

2006. Cipollini, M. The Berry College Longleaf Pine Project: Progress over the first three years. Proceedings of the 2nd Mountain Longleaf Conference, Mount Berry, GA. November 18-19, 2005. *Longleaf Alliance Report* 9:9-12.

Since the fall 2002, Berry College has been undertaking a combination restoration, research and education project called the Berry College Longleaf Pine Project. This project has several key management components: 1) planting containerized seedlings into Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) cuts and establishing a normal burning regime in those sites, 2) conducting hardwood control and slowly restoring a normal burning regime to relict, fire-suppressed stands containing longleaf pines up to 240 years of age, 3) establishing a local seed source and a grafted seed orchard, and 4) conducting research and educational projects commensurate with the overall goals of the management plan. So far, 160 acres of relict longleaf stands and 60 acres of SPB cuts are under management. The most recent activity has taken place in a 11-acre area in which relict longleaf pines were stressed following an April 2004 prescribed burn. This area has been selectively logged and is being prepped for re-planting with Berry-derived longleaf seedling stock. In general, management tasks are implemented on small scales, so that various management practices may be compared within close proximity of one another. Summaries of the progress and future plans for each of the key management components will highlight the roles of students within the Berry's student work program, numerous volunteer groups, Berry College's Educational Land Management Committee, Forestry and Land Resources Department, the Berry Longleaf Network, Southern Seed Company, Temple-Island, the Interagency Burn Team (US Fish and Wildlife Service, GA Forestry Commission, US Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy), the National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates program, and the Southern Company-National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Longleaf Legacy grant program.