

STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE LANDS DIVISION

INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR TIMBER SALE
ON CERTAIN STATE LANDS IN
RUSSELL COUNTY, ALABAMA

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that sealed bids for the purchase and removal of timber will be received until **4:00 P.M., APRIL 16, 2024**, as detailed below, by the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). If ADA accommodations are needed as to attending the bid opening, please contact Delicia Baker at (334) 242-3484. Requests should be made as soon as possible but at least seven days prior to the date of the bid opening.

The timber made the subject of this notice is located on the following described lands:

Russell County, Alabama, Township 16 North, Range 28 East, portions of Section 6, Section 7, and Section 8; containing 293 acres more or less to be thinned and 4 acres more or less to be clearcut ("Sale Area").

VOLUMES: The estimated product class timber volumes are as follows:

| | | |
|--------------------|-------|------|
| Pine Pulpwood | 9,133 | TONS |
| Pine Chip-N-Saw | 6,659 | TONS |
| Pine Sawtimber | 1,364 | TONS |
| Hardwood Pulpwood | 542 | TONS |
| Hardwood Sawtimber | 66 | TONS |

Volumes are not guaranteed and all bidders must satisfy themselves as to the accuracy of estimated quantity.

TIMBER: The timber to be cut is a portion of all planted pine timber greater than four (4) inches DBH except for the specified leave tree basal area within the Sale Area. The residual leave tree basal area is to be 60 sq. ft. per acre in all first thinning plantations and 50 sq. ft. per acre in all second thinning plantations. The timber to be left within the Sale Area should consist of undamaged dominant and co-dominant classes resulting in a healthy and well distributed stand. In first thinning plantations, every **third** row is to be removed for harvest access. As many diseased, forked, deformed, broken or undesirable trees as possible should be removed from the stand while maintaining acceptable leave tree basal area. There are also two small areas to be clearcut. The external boundaries of the first thinnings in the Sale Area are yellow painted property boundaries, previously thinned pine plantations, and streamside management zones as shown on the Sale Area map. The external boundaries of the second thinnings in the Sale Area are yellow painted property boundaries, blue painted lines, previously unthinned pine plantations, and streamside management zones as shown on the Sale Area map. The external boundaries of the two small clear cut areas are orange painted lines, Streamside management zones are not included in the Sale Area. **No trees within any streamside management zones are to be cut. Logging slash accumulated on loading decks in the Sale Area shall be redistributed on skid trails to minimize compaction and erosion.** Purchaser shall not enter wildlife openings with equipment for the purpose of skidding, accumulating or loading timber, or for the parking or maintenance of equipment. Purchaser shall coordinate the location of loading sites in advance with the DCNR contact for day-to-day operations. All merchantable pine timber is to be removed from a strip 30 feet in width along the external boundaries of the Sale Area and along the sides of all the roads within the Sale Area. **MERCHANTABLE HARDWOOD, EXCLUDING ALL OAK TREES, MAY BE REMOVED AS PART OF THE THINNING. Harvesting activities are prohibited on Friday – Sunday between October 15, 2024 and May 1, 2025.**

TERMS OF SALE: Each bid submitted must state the per unit bid for each of the products listed below to be produced pursuant to a contract authorizing the cutting and removal of timber until September 30, 2025:

1. Pine Pulpwood
2. Pine Chip-N-Saw
3. Pine Sawtimber
4. Hardwood Pulpwood
5. Hardwood Sawtimber

Any bid submitted for any other products or for harvest of less than all timber described herein will not be considered.

Per unit bids will be multiplied by the appropriate estimated product class timber volume specified above. The calculated value for each product class will be summed and the bids then compared and evaluated based on total estimated value.

BID SUBMITTAL: Submitted bids must be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope "**SEALED BID FOR UCHEE SOA TIMBER SALE 3 - DO NOT OPEN**" and submitted to: State Lands Division, Room 464, Folsom Administrative Building, 64 North Union Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1901.

ATTENTION: PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED SPECIFICALLY TO THE STATE LANDS DIVISION OFFICE AT 64 NORTH UNION STREET, ROOM 464, FOLSOM ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-1901 (36104 IF DELIVERED BY PRIVATE COURIER).

NO BID SHALL BE RECEIVED FOR ANY REASON ANY TIME AFTER 4:00 P.M., APRIL 16, 2024. IT SHALL BE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BIDDER TO ENSURE ACTUAL RECEIPT OF THE BID BY THE STATE LANDS DIVISION PRIOR TO THIS DEADLINE. All bids received by this deadline will be publicly opened and read on the following day, April 17, 2024, 2:00 P.M. in the office of the State Lands Division, Room 464, Folsom Administrative Building, 64 North Union Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36104.

Bids submitted must be accompanied by a CERTIFIED or CASHIER'S CHECK, made payable to State Lands Division, representing a bid deposit in the amount of \$10,000.00. Bids submitted without such check will not be considered. Certain landowner assistance is required in addition to the payment of the bid price. Unsuccessful bidder's deposits will be returned. The successful bidder's deposit will be applied toward the purchase price.

The successful bidder (if any) shall be required to pay the cost (approximately \$500.00) of advertising this invitation for bids.

LANDOWNER ASSISTANCE: The successful bidder will be obligated to perform the following work as additional contract consideration:

1. At the completion of the harvesting operation contractor shall remove any obstacle that protrudes across tract boundaries. This shall include removal of tops, whole trees or other debris, natural or man-made, resulting from the harvest operation or prior to harvest. At the discretion of SLD personnel, contractor may be required to reopen an existing eight-foot wide firebreak along all tract boundaries. This shall include removal of tops and other debris resulting from the harvest operation and/or removal of existing vegetation to make it accessible for use as a firebreak.

CONTRACT TERMS: Any sale shall be on the terms of the DCNR's Timber Sale Agreement, and shall include the following:

1. The contractor must make provisions for access to the property. Roads will be left in as good or better condition than existed at the time harvesting activity begins.
2. The contractor will be required to post security for performance in the amount of \$10,000.00. The required security may be in the form of a certified check, a standby irrevocable letter of credit with a bank approved by DCNR, or a surety bond with a company authorized to do business within the State of Alabama.
3. The contractor shall have until September 30, 2025 to cut and remove the timber.
4. The contractor shall be required to comply with Alabama's Best Management Practices for Forestry, specifically including, but not limited to, Forested Wetland Management objectives as outlined in Chapter 6 of Alabama's Best Management Practices for Forestry. Harvesting during wet periods may cause unwanted landscape impacts such as rutting, puddling and compaction. To ensure minimization of impacts, harvesting may be halted during periods of soil saturation, at the discretion of DCNR.
5. An advance deposit, to include the bid deposit, equal to 50% of the total value of the per unit bids multiplied by the estimated product class timber volumes will be required at the time of contract execution. Once the value of the timber harvested exceeds the advance deposit, additional payments will be made to the State Lands Division on a weekly basis for the products harvested that week based on verified scale tickets.

The successful bidder must execute and return the contract to the DCNR within ten days following the date of receipt; otherwise, the award may be deemed to have been withdrawn and the deposit forfeited to the State.

All laws of the State of Alabama concerning the sale of timber from state properties shall govern this sale whether or not included in this notice. The DCNR does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, pregnancy, national origin, genetic information, veteran status, or disability in its hiring practices or employment practices nor in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities.

All rights are hereby reserved to reject any and all bids.

Unless specifically provided otherwise in subsequent corrective advertisement, the terms and conditions as stated in this notice shall be controlling over this transaction.

Potential bidders seeking information as to accessing the tract for purposes of inspecting the timber may contact Griff Johnson at (334) 850-3279. It is the sole responsibility of potential bidders to seek information regarding access sufficiently in advance of the bid opening. The Sale Area map is available by calling the State Lands Division at (334) 242-3484 or online at <https://www.outdooralabama.com/public-notices/timber-sales>.



Christopher M. Blankenship, Commissioner
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

3-18-24
DATE

APPROVED LEGAL
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