

**BANKHEAD NATIONAL FOREST
LIAISON PANEL MEETING SUMMARY
NOVEMBER 15, 2007
DOUBLE SPRINGS, ALABAMA**

Liaison Panel Member Attendees

Laverne Matheson, Smith Lake Adv.
Anthony Hood, Recreation User
Dave Borland, The Nature Conservancy
Vince Meleski, Wild South
Bill Snoddy, Treasure Forest Landowner
Mike Henshaw, Alabama Coop. Extension Service

Additional Attendees

Nevia Brown, Alabama A&M Univ.
Mark Kolinski, Wild South

Forest Service Attendees

Glen Gaines, District Ranger
Blake Addison, Timber Management Assistant
Mike Cook, Fire Management Officer
Joe Brewer, Lands/GIS Technician

Meeting Agenda

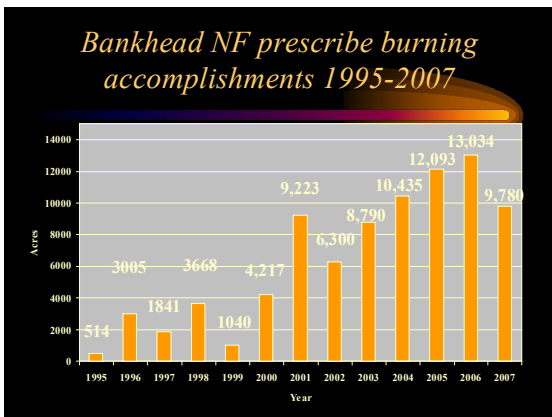
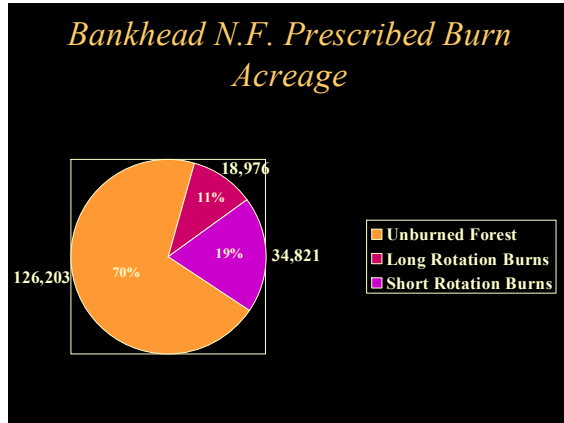
The main objectives of this meeting were: (1) review upcoming timber sale program for FY2008; (2) review upcoming prescribed burning program for FY2008; (3) here the Timber/Thinning Working Group Report; (4) discuss the Winston County roadside herbicide treatment proposal; and (5) provide overview of special use program on the Bankhead.

6:00	Welcome	Glen Gaines, USFS, Bankhead
6:05	Review of Minutes from September 5, 2007 meeting	Glen Gaines
6:15	2008 Prescribed Burning Program	Mike Cook, Fire Mgt Officer
6:45	2008 Timber Sale Program	Blake Addison, Timber Mgt Assistant
7:10	2008 Special Use Proposals - Roads and Driveways Forest Service Policy Projects and Schedules	Joe Brewer Lands/GIS

7:35	Winston County Proposal for Herbicide Use for Roadside Maintenance	Glen Gaines
8:00	Report from Timber/Thinning Working Group	Vince Meleski, WildSouth
8:15	Indian Tomb Hollow Cleanup	Vince Meleski
8:30	Closeout	Glen Gaines

FY2008 Bankhead Prescribed Burning Program

Mike Cook





FY 2008 Bankhead Timber Sale Program

Blake Addison

FY 2007 Timber Sales

- Walston Ridge
- C 18,30,36
- C 51,69,70
- C 8, 129, 136
- **538 Thinning Acres Treated**
- ***85 acres of tornado damage**

FY 2008 Timber Sales(proposed)

- C 128,131,132
- C 45,47,50,51
- C 20,21,32
- C 104,117,118,119
- C 140,141,157
- C 149

1,400 acres covered by EIS

400 acres covered by EA

Southern Pine Beetle

- FY 06 – 54 acres treated by C/R & C/L
- FY 07 – 25 acres C/R
- FY 08 – 90-100 acres (est.) C/R & C/L

- 7 acres '08 spots in active timber sales
-no spots have been found in thinned areas



Southern pine beetle with a grain of rice for comparison in size.

Special Uses

Joe Brewer

Joe provided an overview of the process used and the primary types of special use requests that occur on the Bankhead National Forest

- Provides procedure to obtain access to private property across FS property
 - Driveways and housing developments
 - Utility corridors
 - Logging haul

Forest Service Policy

- Source: FS policy derived from Code of Federal Regulations (36) and the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the National Forests in Alabama
- It is policy to provide reasonable access to private property - if access cannot be obtained by other routes.

Special Process

- Application screening
 - Obvious environmental issues possibly identified in screening (ie. rock bluffs, riparian areas)
 - Explore other routes during screening process
- Acceptance of application & begin processing
- Public Scoping
- Evaluate environmental impact
 - Environmental Assessment
 - Biological Evaluation
 - Cultural Resources Survey - Archaeological sites, sensitive cultural areas
- Studies previously completed
- Costs to applicant
 - Contract studies vs. Cost Recovery
- The Decision Made and Special Use Issues

Projects and Schedules

- Time required for submission of construction plans, environmental studies, review and concurrence by other agencies
- Current projects being considered - nine
 - Proposals submitted - three in works since 2005/2006 timeframe (complicated and complete environmental work needed for road and utilities); others in 2007 (complete work not expected due to existing roads and previous disturbances). Target for completion for all in-house now is spring 2008.

Winston County Roadside Maintenance Herbicide Proposal Glen Gaines

The proposal from Winston County to utilize herbicides along county roads that transect national forest lands was discussed. The proposal includes the use of glyphosphate (brand name - Roundup) through a broadcast application to maintain vegetation along roadways. The proposal involves approximately 80 miles of county roads. The Cranel Road and roads leading into Clear Creek, Corinth, and Brushy Lake Recreation Areas are not part of the proposal. Initial comments have been requested from the public to help determine significant issues and identify alternatives.

The panel discussed the proposal, with the main concern related to the broadcast application of glyphosphate and the nonselective nature of this herbicide. Some panel members recommended that an alternative herbicide to selectively control woody vegetation should be considered for this project.

Report from the Timber/Thinning Working Group Vince Meleski

May 22, 2007 Monitoring

Timber and Thinning
Team



C148S10 Longleaf pine



C148S10 Longleaf pine



C126S12 Mulch site Dormant Burn



C126S12 Mulch site Dormant Burn - Maples



C126S12 Mulch site Dormant Burn



C127S22 Shortleaf Dormant Burn



C127S22 Shortleaf Dormant Burn



Walston Ridge Thinning



Walston Ridge Thinning

The Indian Tomb Hollow Litter Pickup Project

Vince Meleski

Indian Tomb Hollow Clean Up



Trash Pile



Another Pile



After



Cleaned UP



Two loads of trash



Most of the work crew



NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Bankhead Liaison Panel will be held Thursday, January 17, 2008 in Moulton, Alabama.