CFEOR Endorsed Projects

Hardwood Sustainability Study

The Florida Division of Forestry is funding a Hardwood Sustainability Study at the Etoniah Creek State Forest in Putnam County, Florida. Shibu Jose, Associate Professor of Forest Ecology at the University of Florida, is leading the study.

Hardwood forests play a major role in the economy of the South. For example, hardwood chip exports from the South grew by 500% from 1989 to 1995, and now account for over 60% of all hardwood chips exported from the U.S.

The mixed hardwood forests of Florida have received little attention in the past for management purposes. Global demand for pulp and paper products is placing an increased burden on Florida’s hardwood forests. Nearly all of the hardwood used by mills in the region comes from unmanaged natural stands. Some of these are converted to pine plantations following clearcutting, but others are left high-graded.

Not surprisingly, industry experts fear that removal of hardwoods in the region will exceed growth within the foreseeable future due to their expanded use in the manufacture of pulp and paper.

Can we manage these hardwood forests in a sustainable manner? Is clearcutting the only option available for landowners? Can we also introduce two aged systems like Shelterwood or uneven-aged systems like selection for the management of these forests? Is planting mixed-species on cutover sites or high-graded sites an option for landowners? These are questions that have no answers.

This will be a long-term study of five silvicultural harvest regimes: clearcutting, clearcutting followed by mixed species planting, single tree selection, group selection, and shelterwood. For more information on the hardwood sustainability study, contact Shibu Jose at sjose@ufl.edu.

Upcoming CFEOR Meeting

There will be a CFEOR Steering, Science, and Outreach Committee meeting sometime in November at the Austin Cary Memorial Forest in Gainesville, FL. More information on dates and agendas will be coming soon. Please contact Laura Sadowski at lap322@ufl.edu or 352-846-0546.
**Upcoming Conferences**

- **Florida Forestry Association 2007 Annual Meeting**
  “Extreme Makeover: Forestry Addition”
  September 5-6 at Sawgrass Marriott Resort in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
  For more information visit [http://www.floridaforest.org/](http://www.floridaforest.org/)

- **Southeastern Society of American Foresters (SESAF) 2007 Annual Meeting**
  “Keeping Forests in Forests: The Dilemma of Private Forests in the 21st Century”
  September 23-25 at Sandestin Beach Hilton in Destin, FL
  For more information visit [http://www.sesaf.org/annual07.php](http://www.sesaf.org/annual07.php)

- **Florida Firewise Conference**
  Protecting Florida Communities from Wildfire
  October 2-3 at Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando, FL

- **Deer and Turkey Management Short Course-UF/IFAS Extension**
  October 4-5 at UF’s North Florida Research & Education Center-Quincy, FL

- **3rd Annual Florida Quail & Dove Management Short Course-UF/IFAS Extension**
  October 19 at Turner-Civic Center in Arcadia, FL
  [http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/Agricultural/wildlife_and_conservation.html](http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/Agricultural/wildlife_and_conservation.html)

- **Confronting the Cogongrass Crisis Across the South**
  November 7-8 at Arthur R. Outlaw Mobile Convention Center in Mobile, AL

- **Public Land Acquisition & Management Partnership Conference**
  Hosted by the Southwest Florida Water Management District
  December 5-7 Hyatt Hotel in Sarasota, FL

**Recent Research Findings**

*Forest Landowner Cooperatives in the United States: A Local Focus for Engaging Landowners*

Family Forest owners are showing an increasing interest in forest landowner cooperatives as a mechanism for providing a variety of services related to sustainable forest management and product processing. Because these cooperatives are locally owned, user-controlled, small-scale participatory entities, they can more easily adapt to member needs than some other landowner assistance programs.

Key issues related to improving cooperative effectiveness include (1) expanding membership to enhance leadership and volunteer assistance, (2) improving marketing efforts, and (3) developing better networks within the local community, with other forestry cooperatives, and with organizations that offer assistance to cooperatives.