

## 2016 Louisiana Forest Facts at a Glance

**Land Area:** 14 million acres or 50% of the state's land area.

**Owners of Forestland:** 81% - private non-industrial landowners; 10% - forest product companies; 9% - public (government land).

**Economic Impact:** \$11 billion. Forestry accounted for 39% of the total value of all plant commodities grown in the state. When you add plant and animal commodities forestry still contributes 25% of the value of Louisiana's ag commodities.

**Planting the trees back:** Landowners planted over 73 million seedlings or about 16 trees for every Louisiana citizen. Other trees are also naturally regenerated.

**2015 harvests:** 1.05 billion board feet of sawtimber and 7 million cords of wood were harvested. This is a 12% increase in sawtimber with the cordwood products showing only a slight increase.

**Landowner Income:** Forest landowners received \$463.7 million in 2015 compared to \$386 million in 2014.

**Logger contractors and their employees:** Earned \$539.7 million in 2015 which was 5.9% more than the previous year.

**Jobs in Forestry:** Total jobs from forestry were 45,611, according to the LSU AgCenter. There were 13,714 manufacturing employees in 2015 in the wood and paper industries. They received \$817.2 million in 2014 compared to \$750.4 million in 2013.

**Severance taxes:** Severance taxes from timber sales totaled \$14.14 million in 2015, an increase from \$12.13 million in 2014. Parishes where the timber is grown received 75% of the money; the state's general fund received the remaining 25% with a portion of the funds allotted to landowner cost-share for replanting.

**New and expanding industry:** The new biofuels and wood pellet industries have announced plans to come to the state. There are 2 biofuels businesses (Cool Planet and Sundrop) planned and one pellet mill in operation (Drax Biomass). Also Packaging Corp of America (formerly Boise) and RoyOMartin expanded their plants and Idaho Timber reopened a sawmill in Coushatta.

\*\*Sources: Louisiana Forestry Association, Louisiana Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry, LSU AgCenter and the La. Dept. of Labor.