



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Southern Region

USDA Forest Service-Savannah River (USFS-SR) March 2011 *HIGHLIGHTS*

Safety and Security

Prescribed fire acres = 5,404 acres. Wildland fire suppression = two fires for a total of 0.26 acres.

USFS-SR employees, contractors and volunteers worked 29,552 hours and drove 30,859 miles with zero recordable accidents or injuries in March.

USFS-SR Safety Manager, Tom Cummins, has achieved the Safety Manager Trainer and Certified Safety Manager certification. Granted by the National Association of Safety Professionals, this certification reflects USFS-SR's commitment to safety excellence.

Restoring/Sustaining Natural Resources

USFS-SR submitted its Fiscal Year 2010 Savannah River Site (SRS) Environmental Report to be included in the appendix to the sitewide report that will be available to the public later this year.

Dr. Chris Barton, University of Kentucky, presented an overview and status of the Savannah River Site Streams Restoration Baseline Project to USFS-SR and interdisciplinary personnel for future natural resource management planning.

USFS-SR found evidence that the federally listed Endangered [red-cockaded woodpecker \(RCW\)](#) population at SRS continues to expand. In March, we completed our inspections, cleaning and assessing for RCW activity and condition of the nesting and roosting cavities in approximately 530 RCW trees in 66 clusters. Each cluster is an aggregate of RCW cavity trees. In these 66 clusters, we found six clusters of trees, previously unused by RCW, are now active; one has recently become inactive. We identified an additional 28 trees new to RCW activity within these 66 clusters. To encourage return of RCW use in these existing 530 tree cavities, we installed 94 new RCW cavity inserts, repaired an additional 12 inserts, and also installed 16 restrictor plates that discourage other species from using those cavities. RCW nesting season is usually April through July.

Accelerated Cleanup

The Soil and Groundwater Closure Projects phytoremediation operations, administered by USFS-SR, removed 1.3 million gallons of tritiated water in March.

[USDA Forest Service-Savannah River](#) manages the natural resources of the Savannah River Site for the United States Department of Energy – Savannah River under Interagency Agreement Number DE-AI09-00SR22188; P. O. Box 700, New Ellenton, SC 29809. 803.725.0006



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ENERGY

Savannah River Site