

2012 Payments to Counties Wayne National Forest

In 2012, Ohio counties received an average of \$2.30/acre (\$2.07-\$3.30/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 2012, the Wayne had 241,191 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 July 6, 2012, the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and Community Self-Determination Act was reauthorized as part of Public Law 112-141. This was a one year reauthorization of the former Act. 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. There were also different options for funds received and Lawrence County made a different choice than the other counties, choosing the old 25% rather than the SRS payment.

Counties also receive Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funds granted under the PILT Act. The US 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	18,640	18,641	\$6,311	\$31,605	5,227	\$43,143	2.31
Gallia	17,563	17,563	9,571	22,084	4,783	36,438	2.07
Hocking	26,002	26,000	8,831	41,771	7,294	57,896	2.23
Jackson	1,701	1,701	577	2,839	477	\$3,893	2.29
Lawrence	73,416	73,415	141,610	15,923	19,571	177,104	2.41
Monroe	24,414	24,415	10,356	33,981	6,812	51,149	2.10
Morgan	3,334	3,334	1,127	7,435	934	9,496	2.85
Noble	694	694	237	1,857	195	2,289	3.30
Perry	22,331	22,333	7,585	44,024	6,214	57,823	2.59
Scioto	11,625	11,626	3,947	18,050	3,261	25,258	2.17
Vinton	1,869	1,869	634	3,945	524	5,103	2.73
Washington	39,602	39,537	30,216	44,846	11,041	86,103	2.17
TOTAL	241,191	241,128	\$221,002	\$268,360	66,333	555,695	2.30

*All acres managed as national forest are not entitled to PILT payments.