Prescribed Burning









Prescribed Burning Effects

- Potential to directly impact vulnerable wildlife species
- May kill fire intolerant plants
- Potential for erosion resulting from fireline construction

- Stimulates growth and sprouting of many native plant species
- Releases nutrients to enhance plant growth
- Physically opens up the forest
- Creates snags and openings allowing for regeneration

Site Preparation of Existing Southern Pine Beetle Spots

- Drum Chopping
- Site Preparation Prescribed Burn

Effects of Site Preparation

Prepares the site for tree planting Reduces competition

Prescribed Burning Effects

- Potential to directly impact vulnerable wildlife species
- May top-kill fire intolerant plants
- Potential for erosion resulting from fireline construction

Drum Chopping Effects

- Slight Soil Disturbance
- Direct impacts to plants
- Potential to directly impact vulnerable wildlife species

Regeneration Practices

- Tree planting by hand (Artificial)
- Natural-Hardwood sites



Artificial Regeneration Effects

- Desirable species are established
- Early successional habitat temporarily available
- Restoration stocking levels
- Native community types established

Natural Regeneration Effects

- Species establishment based on seed source and sprouting
- Early successional habitat temporarily available
- Stocking levels uncontrollable
- Native community types established



OUR MISSION

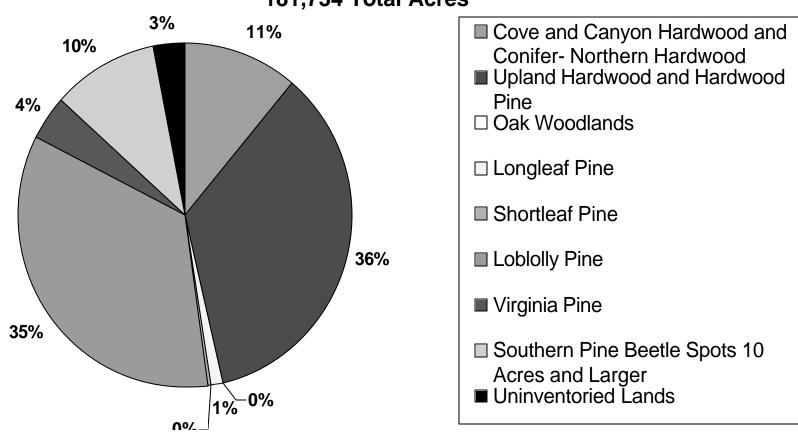
To manage, protect, conserve, and enhance the wildlife and aquatic resources of Alabama for the sustainable benefit of the people of Alabama.

Black Warrior Wildlife Management Area

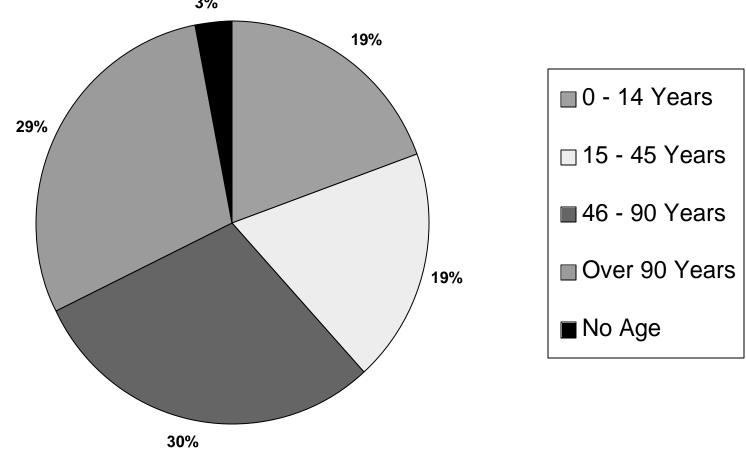


- 97,642 Acres within WMA
- Annual visitation
- Harvest Data
- Effects of Forest Health & Restoration Initiative on the WMA and its users

Current Bankhead National Forest Conditions, Forest Community Types 181,734 Total Acres



Current Bankhead National Forest Conditions, Age Class Including Southern Pine Beetle Spots 10 Acres & Larger 181,734 Total Acres



Review of Alternatives

Alternative 1: No Action

Alternative 2: Proposed Action

Alternative 3: Modified Proposed Action

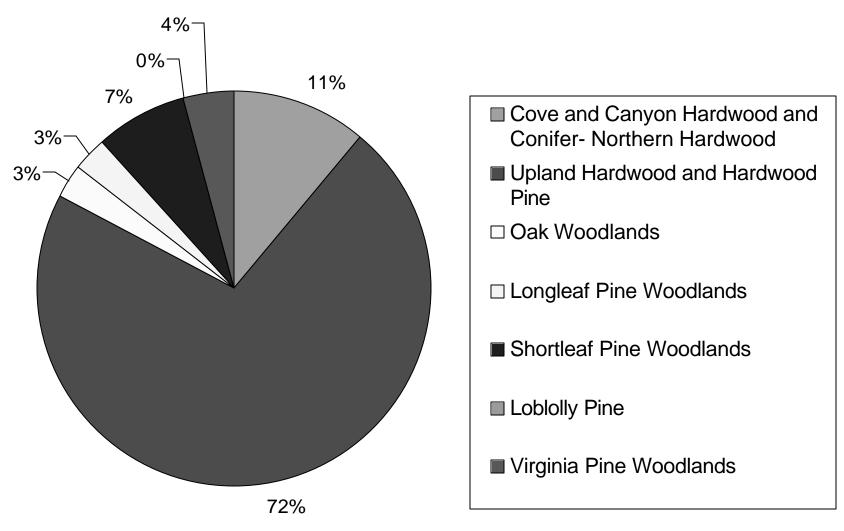
Alternative 4: Expanded Hardwood DFC

(hardwood DFC in all Area 2 treatment stands)

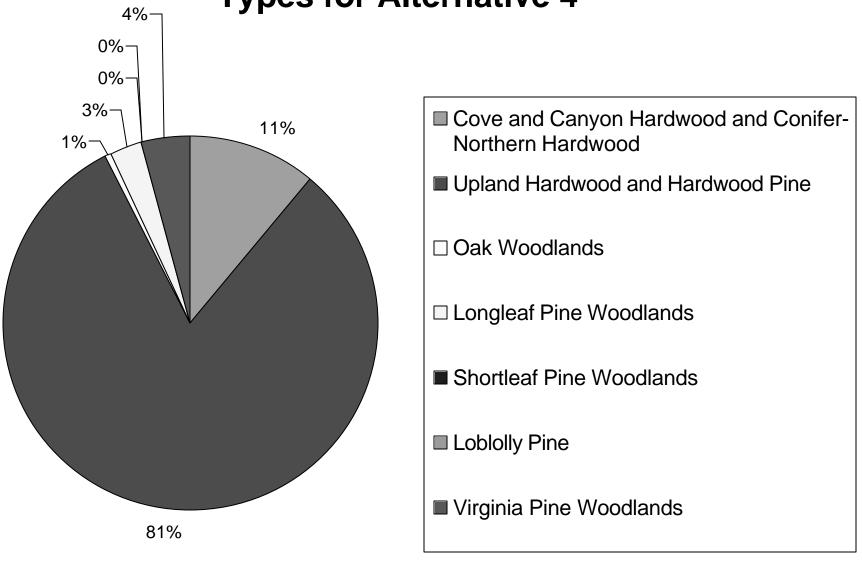
Alternative 5: Expanded Oak Woodland in Area 1

Alternative 6: Modified Proposed Action implemented without use of commercial timber sale

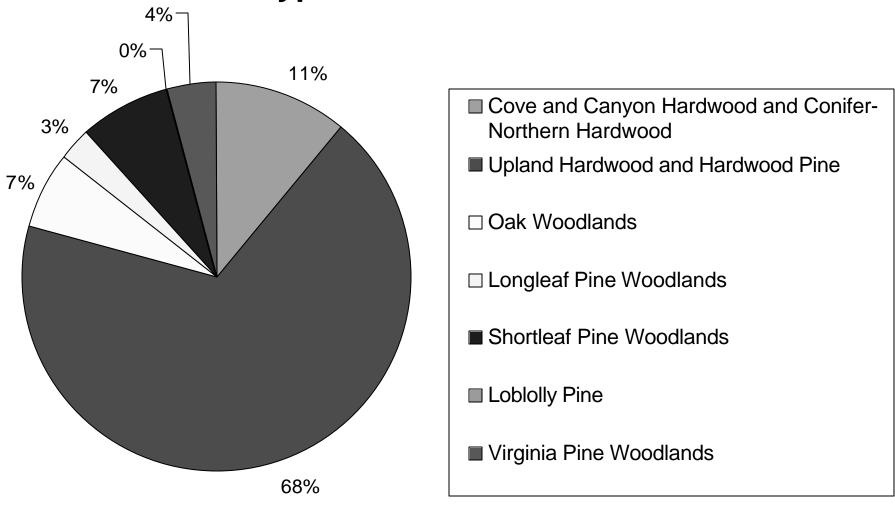
Estimated Percentages of Forest Community Types for Alternatives 3 & 6



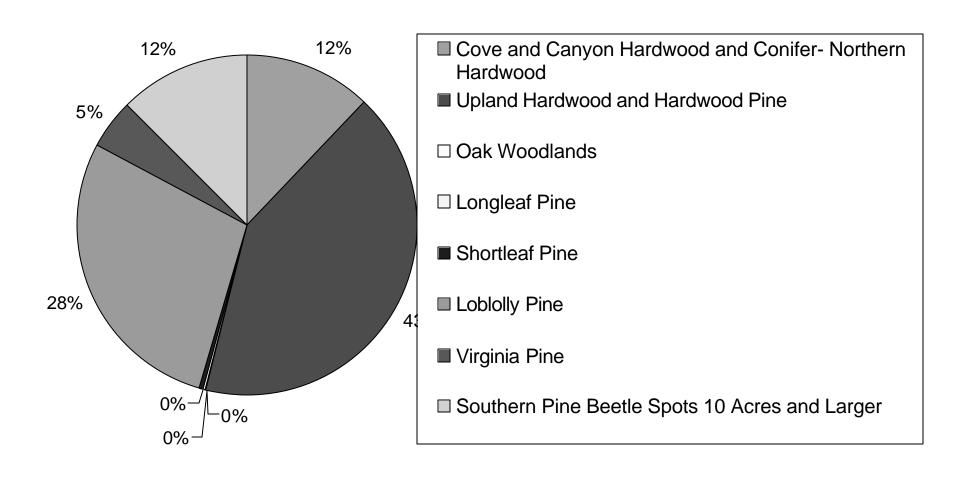
Estimated Percentages of Forest Community Types for Alternative 4



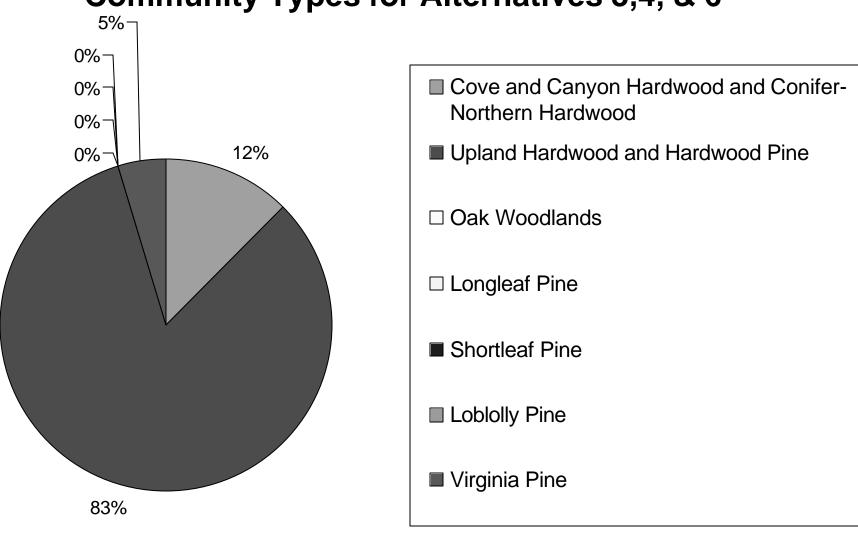
Estimated Percentage of Forest Community Types for Alternative 5



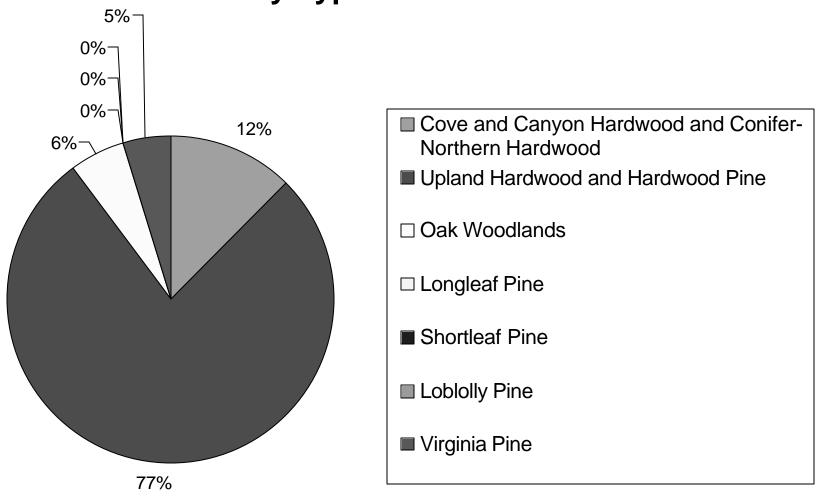
Area 1, Percentages of Current Forest Community Types



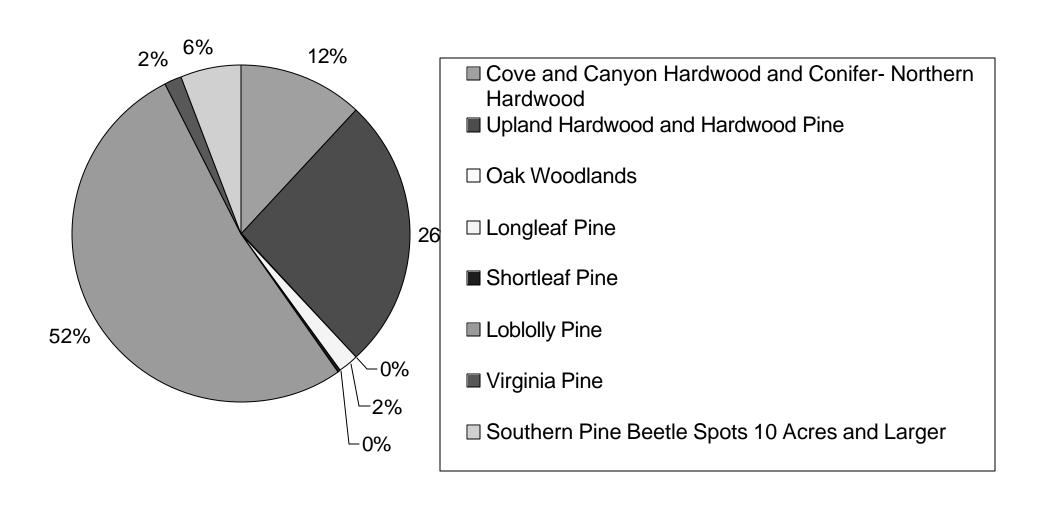
Area 1, Estimated Percentage of Forest Community Types for Alternatives 3,4, & 6



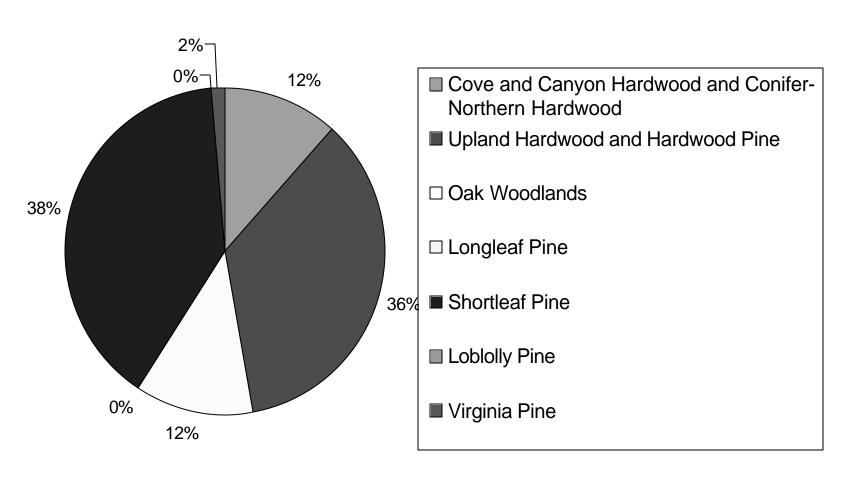
Area 1, Estimated Percentages of Forest Community Types for Alternative 5



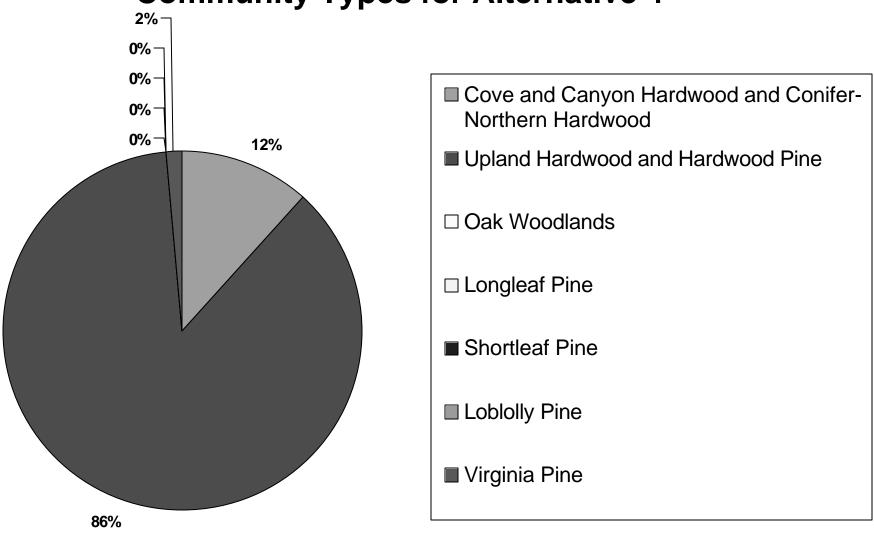
Area 2, Percentages of Current Forest Community Types



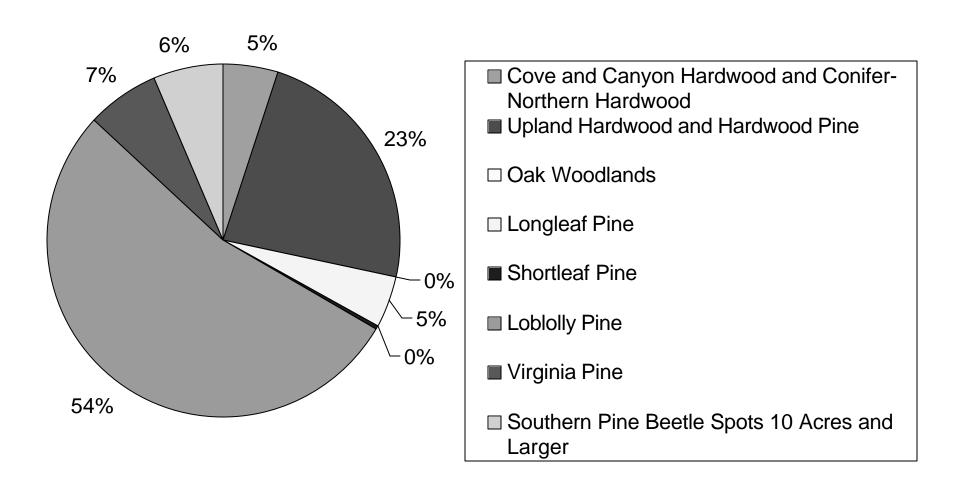
Area 2, Estimated Percentage of Forest Community Types for Alternatives 3, 5, & 6



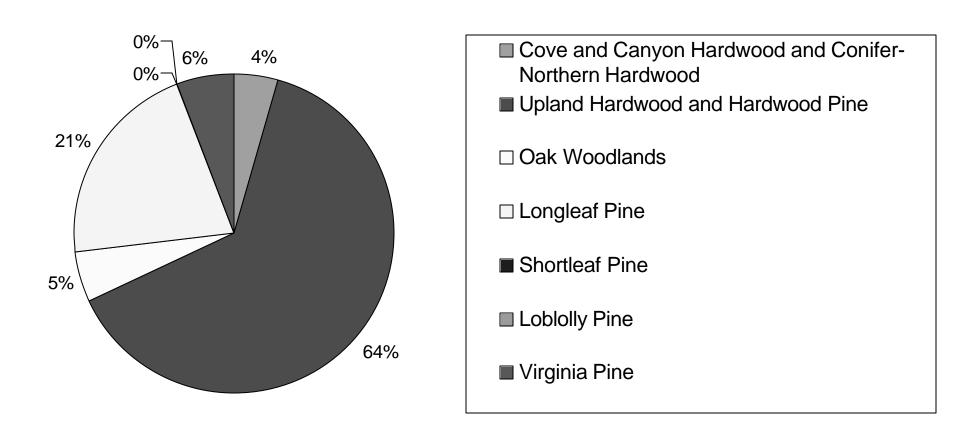
Area 2, Estimated Percentage of Forest Community Types for Alternative 4



Area 3, Percentages of Current Forest Community Types



Area 3, Estimated Percentage of Forest Community Types for Alternatives 3, 4, 5, & 6



Summary

- ☐ Effects of Forest Health & Restoration Initiative on threatened and endangered species
- ☐ Effects of Forest Health & Restoration Initiative on native wildlife

Summary

- No detrimental effects to T&E species or rare communities due to project mitigations and protection mechanisms
- Amount of optimal habitat available for groups of species will vary by alternative
- ➤ Individual treatments (thinning, burning, site prep, and regeneration) will effect wildlife