



Scott Hassett Secretary, Department of Natural Resources

**PHONE**: (608) 264-9224

FAX: (608) 266-6983

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EMAIL: Paul.DeLong@dnr.state.wi.us

web: www.dnr.state.wi.us

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005 President's Budget	Difference between FY 2005 - 2004 + or ( - )
Forest Health Management	\$587,500	\$1,181,640	\$797,232	(\$384,408)
Cooperative Fire Protection	\$1,237,551	\$2,723,391	\$1,283,894	(\$1,439,497)
Cooperative Forestry	\$1,228,080	\$1,245,800	\$718,720	(\$527,080)
Forest Legacy Program	\$4,462,000	\$2,015,000	\$29,631	(\$1,985,369)
	\$7,515,131	\$7,165,831	\$2,829,477	(\$4,336,354)

#### **Key Issues**

- Lack of public education and lack of landowner understanding on the value of urban and rural forests and sustainable forestry
- Forest certification
- Forest parcelization
- Wildland/Urban Interface
- Impact of invasives/exotics on forest communities

## Forest Facts and 2003 Accomplishments

Paul DeLong, State Forester

Selected Facts		Selected Accomplishments	
Population (2000 Census)	5,441,196	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)	4,312
Acres of Forest Land	15,963,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year)	229,968
Acres of Non-Industrial Private Forest Land	10,091,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years)	2,069,225
Number of NIPF Landowners (Birch 1996)	245,800	Technical Assists to Private Landowners	11,398
Total Acres of Land Under State Fire Protection	31,299,000	Rural Fire Departments Assisted	158
Number of Rural Fire Departments	802	Communities Assisted - State Fire Assistance	867
Number of Cities and Towns (Population > 1000)	350	Acres Surveyed for Forest Health	35,762,036
Forest Based Employment (1998)	94,664	Acres Protected from Insect and Disease Damage	423,789
Forest Based Earnings (1998)	\$4,110,322,000	Cities and Urban Areas Assisted	290
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	1	Economic Action Grants to Rural Areas	17
State Forestry Budget	\$29,004,400	Acres Protected by Legacy (all years)	35,337

# **Program Highlights**

### Urban and Community Forestry

Two statewide Urban Forest Health Monitoring pilot programs were initiated in partnership with the USDA Forest Service and private contractors. Baseline information will help users set science-based resource goals for local government and community-based organizations.

## Cooperative Fire Protection

State Fire Assistance funds provided: training for 200 wildland firefighters, 75 community cost share grants, 200 fire prevention activities, personal protection, communications and suppression equipment, hazardous fuels reduction on 1,050 acres, and 5 community mitigation / fire planning projects. Volunteer Fire Departments were loaned \$276,000 in Federal Excess Property. Volunteer Fire Assistance helped 158 communities

#### Forest Stewardship

Private forest landowners continue to ask for practical forest management information to guide management activities. To respond, the Aldo Leopold Foundation is helping foresters and other natural resource managers establish The Woodland School. The School offers 19 courses during a one-year period. More than 400 landowners are taking courses on forest stewardship and conservation practices.

#### Forest Health Management

Gypsy moth defoliation increased from 24,000 acres to 65,000 acres. NA helped treat 400,000 forest acres to reduce the moth's spread and to lower populations where it has already infested forests. The Forest Service is also helping to survey and prepare treatment for other exotic pests, such as emerald ash borer, which has devastated ash trees in Michigan.

#### **Economic Action**

Urban wood is an untapped resource that could offset demand and improve forestry awareness. Three urban wood marketing workshops were held for arborists, public employees, and wood products manufacturing firms. A directory of urban wood marketing contacts was prepared and distributed to workshop attendees. An urban wood marketing cooperative is being planned.

## Forest Legacy Program

Wisconsin completed its first project by closing on the first two phases of the 35,337-acre Tomahawk Northwoods project, protecting land in the rapidly developing lakes region. This was the largest first Legacy project for any new state in the program.

