



Washington



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

rev. 3/25/2005

Investment in Washington's Cooperative Programs:

Programs	FY2004		FY2005	
	Final State & Private Forestry	Final National Fire Plan	Estimate State & Private Forestry	Estimate National Fire Plan
Coop Forest Health Management	836,700	565,000	571,000	805,000
State Fire Assistance	776,500	901,950	757,000	402,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	83,000	319,500	97,500	309,500
Forest Stewardship Program ¹	536,790	-	526,600	-
Forest Land Enhancement Program	0	-	76,964	-
Forest Legacy Program	1,022,000	-	2,890,000	-
Urban and Community Forestry	529,650	-	429,900	-
Economic Action Programs	282,000	0	0	0
Large Scale Watershed Projects	129,000	-	0	-
TOTAL	4,195,640	1,786,450	5,348,964	1,516,500

Cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the State of Washington, the USDA Forest Service, and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of Washington's forestlands, cities and communities, and urban and rural economies. Emphasis is on healthy, sustainable forests that provide timber and other forest products, wildlife, water resources, urban and rural economies, city and community forests, and conservation practices. The goal is to assure that the State's forests continue to provide the needed array of economic, environmental, and social products and values. These programs:

- 🌲 **Increase cost effectiveness** through the use of partnerships in delivery.
- 🌲 **Are voluntary**, and use non-regulatory approaches.
- 🌲 **Empower landowners** to be stewards of the land.

Key issues which the State will address in implementation of the 2005 budget include:

- 🌲 Improving forest health by reducing susceptibility to forest insects and pathogens through cost-share programs with landowners.
- 🌲 Continuing to work together to monitor for, and eradicate, introduced organisms such as gypsy moth and sudden oak death, and to cooperate in management and suppression of invasive plants on state and private lands.
- 🌲 Assisting communities to mitigate the wildland fire problem in the Wildland Urban Interface.
- 🌲 Continuing integration of Forest Stewardship, National Fire Plan, and Forest Health Programs with the Forest Land Enhancement Program to provide a coordinated multi-program, multi-resource education, technical assistance, and cost-share program for family forest landowners.
- 🌲 Assisting cities and communities to plan for, plant, and manage their urban and community forests. Focus is on helping develop and expand programs to care for trees and forests where people live and work. Reduced funding for municipal services affects city and community resources.
- 🌲 Performing basic grant administration and monitoring on existing, multi-year grants in the face of declining Economic Action Program funds.
- 🌲 Pursuing opportunities to develop and expand markets for biomass and small-diameter material removed during hazardous fuels reduction and forest health activities in the absence of funds available through the National Fire Plan's Community Assistance Program.

¹ Includes Regeneration, Nurseries, and Genetic Resources and \$88,000 for Spatial Analysis

Forest Facts and 2004 Accomplishments

SELECTED FACTS		FY 2004 ACCOMPLISHMENTS	
Population	6,167,800	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)	321
Acres of Forest Land	21,852,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year)	26,073
Acres of NonIndustrial Private Forest Land	4,347,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years)	357,181
Number of NIPF Landowners	91,400	Multi-resource practices implemented on NIPF- Acres	41,894
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	248,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	SPF 16 NFP 60
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	12,708,557	State Fire – Communities Assisted	SPF 8 NFP 47
Number of Rural Fire Departments	562	Coop Forest Health – Acres Protected	SPF 14 NFP 4,833
Number of Cities and Towns	280	Coop Forest Health – Acres Surveyed	SPF 26,620,043 NFP 6,600
Forest Based Employment (# employees)	41,858	Forest Legacy Project Acquisition - Acres	464
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	5	Urban Forestry – Participating communities	287
State Forestry Budget (All Sources) - 2004	137,843,928	Urban Forestry – Volunteer Assistance Generated-Days	2,938
		EAP/NFP – Communities working under broad-based local strategic plans	68

Program Highlights:

Urban and Community Forestry: Technical, financial, and educational assistance from Washington Department of Natural Resources helped remove invasive plants and noxious weeds from city and community forests. City tree planting in the Puget Sound Basin contributes to salmon recovery by filtering storm water runoff from city streets, helping to create healthier watersheds. Citrus longhorn beetles were found in Tukwila Washington, the first outdoor sighting in the United States.

Cooperative Fire Protection: Ten communities completed community Wildfire Protection Plans in 2004, and thirty more community plans are in progress. Seven counties have begun county wide plans. Three 75-person Firewise workshops and a Firewise trainer class were completed, and this will lead to establishment of one firewise community in each county. Hazardous fuel treatments were conducted in 12 communities. Examples include a 64-acre shaded fuel break providing wildfire protection to the north central Washington community of Union Valley, defensible space plans and treatments for 30 homes in two northeast Washington communities, and a chipping program for 5 central Washington communities treating 46,115 cubic yards of hazardous fuels removed from homes in the Wildland Urban Interface.

Landowner Assistance: The State has twice been named “Forest Stewardship State of the Year” by the National Woodland Owners Association. The Coached Forest Stewardship Planning Short courses continue to be a popular and effective means of helping forest landowners develop Forest Stewardship Plans with 400+ graduates annually. The state is actively coordinating National Fire Plan efforts with the Forest Stewardship Program to cost-share Forest Stewardship Plans and Wildfire Hazard Risk Reduction Practices. The Backyard Forest Stewardship/Wildfire Safety Program continues to reach thousands of woodland homeowners in the wildland interface each year. Two Family Forest Field Days were conducted in SW Washington and NW Idaho (cooperating with Idaho Dept. of Forestry) and were attended by over 650 landowners. The Department of Natural Resources focused work in the Dungeness River Watershed, a special emphasis project for salmon habitat restoration.

Forest Legacy: The Washington State Forest Legacy Program purchased two conservation easements as Phase I of the *Yakima River Wildlife Corridor project*. Both parcels, which encompass 464 acres of working forest, are in Kittitas County, Washington. These acquisitions are a keystone in the planned development of two critical wildlife bridges that cross the I-90 National Scenic Byway. This effort will link wildlife to vast acreage of federal lands north and south. The parcels also support Salmon recovery in the Yakima River, and protect water quality in Lake Easton. The properties support and complement large federal investments, including Land & Water Conservation funded projects.

Forest Health Protection: FHP staff continue to offer insect and disease evaluation and technical assistance to landowners and State land managers. Aerial detection and forest health monitoring surveys are conducted annually. The western bark beetle initiative provides assistance through cost-share funding for landowners to improve forest health conditions and reduce stand susceptibility to bark beetles in NE Washington and south central WA including Yakima and Klickitat counties, and the programs will continue in 2005. Noxious weed management using biological controls continued for Colville area counties. Cost share efforts with several cooperative weed management boards were initiated. Potential introductions of Sudden Oak Death, continue to be a threat, and wildland surveys, and nursery perimeter surveys, were, and will continue to be conducted for this organism.

Economic Action Programs: Reduced funding for EAP has significantly compromised the Agency’s ability to help natural resource communities diversify their economies while achieving the goals of the National Fire Plan, Healthy Forest Restoration Act, ecosystem restoration, biomass utilization, collaborative partnerships, Stewardship Contracting, and other vital efforts.