



Florida



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

Program	FY 2006 Final	FY 2007 Estimate
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	673,313	1,173,313
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management - National Fire Plan	225,000	225,000
Forest Land Enhancement	175,000	0
Forest Legacy	25,000	2,275,000
Forest Stewardship	555,000	560,000
State Fire Assistance	495,210	733,008
State Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	1,104,140	817,000
Urban and Community Forestry	846,200	573,284
Volunteer Fire Assistance	129,876	130,508
Volunteer Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	155,077	158,000
Total	4,383,816	6,645,113

The cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the State of Florida, the USDA Forest Service and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of forest lands and rural economies. Emphasis focuses on forest sustainability and the production of commodity and amenity values such as wildlife, water quality and environmental services.

- The goal is to maintain and improve the health of urban and rural forests and related economies. These programs: Increase cost effectiveness through the use of partnerships in delivery; Increase values through sustained productivity of forests; Are voluntary, and use non-regulatory approaches.

Key Issues:

- Forest Legacy funding will continue to be highly competitive requiring well written project proposals. Florida continues to recover from the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons, as well as a serious drought in 2006. As a result, fire severity levels have been above normal, resembling the threatening characteristics of historic catastrophic fire seasons. Dealing with numerous invasive species, redbay mortality and increasing southern pine beetle prevention activities.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments:

Selected Facts		FY2006 Accomplishments	
Population	15,982,378	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year) (Each)	149
Acres of Forest Land	16,564,365	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year) (Acres)	41,310
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	6,317,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years) (Acres)	684,112
Number of NIPF Landowners	257,000	Acres of Multi-resource Practices Implemented on NIPF (Acres)	5,182
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	89
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	25,100,000	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	112
Number of Rural Fire Departments	524	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected (Acres)	9,270
Number of Cities And Towns	888	Forest Legacy Project Acquisition (Acres)	0
Forest Based Employment	133,475	Urban Forestry - Participating Communities (Each)	187
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	3	Urban Forestry - Volunteer Assistance (Days)	2,667
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	125,329,258		

Program Highlights:

Forest Health Protection

Southern pine beetle populations in Florida remained at extremely low levels. However, Ips bark beetle-associated pine mortality increased due to summer drought and the residual effects of the 2004 hurricanes. Southern pine beetle prevention treatments were completed on 10,000 acres of forested lands. Mortality of redbay is occurring in the Jacksonville area due to a newly introduced bark beetle and associated fungus. The DOF is conducting surveys and investigating management alternatives.

Cooperative Fire Protection

State Fire Assistance provides funding to support fire fighting resources throughout Florida, including the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans. The Federal Excess Personal Property Program assists Florida in acquiring and placing fire equipment in rural communities throughout the state. In addition, Florida Division of Forestry administers Volunteer Fire Assistance Program funds to support the fire prevention and protection efforts of rural community fire departments.

Economic Action

Much of Florida's economic development activity will be based on finding markets to encourage woody biomass utilization and bio-fuels production.

Forest Legacy

In the first 2 years of implementation of the Forest Legacy Program, the Florida Division of Forestry has closed the Newnan's Lake project and we anticipate funding for the NE Florida Timberlands in FY2007.

Landowner Assistance

Florida's efforts will be focused on recovering and restoring forests damaged by the 2004 and 2005 hurricanes. Salvage has been completed, activities are now focused on reforestation. The new "Your Forest. Managed" program is reaching out to a wide variety of landowners.

Urban and Community Forestry

The Division of Forestry has formed a partnership with the National Football League to use urban tree plantings in Dade County to allow the 2007 Super Bowl there to be a carbon neutral event. Local governments, private companies, the NFL, and the DOF have worked together to make this project a reality.

For more information contact:



Florida Division of Forestry

Mike C. Long
3125 Conner Blvd.
Suite "I"
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1650
Ph: 850-488-4274
Fax: 850-488-0863
Email: longm@doacs.state.fl.us

Southern Region

Ken Arney
USDA Forest Service
1720 Peachtree Street, Suite 760S
Atlanta, GA 30309
Ph: 404-347-4178
Fax: 404-347-4821
Email: karney@fs.fed.us

United
States
Department
of
Agriculture

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