



# FOREST SERVICE



## CITIZENS REPORT

SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR 2013

### MISSION

**Sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations**



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### About the Forest Service

On behalf of the American people, the Forest Service manages a system of Federal lands almost twice the size of California—193 million acres of forests and grasslands in 44 States and territories representing 30 percent of all Federal lands. Through our State and Private Forestry and Research and Development programs, we support the sustainable stewardship of more than 600 million acres of forest land across the nation. Each year, various activities on Forest Service lands contribute over \$36 billion to America’s gross domestic product, supporting nearly 450,000 jobs.

### ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

- Activities associated with generating timber and other forest products—42,000 jobs supported, and almost \$3 billion contributed to GDP; livestock grazing—about 19,500 jobs supported, \$900 million contributed; minerals and energy production—over 56,000 jobs supported, almost \$8 billion contributed
- More than 8,200 grants and agreements entered into with partners who contributed about \$540 million; the Forest Service contributed nearly \$730 million
- More than 101,000 volunteers, providing services valued at \$85 million



# Performance

Forests and grasslands support many benefits that people depend on and often take for granted--things like clean air, clean water, forage for animals, carbon storage, fish and wildlife habitat, fertile soils that support trees and other vegetation, and opportunities for playing outdoors and enjoying the beauty of nature. Our job at the Forest Service is to make sure you get all these benefits and more, both now and for generations to come. We work to sustain and restore healthy, flourishing forests and grasslands on both public and private lands, in rural and urban areas alike.

Our 5-year strategic plan guides our work (see <http://www.fs.fed.us/plan>). The measures below highlight our progress in three key areas. (For more details, see our Annual Performance Report for 2013 at <http://www.fs.fed.us/aboutus/budget>.)

Key Focus Area & Supporting Measures	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Target	2013 Actual
<b>Restoring Resilient Landscapes</b>					
Acres of public and private forest lands restored or enhanced	4,776,620	4,924,904	4,424,845	4,322,384	4,703,857
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	3,577	3,878	3,704	2,750	4,168
Miles of unneeded roads decommissioned	2,549	1,540	2,103	1,936	1,490
Number of watersheds moved to a healthier state (improved condition class)	N/A	N/A	9	10	12
Acres of federal and cooperative lands treated for invasive species	801,393	770,649	685,003	597,409	557,006
Acres of terrestrial habitat improved as part of Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration projects	N/A	167,263	182,046	331,000	398,231
<b>Wildland Fire Management and Emergency Response</b>					
Acres treated to protect homes and communities from wildfire	1,955,057	1,611,991	1,867,202	1,100,000	1,736,927
Percent of acres treated that communities called for having treated in their fire protection plans.	44.8%	60.8%	93.0%	75.0%	85.4%
Number of volunteer fire departments assisted	13,235	9,782	10,200	8,780	10,429
<b>Building Thriving Communities—Jobs and Public Services</b>					
Number of communities with urban and community forestry programs assisted by the Forest Service	7,102	7,172	7,499	7,200	7,292
Miles of trails maintained	49,576	50,305	59,274	29,969	50,915
Acres of environmentally important forests protected from conversion to other uses	136,960	149,911	52,999	135,000	87,927
Number of people who participated in Forest Service environmental education programs and activities	5,244,401	5,183,467	6,878,710	4,200,000	4,562,348

## FY 2013 Highlights by Program Area

The Forest Service's goal is to help Americans use and enjoy the lands and waters that belong to them as citizens of the United States. We manage the national forests and grasslands accordingly, and we help protect homes and communities from wildfires. We also work with States, tribes, communities, private landowners, and other partners to protect and conserve all of America's forests. In addition, we conduct conservation-related research, partly to find new uses for wood, including new wood-based energy technologies.

Whether you are a hiker on a national forest, a homeowner near a national forest, a family forest landowner, a resident in a leafy urban neighborhood, or just a user of wood products like the lumber in your home, you can benefit from the services we provide. You probably already do!

What follows are examples of our work in each major program area in 2013.

### National Forest System

- Treated more than 2.5 million acres to sustain or restore watershed health—including over 360,000 acres to ensure clean, abundant water in streams
- Prepared and sold more than 2.6 billion board feet of timber, partly to achieve restoration goals
- Improved the condition class of 12 watersheds—an important measure of watershed health
- Provided over 2.9 million tons of woody materials for energy production
- Maintained over 50,000 miles of trails for public recreation and enjoyment

### Wildland Fire Management

- Fought nearly 7209 fires on National Forest lands in 2013, during a very active fire season
- Contained 97.7 percent of fires at very small sizes (300 acres or less)
- Treated over 1.7 million acres of hazardous fuels—using prescribed burning or removing trees—near homes and communities to reduce wildfire risk
- Provided financial assistance to over 11,000 communities at risk of wildfire



### State and Private Forestry

- Assisted forest landowners in sustainably managing more than 20 million acres under forest stewardship management plans, an area the size of Maine
- Treated more than 557,000 acres for invasive species, such as the Asian longhorned beetle and over 224,000 acres of forest land for native insect pests, such as the mountain pine beetle
- Protected nearly 88,000 acres of private forestland from conversion to other uses
- Assisted almost 7300 communities around the country with their urban and community forestry programs

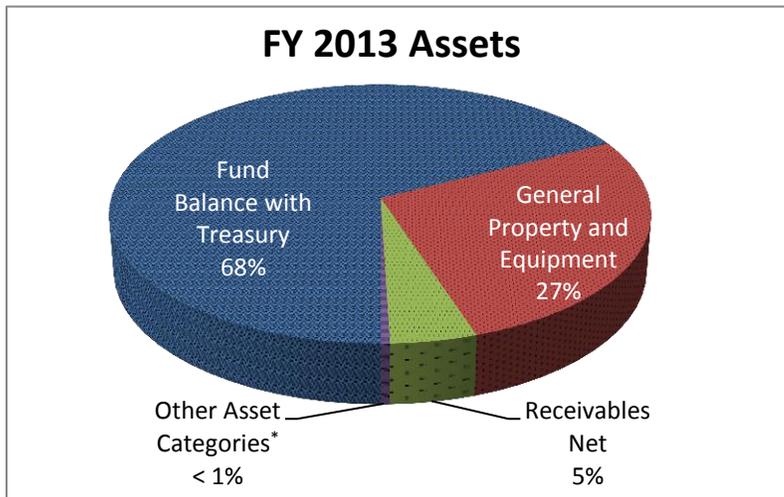
### Forest and Rangeland Research

- Developed the Physical Fire Frequency Model (PC2FM), a model that estimates historical fire frequency to help restore fire-dependent ecosystems and assess effects of climate change
- Identified key fungal species associated with White Nose Syndrome disease that has killed millions of bats in the Eastern United States
- Developed a tool to help identify areas exposed to multiple forest threats to better inform land management decision making
- Developed and registered a highly effective biochemical lure to control mountain pine beetles in lodgepole pine forests

# Finances

Effective use of financial resources lets us care for America's forests and grasslands while giving people the services they need. We owe it to the people we serve to use their financial resources with the utmost care. Key elements of our financial statements for 2013 are summarized below. (For more details, see our Annual Financial Report at <http://www.fs.fed.us/plan/afr/2013/>)

## Assets



*\*Other Assets include payments made by the Forest Service in advance of the receipt of goods and services*



## Where We Get Our Funds

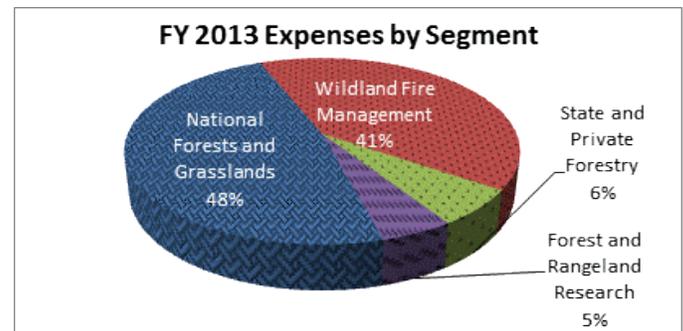
Most of our funding comes in congressional appropriations, but some comes from actual earnings. We get earned revenue from recreational fees; livestock grazing fees; the sale of mineral resources and forest products (such as timber and firewood); and land use fees for power generation, ski operations, and other business activities on National Forest System lands.



In 2013, our earned revenue was \$761 million—\$78 million less than 2012. Included in this total are funds the agency receives for performing reimbursable work for fire and activities conducted for other federal and state agencies.

## Where We Spend Our Funds

Forest Service program costs were \$6.5 billion in 2013—6 percent less than in 2012. Our costliest program areas are the National Forest System and Wildland Fire Management.



## Independent Audit

Kearney & Company, P.C. audited Forest Service financial statements for Fiscal Year 2013 and found them to represent a fair and accurate assessment of our financial condition (a "clean" audit opinion).

# What's Ahead?

The many benefits that Americans get from the Nation's forests and grasslands are now at risk. Drought, invasive species, severe wildfires, and outbreaks of insects and disease are affecting forests and grasslands on an unprecedented scale.

In response, the Forest Service is working with partners to restore healthy, resilient forests and grasslands, to protect people from wildfire, and to support conservation by communities. We are focusing our efforts in these three key areas, as described below.



## Restoring Resilient Landscapes

- Pick up the pace of forest restoration activities to respond to the many challenges affecting our ability to maintain healthy, resilient forests.
- Maintain a focus on the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program, where we have launched 23 projects across the country, with plans to restore 50,000 acres per project, on average, over a 10-year period.
- Use the best science for sustainable forest management across broad watersheds and multiple landownerships.
- Find new and better uses for woody materials to help create new jobs and revenues through industrial development and expansion.



## Wildland Fire Management and Emergency Response

- Reduce wildfire severity by restoring fire-adapted forests and grasslands close to communities.
- Help communities and infrastructure become safer from wildfires through continued development of

community wildfire protection plans and the implementation of the Firewise program.

- Use improved decision support tools to respond appropriately to wildfire, deploying the right resources in the right place at the right time.
- Sustain our capacity to deploy sufficient firefighters and firefighting resources to protect lives, communities, property and wildland resources.

## Building Thriving Communities—Jobs & Public Services

- Support the President's America's Great Outdoors Initiative to connect more people to the outdoors, support opportunities for outdoor recreation, and provide jobs and income for rural communities.



- Engage urban communities in protecting and restoring America's 100 million acres of urban and community forests.
- Encourage woody biomass utilization by delivering knowledge and innovative technologies for new market developments.

## To Learn More

For more information on Forest Service programs and activities, please visit:

Forest Service Budget Information - <http://www.fs.fed.us/aboutus/budget/>

Forest Service 2013 Annual Financial Report - <http://www.fs.fed.us> (“Quick Links” box)

Planning Rule - <http://www.fs.usda.gov/planningrule>

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration - <http://www.fs.fed.us/restoration/CFLRP/index.shtml>

Watershed Condition Framework - <http://www.fs.fed.us/publications/watershed/>

Firewise Program - <http://www.firewise.org/>

National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy - <http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/index.shtml>

Climate Change - <http://www.fs.fed.us/climatechange/>



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## We'd like hear from you

Does this report include useful information for you? Do you have suggestions for us? Please contact Glen Van Zandt in the Forest Service's Strategic Planning, Budget and Accountability office at [gvanzandt@fs.fed.us](mailto:gvanzandt@fs.fed.us) or by phone at 202-205-0843.

*Please visit the Forest Service website at: [www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)*

Connect with us at:

