



TEXAS



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

Programs	FY 2003 Final SPF	FY 2003 Final NFP	FY 2004 Estimate SPF	FY 2004 Estimate NFP
Coop Forest Health Management	\$195,000	\$1,025,000	\$646,747	\$750,000
State Fire Assistance	\$507,465	\$864,240	\$538,300	\$821,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$263,390	\$390,977	\$289,700	\$371,400
Forest Stewardship Program	\$694,500	n/a	\$635,000	n/a
Forest Legacy Program	\$0	n/a	\$50,000	n/a
Urban and Community Forestry	\$1,687,281	n/a	\$1,528,120	n/a
Economic Action Programs	\$6,700	\$80,300	\$40,000	\$0
Forest Land Enhancement Program	771,497	n/a	\$0	n/a
Forest Resource Planning Assistance	\$0	n/a	\$0	n/a
Natural Resources Conservation Education	\$14,000	n/a	n/a	n/a
Conservation Reserve Program	\$0	n/a	\$36,856	n/a
TOTAL	\$4,139,833	\$2,360,517	\$3,764,723	\$1,942,400

The cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the State of Texas, 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 timber and other forest products, wildlife, water resources, rural economies and conservation practices. 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, and
- **Are voluntary**, and use non-regulatory approaches.

KEY ISSUES:

Key issues which State and federal programs will address together in the next few years include:

- Mixed landownership patterns, population growth and urban expansion will pose considerable challenges to sustaining forest resource productivity in the South.

Forest Facts and 2003 Accomplishments

SELECTED FACTS		FY 2003 ACCOMPLISHMENTS	
Population	21,800,000	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)	341
Acres of Forest Land	29,000,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year)	53,734
Acres of NonIndustrial Private Forest Land	26,600,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years)	686,278
Number of NIPF Landowners	250,000+	Multi-resource practices implemented on NIPF - Acres	230,000
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	2,100,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted SPF NFP	230 76
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	153,000,000	State Fire – Communities Assisted SPF NFP	0 104
Number of Rural Fire Departments	1,800	Coop Forest Health – Acres Protected SPF NFP	850 0
Number of Cities and Towns	1,510	Coop Forest Health – Acres Surveyed SPF NFP	14,000,000 0
Forest Based Employment	79,500	Forest Legacy Project Acquisition - Acres	0
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	3rd	Urban Forestry-Participating communities	481
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	\$26,000,000		
		Urban Forestry –Volunteer Assistance Generated-Days	10,193
		EAP-Communitis working under broad-based local strategic plans	4

Program Highlights:

Urban and Community: Urban Ecosystem Analysis for San Antonio provided the community with its first empirical ecosystem study. It identified the value of existing and lost urban forest canopy, but also provided impetus to review a tree preservation ordinance which had been languishing in subcommittee for 2 years. The city Public Service initiated a residential tree planting program, the city's first, called "GreenShade", using the findings of the study as its program template.

Cooperative Fire Protection: State Fire Assistance provides funding to support fire fighting resources throughout the state. Volunteer Fire Assistance provides funds to Volunteer Fire Departments through the State Forester's Office. The Federal Excess Personal Property program assists States in acquiring and placing fire equipment in Rural Communities throughout the State.

Landowner Assistance: Uncertain future of Forest Lands Enhancement Program funding compromises landowner ability to implement multi-resource conservation practices.

Forest Health Protection: Southern pine beetle was absent from Texas forests for another year in 2003. Ips beetle activity was low as well. Oak wilt in Central Texas continues to destroy thousands of prized live and red oaks and a cooperatively-funded suppression project continues to battle this disease for a 16th year.

Forest Legacy Program: Governor Petty designated the Texas Forest Service as the State lead agency for this program, which uses federal funds to purchase rights to important forest lands from willing landowners.

Economic Action Programs: Pine straw markets were started through the Pineywoods RC&D and private forest landowners. This is the first pine straw marketing effort in Texas. FY 2004 National Fire Plan funds have not been authorized, with hazardous fuel reduction efforts being halted as a result.

For more information contact:

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