

AN OVERVIEW OF SOUTH CAROLINA'S SUSTAINABLE FOREST RESOURCES

A McIntire-Stennis supported project

Forestry is South Carolina's leading manufacturing industry in jobs and payroll, and the total economic impact of the state's forest industry is around \$21 billion annually.

But while the state's forests produce timber and jobs, they also provide a backdrop for a desirable quality of life — beautiful landscapes, clean water and air, wildlife habitat, recreation, carbon storage and soil protection.

In order to quantify those resources, Clemson University Professor Tom Straka is developing an analysis of the state's timber supply and valuation of its forest resources that specifically addresses long-term timber supply related to the state's future use and development of these resources.

One important aspect the analysis that will be highlighted is the cost of using one resource on the availability of the remaining resources. This will provide answers to such questions as: How will increased harvest of timber impact wildlife or recreation and, in turn, how will increased recreation impact the amount of timber available for harvest?

The project will also develop a descriptive analysis of historical changes in the forestland and timber base in South Carolina and further describe the resulting current conditions and situation, especially in terms of major trends that are expected to impact the structure of the future forest.



About McIntire-Stennis

The McIntire-Stennis program, a unique federal-state partnership, cultivates and delivers forestry and natural resource innovations for a better future. By advancing research and education that increases the understanding of emerging challenges and fosters the development of relevant solutions, the McIntire-Stennis program has ensured healthy resilient forests and communities and an exceptional natural resources workforce since 1962.



IMPACT

The outcomes of the project will be extremely useful to forest policy makers and forest resource analysts in South Carolina, as well as result in publications that will provide useful background on the state's forest resources to the general public for increased awareness.



84,424

The number of jobs attributed to South Carolina's forestry industry according to a 2014 fact sheet from the South Carolina Forestry Commission.



\$4.5 billion

The total payroll attributed to the state's forestry industry, making it South Carolina's leading manufacturing industry in that regard.



12.6 million

South Carolina's forestland acreage remains stable, averaging this many acres since 1968.