

**STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
NOTICE OF TIMBER SALE  
COLBERT COUNTY, ALABAMA**

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that sealed per unit bids for the purchase and removal of timber will be received by the Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division (DCNRWFF) at the Lauderdale WMA headquarters office, 7001 County Road 14, Waterloo, AL 35677 until 2:30 P.M. Central Standard Time (CST), on October 7, 2026.

The timber to be sold is located on the following described lands:

**Timber to be harvested consists of approximately 185.4 +/- acres of timber located in Sections 1,2,9,15, and 22, Township 5 South, Range 14 West, all in Colbert County, Alabama, on the Freedom Hills Wildlife Management Area.**

**Estimated volumes are:** 8,545 tons of hardwood pulpwood, and 1,515 tons of hardwood sawtimber. Estimated volumes are not guaranteed. Bidders must satisfy themselves about volumes.

**Description of Timber:** Timber to be sold consists of approximately 185.4 +/- acres of natural hardwood diameter limit thinning. Trees to be harvested in the diameter limit thinning sale will include all hardwood trees less than 12 inches in DBH (less than 16 inches in stump diameter, 6 inches above the ground on the uphill side of the tree) and greater than 24 inches in DBH (greater than 33 inches in stump diameter at 6 inches above the ground on the uphill side of the tree). Thin the remaining trees to 60 sqft (+/- 10 sqft) of basal area per acre overall while favoring dominant and codominant trees with shagbark hickory and white oak being favored as priority to be left uncut. When these are not available, favor other dominant and codominant tree species with exfoliating bark, crevices, or cavities followed by other mast producing trees. Retain all snags (trees less than 10% live crown). No harvest activities within 100 feet on both sides of perennial streams, and within 50 feet on both sides of intermittent or ephemeral streams. No pine trees are included in this sale. Preservation of the residual trees in the thinning areas is of essence to this timber sale and the sale agreement will include a heavy penalty for damage to leave trees.

The purchaser must follow Alabama BMP Guidelines. Sale boundaries may be marked with pink or blue flagging and/or blue paint. Fire lanes and roads may serve as sale boundaries when other markings are not noticeable. Any blue painted trees within the sale unit or on the perimeter of the unit shall not be cut. Any logging slash accumulated on the loading decks will be redistributed on the skid trails to minimize erosion. No skidding or logging activities will take place in or through unauthorized cutting areas or SMZs within the harvest area.

Purchaser shall number the loads of timber and/or trees cut from said lands with highly visible paint on both sides of the loaded trailer up front near the first bunk on the trailer. Also, Purchaser shall keep a record of all loads of timber and/or trees cut from said lands on site. **Preservation of the residual trees is of essence to this timber sale and the Timber Sale Agreement will include a heavy penalty for damage to residual trees.** Game openings and fire lanes cannot be used for loading grounds and/or skid trails. Road development and maintenance serving the harvest area will be the responsibility of the successful bidder. Water barring and re-vegetation of major skid trails and the re-vegetation of loading decks will be completed by the successful bidder if deemed necessary by DCNRWFF. No logging, processing, on-site equipment maintenance or wood hauling activities will be permitted during any scheduled turkey season, youth deer and turkey hunts, gun deer hunts, or the months of May and June. Trailers dollied down next to the county roads may be hauled. Leave trees are not to be damaged.

This is a "pay as you cut" sale. An advanced payment of \$15,000 in the form of a certified check or cashier's check is due with the bid. Payments due to the Department shall be credited against the advanced payment until the value of timber products cut and delivered exceeds the amount advanced. When volumes of timber cut and delivered exceed that paid in the advance payment, further payments will be made weekly for those products harvested that week.

**SUBMIT BIDS TO: Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division, Wildlife Section, Attn: Mark Bales, 7001 CR 14, Waterloo, AL 35677. All bids must be clearly marked on the front of the envelope, "DCNR, WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES, WILDLIFE SECTION, TIMBER BID – FREEDOM HILLS WMA, TO BE OPENED AT 11:30 A.M. CST ON October 8, 2026" to avoid being opened as**

ordinary mail. Sealed Bid Proposals will be read aloud publicly at: 11:30 A.M. CST, 20 Union Hollow Rd, Waterloo, AL 35677.

NO BID SHALL BE RECEIVED FOR ANY REASON AFTER 2:30 P.M. CST on October 7, 2026. IT SHALL BE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BIDDER TO ENSURE ACTUAL RECEIPT OF THE BID BY DCNRWFF PRIOR TO THE ADVERTISED DEADLINE.

Timber inspection may be made between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. CST weekdays. To inspect timber, request information, obtain a copy of the contract, a map, or if ADA accommodations are needed, contact Mark Bales at (256) 998-2351. Requests should be made as soon as possible but at least seven days prior to the date of the bid opening.

**TERMS OF SALE:** Sealed bids must include: a letter with your company name, address, contact information, and your bid rates per ton for the “pay as cut” sale. **Submit per ton bids for the following products: 1) Hardwood Pulpwood, and 2) Hardwood Sawtimber. The bid must be accompanied with a \$15,000 ADVANCE PAYMENT** in the form of a **cashier’s or a certified check**. Make all checks payable to: Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Purchaser shall have twenty-four (24) months to cut and remove timber and may be extended at DCNRWFF’s sole discretion for up to one year. The successful bidder shall be required to comply with all Alabama’s Best Management Practices for Forestry.

Successful bidder will be required to submit a performance bond, irrevocable letter of credit or certified check/cashier’s check in the amount of \$10,000 within twenty days of the date of receipt of contract otherwise, the award may be deemed to have been withdrawn and the deposit forfeited to the State.

DCNRWFF reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

All laws of the State of Alabama concerning the sale of timber from state-owned properties shall govern this sale whether or not included in this notice.

DCNRWFF 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 responses received will be subject to the Alabama Open Records Act, Ala. Code §36-12-40, et seq.(1975), as amended, and may be subject to public disclosure upon request.

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