



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service

Eastern
Region



2006 Monitoring Work Plan

March 2006



Caring for the Land and Serving People

Annual Monitoring Work Plan

Introduction

The Forest Plan requires that a monitoring plan be prepared annually. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 monitoring plan was developed with an interdisciplinary review of the monitoring questions and guidance in Chapter 4 (Forest Plan) and the monitoring requirements outlined in the Conservation Plan (Forest Plan, Appendix D). The review included an analysis of monitoring capability based on FY 2006 budget levels. After review by the Forest leadership team, the Forest Supervisor approved implementation of this FY 2006 monitoring work plan.

The items to be monitored in FY 2006 are identified in this document, along with employee/position responsible for reporting the results in the FY 2006 monitoring and evaluation report.

Monitoring Questions

The following items are to be monitored in FY 2006. The highlighted letters **(CP)** in indicate the question also applies to monitoring requirements found in the Conservation Plan (Forest Plan, Appendix D). Reference to the monitoring implementation guide is provided for each question; the implementation guide identifies the purpose of the monitoring question and the methods for obtaining the information needed.

No.	Monitoring Question	Monitoring Guide Page Reference	Responsible Person
1	2.1a How many miles of stream have been treated to restore dimension, pattern, and profile? (CP)	8	Pamela Stachler Forest Hydrologist
2	2.1b How many acid mine discharges have been treated? (CP)	11	Pamela Stachler Forest Hydrologist
3	2.1b How many subsidence features have been treated? (CP)	12	Pamela Stachler Forest Hydrologist
4	2.1b What geo chemistry parameters have changed by reducing and/or treating acid mine discharges?	10	Pamela Stachler Forest Hydrologist
5	3.1a How many acres of wetland habitat was restored or enhanced? (CP)	14	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
6	3.1b How many miles of stream were treated to improve or restore habitat for aquatic and riparian-dependant species? (CP)	15	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
7*	4.1a Are population trends and habitat trends of management indicators consistent with Forest Plan expectations?	22	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
8	4.1b How many acres were treated to encourage oak regeneration? (CP)	23	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist

No.	Monitoring Question	Monitoring Guide Page Reference	Responsible Person
9	4.1c How many acres of hardwood or hardwood/pine forest communities were treated to encourage the establishment of all-aged conditions? (CP)	24	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
10	4.1d How many acres of early successional forest habitat were created? (CP)	25	Michael Freidhof Timber Program Manager
11	4.1e How many acres of pine or pine-hardwood communities were treated? (CP)	26	Michael Freidhof Timber Program Manager
12	4.1f How many acres of grassland habitat were improved or maintained?	27	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
13	4.1g How many acres of herbaceous or herbaceous-shrub habitat were created? (CP)	28	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
14	4.1g-2 How many acres of herbaceous or herbaceous-shrub habitat were maintained? (CP)	28	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
15	4.1h How many waterholes or ephemeral wetlands were constructed or enhanced? (CP)	29	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
16	4.1i How many artificial nesting structures were installed? (CP)	30	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
17	5.1.1a-1 How many acres of potentially suitable Indiana bat habitat were protected or improved? (CP)	31	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
18	5.1.1a-2 How many bat-friendly gates were installed on known Indiana bat hibernacula? (CP)	31	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
19	5.1.2a-1 How many mid-winter bald eagle searches were conducted? (CP)	32	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
20	5.1.2a-2 How many bald eagles were observed? (CP)	32	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
21	5.1.3 What cooperative efforts were accomplished to achieve the reintroduction of the American burying beetle? (CP)	33	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist
22	5.1.4 Were there any changes to known running buffalo clover populations and were any potential risks identified and mitigated? (CP)	34	Rebecca Ewing Forest Biologist

No.	Monitoring Question	Monitoring Guide Page Reference	Responsible Person
23	6.1a How many acres are being treated with varying management actions that will likely result in the maintenance and restoration of the oak-hickory ecosystem? (CP)	35	Michael Freidhof Timber Program Manager
24	6.1b How many acres are being treated through commercial timber sale operations and/or stewardship contracts that will likely meet objectives of improving wildlife habitat?	36	Michael Freidhof Timber Program Manager
25	6.2a How many acres are being treated with prescribed fire that will likely conserve fire-adapted plant and animal biodiversity, and to maintain and restore mixed oak and native pine?	37	Michael Freidhof Timber Program Manager
26	6.3 How many permits are issued and what are the reported harvests in each year?	40	Cheryl Coon Forest Botanist
27	7.1a How many acres of the Forest are inventoried for NNIS insects and diseases and when was it inventoried?	42	Michael Freidhof Timber Program Manager
28	7.1b How many NNIS sites were treated and how did the populations respond to treatment? (CP)	44	Michael Freidhof Timber Program Manager
29	7.1c How many acres of hazardous fuels were treated? (CP)	45	Kevan Moore Fire Management Officer
30	7.2a-1 How many acres of the Forest are inventoried for NNIS plants and when were these inventoried?	46	Cheryl Coon Forest Botanist
32	7.2b How many NNIS sites were treated and how did the NNIS populations respond to treatment? (CP)	48	Cheryl Coon Forest Botanist
33	7.3 How many NNIS awareness and education events were given?	49	Cheryl Coon Forest Botanist
34	7.4 How many acres of native vegetation (e.g., American Chestnut, American Elm), have become re-established?	50	Michael Freidhof Timber Program Manager
35	8.1 Number of wildfires suppressed with no reportable accidents/injuries or damage to private property? Number of acres of private property burned from fires with ignition on Forest Service land?	51	Kevan Moore Fire Management Officer
36	8.1c Number of acres in WUI treated for hazardous fuels reduction? Number of prescribed burns conducted in cooperation with local, State or other Federal agencies? (CP)	52	Kevan Moore Fire Management Officer
37	8.1e How many local volunteer fire departments were trained in wildland fire suppression?	53	Kevan Moore Fire Management Officer
38	10.1a Are expressions of interest and lease offers processed in a timely manner? (taken from errata sheet for Chap 4)	54	Phil de Hénaut Minerals Program Manager

No.	Monitoring Question	Monitoring Guide Page Reference	Responsible Person
39	10.1b How many plans of operation/applications for permit to drill on Federal leases were processed in a timely manner?	55	Phil de Hénaut Minerals Program Manager
40	10.2a How many applications were processed within 60 days?	56	Phil de Hénaut Minerals Program Manager
41	10.2b How many mineral activities were adequately restored upon completion? (CP)	57	Phil de Hénaut Minerals Program Manager
42	10.2c How many wells were plugged according to State regulations when production ceases? (CP)	58	Phil de Hénaut Minerals Program Manager
43	11.2b How many miles of NCT have been relocated/ reconstructed off existing roads?	62	Chad Wilberger Recreation Program Manager
44	11.2c How many miles of motorized trails have been maintained to standard (annual routine and deferred maintenance)?	63	Chad Wilberger Recreation Program Manager
45	11.2d How many miles of motorized trails have been closed and rehabilitate and/or relocated/reconstructed due to unsafe conditions or unacceptable resource damage sections from OHV use?	64	Chad Wilberger Recreation Program Manager
46	11.2e Have sections of illegal trails on the Forest been closed and rehabilitated? If so, how many miles and where?	65	Chad Wilberger Recreation Program Manager
47	11.2f How many miles of non-motorized trails have been maintained/reconstructed to standard?	66	Chad Wilberger Recreation Program Manager
48	11.2g How many miles of new motorized and non-motorized trails have been constructed? (CP)	67	Chad Wilberger Recreation Program Manager
49	12.1 Is the Forest being managed in accordance with the assigned SIOs and scenery guidelines found in the Forest Plan?	68	Chad Wilberger Recreation Program Manager
50	13.1c How many heritage sites have been evaluated for National Register eligibility?	69	Ann Cramer Forest Archeologist
51	13.1d How many management plans have been developed for heritage sites that are either eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places?	70	Ann Cramer Forest Archeologist

No.	Monitoring Question	Monitoring Guide Page Reference	Responsible Person
52	14.1a Does the Forest's land-base progress toward consolidation that meets objectives by exchange, purchase or donation? (CP)	71	Richard Jones Lands Program Manager
53	14.1b How many miles of right-of-way, or parcels of land, have been acquired to facilitate access to NF tracts?	72	Richard Jones Lands Program Manager
54	14.1c How many Special Use permits were authorized and re-authorized to allow local community developments on NFS lands?	73	Richard Jones Lands Program Manager
55	14.1c-2 How many acres of prime farmland or acres of land with high potential for community development have been purchased?	74	Richard Jones Lands Program Manager
56	14.2a Is the Forest making progress towards the eventual marking and maintaining of the entire perimeter of NFS lands against private property?	75	Richard Jones Lands Program Manager
57	14.2b Is the Forest making progress toward resolving trespasses as they occur and are discovered?	76	Richard Jones Lands Program Manager
58	15.1 Is the Forest considering and processing reasonable requests for special use authorizations on NFS lands?	77	Richard Jones Lands Program Manager
59	16.1-1 How many parcels of land were acquired in the current year that were being grazed by livestock within approximately one year prior to acquisition by the Forest Service? If there are any parcels, how many? And are they still being grazing, or being offered for grazing? (CP)	78	Tom Thompson Range Program Manger
60	16.1-2 How many acres were grazed and contributed to wildlife habitat objectives; and how many acres were grazed to control non-native species? (CP)	80	Tom Thompson Range Program Manger
61	17.1a,b How many administrative and recreation facilities meet current safety, mission, niche, and use requirements?	81	Steve Marchi Forest Engineer
62	17.2 a-c How many Forest dams meet current State and Federal regulations with respect to storage capacity, storm routing, spillway capacity, and general dam safety?	82	Steve Marchi Forest Engineer
63	17.3a How many stream crossings were inventoried and/or corrected for sedimentation production? (CP)	83	Steve Marchi Forest Engineer
64	17.3b How many miles of roads were evaluated to determine maintenance, storage, or decommission needs?	84	Steve Marchi Forest Engineer
65	17.4c-f How many miles of road are maintained to the level of service required, and how often is needed maintenance performed and are the roads environmentally stable?	85	Steve Marchi Forest Engineer

No.	Monitoring Question	Monitoring Guide Page Reference	Responsible Person
66	17.4g Are known hazard trees removed during the appropriate time of year?	86	Steve Marchi Forest Engineer
67	18.1a How many prevention activities were performed by the LEOs.	87	George Hall Supervisory Law Enforcement Officer
68	18.1b How many incidence of illegal OHV use, arson fires, trespass and timber theft, and trash dumping were reported?	88	George Hall Supervisory Law Enforcement Officer
69	18.1c How many agencies does the Forest have cooperative agreements with?	89	George Hall Supervisory Law Enforcement Officer
70	18.1d How many violations were reported?	90	George Hall Supervisory Law Enforcement Officer
71	18.2a Were the appropriate water quality tests performed?	91	Steve Marchi Forest Engineer
72	Standards and Guidelines Compliance (No specific enumerated Forest-wide Goal) Did any project require guideline modification or a Forest Plan amendment to modify a standard? If so, (a) What was the project? (b) Which standard or guideline was changed? (c) What was the rationale for the change?	Not Applicable	Robert Gianniny Forest Planner

*Data will be collected for this monitoring item, however additional years of data will be needed to draw conclusions for the monitoring question.

Conservation Plan Monitoring Requirements

1. A tally of hickory trees removed during implementation of management activities to enable the project to proceed without causing adverse effects to other resources important to the Indiana bat will be reported (GFW-TEs-9).
2. The implementing regulations for incidental take require that Federal agencies must report the progress of the action and its impact on the species (50 CFR 402.14(i)). To meet this mandate, the cumulative total of incidental take that has occurred to date under the Biological Opinion for the 2006 Forest Plan will be reported in the following format.

Incidental Take Activity	Measure
Permanent Road Construction & Reconstruction	acres
Temporary Road Construction	acres
Skid Trails and Log Landings	acres
Utility Development	acres
Fire Lines	miles

3. The cumulative acreage of specific management activities implemented under the 2006 Forest Plan will be reported. The anticipated activities and acreages planned for implementation during the first decade of the 2006 Forest Plan are shown in the following table.

Activity	Acreage
Even-aged Hardwood Timber Harvest	1,725
Even-aged Pine Timber Harvest	200
Uneven-aged Timber Harvest	14,556
Thinning	1,460
Crop Tree Release	2,113
Grape Vine Control	2,683
Site Prep for Native Pine	200
Reforestation	500
Prescribed Fire	
Oak Regeneration	46,215
NNIS	200
Herbaceous Habitat	1,500
Hazardous Fuels	21,904
Herbicide Application	
Oak Regeneration	10,994
NNIS	600
Development of Permanent Forest Openings	500
Maintenance of Permanent Forest Openings and other Herbaceous Habitats (mechanical)	5,000
Control of NNIS	
Mechanical	1,000
Biological	100
Wetland Restoration & Enhancement	150
Waterhole Construction	15
Fishing Pond/Lake Construction	15
Restoration & Improvement of Aquatic/Riparian Habitat	
Lentic	150
Lotic	20 miles
Installation of Bat-friendly Gates	20-30 gates
OHV Trail Construction	150
Hiking Trail Construction	18
Horse Trail Construction	61
Mountain Bike Trail Construction	36
Recreational Facility Construction (including Parking Lots)	60
Temporary Road Construction	146
Permanent Road Construction	74

Activity	Acreage
Permanent Road Reconstruction	318
Road Decommissioning	29
Skid Trails and Landings (outside cutting units only)	740
Surface Coal Mining Activities	1,250
Reclamation of Depleted or Orphan Wells	70 (128 wells)
Oil & Gas Well Development (Federal leases only)	42 (80 wells)
Utility Corridor Development & Maintenance	50
Agricultural Crop Production & Grazing	50
Treatment of Acid Mine Drainage	270
Surface Mine Reclamation	20
Closure of Open Mine Portal/Subsidence	232
Stabilization of Disturbed Areas	100
Reduction of Hazardous Fuels (mechanical)	10,181
Land Acquisition	Up to 40,000
Land Exchange	400