Jason Barrett, Robert Brown, Robert Clement, Dale Dickens, Jim Junkin, Will Liner, and Matthew Tucker, completed the Your Town, Alabama, Designing Our Future workshop held at Camp McDowell near Nauvoo, Alabama September 2 – September 4, 2015. This event was the 17th-year anniversary of the Your Town Alabama workshops. Each of the AFC representatives attended two and one-half days of interactive presentations and worked with a team to plan a hypothetical town. After attending this intensive workshop, many participants have returned to their communities to emphasize the importance of planning to long-term economic viability.

With presentations by Keynote Speaker: Cheryl Morgan, Architect, Design Education Consultant & Teacher; Kellie Johnson, Executive Director, Cawaco RC&D on Natural Resources; Stacy Browning, Goodwyn Mills and Cawood on Cultural Resources; Mary Helmer, Director, Main Street Alabama on Small Town Resources; Jim Byard, Director, ADECA on Economic Development; Case Studies by Mayor Hollie Cost – Montevallo, AL; and a host of others, the AFC employees and 58 other civic and community leaders found plenty of technical advice, inspiration, and hands-on training.

Your Town Alabama is a direct response to the uncertain future of Alabama's small towns—a future increasingly threatened by large scale changes in our economy, population shifts, the impact of telecommunications and mass merchandising, and changes in land policy. In the face of these forces, communities have found themselves struggling to maintain their vitality and even their sense of identity. Whether the threat is sudden growth or stagnation, planning and design decisions can often make the difference between survival and decay, between healthy prosperity and decline.

The Your Town Alabama workshop format is an intensive engagement of citizen leaders and professionals and focuses on these critical planning and design decisions. The workshop is highly participatory, with lectures, case-study presentations and interactive group problem solving, including working on realistic issues in a hypothetical small town.

The Your Town Alabama workshop offers real hope to real communities. People like the AFC employees mentioned above who care about their community's appearance can begin learning more about how to protect it through these workshops. For more information about Your Town Alabama, please visit the Your Town Alabama website: [www.yourtownalabama.org](http://www.yourtownalabama.org).
2. **Protect Forests from Threats**

*Issue Addressed: Invasive Species*

**Goal 1:** Reduce the impacts of invasive species in Alabama.

**Objective 1.1:** Eradicate, reduce, or (at minimum) contain existing plant infestations.

**Strategy 1.1.3**

Improve communications through development of cooperative knowledge networks that link stakeholders, land managers, scientists, policy makers, and political representatives at the national, regional, state, multi-county and county levels and that provide real-time information and connectivity. Critical to how well the network functions is the timely actions and communications by all the people involved, whether they are working in voluntary, delegated, or assigned roles (P).

**Strategic Action:** Participate on the Alabama Invasive Plant Council (AIPC) to network with resource professionals to disseminate control techniques.
Alabama Invasive Plant Council
12th Annual Conference
Monte Sano State Park
Huntsville, AL
May 20, 2014, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

The Alabama Invasive Plant Council invites you to its 12th Annual Invasive Plant Conference, to be held at the Lodge at Monte Sano State Park (https://www.alapark.com/montesanostatepark) in Huntsville, Alabama. This is a one-day meeting and will include talks and field workshops on the biology and control of bush honeysuckle, tree of heaven, Chinese privet, aquatic invasive plants, and several other troublesome plants.

Conference registration for attendees and sponsors will be done online through the following Eventbrite webpage: http://www.eventbrite.com/e/alabama-invasive-plant-council-2014-annual-conference-tickets-11152869485. If online registration is not feasible, please contact us.

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged and will close on May 10, 2014. After that date, registration will be available as long as there is room, but lunch may not be guaranteed. Lunch and snacks are included in the $55.00 registration fee. Registration will increase to $75.00 after May 10.

Alabama – 10 Pesticide Recertification points will be awarded in the following categories:
- Agricultural Plant Pest Control (AP)
- Aquatic Pest Control (AQ)
- Demonstration and Research (D&R)
- Forest Pest Control (FPC)
- Right of Way Pest Control (ROW)
- Ornamental and Turf Pest Control Supervisor (OTPS)
- Ornamental and Turf Custodial (OTC)

Georgia Pesticide Points
- Commercial Credit Hours
  - Forest (23) 5 hours
  - Aquatic (6) 5 hours
  - Right of Way (27) 5 hours
- Private Credit Hours - 10

Tennessee: posted soon!

Continuing Forestry Education – 5 Cat 1
Professional Logging Manager (PLMs) – 8 points

The full meeting agenda is posted on the Eventbrite website and at http://www.se-encp.org/alabama/

QUESTIONS? Call or email Stephan Enloe (334) 844-8928, sfle0301@auburn.edu OR Nancy Loewenstein at (334) 844-1061, loewen@auburn.edu
# Meeting Agenda

**7:15-8:00 am**  
Check in and late registration  
(Sign in at beginning and end for recertification and CFE points)

**8:00-8:10**  
Welcome  
Stephen Enloe, ALIPC President

**8:10-8:30**  
Monte Sano State Park: Natural History and Invasive Plant Problems  
Scoe Weber, Restoration Ecologist

**8:30-9:00**  
Bush Honeysuckle – ID, Control and Potential Spread  
Chris Evans, Illinois Invasive Species Campaign Coordinator

**9:00-9:30**  
Tree-of-Heaven and Paulownia – ID, Control and Potential Spread  
Pat Burch, Dow AgroSciences

**9:30-9:50**  
Chinese Privet Control  
Stephen Enloe, Auburn University and ACES

**9:50-10:20**  
Break

**10:20-10:40**  
Aquatic Plant Management Efforts on the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers  
Josh Yerby, Alabama Power

**10:40-11:00**  
TVA’s Aquatic Plant Management Program  
David Webb, Tennessee Valley Authority, Aquatic Plant Biologist Contractor

**11:00-11:15**  
Invasive Plants on the Horizon  
Nancy Loewenstein, Auburn University and ACES

**11:15 – 11:45**  
What Cooperative Weed Management Areas Can Do For You  
Chris Evans, Illinois Invasive Species Campaign Coordinator

**11:45 – 12:00**  
Business Meeting

**12:00-1:15**  
Lunch – (Provided)

**1:30-4:30**  
(rotate through each of the four outdoor stations)

**1:30-1:50**  
ABCs of Herbicides and Herbicide Application Techniques (30 min) – Will Dixon, Larson and McGowin

**2:30-2:50**  
ABCs of Physical Weed Control (30 min) – Stephen Enloe

**3:30-3:50**  
Aquatic Plant ID and Control (30 min) – Graves Lovell, AL DCNR

**4:30-4:50**  
Invasive Plant ID and Mapping (30 min) – Soe Weber and Nancy Loewenstein

**4:00-4:15**  
Closing Remarks and Recertification sign in (conference room)

'Rescuing and Preserving our Natural Heritage'
ALIPC Annual Conference

Monte Sano State Park
Huntsville, AL

May 20, 2014
with indoor and field presentations

Registration information and agenda available at:
or the ALIPC web page: http://www.se-eppc.org/alabama/

Pesticide recertification points and CFE points will be available.
Lunch and handouts provided

Questions?
Call or email Stephen Enloe (334-844-8928), sfeo001@auburn.edu, Soos Weber (256-539-3747) weber-caudill@att.net, or Nancy Loewenstein (334-844-1061), loewenj@auburn.edu
In addition to AIPC participation, data is collected on different invasive species infestations. For example, AFC maintains a cogongrass database. The intent of the database is to put control resources in locations where the effort can be effective.

AFC participates in the Cogongrass Redesign Grant. Several county agencies participating in a cost-share program finalized their spray treatments of cogongrass (Imperata cylindrical) along rights-of-way. A total of 2,887 cogongrass spots were identified, with 1,741 spots encompassing 107.45 acres receiving at least one spray application.

The Alabama Forestry Commission continued to purchase spray equipment and treat cogongrass infestations on state-managed property. AFC personnel also identified and documented new infestations. Spot information was entered into the agency’s cogongrass database, accumulating 37,108 spots as of the first of October 2015. Also, AFC participated in a multi-state cogongrass mitigation grant to implement control measures.
3. **Enhance Public Benefits from Trees and Forests**

*Issue Addressed: Changing Markets*

**Goal 1:** Promote traditional forest industry markets.

**Objective 1.2:** Develop and provide technical and financial assistance.

**Strategy 1.2.1**

Assist landowners in certifying their forestland in order to become more marketable.

Strategic Action: The Alabama Forestry Commission works continuously with non-industrial private landowners to assist them in obtaining their personal goals. Through the national Stewardship Program, AFC supports three complementary programs: the national Stewardship Forest, Tree Farm, and TREASURE Forest. Each program is designed to acknowledge a landowner’s efforts in properly managing his property according to recognized stewardship principles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Landowners Assisted</th>
<th>Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stewardship Management Plans</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>41,438 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Certifications</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>34,118 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stand Management Recommendations</td>
<td>2,940</td>
<td>191,523 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry Consultant Referrals</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Goal 2:** Promote emerging markets

**Objective 2.1:** Promote use of residual woody biomass for large-scale energy and pellet production to further utilize our forests, which will provide financial incentives for forestland owners to manage their forests, reduce site preparation costs, and reduce destructive wildfires from long-term fuel buildup.

**Strategy 2.1.3**

Provide site analysis studies to potential investors using the Forestry Team approach. Include an evaluation of the infrastructure network and raw material available to identified sites, as listed on the ADO website.
Strategic Action: The Alabama Forestry Commission contributes to the marketing of forest products and economic development in a number of ways. One of these ways is through the AFC’s involvement with the U.S. Forest Service’s Forest Inventory & Analysis (FIA) program. FIA provides vital statistical data pertaining to Alabama’s forest resource. Land consultants and forest industry representatives utilize FIA data to make important decisions such as where to locate new wood products mills and how to make expansions to existing mills. They often request and are provided this data from AFC personnel. The AFC’s involvement with the FIA program consists of forest resource data collection by field crews, and the fulfilling of forest resource data requests by the FIA Coordinator.

The FIA Coordinator responded to 35 requests for forest resource and industry-related information during FY 2015.

Another way the AFC contributes to the marketing of Alabama’s forest resource is by the development of the annual forest resource report. This document contains valuable economic status indicators of the forest industry and forest resources in Alabama for the previous year. The Forest Resource Report 2014 was completed in May and is available on the AFC website.

Roundwood Availability Report

The roundwood statistics are based on the latest FIA data for Alabama (2014), Florida (2013), and Mississippi (2014). Below are some things you need to know about FIA data.

- “Volume” is the amount of sound wood in live trees that are a minimum 5.0” DBH, from a 1’ foot stump to a 4” top
- “Pulpwood-sized Softwoods” are trees with a DBH from 5.0” to 8.9”; “Sawtimber-sized Softwoods” are trees 9.0” DBH and greater
- “Pulpwood-sized Hardwoods” are trees with a DBH from 5.0” to 10.9”; “Sawtimber-sized Hardwoods” are trees 11.0” DBH and greater

Both the “average annual net growth” and “average annual harvest removals” statistics are for the period 2001 to 2014 and are based on trees with a minimum DBH of 5.0”.

The volume, net growth, and removals data for “sawtimber-sized” trees accounts for volume up to a 4” top, not just the sawlog portion of the tree.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roundwood Availability</th>
<th>Roundwood Availability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leroy, Alabama</td>
<td>Bay Minette, Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softwood Pulpwood-sized Tree Volume within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</td>
<td>Softwood Pulpwood-sized Tree Volume within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50,777,490 tons</td>
<td>34,482,629 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardwood Pulpwood-sized Tree Volume within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</td>
<td>Hardwood Pulpwood-sized Tree Volume within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53,913,303 tons</td>
<td>39,074,418 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softwood Sawtimber-sized Tree Volume within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</td>
<td>Softwood Sawtimber-sized Tree Volume within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>136,043,365 tons</td>
<td>87,484,590 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardwood Sawtimber-sized Tree Volume within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</td>
<td>Hardwood Sawtimber-sized Tree Volume within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97,383,707 tons</td>
<td>67,140,717 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Annual Net Growth of Pulpwood-sized Softwoods within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</strong></td>
<td><strong>Average Annual Net Growth of Pulpwood-sized Softwoods within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,178,448 tons</td>
<td>2,278,142 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Annual Net Growth of Pulpwood-sized Hardwoods within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</strong></td>
<td><strong>Average Annual Net Growth of Pulpwood-sized Hardwoods within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,339,190 tons</td>
<td>785,372 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Annual Net Growth of Sawtimber-sized Softwoods within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</strong></td>
<td><strong>Average Annual Net Growth of Sawtimber-sized Softwoods within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,513,735 tons</td>
<td>5,268,805 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Annual Net Growth of Sawtimber-sized Hardwoods within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</strong></td>
<td><strong>Average Annual Net Growth of Sawtimber-sized Hardwoods within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,390,094 tons</td>
<td>1,572,512 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Annual Harvest Removals of Pulpwood-sized Softwoods within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</strong></td>
<td><strong>Average Annual Harvest Removals of Pulpwood-sized Softwoods within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,154,004 tons</td>
<td>1,945,407 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Annual Harvest Removals of Pulpwood-sized Hardwoods within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</strong></td>
<td><strong>Average Annual Harvest Removals of Pulpwood-sized Hardwoods within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,150,323 tons</td>
<td>675,941 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Annual Harvest Removals of Sawtimber-sized Softwoods within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</strong></td>
<td><strong>Average Annual Harvest Removals of Sawtimber-sized Softwoods within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7,734,156 tons</td>
<td>4,374,437 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Annual Harvest Removals of Sawtimber-sized Hardwoods within 60 miles of Leroy, Alabama</strong></td>
<td><strong>Average Annual Harvest Removals of Sawtimber-sized Hardwoods within 60 miles of Bay Minette, Alabama</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,385,575 tons</td>
<td>678,267 tons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>