



Forest Legacy Survey

The Governor has appointed the Alabama Forestry Commission (AFC) as the lead agency for the Forest Legacy Program in Alabama. The AFC, in consultation with the State Forest Stewardship Committee has delegated responsibility for administration of the program to the Alabama Forest Resources Center (AFRC). The AFRC has contracted with PRECEDA Education & Training, a division of Baseline Forest Services, Inc., to conduct a series of Public Discussions across the state, seeking input as the AFRC develops the *Assessment of Need* document required to participate in the program. (For a copy of the *Draft Assessment of Need* document, please visit PRECEDA's website, {HYPERLINK "http://www.preceda.com/"} and click on the Forest Legacy button or call 334.514.3000 and request a copy. For additional information about the Forest Legacy Program, please visit the US Forest Service website at {HYPERLINK "http://www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop/flp.htm"}.

This questionnaire is one tool that is being used to collect feedback from those interested individuals who attend the Public Discussions. The questionnaire also presents a convenient method for individuals who cannot attend the Public Discussions to provide feedback.

Please provide us your candid feedback about the *Draft Assessment of Need* or about the Forest Legacy Program in general as it is being implemented in Alabama. This information will be compiled and incorporated into the final *Assessment of Need* document.

PROGRAM PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Forest Legacy Program (FLP) is to identify and protect environmentally important forestland from conversion to non-forest uses through the use of conservation easements and fee purchases. The following objectives were established under the FLP to achieve the overall goal of protecting environmentally important private forestlands in Alabama threatened by conversion to non-forest uses:

- Prevent conversions of forestlands to other uses.
- Preserve and protect fish and wildlife habitats, significant natural communities, and biological diversity.
- Preserve and protect riparian habitats.
- Preserve and protect water quality, fisheries, and water supplies.
- Preserve and protect natural beauty.
- Preserve and protect forest-based recreation opportunities.
- Preserve forestlands for current and future timber production.

1. Please rank order the most important threats (1=highest;8=lowest) to Alabama's forests that will result in conversion to non-forest uses, which will be used to determine whether a geographic region should be given priority as a Forest Legacy Area.

Important Threats (1=highest;8=lowest)

_____ Changing pattern of property owners, causing forest fragmentation.

_____ Declining forest health.

_____ Increasing land values.

_____ Land clearing for non-forest uses.

_____ Population growth & residential / commercial development.

_____ Recreational uses & recreational development.

_____ Tax issues.

_____ Wetland conversions.

_____ Other (please specify _____).

_____ Other (please specify _____).

2. Please rank order the six geographic areas from the accompanying map in order of greatest potential for Forest Legacy Areas (1=greatest potential;6=lowest potential)

_____ North

_____ North Central

_____ West Central

_____ Southeast

_____ Southwest North

_____ Southwest South



3. Please rank order the six geographic areas from the accompanying map in order of greatest need for Forest Legacy Areas (1=greatest need;6=lowest need)

_____ North

_____ North Central

_____ West Central

_____ Southeast

_____ Southwest North

_____ Southwest South

4. In your local region on the accompanying map, are there areas and/or opportunities of significant potential that should be considered for Forest Legacy Areas? If so, please specify:

5. In your local region on the accompanying map, what do you think are the two or three leading pressures or reasons why landowners would convert forestland to non-forest uses? Please specify:

6. Please rank the top 10 criteria that should be used to determine whether a specific tract of land is eligible for Forest Legacy assistance? (1=highest;10=lowest)

_____	The forest provides scenic and aesthetic values.
_____	Development of the parcel would negatively affect adjacent land.
_____	The forest helps prevent further degradation of air quality.
_____	The forest provides important recreational opportunities.
_____	The forest contains a variety of age and size classes.
_____	The forest provides local cultural/economic vitality to rural communities.
_____	The forest is adjacent to another protected area.
_____	The forest provides significant wood products.
_____	Lower population density should be given preference.
_____	Geographical location.
_____	The forest protects and conserves water quality.
_____	The forest is sustainable.
_____	The forest provides and protects habitat.
_____	Minimum parcel size.
_____	Favor conservation easements as the most cost-effective method.
_____	Higher population density given preference.
_____	Other (<i>please specify</i> _____)
_____	Other (<i>please specify</i> _____)

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