

SC FOREST RECOVERY TASK FORCE

Co-Chairs: Cam Crawford, President & CEO - Forestry Association of South Carolina
Scott Phillips, State Forester - South Carolina Forestry Commission

Dear FASC members,

In the spring of 2023, the Forestry Association of South Carolina and the South Carolina Forestry Commission announced the formation of the South Carolina Forest Recovery Task Force to address the recent paper mill closures. The Task Force has 15 forest industry leaders including 9 former Chairmen of the Forestry Association and two members of Governor McMaster's staff. The task force has met ten times hearing recommendations from industry leaders and experts on new market opportunities for the South Carolina wood supply chain.

The South Carolina Forest Recovery Task Force has released a report that provides background information, recommendations, and a plan of action relating to the mill closures, curtailments, and cutbacks that have impacted the SC wood supply chain since the spring of 2023. Here's a link to the South Carolina Forest Recovery Task Force Report for January 2025:

<https://www.scforestry.org/PDFs/SC-FOREST-RECOVERY-TASK-FORCE-Report-January2025.pdf>

This Task Force Report has been sent to the Governor, Secretary of Commerce, and members of the South Carolina General Assembly.

While this report's primary focus is on new market opportunities, I anticipate a future report focusing on the retention of existing forest industry.

Personally, I want to express my appreciation to the Task Force members for their volunteer service and hard work in rebuilding the South Carolina Forest Industry.

Sincerely,



Cam Crawford