



# Indiana's Classified Forest Health Survey



### Classified Forest Program

- 1899**-House Bill #436 gives tax relief
- trees must be protected from grazing until 4" in diameter
  - only 1/5 of the trees can be cut at any given time and one planted for each cut
- 1921**-Classified Program started
- at least 10 acres in size
  - owner agrees to basic plan of forest production
  - no livestock grazing nor buildings permitted
  - land assessed at \$1.00 per acre
  - *must be re-inspected every 5 years*
- Present**
- over 6,000 landowners
  - over 407,000 acres enrolled



### History of Indiana Forests

**1700's**

- 20 million acres of forestland



- 42 species of 100' tall

- 8' diameter tulip poplar

**1820**

- first exporting of logs to Europe

**1840**

- U S Census shows 1248 sawmills in state

**1869**

- lumber production is 656 million board feet

**1870**

- 7.2 million acres of virgin timber

**1890**

- 1.5 million acres of virgin timber remain



### CLASSIFIED FOREST HEALTH

???? WHY ????

Landowners....	%	#	%	Acres
Wanting a FHM Plot	28	1709	32	125,480
Willing to measure the plot themselves	12	727	12	50,979
<b>Total</b>		<b>6035</b>		<b>386,940</b>

Based on Annual Report Survey of Classified Forest Owners.

Currently over 407,000 acres in the program statewide.



### Classified Forest Health Survey Methods

A question was placed on the 1998 Classified Forest Annual Report to sample landowner interest in regard to placing a forest health plot on their property.

The total plots selected was based on 2 landowners per county or a total of 184 owners across Indiana's 92 counties. Landowners were randomly selected and due to the random selection process, some counties have more than 2 plots per county.

### Goals

To provide additional data to evaluate forest health in Indiana.

To provide a comparison of the health of Indiana's forests and the health of protected woodlands in the Classified Forest Program.

To establish and measure 184 plots in a three year period to set the baseline data.

### Goals-cont

*Remeasure the plots every 5 years at the time of the mandatory re-inspection. The landowner would then receive a forest health report along with management recommendations.*

### Update/current status

Almost half (91) of the plots have been established and initial measurements taken.

The district foresters (18) have received two training sessions in FHM survey methods. They are re-certified each year prior to the survey season.

A shiny new dime will be given to the first ten people that say they have actually looked at and read this poster.

Plots will continue to be installed during the "off season" with FHM measurements taken in the summer.

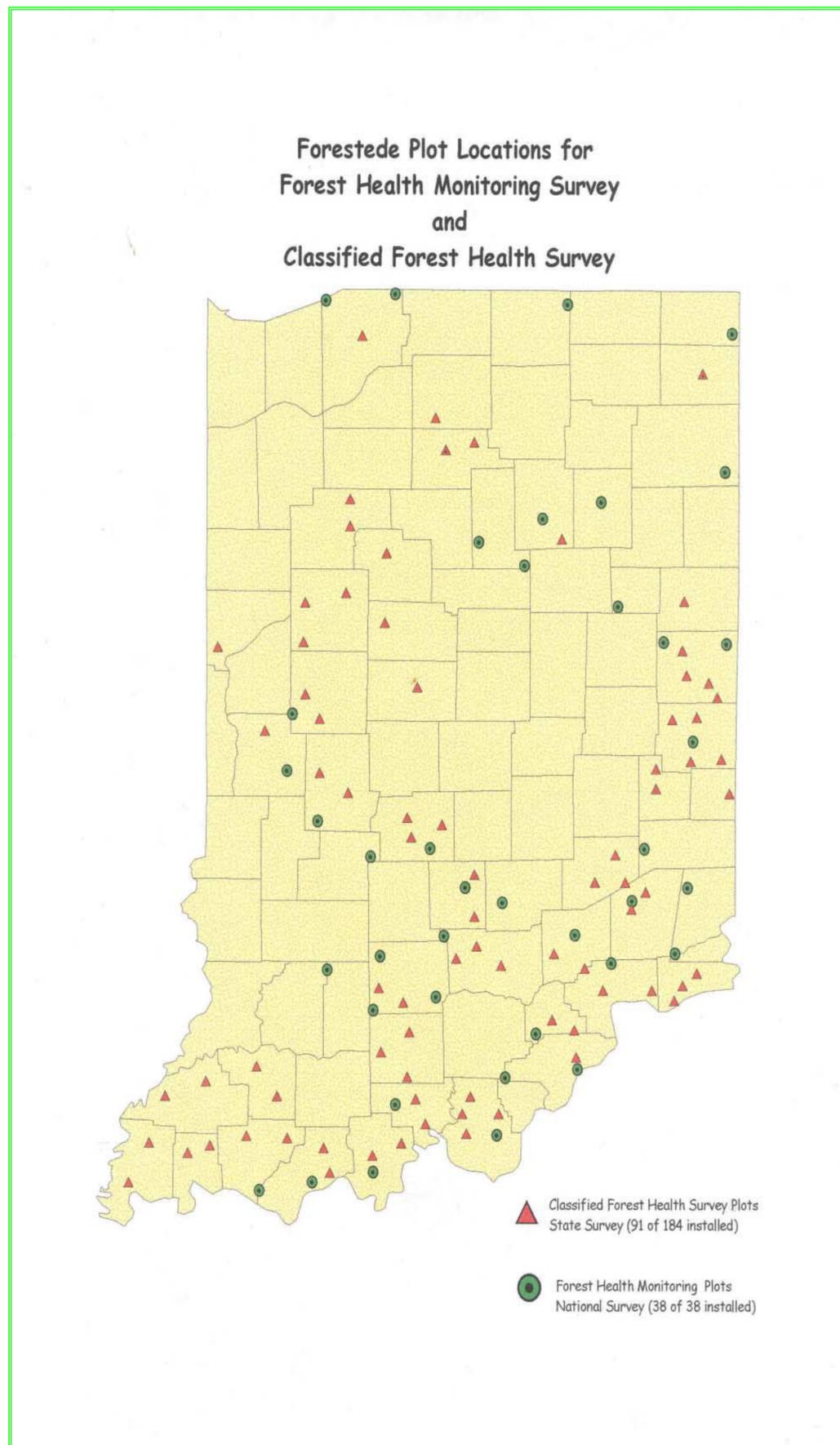
Plots are installed and measurements taken with one crew member certified by the national FHM training and a second crew member trained by the nationally certified FHM surveyors from Indiana.

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