

Forest Health Monitoring Program Evaluation Monitoring Proposal

Title: Assessing the extent and severity of oak decline in an Ozark Mountain watershed

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Progress during FY 2004

This project was originally scheduled to begin in January 2004. However, the graduate student recruited to work on the project did not begin until August 2004, so fieldwork will commence in May 2005 (not May 2004 as intended). The graduate student is Ryan Smith, who recently received a B.S. in forestry from Southern Illinois University. He is qualified, interested in the project, and eager to get started. Dr. Paul Doruska on the University of Arkansas-Monticello (UAM) faculty has agreed to serve on Ryan's graduate committee. Dr. Doruska is an ecological modeler and will be a valuable addition to the project.

Work Plan for FY 2005

Ryan will proceed with coursework from August 2004 to May 2005. With the help of a field assistant, he will collect site- and soils-related data from the Little Piney River watershed from May 2005 to August 2005. He will continue his coursework and prepare the thesis from August 2005 through May 2006.

Financial Plan for FY 2005

The total funding requested for the project was \$45,000. Of this, \$28,000 was awarded in FY 2004. I am requesting the additional \$17,000 for FY 2005. The FY 2005 budget is included below.

	<u>Requested FHM EM Funding</u>	<u>Other- Source Funding</u>	<u>Source</u>
Salary	15,000	5,000	UA
Overhead		6,120	
Travel	2,000		
Year Totals	17,000	11,120	