New York Forest Resource Fact Sheet

Fiscal Year 2004



Erin Crotty Commissioner, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation Robert K. Davies, State Forester

| Investment in State's Cooperative Programs | FY 2003 | FY 2004 | FY 2005 President's Budget | Difference between FY 2005 - 2004 + or (-) |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Forest Health Management | \$448,384 | \$537,755 | \$167,977 | (\$369,778) |
| Cooperative Fire Protection | \$922,196 | \$1,423,868 | \$590,806 | (\$833,062) |
| Cooperative Forestry | \$2,169,600 | \$2,569,650 | \$1,624,704 | (\$944,946) |
| Forest Legacy Program | \$1,530,000 | \$1,284,000 | \$29,631 | (\$1,254,369) |
| | \$5,070,180 | \$5,815,273 | \$2,413,118 | (\$3,402,155) |

Key Issues

Lack of public understanding and appreciation for forest management

Invasive and exotic plants and animals that impact native communities

Maintaining a diverse, trained workforce to respond to the state's forestry needs

Timber theft from private and public lands

Forest fragmentation/open space protection/forest taxation impacts

Forest Facts and 2003 Accomplishments

Selected Facts

| Selected Facts | | Selected Accomplishments | | |
|---|-----------------|--|------------|--|
| Population (2000 Census) | 19,157,532 | Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year) | 553 | |
| Acres of Forest Land | 18,432,000 | Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year) | 73,277 | |
| Acres of Non-Industrial Private Forest Land | 13,230,000 | Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years) | 1,543,006 | |
| Number of NIPF Landowners (Birch 1996) | 475,000 | Technical Assists to Private Landowners | 3,692 | |
| Total Acres of Land Under State Fire Protection | 18,336,406 | Rural Fire Departments Assisted | 893 | |
| Number of Rural Fire Departments | 1,472 | Communities Assisted - State Fire Assistance | 166 | |
| Number of Cities and Towns (Population > 1000) | 792 | Acres Surveyed for Forest Health | 13,325,844 | |
| Forest Based Employment (1998) | 58,006 | Acres Protected from Insect and Disease Damage | 0 | |
| Forest Based Earnings (1998) | \$2,396,075,000 | Cities and Urban Areas Assisted | 424 | |
| Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank) | 5 | Economic Action Grants to Rural Areas | 26 | |
| State Forestry Budget | \$18,000,000 | Acres Protected by Legacy (all years) | 1,555 | |
| | | | | |

Salactad Accomplishments

Program Highlights

Urban and Community Forestry

The State's Urban and Community Forestry Council and John Brown High School provided tree seedlings to NYC's urban neighborhoods, and published NY's Arbor Day curriculum, used at more than 36 NYC schools. Trees NY, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the DEC, and the Urban and Community Forestry Council are helping to replant trees lost to Asian longhorned beetles.

Cooperative Fire Protection

State Fire Assistance funds helped provide training for 400 wildland firefighters, 16 fire prevention and education programs, Personal Protective (PPE) and communications equipment, and 24 burns for hazardous fuels reduction. The Long Island Wildfire Academy trained 600 firefighters. Fire departments received \$34,000 of Federal Excess Property. Volunteer Fire Assistance grants went to 893 communities, training fire personnel in 90 townships.

Forest Stewardship

The State is strongly supporting its private forest landowners by creating tougher penalties for timber theft.

Forest Health Management

The DEC augmented its Forest Health team to strengthen its capacity to respond to threatening native and invasive pests such as the hemlock woolly adelgid, Asian longhorned beetle, and forest tent caterpillar. This increases New York's ability to gather and act upon information from ground and aerial surveys.

Economic Action

In the NYC watershed, economic action funding has attracted more than \$2 million in private investments, helping to create an agroforestry training center, and supporting projects that have developed and strengthened 47 local forest products businesses. Forest stewardship, forestland retention, and watershed protection help make forestry profitable for landowners.

Forest Legacy Program

Developed a conservation easement specific to Forest Legacy projects that will speed up overall Forest Legacy land protection.

