

The Inventory

Issue 52
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An Update Concerning the SRS FIA Program

SRS FIA Information Update

I realize that this topic has been discussed in this section of the newsletter in the past, but personnel change is a constant within FIA. In spite of this change in staff, the SRS FIA Program continues to move forward. There are many reasons for this stability but one of the main reasons is the “institutional” nature of the FIA Program—the work gets done regardless of the individuals involved in delivering the FIA Program.

All of the above is true, but once again one of the critical positions is retiring at the end of December 2018—Ali Conner. Ali has been leading the SRS FIA Information Management (IM) Section for the past 15+ years. She has been a great leader, manager, and supervisor of the IM Section. In addition, she has worked at the National FIA level helping to deliver the FIA Program. She was instrumental as the Project Manager in moving FIA from four regional data collection, processing, and reporting functions for Timber Product Outputs (TPO) to a National system for TPO. This is just one of her many accomplishments. It has been said before concerning other retirees, and it’s also true for Ali—**she will be missed!** We wish her the best of luck in her upcoming retirement.

There are other personnel changes—see discussion later in this edition of *The Inventory*.

If you have any technical questions regarding FIA, please submit those questions to Janet Griffin (janetgriffin@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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National Forest Inventory Data Analysis Training Held in the Democratic Republic of Congo

For more information, contact KaDonna Randolph at 865-862-2024 or krandolph@fs.fed.us.

During the first week of October, 2018, KaDonna Randolph, research mathematical statistician, and Jim Alegria (Forest Service, retired) led a four-day training on national forest inventory data analysis for FIA's equivalent in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) known as DIAF (Direction des Inventaires et Aménagement Forestiers). This International Programs-sponsored training was held in Kinshasa, DRC, in partnership with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), SilvaCarbon, and the

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. The training consisted of classroom instruction on probability and statistics with direct application to population-level estimation of forest area, tree density, aboveground biomass, and biodiversity. The ten DIAF participants were presented certificates of completion by the Secretary General of the DRC Ministère de l'Environnement et Développement Durable (Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development).

Participants, trainers, and other invited guests celebrate the completion of the Training on National Forest Inventory Data Analysis in Kinshasa, DRC. (photo by Alyssa Dongo, U.S. Forest Service International Programs)



KaDonna Randolph provides instruction to participants of the Training on National Forest Inventory Data Analysis in Kinshasa, DRC. (photo by Olivia Freeman, U.S. Forest Service International Programs)



Staffing Changes in SRS FIA

Ali Conner is retiring at the end of December, 2018. Ali has been leading the SRS FIA Information Management (IM) Section for the past 15+ years. She has been a great leader, manager, and supervisor of the IM Section. In addition, she has worked at the National FIA level helping to deliver the FIA Program. She was instrumental as the Project Manager in moving FIA from four regional data collection, processing, and reporting functions for Timber Product Outputs (TPO) to a National system for TPO. Currently Jeff Turner is in a 120-day detail as the acting Section Head for the Information Management group.

Robert Lee is the new SRS FIA Deputy Program Manager as of October 29, 2018. Robert began his career in forestry as a youth working with his father and his six brothers in the family logging business. His father, who is now 86 years old, purchased timber sales from the Forest Service on the Conecuh Ranger District located in South Alabama. At age 15 he landed a summer job with the Forest Service as a member of the Youth Conservation Corp (YCC) which was a program designed to expose young people to the natural resource field. After receiving his degree in Forest Management at Auburn University he began his career with the Forest Service on the Tuskegee Ranger District in 1988 as a GS-04 Timber Marker. Since that time, he has served in numerous roles with the

FS—on the National Forests in Mississippi, on the Cherokee National Forest assisting with the coordination of the 1996 Olympic Canoe and Kayak Event held on the Ocoee River, as Operations Team Leader during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, as the Deputy Director of Renewable Resources in Region 2, also Acting Director of Renewable Resources in Region 2, acting Area Supervisor at the Land Between the Lakes in Kentucky, acting Forest Supervisor on the Kisatchie National Forest in Louisiana, and the acting Deputy Forest Supervisor on the Coronado National Forest in Arizona. On a personal note, Robert indicated what is most important to him is “wholesome communication and fostering good relationships.” Welcome aboard Robert!

Five new field crew members have started with SRS FIA, all based in Louisiana. Alan Oglesbee is in his second stint with SRS FIA in Hammond, LA. Josh Kirby comes to us from the RMRS FIA field staff and will be working out of Pineville, LA. He is paired with Dylan Schneider who comes from the Superior National Forest in Minnesota. The final two field staff—Brad Bailey, who comes with 12 years of prior FIA experience with the Texas Forest Service, and Alyssa Reid who comes to us from the White Mountain NF in New Hampshire. Both will be based in Ruston, LA. Welcome to SRS FIA!

*For more information,
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FY 2019 Publications Published since September, 2018

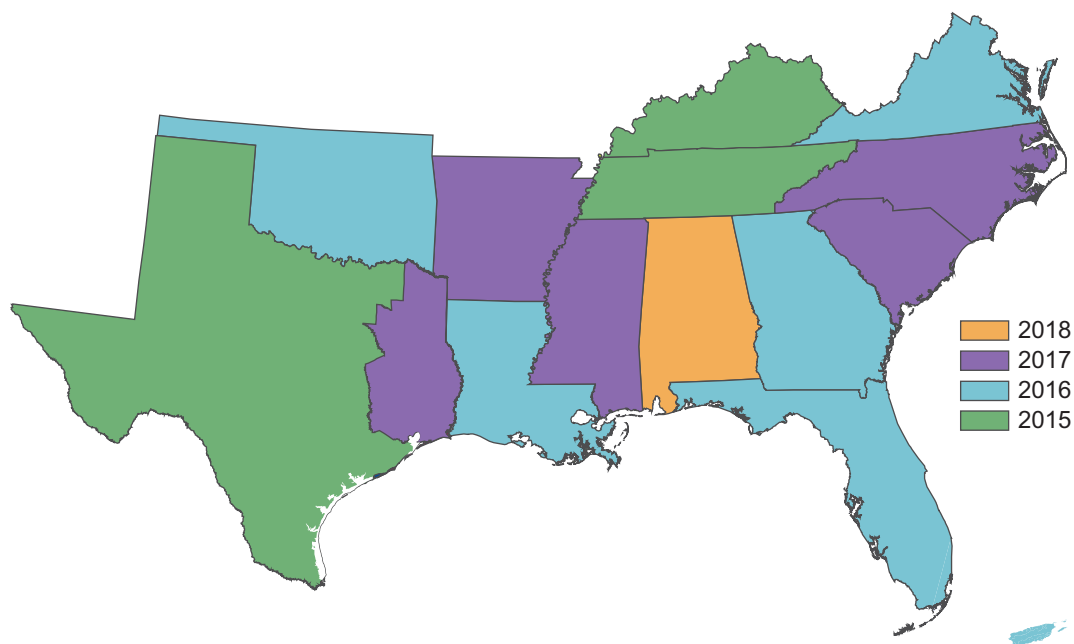
Berg, E.C.; Zarnoch, S.J.; McNab, W.H. 2018. Twenty-year survivorship of tree seedlings in wind-created gaps in an upland hardwood forest in the eastern US. *New Forests*. 22 p. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11056-018-9685-x>.

Dooley, K. 2018. *Forests of Oklahoma, 2016*. Resource Update FS-177. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p. <https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/57293>.

Greenberg, C.H.; Zarnoch, S.J.; Austin, J.D. 2018. Long term amphibian monitoring at wetlands lacks power to detect population trends. *Biological Conservation*. 228: 120–131. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2018.10.015>.

Lambert, S.; Brandeis, T. 2018. *Forests of Georgia, 2016*. Resource Update FS-176. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 4 p. <https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/57243>.

Current Status of FIA Data Posted



For more information,
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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	2016	Apr., 2018	10:2019	68
Arkansas	2016	Mar., 2018	11:2018	82
Florida	2014	Dec., 2017	10:2017	54
Georgia	2015	June, 2018	11:2018	32
Kentucky	2016	June, 2018	08:2017	32
Louisiana	2016	Oct., 2017	09:2017	54
Mississippi	2016	Mar., 2018	10:2018	80
North Carolina	2016	Nov., 2018	10:2019	13
Oklahoma (east)	2015	Jan., 2018	09:2017	100
Oklahoma (west)	2009	Mar., 2018	02:2017	42
Puerto Rico	2016	Nov., 2017	06:2018	83
South Carolina	2017	Apr., 2018	12:2018	73
Tennessee	2016	Sep., 2018	10:2017	26
Texas (east)	2013	Feb., 2018	10:2018	87
Texas (west)	2015	Nov., 2018	02:2017	9
U.S. Virgin Islands	2014	Sep., 2014	03:2014	100
Virginia	2017	Aug., 2018	11:2018	83

Information compiled December 21, 2018.

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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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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.

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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/>