



ASA HUTCHINSON
GOVERNOR

ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION
ARKANSAS LIVESTOCK & POULTRY COMMISSION
ARKANSAS STATE PLANT BOARD

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WES WARD
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

February 8, 2019

The Honorable Larry Teague
Arkansas Senate
State Capitol

The Honorable Lane Jean
Arkansas House of Representatives
State Capitol

Re: Arkansas Forestry Commission monthly activity report for January 2019

Dear Senator Teague and Representative Jean:

Per Section 42 of Act 841 of the 2018 Regular Session, the Arkansas Forestry Commission (AFC) is to report monthly fiscal and agency activities to the Arkansas Legislative Council or the Joint Budget Committee when the Legislature is in session. Please find attached the report for January 2019.

The Arkansas Forestry Association (AFA) sponsored Forestry Day at the Capitol on January 22. The AFC hosted a booth which celebrated Smokey Bear's 75th birthday.

Smokey, posed for pictures while staff from AFC answered questions about fire prevention. Then all had birthday cake.

It is estimated that more than 200 people were in attendance for this event.

Respectfully yours,

ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION



Joe S. Fox

cc: DFA Director Larry Walther
Secretary of Agriculture Wes Ward





ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION

January 2019 Activity and Fiscal Report

FIRE PROTECTION

Wildfires: During January a total of 14 wildfires were suppressed for a total of 82 acres burned. Ten-year average for the month of January is 126 wildfires for 1795 acres burned.

Search and Rescue Assistance: Five Arkansas Forestry Commission (AFC) rangers assisted in a search and rescue for an elderly man around Highway 70 in the Glenwood area in Pike County.

Two AFC rangers assisted in a search and rescue for a couple that had been riding an ATV and became lost in the US National Forest. This was in the north part of Crawford County just a few miles southwest of Devil's Den State Park.

Rural Fire Protection: Rural Fire Protection (RFP) assists fire departments (FDs) with organization, training and equipment. RFP provides interest-free loans, secures firefighting and emergency service equipment from the federal government, and administers a federal grant to assist approximately 1,000 fire departments. The RFP shop provides maintenance to property destined for FD's and repairs AFC equipment.

January 2019

- 51 fire departments, (147 firefighters), were provided wildland fire training.
- RFP received two brush trucks (valued at \$44,752.00) and three Freightliner trucks (valued at \$464,806.00)
- There were six Department of Defense (DOD) vehicles issued to FDs, four Freightliners (valued at \$664,892.00), two brush trucks (valued at \$146,267.33), as well as two generators (valued at \$63,077.00) and one hydro pressure cleaner (valued at \$11,863.58)
- There was one conex box (valued at \$11,900.00) issued to AFC's D7/White Co. office.
- 175 DOD Recycling Control Point (RCP) items were received for redistribution to FDs and AFC (valued at \$74,404.16) to include, hand warmers, sleeping bags, small diesel generators and hydraulic hand jacks.

- The RFP shop completed maintenance on ten AFC vehicles and equipment as well as five DOD vehicles.
- RFP provided two interest free loans via the Rural Fire Revolving Loan Fund.

Hermitage VFD	'96 HME Pumper	\$15,000.00	D-1	Bradley Co.
Pine Snag-Lobo	'18 Dodge 2500	\$15,000.00	D-7	Cleburne Co.

- 2018 VFA Grant: Purchase order was issued for remaining personal protective equipment (PPE) order. Expected delivery sometime in the latter part of March.
- 2019 Annual Rural Fire Show: Vendors that attended last year's fire show have been invited to this year's event. Registration packets have been emailed.

Firewise: Firewise staff and district personnel work with fire departments and civic organizations to make communities safer from the threat of wildfire through mitigation projects and community education initiatives. Arkansas has 77 active Firewise communities. Recognized communities display Firewise signs at the city limits.

Firewise achieved the following in **January**:

- Delivered one initial program training
- Met with two communities to discuss returning to the program
- Presented one community with National Recognition trophy and signage
- Assisted one community with paperwork
- Attended Forestry Day at Capitol
- Delivered program overview and update to D2 personnel

Law Enforcement: AFC has the authority to enforce the laws of the State of Arkansas, but focuses primarily on unlawful dumping, timber theft, forest fires, and forestry equipment theft and vandalism. AFC aggressively seeks prosecution of violators to deter such crimes. AFC Investigators and district law enforcement officers opened one AFC property, one agency assist, fourteen dumping, one fire related and eight timber theft cases. They closed eleven dumping and four timber theft cases.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Forest Stewardship/Rural Forestry Assistance Programs: AFC works with a diverse group of partners and professionals to conserve, protect, and enhance Arkansas's forests. The Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) is an opportunity for non-industrial private forest landowners who are interested in managing their property for wildlife, recreation, soil and water conservation, agro-forestry and/or for timber production to get a comprehensive multiple use forest management plan that is prepared by private consulting or AFC foresters, private consulting or

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC) private lands wildlife biologists, and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service soil and water professionals. Arkansas has 393,995 acres of private land actively enrolled in the Forest Stewardship Program. Landowners that implement practices under their FSP management plans become Certified Forest Stewards. There are 1,239 Forest Stewards owning 277,677 acres in the State.

For January, eleven FSP plans were prepared on 1,440 acres. In addition, AFC personnel provide technical assistance through the rural forestry program to landowners that are enrolled in USDA tree planting and forest management programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Wetland Reserve Program, and AFC Southern Pine Beetle Prevention and Restoration Program. AFC foresters prepared 50 forest management practice plans on 3,473 acres. AFC personnel conducted four prescribed burns on 90 acres.

Urban Forestry Assistance: Urban Forestry Program staff provides assistance and training to communities, educational institutions, non-profit organizations, developers and homeowners on urban tree care, inventory and management.

January 2019

- Reviewed Tree City USA applications and assisted several communities with the recertification process.
- Attended the Arkansas Municipal League winter conference and manned a booth providing information about AFC services to communities.
- Attended the Southern Group of State Foresters (SGSF) Urban & Community Forestry Committee winter meeting in GA.
- Met with community leaders in Clinton, Hardy, Pine Bluff and Mammoth Springs to provide guidance on their Tree City USA programs.
- Wrote article for the Arkansas Municipal League City & Town magazine on pruning trees.

Forest Health: The Forest Health Specialist assists AFC personnel statewide in efforts to maintain healthy, productive forest ecosystems by preventing, detecting, monitoring, and suppressing damaging insects and diseases. AFC offers technical assistance to landowners who encounter forest health issues.

- Staff trained 30 AFC field technicians with the Insect and Disease Recognition Course. This is a requirement of Ranger IIs.
- Staff attended the Southern Group of State Foresters, Forest Health Committee in Savannah, GA. This annual meeting helps states plan their forest health activities for the new calendar year. It also encourages collaborative forest health projects.
- At the meeting staff aided a committee to develop a new process for the Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) Detection Survey. This will result in faster trap data submission through Survey123 and faster SPB risk analysis for the entire southern region.

Reforestation: AFC's tree improvement program strives to provide landowners with the highest possible genetic gain in pine and hardwood seed. One method AFC employs to achieve this objective is by establishing the highest genetic gain material in our newest pine and hardwood seed orchards. AFC Baucum Nursery then makes available to landowners the improved varieties of pine and hardwood, which are the net result of the tree improvement program.

With assistance from District 5, staff collected data from 1,000 trees at the Donaldson progeny test.

Staff gave presentation on tree improvement and nursery to the Central Arkansas Master Naturalists on 1-17-19 at the Witt Stephens Central Arkansas Nature Center. There were 50 in attendance.

Staff met Fred Raley, Director of Western Gulf Forest Tree Improvement Program and two members of his staff at Baucum Nursery and developed maps for thinning the cherrybark oak progeny tests in preparation for seed production areas.

Baucum Nursery: AFC's Baucum Nursery produces hardwood and pine seedlings for reforestation and afforestation efforts.

Seedling sales began on July 15, through January 31st, there were 587 online orders and 125 traditional orders. Total sales of 1,098,145 pine and 5,935,675 hardwood. Comparatively, in the same period in FY 18, there were 636 online orders and 158 traditional orders. Total sales of 1,238,725 pine and 5,083,736 hardwood.

Baucum Nursery staff completed the following during the month of January:

- Lifted and packed the following:
 - 331,500 pine
 - 2,618,975 hardwood
 - Total seedlings packed = 2,950,475
- Shipped the following:
 - 2,876,125 hardwood
 - 255,825 pine
- Began removing rogue trees in improved cherrybark orchard.
- Installed new front gate and fence.
- Planted 1,000 lbs of black walnut for 2020 crop.

Tree Improvement:

During the month of January, the Bluff City Tree Improvement staff completed the following:

- Pruned lower limbs in orchard 1714.
- Planted new grafts in orchard 1718.

- Bush hogged progeny test at Donaldson.
- Bush hogged David Barr progeny test.
- Moved 1,500 pine rootstock into greenhouse for grafting.
- Completed inventory for production orchards.
- Began cutting scion material for grafting.

Best Management Practices (BMP): AFC provides BMP training to loggers and timber companies, conducts courtesy exams prior or during timber harvest operations and addresses logging complaints.

BMP achieved the following in **January 2019**:

- Compiled complaint report for Newton Co. and submitted to Law Enforcement Officer.
- Recall work on BMP truck.
- Sent BMP information to consultant for newsletter.
- Attended Forest Action Plan meeting.
- Attended Forestry Day at Capital and gave booklets out.
- Submitted 319(h) grant to Arkansas Natural Resource Commission (ANRC).
- Received BMP review information from Georgia Forestry Commission.
- Contacted Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) about complaint report in Izard County.
- Contacted by AFC Ranger in Izard County on a complaint that was sent in.

Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA): AFC in cooperation with USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station is responsible for collecting scientific data from permanently established plots located all over the state. The plots, each representing 5,937 acres, are strategically located on a three-mile by three-mile grid. The inventory plots have been generating data since they were established in the 1950's. Natural resource managers use the data to make management decisions and follow Arkansas' natural resource trends through time.

FIA completed 70 plots for the month of January. We are now 94% complete with INV2018. We should finish this month.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

.	Balance
4020014000 TIMBER SEVERANCE	(268,683.13)
** SR (3.0) - Taxes	(268,683.13)
4030002000 ACREAGE TAX	(417,770.00)
4031076000 FIRE PROTECT/SUPP	0.00
** SR (1.5) - Taxes	(417,770.00)
4038001000 TIMBER SALES	(133,978.38)

4038003000 SEEDLING SALES	(32,086.00)	
** SR (1.5)- Sales of Agency Produce	(166,064.38)	
4042001000 FINES	(50.00)	
** OR - Fines and Penalties	(50.00)	
4043002100 NBR LICENSE & PERMIT	0.00	
** OR - Licenses and Permits	0.00	
4044002000 FACILITIES RENT	(1,010.00)	
** OR - Rents	(1,010.00)	
4046002000 NON-OP DONATIONS	(200.00)	
4047002000 OTHER SALES	(30,000.00)	Fire Equipment
4047021000 OPERATING DONATIONS	0.00	
4047041000 VOLUME REBATES	0.00	
4047099600 NBR - Other	0.00	
6200003000 Other Donations	0.00	
** OR - Miscellaneous	(30,200.00)	
4047001600 PAYMENT FOR SERVICES	(10,763.50)	Prescribed Burn/Fire Lane
4048001000 SALE COPIES PUBS	(782.75)	Trees of AR
4048019000 RESALES	(30,220.97)	Fire Equipment
4053001200 NBR SALE OF GDS & SV	0.00	
** OR - Sales of Goods and Services	(41,767.22)	
4049003000 INTEREST DISTRIB	(0.32)	
** OR - Investment Revenue	(0.32)	
4050001000 NONFED GRANTS/REIMB	0.00	
4050003000 OTH REFUNDS/REIMB	(179,365.19)	State of Oklahoma - COMPACT; DFA ownership refund
4057003000 UTILITY REIMBUR	0.00	
** OR - Grants and Reimbursements	(179,365.19)	
4050004000 FED GRANTS/REIMBURSE	0.00	
4050004100 NBR - Grant Rev.	(79,566.71)	
** Federal Grants and Reimbursements	(79,566.71)	
4090010000 3% SPECIAL REV FEES	8,060.49	
4090020000 1.5% SPL REV FEES	9,986.00	
4090030000 ADDITIONAL SR FEES	601.56	
** Treasury Charges	18,648.05	
5010001000 00 Regular Salaries	773,974.11	
5010001100 NBR - Personal Svs.	0.00	
5010001600 NBR - Emp Benefits	0.00	
5010002000 01 Extra Help Sal	9,173.00	
5010003000 06 Overtime Salaries	2,704.56	
5010005000 03 FICA & Medic Exp	56,115.44	
5010006000 03 Ben Ins Exp HAL	118,860.00	
5010006500 Agency Cost of ARCAP	4,024.23	
5010007000 03 Retirement Exp	119,266.28	
5010009000 03 Worker Comp Exp	12,248.54	
5010011000 16 Fixed Uniform All	400.00	
** Salary Expense	1,096,766.16	
5020001000 Postage	910.84	

5020002000	Telecomm Wired	12,274.93	
5020003000	Telecomm Wireless	18,812.92	
5020004000	Network Services Exp	4,408.46	
5020004200	Internet Serv-Tech	6,466.22	
5020005000	Freight	308.78	
5020006000	NBR Com & Trans Com	0.00	
** Communication & Transp. of Commod		43,182.15	
5030001000	Printing	616.60	Seedling Forms
5030001100	02-Print-AgenPub	0.00	
5030001200	LEGAL/MEDICAL		
COPYIN		(76.26)	Correction from December
5030002000	Bind Copy Collate	0.00	
5030003000	Advertise Clip Svc	125.60	AR Democrat Gazette - Statement of Legal Adv
5030004100	NBR Printing & Adv.	0.00	
** Printing & Advertising		665.94	
5030005000	02-Bldg & Grds Maint	17,745.28	
5030005100	Pest Control CI 02	720.18	
5030005300	02 CHILLER MAINT	0.00	
5030007000	Hauling & Moving Exp	2,551.69	
5030008000	Office Equip Maint	0.00	
5030009000	Telephone Repair Svc	0.00	
5030010000	Pub Safety Eq Maint	559.86	
5030011000	Ind Inst Equip Maint	4,903.51	
5030012000	02 - Vehicle Maint	9,429.11	
5030014000	Mar Avi Equip Maint	27,716.68	
5030017000	Software Maintenance	0.00	
5030021000	NBR - Repair & Serv.	449.85	
** Repairing & Servicing		64,076.16	
5040001000	Electricity	14,616.86	
5040002000	Electric Special Use	0.00	
5040003000	Water & Sewage	1,881.14	
5040003100	02 Water	0.00	
5040004000	Natural Gas Propane	8,593.56	
5040005000	Rent of Facilities	10,939.26	
5040006000	Lease Private Land	90.00	
5040007000	Rent of Office Equip	2,781.24	
5040011000	Other Rent & Leases	1,178.32	
5040012000	NBR -Utilities & Ren	198.88	
5040013000	Satellite/cable Serv	0.00	
** Utilities & Rent		40,279.26	
5050001000	02 Mileage	57.39	
5050002000	09 Mileage	53.32	
5050003100	02 - Meals	1,395.57	
5050003200	02 - Lodging	3,373.83	
5050004100	09 - Meals	0.00	
5050004200	09 - Lodging	213.64	
5050005000	02 Common Carrier	213.59	
5050009000	02 Ground Transport	0.00	
5050010000	09 Ground Transport	0.00	

5050011000 02 PRKNG FEES TRAVEL	101.71	
5050011100 02 VALIDATED PARKING	24.00	
5050012000 09 PRKNG FEES TRAVEL	0.00	
5050013000 02 Other Travel Exp	398.00	
5050017000 02 Conf Seminar Fees	2,322.00	
5050018000 09 Conf Seminar Fees	35.00	
5050020400 02BdMbr Trvl Mileage	0.00	
5050023000 NBR Travel/Sub CI 02	0.00	
5050024000 NBR Travel/Sub CI 09	0.00	
5050027000 09 Ag Sponsored Conf	0.00	
** Travel & Subsistence	8,188.05	
5060001000 Professional Adm Fee	39,584.00	Nature Conservancy/Prescribed Fire Workshop
5060001400 02 WC ADMIN FEE EXP	5,120.57	
5060016000 NBR PROSVS & FEES	263.29	
5080015000 02 MiscTech SrvNonIT	290.00	
5080015050 02 MiscTech Srv-IT	0.00	
** Professional Services & Fees	45,257.86	
5070001000 Surety Perform Bonds	0.00	
5070002000 Vehicle Insurance	0.00	
5070003000 Bld Contents Ins	0.00	
5070007000 Other Insurance	0.00	
** Insurance & Bonds	0.00	
5080001000 M&R Service Fees	0.00	
5080006000 Assoc Member Dues	28,558.33	Hardwood/Pine Dues; NASF; AR Urban Forestry Council
5080009000 Janitorial Service	234.30	
5080011000 02-CONTRACT FOOD SER	0.00	
5080014000 Trash Pickup Service	1,397.73	
5080016000 Temp Employ Svc	11,076.45	Baucum Nursery
5080018000 Salv Demolish Remove	0.00	
5080019000 Veh Lic Title Fees	113.03	
5080020000 Enforce Invest Exp	36.00	
5080020500 02 NONEMPL BCKGRD CK	44.00	
5080029000 NBR - Other Exp, Svs	(27,550.97)	
5080033000 Educational Costs	0.00	
** Other Expenses & Services	13,908.87	
5090001000 Road Pub Area Mats	0.00	
5090002000 Natural Res Supps	274.38	
5090003000 Special Purpose Supp	0.00	
5090004000 Tires	17.52	
5090005000 02 GASOLINE PURCH	11,607.16	
5090005100 02 DIESEL FUEL PURCH	6,460.16	
5090005200 02 AVIATION FUEL	2,582.40	
5090006000 Office Supplies	5,091.67	
5090007000 Educ Supplies Mats	2,762.79	
5090011000 Photo Supps Mats	0.00	
5090012000 Architect Draft Supp	0.00	

5090013000	02-Pub Safe,Mil Sups	0.00	
5090014000	Drugs & Medicines	498.75	
5090016000	Shop Indust Supps	7,797.52	
5090018000	Subscriptions Pubs	149.95	
5090019000	Food Purchases	537.65	
5090020000	02-Clothing,Rel Item	567.75	
5090022000	02-Kit,Jan,House Sup	638.69	
5090023000	Seed Fert Cont Agent	195,442.98	
5090025000	Agri Hort WL Supps	2,999.89	
5090026000	DP Supps	2,188.50	
5090027000	Software/Licenses	0.00	
5090030000	Other Comm Mat Supp	0.00	
5090036000	NBR - Comm, Mat, Sup	276.11	
5090037000	Equip Fire Vehicles	52,473.96	
5900004000	LVA Exp (Modified)	11,951.99	Grill guard/winch mount; DFA Adjustments
5901070000	LVA Exp Full	11,951.99	
**	Commodities, Materials & Supplies	316,271.81	
5100001000	04 Assist Grants Aid	98,662.74	
5100005100	02-SPONSORSHIPS	0.00	
**	Assistance, Grants & Aids	98,662.74	
5110002000	02 Other Refunds	600.00	
5110008000	License & Permits	0.00	
5110015000	NBR Ref Taxes Claims	0.00	
**	Refunds, Taxes & Claims	600.00	
6080001300	RefExpSlesTaxRebate	0.00	
6080001301	RefExpUseTaxRebate	0.00	
**	Refunds	0.00	
5900003000	Capital Outlay	316,815.25	GPS Garmin-Aviation; Well/Pump System; 2 Dozers
**	Capital Outlay	316,815.25	
5901020000	Depr Expense (Full)	123,614.47	
**	Depreciation/Amortization	123,614.47	
6100002000	GainLoss FA(Full)	0.00	
**	Gain/Loss on Fixed Assets	0.00	
5130030300	Inter fedxout-warr04	5,253.50	
6060003000	Inter-Agy Xfers In	0.00	
6060003100	INTER XFER IN REBATE	(5,487.40)	
6060004200	InterAgy FedRev X In	0.00	
6060004299	NBR Fed Rev XFER In	0.00	
6060004500	IntraAgy GR Tran-In	(995,000.00)	
6060006800	FS Adj Op Trans In	0.00	
6060007200	M & R Transfers In	(21,042.79)	
6060009000	Motor Veh Tfr In	0.00	
6061002000	Intra-Agy Xfers Out	25,000.00	Funds Transferred to Paying fund - Agri Fund
6061004100	GR RECLAIM XFER OUT	0.00	
6061004299	NBR Fed Rev XFR Out	0.00	
6061006800	FS Adj Op Trans Out	0.00	
6061006820	Tran Out to CompUnit	0.00	
6061008400	Claims Com. Tr. Out	0.00	
6061009000	Motor Veh Tfr Out	0.00	

** Transfers In/Out		(991,276.69)
6990001000	Prior Yr Warr Outlaw	0.00
6990002000	Prior Yr Warr Cancel	0.00
6990003000	Prior Yr Ref to Exp	0.00
6990004000	Prior Year Adjust	79,566.71
** Prior Year Adjustment		79,566.71
*** BALANCE		0.00