



NEWS

The Forest Service begins ecological footprint studies

The Forest Service's Rocky Mountain Region is taking a lead role in integrating environmental stewardship into its daily operation. The region is undergoing an assessment of its energy and water consumption, vehicle emissions, recycling and waste prevention activities, and green purchasing in an effort to quantify its resource use. "To my

knowledge this is the first time in our agency's 100-year history," writes Anna Jones-Crabtree, regional coordinator of the initiative, "that we are attempting to quantify our own resource use and some of the impacts associated with our business operations." Establishing a baseline ecological footprint will help the region adopt new measures to reduce

its consumption. Last month, the Pacific Southwest Region announced a similar initiative. Visit the Rocky Mountain Region's *Sustainable Operations* website to learn more: www.fs.fed.us/r2/sustainable_operations.

"If we truly believe in a land ethic, then we as a nation must also demonstrate a sound consumption ethic."

FS Chief Dale Bosworth
October 2005

UPCOMING EVENTS

Global CO₂ Cap-and-Trade Forum, Washington DC,

September 18-19: Hosted by the Strategic Research Institute, the CO₂ Cap-and-Trade Forum will explore carbon market forces and trading mechanisms, voluntary initiatives, reduction legislation and mandates, carbon offsets, and project financing. More information is available at: www.srinstitute.com.

2006 Science for Nature Symposium on Ecosystem Services, Washington DC, October 31-November 1:

World Wildlife Fund's symposium will focus on harnessing the value of ecosystem services to conserve biodiversity and enhance human well-being. Featured participants include Jeffrey Sachs, Gretchen Daily, Walter Reid, Steve Polasky, and Tom Lovejoy. A webcast of the first day's discussion will be available at WWF's Science for Nature website: www.worldwildlife.org/sfn.

Visit our website to learn about other upcoming events...

RESOURCES

i-Tree software tool released this month

A state-of-the-art software suite developed by the Forest Service and cooperators will help communities assess and manage their neighborhood trees and forests. i-Tree integrates inventory, analysis, and forecasting tools to help users calculate the value of urban trees, incorporating their contributions to energy savings, carbon dioxide reduction, net air pollutant removal, stormwater runoff reduction, and property value increases. The suite is now available through the i-Tree website: www.itreetools.org.

New study evaluates market-based approaches to biodiversity conservation

Last month Ecologic, the Berlin-based Institute for International and European Environmental Policy, published a report that examines how market-based instruments are currently used for biodiversity conservation. Authored by Ecologic Fellow Ingo Bräuer and colleagues, "The use of market incentives to preserve biodiversity" assesses the successes and failures of a range of instruments and provides recommendations for instrument design and implementation. The report can be accessed at: www.fs.fed.us/ecosystemservices/biodiversity.

Learn more about the 1605(b) program

In April the Department of Energy (DOE) issued revised general and technical guidelines for the Voluntary Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program, known as 1605(b). The new guidelines enable landowners to estimate, report, and register greenhouse gas reductions and carbon sequestration. FS Scientist and Northern Global Change Research Program Manager Richard Birdsey provides a useful overview of 1605(b) in an article published last month in the *Journal of Environmental Quality*: "Carbon accounting rules and guidelines for the United States forest sector." Visit www.fs.fed.us/ecosystemservices/carbon.

The USDA's Global Climate Change Office maintains a useful website that answers all of your 1605(b) questions...
www.usda.gov/oce/global_change/gg_reporting.htm

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