



# South Dakota



## State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

### Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

<b>Program</b>	<b>FY 2006 Estimate</b>	<b>FY 2007 Estimate</b>
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	65,000	65,000
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management - National Fire Plan	148,500	148,500
Forest Land Enhancement	18,425	0
Forest Legacy	0	0
Forest Stewardship	264,978	264,978
State Fire Assistance	404,657	404,657
State Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	879,314	879,314
Urban and Community Forestry	203,500	203,500
Volunteer Fire Assistance	144,184	144,184
Volunteer Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	94,337	94,337
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,222,895</b>	<b>2,204,470</b>

- Focus program delivery on areas of need that maximize program effectiveness and delivery. Improve the management of forests, woodlands, and other non-forest areas that can support trees throughout the state. Increase effectiveness through the use of partnerships in program delivery.

### Key Issues:

- Inadequate market for woody biomass residues from timber harvest and thinning operations. Water quality and riparian area rehabilitation. Rapid urbanization and subdivision development.

## Forest Facts and Accomplishments:

Selected Facts		FY2006 Accomplishments	
Population	754,844	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year) (Each)	10
Acres of Forest Land	1,600,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year) (Acres)	1,751
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	566,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years) (Acres)	57,149
Number of NIPF Landowners	28,700	Acres of Multi-resource Practices Implemented on NIPF (Acres)	159
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	369
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	48,611,840	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	45
Number of Rural Fire Departments	369	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected (Acres)	3,150
Number of Cities And Towns	350	Forest Legacy Project Acquisition (Acres)	0
Forest Based Employment	2,000	Urban Forestry - Participating Communities (Each)	63
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	0	Urban Forestry - Volunteer Assistance (Days)	1,081
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	3,100,000		

## Program Highlights:

### *Forest Health Protection*

The Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry provided more than 1,200 technical assists to private landowners, conservation districts, state parks, and cooperative extension personnel. Many of these assists involve injury to individual landowner trees but many also involved pest problems with windbreak and shelterbelt trees. Timely information on current pest problems and results of diagnoses were communicated to extension, conservation district and the Department of Game, Fish and Parks via a weekly Pest Update located on the Division's website. A significant amount of resources were devoted to the growing infestation of mountain pine beetle in the northwestern corner of Custer State Park. The Division continued a program of spot baiting and thinning to reduce the rate of spread of this threat to the ponderosa pine forests of the park. A relic stand of limber pine was protected from attack through the use of an anti-aggregation pheromone.

### *Economic Action*

Eleven studies were completed to determine the feasibility of converting schools and public facilities in the Black Hills area from fossil fuel to woody biomass fuel for heating. Seven of the studies were for primary and secondary educational schools; the other four studies were

for district energy systems in larger multi-building complexes including Black Hills State University, the State Veterans Home, Star Academy, and the Rapid City Central High School/Civic Center complex. Currently the State Veterans Home and Star Academy are pursuing conversion to woody biomass heat by the 2008 heating season. Four other facilities are seriously considering conversion to woody biomass and are pursuing further study.

#### *Landowner Assistance*

South Dakota has about 1.6 million acres of forest land. Privately owned forests account for 491,812 acres, and 1,039,460 acres of forest land is in the National Forest System. Remaining acres are other federal and State forest lands. Of the 28,700 private forest landowners, 87 percent have parcels less than 20 acres in size. Almost all of these landowners report that "part of residence" and "farm and domestic use" are primary reasons for owning forest land. The Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry provided 609 forest management and prairie forestry technical assists to private landowners, organizations, and government agencies across the state.

#### *Urban and Community Forestry*

The state's 754,844 people include 243 incorporated communities; 26% of these have initiated some level of community forestry program. The division has completed 16 community street tree inventories in the past year. We found green ash is the most common street tree in the communities. However, the startling number comes from the lack of street trees. Over half of the areas where a street tree can be planted is vacant. The division also assisted 25 other communities with urban forestry tree planting grants. The average per capita spending on urban forestry in Tree City USA communities in South Dakota was \$13.29, and 54% of the state's population lives these communities.

#### *Conservation Education*

The state actively supports Project Learning Tree (PLT) by providing foresters to assist in PLT activities. A total of 163 teachers were trained to take PLT techniques on conservation education back to the classroom. In addition another 6,292 persons participated in PLT type activities at water festivals, Arbor Day celebrations, Kid's Fairs, Science Days, and Walk in the Woods.

#### *Forest Stewardship*

Forest Stewardship plans were written and approved for 10 private landowners covering 1751 acres, and 17 forest management plans were written for private landowners covering 231 acres. Consultants wrote two plans covering 180 acres of forest land. A riparian forest buffer workshop was sponsored by the Division which attracted resource professionals from the NRCS and Conservation Districts. Two brochures were developed titled "Field Windbreaks" and "Windbreaks and Snow Management." Most of the data layers were completed for the Spatial Analysis Project, a Geographic Information System data storage and retrieval system designed to be compatible with other States across the country.

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#### **For more information contact:**



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