



ASA HUTCHINSON
GOVERNOR

ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

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

1 NATURAL RESOURCES DRIVE, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72205 | (501) 225-1598 | AAD.ARKANSAS.GOV



WES WARD
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

October 8, 2018

The Honorable Bill Sample
Arkansas Senate
State Capitol

The Honorable Jim Dotson
Arkansas House of Representatives
State Capitol

Re: Arkansas Forestry Commission monthly activity report for September 2018

Dear Senator Sample and Representative Dotson:

Per Section 42 of Act 841 of the 2017 Regular Session, the Arkansas Forestry Commission (AFC) is to report monthly fiscal and agency activities to the Arkansas Legislative Council. Please find attached the report for September 2018.

The 20th annual prescribed burn school was held in the month of September. AFC has always been a large part of this school. The school is designed to teach personnel how and when to perform prescribed burns.

This year the prescribed burn school taught 50 students from 12 different agencies. 15 different agencies provided instructors for the class and a total of 49 instructors were needed to teach this annual class.

AFC had nine students and provided ten instructors for the class. As one can see, training is a large part of an AFC's employee's career and with the help of sister agencies, that training is offered and professionally given.

ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION

Joe S. Fox

cc: DFA Director Larry Walther
Secretary of Agriculture Wes Ward





ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION September 2018 Activity and Fiscal Report

FIRE PROTECTION

Wildfires: During September a total of 16 wildfires were suppressed for a total of 261 acres burned. Ten-year average for the month of September is 120 wildfires for 1801 acres burned.

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 services 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.

September 2018

- 91 fire departments (407 firefighters) were provided wildland fire training, five minority departments and seven AFC/AAD personnel in attendance.
- RFP received eight Freightliners (valued at \$566,656.00).
- There were six Department of Defense (DOD) vehicles issued to FDs including four Freightliners and one Kovatch (valued at \$558,685.84), one service truck (valued at \$14,141.00) and three generators (valued at \$121,054.00)
- 265 DOD Recycling Control Point (RCP) items were received for redistribution to FDs and AFC (valued at \$166,179.84) to include: toolboxes, hand tools, eyewash stations, and ammo cans.
- The RFP shop completed maintenance on nine AFC vehicles and equipment as well as four DOD vehicles.
- 2017 Wildfire Volunteer Fire (WFVF) Grant update: 63 of the 67 kits have been picked up or delivered.

- 2018 WFVF: Grant packets were distributed to District Foresters who have been receiving and scoring applications to determine grant recipients. These packets are delivered to the VFDs so they may qualify for WFVF kits. Deadline for applicants is October 5th. A partial order for PPE has been made to speed the distribution process along.
- 2018 Annual Rural Fire Show: Is an annual event AFC holds to honor the many VFD firefighters in Arkansas. Currently, 23 vendors have registered to showcase new and proven equipment to the firefighters.

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 leads the nation with 170 active Firewise communities. Recognized communities display Firewise signs at the city limits.

Firewise achieved the following in **September**:

- Delivered two initial program presentations
- Attended one Fire Chiefs meeting
- Attended three community education/preparedness expos
- Awarded one national program recognition trophy and signage

Law Enforcement: AAD 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. AAD aggressively seeks prosecution of violators to deter such crimes. AAD Investigators and district law enforcement officers opened 10 dumping, one equipment theft/vandalism and 11 timber theft cases. They closed six dumping, six fire related, two equipment theft/vandalism and 11 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 AGFC private lands wildlife biologists, and USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service soil and water professionals. Arkansas has 5,120 landowners owning 949,370 acres that have enrolled in FSP. Landowners that implement practices under their FSP management plans become Forest Stewards. Arkansas has 1,236 Forest Stewards owning 280,554 acres.

For September, 45 FSP plans were prepared on 5,264 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 128 rural forestry management plans on 6,788 acres. AFC personnel conducted 10 prescribed burns on 394 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.

September 2018 Urban & Community Forestry

- Conducted a workshop for educators from the eleven schools selected to participate in the Shade Trees on Playgrounds (STOP) program to give them information about the program and to begin planning their individual school programs.
- Selected and notified four communities to receive Urban & Community Forestry assistance grants
- Met with the mayor of Hardy to discuss benefits of the Tree City USA program and met with the Pine Bluff Tree Board to discuss ways to reinvigorate their Tree City program
- Provided training on tree identification and invasive plant removal for group of volunteer park rangers with the City of Little Rock

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.

- AFC aided the Arkansas State Plant Board by placing about 280 gypsy moth traps throughout the state. They were collected in August and most have been checked by the Forest Health Specialist. No finds were reported.
- AFC will place fall season Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) traps. The southern region is making improvements to the SPB prediction trapping system, and AFC is incorporating the newest trapping suggestions. Another change will be the use of ArcGIS Online apps like Survey 123 to record trap locations and data.
- An outbreak of walkingstick insects has occurred on the Ozark National Forest. The Forest Health Specialist recorded the affected areas during an aerial survey. Severe defoliation appears limited to high elevation ridges, such as the area around White Rock Mountain Recreation Area. The outbreak does not threaten tree health, but it is a noteworthy phenomenon.

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.

The Reforestation Manager gave a presentation about nursery and tree improvement at UAPB Farm Field Day. There were 150 in attendance.

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

Seedling sales began on July 15

- Through September 30, there were 293 online orders and 84 traditional orders
- Total sales of 609,475 pine and 6,407,075 hardwood
- Comparatively, in the same period in FY 18, there were 293 online orders (exactly the same as current year) and 98 traditional orders and total sales of 840,050 pine and 4,827,625 hardwood

Baucum Nursery staff completed the following during the month of September

- Utilized Department of Corrections for weeding and acorn harvest
 - Wrightsville unit provided 360 total man hours
 - Benton unit provided 1,193 total man hours
 - Total of 1,553 man hours at a total cost to the agency of \$1,915.38 for lunches.
- Disc, do-all and chisel-plowed field 5 and 8 in preparation for methyl bromide fumigation
- Sprayed RoundUp on layout fields 2, 5 and 8 to eliminate Bermuda grass
- Top pruned everything needed
- Plowed between beds in all fields
- Picked up downed limbs and bushhogged Sawtooth Oak and Improved Cherrybark Oak orchards in preparation for acorn harvest
- Fertilized all small seedlings on a weekly basis
- Harvested 2,980 lbs. of Sawtooth Oak and 103 lbs. of Chinese Chestnut
- Irrigated all crops as needed.

Tree Improvement:

During the month of September, the Bluff City Tree Improvement staff completed the following.

- Bushhogged Dr. Parkes test site
- Sprayed outside of Dr. Parkes test for fence installation
- Flagged and inventoried production orchards for cone harvest
- Changed bush hog blades on 15' hog
- Bushhogged all production orchards again in preparation for cone harvest
- Picked unwanted cones from top graft
- Picked up supplies for Dr. Parkes fence
- Cleaned fence post from Nashville test for reuse
- Sprayed containerized 3-star loblolly pine seedlings with fungicide
- Pulled and flagged grafts to plant in orchards 1718, 1719, 1720, and 1721
- Unloaded cone crates from International Forestry Company Organization (IFCO) for harvest of cones they purchased

- Flagged and tagged cone crates for harvest
- Ordered machines for cone harvest which will begin October 1
- Set up delivery of Genie lifts with D-4
- Set up dozer from D-4 to use at Hope site

Forest Inventory and Analysis: AFC in cooperation with the 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 76 plots during the month of September. Inventory 2018 is now 61% complete.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	Balance	
4020014000 TIMBER SEVERANCE	(402,101.60)	
** SR (3.0) - Taxes	(402,101.60)	
4030002000 ACREAGE TAX	(84,006.73)	
4031076000 FIRE PROTECT/SUPP	(1,129.14)	
** SR (1.5) - Taxes	(85,135.87)	
4038003000 SEEDLING SALES	(18,255.48)	
** SR (1.5)- Sales of Agency Produce	(18,255.48)	
4042001000 FINES	(40.00)	
** OR - Fines and Penalties	(40.00)	
4043002100 NBR LICENSE & PERMIT	0.00	
** OR - Licenses and Permits	0.00	
4044002000 FACILITIES RENT	(1,000.00)	
** OR - Rents	(1,000.00)	
4046002000 NON-OP DONATIONS	(300.00)	Fire Show Donations
4047002000 OTHER SALES	(15,000.00)	Fire Equipment
4047021000 OPERATING DONATIONS	(100.00)	Will be corrected, Fire Show Donation
4047041000 VOLUME REBATES	0.00	
4047099600 NBR - Other	0.00	
6200003000 Other Donations	(3,658.00)	Fixed Asset Adjustment
** OR - Miscellaneous	(19,058.00)	
4047001600 PAYMENT FOR SERVICES	(12,805.00)	Prescribed Burn/Fire Lane
4048001000 SALE COPIES PUBS	(774.50)	Trees of AR
4048019000 RESALES	(33,323.13)	Fire Equipment
4053001200 NBR SALE OF GDS & SV	0.00	
** OR - Sales of Goods and Services	(46,902.63)	
4049003000 INTEREST DISTRIB	(0.29)	
** OR - Investment Revenue	(0.29)	
4050001000 NONFED GRANTS/REIMB	0.00	
4050003000 OTH REFUNDS/REIMB	(185.98)	Lander's Overcharge; Toll Violation Reimb
4057003000 UTILITY REIMBUR	0.00	
** OR - Grants and Reimbursements	(185.98)	

4050004000	FED GRANTS/REIMBURSE	(65,151.61)	
4050004100	NBR - Grant Rev.	0.00	
** Federal Grants and Reimbursements		(65,151.61)	
4090010000	3% SPECIAL REV FEES	12,063.06	
4090020000	1.5% SPL REV FEES	1,550.87	
4090030000	ADDITIONAL SR FEES	453.79	
** Treasury Charges		14,067.72	
5010001000	00 Regular Salaries	786,156.86	
5010001100	NBR - Personal Svs.	0.00	
5010001600	NBR - Emp Benefits	0.00	
5010002000	01 Extra Help Sal	11,235.50	
5010003000	06 Overtime Salaries	2,237.71	
5010005000	03 FICA & Medic Exp	57,053.51	
5010006000	03 Ben Ins Exp HAL	118,860.00	
5010006500	Agency Cost of ARCAP	4,151.06	
5010007000	03 Retirement Exp	118,838.99	
5010011000	16 Fixed Uniform All	1,200.00	
** Salary Expense		1,099,733.63	
5020001000	Postage	1,015.94	
5020002000	Telecomm Wired	5,620.52	
5020003000	Telecomm Wireless	7,384.07	
5020004000	Network Services Exp	1,737.53	
5020005000	Freight	351.67	
5020006000	NBR Com & Trans Com	30.93	
** Communication & Transp. of Commod		16,140.66	
5030001000	Printing	0.00	
5030001100	02-Print-AgenPub	0.00	
5030002000	Bind Copy Collate	468.79	Printing Overages; Color Printing
5030003000	Advertise Clip Svc	1,172.50	Stress Balls, Tool Kits, etc...(promotional items)
5030004100	NBR Printing & Adv.	0.00	
** Printing & Advertising		1,641.29	
5030005000	02-Bldg & Grds Maint	21,839.66	
5030005100	Pest Control CI 02	2,497.55	
5030005300	02 CHILLER MAINT	0.00	
5030010000	Pub Safety Eq Maint	4,114.63	
5030011000	Ind Inst Equip Maint	23,927.63	
5030012000	02 - Vehicle Maint	17,911.84	
5030014000	Mar Avi Equip Maint	5,030.80	
5030017000	Software Maintenance	2,463.79	
5030021000	NBR - Repair & Serv.	(1,713.69)	
** Repairing & Servicing		76,072.21	
5040001000	Electricity	9,997.14	
5040002000	Electric Special Use	0.00	
5040003000	Water & Sewage	1,826.32	
5040003100	02 Water	0.00	
5040004000	Natural Gas Propane	565.29	
5040005000	Rent of Facilities	3,914.50	
5040006000	Lease Private Land	90.00	
5040007000	Rent of Office Equip	2,264.12	
5040011000	Other Rent & Leases	111.32	

5040012000 NBR -Utilities & Ren	96.60	
5040013000 Satellite/cable Serv	111.47	
** Utilities & Rent	18,976.76	
5050001000 02 Mileage	1,034.60	
5050003100 02 - Meals	1,269.83	
5050003200 02 - Lodging	4,063.00	
5050004100 09 - Meals	324.87	
5050004200 09 - Lodging	1,466.39	
5050005000 02 Common Carrier	0.00	
5050010000 09 Ground Transport	0.00	
5050012000 09 PRKNG FEES TRAVEL	0.00	
5050013000 02 Other Travel Exp	987.84	
5050017000 02 Conf Seminar Fees	300.00	
5050018000 09 Conf Seminar Fees	3,307.15	
5050020400 02BdMbr Trvl Mileage	0.00	
5050023000 NBR Travel/Sub Cl 02	0.00	
5050024000 NBR Travel/Sub Cl 09	0.00	
5050027000 09 Ag Sponsored Conf	1,904.64	Forest Landowners Training
** Travel & Subsistence	14,658.32	
5060001000 Professional Adm Fee	54,256.50	Western Pilot; Stewardship
5060001400 02 WC ADMIN FEE EXP	0.00	
5060016000 NBR PROSVS & FEES	254.79	NBR = Non Business Related
5080015000 02 MiscTech SrvNonIT	997.92	
** Professional Services & Fees	55,509.21	
5070001000 Surety Perform Bonds	0.00	
5070002000 Vehicle Insurance	0.00	
5070003000 Bld Contents Ins	0.00	
** Insurance & Bonds	0.00	
5080001000 M&R Service Fees	0.00	
5080006000 Assoc Member Dues	0.00	
5080009000 Janitorial Service	809.40	
5080011000 02-CONTRACT FOOD SER	0.00	
5080014000 Trash Pickup Service	661.89	
5080016000 Temp Employ Svc	0.00	
5080018000 Salv Demolish Remove	15,913.75	
5080019000 Veh Lic Title Fees	274.45	
5080020000 Enforce Invest Exp	66.00	
5080029000 NBR - Other Exp, Svs	3,521.26	
** Other Expenses & Services	21,246.75	
5090001000 Road Pub Area Mats	0.00	
5090002000 Natural Res Supps	945.72	
5090003000 Special Purpose Supp	191.95	
5090004000 Tires	8,026.34	
5090005000 02 GASOLINE PURCH	26,726.95	
5090005100 02 DIESEL FUEL PURCH	20,107.02	
5090005200 02 AVIATION FUEL	2,577.51	
5090006000 Office Supplies	3,168.00	
5090007000 Educ Supplies Mats	931.70	
5090011000 Photo Supps Mats	0.00	
5090012000 Architect Draft Supp	0.00	

5090013000	02-Pub Safe,Mil Sups	143.80	
5090014000	Drugs & Medicines	0.00	
5090016000	Shop Indust Supps	17,066.97	
5090018000	Subscriptions Pubs	4,587.06	
5090019000	Food Purchases	2,002.44	
5090020000	02-Clothing,Rel Item	495.45	
5090022000	02-Kit,Jan,House Sup	1,212.67	
5090023000	Seed Fert Cont Agent	8,855.65	
5090025000	Agri Hort WL Supps	66,554.98	
5090026000	DP Supps	1,851.93	
5090027000	Software/Licenses	2,269.39	
5090036000	NBR - Comm, Mat, Sup	(1,981.77)	
5090037000	Equip Fire Vehicles	25,336.98	
5900004000	LVA Exp (Modified)	8,527.50	Grill Guard & Winch Mount; 2 AirFiber Radios;
5901070000	LVA Exp Full	8,527.50	Computer
**	Commodities, Materials & Supplies	208,125.74	
5100001000	04 Assist Grants Aid	31,387.80	Mitigation; SPB; U&CF(Bentonville Parks
**	Assistance, Grants & Aids	31,387.80	Conservancy)
5110002000	02 Other Refunds	200.00	Seedling Refund
5110015000	NBR Ref Taxes Claims	90.41	
**	Refunds, Taxes & Claims	290.41	
6080001300	RefExpSlesTaxRebate	0.00	
**	Refunds	0.00	
5900003000	Capital Outlay	3,658.00	See other donations in reference to depreciation
**	Capital Outlay	3,658.00	
5901020000	Depr Expense (Full)	112,817.19	
**	Depreciation/Amortization	112,817.19	
6100002000	GainLoss FA(Full)	0.00	
**	Gain/Loss on Fixed Assets	0.00	
5130030300	Inter fedxout-warr04	0.00	
6060003100	INTER XFER IN REBATE	0.00	
6060004200	InterAgy FedRev X In	0.00	
6060004299	NBR Fed Rev XFER In	0.00	
6060004500	IntraAgy GR Tran-In	(693,208.45)	
6060006800	FS Adj Op Trans In	0.00	
6060007200	M & R Transfers In	(196.00)	
6060009000	Motor Veh Tfr In	0.00	
6061002000	Intra-Agy Xfers Out	21,000.00	
6061004100	GR RECLAIM XFER OUT	29,980.71	
6061004299	NBR Fed Rev XFR Out	0.00	
6061008400	Claims Com. Tr. Out	0.00	
6061009000	Motor Veh Tfr Out	54,773.80	
**	Transfers In/Out	(587,649.94)	
6990001000	Prior Yr Warr Outlaw	(431.44)	
6990002000	Prior Yr Warr Cancel	0.00	
6990003000	Prior Yr Ref to Exp	0.00	
**	Prior Year Adjustment	(431.44)	
***	BALANCE	0.00	

