

## 2015 Payments to Counties Wayne National Forest

In 2015, Ohio counties received an average of \$2.62/acre (\$1.99-\$3.69/acre) for National Forest lands within their counties. In addition monies were also paid for road projects, cooperative law enforcement, and volunteer fire department support.

As of the end of Fiscal Year 2015, the Wayne had 244,240 acres within the Forest boundary. Although national forests do not pay property taxes for the land managed by the federal government, there are funds paid in lieu of taxes to compensate local governments for the land taken off the tax rolls.

On April 16, 2015 the Secure Rural Schools Act was reauthorized as part of Public Law 114-10. The funds are distributed to counties based on NF acreage within the county. The money is given as Title I funds which must be used for roads and schools. However 20 percent may be designated as Title II or Title III funds – no Ohio Counties chose to do this. Title II funds must be used for resource management activities, and Title III funds should be used for reimbursement for emergency services on federal lands, community wildfire protection plans, etc.

Counties also receive Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funds granted under the PILT Act. The U.S. Department of Interior administers PILT funds for all government agencies. Counties received different amounts of PILT dollars based on the amount of other federal dollars received in the past year. Because counties also made different choices in past years their PILT payments vary considerably.

County	NF acreage*	Entitlement Acres for PILT Payment	PILT payment	Title I Payments to States	Mineral Payments	Total Payment to County	Average \$ Per Acre
Athens	18,821	18,807	\$16,100	\$26,298	2,760	\$45,158	2.39
Gallia	18,450	18,450	22,012	21,027	2,526	45,165	2.46
Hocking	26,001	26,001	22,713	33,453	3,851	60,017	2.30
Jackson	1,643	1,643	1,314	2,187	252	3,753	2.28
Lawrence	75,331	75,331	159,551	20,801	10,335	190,687	2.53
Monroe	24,660	24,660	24,989	35,987	3,597	64,573	2.61
Morgan	3,369	3,369	1,233	5,341	493	7,067	2.09
Noble	716	716	258	1,200	103	1,561	2.18
Perry	22,391	22,391	9,533	31,744	3,281	44,558	1.99
Scioto	11,666	11,666	10,414	16,055	1,722	28,191	2.41
Vinton	1,901	1,901	684	3,102	276	4,062	2.13
Washington	39,291	39,291	100,052	39,187	5,833	145,072	3.69
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>244,240</b>	<b>244,226</b>	<b>\$368,853</b>	<b>\$236,382</b>	<b>\$35,029</b>	<b>\$640,264</b>	<b>2.62</b>

\*In 2014 the USDA Forest Service converted to a system of computing acres electronically which may not always match deed acres. Acres may not match past totals. All acres managed as national forest are not entitled to PILT payments.