



WAYNE

National Forest

2007

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

A LETTER FROM THE SUPERVISOR



THE SUCCESSES the Wayne National Forest achieved in 2007 could not have been done without the collaboration of over 200 individuals and organizations in partnership with the Forest to make this past year a sustained success for our Forest. The Wayne completed another remarkable year of caring for the land and serving people in southeast Ohio.

We continue to see forest health and water quality improve across the forest through implementation of the Forest Plan using stewardship contracting and with the help of Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Mineral Resource Management on watershed projects. The work with partners on both native plants and in restoring degraded ecosystems through treatments on many hundreds of acres invaded by weeds on the Forest has been inspirational.

As a recreation destination, our improvements continue to draw more visitors. This year's highlights include the addition of the Ora E. Anderson Nature Trail at the Rutherford Wetland in the Athens District; the preparation for the ATV connector in the Ironton District; and the addition of the new Trail Patrol Volunteer Program.

After 34 years of service, I will retire at the end of February 2008. I am very proud of the years I have spent on the Wayne National Forest, and the people with whom I have worked. I feel confident in the continuing efforts of the many people who share an interest in the Wayne National Forest today and for many years to come.

Mary O. Reddan
Forest Supervisor

WAYNE *National Forest*



Wayne National Forest
Proclamation Boundary

COURAGEOUS CONSERVATION

THE MISSION: To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of the present and future generations.

PROTECTING ECOSYSTEMS ACROSS BOUNDARIES

The Wayne implemented its Forest Plan in 2007; selling 3 million board feet of timber and integrating ecosystem restoration by completing the first Forest mid-level assessment.



Steering Committee members meet during the Iron Furnace CWMA's first year.

Forest botanists Cheryl Coon and Chad Kirschbaum received regional recognition for their leadership in natural resources. They also helped establish 130 Firemon plots to monitor vegetation at the project level. Under their leadership, the Forest initiated several projects including the Iron Furnace Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) – the first such area in the state of Ohio.

Through partnerships with Rural Action and Hocking College, the Forest continued the US Highway 33 Plant Save Initiative, collecting less common or medically important native plants to



Hocking College students remove non-native invasive plants along two wetland areas.



Mike Greenlee, an ODNR, Division of Wildlife Fisheries Biologist, holds two of the large-mouth bass collected at Lake Vesuvius. Three years after the lake was drained the fish population has rebounded.

be replanted after construction and on abandoned mine reclaimed areas.

The Wayne received \$2.2 million for four watershed projects from Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Mineral Resource Management and Hocking College donated in-kind contributions.

Working closely with the two partners and Monday Creek Restoration Project, the Forest was able to put in several limestone and steel slag leach beds, and close subsidences and portals.

Working across boundaries, the Forest completed three county-wide community wildfire protection plans and reduced hazardous fuel buildup on 7,015 acres of the Forest which could prevent future catastrophic fires.

Shown here are 114 Indiana bats in one cluster hibernating in an abandoned mine on the Wayne.



CONNECTING CITIZENS TO THE LAND

Dale Dalrymple, enjoys the new Ora E. Anderson Nature Trail on the Athens Ranger District. It was Dalrymple who first suggested the abandoned railroad bed along the Rutherford Wetland as an ideal location to build an accessible nature trail for bird-watchers.



Improving trail systems, opening new trails and recreation sites, reconstructing a lookout tower, and revising brochures are a few of the developments the Wayne made to improve the recreation experience for visitors in 2007. The new Ora E. Anderson Nature Trail was dedicated at the Rutherford Wetland near Nelsonville and is already one of the area's most popular trails featuring Anderson's poetry and artwork by local artist Barbara Kostohryz.

Ground was broken and work has been substantially completed on an archery trail (scheduled to open in summer of 2008) at the Vesuvius Recreation Area funded in large part by the National Wild Turkey Federation. Over 70 miles of trails were improved or maintained. Another added benefit to visitors in 2007 was the Trail Patrol Volunteer Program. Eight volunteers completed the training on the Athens District and began patrolling the Monday Creek ATV Trails last fall. In 2008 volunteers will be trained on the Ironton District as well.

Volunteers continue to contribute substantially on many of our programs. The Wayne and their partners sponsored several public events in



The Ohio Department of Natural Resources presented a check in November 2007 for \$2,247,055 to the Wayne to construct a boat launch facility on the Ohio River north of Marietta. An additional \$162,825 was awarded to the Forest to construct a canoe launch on Symmes Creek in Lawrence County.



A group of 87 teens from the Church of Latter Day Saints camped out and accrued over 1,000 service hours over three days at the Lake Vesuvius Recreation Area as part of a service project. Among the jobs accomplished was a fresh coat of paint on all the Vesuvius buildings.

2007 including children's fishing derbies at Leith Run and Lake Vesuvius, an International Migratory Bird Day event, an Artifact Identification Day, Iron Furnace Days, and Arbor Day programs.



The Rock Hill High School Envirothon team is shown transplanting seedlings for a butterfly garden. They were one of seven partners who helped with the project. Butterfly garden projects increase the awareness of pollinator declines.

The Trail Patrol Program are volunteers who are trained to patrol Forest trails, assist visitors with information, safety, and do basic trail maintenance



WALK THE TALK FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Solar panels on the roof of the Nelsonville office now supply about 4% of the office's electrical needs.



With the help of a State grant, solar panels at the Nelsonville office produce power not only for the office, but eventually excess power to be used in the community. Additional panels may be added in the future to offset more of the office's electrical needs. In 2007 - 3,000 tons of biomass was harvested on the Forest to be used by local industry and homes for heating fuel.

A massive effort was launched on the Ironton District to clean up 32 dumpsites, many of which contained hazardous materials and were contaminating streams and drainages. During



Volunteers from Rural Action salvaged over 1,000 young trees and shrubs from the future US 33 Bypass corridor to plant along restored stream banks.

the trash out, you can see the woods and wildflowers again."

Establishment of 14 long-term monitoring stream sites by Ohio State University in 2007 not only benefits Forest Service managers, but allows the University to compare stream recovery and changes in glaciated/agricultural landscapes and unglaciated/forested landscapes in Ohio. Lost Run Creek in the Monday Creek watershed was rehabilitated for acid mine drainage in 2006. In the spring of 2007, volunteers salvaged trees and shrubs from the future US 33

Bypass corridor to stabilize the tributary banks. These young plantings will enhance water quality and provide habitat.



Volunteers assist with placing discarded Christmas trees in Lake Vesuvius to be used for fish habitat.



Edward Entsminger scrapes zebra mussels from a native mussel before it is relocated to Grape Island. The mussels were collected during a survey done before construction of the new Frontier Boat Launch.



Pollinator gardens have been planted at various locations in recreation and administrative sites to encourage butterflies and other pollinators.

REVOLUTIONIZING EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY

In 2007 the Wayne purchased the historic Pioneer Iron Furnace built in 1857. The Forest also owns the Vesuvius Furnace (1836), the Cambria Furnace (1854), and the Etna Furnace (1832).



Working with partners allows us to leverage our budget and staff time to accomplish a wide variety of recreation improvements, land management activities and even provide a more efficient land base. In 2007, in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy, the Forest acquired

an additional 1,268 acres of forest and grassland.

The US 33 Bypass project, an Executive Order Environmental Streamline priority project, remained on schedule and initial construction contracts were awarded. Through stewardship contracting, the removal of timber resulted in multiple benefits to local economies.

Another example of finding a way to provide benefits to local groups who assist the Forest and its visitors is the Ward Township Volunteer Fire and

Rescue Department. The group averaged 54 emergency runs/year assisting off-highway vehicle riders injured on the Forest's Monday Creek Trail System. The Wayne was able to formalize a partnership which then allowed them to provide rescue equipment and GPS units to the volunteers. Since many of the injured riders had to be moved to helispots, the Forest assisted with the purchase of an all-terrain vehicle called a 'Gator' which had the capability to carry a stretcher on the side.



A \$150,000 grant from the Ohio DNR for trail maintenance equipment allowed for the purchase of a skid steer, a mini-excavator, and a gravel wagon. A partnership with Hocking College resulted in trained equipment operators.



A \$179,000 grant from Ohio DNR provided money to improve the Long Ridge Trail. A new toilet facility and 12 miles of the steep, narrow motorcycle trail were reconstructed. The goal was to keep the trail challenging while protecting the resource. Visitors have been pleased with the results. One man wrote "I couldn't get back home quick enough to get on the internet to let my riding buddies know what a TERRIFIC job the Wayne did The trails did need to be repaired, and the Forest did the work in the manner that everyone should be happy with."



The Coal Dale Fire was found burning in a remnant coal pile on the Forest and had burned extensively underground. The fire was extinguished with trenching and the site is being rehabilitated.



Ward Township volunteers and the laptop computer donated through the Wayne National Forest to assist them in tracking emergency runs and billing private insurance companies.

BE AN EMPLOYER OF CHOICE

The Wayne strives to be a place where employees enjoy their work and recommend their career choices to others. In 2007 the Forest has brought on several new employees and was able to promote others up through the ranks.

The Forest brought on four Student Career Employment Program and several Student Temporary Employment Program employees in 2007. Both programs provide job training and

experience to students interested in natural resource careers. Other students receive experience through volunteering or environmental education projects such as the Envirothon teams.

Mary Bowen volunteered over 300 hours establishing plots to track changes in forest vegetation and fuels after the 2003 ice storm. Bowen's work on the Wayne has helped confirm her interest in pursuing environmental studies in college to focus on global warming.

Marietta area. This experience not only accomplishes needed work on the Forest but often inspires some of the youth to pursue careers in the natural resource arena.

The SITES (Social Involvement through Education and Service) program with the Frontier High School brings kids from Frontier's sister school in Cleveland, Ohio to the Forest. The two High Schools send students to work in each other's location to give them a different

social and cultural experience. This three day trip gives teens from inner-city Cleveland an opportunity to experience resource management and get a taste of what a career with a natural resource agency might be.

Warren Tucker was hired in 2006 as an intern then converted in 2007 to a permanent employee. He has since been enrolled in National Silviculture Training.



Gary Chancey, a military veteran working on the Black Hills National Forest is the new Public Affairs Officer.



Chris Euler, Archaeology Technician, became a permanent employee after conversion from a Student Career Employment Program position.



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2007 PAYMENTS TO COUNTIES:

WAYNE NATIONAL FOREST

In 2007, Ohio counties received from \$1.84-\$1.20/acre (average was \$1.62/acre) for NF lands within their counties. In addition monies were also paid for road projects, cooperative law enforcement, and volunteer fire department support. Although national forests do not pay property taxes for the land managed by the federal government, these are funds paid in lieu of taxes to compensate local governments for the land taken off the tax rolls.

County	NF acreage	PILT payment	Title I, II, and III Payments	Mineral Payments	Total Payment to County
Athens	18,632	\$17,175	\$11,981	\$4,739	\$33,895
Gallia	17,049	15,406	11,225	4,337	30,968
Hocking	26,000	28,007	3,122	*	31,129
Jackson	1,701	2,101	204	433	2,738
Lawrence	71,703	87,016	8,611	17,744	113,371
Monroe	24,415	21,454	16,514	3,620*	41,588
Morgan	3,328	4,128	400	847	5,375
Noble	694	783	216	177	1,176
Perry	22,271	27,482	2,675	5,635	35,792
Scioto	11,626	14,350	1,396	2,957	18,703
Vinton	1,869	2,305	224	475	3,004
Washington	39,513	34,082	28,711	6,417*	69,210
TOTAL	238,801	\$254,289	\$85,279	\$47,381	\$386,949

* An overpayment in previous years resulted in \$12,763 being deducted from three counties in 2007.



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