



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

May 7, 2019

The Honorable Cecile Bledsoe
Arkansas Senate
State Capitol

The Honorable Jeff Wardlaw
Arkansas House of Representatives
State Capitol

Re: Arkansas Forestry Commission monthly activity report for April 2019

Dear Senator Bledsoe and Representative Wardlaw:

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 April 2019.

This year represents Smokey Bear's 75th birthday and anniversary of Fire Prevention. In honor of this great occasion, AFC reached out to schools in Arkansas to give Smokey Bear a short "shoutout" in honor of his birthday.

As expected, the school children and teachers of Arkansas' schools came through with flying colors. The AFC received shoutouts from all corners of the state, ninety four in total.

The AFC is divided into eight districts. Each district will visit the school with best/most shoutouts and host a birthday party. Smokey Bear will attend these birthday parties, partake in birthday cake, continue to spread his fire prevention message and show the kids his appreciation by bringing gifts for the kids.

ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION

Mark Cutrer

cc: DFA Director Larry Walther
Secretary of Agriculture Wes Ward





**ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT (AAD)
ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION (AFC)
April 2019 Activity and Fiscal Report**

FIRE PROTECTION

Wildfires: During April a total of 95 wildfires were suppressed for a total of 1,512 acres burned. Ten-year average for the month of April is 116 wildfires for 1,918 acres burned.

Storm Damage Assistance: A 12-man crew assisted in clearing roads of tree debris from a tornado that struck an area about six miles south of Crossett. They cleared Ashley County Roads 2 and 201 using chainsaws and dozers.

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.

April 2019

- 10 Wildland fire training classes were conducted with 71 fire departments represented (176-firefighters), seven minority departments and 11 AFC/AAD personnel in attendance.
- RFP received one front end loader (valued at \$106,876.06), three extinguisher drills (valued at \$97,500.00), 14 generators (valued at \$398,325.41), four Stewart & Stevenson brush trucks (valued at \$705,712.00), one Chevrolet Silverado 1500 brush truck (valued at \$15,611.57) and one International F-5070 (valued at \$118,143.08)
- There were four Department of Defense (DOD) vehicles issued to FDs, three Freightliners (valued at \$392,995.00) and one brush truck (valued at \$128,076.00).
- 993 DOD Recycling Control Point (RCP) items were received for redistribution to FDs and AFC (valued at \$60,376.13) to include bandages, leg splints, cold weather jackets, fire hoses and medical bags.
- The RFP shop completed maintenance on 14 AFC vehicles and equipment as well as four DOD vehicles.
- RFP provided one interest free loan via the Rural Fire Revolving Loan Fund.
 - Gravesville VFD Foam Skid Unit \$7,762.50 D-7 Van Buren Co.

- 2018 VFA Grant: All grant kits were delivered to the fire departments or to the district to be delivered by County Rangers to the awarded departments.
- 2019 Annual Rural Fire Show: Registrations are starting to come in from vendors. Marketing & Communications has designed flyers and postcards as advertisement to be distributed to fire departments, as well as an email signature and t-shirt design.

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 is proud to have 82 active Firewise communities. Recognized communities display Firewise signs at the city limits.

Firewise achieved the following in **April**:

- Assisted one community with Mitigation Tool Grant paperwork
- Presented program overview at two community meetings
- Presented initial program presentation at local OEM meeting
- Presented program review to District 1 personnel
- Delivered initial program presentations to two communities

Law Enforcement: AAD has the authority to enforce the laws of the State of Arkansas, but primarily on unlawful dumping, timber theft, forest fires, and forestry equipment theft and focuses vandalism. AAD aggressively seeks prosecution of violators to deter such crimes. AAD Investigators and district law enforcement officers opened nine dumping, two fire related and eight timber theft cases. They closed seven dumping, one fire related, eight timber theft and two AFC equipment theft/vandalism 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 405,060 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 1,250 Forest Stewards owning 281,476 acres in the State.

For April, 13 FSP plans were prepared on 5,362 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 62 forest management practice plans on 4,084 acres. AFC personnel conducted 11 prescribed burns on 1,050 acres.

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.

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

Year to date through April 30, there were 704 online orders and 186 paper orders. Total sales of 1,259,750 pine and 5,701,900 hardwood. Comparatively, in the same period in FY 18, there were 787 online orders and 248 paper orders. Total sales of 1,556,400 pine and 5,160,300 hardwood.

- Lifted and packed year to date through April 30:
 - 1,378,500 pine
 - 6,021,175 hardwood
 - 26,700 Containerized 3-star loblolly pine
 - 90,600 Containerized Advanced Gen shortleaf pine
 - Total seedlings packed = 7,516,975
- Shipped year to date through April 30:
 - 1,108,050 pine
 - 5,761,675 hardwood
 - 25,925 Containerized 3-star loblolly pine
 - 83,600 Containerized Advanced Gen shortleaf pine
 - Total seedlings shipped = 7,028,250

Through the end of April, the following pounds of seed have been planted for the 2020 crop:

Species	Pounds
Bitter Pecan	990
Black Gum	175
Cherrybark	3,900
Hackberry	25
Northern Red Oak	2,115
Nuttall (G&F)	2,795
Pecan	3,200

Persimmon	1,500
Pin Oak	2,140
Sugarberry	200
Willow Oak	850

Through the end of April, the following acres have been planted for the 2020 crop:

Acres Planted	Field #
8.95	8
9.05	5
14.31	4

- Total of 32.31 acres planted through April 30, out of approximately 50 acres to be planted.
- Weeded 2-year-old willow oak (removed black willow and cottonwood).
- Completed weeding 2-year-old, Pecan, Overcup Oak and Shumard Oak.
- Applied sawdust to newly planted southern red oak and cherrybark oak beds in field 4 and 5.
- Began preparing irrigation for installation in fields.
- Cleaned up wood from removed trees in Improved Cherrybark orchard.
- Cleaned out species that were left in field 4 and 7 to prepare for layout.
- Top pruned species that will be held over for 2020 season (Water Oak, Willow Oak, Overcup Oak, Shumard Oak, and Pecan).

Tree Improvement: AFC's tree improvement program provides landowners with the highest possible genetic gain in pine and hardwood seed.

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

- Collected pollen
- Pollinated flowers
- Picked up 3 gal potted Shumard Oak seedlings from Louisiana Forest Seed for grafting new orchard at Bluff City
- Grafted pine in pots
- Picked up and delivered potted trees for Urban Forestry programs to Greenbrier
- Checked 4 progeny test sites for weed control. One will need treatment
- First of four aerial spray insecticide applications of pine seed orchards at Bluff City
- Removed pollination bags
- Mixed soil and filled trays with Weyerhaeuser for progeny tests

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.

Urban & Community Forestry achieved the following in April:

- Participated in more than ten community Arbor Day and Earth Day celebrations. AFC donated large trees to be planted at all Tree City USA and Tree Campus USA celebrations. AFC also assisted with planting and provided tree care information.
- Presented a program about community forest management and forestry careers to 8th grade girls from around central Arkansas at the Girl Power in STEM Conference at University of Central AR in Conway.
- Prepared 2019 Shade Trees on Playgrounds (STOP) program application and worked with communications staff to post the application on the AFC website and publicize the program. We are currently accepting 2019 STOP applications until May 3. Applications will be reviewed and schools selected to participate in May.

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.

- The Forest Health Specialist conducted one aerial survey to map damages caused by a tornado and loblolly pine sawfly.
- The Forest Health Specialist attended a three-day training in ArcMap.
- “A Pocket Guide to Arkansas Forest Health” is an informational book that is nearing completion. Staff has teamed up with Southern Regional Extension Forestry, Clemson Cooperative Extension, and Joby Miller, the AAD Graphic Artist, to create this book. Expected to print in May, and it will be free upon request.

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 **April 2019:**

- Attended a two day GIS training.
- Assisted a landowner with cover crop seed selection for log set.
- Assisted with prescribed burn on State Forest for wildlife habitat improvement.
- Closed out Fulton County complaint from February. Work completed by logger.
- Attended Arkansas Forestry Association (AFA) Tree Farm meeting.
- Met with landowner and preformed exam on property during harvest.

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 88 plots for the month of April. We are now 21% complete with the 2019 Survey.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

April 2019

	Balance	
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4020014000 TIMBER SEVERANCE	(337,157.41)	
** SR (3.0) - Taxes	(337,157.41)	
4030002000 ACREAGE TAX	(140,454.95)	
4031076000 FIRE PROTECT/SUPP	0.00	
** SR (1.5) - Taxes	(140,454.95)	
4038001000 TIMBER SALES	(22,627.67)	
4038003000 SEEDLING SALES	(611,184.00)	
** SR (1.5)- Sales of Agency Produced G	(633,811.67)	
4042001000 FINES	(64.10)	
** OR - Fines and Penalties	(64.10)	
4043002100 NBR LICENSE & PERMIT	0.00	
** OR - Licenses and Permits	0.00	
4044002000 FACILITIES RENT	(900.00)	
** OR - Rents	(900.00)	
4046002000 NON-OP DONATIONS	(150.00)	Fire Show Donation
4047002000 OTHER SALES	(8,387.50)	Fire Equipment
4047021000 OPERATING DONATIONS	0.00	
4047041000 VOLUME REBATES	0.00	
4047099600 NBR - Other	0.00	
6200003000 Other Donations	(23,752.00)	F-350 Pickup
** OR - Miscellaneous	(32,289.50)	
4047001600 PAYMENT FOR SERVICES	(61,260.10)	Prescribed Burn/Fire Lane
4048001000 SALE COPIES PUBS	(1,083.75)	Trees of AR
4048019000 RESALES	(11,876.43)	Fire Equipment
4053001200 NBR SALE OF GDS & SV	0.00	
** OR - Sales of Goods and Services	(74,220.28)	
4049003000 INTEREST DISTRIB	(0.33)	
** OR - Investment Revenue	(0.33)	
4050001000 NONFED GRANTS/REIMB	0.00	
4050003000 OTH REFUNDS/REIMB	(627.38)	Travel Card Refund
4057003000 UTILITY REIMBUR	0.00	
** OR - Grants and Reimbursements	(627.38)	
4050004000 FED GRANTS/REIMBURSE	(716,206.88)	
4050004100 NBR - Grant Rev.	0.00	

** Federal Grants and Reimbursements	(716,206.88)	
4090010000 3% SPECIAL REV FEES	10,114.72	
4090020000 1.5% SPL REV FEES	11,716.36	
4090030000 ADDITIONAL SR FEES	727.71	
** Treasury Charges	22,558.79	
5010001000 00 Regular Salaries	786,791.45	
5010001100 NBR - Personal Svs.	0.00	
5010001600 NBR - Emp Benefits	0.00	
5010002000 01 Extra Help Sal	9,306.64	
5010003000 06 Overtime Salaries	4.37	
5010005000 03 FICA & Medic Exp	56,917.85	
5010006000 03 Ben Ins Exp HAL	118,860.00	
5010006500 Agency Cost of ARCAP	4,006.53	
5010007000 03 Retirement Exp	118,794.09	
5010009000 03 Worker Comp Exp	14,349.17	
5010010000 03 Work Comp Prem Tx	0.00	
5010011000 16 Fixed Uniform All	800.00	
** Salary Expense	1,109,830.10	
5020001000 Postage	772.82	
5020002000 Telecomm Wired	19,351.53	
5020003000 Telecomm Wireless	9,331.57	
5020004000 Network Services Exp	3,398.11	
5020004200 Internet Serv-Tech	(6,466.22)	Error Correction - Charges moved to Telecom
5020005000 Freight	386.43	
5020006000 NBR Com & Trans Com	0.00	
** Communication & Transp. of Commoditi	26,774.24	
5030001000 Printing	1,247.53	Mitigation Booklet/Brochure;
5030001100 02-Print-AgenPub	(445.15)	Error Correction - Charges moved to Printing
5030001200 LEGAL/MEDICAL COPYIN	0.00	
5030002000 Bind Copy Collate	110.00	Tear Resistant Poster
5030003000 Advertise Clip Svc	125.60	AR Democrat Gazette Ad - Roosevelt Office
5030004000 Film Processing	0.00	
5030004100 NBR Printing & Adv.	(1,033.70)	
** Printing & Advertising	4.28	
5030005000 02-Bldg & Grds Maint	9,068.44	
5030005100 Pest Control CI 02	1,078.91	
5030005300 02 CHILLER MAINT	(96.18)	Error Correction Charges moved to Bldg Grds Maint
5030007000 Hauling & Moving Exp	0.00	
5030008000 Office Equip Maint	0.00	
5030009000 Telephone Repair Svc	(396.61)	Error Correction Charges moved to Bldg Grds Maint
5030010000 Pub Safety Eq Maint	10,312.80	
5030011000 Ind Inst Equip Maint	25,462.58	
5030011100 02 Farm Equip/Repair	642.13	
5030012000 02 - Vehicle Maint	21,871.28	
5030014000 Mar Avi Equip Maint	65,694.70	
5030017000 Software Maintenance	0.00	
5030021000 NBR - Repair & Serv.	(6,316.42)	
** Repairing & Servicing	127,321.63	
5040001000 Electricity	17,142.63	

5040002000	Electric Special Use	(88.06)	
5040003000	Water & Sewage	2,276.65	
5040003100	02 Water	(50.71)	Error Correction - Moved to Water and Sewage
5040004000	Natural Gas Propane	4,362.48	
5040005000	Rent of Facilities	9,904.26	
5040006000	Lease Private Land	90.00	
5040007000	Rent of Office Equip	2,255.49	
5040011000	Other Rent & Leases	165.70	
5040012000	NBR -Utilities & Ren	128.73	
5040013000	Satellite/cable Serv	0.00	
**	Utilities & Rent	36,187.17	
5050001000	02 Mileage	360.04	
5050002000	09 Mileage	11.76	
5050003100	02 - Meals	1,077.43	
5050003200	02 - Lodging	2,397.62	
5050004100	09 - Meals	505.77	
5050004200	09 - Lodging	1,144.30	
5050005000	02 Common Carrier	2,165.50	
5050006000	09 Common Carrier	293.50	
5050009000	02 Ground Transport	0.00	
5050010000	09 Ground Transport	79.78	
5050011000	02 PRKNG FEES TRAVEL	0.00	
5050011100	02 VALIDATED PARKING	0.00	
5050012000	09 PRKNG FEES TRAVEL	31.02	
5050013000	02 Other Travel Exp	0.00	
5050017000	02 Conf Seminar Fees	5,309.00	
5050018000	09 Conf Seminar Fees	2,895.00	
5050019100	Board Member Expense	0.00	
5050020400	02BdMbr Trvl Mileage	705.60	
5050023000	NBR Travel/Sub Cl 02	0.00	
5050024000	NBR Travel/Sub Cl 09	0.00	
5050027000	09 Ag Sponsored Conf	0.00	
**	Travel & Subsistence	16,976.32	
5060001000	Professional Adm Fee	105,436.25	Western Pilot, Mitigation
5060001400	02 WC ADMIN FEE EXP	445.23	
5060007000	Educ Honorarium Fees	0.00	
5060016000	NBR PROSVS & FEES	254.80	
5080015000	02 MiscTech SrvNonIT	8.00	
5080015050	02 MiscTech Srv-IT	0.00	
**	Professional Services & Fees	106,144.28	
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	(14.16)	
5080009000	Janitorial Service	234.30	
5080011000	02-CONTRACT FOOD SER	0.00	
5080014000	Trash Pickup Service	1,206.36	

5080016000	Temp Employ Svc	0.00	
5080018000	Salv Demolish Remove	0.00	
5080019000	Veh Lic Title Fees	199.56	
5080020000	Enforce Invest Exp	0.00	
5080020500	02 NONEMPL BCKGRD CK	0.00	
5080029000	NBR - Other Exp, Svs	341.67	
5080031000	02 Empl Screen Cost	95.00	
5080033000	Educational Costs	0.00	
**	Other Expenses & Services	2,062.73	
5090001000	Road Pub Area Mats	0.00	
5090002000	Natural Res Supps	1,345.74	
5090003000	Special Purpose Supp	25.00	
5090004000	Tires	7,764.49	
5090005000	02 GASOLINE PURCH	26,797.85	
5090005100	02 DIESEL FUEL PURCH	27,022.05	
5090005200	02 AVIATION FUEL	5,869.20	
5090006000	Office Supplies	1,959.37	
5090007000	Educ Supplies Mats	11,540.39	
5090011000	Photo Supps Mats	0.00	
5090011100	02 Audio Vis Eqp/Sup	0.00	
5090012000	Architect Draft Supp	0.00	
5090013000	02-Pub Safe,Mil Sups	0.00	
5090014000	Drugs & Medicines	0.00	
5090015000	Health Lab Supps	0.00	
5090016000	Shop Indust Supps	7,753.48	
5090018000	Subscriptions Pubs	588.99	
5090019000	Food Purchases	2,412.50	
5090020000	02-Clothing,Rel Item	0.00	
5090022000	02-Kit,Jan,House Sup	1,254.90	
5090023000	Seed Fert Cont Agent	32,791.62	
5090025000	Agri Hort WL Supps	1,314.38	
5090026000	DP Supps	3,268.10	
5090027000	Software/Licenses	602.25	
5090030000	Other Comm Mat Supp	0.00	
5090036000	NBR - Comm, Mat, Sup	267.20	
5090037000	Equip Fire Vehicles	48,656.68	
5900004000	LVA Exp (Modified)	906.89	
5901070000	LVA Exp Full	906.89	Notebook Computer
**	Commodities, Materials & Supplies	183,047.97	
5100001000	04 Assist Grants Aid	84,124.94	
5100005100	02-SPONSORSHIPS	0.00	
**	Assistance, Grants & Aids	84,124.94	
5110002000	02 Other Refunds	2,175.00	
5110008000	License & Permits	1,120.00	
5110010000	Real Property Tax	82.30	
5110015000	NBR Ref Taxes Claims	(1,009.84)	
**	Refunds, Taxes & Claims	2,367.46	
6080001300	RefExpSlesTaxRebate	0.00	
6080001301	RefExpUseTaxRebate	0.00	
**	Refunds	0.00	

5900003000 Capital Outlay	127,234.60	Donated F-350; 2 Dodge Rams
** Capital Outlay	127,234.60	
5901020000 Depr Expense (Full)	128,676.45	
** Depreciation/Amortization	128,676.45	
6100002000 GainLoss FA(Full)	0.00	
** Gain/Loss on Fixed Assets	0.00	
5130030300 Inter fedxout-warr04	3,557.93	
6060003100 INTER XFER IN REBATE	(8,184.21)	
6060004200 InterAgy FedRev X In	0.00	
6060004299 NBR Fed Rev XFER In	0.00	
6060004500 IntraAgy GR Tran-In	(790,951.21)	
6060006800 FS Adj Op Trans In	0.00	
6060007200 M & R Transfers In	(10,752.75)	
6060009000 Motor Veh Tfr In	(96,932.00)	
6061002000 Intra-Agy Xfers Out	0.00	
6061004100 GR RECLAIM XFER OUT	0.00	
6061004299 NBR Fed Rev XFR Out	0.00	
6061004500 IntraAgy GR Tran-Out	(575.00)	
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	24,233.00	
** Transfers In/Out	(879,604.24)	
6092000000 Ins Settle/Restitute	(18,074.39)	
** Insurance Proceeds	(18,074.39)	
6990001000 Prior Yr Warr Outlaw	0.00	
6990002000 Prior Yr Warr Cancel	0.00	
6990003000 Prior Yr Ref to Exp	40.85	
6990004000 Prior Year Adjust	0.00	
** Prior Year Adjustment	40.85	
*** BALANCE	0.00	