

Southern Research Station

Our mission is to create the science and technology needed to sustain and enhance southern forest ecosystems and the benefits they provide.



Cover Photo: Recording plot data for Forest Inventory and Monitoring; fish: Niangua darter (Ethestorna nianguae).





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Caring for the Land and Serving People

FY02 Accomplishment Summary October 2001 – September 2002

Research work units
Publications. 778 Refereed publications. 285
Web sites (research work units)
Publications (SRS) online. 2,700 Publication requests filled
Hard copy
Site tours
To scientific and professional societies
International activities
Conservation Education Intern Program contacts 3,000
Total Employees. 469 Scientists. 125
Initial budget (research funds only) \$ 44,506,000
Awards/Grants to States, universities, and other Federal agencies (all funds). \$9,910,000
External funding received from non-Federal Sources and other Federal agencies. \$4,300,000
Collaborating organizations. 101



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From the Director



t is with great pride that I provide you with this year's edition of *Forest Science in the South*. This report highlights many accomplishments from this past fiscal year, October 2001 through September 2002 (FY02), and describes some of our current and emerging research priorities. In FY02, our budget and program of work were affected by national firefighting needs, but I am pleased to say that we made progress on much significant research, in spite of staffing and spending limitations.

The USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station (SRS) contributes to quality of life in the South by providing the knowledge and technology needed to sustain and enjoy the benefits of the region's forests and waterways. Our scientific workforce collaborates with other scientists in the public and private sectors to produce research results that are useful to forest landowners and managers, commodity associations, conservation groups, educators, legislative bodies, and other agencies.

I am particularly proud of the release of the final documents for the Southern Forest Resource Assessment, which was completed in collaboration with USDA Forest Service Southern Region, other Federal agencies, and State forestry and natural resource agencies. The cooperative Southern Wildland-Urban Interface Assessment was also completed, although it was not printed until after the new fiscal year began in October. The SRS was a sponsoring partner of the Southern Forest Science Conference held in November 2001. Conference objectives were to celebrate past accomplishments and create a vision for the future of southern forestry research and management. Our partnership with Alabama A&M University for the Forest Service's multicultural recruitment initiative has been especially rewarding — the University's forestry program has been accredited by the Society of American Foresters. It is the first historically black university to achieve this standing.

Among the recognition for our employees was the Chief's Award for Safety and Occupational Health, which was presented to the Wildlife Habitat and Timber Resources research work unit in Nacogdoches, TX, to recognize an outstanding health and safety record, while working with unusual hazards, including venomous snakes.

These are just a few of the highlights from this past year; many more are briefly described in the following section. I encourage you to contact us with any questions you may have about the work that we do.

Web site: <u>www.srs.fs.fed.us</u> or <u>www.srs.fs.usda.gov</u>

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