



United States Department of Agriculture

# Southern Pine Beetle



Forest Service

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Forest Health Protection

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SPB: An aggressive/primary tree-killer, a cyclical outbreak species, and an area-wide pest

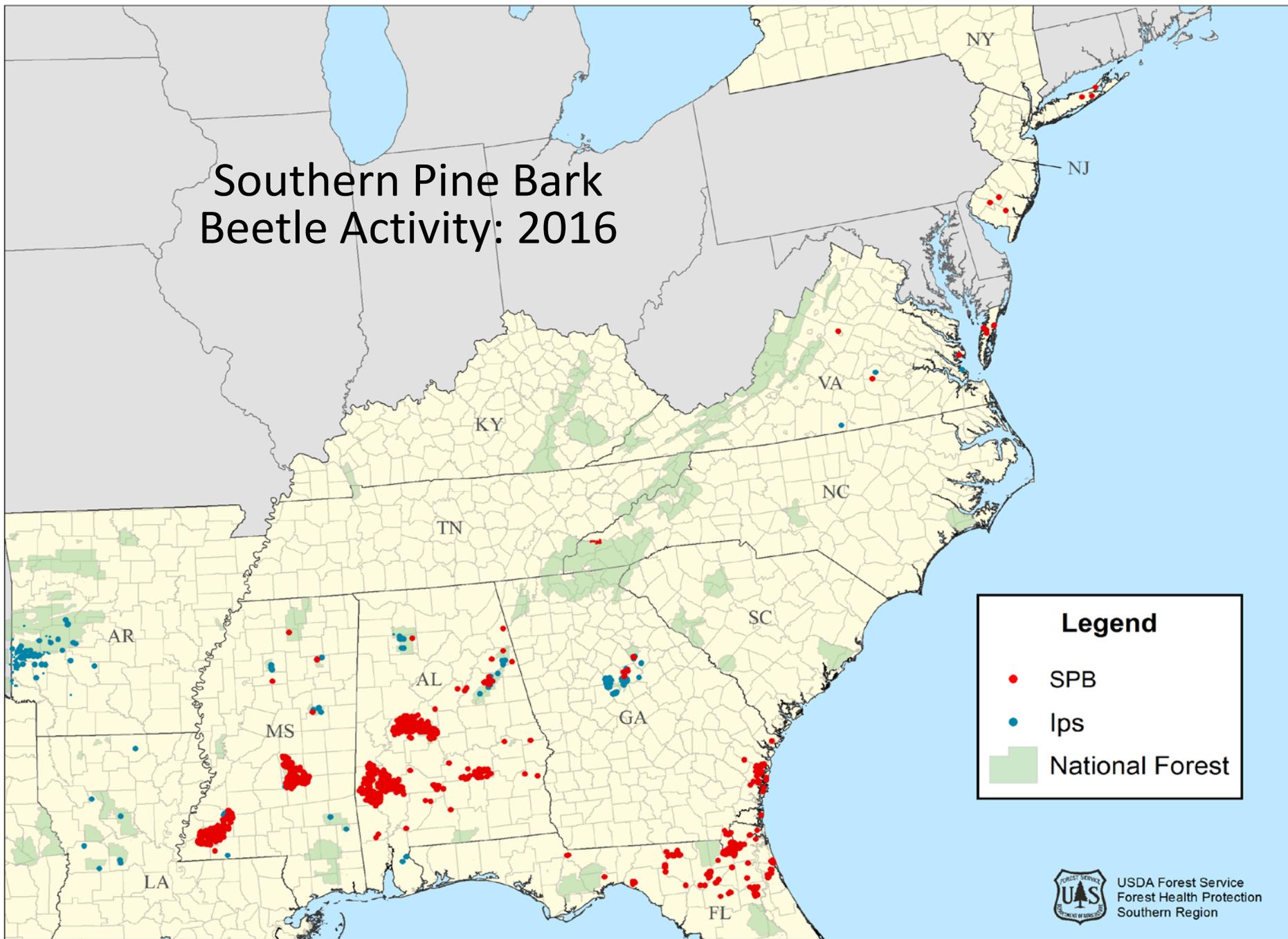


UGA0949



UGA0284022

# Southern Pine Bark Beetle Activity: 2016



USDA Forest Service  
Forest Health Protection  
Southern Region

### National Forests in Mississippi Southern Pine Beetle Spots - 2017

- Active Spot (1592)
- National Forest Boundary
- Non-FS Lands
- National Forest Lands

#### SPB Hazard

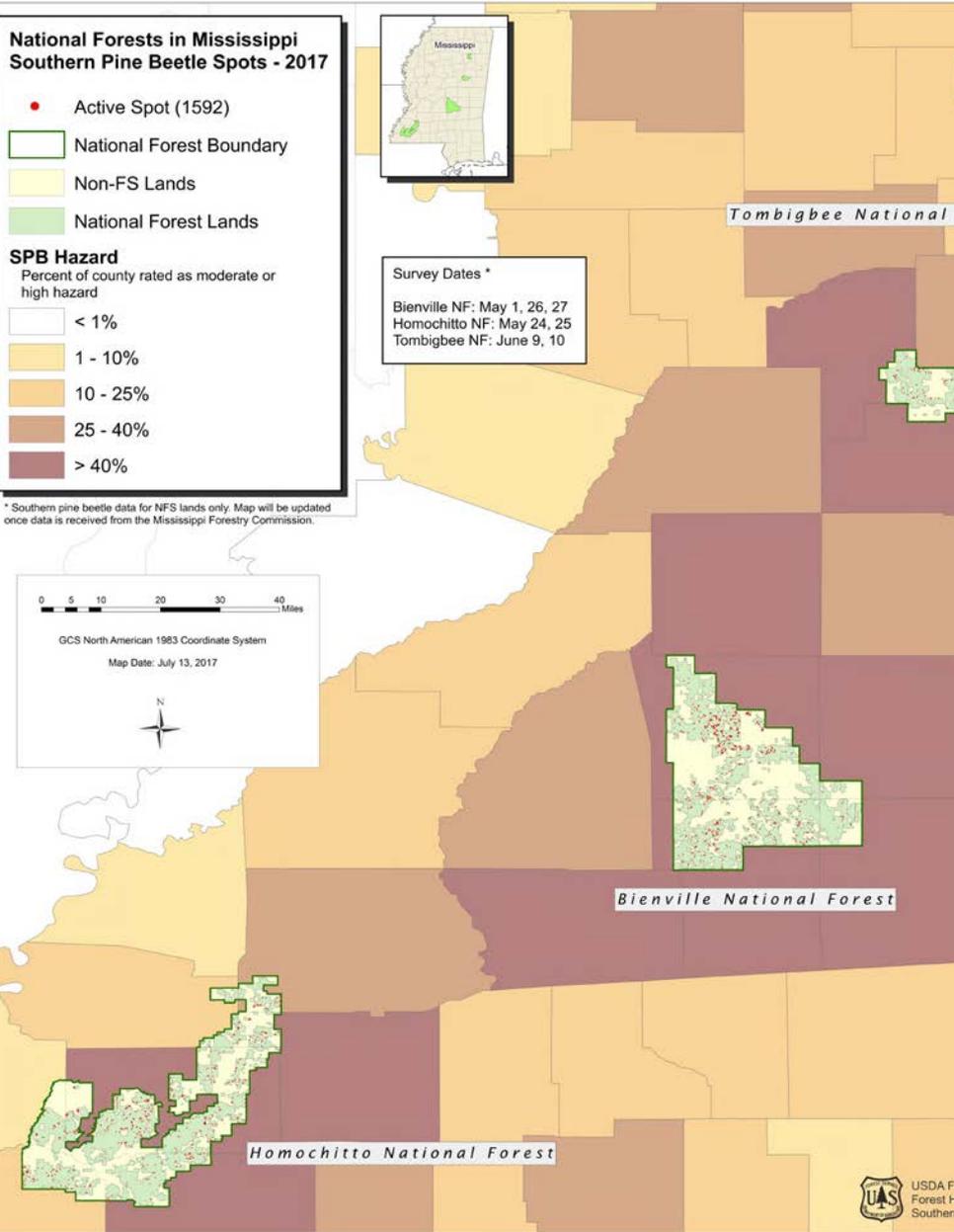
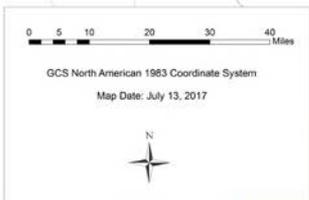
Percent of county rated as moderate or high hazard

- < 1%
- 1 - 10%
- 10 - 25%
- 25 - 40%
- > 40%

Survey Dates \*

Bienville NF: May 1, 26, 27  
 Homochitto NF: May 24, 25  
 Tombigbee NF: June 9, 10

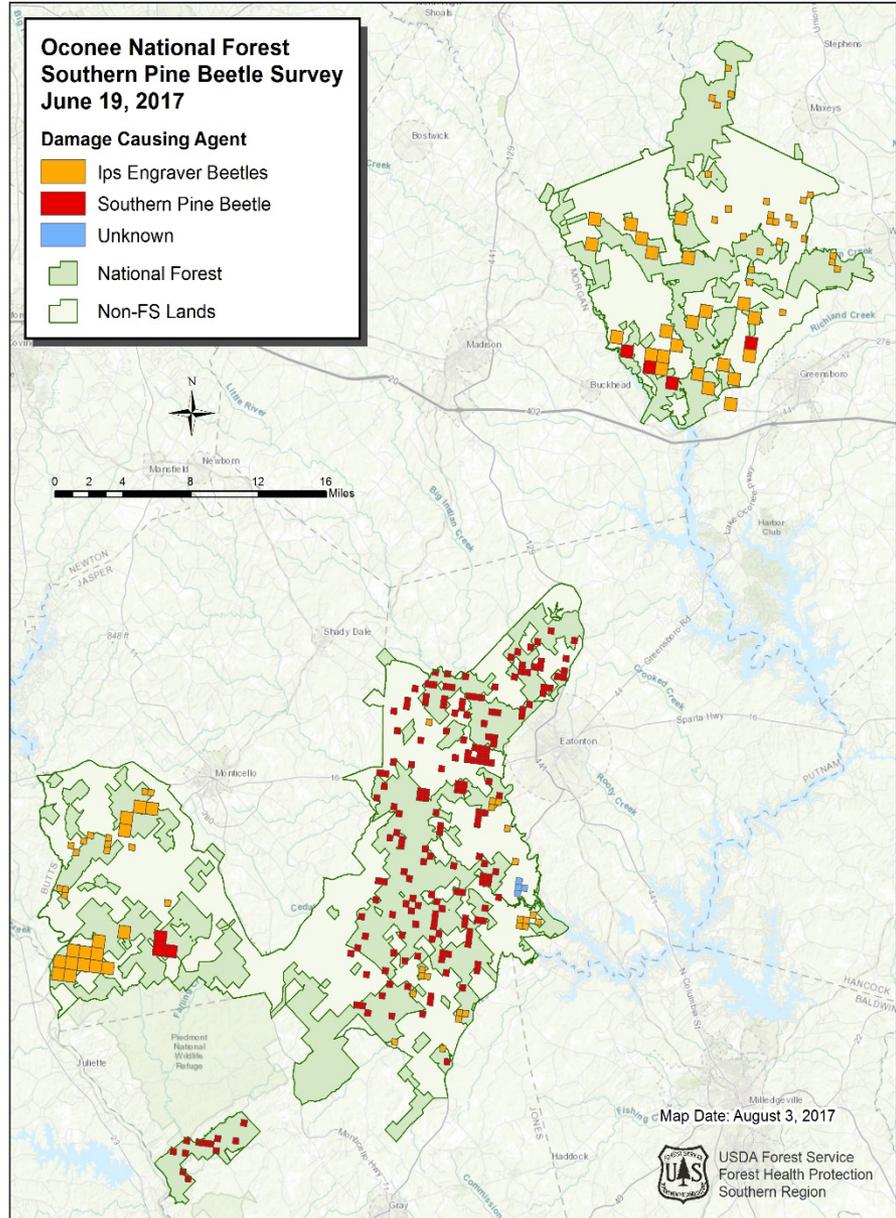
\* Southern pine beetle data for NFS lands only. Map will be updated once data is received from the Mississippi Forestry Commission.



### Oconee National Forest Southern Pine Beetle Survey June 19, 2017

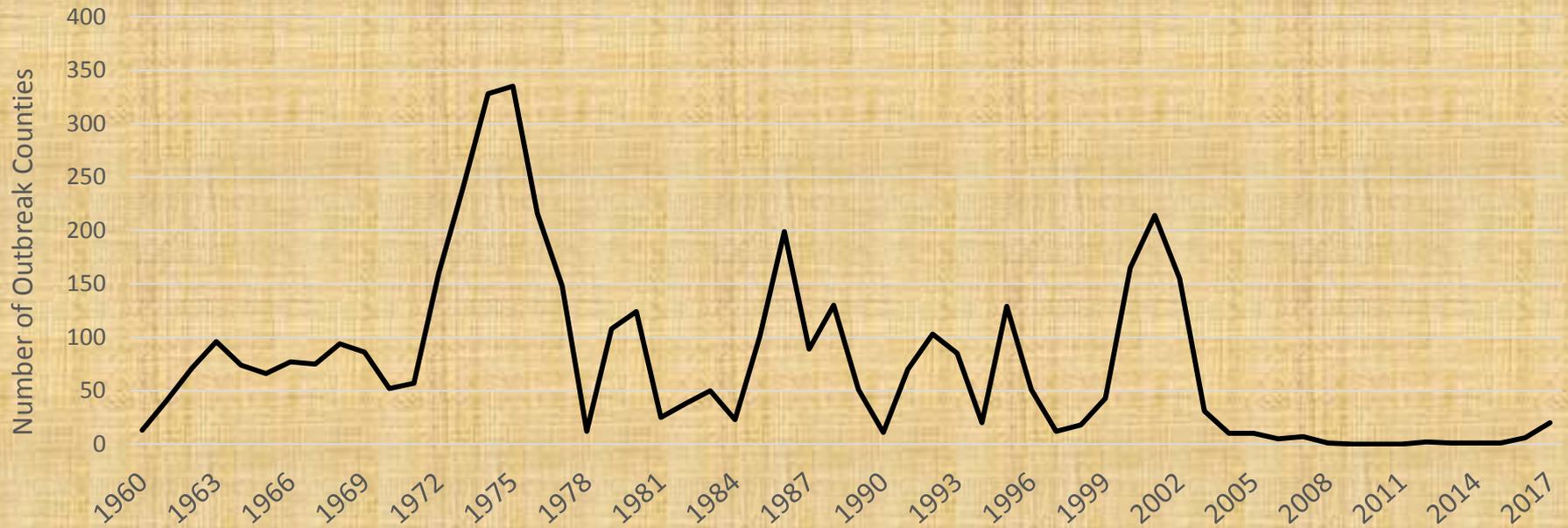
#### Damage Causing Agent

- Ips Engraver Beetles
- Southern Pine Beetle
- Unknown
- National Forest
- Non-FS Lands





### SPB Outbreaks: 1960-2017



Outbreak: 1 SPB Spot per 1,000 acres of host type (loblolly/shortleaf, Oak-pine)

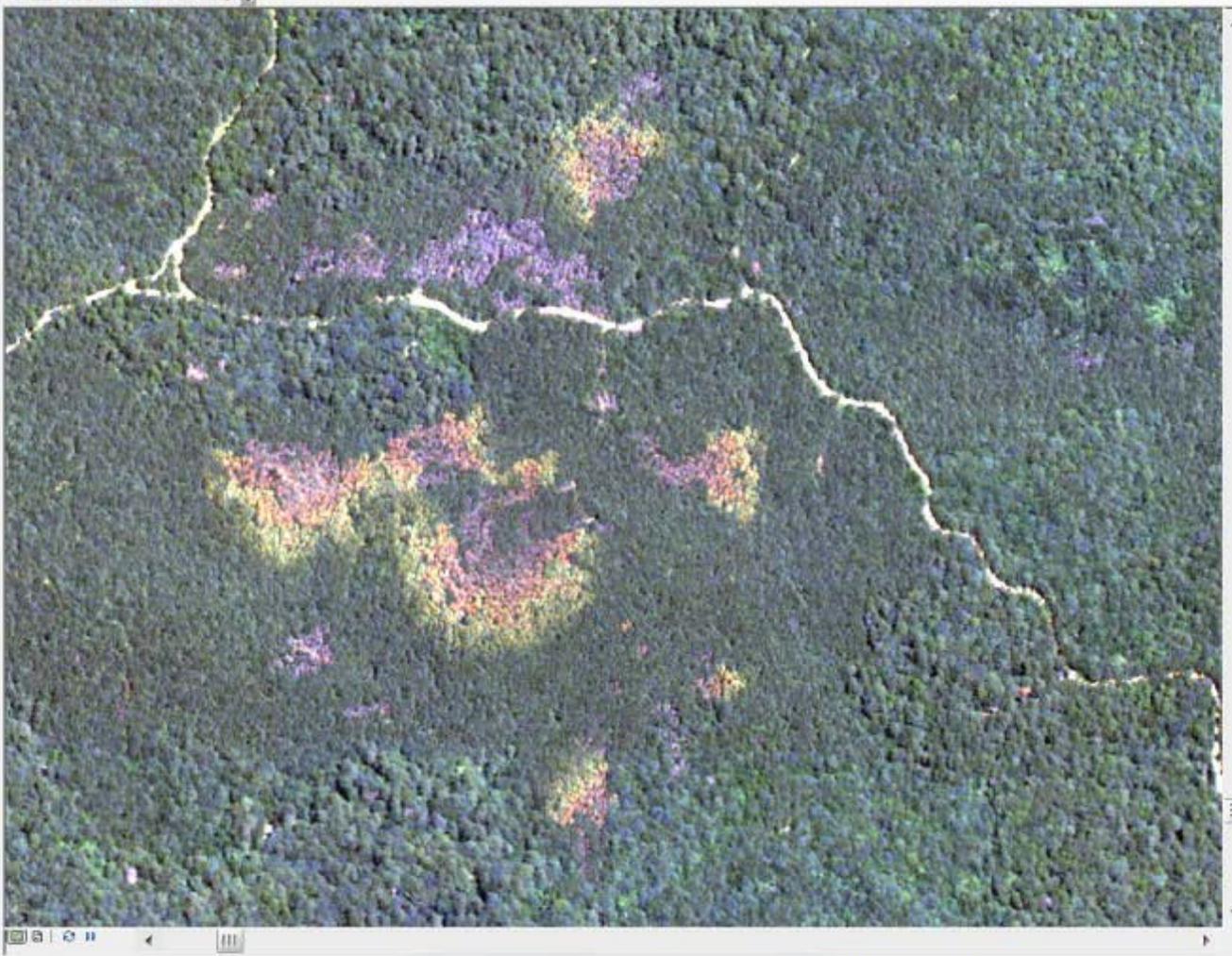






Table Of Contents

- Layers
  - class\_3m\_redtrees\_FIRSTdeliverable
  - ResourcePhoto\_Region08\MS\_SPB\_Project
    - RGB
      - Red: Band\_5
      - Green: Band\_4
      - Blue: Band\_1



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Would you lik

class\_3m\_redtrees\_FIRSTdeliverable.shp Date  
SHP File

GTAC Meeting Room 3 (Sharing...)

Adobe Connect

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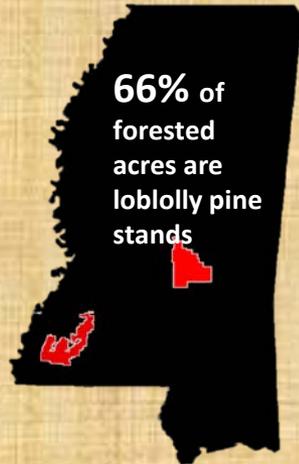
## For Further Discussion

- How can we improve markets?
- Should we thin during an outbreak?
- Should we burn during an outbreak?
- Can we improve our spring trapping prediction system?



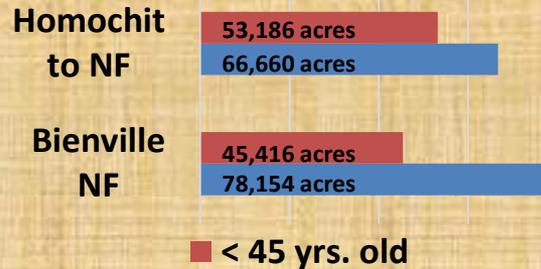
# Key Findings from the 2016 Southern Pine Beetle Outbreak on the National Forests in Mississippi

Homochitto (361 SPB spots) and Bienville (317 SPB spots) National Forests

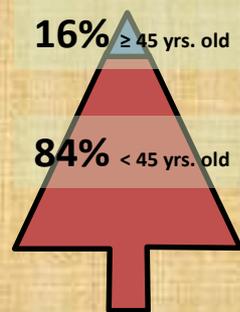


85% of all SPB spots occurred in loblolly pine stands

Loblolly Pine Stands  
Age Distribution of Loblolly Pine Stands



## SPB Spot Distribution by Loblolly Stands



Only **3 spots** occurred on the nearly **13,000** acres of young loblolly stands which were **thinned** in the previous decade.

**99%** of all SPB spots in young loblolly stands occurred in areas which had **not been thinned**

On these two National Forests,

**85,000** acres of young loblolly pine stands are in need of thinning or other treatments to prevent or minimize outbreaks of SPB in the future.

**PROPER THINNING OF PINE STANDS PREVENTS SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE SPOTS.**

For more information about Southern Pine Beetle and this study, contact James Meeker at [jrmeeker@fs.fed.us](mailto:jrmeeker@fs.fed.us) or John Nowak at [jnowak@fs.fed.us](mailto:jnowak@fs.fed.us).



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Relationship between resin flow and SPB; Resin flow related to tree growth; thinning increases tree growth.



Hopkins (1899); Vite' (1961); Shopmeyer and Larson (1985); Brown et al. (1987); Nebeker/Hodges et al. (1992);



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# Untreated Spread of the Southern Pine Beetle



NEW  
YORK  
STATE

Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

East Quogue

Dec. 2014



UGA0014309





# Economic Dynamics of Forests and Forest Industries in the Southern United States

Thomas J. Brandeis, Andrew J. Hartsell,  
James W. Bentley, and Consuelo Brandeis

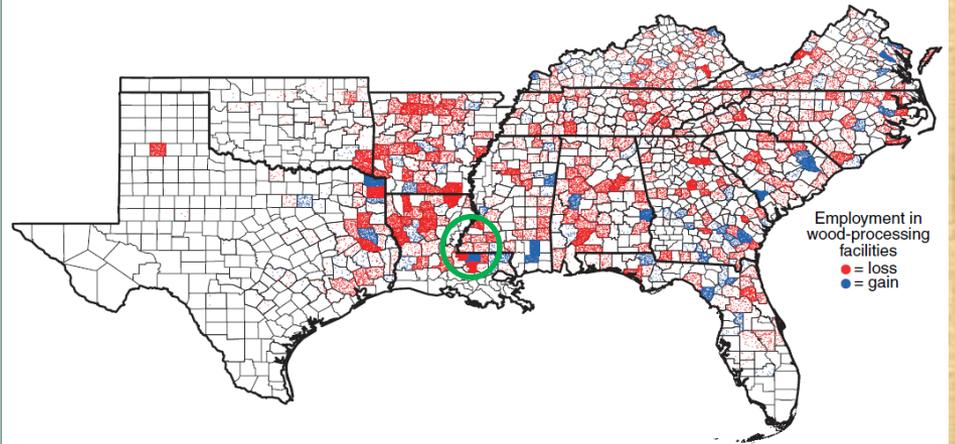


Figure 20—Total change in employment of primary wood-processing facilities as derived by timber product output survey, Southern United States, 2005–09. Each dot represents one individual.

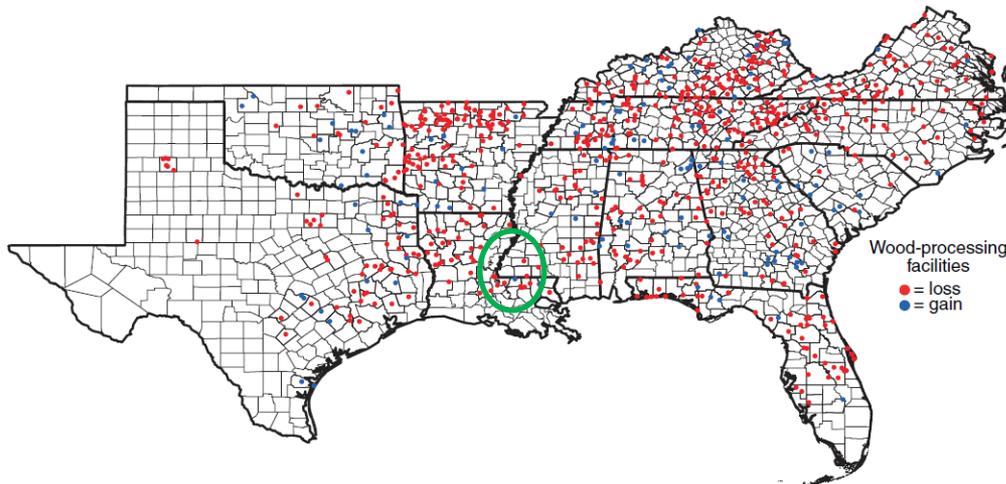


Figure 16—Total change in the number of primary wood-processing facilities as derived by timber product output survey, Southern United States 2005–09. Each dot represents one mill.

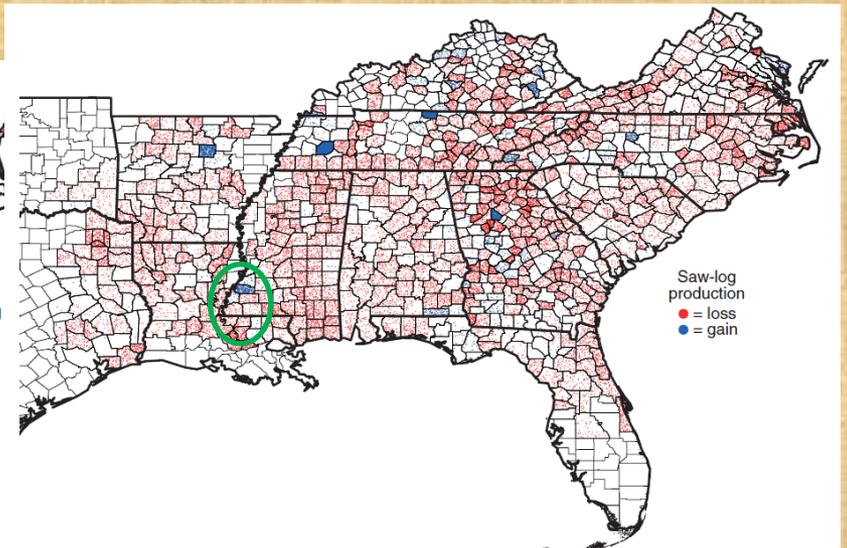


Figure 6—Total change in softwood saw-log production as derived by timber product output survey, Southern United States, 2005–09. Each dot represents 10,000 cubic feet of change.

Thinning to 80 sq.  
ft./ac. or less is  
currently the most  
effective and efficient  
means of preventing  
SPB losses.



# Thinning Recommendations

- Thinning will prevent SPB
- Thin by spacing
- Consider 20' distance between trees
- Create an open understory





## Southern Pine Beetle Prevention Program

Forest Health Protection, Southern Region



Forest Service

About

Program Highlights

Management Activities

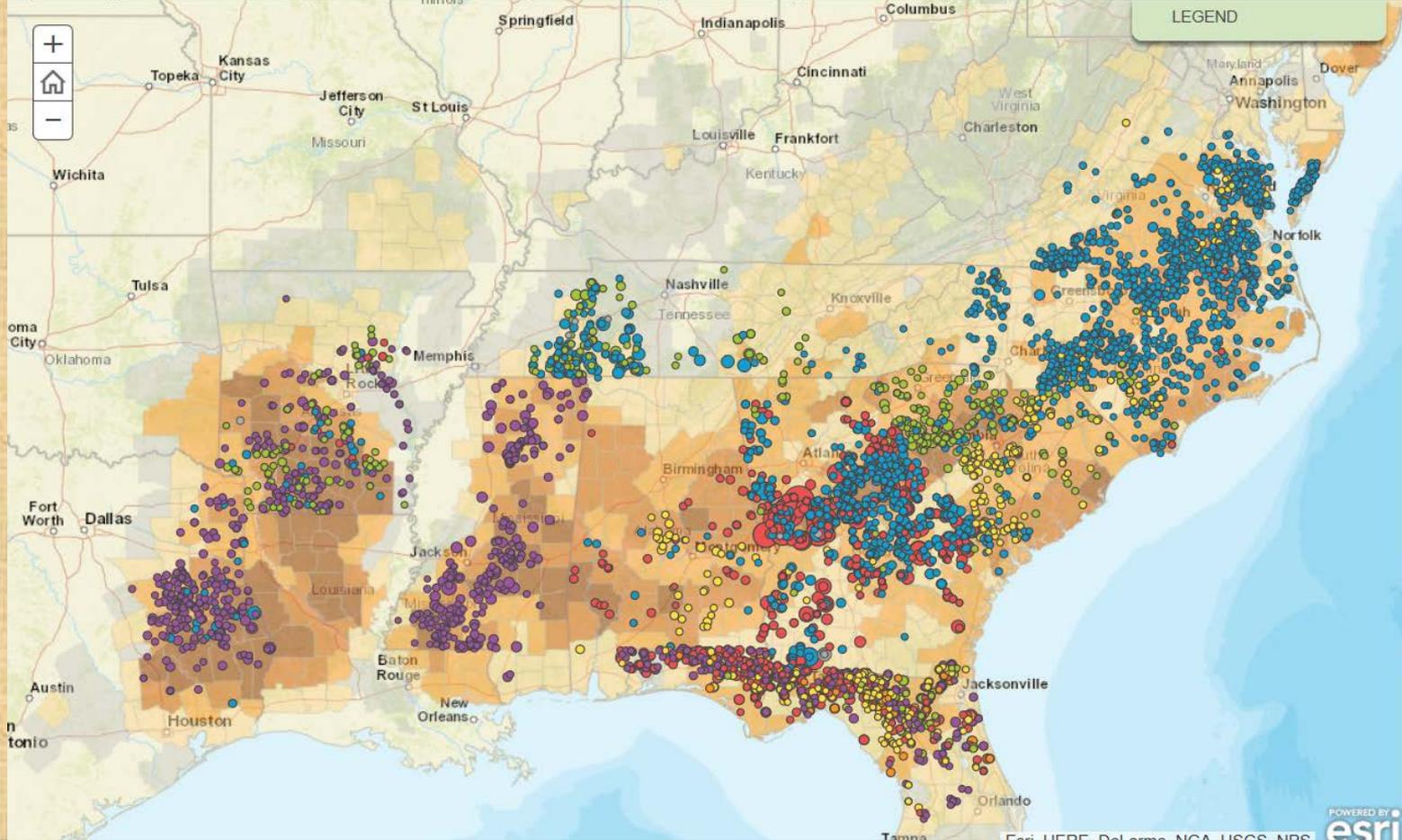
2003 - 2009

2010 - 2016

National Forest Land

Contacts

LEGEND



POWERED BY  
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# Pheromone Plume Modelling Results



- Thinning has a dramatic influence on ventilation, incident solar radiation and dispersive characteristics of the in-canopy environment.





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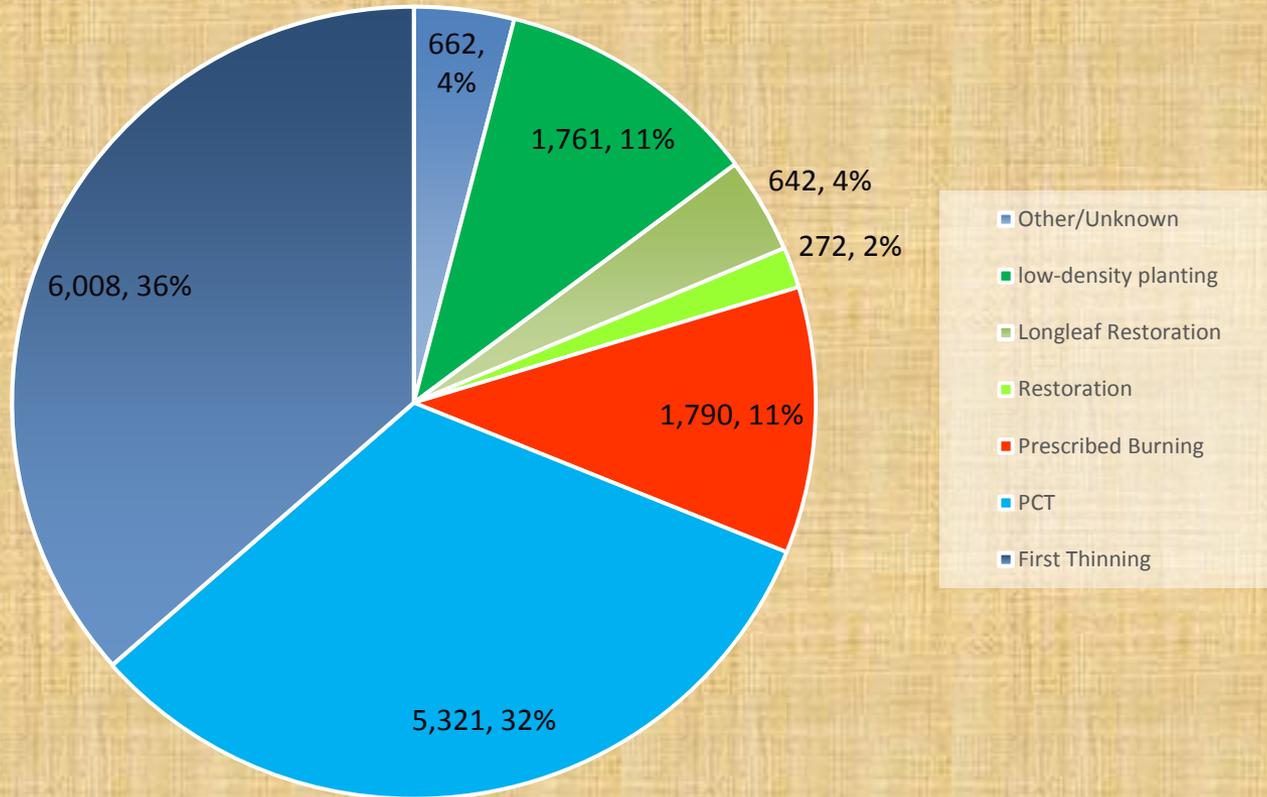
# Prevention of Southern Pine Beetle



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### SPB Prevention Accomplishments: Individual Treatments





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# Prevention of Southern Pine Beetle



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# Beetle Behavior Changes with Seasons

Winter - scattered, dispersed and less active

Spring – peak dispersal and spot initiation

Summer – spot growth and proliferation phase, slumps with periods of extreme heat

Fall – secondary dispersal phase



# South-wide Spring Pheromone Trapping Survey





**Black  
Turpentine Beetle**

*Dendroctonus terebrans*



**Ips Pine  
engravers**

*Ips avulsus*



*Ips grandicollis*



**Southern  
Pine Beetle**

*Dendroctonus frontalis*

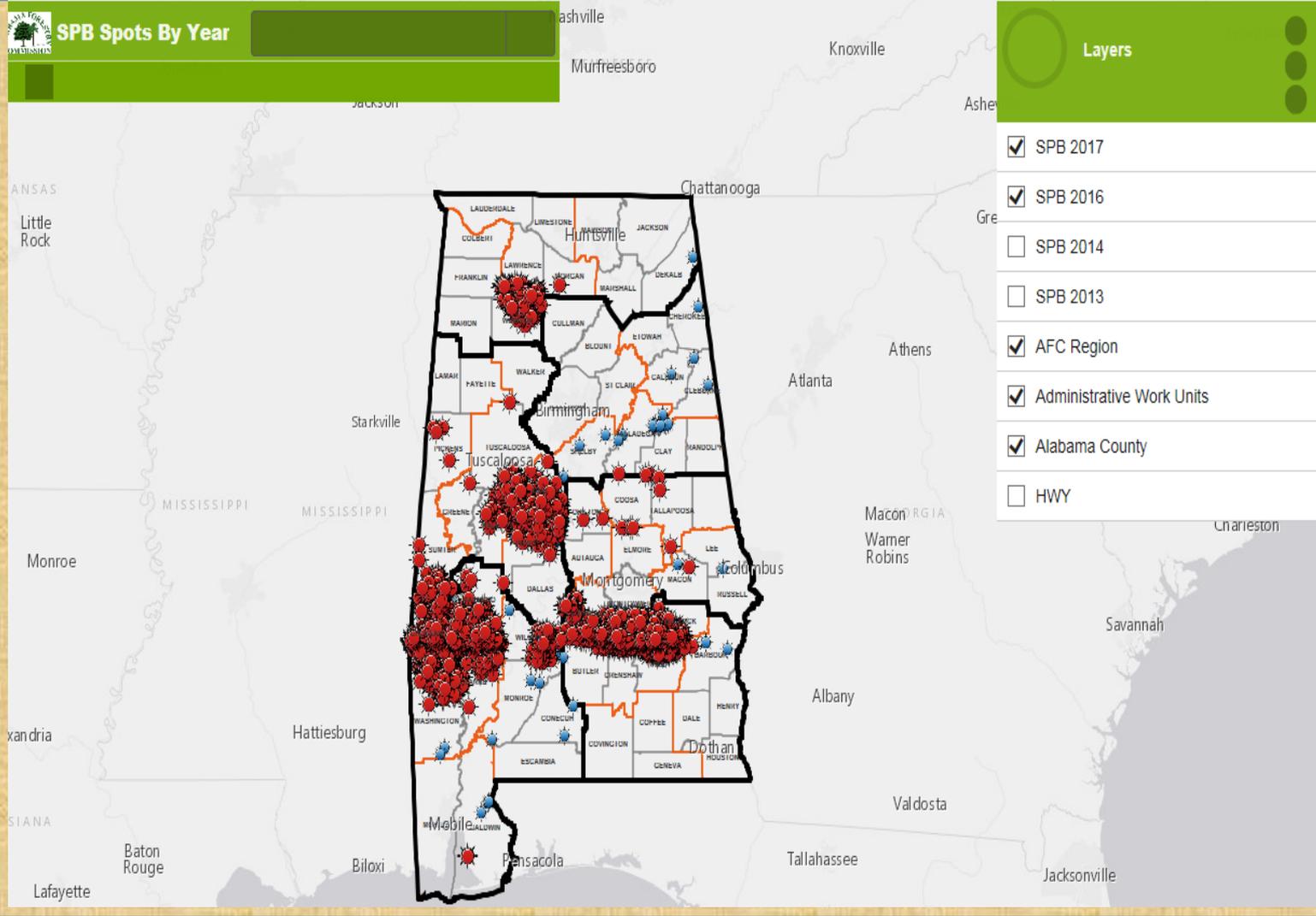


*Ips calligraphus*



 **SPB Spots By Year**

2017  
 2016  
 2014  
 2013



**Layers**

- SPB 2017
- SPB 2016
- SPB 2014
- SPB 2013
- AFC Region
- Administrative Work Units
- Alabama County
- HWY

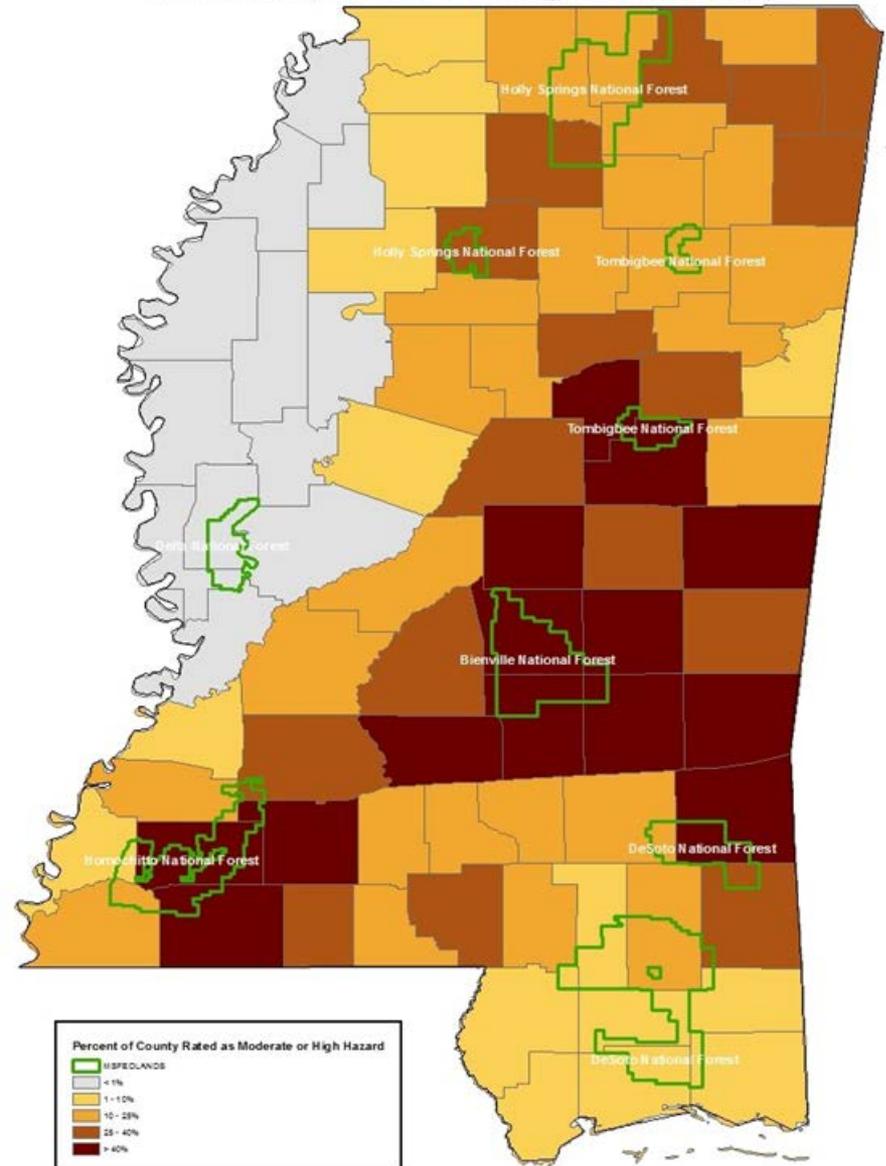


# 2012 National Insect & Disease Risk Map (NIDRM)

## SPB County Hazard Rating for Mississippi

Vulnerability to SPB was modeled generally according to the following criteria:

1. Increasing with increases in **basal area** (basal area below 10 sq. ft. was excluded; 46% weighting)
2. Increasing with increasing **average diameter** (diameters below 3" were excluded; 23% weighting)
3. Increasing with increasing **stand density** (low stand densities were excluded; 15% weighting)
4. Increasing with increases in the number of **historical outbreaks** in a county (15% weighting)



# Homochitto National Forest Southern Pine Beetle Spots - 2017

Survey Dates: May 24, 25 \*

- Active Spot (565)
- National Forest Lands
- Non-FS Lands

## SPB Hazard

Percent of county rated as moderate or high hazard

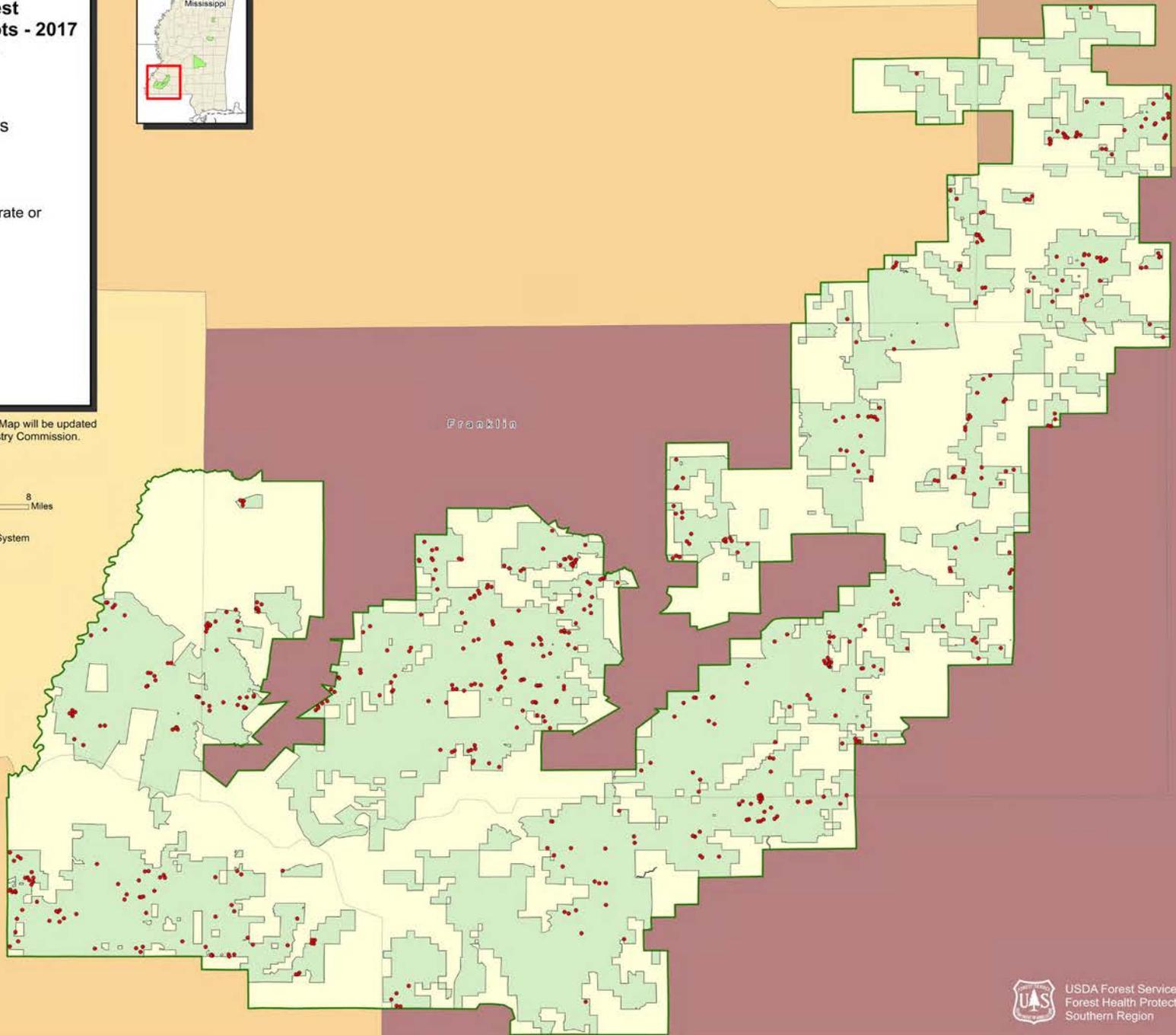
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GCS North American 1983 Coordinate System

Map Date: July 13, 2017



# SPB Control: Cut and Remove

- Identify active spot “head” of recently-infested trees
  - fresh boring dust & pitch tubes, green or fading crowns
- Mark buffer strip around active head
  - Width ~ avg. height of trees
- Remove infested and buffer trees ASAP
- Vacated trees may be left standing



Vacated trees

Infested, beetles emerging

Active head, recently infested

# SPB Control: Cut and Leave

- Fell infested and buffer trees toward spot center and leave on ground
- Objectives: Disrupt pheromone biology and beetle attack behavior, halt spot expansion

