

As a coalition of forestry agencies in 13 southeastern United States and the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, the mission of the Southern Group of State Foresters is to provide leadership in sustaining the economic, environmental and social benefits of the South's forests.





Our goal is to ensure the growth of healthy forests through sustainable management. We work with our partners to identify and address existing and emerging issues and challenges important to southern forests, landowners and citizens.

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## SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT FOR THE WORLD'S WOOD BASKET

- Promoting sound forest management practices that conserve the South's vast and diverse forest resources.
- Facilitating regional consistency on critical activities, such as wildlife suppression, water resource protection, insect and disease prevention and suppression, and reforestation.
- Coordinating state delivery of federally funded forest landowner assistance programs.
- Advocating for adequate funding to support the implementation of state and federally funded forestry programs.
- Supporting research that enhances the sustainable management of private forestland.

- Promoting prescribed burning and fire prevention assistance, fire-related law enforcement, timber theft investigations and assistance to volunteer fire departments.
- Promoting programs that improve forest health including prevention, detection and suppression of wildfire, diseases and insect infestations.
- Providing response and recovery assistance for disasters, such as hurricanes and tornados.
- Encouraging the development and maintenance of diverse and dynamic markets for forest products.
- Promoting programs and initiatives that encourage the retention and expansion of forestland for the public and private sectors.

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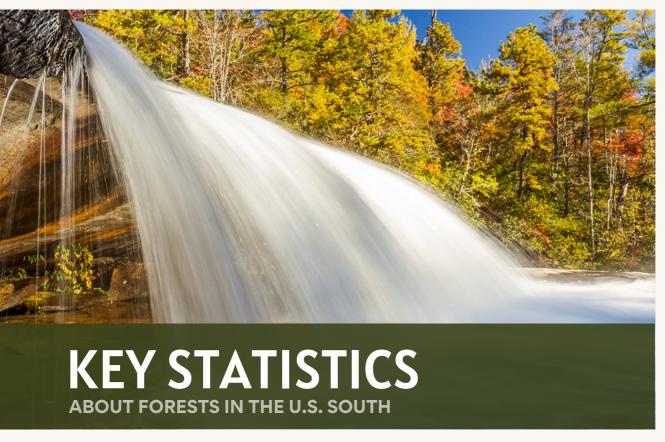
















245 MILLION ACRES OF SOUTHERN FORESTS



86% PRIVATELY OWNED



**56% OF SOUTHERN FRESH WATER RESOURCES** 

originate from forests that cover over 45% of the region.



## THE SOUTH IS KNOWN FOR HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE FORESTS

18% of the world's pulpwood for paper and paper-related products and 7% of its industrial roundwood.

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