

BY THE NUMBERS

SC FORESTRY FACTS & FIGURES: FY2018-19

Forest Management

- ▶ 2,013 landowners assisted
- ▶ 1,141 cost-share, stewardship and/or woodland exams performed, covering 73,558 acres
- ▶ SCFC personnel conducted 13,093 acres of prescribed burns, plowed 910 miles of firebreaks, performed 3,389 acres of prescribed-burn standbys and installed 135 waterbars



Fire Statistics

- ▶ 995 wildfires
- ▶ 4,128 forested acres burned
- ▶ 709 non-forested acres burned
- ▶ 543 fires caused by debris burning, the no. 1 cause in SC (54.6% of all wildfires in SC in FY2018-19)
- ▶ 322,978 burn notifications handled by automated call center
- ▶ 10-year average: 1,764 fires / 12,046 acres burned



Fire Response

- ▶ The Commission's three dispatch centers field between 26,000 and 55,000 calls every year
- ▶ The average dispatch time for wildfires in FY2018-19 was 2 minutes, 22 seconds
- ▶ The average response time between report of wildfire and arrival of initial attack warden was 37.87 minutes



Investment

- ▶ \$104 million in forestry capital projects announced in FY2018-19
- ▶ 98 primary mills
- ▶ ~800 secondary mills
- ▶ 47,000+ forest industry jobs
- ▶ \$2.58 billion in labor income



Ownership

- ▶ More than 200,000 forest landowners in SC
- ▶ 87% of SC forests are privately owned
- ▶ 63% of private forests are family-owned
- ▶ The average "family forest" is 80 acres. 56% of these owners have their primary residence on the land
- ▶ Forest industries own 330,000 acres, down 84% since 2001
- ▶ Public agencies manage 13% of South Carolina's forests



Enforcement

- ▶ 38 sworn officers
- ▶ 223 fire investigations
- ▶ 43 fire tickets, 12 violations of state forest regulations, 2 pine straw theft cases, 11 game and fish cases, and 5 miscellaneous cases
- ▶ 3 arrests made for woods arson
- ▶ 112 timber theft/fraud cases
- ▶ \$7,234 in fines collected
- ▶ 78% or \$272,313 of timber theft/fraud losses recovered for victims



Wood Supply



- ▶ 12.9 million acres of forestland, composed of 52% hardwood and 48% softwood
- ▶ SC's forests now contain 26.6 billion cubic feet of wood, more than at any time in the past century
- ▶ There are 2 million more acres of forestland in SC than there were in 1936.
- ▶ The state's forests, both hardwood and softwood, are growing more wood than is being harvested