

Louisiana

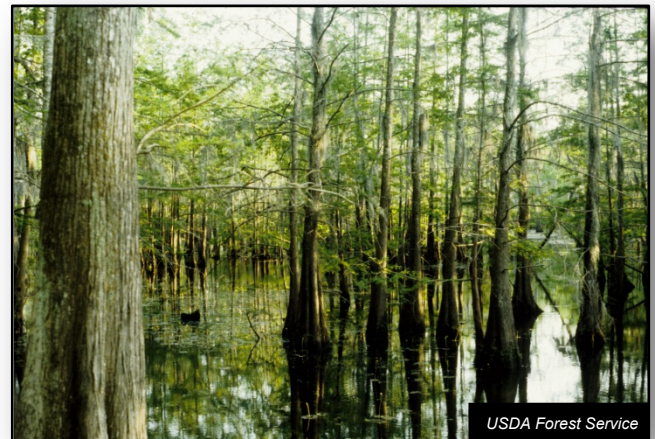


Forest Health Highlights

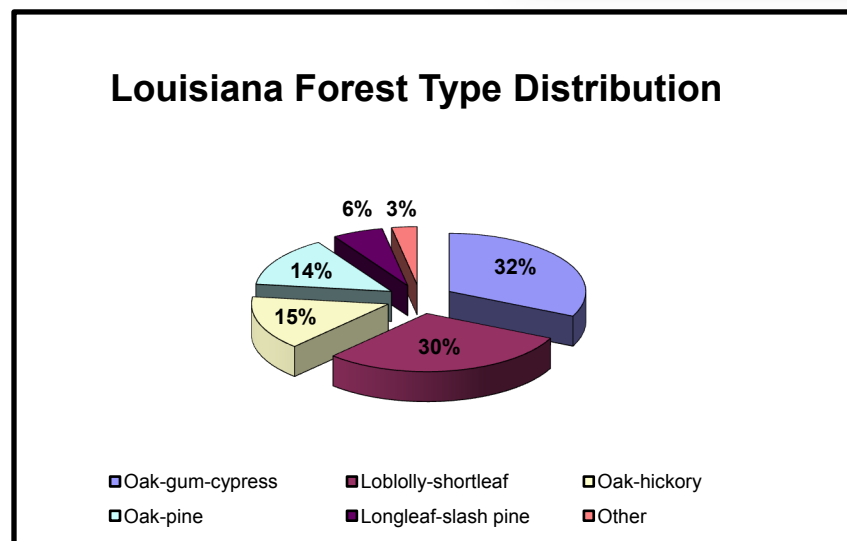
2011

The Resource

Louisiana's forests cover 13.8 million acres, nearly half of the state's land area. The majority of the state's forested land, some 10 million acres, is in non-industrial private ownership, while approximately 603,500 acres are in national forests. Louisiana's forests are prized for their scenic beauty, supporting tourism and outdoor recreation and providing wildlife habitat throughout the state. Major forest types in Louisiana include oak-hickory, loblolly and shortleaf pine, longleaf and slash pine, mixed oak-pine, and oak-gum-cypress. Other minor types account for approximately 3% of the forest.



USDA Forest Service



Forest Influences and Programs

Southern pine beetle (SPB) is Louisiana's most significant forest insect pest. However, activity in the state has been insignificant in recent years, a trend lasting about 12 years. No confirmed infestations were found in 2011 on private, state, or federal lands and no serious population buildup is likely. **Pine engraver beetles (*Ips spp.*)** increased



Erich Vallery, USDA Forest Service

significantly late in the summer of 2010 with dying or dead pines abundantly visible over much of the state. This is mainly in response to the drought and heat prevalent during 2010. This situation continued through 2011 as drought conditions prevailed. Most of this damage remains unquantified due to the scattered nature of the mortality and the difficulty in detecting and evaluating it.

Forest tent caterpillar caused defoliation this spring on about 511,400 acres of tupelo gum wetlands in South Louisiana. See map below. Much of the defoliated area was also affected by defoliation due to baldcypress leafroller (see next).



Forest tent caterpillar

William M. Ciesla,
Forest Health Management International,
bugwood.org



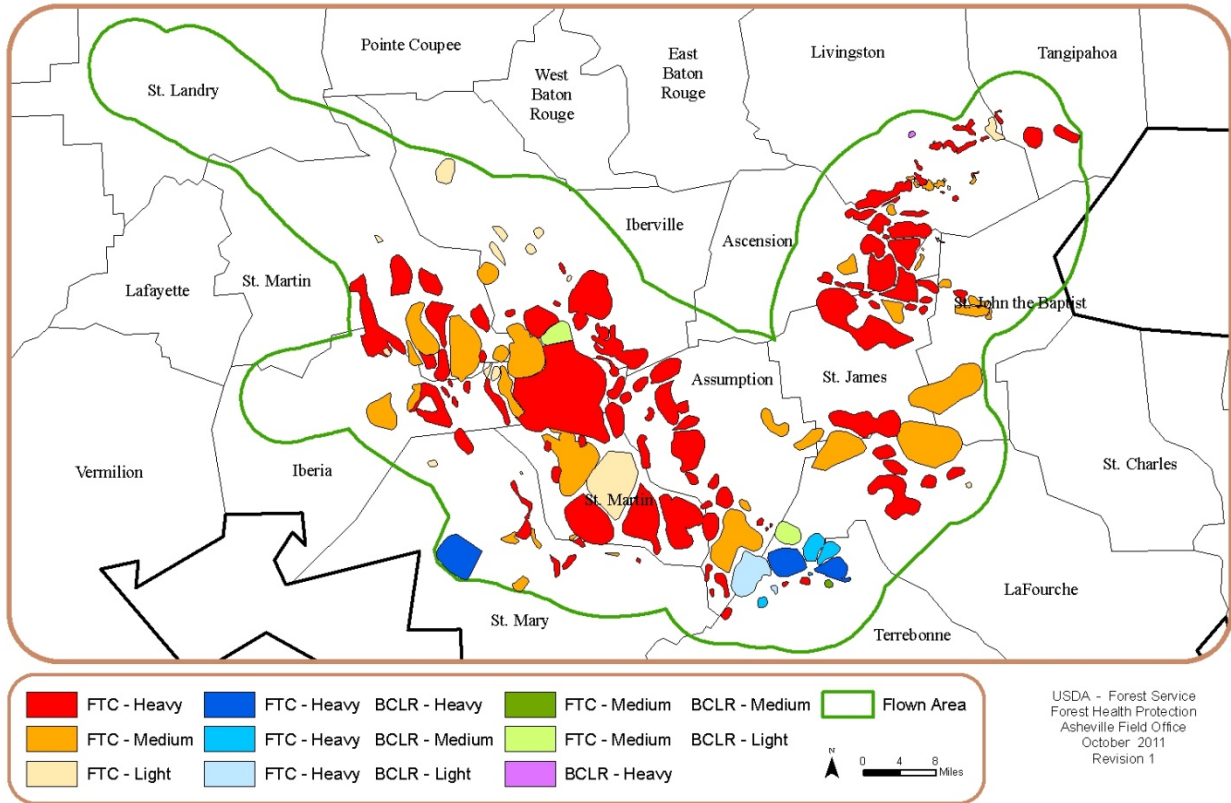
Baldcypress leafroller

Gerald J. Lenhard, Louisiana St. Univ., bugwood.org

Baldcypress leafroller also caused moderate to heavy defoliation on about 43,700 acres of mixed Baldcypress stands in southeastern Parishes, mostly associated with forest tent caterpillar defoliated areas.

Aerial Detection Survey - Defoliation - Louisiana - 2011

Bald Cypress Leaf Roller (BCLR) - Forest Tent Caterpillar (FTC)



Forest Health Assistance in Louisiana

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