



# Minnesota Forest Resource Fact Sheet

Fiscal Year 2004

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## Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

|                             | FY 2003            | FY 2004            | FY 2005<br>President's Budget | Difference between<br>FY 2005 - 2004<br>+ or (-) |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Forest Health Management    | \$720,099          | \$872,562          | \$384,977                     | (\$487,585)                                      |
| Cooperative Fire Protection | \$1,994,476        | \$2,289,068        | \$1,027,285                   | (\$1,261,783)                                    |
| Cooperative Forestry        | \$962,280          | \$929,950          | \$511,136                     | (\$418,814)                                      |
| Forest Legacy Program       | \$482,000          | \$534,000          | \$800,024                     | \$266,024  |
|                             | <b>\$4,158,855</b> | <b>\$4,625,580</b> | <b>\$2,723,422</b>            | <b>(\$1,902,158)</b>                             |

## Key Issues

- Increasing forestland timber productivity without compromising environmental protection
- Pursuing voluntary collaborative approaches to address forest management issues vs. regulation and litigation
- Managing the growing and more diversified outdoor recreation demands in forests
- Critical shortage of trained, experienced firefighters during next five to ten years
- Forest parcelization from development in previously rural forested areas

## Forest Facts and 2003 Accomplishments

### Selected Facts

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Population (2000 Census)                        | <b>5,019,720</b>       |
| Acres of Forest Land                            | <b>16,680,000</b>      |
| Acres of Non-Industrial Private Forest Land     | <b>6,528,000</b>       |
| Number of NIPF Landowners (Birch 1996)          | <b>147,400</b>         |
| Total Acres of Land Under State Fire Protection | <b>45,037,000</b>      |
| Number of Rural Fire Departments                | <b>714</b>             |
| Number of Cities and Towns (Population > 1000)  | <b>323</b>             |
| Forest Based Employment (1998)                  | <b>45,187</b>          |
| Forest Based Earnings (1998)                    | <b>\$2,021,845,000</b> |
| Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)           | <b>4</b>               |
| State Forestry Budget                           | <b>\$39,000,000</b>    |

### Selected Accomplishments

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)      | <b>615</b>        |
| Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year)   | <b>71,996</b>     |
| Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years)      | <b>1,172,456</b>  |
| Technical Assists to Private Landowners        | <b>4,396</b>      |
| Rural Fire Departments Assisted                | <b>364</b>        |
| Communities Assisted - State Fire Assistance   | <b>577</b>        |
| Acres Surveyed for Forest Health               | <b>19,061,275</b> |
| Acres Protected from Insect and Disease Damage |                   |
| Cities and Urban Areas Assisted                | <b>382</b>        |
| Economic Action Grants to Rural Areas          | <b>16</b>         |
| Acres Protected by Legacy (all years)          | <b>620</b>        |

## Program Highlights

### Urban and Community Forestry

The University of MN and the DNR created the Minnesota Tree Care Advisor Program. More than 400 volunteers have completed the training since 1995. Each graduate provides 50 hours of community service the first year and 25 hours in each succeeding year. They have become important players in local projects, and strong advocates for their community's tree management programs.

### Cooperative Fire Protection

State Fire Assistance helped provide training for 800 wildland firefighters, communication equipment, dry hydrants, 45 Firewise and fire prevention activities, and 25 community mitigation plans. Hazardous fuels were reduced on 7,500 acres via 1,050 community grants. Federal Excess Property worth \$2.8 million was loaned to VFDs. More than 364 communities received Volunteer Fire Assistance grants.

### Forest Stewardship

The Nation's non-industrial private forests must be managed sustainably so the public can continue to enjoy clean water and air, wildlife, and forest products. The DNR used Forest Stewardship funds for two brochures: one helps landowners identify and control invasive buckthorn plants, and the second provides guidance on sustainably harvesting balsam boughs, lycopodium, and birch bark.

### Forest Health Management

NA and the DNR are working to delay the gypsy moth infestation and are preparing a multi-agency response to minimize the impact. Small populations in eastern Minnesota were eradicated. Other work focuses on a larch beetle that arrived via log shipments, and training city foresters and developers on how to modify their activities to minimize the spread of oak wilt.

### Economic Action

Balsam wreaths are a \$20 million industry in Minnesota. In FY 2003, a resource inventory documented bough densities and sustainable harvest levels on different soil types. The information, when used with FIA data, can determine sustainable bough potential for any site. The study will benefit nearly 60 businesses that employ more than 500 people.

### Forest Legacy Program

Protected five tracts totaling 381 acres in the Rice County Forest Legacy Area, part of a larger effort to protect and restore the Minnesota Big Woods. Cost share funds came from landowner donations and the State of Minnesota.



## Northeastern Area, State and Private Forestry, USDA Forest Service

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