



Oklahoma



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

Program	FY 2006 Final	FY 2007 Estimate
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	209,553	109,553
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management - National Fire Plan	0	0
Forest Land Enhancement	100,000	0
Forest Legacy	0	0
Forest Stewardship	505,000	470,000
State Fire Assistance	224,148	331,782
State Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	499,765	369,800
Urban and Community Forestry	320,310	293,157
Volunteer Fire Assistance	120,012	120,596
Volunteer Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	143,299	146,000
Total	2,122,087	1,840,888

The cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the State of Oklahoma, the USDA Forest Service and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of forest lands and rural economies. Emphasis focuses on timber and other forest products, wildlife, water resources, rural economies and conservation practices.

- The goal is to maintain and improve the health of urban and rural forests so they continue to provide significant public benefits and strengthen local economies. These programs: Increase cost effectiveness through the use of partnerships in delivery; Increase values through sustained productivity of forests; Use non-regulatory approaches.

Key Issues:

- Oklahoma continues to recover from the worst drought in 50 years. Record numbers of fires, acres burned and homes were destroyed last year, resulting in the loss of over 300 structures.
- Increased southern pine beetle prevention activities and ice-storm recovery efforts are needed.
- Red Cedar is invading forests and rangeland, increasing fire risk and degrading habitat.
- The Forest Legacy Program requires completion of the Assessment of Need prior to awarding land acquisition grants.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments:

Selected Facts		FY2006 Accomplishments	
Population	3,450,654	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year) (Each)	77
Acres of Forest Land	7,500,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year) (Acres)	9,324
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	6,926,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years) (Acres)	325,686
Number of NIPF Landowners	138,900	Acres of Multi-resource Practices Implemented on NIPF (Acres)	3,642
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	926,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	905
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	6,240,376	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	134
Number of Rural Fire Departments	875	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected (Acres)	2,000
Number of Cities And Towns	691	Forest Legacy Project Acquisition (Acres)	0
Forest Based Employment	11,231	Urban Forestry - Participating Communities (Each)	29
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	6	Urban Forestry - Volunteer Assistance (Days)	3,492
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	21,224,661		

Program Highlights:

Forest Health Protection

Ips bark beetle-associated pine mortality continued in the southeastern corner of the state primarily due to drought conditions. No other significant forest health problems emerged. Southern pine beetle hazard reduction thinnings were carried out on about 2,000 acres of private pine forest in 2006.

Cooperative Fire Protection

State Fire Assistance provides funding to support fire fighting resources throughout Oklahoma, including the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Oklahoma's Federal Excess Personal Property Program, one of the largest in the country, assisted the state in acquiring and placing fire equipment in rural communities throughout the state. In addition, OK Forestry Services administers Volunteer Fire Assistance Program funds to support the fire prevention and protection efforts of rural community fire departments.

Economic Action

In partnership with the High Plains Resource Conservation and Development Council, the

Oklahoma Forestry Services is demonstrating the impacts of removing eastern red-cedar trees from riparian areas. Treated streams will be monitored to detect increased base flows. Wood that is removed will be evaluated as an alternative forest product/economic development opportunity.

Landowner Assistance

Oklahoma's landowner assistance efforts will continue to focus on multiple forest resource conservation, especially wildlife habitat enhancement, water quality improvement, and other environmental services, to help keep forestlands in forest.

Urban and Community Forestry

The Omniplex Science Museum is developing an educational exhibit around a state champion Shumard Oak that recently died. In an indoor tree house, educational materials will teach over 317,000 annual visitors all the benefits that we receive from trees.

Conservation Education

OK Forestry Services continues to develop its comprehensive approach to conservation education called "What Is Forestry - Connecting Oklahoma Communities".

For more information contact:



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