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MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION
301 North Lamar St., Suite 300, Jackson, MS 39201

www.mfc.state.ms.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 7, 2005

Contact: Kent Grizzard,
Public Relations
(601) 359-2841

Forestry Commission Reports \$2.4 Billion of Tree Damage

Jackson, MS—Hurricane Katrina caused significant damage to timber growing on 1.3 million acres of forestland in Mississippi, according to a damage assessment report released today by the Mississippi Forestry Commission. The report also includes tree damage found in 181 Mississippi cities and communities. The combined value of timber and tree damage is estimated at \$2.4 billion.

The volume of commercial timber damaged consists of 14.6 million cords of pulpwood and 3.2 billion board feet of sawtimber. The estimated value of the damaged timber is \$1.3 billion. According to the damage assessment report, 38 counties received varying degrees of timber damage caused by the hurricane, but the greatest impact to timber occurred in the coastal counties northward to the Laurel area. Significant pine damage was found in Hancock, Harrison, and Pearl River Counties. Hardwood timber along streams and rivers was also significantly damaged. The Mississippi Institute for Forest Inventory helped with the timber assessment.

The Forestry Commission estimates over 2.7 million trees found in 181 Mississippi cities and communities were damaged by Hurricane Katrina. The economic impact of the urban tree damage is estimated to be \$1.1 billion.

Timber damage summary:

Land area affected:	1,266,672 acres
Commercial timber damaged:	
Pulpwood:	14,581,279 cords (pine and hardwood)
Sawtimber:	3,210,165,000 board feet (pine and hardwood)
Total value:	\$1,285,646,600

Urban and Community Tree Damage:

Cities/communities with damage:	181
Estimated Trees Damaged:	2,744,633
Economic impact of damage:	\$1,115,276,479

Combined value of tree damage: \$2,400,923,079

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