# BYTHENUMBERS

SC FORESTRY FACTS & FIGURES: FY2015-16

## **Wood Supply**

- 12.9 million acres of forestland, composed of 52% hardwood and 48% softwood
- 25 billion cubic feet of wood
- The 2014 forest inventory showed there are 2.3 million more acres of forestland than there were in the first inventory in 1936.

\*2014 FIA data

#### **Fire Statistics**

- ▶ 989 wildfires
- 4,832 forested acres burned
- 614 non-forested acres burned
- ▶ 475 fires caused by debris burning, (48% of all wildfires in SC)
- → 322,869 burn notifications handled by automated call center
- 10-year average: 2,162 fires /14,955 acres burned

## Fire Response

- The Commission's three dispatch centers field between 25,000 and 50,000 calls every year.
- The average dispatch time for wildfires in FY2015-16 was 2.37 minutes.
- The average response time between report of wildfire and arrival of initial attack warden was 36.3 minutes.

#### Investment

- \$262 million in forestry capital projects announced in FY2015-16.
- 98 primary mills
- ▶ 748 secondary mills
- ▶ 84,425 forest industry jobs
- ▶ \$4.1 billion in labor income

# Ownership

- More than 200,000 forest landowners in SC
- 88% of SC forests are privately owned
- ▶ 63% of private forests are family-owned
- The average "family forest" is 80 acres. 56% of these owners have their primary residence on the land
- ► Forest industries own 137,400 acres, down 93% since 2001
- Public agencies manage 12% of South Carolina's forests

### **Enforcement**

- 37 sworn officers
- ▶ 332 fire investigations
- 93 fire tickets, 9 litter/ environmental cases, 8 violations of state forest regulations, 2 pine straw theft cases, 9 game and fish cases, and 14 miscellaneous cases
- ▶ 118 timber theft/fraud cases

- ▶ \$122,654.50 in fines collected
- 52% of timber theft/fraud losses recovered for victims

