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From the Director

Report for the Southern Research Station for FY00

As the turn of the century is completed, I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on our proud history of accomplishment in



forestry research and to look forward to a new century of advancing science and technology for the sustainability and productivity of southern forest ecosystems.

The first Annual Report for Forest Service research in the South was published in 1921 by the Southern Forest Experiment Station, New Orleans, LA. Reports were prepared annually by the Experiment Stations in the South until the mid-1960s. After the 1995 consolidation of the former Southern and Southeastern units into the current Southern Research Station (SRS), regular publication resumed in 1998.

The cornerstones of research and development in the South are productivity and sustainability of southern forest ecosystems. We contribute to quality of life in the South by providing the knowledge and technology needed to sustain and enjoy the region's forests and waterways.

The Forest Service is committed to the goal of **sustainability**, which is defined as the ability of the biophysical resources – or ecosystems – to meet human needs and wants without degradation, that is, to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. By maintaining forest health, diversity, and productivity, sustainable forest management ensures that the commodity and environmental needs of present and future generations can be met.

Biological productivity is the rate at which a biological system produces new biomass, by weight gain or reproduction over a period of time. Primary productivity, the productivity of green plants, is measured as the rate at which new organic matter is added to an ecosystem from the inorganic materials of the environment.

These tenets are at the heart of our Strategic Framework and its cross-cutting themes (CCTs).* The Framework provides us a dynamic guide for decisionmaking about our current and future research and development efforts. At the start of the 21st century we are realigning our research work units to more efficiently manage our work within

* see page 19 for a description of the SRS Strategic Framework

From the Director

Report for the Southern Research Station for FY00

the context of the CCTs. We are aligning our two “mountain ecosystems” CCTs – Southern Appalachian and Interior Highlands – under the leadership of one Assistant Director (AD). The Southern Pines CCT will be managed by another AD. A third AD will assume leadership for the Large-Scale Assessment and Modeling CCT and the Wetlands, Bottomlands, and Riparian areas CCT. And a fourth AD will lead the Inventory and Monitoring CCT. This will better align our supervisory structure with our Strategic Framework and provide us with the continued flexibility to meet the challenges that this century is expected to bring.

With this report on our significant accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2000 (FY00), I would like to express my continued pride in the successes of our workforce. As you read about the highlights of this past year in the following pages, you will notice the amazing breadth of our program, from microscopic to global. Our scientists represent a diverse array of disciplines, and along with our

excellent technical and support staffs, are well prepared to address the questions of the modern era. We have been, and continue to be involved in a series of assessments of the sustainability and productivity of southern ecosystems, and the role of human population changes and pressures affecting them. Our long-term research and data sets, and our diverse workforce, provide invaluable tools to address the new challenges, questions, and problems affecting our forests.

We encourage you to contact us with any questions you may have about the work we do.

Web site: <http://www.srs.fs.fed.us>

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PETER J. ROUSSOPOULOS
Director

Caring for the Land and Serving People

FY00 Accomplishment Summary

October 1999 – September 2000

<i>Research work units</i>	25
<i>Publications</i>	592
<i>Web sites (Research work units)</i>	18
<i>Web sites (other SRS)</i>	5
 <i>Publication requests filled</i>	
<i>Hard copy</i>	22,000
<i>Electronic</i>	207,400
<i>Site tours</i>	324
<i>Presentations</i>	603
<i>To scientific societies</i>	169
<i>To lay organizations</i>	208
<i>To other science groups</i>	226
<i>International activities</i>	75
<i>Conservation Education Intern Program contacts</i>	10,000
<i>Total employees</i>	454
<i>Scientists</i>	129
<i>Budget (research funds only)</i>	\$ 42,180,420
 <i>Awards to States, universities, and other</i>	
<i>Federal agencies (all funds)</i>	\$9,408,746
 <i>External funding received from non-Federal Sources</i>	
<i>and other Federal agencies</i>	\$2,480,965
<i>Collaborating organizations</i>	100

Caring for the Land and Serving People

