

Arkansas



Forest Health Highlights

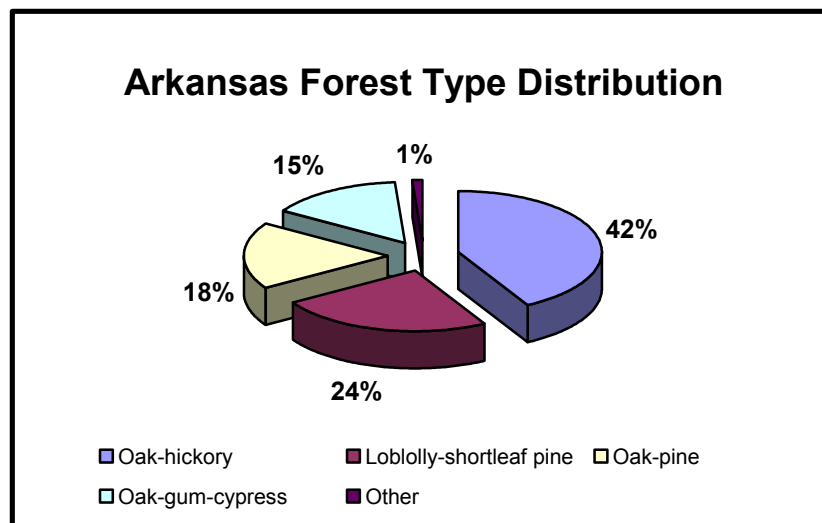
2007

The Resource

Arkansas' forests cover 18.8 million acres, more than 50% of the state's land area. The majority of the state's forested land, some 10.6 million acres, is in non-industrial private ownership, while approximately 2.3 million acres are in national forests. Arkansas' forests are prized for their scenic beauty, supporting tourism and outdoor recreation and providing wildlife habitat from the Ozark and Ouachita Mountains to the Mississippi River. Major forest types in the state include oak-hickory, oak-pine, and oak-gum-cypress.



non-industrial private ownership, acres are in national forests. their scenic beauty, supporting providing wildlife habitat from the the Mississippi River. Major forest hickory, loblolly-shortleaf pine,



Forest Health Influences and Programs

Southern pine beetle (SPB) is Arkansas' most significant forest insect pest. However, in 2007 no SPB activity was reported, a trend that has lasted for more than 10 years. The Arkansas Forestry Commission is offering cost-share incentives to landowners for thinning and restoration work as part of their comprehensive **SPB Prevention Program**. This program is eagerly sought and well received by landowners. The state is also making special effort to reach out to minority and underserved landowners.

Ips and black turpentine beetle are often attracted to trees stressed by drought or damaged during harvest operations. Statewide, populations of these beetles were above normal; both rural forest areas and urban trees were attacked. Thinning

