

Morris

In the following notes on the NATIONAL FORESTS AND PURCHASE UNITS OF REGION EIGHT I have endeavored to give an account of the establishment and growth of these areas, which now contain over nine million acres of national forest land. In preparing this material, I have been guided largely by the facts given in the annual reports of the National Forest Reservation Commission, the annual statistical reports of national forest acreage and the file of proclamations, executive orders and special acts of Congress by which the areas were established, named, and modified. These data have been supplemented by my personal recollections of events of the last quarter century, during which I have taken part in "Lands" work.

It is my hope that these rough notes will be of interest and help to the men engaged now and in the future in the administration and management of the areas described, and that my account may eventually be amplified by the addition of material not now accessible to me but which I am sure is to be found in the files of the forest supervisors or in the recollections of other "old timers".


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THE NATIONAL FORESTS AND PURCHASE UNITS

OF REGION EIGHT

Introduction

An interesting account of the beginnings of the national forest movement in the east is given in "Breaking New Ground" by the late Gifford Pinchot as follows:

"The first suggestion for the purchase of Eastern Forest Reserves came from Professor Joseph A. Holmes, then State Geologist of North Carolina, and later Director of the United States Bureau of Mines. It was made to me, you may remember, in the little brick house at Biltmore in 1892 or 193. Holmes' suggestion was never out of my head for long. But in those early days of American Forestry there was comparatively little to be done about it.

"In 1898, I understand through the initiative of Dr. George Ambler, the Appalachian National Park Association was started in Asheville. On January 2, 1901, a memorial of the Association was presented to Congress and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and an investigation was authorized. Accordingly, during the fiscal year 1900-1901 the Division of Forestry, in co-operation with the United States Geological Survey, made a study of the Southern Appalachian forests. An area of 9,600,000 acres was examined and mapped.

"The results were set forth in an elaborate report transmitted to Congress with a message on December 19, 1901, by Theodore Roosevelt, and ordered printed as Senate Document No. 84. That document contained reliable information concerning the proposed Appalachian Forest Reserve, and gave exhaustive data on the composition, condition, character, extent, and distribution of the forests of a region then little known.

"Early in 1901 the North Carolina Legislature had ceded to the United States authority to acquire title to land for Forest Reserve purposes, with exemption from taxes. For this long step ahead, Joseph Hyde Pratt, lifelong friend of the forests, was largely responsible. Similar measures, also, were passed within three months by Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee. We were making progress." (The South Carolina act was also passed this year).

"In July of the same year, ¹⁹⁰¹ Secretary Wilson had spent ten days in the mountains of North Carolina, making a personal investigation. Very wisely the Secretary took with him Holmes, McGee, Howell, and the local member of Congress. And, of course, I went along.

"After all of which nothing happened. One year a bill would pass the Senate, but die in the House. Then another bill would go through the House, but die in the Senate.

"Some time later the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, under the sagacious leadership of Phillip Ayers, advocated a Forest Reserve in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, combined with the Southern Appalachian movement, and enlisted the support of the Middle Western states. It was this combined pressure that finally overcame the resistance of the Rules Committee and of that famous idealist, Joe Cannon, Speaker of the House, whose position was "not one cent for scenery."

Further light on these early proceedings is given in the following extract from Appendix to the report transmitted with President Theodore Roosevelt's message to Congress dated December 19, 1901 (Senate Document No. 84) page 157-158.

"On November 22, 1899, the Appalachian National Park Association was organized at Asheville, N.C., with a large membership, including citizens from Northern, Southern, and Western States. On January 2, 1900, memorials from this Appalachian National Park Association and the Appalachian Mountain Club of New England were presented to Congress, asking that measures be taken looking to the preservation of the Southern Appalachian forests. In response to these memorials, supported by the unanimously favorable press of the country, Congress incorporated in the bill carrying the appropriation for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, a provision that a sum not to exceed \$5,000 may, in the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture be used to investigate the conditions of the Southern Appalachian mountain region of Western North Carolina and adjacent States."

"In January, 1901, the Secretary of Agriculture submitted a short preliminary report setting forth the result of these investigations up to that time. This report was transmitted to Congress by President McKinley in a brief commendatory message on January 16, 1901.

Jeter C. "On January 16, 1901, a bill was introduced in the Senate by Mr. Pritchard, of North Carolina, which provided an appropriation of \$5,000,000 to be expended under the Secretary of Agriculture in the purchase of not less than 2,000,000 acres of mountain lands in the states of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama. This bill was favorably reported to the Senate by the Committee on Forest Reservations and the Protection of Game, February 12, 1901."

The report of the Secretary of Agriculture referred to in the President's message of December 18, 1901, and the appended reports by W. W. Ashe and H. E. Ayres and other experts covering the forest conditions, lumbering, dendrology, topography, hydrography and climate of the Southern Appalachian region, were profusely illustrated by photographs and accompanied by topographic and cover maps outlining the regions in which the establishment of national forests

was believed to be most beneficial. With all this information at hand, supplemented by additional studies made during the ten year interval between the President's message in 1901 and the passage of the Weeks Law in 1911 there was ample opportunity for the Forest Service to decide before the first meeting of the National Forest Reservation Commission just what areas were to be recommended for establishment at the outset of the program.

As succeeding pages will show, thirteen such purchase units were recommended and approved by the National Forest Reservation Commission between March 1 and June 30, 1911 seven of which were within the present limits of the Southern region, namely; the Mt. Mitchell, Nantahala, Pisgah, Savannah, Smoky Mountains, White Top, and Yadkin. During the following fiscal year the Boone, Cherokee, Georgia and Unaka units were added. The Alabama followed in 1914.

Purch Units

*5 of 7
in N.C.*

At the outset of the Weeks Law program four national forests had already been created in the southeastern states from public domain, namely, the Arkansas, Ozark, Ocala and Choctawhatchee. These were administered first as part Forest Service District No. 3, but when District 7 was organized in 1914 they were made part of the new district along with the lands acquired under the Weeks Law in the purchase units listed above and those of the northeastern states.

During the first five years of the program, purchases in what is now Region 8 were confined to the purchase units established in 1911, and 1912, in the four Appalachian States. The lands approved were of high quality, 28 percent of all such lands being virgin timber. This high quality is clearly reflected in the prices paid, which averaged \$5.65 per acre for the first five years. Individual large tracts at from \$8.00 to \$12.00 per acre were not uncommon.

In 1917 the first lands were approved in Alabama. Arkansas followed in 1918. At the end of 1924 when the field of purchase was about to be extended to lands outside of the mountain watersheds, lands in the Appalachian units were still bringing nearly \$6.00 per acre as compared with \$4.70 in Alabama and \$3.45 in Arkansas.

Passage of the Clarke-McNary Amendment to the Weeks Law in 1924 authorized acquisition of lands for the primary purpose of producing timber in addition to that of "promoting the navigability of Navigable Rivers." This led rapidly to extensions into the coastal plain in North and South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana and the mountains of Oklahoma. Southern Alabama and Texas followed in 1934 and 1935.

With the advent of the New Deal policies in 1933, unlimited funds and distressed land owners made possible the rapid acquisition of lands at very low prices in practically all forested sections of the region. Largely as a result of this expansion, those parts of the former Region 7 lying south of Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri were on July 1, 1934 made into a new Region known as Region 8, the Southern Region, with headquarters at Atlanta.

STATE ENABLING ACTS, REGION EIGHT

<u>State</u>	<u>Date Original Act Approved</u>	<u>Subsequent Action</u>
North Carolina	Jan. 18, 1901	First act limited to "western North Carolina". This limitation removed by act 2/27/1929.
South Carolina	Feb. 21, 1901	Amended February 5, 1915.
Tennessee	April 23, 1901	Areas restricted to lands within 20 miles of N. C. line amended April 4, 1919. 20 mile limit removed 4-21-33 and May 21, 1937.
Georgia	December 18, 1901	Areas limited to mountain region by act August 17, 1918 enlarged 1929 to Okefenokee, extended southward to fall line 3/29/1937.
Alabama	November 30, 1907	Inadvertently repealed by Code of 1923. Re-enacted March 4, 1931. Extended 4/10/33.
Arkansas	February 28, 1917	Amended March 5, 1927. Extended 1935.
Florida	June 2, 1921	None.
Louisiana	1924	None.
Oklahoma	April 8, 1925	None.
Mississippi	March 6, 1926	Purchases restricted to not over 25,000 acres amended Nov. 19, 1928 omitting 25,000 limit. Repealed 1946. Re-enacted on limited basis April 10, 1948.
Texas	May 26, 1933	Areas, subject to approval of State Forester and A&M College.

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF REGION 8 PURCHASE UNITS

	Date Approved N.F.R.C.	Acreage When Established	States Where Located
Mt. Mitchell	3-27-11	214,992	N.C.
Nantahala	"	595,419	N.C., Tenn.
Pisgah	"	358,577	N.C.
Savannah	"	367,760	Ga. & S.C.
Snoky Mtns.	"	604,934	N. C. & Tenn.
White Top	"	255,027	Tenn. & Va.
Yadkin	"	194,496	N. C.
Boone	FY 1912	241,462	N. C.
Cherokee	"	222,058	Tenn.
Georgia	"	475,899	Ga. & N.C.
Unaka	"	473,533	N.C. & Tenn.
Alabama	1914	152,960	Ala.
Arkansas	FY 1918	958,290	Ark.
Ozark	"	511,616	Ark.
French Broad	1927	128,698	N.C. & Tenn.
Black River	2-18-28	75,000	S.C.
Wambaw	"	100,000	S.C.
Catahoula	"	75,000	La.
Kisatchie	"	50,000	La.
Vernon #1	"	50,000	La.
Ouachita	FY 1928	1,154,039	Ark.
Choctawhatchee	2-21-29	368,048	Fla.
Ocala	"	252,180	Fla.
Osceola	"	414,000	Fla.
Hnochitto	5-17-30	325,000	Miss.
Kiamichi	"	345,200	Okla. & Ark.
Evangeline	"	75,000	La.
Vernon #2	2-25-31	107,000	La.
Apalachicola	8-30-33	268,000	Fla.
Holly Springs	"	530,520	Miss.
Chickasawhay	"	192,000	Miss.
Leaf River	"	302,700	Miss.
Biloxi	"	339,840	Miss.
Luquillo addition	"	65,000	P. R.
Croatan	10-30-33	307,000	N. C.
Sauratown	3-26-34	110,700	N. C.
Uwharrie	"	560,000	N.C.C.
Enoree	"	342,000	S. C.
Long Cane	"	409,000	S. C.
Bienville	"	382,820	Miss.
Toro Negro	"	112,000	P. R.
Angelina	"	300,000	Texas
Davy Crockett	"	350,000	Texas
San Jacinto	"	400,000	Texas
Sabine	"	350,000	Texas

Cont.

	<u>Date</u> <u>Approved</u> <u>N.F.R.C.</u>	<u>Acres</u> <u>When</u> <u>Established</u>	<u>States</u> <u>Where</u> <u>Located</u>
Conecuh	1-21-35	343,100	Ala.
Oakmulgee	"	282,240	Ala.
Talladega	"	422,020	Ala.
Tombigbee	"	611,271	Ala.
Delta	3-7-35	323,840	Miss.
San Houston	6-30-36	San Jacinto Renamed	Texas
Chattahoochee	9-30-36	1,165,000	Ga.
DeSoto	"	1,212,820	Miss.
Sumter	"	1,007,900	S.C.
Black Warrior	"	560,604	Ala.
Francis Marion	"	414,700	S.C.
Forest of Discovery	6-4-41	319,900	Tenn.

REGION EIGHT
DISCONTINUED UNITS OR NAMES

<u>Name Under which established or known</u>	<u>Now a portion of, or known as</u>
Alabama National Forest and Purchase Unit	William B. Bankhead National Forest
Arkansas National Forest and Purchase Unit	Renamed Ouachita
Benning National Forest	Military Reservation
Biloxi Purchase Unit	Included in DeSoto National Forest
Black River Purchase Unit	Rescinded
Black Warrior National Forest and Purchase Unit	Renamed William B. Bankhead National Forest
Boone Purchase Unit and National Forest	Part of Pisgah National Forest
Catahoula Purchase Unit	Included in Kisatchie National Forest
Chickasawhay Purchase Unit	Included in DeSoto National Forest
Choctawhatchee National Forest and Purchase Unit	Transferred to Army, Eglin Field
Enoree Purchase Unit	Included in Sumter National Forest
Evangeline Purchase Unit	Included in Kisatchie National Forest
French Broad Purchase Unit	Part of Pisgah and Cherokee National Forests
Georgia Purchase Unit	Part of Chattahoochee National Forest
Jackson National Forest	Military Reservation
Leaf River Purchase Unit	Included in DeSoto National Forest
Long Cane Purchase Unit	Included in Sumter National Forest
Luquillo National Forest and Purchase Unit	Transferred to Tropical Region
McClellan National Forest	Military Reservation
Mount Mitchell Purchase Unit	Included in Pisgah National Forest
Oakmulgee Purchase Unit	Included in Talladega National Forest
San Jacinto Purchase Unit	Renamed Sam Houston
Sauratown Purchase Unit	Rescinded
Savannah Purchase Unit	Nantahala, Chattahoochee and Sumter National Forests
Smoky Mountains Purchase Unit	Rescinded
Toro Negro Purchase Unit	Transferred to Tropical Region
Unaka National Forest and Purchase Unit	Part of Cherokee, Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests

Cont.

<u>Name under which established or known</u>	<u>Now a portion of, or known as</u>
Vernon Purchase Unit, #1	Abandoned
Vernon Purchase Unit, #2	Included in Kisatchie National Forest
Wambaw Purchase Unit	Renamed Francis Marion
White Top Purchase Unit	Cherokee National Forest and Jefferson National Forest

NATIONAL FORESTS AND PURCHASE UNITS OF REGION EIGHT

I. National Forests and Administrative Groups

	<u>Date First Proclaimed or Established</u>	<u>By President</u>	<u>Present Gross Area</u>
Alabama National Forests			
William B. Bankhead National Forest,	Jan. 15, 1918	Woodrow Wilson	560,604
Conecuh National Forest	July 17, 1936	Franklin Roosevelt	339,573
Talladega National Forest	July 17, 1936	" "	851,119
Ouachita National Forest, Arkansas and Oklahoma	Dec. 18, 1907	Theodore Roosevelt	2,423,795
Ozark National Forest, Arkansas	Mar. 6, 1908	Theodore Roosevelt	1,452,077
Florida National Forests			
Apalachicola National Forest	May 13, 1936	Franklin Roosevelt	638,217
Ocala National Forest	Nov. 24, 1908	Theodore Roosevelt	441,925
Osceola National Forest	July 10, 1931	Herbert Hoover	161,813
Chattahoochee National Forest, Georgia	July 9, 1936	Franklin Roosevelt	1,518,322
Kisatchie National Forest, Louisiana	June 10, 1930	Herbert Hoover	877,977
Mississippi National Forests			
Bienville National Forest	June 15, 1936	Franklin Roosevelt	382,820
Delta Purchase Unit	March 7, 1935	N.F.R.C.	220,328
DeSoto National Forest	June 17, 1936	Franklin Roosevelt	1,213,740
Holly Springs National Forest	June 15, 1936	" "	462,040
Homochitto National Forest	July 20, 1936	" "	373,495
Nantahala National Forest, North Carolina	Jan. 29, 1920	Woodrow Wilson	1,349,000
Pisgah-Croatan National Forests, North Carolina			
Pisgah National Forest	Oct. 17, 1916	Woodrow Wilson	1,178,003
Croatan National Forest	July 29, 1936	Franklin Roosevelt	294,610
Uwharrie Purchase Unit	Mar. 26, 1934	N.F.R.C.	560,000

Cont.

	<u>Date First Proclaimed or Established</u>	<u>By President</u>	<u>Present Gross Area</u>
South Carolina National Forests			
Francis Marion National Forest	July 10, 1936	Franklin Roosevelt	414,700
Sumter National Forest	July 13, 1936	" "	1,008,234
Cherokee National Forest, Tennessee	June 14, 1920	Woodrow Wilson	1,204,429
Texas National Forests			
Angelina National Forest	Oct. 13, 1936	Franklin Roosevelt	391,271
Davy Crockett National Forest	Oct. 13, 1936	" "	394,200
Sabine National Forest	Oct. 13, 1936	" "	499,664
Sam Houston National Forest	Oct. 13, 1936	" "	491,800

II. Inactive Purchase Units

Forest of Discovery, Tennessee	Est. June 4, 1941	-	319,900
Kiamichi Purchase Unit, Okla.	" May 17, 1930	-	52,760
Tombigbee Purchase Unit, Alabama	" Jan. 21, 1935	-	611,271
Yadkin Purchase Unit, North Carolina	" March 27, 1911	-	194,496

NATIONAL FORESTS AND PURCHASE UNITS OF REGION EIGHT

ALABAMA NATIONAL FOREST

William B. Bankhead National Forest:

This National Forest began with the Alabama Purchase Unit, which was established by the National Forest Reservation Commission in F. Y. 1914. The precise date is not now determinable. Its gross acreage when established was 152,960 in Lawrence and Winston Counties. The public lands in this area were withdrawn from entry on July 5, 1913.

Purchases in this area got under way slowly. It is related that one or two individuals, armed with inside information, proceeded immediately after the establishment to take options on a large number of tracts, expecting to sell them to the United States at an advance in price. When this was reported, the National Forest Reservation Commission adopted the policy, that has lasted to the present, of refusing to deal with agents or optioners and insisting upon buying only from the actual owners of the lands.

The first program of purchase cases in Alabama was approved by the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of March 6, 1917. At the end of that calendar year, 149 tracts had been approved for purchase, containing nearly 35,000 acres. Prices averaged 4.75 per acre, amounting to over \$165,000. Although none of this land was quite equal to Quality I Appalachian Coves, it was almost entirely free of unproductive areas such as the ridge type of the Appalachians. A large part of the lands carried valuable stands of sawtimber, much of which was virgin. One of the first tracts approved was about 6,290 acres of virgin timber offered by the Henderson Land and Development Company at the price of \$6.00 per acre.

In 1917 the unit was enlarged to 196,200 acres. On January 15, 1918 it was proclaimed as the Alabama National Forest by President Wilson. The proclamation diagram indicates an area of 198,385 acres, although the area initially placed under protection was only 57,705 acres. Of this, 13,655 acres were public domain, and 13,890 acres were acquired by purchase. Although the boundaries of the National Forest and the Purchase Unit appear to have been co-terminous, the national forest gross area is shown as 198,385 acres from 1920 until 1929, while the purchase unit area is carried as 196,200 acres in 1917 and 1918, 196,520 acres in 1919, 1920, 1921 and 1922, 192,385 acres in 1923 and 1924, and 198,425 acres from 1925 until 1933. The Purchase Unit was increased in 1934 to 227,065, and in 1935 to 560,760. On June 19, 1936, by proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the National Forest was renamed the Black Warrior and enlarged to contain 560,604 acres, which shortly thereafter was adopted by the National Forest Reservation Commission as the area of the Purchase Unit.

On June 6, 1942 the name was changed by Act of Congress (Public 595, 77th Congress) to the William B. Bankhead National Forest, which has been continued to the present without change in gross area. As of June 30, 1949 the net area was 178,057 acres, consisting of 21,832 acres of public domain, 156,185 acres acquired by purchase, and 40 acres acquired by donation.

Conecuh National Forest:

The Conecuh Purchase Unit was set up with the approval of the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of January 21, 1935, with a gross acreage of 343,100 in Covington and Escambia Counties, Alabama. By proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, dated July 17, 1936, the area was established as the Conecuh National Forest, with a gross acreage of 339,573 and a net acreage of 54,177. By June 30, 1949 the net acreage had increased to 83,866 of which 440 acres are public domain and the rest acquired by purchase.

Important purchases in the Conecuh include the Horseshoe Lumber Co. Tract, 24,825 acres; the South Covington Farm and Land Co. Tract, 8,071 acres; the Sessoms Grocery Co. Tract, 7,408 acres; the Walter Hoffman Estate Tract, 5,281 acres and the Fitzgerald Estate Tract, 5,210 acres all approved on August 23, 1935; the M. C. Stalworth Tract of 5,547 acres approved January 11, 1936 and the A. F. Bullard Tract, 5,002 acres and Boatner and Henderson Tract, 8,122 acres approved in F. Y. 1942.

Talladega National Forest:

This National Forest is made up of the former Talladega and Oakmulgee Purchase Units, containing, when established, 422,020 and 282,240 acres respectively. These areas were combined as the Talladega National Forest by proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt on July 17, 1936, with a gross area of 721,347 acres. By proclamation of May 11, 1938, the President transferred to this National Forest the area previously acquired under the N.I.R.A. and the ERA Acts and related legislation by the Resettlement Administration known as the West Alabama Project. This area was given full national forest status by Proclamation No. 2415 of July 12, 1940, and is known as the West Oakmulgee Division of the Talladega National Forest. Due to recomputation or adjustments, the following changes in gross acreage are shown in the record: in 1938, 844,234; 1939, 863,453; 1941, 851,902; 1942, 851,119, which has been continued to the present. In 1941 the National Forest Reservation Commission approved an addition to the Purchase Unit containing 11,520 acres in Dallas County and making the gross area of the Purchase Unit 862,639 acres, which has been continued to the present.

Important acquisitions in the Talladega were the Alabama Mineral Company, 82,665 acres, the Burt Estate, 39,283 acres including large stands of virgin longleaf pine, and the J. M. Stevenson Tract, 15,750 acres. In the Oakmulgee division the largest tracts were the E. E. Jackson Co., 16,287 acres and the Ellison Tract, 11,152 acres. The transferred lands in the West Oakmulgee division include 46,895 acres of the Kaul Lumber Company lands acquired in three separate transactions.

Tombigbee Purchase Unit:

This unit, containing a gross area of 611,271 acres, located in the coastal plain of Alabama just above the head of Mobile Bay between the Alabama and Tombigbee Rivers, was set up by the National Forest Reservation Commission on January 21, 1935.

The largest available tract was one of 121,600 acres more or less owned by the Scotch Lumber Company and consisting of 51,500 acres of virgin longleaf pine of the highest quality and 70,100 acres of land that had been cut over but carried considerable volumes of pulp wood and low grade sawlogs.

Appraisal by the Forest Service showed a value that was 29 percent in excess of the price placed on the land by the owners. While negotiations were still under way for an option, the National Forest Reservation Commission gave conditional approval to the purchase, but after several days of discussion, the largest stockholder refused consent on the ground that as a result of the inflationary action then initiated by the Government, the purchase price would undergo serious devaluation even before the vendors could expect to receive their money.

This vendor then suggested a higher price (representing about 90 percent of the appraised value as reported to the National Forest Reservation Commission but this was promptly rejected.

When these negotiations failed the Forest Service stopped all work in the area with the expectation that the vendors would reopen the case, but this never happened, and as a result of this abandonment, the Forest Service lost one of the most attractive properties ever considered under the Weeks Law.

Most of the available lands in this unit soon passed out of the market.

OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST - ARKANSAS & OKLAHOMA
(including Kiamichi Purchase Unit)

This forest, first known as the Arkansas National Forest was created by proclamation of President Theodore Roosevelt dated December 18, 1907, and is thus the oldest National Forest in Region Eight. The gross area was then 1,073,955 acres; net area not reported. From this date until 1914 it was administered as part of Forest Service District 3. The first local headquarters were at Fort Smith, Arkansas. Succeeding changes are tabulated below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
7-1-08	Area report, Headquarters at Mena	1,073,955	No report
12-31-08	Area report, Headquarters at Mena	1,073,955	" "
2-27-09	Proclamation of President Theodore Roosevelt making additions in all parts of the forest.		
3-31-09	Area report	1,663,300	" "
6-30-09	" "	1,663,300	" "
6-30-10	Area report, Headquarters at Hot Springs	1,663,300	" "
9-26-10	Proclamation of President William H. Taft eliminating 400,910 acres.		
1-1-11	Area report	1,262,390	" "
6-30-11	Area report	1,262,390	" "
12-31-11	Area report	1,262,390	" "
6-30-12	Area report	1,262,390	" "
6-30-13	Area report	1,262,390	725,800
4-21-14	Executive Order of President Woodrow Wilson eliminating some 15,090 acres.		
F.Y. 1914	Forest transferred to Region 7.		
6-30-14	Area report	1,247,300	702,173
3-31-15	Area report, increased by recomputation.	1,247,690	702,173
2-23-16	Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson making scattered eliminations in agricultural area as result of reclassification under act of August 10, 1912.		
6-30-16	Area report by proclamation.	952,235	622,003
6-30-17	Area report by recomputation.	958,290	626,746
F.Y. 1918	Forest established by National Forest Reservation Commission as a Purchase Unit.		
1-1-18	Area report	958,290	626,746
6-30-18	Area report	958,290	626,746
6-30-19	Area report, 1240 acres purchased.	958,290	627,149
6-30-20	Area report, not increased by purchase.	958,290	633,277
10-19-20	Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson adds 487 acres.		
6-30-21	Area report, net increased by purchase	958,777	640,136

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
6-30-22	Area report, net increased by purchase	958,777	652,565
6-30-23	Area report, net increased by purchase	958,777	659,725
6-30-24	Area report, net increased by purchase	958,777	662,980
6-30-25	Area report, net increased by purchase	958,777	663,378
4-29-26	President Calvin Coolidge by executive order changes name to Ouachita National Forest.		
6-30-26	Area report	958,777	663,897
10-28-26	Proclamation of President Calvin Coolidge extending boundaries to include additional acquirable lands.		
6-30-27	Area report	1,056,119	665,784
6-30-29	Area report	1,056,119	699,957
6-21-30	Public 403, 71st Congress transfers from Treasury Department to National Forest 40 acres in SW SE Sec. 24, T. 4 N., R. 28 W. which was taken in settlement of a fire trespass by C. A. Forrester.		
6-30-30		1,056,119	753,420
6-30-31	Area report	1,056,119	805,883
8-19-31	Proclamation of President Herbert Hoover adding the Kiamichi division in Oklahoma (gross 291,489 and net 48,097 acres) and increasing the gross area in Arkansas by 529,298 acres. The principal additions in Arkansas were in Garland, Montgomery, Scott and Yell Counties.		
6-30-32	Area report	1,876,906	881,462
6-30-33	Area report	1,876,906	894,154
6-30-34	Area report	1,876,906	914,515
6-30-35	Area report	1,876,906	967,528
6-30-36	Area report	1,876,906	792,929
10-12-36	Proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt extending boundaries and adding 546,933 acres largely in Garland, Montgomery, Polk, Saline, Scott and Sebastian Counties.		
9-30-36	Area report	2,423,816	1,232,856

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
6-30-37	Area Report (recomputed)	2,423,839	1,299,568
10-8-37	Executive Order of President Roosevelt adds lots 1 and 5, Sec. 31, T. 4 S., R. 26 W. 79.50 acres of Public Domain.		
6-30-38	Area report	2,423,788	1,341,127
8-30-38	Proclamation of President Roosevelt transfers from Farm Security Administration and reserves and adds to the National Forest the area known as the Magazine Mountain Project including lands in process of acquisition therein.		
6-30-39	Area report	2,555,487	1,446,699
6-30-40	Area report	2,555,487	1,473,672
7-12-40	Proclamation of President Roosevelt gives national forest status to Magazine Mountain area already added to and made part of the national forest. No change in acreage.		
6-30-41	Area report	2,555,487	1,489,610
9-23-41	Transfers Magazine Mountain to Ozark		
6-30-42	Area report	2,423,790	1,424,154
6-30-43	Area report	2,423,790	1,438,072
6-30-44	Area report	2,423,790	1,465,632
6-30-45	Area report	2,423,790	1,470,777
6-30-46	Area report	2,423,790	1,474,436
6-30-47	Area report	2,423,795	1,476,551
6-30-48	Area report	2,423,795	1,490,902
6-30-49	Area report	2,423,795	1,490,843

The source of title to the above acreage is as follows:

	<u>Arkansas</u>	<u>Oklahoma</u>	<u>Total</u>
N.F. created from Public Domain	636,465	-	636,465
Acquired by exchange, 3-20-22	67,487	-	67,487
Acquired by exchange, 3-3-25	5,769	680	6,449
Acquired by purchase	604,750	175,560	780,310
Acquired by donation	12	80	92
Transferred by other Federal Agencies	40	-	40
Totals	1,314,523	176,320	1,490,843

As of the date of this compilation, a proclamation was pending that would modify the boundary near Waldron, Scott County, but without increasing the gross area.

Kiamichi Purchase Unit:

This area was established by approval of the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of May 17, 1930 having an area of 345,200 acres of which 295,494 acres were in LeFlore County and 39,338 acres in Latimer County, Oklahoma and 10,368 acres in Polk County, Arkansas.

During Fiscal Year 1931 a tract of 56,613 acres of cut over land (Buschow Lumber Company) was approved for purchase, all in LeFlore County. Following the Proclamation of 8-19-31, the portions of the purchase unit lying in Polk and LeFlore Counties were merged in the Ouachita purchase unit, while the area in LeFlore County, which was increased to 52,760 acres in 1933 is still being carried as the Kiamichi Purchase Unit in which no lands have ever been approved for acquisition.

OZARK NATIONAL FOREST-ARKANSAS

The Ozark National Forest was created by proclamation of President Theodore Roosevelt dated March 6, 1908. The gross area was 917,944 acres, net area not reported. From this date until F. Y. 1914 the forest was part of Forest Service District 3. The first local headquarters were at Fort Smith. The National Forest as set up by this proclamation embraced a portion of what is now the Sylamore District, the Blue Mountain District lying south of the Sylamore in Ts. 12-14 N., Rs. 9-14 W., and a portion of what was later known as the Central Division in Ts. 10-14 N., Rs. 14-23 W..

Succeeding changes are indicated below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
7-1-08	Area report	917,944	No report
12-31-08	Area report, headquarters at Harrison	917,944	No report
2-25-09	Proclamation of President Theodore Roosevelt, adding 608,537 acres to the gross area. The effect of these changes was to extend the boundaries of the Sylamore Division eastward to the White River and southward to the north boundary of the Blue Mountain Division. The Blue Mountain was extended to the south and west to join the main division, which, in turn, was extended westward to include part of Range 29 West in Townships 11 N. and 12 N.		
6-30-09	Area report	1,526,481	No report
6-30-10	Area report	1,526,481	No report
12-28-10	Proclamation of President William H. Taft reducing the gross area of the forest by 562,981 acres. By this action considerable areas on the west and north sides of the Sylamore District were eliminated, and also most of the land added to the Blue Mountain Division on the north and southwest by the last proclamation. A considerable area was eliminated on the north side of the central division and also most of the extension on the west end of this division made in 1909, leaving scattered parcels of national forest land in a shotgun pattern.		
1-1-11	Area report	963,500	No report

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
6-30-11	Area report	963,500	No report
6-30-12	Area report	963,500	No report
6-30-13	Area report	963,500	No report
FY 1914	Forest Transferred to Region 7		
6-30-14	Area report	963,500	506,211
3-31-15	Area report	963,500	506,211
2-17-16	Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson eliminating 434,322 acres. The eliminations covered small areas on all four sides of the Sylamore Division, reduced the Blue Mountain Division to a small remnant of its former size, cut off a large area on the west end of the central division, and eliminated most of the shotgun areas lying between the main division and the western or White Rock Division. These eliminations were made as a result of the classification under act of August 10, 1912 for the purpose of restoring to entry areas believed to have agricultural value.		
6-30-16	Area report	529,178	294,916
6-30-17	Area report	529,178	291,840
1-1-18	Area report	529,178	291,840
FY 1918	Headquarters moved to Russellville.		
FY 1918	Forest established by NFRC as a purchase unit.		
6-30-18	Area report	529,178	291,840
11-27-18	Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson made further eliminations, as result of classification.		
2-25-19	Executive Order of President Woodrow Wilson continued the process of agricultural elimination. This order and the proclamation of 11-27-18 made a total reduction in gross area of 17,562 acres.		
FY 1919	First lands acquired by purchase under Act of 3-1-11 (Weeks Law).		
6-30-19	Area report	511,616	274,672
6-30-20	Area report-net area increased by purchase.	511,616	282,372
6-30-21	Area report-net area increased by purchase.	511,616	286,849
6-30-22	Area report-net area increased by purchase.	511,616	291,526
6-30-23	Area report-net area increased by purchase.	511,616	297,522
6-30-24	Area report-net area increased by purchase.	511,616	298,752

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
6-30-25	Area report-net area increased by purchase	511,616	299,909
4-26-26	Proclamation of President Calvin Coolidge establishing Ozark National Game Refuges Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, Nos. 1 and 2 being in Stone County, and Nos. 3 and 4 in Johnson County.		
6-30-26	Area report	511,616	304,855
6-30-27	Area report	511,616	316,970
6-13-28	Proclamation of President Calvin Coolidge increasing the gross area by 122,489 acres, the additions being on the north and west sides of the Sylamore Division and on the east side of the White Rock Division.		
6-30-28	Area report	634,105	334,937
6-30-29	Area report	634,105	349,731
6-30-30	Area report	634,105	408,475
6-30-31	Area report	634,105	414,742
6-30-32	Area report	634,105	428,806
6-30-33	Area report	634,105	435,423
6-30-34	Area report	634,105	442,578
6-30-35	Area report	634,105	453,560
10-25-35	Proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, establishing the Ozark National Game Refuge No. 5 in T. 12 N., Rs. 27 and 28, W., White Rock Division.		
5-13-36	Proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, increasing the gross acreage of the forest by 598,935 acres. This proclamation extended the northern boundary of the Sylamore Division to the White River, added an area at the southeast corner of the Central Division, which was also extended northward and westward to join the western division. The western division was in turn extended northward and westward as far as U. S. Highway No. 71 in R. 30 W.		
6-30-36	Area report	1,233,040	562,817
6-30-37	Area report	1,233,048	710,997
6-30-38	Area report	1,233,048	739,052
6-30-39	Area report	1,233,048	772,500
6-30-40	Area report	1,233,048	793,817

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
8-27-40	Proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt transferring from the FSA and adding to the Ozark National Forest the Boston Mountain Land Utilization Project LU-AK-6, gross area 87,952. This area was acquired under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Act and related legislation.		
6-30-41	Area report	1,320,992	843,503
9-23-41	Executive Order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, transferring the Magazine Mountain District, having a gross area of 131,697, from the Ouachita to the Ozark.		
6-30-42	Area report	1,452,689	941,473
6-30-43	Area report	1,452,689	952,960
6-30-44	Area report	1,452,698	987,871
6-30-45	Area report	1,452,698	978,394
6-30-46	Area report	1,452,698	980,632
6-30-47	Area report	1,452,830	983,316
1-28-48	The N.F.R.C. approved the establishment of the Henry Koen Experimental Forest as an independent purchase unit in Newton County, having a gross area of 10,000 acres, within which the acquisition of not to exceed 3,500 acres is contemplated. At the same date the initial purchase of 747.75 acres was approved.		
6-30-48	Area report	1,452,077	991,196
6-30-49	Area report	1,452,077	1,019,931
2-16-50	Henry Koen purchase unit added to Ozark Purchase Unit.		
6-14-50	Order adding Experimental Forest to Ozark National Forest effective 7-1-50.		

The source of title of the above net acreage is as follows:

<u>Source of title</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Public domain	314,426
Exchange Act of 3/20/22	6,002
Exchange Act of 3/3/25	1,995
Purchase under Weeks Law	571,242
Transfer from other Federal Agencies	<u>125,076</u>
Total	1,018,741

FLORIDA NATIONAL FORESTS

This group consists of the Ocala, Osceola and Apalachicola National Forests, all of which have been approved as purchase units for the acquisition of lands under Act of March 1, 1911.

Ocala National Forest:

This Forest was created by proclamation of President Theodore Roosevelt dated November 24, 1908, with a gross area of 207,285 acres. At the outset this Forest was administered as part of Forest Service District 3. Local headquarters were set up at DeFuniak Springs covering this Forest and the Choctawhatchee National Forest which was proclaimed November 27, 1908. Subsequent steps in the development of the Ocala are set out below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
4-17-11	Proclamation of President William H. Taft consolidated the Ocala and Choctawhatchee National Forests then having gross areas of 207,285 and 467,606 acres, respectively, under the name of <u>Florida National Forest</u> .		
F.Y. 1911	Headquarters moved to Pensacola.		
6-30-11	Area report (Ocala)	207,280	No report
6-30-12	Area report (Florida N.F.) No area changes shown F.Y.'s 1913, 1914, 1915.	674,970	299,140
6-30-16	Area report (recomputation)	675,420	309,546
6-30-17	Area report	675,420	308,268
1-1-18	Area report	675,420	308,288
6-30-18	Area report	675,420	308,288
6-30-19	Area report	675,420	308,268
6-30-20	Area report	675,420	308,408
11-25-20	Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson increasing gross area of combined forest by 41,381. This addition was in one body, lying west of the north end of Lake George and Little Lake George on the Ocala.		
6-30-21	Area report	716,801	317,511
6-30-22	Area report - Recomputation	719,799	320,273
6-30-23	Area report	719,799	337,938
6-30-24	Area report	719,799	337,938
6-30-25	Area report	719,799	342,771
6-30-26	Area report	719,799	342,771
10-23-26	Proclamation of President Calvin Coolidge increasing the gross area by 100,429 acres. None of the boundary changes of this proclamation affected the Ocala division of the Forest.		

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
6-30-27	Area report	820,228	343,180
10-17-27	Proclamation of President Calvin Coolidge re-establishing the Ocala and Choctawhatchee as separate National Forests.		
6-30-28	Area report (Ocala only)	252,180	158,731
2-21-29	Ocala established as a Purchase Unit with approval of NFRC, the boundaries of the purchase unit being the same as those of the National Forest.		
6-30-29	Area table	252,180	158,731
6-30-30	Area table	252,180	158,731
6-30-31	Area table	252,180	158,731
3-1-32	Proclamation of March 1, 1932, President Herbert Hoover added to the Forest a portion of the F. M. Arrendondo Grant which had been added to the purchase unit and approved for purchase by the N. F. R. C. on December 3, 1930.		
6-30-32	Area report	262,981	183,960
6-30-33	Area report	262,981	184,461
6-30-34	Area report	262,981	184,461
F. Y. 1935	Purchase Unit increased to 478,981.		
6-30-35	N. F. area report	262,981	194,343
6-30-36	N. F. area report	252,981	199,179
6-30-37	Administrative order of Acting Secretary of Agriculture M. L. Wilson by authority of Sec. 11, Act of Mar. 1, 1911, designating additional lands as part of the Ocala Forest.		
6-30-37	Area report	441,925	255,545
6-30-38	Area report	441,925	266,705
7-16-38	Proc. of President Franklin D. Roosevelt enlarging national forest boundaries as described in Administration Order of 6-30-37.		
6-30-39	Area report	441,925	285,294
6-30-40	Area report	441,925	315,486
6-30-41	Area report	441,925	318,257
6-30-42	Area report	441,925	324,971
6-30-43	Area report	441,925	349,180
6-30-44	Area report	441,925	349,180
6-30-45	Area report	441,925	351,239
6-30-46	Area report	441,925	351,239
6-30-47	Area report	441,925	351,239
6-30-48	Area report	441,925	352,689

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
6-30-49	Area Report	441,925	354,391

<u>Source of Title</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Withdrawn from Public Domain	159,534
Acquired by exchange	7,594
Acquired by purchase	<u>187,263</u>
Total	354,391

Osceola Purchase Unit:

This unit was set up by approval of the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of February 21, 1929. On May 15 of the same year the Commission authorized the purchase of 93,800 acres of land offered by the Columbia Farms Corporation. This was followed by the Ocean Pond Land Co. tract of 29,410 acres approved on May 24, 1930 and two tracts of about ten thousand acres, both approved December 3, 1930 on the offer of E.A. McColskey and J. C. Marsh, respectively, making a total approved for purchase at the end of F. Y. 1931 of 145,783 acres, including the four tracts named above and numerous small holdings.

Osceola National Forest:

The Osceola was created a National Forest by proclamation of President Herbert Hoover dated July 10, 1931, having a gross area of 161,813 acres. The net area at that time was 145,783 acres, as shown above. There have been no subsequent changes in the boundaries, but this net area has gradually increased to 157,222 acres of which 40 acres are withdrawn from Public Domain, 862 acres acquired by exchange and 156,320 by purchase.

Apalachicola Purchase Unit:

This unit was established by approval of the National Forest Reservation Commission with a gross area of 297,770 at meeting of August 30, 1933. By the end of Fiscal Year 1934 the total approved for purchase was 252,833, or about 85 percent of the gross.

Apalachicola National Forest:

On May 13, 1936, the Apalachicola was proclaimed a National Forest by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
6-30-36	Area report	306,395	198,750
6-30-37	Area report	306,430	276,433

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
6-21-38	Proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt transferred, reserved, and set aside as part of the Apalachicola the area known as the Wakulla Project of the F.S.A.		
6-30-38	Area report This report seems to have been based on the assumption that all of the Wakulla project was transferred to the Forest Service, whereas a portion went to the Fish and Wildlife Service.	654,430	536,433
6-30-39	Area report, correction	638,217	500,467
6-30-40	Area report	638,217	509,185
6-30-41	Area report	638,217	513,799
6-30-42	Area report	638,217	548,206
6-30-43	Area report	638,217	550,929
6-30-44	Area report	638,217	535,809
6-30-45	Area report	638,217	550,151
6-30-46	Area report	638,217	551,831
6-30-47	Area report	638,217	552,052
6-30-48	Area report	638,217	553,517

The net area as of 6-30-1949 may be classified as follows:

From Public Domain	Note
Acquired by exchange	3,171
Acquired by purchase	291,980
Transferred from F.S.A.	<u>261,634</u>
Total	556,985

CHATTAHOOCHEE NATIONAL FOREST

The Chattahoochee National Forest, as established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt by proclamation of July 9, 1936, was made up in part from portions of the Cherokee and Nantahala National Forests, which in turn had their beginnings in four purchase units, i.e. the Georgia, Cherokee, Nantahala and Savannah.

Savannah Purchase Unit:

The Savannah Purchase Unit was one of the original group of purchase units that were established by the National Forest Reservation Commission at one of the two meetings held between the passage of the Weeks Act and the end of fiscal year 1911. When established, it embraced some 691,276 acres in Georgia and South Carolina in the watershed of the Savannah and tributaries of the Tennessee Rivers. The exact boundaries of this unit as first laid out are not now available in the Regional Office files.

On or about March 1, 1912, the National Forest Reservation Commission created the Georgia Purchase Unit, embracing a gross area of 475,899 acres and including, with other lands, the western portion of the Savannah. The remaining portion of the Savannah was enlarged and extended into North Carolina. The gross area of the unit as reported in F. Y. 1912 contained 391,161 acres, of which 89,172 acres were in the eastern part of Rabun County, Georgia; 159,040 acres in Jackson, Macon and Transylvania Counties, North Carolina; and 142,949 acres in Oconee and Pickens Counties, South Carolina. In 1914 the gross area in Rabun County, Georgia was increased to 96,893, giving a total of 398,882 for the unit. In 1916 the gross area in Georgia was again increased by the restoration of about 130,000 acres formerly included in the Georgia Unit. At the same time the South Carolina portion was increased to 151,866 acres. A further addition of 2,193 acres in Georgia in 1917 resulted in a gross area for the Savannah of 539,702 acres in the three states. These boundaries and areas were continued without change to the end of F. Y. 1923. In 1924 the boundaries were again revised in Georgia and South Carolina, giving a total gross area of 551,030, which was continued without change until the unit was merged with the Nantahala Purchase Unit in 1929, at which time the acquired acreage within the unit was 90,993 acres in Georgia, 38,706 acres in North Carolina, and 42,111 acres in South Carolina, or a total of 171,810.

Nantahala Purchase Unit:

This unit, like the Savannah, was one of the first group of purchase units that were established by the National Forest Reservation Commission in the last quarter of Fiscal Year 1911. As originally established, it contained 2,193 acres of land in Rabun County, Georgia, which was absorbed by the Savannah Unit in the boundary revision of 1917. The subsequent history of the Nantahala Purchase Unit is given in the account of the National Forest of that name, and is of no interest in connection with the Chattahoochee.

By Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson, dated January 29, 1920, portions of the Nantahala and Savannah Purchase Units, then having a combined acreage of 1,027,796 acres, were established as the Nantahala National Forest with a gross area of 812,134 acres and a net (acquired) area of 138,220 acres, of which 72,255 acres were in North Carolina, 18,454 acres were in South Carolina, and 47,511 acres were in Georgia.

The second proclamation, issued by President Warren G. Harding on October 10, 1929, increased the gross acreage of the Nantahala National Forest to 1,139,000 acres, later recomputed to 1,067,000 acres, of which 252,800 acres were in Georgia. The acquired acreage in the Georgia portion at the end of this fiscal year was 98,881 acres. No further changes in gross area were made until 1936 when the Chattahoochee was established.

Georgia Purchase Unit:

As already noted, the Georgia unit, when established in March 1912, contained a gross area of 475,899 acres, of which 16,738 acres were in Clay County, North Carolina and the remainder in Fannin, Gilmer, Habersham, Lumpkin, Rabun, Towns, Union and White Counties, Georgia on the watersheds of Toccoa, Hiwassee and Chattahoochee Rivers. The boundaries were modified in 1917, reducing the area to 346,189 acres, of which 339,758 were in Georgia and 7,152 acres in Clay County, North Carolina. This gross area was continued without change until 1927, when boundary revisions in Dawson, Fannin, Gilmer and Lumpkin Counties increased the gross area to 405,875 acres. The following year the area in North Carolina was eliminated and the area in Georgia reduced to 289,300 acres, largely by eliminations in Towns and Union Counties. This area was continued until 1934 when the unit was merged with the Cherokee.

Cherokee Purchase Unit:

This unit was first set up with approval of the National Forest Reservation Commission in Fiscal Year 1912, consisting of 222,058 acres in McMinn, Monroe and Polk Counties, Tennessee. In 1916 it was increased by 5,978 acres in Cherokee County, North Carolina, and 98,137 acres in Polk and Monroe Counties, Tennessee that were formerly parts of the Nantahala, making a total of 325,605 acres. The next change in gross area came in 1925 when the unit was extended so as to embrace 114,000 acres in Georgia, 44,851 acres in North Carolina, and 410,300 acres in Tennessee, a total of 569,151 acres. The extension in Georgia embraced the Cohutta Mountain Area in Gilmer, Fannin and Murray Counties, including the headwaters of the Conasauga River and Jacks River. The area was reduced to 544,300 acres in 1928, at which time the acquired acreage amounted to 7,421 acres in North Carolina and 201,135 acres in Tennessee, no lands having yet been acquired in the Georgia portion of the unit. No further changes were made in gross area until 1933, when the unit was combined with the Georgia Unit and expanded to a gross area of 1,765,600 acres in the three states.

Cherokee National Forest:

By proclamation dated June 14, 1920, President Woodrow Wilson established the Cherokee National Forest, made up of portions of the Georgia and Cherokee Purchase Units in Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee, containing a gross area of 827,699 acres and a net acquired acreage of 173,958, of which 61,005 acres were in Georgia.

On August 5, 1924, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed the establishment of the Cherokee National Game Refuge in two blocks, one in Tennessee and the other in Fannin County, Georgia, now known as the Noontootly Area.

On April 4, 1928, President Calvin Coolidge, by proclamation, eliminated a large area in Union County, Georgia and added areas in Dawson, Lumpkin, Fannin, Gilmer and Murray Counties, Georgia and Monroe County, Tennessee. As a result of this change, the gross area was increased to 833,600 acres, embracing 407,800 acres in Georgia, of which 109,743 acres were acquired as of June 20 of that year; 43,200 acres in North Carolina, with a net area of 5,013 acres; and 382,600 acres in Tennessee, with a net area of 197,942. No further changes were made in the exterior boundaries until the establishment of the Chattahoochee in 1936.

Chattahoochee National Forest Purchase Unit:

The exterior boundaries of the Chattahoochee National Forest as described in proclamation of July 9, 1936 (Federal Register July 14, 1936) embraced a gross area of 1,165,000 acres, of which 486,598 acres were acquired national forest land located in Dawson, Fannin, Gilmer, Habersham, Lumpkin, Murray, Rabun, Towns, Union and White Counties. Of the gross area, 407,800 acres were derived from the Cherokee, 253,900 acres from the Nantahala, and 503,300 from approved purchase units in Georgia. All portions of such units that were not included in the Chattahoochee were dropped with approval of the National Forest Reservation Commission; national forest and purchase units were then co-terminous. During the same fiscal year, however, the National Forest Reservation Commission approved the addition of two areas to the purchase unit. Those were: the Armuchee addition of 250,000 acres in Catoosa, Chattooga, Floyd, Gordon and Walker Counties, Georgia, and the Lookout Mountain addition comprising 143,000 acres in Chattooga, Dade and Walker Counties, Georgia, and 61,000 acres in Cherokee and DeKalb Counties, Alabama.

By proclamation of President Roosevelt, dated December 7, 1937 (Federal Register 12-10-1937), an area of approximately 4,000 acres in Jones County, Georgia, acquired by the Resettlement Administration and its successors, was transferred to the Chattahoochee National Forest. This is the Hitchiti Experimental Forest.

By proclamation dated August 2, 1938, the President added to the Chattahoochee an area of approximately 117,000 acres known as the Northeast Georgia Project of the Farm Security Administration. At the end of this fiscal year, the gross area of the National Forest was 1,286,822, with a net of 561,771 acres.

These trees are our property just as your corn-crib and your apple orchard are your property. We earnestly ask you to respect our rights as you ask other people to respect yours. You would not want anyone to set fire to your corn-crib, and you should not set fire to our forests. You would not want any one to cut one of your apple trees, and we ask you not to cut any of our timber.

The fires destroy the young growth, leaving the land bare so that it washes; they burn up the seeds and cause the timber to become poorer from year to year.

Cutting timber destroys our values and even where the tree is hollow and worthless, opens up the soil to the sun and makes a bare space in the woods.

We object to grazing cattle because people who come in from a distance with their stock have no consideration for our rights and are generally the ones who do the most damage.

We object to the operation of stills because the stillers insist on cutting green timber and practically clear up the land around their stills, instead of using dry and dead wood.

We wish to have the good will and friendship of our neighbors and we hope you will realize the fairness and reasonableness of the rules which we have made, and will treat us and our property with the consideration and kindness with which you treat your friends.

We respectfully and earnestly ask the consideration of all good men.

Respectfully,

ANDREW AND W. W. GENNETT

* * * * *

The earliest purchase in the eastern part of the Chattahoochee, then Savannah Unit, a tract of 7,335 acres in Rabun County offered by the Oaky Mountain Lumber Company, Andrew Gennett, President, which was approved by National Forest Reservation Commission January 18, 1913 at \$8.00 per acre. Subsequent purchases from this company were 10,170 acres and 2,200 acres approved respectively at \$7.00 and \$6.00 per acre at meetings of 6-20-1917 and 11-29-1919.

On March 25, 1914 the Commission authorized the purchase of 18,078 acres in Fannin, Union and Lumpkin Counties at \$7.00 and \$5.75 per acre. This company in 1935 sold to the United States its remaining holdings of 59,380 acres in Union, Towns and Rabun Counties at \$5.00 per acre.

By proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, dated September 6, 1939, the boundaries of the Amuchee Division were revised to contain 231,500 acres and this area was made part of the Chattahoochee National Forest; which then contained a gross of 1,518,322 acres and a net area of 628,332. This gross area of the National Forest remains unchanged as of July 1, 1950. The Lookout Mountain Division, in which no lands have been acquired, is included in the Purchase Unit but not in the National Forest. In 1942 the Purchase Unit was further enlarged by the addition of 8,000 acres in Fannin County, 11,000 acres in Towns County, and 52,000 acres in Union County.

Early Purchases in the Chattahoochee

The first tract approved by the National Forest Reservation Commission and the first tract acquired in any eastern purchase unit was a tract of about 31,000 acres in Fannin, Gilmer, Lumpkin and Union Counties, Georgia, offered by Andrew and N. W. Gennett by proposal dated April 14, 1911. The land was located in that part of the Savannah purchase unit which in March 1912 was cut off and enlarged, forming the Georgia Purchase Unit. Preliminary consideration of the purchase was given by the Commission on June 19, 1911 and definite authorization at the price of \$7.00 per acre was given at meeting of December 9, 1911.

At this time no definite procedure for handling purchase cases had been worked out and consequently each step in the process had to be decided currently. The chief obstacle to consummation lay in the fact that certain of the offered lots were subject to outstanding mineral rights, and while the Weeks Law authorized reservations by the vendors, it did not then authorize acceptance subject to rights owned by others. Consequently, upon the advice of Attorney General Vickersham given citing the Act of August 1, 1883 as authority the tract was made the subject of condemnation proceedings. Payment for the land was made into the registry of the court on December 23, 1912 about 12 months after Commission approval. This is especially noteworthy since under the simplified and streamlined procedures subsequently devised, there is no telling how long a period might have been required to complete the case.

When the Gennett Lands were examined the Examiners found posters worded as shown below. This represents one of the early efforts to prevent man-caused fires in the southeast:

TO THE PUBLIC

We are very anxious to improve our forests and we earnestly ask you to assist us by observing the following rules:

PLEASE DO NOT SET OUT FIRES,

PLEASE DO NOT CUT TIMBER,

PLEASE DO NOT GRAZE CATTLE,

Please do not operate stills on our lands.

The Morse Brothers and Blood Mountain Lumber Company, who formerly operated a sawmill at Helen, Georgia, sold 34,000 acres of their lands in White, Lumpkin, Union and Towns Counties to the Smithport Extract Company, who after removing the chestnut wood sold it to the United States in 1925. The Morse Company sold their remaining holdings, aggregating 138,338 acres to the United States in seven transactions dated from March 7, 1927 to March 19, 1935 at prices ranging from \$4.75 to \$1.50 per acre.

The first purchase made in the so-called Cohutta extension of the Cherokee Unit in Georgia, consisted of 23,180 acres offered by the Conasauga River Lumber Company and approved by National Forest Reservation Commission on May 17, 1930. Subsequent purchases from this company aggregated 12,155 acres in six transactions.

KISATCHIE NATIONAL FOREST - LOUISIANA

The Kisatchie began with three purchase units established with approval of the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of February 18, 1928. These were the Kisatchie, Catahoula and Vernon units having purchase limitations of 50,000 acres, 75,000 acres and 50,000 acres respectively. A fourth unit, known as the Evangeline was added at meeting of May 17, 1930.

Kisatchie Purchase Unit:

This unit as first set up was equally divided in area between Natchitoches and Vernon Parishes, and the acquisition of lands therein was strongly opposed at the outset by the police juries of these parishes. In F. Y. 1929 some 25,055 acres were approved for purchase, all in Natchitoches Parish. After negotiations the Parish board of Natchitoches withdrew its objections and the unit boundaries were then modified so as to eliminate the portion lying in Vernon Parish while the part in Natchitoches was enlarged in F. Y. 1930 to 105,567 acres.

Catahoula Purchase Unit:

This unit as first laid out contained 8,000 acres in Rapides Parish and 67,000 acres in Grant Parish. The Police Juries in both of these parishes were favorable to acquisition. 11,201 acres were approved for purchase in F. Y. 1929 and 49,860 additional in 1930. At this time the gross area was reported as 133,572 acres of which 7,380 acres were in Rapides and 126,192 acres in Grant Parish. In 1934 the unit was expanded northward into Winn Parish and westward into Natchitoches Parish to embrace a total of 609,252 acres and by the end of that fiscal year a total of 227,403 acres had been approved for purchase within the unit.

Vernon Purchase Unit:

Because of Parish opposition, no purchases were ever made in this unit as established in 1928, and the unit was abandoned. On February 21, 1931 a new unit was approved under the name Vernon No. 2 with a gross area of 107,500. The unit was inactive until fiscal year 1934 when 69,681 acres were approved for purchase.

Evangeline Purchase Unit:

This purchase unit was set up by the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of May 17, 1930 with a gross area or purchase limit of 75,000 acres. In fiscal year 1933 the Commission approved the purchase of 56,349 acres in this unit at an average price of \$1.78 per acre.

Kisatchie National Forest:

The first action establishing the Kisatchie as a national forest as distinguished from a purchase unit took the form of a Departmental Order dated June 10, 1930 by which Secretary Arthur H. Hyde under authority of

Section 11 of Act of March 1, 1911 designated the lands acquired or to be acquired in the Kisatchie and Catahoula Purchase Units as the Kisatchie National Forest. Subsequent changes are indicated below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
6-30-31	Area report.	239,139	66,983
6-30-32	Area report.	239,139	75,598
6-30-33	Area report	239,139	78,237
6-30-34	Area report	239,139	78,395
6-30-35	Area report	239,139	88,455
6-3-36	Proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt enlarging the gross area of the Kisatchie National Forest by adding the portion of the Catahoula Purchase Unit that lay outside the National Forest amounting to about 370,000 acres; also adding the Evangeline and Vernon Divisions.		
6-30-36	Area report	877,066	413,020
6-30-37		877,066	481,837
6-30-38		877,066	485,204
6-30-39		877,066	490,549
6-4-40	NFRC approved increase in gross area of Kisatchie Purchase Unit by the addition of 397,000 acres in Natchitoches, Rapides and Vernon Parishes. This did not have the effect of changing the National Forest boundaries.		
6-30-40	Area report; National Forest	877,066	499,157
6-30-40	Area report; Purchase Unit	397,000	-
6-30-41	Area report; National Forest	877,066	513,143
6-30-41	Area report; Purchase Unit	397,000	-
6-30-42	Area report; National Forest	877,066	520,345
6-30-42	Area report; Purchase Unit	397,000	19,252
6-30-43	Area Report; National Forest	877,066	519,771
6-30-43	Area report; Purchase Unit	397,000	19,252
6-30-44	Area report; National Forest	877,066	519,327
6-30-44	Area report; Purchase Unit	397,000	19,252
6-30-45	Area report; National Forest	877,066	519,327
6-30-45	Area report; Purchase Unit	397,000	19,252
6-30-46	Area report; National Forest	877,066	519,367
6-30-46	Area report; Purchase Unit	397,000	19,252

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
2-7-47	NFRC approved addition of 911 acres to Purchase Unit in Grant Parish to take in 714 acres acquired from War Assets in Breezy Hill Artillery Range.		
6-30-47	Area report (corrected) N.F.	877,066)	540,010
6-30-47	Area report (corrected) P.U.	397,911)	
6-30-48	Area report, National Forest	877,066)	547,385
	Area report, Purchase Unit	397,911)	
6-30-49	Area report, National Forest	877,066)	547,599
	Area report, Purchase Unit	397,911)	

MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL FORESTS

This large group of forests is made up of the Bienville, DeSoto, Holly Springs and Homochitto National Forests and the Delta Purchase Unit. The DeSoto National Forest is in turn composed of the Chickasawhay, Leaf River and Biloxi Units. In the following pages is given an account of each of these units in the order of their establishment.

Homochitto National Forest Purchase Unit:

The Homochitto was the first unit to be established following the enactment of the first Mississippi Enabling Act on March 6, 1926. After prolonged negotiations between the Governor and State Foresters on the one hand and the Regional Forester and staff on the other, the Homochitto Unit of 325,000 acres was recommended to and approved by the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of May 17, 1930. The gross acreage was increased to 360,860 in 1934, to 371,860 in 1935 and to 373,460 in 1936, since when no changes in gross area have been made.

During the period 1930 to 1936 acquisition of land progressed rapidly beginning with the Homochitto Lumber Company tract of 63,000 approved February 25, 1931. Up to June 30, 1936, 189,901 acres had been approved for purchase at prices averaging \$3.82 per acre. Not quite all of this acreage was acquired.

Homochitto National Forest:

The first and only proclamation covering this forest was that of President Franklin D. Roosevelt dated July 20, 1936. The gross area was 373,460 which was increased to 373,495 by Executive Order No. 8100 dated April 2, 1939. No further changes have been made. The net area in 1949 was 188,974 acres, of which 188,765 acres were acquired by purchase and 209 acres were created national forest from public domain.

The Leaf River, Biloxi and Chickasawhay Purchase Units were established with approval of the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of August 30, 1933.

The Leaf River Unit started with a gross area of 302,700 acres, which in 1935 was expanded westward to include a total of 624,261 acres. Progress of acquisition was rapid. The first tract approved was that of the Newman Lumber Company of 95,000 acres which passed the Commission at meeting of October 30, 1933. By the end of 1935 the total of lands approved for purchase in the unit was 203,766 acres.

The Biloxi Unit originally contained 409,600 acres. The first purchase was that of the Dantzler Lumber Company of 90,500 acres, which was approved for purchase at meeting of January 11, 1934. By the end of F. Y. 1935 the total approved acreage was 126,061.

The Chickasawhay Unit contained a gross of 192,000 acres. The first tract to be approved for purchase was the Kalmia Realty and Insurance Company of 20,217 acres. Other large tracts were the Robinson Land and Lumber Company 22,345 acres, the John W. Blodgett, et al, 20,177 acres and 21,178 acres Bently and Pope 11,431 acres and Alabama Land and Development Company 9,950 acres. By the end of F. Y. 1935 a total of 134,154 acres had been approved for purchase.

In 1936 the Leaf River, Biloxi and Chickasawhay Units were merged into one purchase unit with a gross area of 1,212,820 acres after eliminating 13,041 acres in Forrest and George Counties.

In 1938 the combined purchase unit was enlarged to 1,244,713, a net increase of 31,893 acres resulting from additions of 123,691 acres in Green and Wayne Counties, less eliminations of 91,798 acres in Harrison, Jackson and Stone Counties. No lands have been acquired in the additions and certain acquired lands in the eliminated areas are left with no prospect of consolidation. On June 30, 1941 the National Forest Reservation Commission authorized the purchase of a tract in Jones County that embraced 920 acres outside the Purchase Unit boundary, which had the effect of enlarging the Purchase Unit to that extent.

DeSoto National Forest:

By Proclamation of June 17, 1936 President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the DeSoto National Forest embracing the combined Leaf River, Biloxi and Chickasawhay purchase units with gross area of 1,212,820 acres. The net area on June 30, 1936 was 385,896 acres.

No changes were made in the national forest boundaries at the time the purchase unit was modified in 1938, but the increase in 1941 of 920 acres in Jones County was reflected in the gross and net areas of the National Forest.

No further boundary changes were made up to June 30, 1949 at which time the net area had increased to 498,079 acres, of which 1,294 acres was created National Forest from public domain, 5,411 acres were acquired by exchange and 491,374 by purchase.

Development of Camp Shelby:

Soon after the declaration of war against Germany in the spring of 1917, the United States through the War Department leased a tract of about 20,000 acres in Forrest and Perry Counties as a site for a cantonment and training area for a division of National Guard troops. The area was named Camp Shelby and was occupied by the 38th Division (Indiana; Kentucky, West Virginia) from August 1917 to September 1918 and later by other troops. The land at that time was newly cut over and covered with pine stumps. It is related that the land continued in military use for 8 to 10 years, during which the United States paid an annual rental for the use of this property.

When all the military improvements had been salvaged the lease was terminated and the land passed into new ownerships and became vested in Ralph L. Jackson of Alton, Illinois, who was glad to convey it to the United States when the Leaf River Unit was set up in 1933.

In 1934 and 1935, pursuant to a Special Act of Congress, the Secretary sold to the State of Mississippi for use of the National Guard of the State something over 5,000 acres of land located in the northwest corner of the Leaf River Unit within the area of the former Camp Shelby. This area was excluded from the boundary as proclaimed in 1936.

Upon the approach of hostilities in 1940 the Congress by Special Act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer to the War Department an area in Forrest and Peery Counties of about 64,000 acres of national forest land. This land added to the National Guard Camp and adjacent lands leased from the State, and about 12,000 acres of private lands scattered throughout the area became the site of the second Camp Shelby. The Forest Service assisted the War Department in the appraisals and title investigations leading to the acquisition of these private lands by the War Department.

The Camp was occupied first by the new 38th and 39th Divisions and later by other units aggregating some 50,000 officers and men. The National Forest lands were released in F. Y. 1946, but the five years that have elapsed since the end of the war have not been sufficient to dispose of the lands acquired by the Army in this area.

Holly Springs National Forest Purchase Unit:

This unit, along with the Leaf River, Biloxi and Chickasawhay was established by action of the National Forest Reservation Commission on August 30, 1933. The original gross area of 530,520 acres was distributed in six counties of northern Mississippi largely on the headwaters of the Little Tallahatchie River. The gross area was reduced to 462,040 in Fiscal Year 1936 through boundary changes, making a small addition in Benton County and eliminations in Marshall, Pontotoc, Tippah and Union, the largest eliminations being in Pontotoc. The area in Lafayette County was not changed.

Most of the land in this unit was in small farm ownership and acquisition was consequently slow. By June 30, 1936 a total of 46,743 acres had been acquired.

By Proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt dated June 15, 1936, the area was given full national forest status, the boundaries being identical with those of the purchase unit. No subsequent changes in boundaries or gross areas have been made. The net area as of the end of Fiscal Year 1949 was 123,066 acres, all of which was acquired by purchase.

Bienville National Forest Purchase Unit:

The unit was set up by National Forest Reservation Commission approval on March 26, 1934, with a gross area of 382,820 acres in Jasper, Newton, Scott and Smith Counties.

Acquisition got under way promptly and by the end of two years nearly 100,000 acres had been acquired.

Among the early important purchases were the Adams-Edgar Lumber Company tracts of 35,200 and 16,368 acres, the Bienville Lumber Company tract of 25,954 acres, the Eastman-Gardiner & Company tract of 19,111 acres and the Marathon Lumber Company tract of 16,090 acres, all approved for purchase in Calendar Year 1934.

On June 15, 1936 President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed the area a National Forest with boundaries identical with those of the purchase unit as originally laid out, which remained in effect until the present. The net area as of June 30, 1949, was 175,375 acres, of which 263 were acquired by exchange and 175,112 acres by purchase.

Delta Purchase Unit:

This unit was set up by National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of March 7, 1935 containing a gross area of 323,840 acres. In 1940 the gross area was reduced to 220,238 acres through eliminations from the boundary largely in Warren and Yazoo Counties. No proclamation has ever been issued. Acquisition has been inactive for many years. The acquired acreage as of June 30, 1949 was 18,181 acres by purchase and 40,775 acres by exchange, or a total of 58,956, all of which is under administration as national forest land pursuant to Section 11 of the Weeks Law, but no proclamation or departmental order formally establishing its boundaries has ever been issued.

NANTAHALA NATIONAL FOREST

The Nantahala National Forest as now constituted is derived largely from the Nantahala and Savannah purchase units and also includes certain areas that were formerly parts of the Cherokee and Pisgah Units.

Savannah Purchase Unit:

This unit was established by the National Forest Reservation Commission during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 1911. The exact boundaries of the original unit are not now available but it is reported to have contained a gross area of 691,276 acres in South Carolina and Georgia on the watersheds of the Savannah and Tennessee Rivers.

Early in March 1912 the western part of the portion lying in the State of Georgia was added to the newly established Georgia Purchase Unit of which an account is given in connection with the Chattahoochee National Forest. At the same time the Savannah Unit was extended into North Carolina as far north as the Town of Highlands. The resulting gross area was 391,161 acres including 96,893 acres in Georgia (all in Rabun County), 159,040 acres in North Carolina including parts of Jackson, Macon and Transylvania Counties. Except for the addition of 7,721 acres in Rabun County, Georgia, no boundary changes were made until the year 1916 when 130,000 acres formerly transferred to the Georgia unit were returned to the Savannah and at the same time an addition of 8,917 acres was made in South Carolina. The Unit then contained 537,509 acres. In 1917 a further addition of 2,193 acres in Georgia, formerly part of the Nantahala increased the gross area to 539,702 acres of which 226,603 acres were in Habersham, Rabun and Towns Counties, Georgia, Clay, Jackson, Macon and Transylvania Counties, North Carolina, and 151,866 acres in Oconee and Pickens Counties, South Carolina. These boundaries and gross areas remained unchanged until the end of fiscal year 1923.

In 1913 or possibly as early as 1912 the unit was divided for administrative purposes into the so-called "Savannah South" with headquarters at Clayton, Georgia for the Georgia and South Carolina portions and the "Savannah North" covering the North Carolina portion which until 1917 was administered from headquarters at Highlands, North Carolina. In 1918 the administration was consolidated at Highlands which continued as the headquarters until 1919 when the greater part of unit was included in the Nantahala Forest, when it was moved to Franklin, North Carolina.

A revision of the purchase unit boundaries in 1924 adding some 12,000 acres in Georgia resulted in a gross area of 551,030 acres which was reduced the next year by an elimination in South Carolina to a total of 538,431 acres in the three states. This boundary remained unchanged until the Savannah and Nantahala Purchase Units were merged and made co-terminous with those of the Nantahala National Forest in 1929.

Nantahala Purchase Unit:

This unit, like the Savannah, was set up by the National Forest Reservation Commission at the outset of the purchase program in 1911. At this time the unit contained some 604,934 acres in North Carolina and Tennessee. Boundary changes approved the following year resulted in a gross area of 591,913 acres of which 2,193 acres were in Georgia, 494,072 acres were in North Carolina and 95,648 acres were in Tennessee. In the year 1915 all of the Tennessee acreage and 6,000 acres in North Carolina were transferred to the Cherokee, and the following year the 2,193 acres in Georgia were transferred to the Savannah. The resulting gross area of 488,094 acres for the Nantahala was reported in 1917 as located in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon and Swain Counties. This area was not changed until 1924 when it was increased to 514,959 acres in the same counties. This area was carried until 1929 when the Nantahala and Savannah purchase units were enlarged and merged under the name of Nantahala. The resulting gross area of the combined unit was 1,139,000 acres of which 252,800 acres were in Georgia, 641,900 acres in North Carolina and 244,300 acres in South Carolina.

With the advent of the Tennessee Valley Program in 1934 the purchase unit was expanded to 274,900 acres in Georgia, 1,031,700 acres in North Carolina and 244,300 acres in South Carolina or a total of 1,550,900 acres which continued until the general realignment of boundaries through the proclamation of 1936.

During the early years the Nantahala Unit was administered from headquarters in Andrews, North Carolina. In 1918 the headquarters were moved to Asheville where they remained until they were combined with those of the Savannah Unit in Franklin, North Carolina.

Nantahala National Forest:

The Nantahala was first proclaimed a national forest by President Woodrow Wilson on January 29, 1920, with a gross area of 812,134 acres embracing the greater part of the Nantahala and Savannah purchase units, and containing 264,294 acres in Georgia, 410,624 acres in North Carolina and 137,216 acres in South Carolina. This proclamation, however, did not have the effect of changing the boundaries or gross areas of the Nantahala and Savannah Purchase Units which continued to be carried at areas of 488,094 and 539,702 acres respectively. The portion of Swain County lying west of the Nantahala River and the portion of Cherokee County lying north and east of Murphy, North Carolina and all of Graham County were excluded from the Nantahala National Forest boundary as established by this proclamation.

President Warren G. Harding by proclamation of March 25, 1921 added the above portions of Cherokee, Graham and Swain Counties to the Pisgah National Forest.

On this date the net area of acquired land in the Nantahala was 138,220 acres including 47,511 acres in Georgia, 72,255 acres in North Carolina and 18,454 acres in South Carolina.

By the next proclamation, which was dated October 10, 1929 President Herbert Hoover restored to the Nantahala the areas previously transferred to the Pisgah and expanded the Nantahala boundaries. The new gross area was reported at the end of the fiscal year as 1,139,000 acres but this figure was found to be erroneous and was recomputed in 1933 as 1,067,600 acres of which Georgia had 253,900 acres, North Carolina 641,700 acres and South Carolina 172,000 acres. The net area of the Forest in the three states was then 352,310 acres.

By proclamation of July 9, 1936 President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the present boundaries of the Nantahala National Forest, embracing a gross area of 1,349,000 acres extending from the Blue Ridge on the east to the Tennessee state line and from the Georgia state line to the Little Tennessee River. The net national forest land at that time was 246,949 acres.

In 1942 an addition of 17,000 acres was made to the Nantahala Purchase Unit in the vicinity of the Hayesville Dam, but this area has never been added to the National Forest and no lands have been approved or acquired in it.

The net area of the National Forest on June 30, 1949 was 414,123 acres of which 366,337 acres were acquired by purchase, 17,824 by exchange and 29,962 by transfer from the Treasury Department and from T.V.A. 19,169 additional acres were approved for acquisition but not acquired as of that date.

The earliest purchases in the Nantahala included the Macon Lumber Company tracts approved in 1912, 1913 and 1915 aggregating 21,000 acres; the Macon County Land Company tracts approved from February 19, 1913 to January 26, 1917 aggregating 17,000 acres and 22 small parcels acquired from W. B. McGuire. All of these lands were well timbered and were acquired at relatively high prices.

The following description of the Nantahala Purchase Unit taken from the National Forest Reservation Commission Report for F. Y. 1915 gives a good picture of conditions prevailing at that time.

This is one of the largest of the purchase areas, containing 591,913 acres, and situated entirely upon the watersheds of tributaries of the Tennessee River.

In it are situated some of the best and most extensive virgin forests of the hardwood belt. The Commission has approved for purchase 36,385 acres in a fairly compact body, which is merely a beginning of the purchases which should be made. The area is characterized by numerous high mountain ranges which are covered by virgin or but slightly culled timber. The forest consists mostly of oak and chestnut on the slopes and ridges and poplar in the coves and more favorable slopes. On the acquired lands is a large amount of a valuable timber which will eventually bring in much revenue. There

is a comparatively small percentage of old fields, but numerous settlements which will take out of the area to be owned by the Government a rather large total acreage. The area as a whole is not well supplied with either railroads or roads. Highways are especially needed for the future removal of products and to make it possible for the local mountain communities to get to market. With better means of access, its exceptional potential value as a recreation ground or summer resort would be transformed into a reality. More trails are also needed in order to protect the tract. In the past there has been much burning of the forest, which has reduced its productiveness materially.

PISGAH-CROATAN NATIONAL FORESTS

This group includes areas formerly or presently known as the Pisgah, Boone, Mt. Mitchell, Croatan, Unharrie and Yadkin Purchase Units and parts of the former French Broad and Unaka Purchase Units.

Yadkin Purchase Unit:

This unit, having a nominal gross area of 194,496 acres on the headwaters of the Yadkin River in Caldwell, Watauga and Wilkes Counties, North Carolina was one of the first group of purchase units established by the National Forest Reservation Commission soon after the passage of the Weeks Law in the last half of the fiscal year 1911. Although eminently fitted to serve the purposes of the law, no lands within it have ever been approved for purchase or acquired, and no changes have been made in its boundaries. In 1934 and 1935 a strong effort was made to purchase some 50,000 acres then owned by the Elk Creek Lumber Company, but the price offered was inadequate and the land passed into other ownership and has since been severely cut over. The unit is now inactive, but is destined to play a part in any flood control program that may be inaugurated in the watershed of the Pee Dee River.

Mt. Mitchell Purchase Unit:

This unit was set up by the National Forest Reservation Commission in 1911 on the watersheds of the Tennessee and Catawba Rivers in Buncombe, McDowell, Mitchell and Yancey Counties, North Carolina. No important changes in acreage or gross area were made during the first sixteen years of its existence. Starting with 214,922 acres in 1911, the gross area was increased to 231,013 acres in 1914, 233,813 acres in 1916, 238,472 acres in 1924 and then reduced in 1929 to 160,500 acres which was not changed until 1934 when the unit was merged with the Pisgah Unit.

Administrative headquarters for the unit were at Marion, North Carolina from the beginning of the work until 1918 when they were moved to Asheville, North Carolina. The acquired acreage in the purchase unit was 77,798 acres at the end of 1929 and 81,322 acres in June 30, 1933.

Boone Purchase Unit:

The Boone Unit embracing 241,462 acres on the watersheds of the Catawba and Tennessee Rivers in Burke, McDowell, Mitchell and Watauga Counties was set up by the National Forest Reservation Commission in F. Y. 1912. Like the Mt. Mitchell Unit, its early development was not marked by major shifts of boundary. The gross area was decreased in 1914 to 231,648 acres, increased in 1924 to 234,559 acres, and reduced in 1929 to 130,600 acres when the unit was merged with the Pisgah Purchase Unit in 1934.

Administrative headquarters were at Marion, North Carolina until about 1918 when they were moved to Asheville. The acquired acreage in the unit was 54,460 acres in 1929 and 60,679 acres in 1933.

French Broad Purchase Unit:

In fiscal year 1927, the portions of the Unaka Purchase Unit lying in the Madison County, North Carolina and Cocke and Greene Counties, Tennessee were cut off from the Unaka and set up as a separate purchase unit known as the French Broad. At this time the gross area of the unit in these counties was 70,770 acres in North Carolina and 59,928 acres in Tennessee or a total of 128,698 acres.

Boundary changes in 1929 reduced the gross area to 108,700 acres with 36,200 acres in North Carolina and 72,500 acres in Tennessee. At this time the acquired acreages in the unit were 20,270 acres and 31,741 acres respectively. By June 30, 1933 the net area had increased to 60,760 acres.

Pisgah Purchase Unit:

The Pisgah Unit was also one of the first group of purchase units that were established with approval of the National Forest Reservation Commission in the spring of 1911. It originally covered 358,577 acres on the watershed of the French Broad and Pigeon Rivers, tributaries of the Tennessee in Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania Counties, North Carolina. The gross acreage was increased to 376,760 in 1914, reduced to 304,350 acres in 1916, increased to 316,554 acres in 1924 and reduced to 127,900 acres in 1929 when the unit was merged with the Mt. Mitchell, Boone and French Broad Purchase Units and the boundaries were made to coincide with those of the several divisions of the Pisgah National Forest.

The net acquired acreage in the Pisgah Unit at the end of F. Y. 1929 was 98,460 acres and additional purchases were exceedingly slow.

In 1935 in line with the great expansion at that time of all units extending into the watershed of the Tennessee River, the Boone, Mt. Mitchell and Pisgah Units were expanded to a total gross area of 1,106,804 acres in North Carolina and Tennessee. The total area approved for purchase by the end of that fiscal year in the four divisions was 395,896 acres.

Pisgah National Forest:

The first proclamation creating a national forest in any eastern state from lands acquired under the Weeks Law was that covering the Pisgah, which was issued by President Woodrow Wilson on October 17, 1916. The forest then contained a gross area of 335,286 acres of which 53,810 acres owned by the United States. Additional areas of 34,384 acres had been approved for purchase within the boundaries at this date. The proclaimed boundaries took in some thirty thousand acres more than the Pisgah Purchase Unit.

By a second proclamation issued the same day, President Wilson set up the Pisgah as a National Game Preserve with boundaries identical with those of the National Forest. The area was thereafter known as the Pisgah National Forest and Game Preserve.

The Boone National Forest, embracing the Boone and Mt. Mitchell purchase units then containing gross areas aggregating 465,461 acres together with some 26,879 acres of additional lands was created by Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson dated January 16, 1920. The Boone National Forest, with headquarters at Asheville was administered under that name for only fourteen months.

By Proclamation of President Warren G. Harding dated March 25, 1921 the Boone was added to the Pisgah, the combined forest having a gross area of 1,166,049 acres and a net acreage of 213,668 acres. This proclamation made several small additions to the Pisgah division, extended the Boone to take in an area of about 50 square miles lying south and west of Spruce Pine, North Carolina and added to the Pisgah the portion of the Nantahala Purchase Unit lying in Graham County, that portion of Cherokee County lying north and east of Murphy, North Carolina and that part of Swain County lying west of the Nantahala River. These portions of the Nantahala purchase unit were at that time more easily accessible to Asheville, via Bryson City than to Franklin which became the headquarters of the Nantahala about that time.

By Executive Order July 1, 1923 President Warren G. Harding cut off from the Unaka National Forest and added to the Pisgah an area known as the French Broad District embracing gross areas of 82,739 acres in Madison County, North Carolina and 83,456 acres in Cocke and Green Counties, Tennessee. The enlarged Pisgah then had a gross area of 1,332,244 acres and a net acquired area of 252,137 acres.

By Proclamation of President Calvin Coolidge dated October 26, 1929 the gross area of the Pisgah was reduced to 527,700 acres which was increased in Fiscal Year 1931 by recomputations to 529,400 acres of which 456,900 acres were in North Carolina and 72,500 acres were in Tennessee. By this proclamation and Nantahala Proclamation of October 10, 1929 the areas in Graham, Cherokee and Swain Counties were restored to the Nantahala. The effect of this proclamation on the remaining portion of the Pisgah was to establish the new boundaries as close as practicable to the exterior lines of lands already acquired. The largest eliminations were located (1) on the west side of the Pisgah division, (2) in the area lying between the Boone and Mt. Mitchell divisions, (3) the watershed of the City of Asheville in the Mt. Mitchell division and (4) a large part of Madison County in the French Broad division.

Act of Congress approved August 26, 1935, (Public No. 328, 74th Congress) had the effect of increasing the gross area to 529,842 acres through the addition of an area of 242 acres known as the Grove tract at Oteen, North Carolina transferred by the Veterans' Administration.

By Proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt dated July 13, 1936 the boundaries of the Pisgah assumed their present form with a gross area of 1,178,003 acres. The net area at that time was

332,291 acres which has subsequently been increased through purchase and exchange under the Weeks Law to approximately 467,000 acres.

The largest tract purchased in the Pisgah division was that of Edith Vanderbilt containing 86,700 acres and carrying a large herd of deer and other game. This tract was approved on May 21, 1914. A shipment of elk from Wyoming reached the Pisgah in 1917.

In the Boone division the 38,930 acres of the Caldwell Land & Timber Company was approved April 6, 1915.

Early purchases in the Mt. Mitchell division consisted of smaller tracts.

Croatan National Forest and Purchase Unit:

The Croatan was established as a purchase unit by action of the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of October 30, 1933. The gross area of 307,000 acres included lands in Carteret, Craven and Jones Counties, North Carolina. By the end of Fiscal year 1935, 77,758 acres had been approved for purchase of which 50,659 acres were then in national ownership.

Pursuant to Public 501, 77th Congress, approved March 21, 1921, 464.6 acres of national forest land were transferred to the Navy for use in connection with the Navy Air Base at Cherry Point, North Carolina. A second transfer including 2054.6 acres was made pursuant to Public 203, 78th Congress approved December 17, 1943. As a result of this legislation the gross area was reduced by a total of 11,690 acres leaving a gross area of 294,610 acres.

No further boundary changes have taken place. The present net area is 147,351 acres, which is being administered as part of the Pisgah group with ranger's headquarters at New Bern, North Carolina.

The first and largest tract acquired in the Croatan was that of the Interstate Cooperage Company of 50,668 acres approved for purchase November 23, 1934.

Uwharrie Purchase Unit:

This area first known as the Uharie and later changed to Uwharrie was established by action of the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of March 26, 1934. The gross area of 560,000 acres embraces parts of Davidson, Montgomery, Moore and Randolph Counties, North Carolina. From the outset, acquisition of lands in this unit has been slow. Up to June 30, 1935 only 11,632 acres had been approved for purchase, none of which had been acquired.

The approved area as of June 30, 1949 was 38,025 acres. This land is under administration as a ranger district of the Pisgah group with headquarters at Troy, North Carolina.

SOUTH CAROLINA NATIONAL FORESTS

This group of forests includes the Francis Marion National Forest created from the Wambaw Purchase Unit in the low coastal plain, and the Sumter National Forest which in turn was made up of the Enoree and Long Cane Purchase Units in the Piedmont and part of the former Nantahala National Forest now known as the General Pickens Ranger District on the South side of the Blue Ridge.

Wambaw Purchase Unit:

The Wambaw was set up by the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of February 18, 1928, and was one of the first units to be established in the Coastal Plains under the amendment of June 1, 1924, known as Clarke-McNary Law.

When established this unit had a purchase limitation of 100,000 acres, and a gross area of about 250,000 acres. Early negotiations for proposals were not successful and in 1931 and 1932 no funds were available. In the summer of 1933 land examinations were started on a large scale and by the end of fiscal year 1934 over 195,000 acres had been approved for purchase which is equal to about 80 per cent of the present net acreage of the forest. During the same year the unit was expanded to a gross area of 418,500 acres and in 1935 was again enlarged to 419,900.

Francis Marion National Forest:

By Proclamation of July 10, 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed the former Wambaw unit as the Francis Marion National Forest with a gross area of 414,700 acres. The net acquired area at that time was about 150,000 acres, which by the end of fiscal year 1937 had increased to 236,234 acres.

No further changes have been made in the boundaries. The present net area includes 570 acres acquired by exchange and 244,962 acres acquired by purchase, total 245,532.

Enoree and Long Cane Purchase Units:

These purchase units containing 342,000 and 409,000 acres respectively, located in the Piedmont section of South Carolina, were set up with approval of the National Forest Reservation Commission at meeting of March 26, 1934. Acquisition was fairly rapid in spite of the fact that ownerships were small and many of the tracts contained patches of cultivated lands. By the end of fiscal year 1935, 75,206 acres had been approved for purchase in the Enoree and 45,121 acres in the Long Cane. By June 30, 1936 the total approvals in these units had increased to 196,400 acres.

General Pickens District:

The land embraced by this district was part of the Savannah purchase unit as established by the National Forest Reservation Commission in spring of 1911 soon after the passage of the Weeks Law. The original gross area was 142,949 acres which was increased in 1916 to 151,866 and in 1925 it was reduced to 139,267 which continued until the Savannah unit was merged with the Nantahala unit in fiscal year 1929.

When the Nantahala National Forest was first proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson on January 29, 1920 the portion of the forest lying in South Carolina contained a gross area of 137,216 acres and a net acquired acreage of 18,454. By proclamation of President Herbert Hoover of October 10, 1929, the area was extended eastward to include a gross area erroneously computed as 244,300 but later corrected to 172,100. This area was carried until the end of fiscal year 1935 at which time the net acquired area was 48,413 acres.

Sumter National Forest:

By Proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt dated July 13, 1936 the South Carolina portion of the Nantahala National Forest, called the Oconee Division was joined to the Enoree and Long Cane Purchase Units and established as the Sumter National Forest. The gross and net areas by divisions as reported as of June 30, 1937 were as follows:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Gross Area</u>	<u>Net Area</u>
Enoree	400,000	114,368
Long Cane	431,000	81,020
Oconee	<u>176,000</u>	<u>52,577</u>
Totals	1,007,000	247,965

No further changes in boundary have been made. The present net areas are: Enoree 136,488 acres; Long Cane 111,424 acres; Oconee 71,048 acres, total 338,960 acres.

CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST-TENNESSEE

The present Cherokee National Forest, as set up by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's proclamation of July 9, 1936 was made up of the Tennessee portions of the former Cherokee National Forest and Purchase Unit and the Unaka National Forest which in turn had its origin in the Unaka Purchase Unit in Tennessee and North Carolina, the White Top Purchase Unit in Tennessee and Virginia and the French Broad Purchase Unit in Tennessee and North Carolina.

White Top Purchase Unit:

The White Top was established by the National Forest Reservation Commission in the last quarter of Fiscal Year 1911. In the annual report of the Commission for that year it is shown to contain 255,027 acres in Tennessee and Virginia. The report for the following year shows Tennessee, 132,986 acres, Virginia 186,639 acres making a total of 319,625 acres. The report for 1914 shows its distributions in Carter, Johnson and Sullivan Counties, Tennessee and Grayson, Smyth, Washington and Wythe Counties, Virginia. In 1916 the Tennessee area was reduced to 87,614 acres but no change was then made in the Virginia portion. In 1922 the gross areas are reported as Tennessee, 88,687, Virginia, 196,330 including Carroll County, total 285,017; in 1923, Tennessee 88,687, Virginia 203,993; in 1924, Tennessee 88,587, Virginia, 199,260; and in 1925, Tennessee 96,970, Virginia, 199,260, total 296,230. Those gross areas were carried until 1927 when the White Top became part of the Unaka Unit. At this time the total area approved for purchase in the White Top was 101,295 acres.

From 1913 until shortly after January 1, 1918 the headquarters for the White Top Purchase Unit were at Abingdon, Virginia. In the spring of that year they were moved to Johnson City, Tennessee where they remained until they were moved to Bristol, Tennessee in 1922.

Unaka Purchase Unit:

This unit was established in FY 1912. Its gross acreage was 473,533 acres of which 169,377 acres were in Madison, Mitchell and Yancey Counties, North Carolina and 304,156 acres in Carter, Greene, Unicoi and Washington Counties, Tennessee. In 1916 25,000 acres were added in Carter County and smaller areas in Johnson and Sullivan Counties making a gross area of 347,770 acres in Tennessee and a total of 517,147 in the two states. Further changes in Tennessee gave a gross area of 543,358 in 1921, 544,064 in 1923. The report for 1924 shows 170,854 in North Carolina and 374,687 in Tennessee and in 1925 some 6,200 acres were eliminated in Tennessee giving a gross in the two states of 543,339. Those areas were carried until 1927 when the unit was combined with the White Top. The combined units, called the Unaka, then contained 2000 acres in Yancey County, North Carolina, 410,000 acres in Carter, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington Counties, Tennessee and 213,700 in Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Washington and Wythe Counties, Virginia. The total gross area was then 625,700.

At this time, the portions of the former Unaka Purchase Unit in Madison County, North Carolina and Cocke and Greene Counties Tennessee were set up as a new unit known as the French Broad.

No further boundary changes were made in the Unaka until early in Fiscal Year 1934 when the boundaries were expanded to include 620,000 acres in North Carolina, 670,000 acres in Tennessee and 213,700 acres in Virginia or a total of 1,503,700 acres in the three states. These were unchanged until 1936. This large expansion was made with the object of acquiring as much mountain land as possible within the watershed of the Tennessee River and its tributaries which were then being developed under TVA.

The first headquarters for the Unaka Purchase Unit were at Johnson City, Tennessee where they remained from 1913 until 1922 when they were removed to Bristol.

French Broad Purchase Unit:

As has been noted above, this unit was cut off from the Unaka in FY 1927. It then contained 70,770 acres in Madison County, North Carolina and 57,928 acres in Cocke and Greene Counties, Tennessee, a total of 128,698 acres. Acquisition, protection and administration were handled under the Forest Supervisor of the Pisgah National Forest at Asheville, North Carolina.

In 1929 the boundaries were modified so as to reduce the North Carolina gross acreage to 35,200 acres and increase the Tennessee acreage to 72,500 acres giving a total of 108,700. No further changes were made until this area was added to the Cherokee and Pisgah National Forests in 1936. In the annual reports of the National Forest Reservation Commission for 1934 and 1935, table 2 shows the French Broad Purchase Unit in North Carolina and Tennessee, but tables 4 and 5 for those years include the French Broad acreage as part of the Pisgah Unit.

Unaka National Forest:

By proclamation of July 24, 1920, President Woodrow Wilson first established the Unaka National Forest, combining the White Top and Unaka Purchase Units, then containing 274,253 acres and 453,358 acres respectively and embracing 34,098 acres of additional lands. The gross area of the new forest was 851,719 acres of which 123,289 acres were in North Carolina, 515,171 acres in Tennessee and 213,259 acres in Virginia. At this date, the net area of acquired lands was 117,539 acres with 34,322 additional acres approved for purchase and in process of acquisition.

The second proclamation dated July 1, 1923, transferred the 82,739 acres of the Unaka lying in Madison County, North Carolina and 83,456 acres in Cocke and Greene Counties, Tennessee to the Pisgah National Forest, and thereafter these areas were known as the French Broad Division of the Pisgah. These areas however continued as parts of the Unaka Purchase Unit until 1927.

By proclamation of February 23, 1927 President Calvin Coolidge, by further restriction of boundaries, reduced the gross area of the Unaka National Forest to 625,700 acres. At the same time by action of the National Forest Reservation Commission the boundaries of the purchase unit were made co-terminous with those of the national forest while the French Broad division of the Pisgah, hitherto included in the Unaka Purchase Unit became a separate unit.

No further changes were made in the boundaries or acreage of the Unaka National Forest until it was merged with the Cherokee in 1936. At the time of this merger there had been approved for purchase 307,898 acres in the Unaka, of which 216,233 acres had been acquired.

From 1934 until 1936 the acquisition, protection and administration of lands in the Unaka was directed by the Supervisor of the Pisgah National Forest.

Cherokee Purchase Unit:

This unit was set up by the National Forest Reservation Commission in Fiscal Year 1912 embracing 222,058 acres in Polk, Monroe and McMinn Counties, Tennessee. In fiscal year 1916 it was expanded by the addition of 95,648 acres in Monroe County, Tennessee and 5,978 acres in Cherokee County, North Carolina, that were originally included in the Nantahala. These additions and minor boundary changes resulted in a gross area for the Cherokee unit of 326,195 acres in Tennessee and 5,978 acres in North Carolina. By the end of fiscal year 1916 some 136,000 acres had been approved for purchase within the unit in Monroe and Polk Counties.

In 1925 the unit was again expanded to a gross area of 569,151 acres, the additions including some 90,000 acres in Monroe County, Tennessee, 40,000 in Cherokee County, North Carolina and 114,000 in Georgia. In 1928 boundary modifications reduced the gross area to 544,300 acres which remained unchanged until the advent of the great expansion of all units in F. Y. 1934 when the unit was enlarged to include 903,800 acres in Georgia, 275,200 acres in North Carolina and 586,600 acres in Tennessee or a total of 1,765,600 acres. No further changes were made in the gross area of the purchase unit until July, 1936.

At the outset of acquisition work the headquarters of the Cherokee were at Etowah, Tennessee. In 1918, the unit was combined for administrative purposes with the Georgia unit headquarters at Blue Ridge, Georgia. The following year they moved to Athens, Tennessee. In 1920 the Cherokee and Georgia were combined as the Cherokee National Forest with headquarters at Athens. In 1924, when it was expected that the Cherokee would take over the administration of a large acreage optioned in the Smoky Mountains Purchase Unit, the headquarters

were set up in Knoxville, Tennessee, but the Smoky Mountain Unit was abandoned in 1925, and in 1928 the headquarters of the Cherokee National Forest were returned to Athens, where they remained until they were moved to Cleveland, Tennessee in 1935.

Cherokee National Forest:

The first proclamation covering the Cherokee was issued by President Woodrow Wilson on June 14, 1920. The forest embraced portions of the Georgia Purchase Unit, now part of the Chattahoochee and the Cherokee Purchase Unit in Tennessee and North Carolina with a gross area in the three states of 827,699 of which 366,592 acres were in Tennessee and 44,851 acres in North Carolina. The net acreage outside of Georgia was 113,724 acres all of which were in Tennessee, largely in Polk County.

On August 5, 1924 President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed the establishment of the Cherokee National Game Refuge in two blocks, one in Georgia and the other on the waters of Big Creek in Polk County, Tennessee.

On April 4, 1928, President Coolidge proclaimed a revision of boundaries making important eliminations and additions in Georgia portion, and adding 16,008 acres on the northwest end of the Tennessee portion. As a result of this proclamation the gross acreage by states, and the acquired acreages were as follows:

	<u>Gross Acreage</u>	<u>Acquired Acreage</u>
Georgia	407,800	109,743
North Carolina	43,200	5,013
Tennessee	<u>382,600</u>	<u>197,942</u>
	833,600	312,298

No further changes were made in the Forest boundaries until the proclamation of July 19, 1936 by which President Franklin D. Roosevelt combined the Tennessee portions of the Unaka and Cherokee National Forests and the French Broad Division of the Pisgah National Forest forming the Cherokee National Forest in its present form. The gross area within the new boundaries was 1,204,327 acres all in Tennessee except 327 acres of acquired land in Ashe County, North Carolina which was not practicable of administration as part of the Pisgah. The net area of acquired land as of June 30, 1937 was 507,040 acres.

In 1940 the TVA transferred to the National Forest some 7,680 acres of land adjacent to Hiwassee Dam, including 102 acres outside the proclaimed boundary. The proclamation of August 12, 1940 by which President Franklin D. Roosevelt gave his approval to the transaction had the effect of adding this land to the United States and the gross area was thereby increased to 1,204,429 acres.

No further changes have been made in the boundaries or gross area of the National Forest. The net area as of June 30, 1949 was 570,501 acres acquired as follows:

By Purchase	559,233 acres
By Exchange	3,001 acres
By Donation	501 acres
By Transfer	<u>7,766 acres</u>
Total	570,501 acres

In Fiscal Year 1942 an addition of 7,795 acres was made to the gross area of the Purchase Unit in Sullivan County, Tennessee making the total purchase area 1,211,795 not including the 327 acquired acres in North Carolina. No lands have been approved or acquired in the Sullivan County addition.

The following paragraphs taken from the annual report of the National Forest Reservation Commission for 1915, are descriptive of the conditions and progress made in acquiring lands in the three purchase units covering the greater part of the present Cherokee Forest.

White Top:

Within this area is included 319,625 acres in southern Virginia and northeastern Tennessee and situated on the watersheds of the Tennessee and Kanawha Rivers. The approvals for purchase amount to 83,439 acres which are situated in a continuous body on two parallel ridges which extend northeast and southwest through the area. At certain points these ridges are separated by fertile agricultural valleys which can not at any time be considered for acquisition by the Government. The mountain slopes are rocky and generally steep. The soils are prevaillingly fertile, though covered generally with stone and with many ledges and rock outcrops. Very commonly the summits of the ridges are rounded and there are frequent grass covered "balds". The purchases block up quite completely in the southwestern end of the area, but it is extremely desirable that more lands be acquired to the east of those which have been approved, in order to properly fill out the area as an administrative unit. The original forest consisted of oak, chestnut, and poplar, with large mixture of white pine of very excellent quality. The bulk of this timber has been cut. What remains is mostly low-grade old timber for which there is now a market and which should be cut in order to make way for the young stand. One railroad crosses and another skirts a portion of the acquired lands. There is need of well-graded wagon roads in order to market the products and to serve the communities within and adjacent to the purchase area. Such roads would facilitate the protection of the forest which in time should become highly valuable to the Government on account of the productivity of the soil.

Unaka:

The Unaka area includes 473,533 acres situated on the waters of the French Broad, Nolachucky, Toe, Cane, Watauga, Doe and Elk Rivers, all tributaries of the Tennessee River. It lies along the State line between the states of Tennessee and North Carolina and embraces the rough mountains and high mountain valleys. A small beginning has been made in the purchases in this area, the approved acreage amounting to only 19,756 acres. The forest which originally was of excellent character, containing much valuable oak, chestnut, hemlock, white pine, and poplar, has been largely removed and the young timber and soil have been considerably damaged by fire. The region is in great need of fire protection, and owing to the fact that the timber area lies on the ridges with more or less agricultural land lying between, this problem is one of considerable magnitude.

The efforts of the Government in fire protection have already been of value. Where fires have been kept out a very abundant reproduction of such valuable trees as white pine, poplar, chestnut, and oak quickly appear. Owing to the cutting which has gone on, many of the acquired tracts contain only low-grade timber products. These, however, owing to the excellent local market conditions find ready sale. The region is well supplied with railroads and secondary wagon roads. It is, however, in need of further road development and, most of all, trails to make accessible the remote districts for fire protection and administration. Although there are a few valleys of good agricultural land, this area, for the most part, is typically forest land needing protection from erosion and too rapid drainage. There are a few rounded mountain tops which will make good grazing areas if cleared and put into grass. Ultimately the purchases by the Government should cover at least three-quarters of the lands on this area.

Cherokee:

In the Cherokee area the Commission has approved for purchase 135,686 acres out of a total of 222,058. The approved lands are quite compactly assembled except in the northern end of the area. Many of those not acquired have such agricultural value as to render them unavailable for the Government's purposes. The area protects watersheds of tributaries of the Tennessee River. While no mountains of great height are contained within this area, the range in elevation is more than 3,000 feet and the surface is much dissected by long, rather narrow, leading ridges, frequently broken by deep gaps. The prevailing forest is a rather thin stand of pine and oak. In the southeastern portion the timber has in the past been much damaged by sulphur fumes from the copper smelters at Ducktown and Copper Hill. Because of this damage and the continuing hazard the lands in this area have been acquired at a comparatively low price. The area is well served by railroads, being crossed by one line and paralleled by another. A large amount of the merchantable timber which is present on the lands can be hauled to these railroads over short, well-graded roads, which, however, it will be necessary to extend up the numerous

streams. Owing to the thinning out of the forest by the smelter fumes, there are large areas of mountain ridges stocked with coarse grass which afford some pasturage. Fire and insects have done more than usual damage on this area, probably on account of the low vitality of the trees, caused by sulphur fumes.

A lake 9 miles in length has been formed by the development of a power company in the southwestern part of the area. In time the lands surrounding this lake may have considerable recreational value, as it affords very attractive scenery. Future purchases will be confined to the remaining non-agricultural lands within the area, which probably do not exceed 50,000 acres.

TEXAS NATIONAL FORESTS

At meeting of March 26, 1934, the National Forest Reservation Commission approved the establishment of four purchase units in Texas, namely: Angelina 300,000 acres; Davy Crockett 350,000 acres; Sabine 400,000 acres and the San Jacinto 350,000 acres.

The examination of lands and negotiations for purchases began immediately and proceeded with such speed that at the end of fiscal year 1936 a total of 631,499 acres had been approved for purchase. The work was facilitated through the nature of land ownership which included an unusual number of very large tracts. Eighty-five percent of all the land then or subsequently acquired in the Texas National Forests came from the following eight ownerships:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Acreege</u>
Angelina	Kirby Lumber Company	57,025
"	Long Bell Lumber Company	73,748
Davy Crockett	Houston County Timber Company	94,041
" "	Trinity County Lumber Company	61,410
Sabine	Pickering Lumber Company	86,076
"	Temple Lumber Company	80,963
Sam Houston	Delta Land & Timber Company	82,774
" "	Gibbs Brothers	23,845

At meeting of June 30, 1936, the name of the San Jacinto was changed to the Sam Houston.

The lands in these units were formally established as national forests by proclamations of President Franklin D. Roosevelt dated October 13, 1936. The gross areas of these forests were as follows:

Angelina	388,700 acres
Davy Crockett	394,200 "
Sabine	439,600 "
Sam Houston	491,800 "

On September 19, 1945 the Secretary of Agriculture, in the form of a letter to the Chief, under authority of Public Law 539, 78th Congress, added to the Angelina National Forest a tract containing 2,499 acres in Nacogdoches County, Texas, known as Nacogdoches Farms Project of the Farm Security Administration. The gross area of the Angelina thereupon became 391,271 acres. No boundary changes have been made affecting any of the other Texas forests subsequent to their establishment in 1936. The present net areas of the Texas National Forests aggregate 658,134 acres, of which 2,581 were acquired through exchange, 652,992 acres through purchase and 2,561 acres by transfer.