



## Buckelew Receives Annual Alabama Chapter SWCS Scholarship

Auburn, Ala., September 5, 2014 –

Brandon Buckelew, an incoming freshman at Auburn University (AU), received a \$2,000 scholarship from the Alabama Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society (AL SWCS). A check was presented to him by Perry Oakes, Chair of the Education Committee. Also on hand from the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences was the Interim Dean Dr. Graeme Lockaby and the Director of Student Services Dr. Jodie Kennedy.

Majoring in Wildlife Ecology and Management Brandon worked in his family's tree farm business and was taught from an early age to manage land and resources. Pursuing a major in this field at Auburn was a natural fit for him. After graduation he indicated he would like to gain experience by working in national or state parks. His ultimate goal is to work in a career that promotes wildlife and land management.



Brandon Buckelew accepts a \$2,000 scholarship check from the Alabama Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. l-r: Dr. Jodie Kennedy, Director School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences Student Services, Perry Oakes, AL SWCS Chair of the Education Committee, Brandon, and Dr. Graeme Lockaby, Interim Dean of the School.

Brandon is the first high school student to apply for the AL-SWCS scholarship. He graduated this spring from Opp High School and was involved in many church and community activities. During high school he worked with Opp's Fleeta School as a tutor, recreation assistant, and other duties and also with the Opp Recreation Department.

Perry Oakes said, "I am pleased with the quality of the scholarship application submitted by Brandon. He pushed himself for high grades in his high school curriculum and was held in high regard by his teachers due to his hard work, dedication, and his quality of character. I wish him all the best in his educational endeavors."

Dr. Kennedy said, "Brandon is a premier freshman in the school. We have high expectations for him."

"I plan to remain dedicated, stay focused, and work hard to reach my goals," said Brandon. "Receiving this scholarship will help me achieve that."

For more information about the scholarship, please visit the Alabama Chapter of SWCS website: <http://www.alchapterswcs.aces.edu/scholarship.php>