



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Mississippi 2018



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2017 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$395,856
Forest Legacy	\$0
Forest Stewardship	\$316,290
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$386,830
State Fire Assistance	\$1,285,688
Urban and Community Forestry	\$216,500
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$233,365
Total	\$2,834,529

NOTE: This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

Program Goals

- The cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the State of Mississippi, the USDA Forest Service and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of forestlands and rural economies. Emphasis focuses on forest sustainability and the production of commodity and amenity values such as wildlife, water quality, and environmental services.

Key Issues

- There is a need to develop sustainable urban forestry programs in Mississippi communities and to educate the public on how trees can conserve energy.
- The Mississippi Forestry Commission (MFC) is striving to expand its firefighting capacity by providing Volunteer Fire Departments (VFDs) with grant funding for wildland firefighting equipment. We also provide VFDs with equipment acquired through the Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) program and the Firefighter Property Program (FFP).

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2017 Accomplishments	Value
Population	2,967,297	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	15,951
Acres of Forest Land	19,380,136	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	20,945
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	15,340,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	8,814
Number of NIPF Landowners	370,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	46
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	26
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	18,600,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	3,100
Number of Rural Fire Departments	755	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	298	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	26
Forest Based Employment	69,445	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	499,241
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	3	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	2,265
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	29,419,902		

Program Highlights

Cooperative Fire Protection

State Fire Assistance provides funding to support firefighting resources throughout Mississippi. The Federal Excess Personal Property Program and the Firefighter Property Program allow us to acquire and place fire equipment in rural communities statewide. In FY17, \$10.5 million in wildland firefighting equipment and 43 Volunteer Fire Assistance grants, with a total value of \$184,500, were issued to Volunteer Fire Departments.

Forest Health Protection

The MFC provides forest pest detection, evaluation, and control recommendations on private, urban, and non-federal public forestland in Mississippi. The southern pine beetle prevention cost-share program is one such resource. At the end of FY17, southern pine beetle activity increased on National Forest land in Mississippi. While the MFC has active detection and control programs for kudzu and cogongrass, invasive plants continue to impact Mississippi's forest ecosystem.

Forest Legacy

The Three Rivers State Forest was acquired in FY17. This new state forest consists of 2,100 contiguous acres along the Pascagoula River in George/Greene Counties. Mississippi will continue to protect working forests on the Pascagoula River in southeast Mississippi for fish and wildlife habitat, protection of bottomland hardwoods and swamp forests, longleaf pine habitat, and protection of public access.

Forest Stewardship

The MFC continues to promote natural resource planning on private forestland. 133,397 acres were under forest management plans in FY17.

Landowner Assistance

The Mississippi Forestry Commission offers a variety services, programs, and resources to private forest landowners. The Forest Resource Development Program distributed \$2.09 million in cost-share funding to private forest landowners and 21,101 acres were regenerated or improved.

Urban and Community Forestry

The MFC provides assistance and training to urban areas in developing community forestry programs. The MFC, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, is able to aid in the development of long-term, self-sustaining urban and community forestry programs through the Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grant Program. Financial assistance grants provided in FY17 totaled \$105,283.

Contact Information



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