

Fiscal Year 2004



John R. Goss Director, Department of Natural Resources

Burnell C. Fischer, State Forester and Director, Division of Forestry

PHONE: (317) 232-4107 FAX: (317) 233-3863

EMAIL: bfischer@dnr.state.in.us

web: www.state.in.us/dnr/forestry

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005 President's Budget	Difference between FY 2005 - 2004 + or ( - )
Forest Health Management	\$80,600	\$179,960	\$58,471	(\$121,489)
Cooperative Fire Protection	\$417,409	\$615,614	\$215,830	(\$399,784)
Cooperative Forestry	\$1,149,420	\$1,042,989	\$560,548	(\$482,441)
Forest Legacy Program \$1	\$1,655,000	\$2,065,000	\$3,148,631	\$1,083,631
	\$3,302,429	\$3,903,563	\$3.983.480	\$79.917

## **Key Issues**

- Loss of commercial forest acreage and ecosystem integrity from parcelization and fragmentation
- Land taxation for long term management and retention of important forests
- Community capacity to manage community and urban forest resources
- Lack of public understanding of the importance of forests and the practice of forestry
- The future of public forestland management is at risk

# Forest Facts and 2003 Accomplishments

Selected Facts		Selected Accomplishments	
Population (2000 Census)	6,159,068	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)	529
Acres of Forest Land	4,501,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year)	27,038
Acres of Non-Industrial Private Forest Land	3,713,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years)	640,712
Number of NIPF Landowners (Birch 1996)	151,300	Technical Assists to Private Landowners	6,037
Total Acres of Land Under State Fire Protection	7,328,000	Rural Fire Departments Assisted	133
Number of Rural Fire Departments	845	Communities Assisted - State Fire Assistance	815
Number of Cities and Towns (Population > 1000)	845	Acres Surveyed for Forest Health	7,144,130
Forest Based Employment (1998)	64,720	Acres Protected from Insect and Disease Damage	17,375
Forest Based Earnings (1998)	\$2,230,000	Cities and Urban Areas Assisted	206
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	6	Economic Action Grants to Rural Areas	1
State Forestry Budget	\$12,703,645	Acres Protected by Legacy (all years)	1,726

# **Program Highlights**

## **Urban and Community Forestry**

Responding to requests for cleanup and tree planting assistance after tornados ravaged central Indiana, the state used U&CF funds for a special storm grant that helped plant 1,000 trees. IPALCO, a local utility, provided \$24,000 in additional funding. Several tree care companies donated work on private property and 700 volunteers planted trees.

# Cooperative Fire Protection

State Fire Assistance helped support training for 1,380 wildland firefighters, personal protection, communications, and water handling equipment, and 98 Firewise/ Prevention/Risk assessment plans. With 4 RC&Ds, the rural Dry Hydrant program expanded to 26 counties, installing 130 dry hydrants in high-risk communities. Fire departments had \$822,000 in loaned Federal Excess Property and 133 communities received Volunteer Fire Assistance grants.

### Forest Stewardship

Capturing the attention of non-industrial private forest landowners is a challenge. Indiana's 2003 property tax reassessment effectively increased landowner interest in forest management. The Division of Forestry responded to the increased demand for stewardship plans with trained plan writers and planning guidelines developed with technical assistance from NA's Forest Stewardship staff.

### Forest Health Management

Vigilance is key to protecting forests. The Forest Service is helping the DNR protect against exotic pests by surveying for new pests, such as the emerald ash borer, and developing treatment plans in the event populations are discovered. Aggressive treatment of another exotic pest, the gypsy moth, has already paid dividends.

#### **Economic Action**

By modernizing and working together, forest products industries can compete more effectively in the global economy. The Indiana congressional delegation began an initiative to assess the future of the state's furniture and hardwood industries. NA helped by hosting workshops, presentations, and field sessions on topics such as Best Management Practices, forest inventory and analysis, and utilization and marketing.

## Forest Legacy Program

The purchase of a 163-acre conservation easement protects the headwaters of Lake Michigan, a 77-acre hardwood forest in the Lake Michigan watershed, and 225 acres of central hardwood forests in the heart of limestone and karst country.

