



## TENNESSEE

### FOREST SERVICE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

STATE FUNDING HISTORY	Enacted FY 2003 (\$)	Enacted FY 2004 (\$)	Pres. Budg. FY 2005 (\$)
<b>KNOXVILLE</b>			
SRS-4801 Forest Inventory & Analysis	10,626,000	12,573,000	12,717,458
<b>TENNESSEE TOTAL</b>	<b>10,626,000</b>	<b>12,573,000</b>	<b>12,717,458</b>

**RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT**, a division of the USDA Forest Service (FS R&D), strives to be the "go to" organization for information and solutions to sustain forests and rangelands and the values they provide people. FS R&D has the flexibility to address today's issues effectively and to respond to tomorrow's needs. Among the world's leaders in forest conservation research, scientists contribute to the stewardship of land, real property and society by providing research results that help create jobs and affordable homes, and improve the health of trees, forests and forest ecosystems. Innovative research products permit the Forest Service and other public and private land managers to monitor and manage forest responses to environmental change, contributing significantly to the sustainability of the nation's forests and rangelands and improving human health.

FS R&D operates six research stations, the Forest Products Laboratory, and the International Institute of Tropical Forestry located in Puerto Rico. It employs over 500 scientists and hundreds of

technical and support personnel at 67 field sites throughout the nation. The FY 2005 President's Budget includes \$280,654,000 for Forest and Rangeland Research.

The **Southern Research Station**, with headquarters in Asheville, NC, and 26 Research Work Units in 11 States, conducts forest research in laboratories, on university campuses, and at experimental forests in the 13 Southern States (i.e., FL, LA, OK, NC, KY, GA, SC, TN, MS, TX, AR, AL, and VA). The Station recently moved the headquarters of its Southern Forest Inventory & Analysis unit to Knoxville.

The FY 2005 President's Budget includes \$50,640,000 for the Southern Research Station, an increase of \$1,304,000 over the FY 2004 Final Appropriation.

#### KNOXVILLE

**SRS-4801, Forest Inventory & Analysis (FIA) of Southern States.** The Forest Inventory & Analysis (FIA) unit is headquartered in Knoxville,

TN, with subunit locations in Asheville, NC and Starkville, MS. The FIA unit develops, analyzes, and maintains forest resources information for Southern States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands; and conducts research to provide improved inventory and evaluation techniques. The Forest Inventory and Analysis program includes plot-based forest health indicators along with comprehensive forest inventory data to provide information on the status, trends, and condition of forest resources. Annualized forest inventories are currently being implemented across the South. Researchers in the Forest Inventory and Analysis unit are conducting annual inventories in Tennessee, in collaboration with the State. The within-State costs for annual inventory field data collection amount to approximately \$390,000.

**SRS-4251 subunit, Integrated Management of Wildlife Habitat and Timber Resources.** The majority of this Research Work Unit is located on the campus of Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX. One scientist is located on The University of Tennessee, Knoxville campus, site of the multi-agency Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit for the Southern Appalachians that facilitates collaboration with other scientists in the region. The scientist conducts research on neotropical migratory birds. The project leader is based in Nacogdoches, TX.

#### **FY 2005 PROGRAM CHANGES**

- The FY 2005 President's Budget calls for increased research in areas associated with the President's Healthy Forests Initiative, including invasive species impacts, and the

expansion of technology transfer activities. The FY 2005 President's Budget also provides new funding for research on water quality and quantity issues; and funding to cover inflationary fixed cost increases.

- Forest Service Research and Development will lead an Agency-wide effort to optimize the delivery and practical use of research findings. This is essential to successful implementation of Forest Service priorities, including the President's Healthy Forest Initiative. Opportunities have been identified that leverage current science and technology applications efforts in healthy forests applied science, watershed management, invasive species, hazardous fuels utilization and management, and community preparedness. New funds in FY 2005 will be targeted to leading-edge technical assistance on a competitive basis.
- An increase of \$143,047 will be provided to unit SRS-4801 to cover fixed cost (facilities, salaries, utilities, etc.).

#### **SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH RODUCTS**

- Continued working with State Foresters to implement annual forest inventory techniques to monitor forest resources information for the South. The Station is working collaboratively with 10 States to conduct annual forest inventories. FIA information is used extensively to assess resource sustainability by State forestry agencies, forest industry, consultants, national forests, and NGOs. Analytical and reporting accomplishments included distribution of FIA data to State Foresters in Kentucky, North Carolina, Texas,

and Virginia; and public release of FIA data for South Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, Tennessee, and Arkansas.

- Timber product output reports were published for Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Louisiana; a Southern Pulpwood Production Report for 2001 was issued, and a Southern Regional Timber Product Output Assessment for 1999 was completed.
- SRS scientists developed GIS-based avian habitat models for birds in the Southern Appalachians using a combination of statistical procedures, remotely sensed landscape-level and site-specific parameters, and empirical bird data. This work was done in collaboration with the University of Tennessee and Mississippi State University.
- Assessed the potential impact of nest predation on the threatened Florida scrub-jay population in the Ocala National Forest of Florida.

#### **SOME CLIENTS/COLLABORATORS**

Great Smoky Mountains National Park  
Mississippi State University  
National Council for Air & Stream Improvement  
National Forests in Region 8  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
Southern Group of State Foresters  
Tennessee Division of Forestry  
Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency  
University of Georgia  
University of Tennessee