

**Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, June 20, 2012**  
**Menominee**

Meeting called to order at 8:01am by Pat Pelky.

**1. Roll Call**

Present: FCPC (Nate Guldán), Ho-Chunk (Sara Hatleli), LCO (Brett McConnell), Menominee (Jeremy Pyatskowitz), Mole Lake (Tina Van Zile), Oneida (Pat Pelky, Jeff Mears), St. Croix (Katie Stariha), Stockbridge-Munsee (Randall Wollenhaup)

Others Present: Jonathan Pyatskowitz (DNR), Chris Borden (NRCS), Donna Huebner (Rural Development), Pat Leavenworth (NRCS), Tyrone Larson (NRCS), Sherrie Zenk-Reed (NRCS), Tony Bush (NRCS), Barb Tormoehlen (USFS), Tom Melnarik (NRCS), Tracey Hames (Wisconsin Wetland Association), Michael Stinebrink (NRCS), Keith Sengbusch (WTCAC), Randy Gilbertson (WTCAC), Jim Ruppel (EPA), Jerry Thompson (WTCAC), Susan Hunter (FSA), JoAnn Cruse (APHIS), Dan Cornelius (IAC), Stan Gruszynski (RD)

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:** Motion to approve agenda. Motion by Menominee, seconded by Ho-Chunk. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Under Rural Development, community facilities, RD did not help finance the hoop house at Red Cliff last year but could have if they applied. It would be an eligible community facility use.

Sara Hatleli was not at the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Randy Gilbertson was at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve the May 2 and 3, 2012 minutes with modifications. Motion by Menominee, seconded by Ho-Chunk. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

**4. NRCS Update**

Pat Leavenworth – For the FY12 Budget, they are still awaiting additional funds in CRP, GLRI, and the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program. They have a new financial management system they are switching to which is causing some problems. FY13 Budget – all states have been given guidance on how to create a budget request and needs to be in by June 29. It is based on President's budget submission and will be refined as Congress completes its appropriations process. In terms of Ag Reform Bill, 300 some amendments were proposed and they got it down to 73 and voted to allow debate on the bill and now are in the process of voting on the individual amendments so it is proceeding, not a lot of information on what is going on in the House. The NRCS Chief is pleased with how the Senate proposal is proceeding; it streamlines their operations, consolidates certain programs, and still retains the flexibility to implement the programs

and an emphasis on leveraging partnerships. NRCS is proceeding ahead with the nationwide soil health and sustainability initiative. They have set up an internal team to determine how they will roll it out in the state – will be bringing in WTCAC and other partners. They have also been charged with moving ahead looking at the field offices for the future knowing that budgets are going to be shrinking so they are looking at where opportunities are to be more efficient. They are conducting a survey through the WLWA to see where they can improve their services. They have the Agroforestry Initiative currently ongoing (summary attached). They want to involve Red Cliff and Bad River. This project is working on hazelnuts and a native foods cookbook. TSP Project – They received a \$70,000 grant to do a pilot on how to bring TSP to the Tribal work force (handout attached). Renae has been leading this effort and they contracted with the College of Menominee Nation. At the end they hope to have a template to hand over to headquarters on how states can bring Tribal TSPs into the work force.

Tech Recommendations – Chris Borden passed out NRCS’s response to the technical recommendations (attached). He feels there may have been a misunderstanding on stream crossing- probably should have been under fish passage. Pat Leavenworth is going to set up a conference call to discuss this issue. The rest of the NRCS discussion was table until later.

Harmony Training is scheduled for August 13 – 17. WTCAC is coordinating the event. It will be held at Mole Lake and it being cohosted by Mole Lake and FCPC. The next planning conference call is the 26<sup>th</sup> to take a final look at the draft agenda. Jerry handed out the training budget sheet. We will be charging a registration fee of \$107 which is really just to cover the federal per diem costs for meals. There is room for 35 – 40 participants. NRCS asked for 21 spots, USFS asked for 6, RD is still in question probably 1, APHIS asked for 2 slots, FSA probably 5. Jerry needs to submit the number of people in this state that are planning to attend by the end of the month at the latest, preferably by the end of the week. They stopped at the hotel yesterday – rooms are at Mole Lake Hotel and Casino, room rate is \$64 plus tax. They also have a campground you can bring a camper; there would be no charge for camping. We are going to suggest that for Thursday night that all folks think about camping. They are asking everyone to bring lawn chairs, bug spray, sunscreen, rain jacket, etc.

### **5. Rural Development Update**

Stan Gruszynski – Rural Development is undergoing a lot of change, budget cut of 15%. They will go from 100.2 full time staff down to 85 staff, some managed through buyouts and early retirements. They have also been under a hiring freeze for the last 2 years. This was Congress’s decision. It is a difficult situation but they are managing it well, they have 6 offices and they are going to keep those. They have gone from 6 area directors down to 3 area directors managing 2 offices a piece. They do not have travel money and no place to take it from. At national level all agencies have been asked to put together regional plans. Twelve Midwestern states have been asked to come up with an administrative plan to share resources. Food Agriculture Council (FAC) represents all USDA agencies in a particular state and in the nation overall. Their job is to coordinate anyone that is working for USDA in rural communities and they are authorized to extend

beyond USDA to Extension, Tribes, minority associations, etc. It is a good way for them to exchange information.

Donna Huebner – Rural business opportunity grants – they just opened and close August 6. They just got the notification that gives Tribes an opportunity to request lower interest rate, extend payback period, or waive match. They have to apply. Value added producer grants – not open yet, hoping it will come out sometime in July, they have not heard that the eligibility will be expanded to Tribes, currently just for individual tribal members.

### **6. FSA Update**

Susan Hunter (update attached) - FSA has reduced staff by a considerable amount in the last couple of years. Marinette office is being closed and combining with the Oconto office. They are working on streamlining their delivery system. July 16<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for producers and Tribes to report any crops to the FSA office. Building this crop history opens opportunities to any new things that may come out in the new Farm Bill – good to keep up the history. Looking for Tribal members to run for local county committees, August 1 is the deadline; the nomination form is attached to hand out. There are also committee advisors and any Tribal member can be an advisor. They are 3 year terms; mileage to the quarterly meetings is covered. Duties – listen to program updates, appeals by producers if out of compliance, have a say in how county office should conduct outreach with Tribes and other producers, decisions on loans, CRP, disaster programs, disaster designations, etc. The committee is Susan's boss. They really need more Tribal members and women on the committees. You would need to be a resident of that county. INCA is pushing for this as well with their tribal conservation districts - they feel they have been able to provide a voice for Tribal members' that have gotten on these committees. Local FSA people plan to start attending WTCAC meetings.

### **7. APHIS Update**

JoAnn Cruse - They are going through some reorganization (PPQ). They started out with the APHIS modernization to look at programs that are outdated. PPQ took the initiative and are looking at restructuring – for the most part people will not move, just realign some of the offices. They will no longer have 2 regional offices, they will be regional hubs. They are hoping to streamline things and make things more consistent nationally. There are working groups working on the realignment. They had buyouts and reduction in staff. They have to go through incredible hoops to get anything approved after a buyout. She lost her office manager and just got approval to fill the position. She will lose 2 more staff. She will be going from 7 down to 5. The 2 lost positions were term positions. Dr. Dutcher left Vet Services to take a District Director position for FDA in Minneapolis. They have approval to fill his position. They also lost their epidemiologist and an IT person. Wildlife Services didn't take a hit yet. WTCAC got a Farm Bill award to bring 1 – 2 people per Tribe for the ICS exercise in Keshena the week of September 10. Please think about whom from each Tribe would come in for that. The actual exercise starts at noon on Tuesday and goes until noon on Thursday. The field exercise occurs on Wednesday, she thinks it would be good for staff to see the whole thing though. It will likely be a good exercise for Foresters and other Environmental Staff as well as Emergency Management staff.

She has additional EAB lure if we need it. She has been trying to send out updates on a weekly basis when emergence should have started and when peak occurs. Peak emergence was in Illinois last week. It is not looking good in Wisconsin this year, finally found the infestation in Green Bay based on the one beetle they found. They couldn't find it after tons of surveying, this year they found 9 infected trees and found beetles on them. New find in Walworth County just north of state line, Illinois found a swath miles long of infested trees south of the state line in areas they hadn't expected. EAB was also found in Lake Geneva and the City of Walworth. There was another find in Waukesha County as well as Port Washington. The response in Wisconsin at this point does not involve taking trees down. Can JoAnn set up a presentation EAB biocontrol? Should we set up a work group to look into practice to sink logs? It was also pointed out that an issue has been noticed with the increase in water levels in wetlands with the loss of black ash.

### **8. USFS – State and Private Forestry Program**

Barb Tormoehlen – Barb handed out a brochure (attached) and gave a PowerPoint presentation (attached). Mike Dockery is USFS liaison at the College of Menominee Nation.

### **9. EPA Update**

Jim Ruppel (update attached). Darrell Harmon is the new IEO Director in Chicago. Tribal caucus meeting is June 28<sup>th</sup> in Michigan. The RTOC is scheduled for August 7 – 9 in Red Cliff. TEA templates were sent out on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, send Jim an estimated time as to when you think you can have the updates back to him. There is a Climate Change Educators workshop for teachers in communicating climate change workshop coming up.

Jeff Mears – Tribal Caucus meeting is being held in conjunction with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual BIA meeting in Michigan next week. A new Co-chair will be selected. If we have anything that we want to be brought up as an agenda item for RTOC left Jeff know and he can take them next week and get them on the RTOC agenda. There was an issue brought up with project officers and grants.

### **10. IAC Update**

Dan Cornelius – He will be presenting in Michigan next week. He will give an overview of USDA and to try and get the Tribal Staff and leadership an idea of the things the 17 different agencies offer. IAC has funding for a regional outreach meeting. He thought that it maybe could be held with a WTCAC meeting, a good way to help fund travel for Michigan and Minnesota Tribes to come in. He put in a preproposal for a grant to over the course of 3 years have 3 - 4 workshops moving around to different Tribes focusing on 3 – 4 different topics targeted at Tribal food producers. He is also doing some work on the Value Added Producer Grant and trying to get people to think about that opportunity as it can fund a marketing feasibility study. There is a \$1.2 million Tribal set aside for the RBOG grant through RD and no match. He was at NCAI and USDA is doing some listening sessions with NCAI.



## **11. INCA Update**

Jonathan Pyatskowitz – He attended a meeting in mid-March and they are still working on their strategic plan. They were sending the strategic plan out to TCDs for input. They took our plan and modified from there, they used our structure and format and adapted it for their needs. They were fine with Jonathan still serving on the INCA Board; they just want to make sure that Jonathan stays in contact with us. INCA is paid members of a couple of different organizations: Rural Coalition and Our Natural Resources. These organizations can lobby. They normally cohosted a conference in December with IAC however this will not happen anymore. They are looking at going to a rotational type meeting where they hold the conference in different regions each year. WTCAC could partner with them on this if they came this way. Randy Gilbertson will look into these two groups.

## **12. Wisconsin Wetland Association**

Tracey Hames (WWA Executive Director) – WWA is a 501(c)3 organization out of Madison. He took the job just before Thanksgiving, he had worked with the Yakima Nation the last 22 years, originally from St. Paul and did grad work at Stevens Point. His big goal is to strengthen the partnerships with the Tribes here in Wisconsin. He is very interested in meeting up with the Tribes he hasn't met yet; he was out with Oneida, Ho-Chunk, and Bad River. They are starting a new program to build needs assessment for private wetland owners in Wisconsin. He would also like to find out the needs Wisconsin Tribes have in relation to wetlands. They also have a local government program working with counties and looking at planning and zoning to see how they are addressing wetlands. They are also conducting strategic planning right now. They are trying to be a statewide science based organization. They are trying to get out into the communities and the state and figure out how to implement wetland planning and restoration at the community level. They do an annual science conference every February. It is the largest regional wetland science conference in the nation. They have done a lot of restoration workshops in the past. He is very interested in talking with all of us. They do not yet have funding available for projects.

## **13. NRCS (Continued)**

Chris Borden – Nationally NRCS develops the cost per unit for all scenarios. For the most part, he feels the new cost rates will be more than the current ones. They are still developing the practice component spreadsheet. We may need to give them a heads up on our Tribal specific practices (wild rice, fish cribs, loon nesting platforms, etc.). There are teams developing the regional cookbooks and they will need WTCAC's input. We need to make sure that the National Office is aware of this. Pat Leavenworth would forward a letter from WTCAC to the National Office to let them know what the Tribal specific practices are that we need. Randy and Keith will draft a letter for Pat Pelky to sign.

NRCS Policy with DNR regarding state species of concern - Additional work to deal with State Species of Concern, why do we need to worry about it on the Reservation? There is an agreement between NRCS and the State of Wisconsin to honor their threatened and endangered species.

**MOTION:** Motion to direct Pat Pelky to contact Pat Leavenworth to raise concerns WTCAC has with having to address state threatened and endangered species on NRCS projects on Tribal lands. Motion by Ho-Chunk, seconded by Mole Lake. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

#### **14. Special Projects**

Stockbridge-Munsee's Herman's Pond Floating Raceway Project was presented (attached).

**MOTION:** Motion to approve Stockbridge-Munsee's Herman's Pond Floating Raceway Project for \$25,395. Motion by FCPC, seconded by Menominee. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

#### **15. Other Business**

Sara Hatleli – Wisconsin Lakes Partnership – Since February Sara is on the Board of the Wisconsin Lakes Association. Sara would be willing to provide a short presentation on WTCAC's successful partnership at a Board Meeting. The meeting is on September 26. Jerry will send her a couple of PowerPoint's she can pull things out of.

#### **16. Interns**

Everything is going good so far. There were a few time sheet and travel voucher issues but he got them squared away. Payment system appears to be working.

#### **17. TCAC Trainings**

Arizona TCAC Training - He thought it went very well. He handed out a summary of the evaluations (attached).

Montana TCAC Training – July 17 – 20. Dick Gooby is asking us to help sponsor that session.

**MOTION:** Motion to co-sponsor the Montana session with INCA to provide travel and per diem for up to 15 participants. Motion by LCO, seconded by Ho-Chunk. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

California TCAC Training – 3 training sessions getting organized in California leaving July 31 and will be back the night of August 9. This travel has already been approved.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve training costs of up to \$10,000 for the California TCAC trainings. Motion by Menominee, seconded by Ho-Chunk. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

Alaska Conference - He will be in Alaska for August 21 and 22.

Great Lakes Region Native American Fish and Wildlife Conference – Jerry had a request from Dick Gooby to give a joint presentation. WTCAC did not feel that it was necessary.

### **18. Board Insurance**

Randy and Jerry are getting quotes on insurance.

### **19. Website**

Jerry emailed Jordan on the website and has not heard back.

### **20. Financial Report**

Jerry handed out budgets. Everything is on track and looking good.

### **21. Employee Handbook**

Employee handbook revisions are done.

### **22. Technical Recommendations**

Randy will be contacting us on non-chemical weed control.

### **23. Next Meeting**

We will try to schedule the next WTCAC meeting in conjunction with the RTOC meeting in Red Cliff. We will try and schedule the meeting on August 7 with a backup date of August 2.

### **24. Executive Session**

**MOTION:** Motion to go into Executive Session. Motion by FCPC, seconded by Ho-Chunk. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

**MOTION:** Motion to leave Executive Session. Motion by Ho-Chunk, seconded by Mole Lake. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

Brett will work with Jerry on pulling together expenses and we will look into reviews and raises at that point. We will reimburse Jerry's costs for phone, fax, and internet.

**MOTION:** Motion to adjourn. Motion by FCPC, seconded by Menominee. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

**EMAIL MINUTES 7/2/2012**

**MOTION:** Motion to approve Pat Pelky to send a letter on behalf of WTCAC to Pat Leavenworth expressing concerns with the three state docket. Motion by FCPC, seconded by Mole Lake. Six ayes (FCPC, Mole Lake, Red Cliff, Menominee, Ho-Chunk, LCO), zero opposed, motion carried.

**MOTION:** Motion to reimburse Jerry Thompson for WTCAC expenses. Motion by Menominee, seconded by FCPC. Six ayes (FCPC, Mole Lake, Red Cliff, Menominee, Ho-Chunk, LCO), zero opposed, motion carried.

## **ATTACHMENTS**



Date: February 16, 2012

**Topic: Healthy foods, healthy lands, healthy communities**

This project aims to link USDA resources with the Upper Midwest Hazelnut Development Initiative to accelerate development of native food crops for improved nutrition, conservation, and economic opportunity in the Lake Superior region.

**Background:**

The people in the Lake Superior counties of Wisconsin face numerous challenges. These counties are among the poorest in the United States with limited economic opportunities and ability to compete in commodity crop production. The citizens in the region and tribal communities in particular, struggle with high rates of obesity and diabetes due to limited healthy food options. In addition, this area includes sensitive ecological areas in the Lake Superior watershed in need of conservation and restoration.

Nutritionists and Tribal leaders have been working to promote a healthier diet based on traditional native food plants, including many of the fruit and nut species found in great diversity on public and private lands in the region. The Upper Midwest Hazelnut Development Initiative (UMHDI), supported by an \$846,000 USDA Specialty Crop Research Initiative Program grant, has been working to develop a commercially viable hazelnut crop in the Lake Superior counties of Wisconsin by screening populations of American hazelnut on National Forest System lands for high-performing plants. This model of new crop development in an ecologically rich, but economically depressed region is worthy of increased support from the NRCS and USFS.

**Key Points:**

- The NRCS, three deputy areas of the US Forest Service and the USDA National Agroforestry Center, have an opportunity to leverage land, technical assistance and financial resources to link with the University of Wisconsin Extension's UMHDI and accelerate its advancement across the landscape.
- The UMHDI focuses on a perennial native plant species and incorporates Native American knowledge and cultural values to develop modern sustainable land management systems and could further serve as a model for developing additional native and economically valuable plant species.
- Local demonstration sites can be developed using native hazelnut selections as a part of a productive conservation operation. Native food plants can be grown through agroforestry systems, to provide nutritious food, support the local economy and produce ecosystem services that restore landscape functions to improve water quality and wildlife habitat in critical Upper Midwest watersheds. This approach will demonstrate sustainable production alternatives for addressing local, cultural, and health needs.
- The advancement and expansion of the UMHDI model meets aspects of seven of the eight priorities of the Secretary of Agriculture, and utilizes an all lands approach to addressing local needs and issues.

**Contacts:**

Patricia Leavenworth, Wisconsin State Conservationist, NRCS  
Paul Strong, Forest Supervisor, Chequamegon-Nicolet Forest, USFS  
Jason Fischbach, Ashland & Bayfield County Agent, University of Wisconsin Extension  
Paul DeLong, Administrator Division of Forestry, Wisconsin DNR  
Tom Schmidt, Assistant Director, Northern Research Station, USFS  
Barb Tormoehlen, Field Representative, Northeastern Area S&PF, USFS  
Andy Mason, Director, USDA National Agroforestry Center, USFS



# Wisconsin Tribal Technical Service Provider Pilot Project

---

## USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service College of Menominee Nation, Keshena, Wisconsin

This project was established through a grant from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to identify and train tribal members who are interested in becoming certified Technical Service Providers (TSP) for NRCS conservation programs. The College of Menominee Nation (CMN) entered into an 18-month agreement with NRCS in Wisconsin to establish a cadre of certified TSPs who will be able to carry out selected conservation practices funded through NRCS conservation programs, such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

As of June, 2012, CMN is on track in completing the 18-month plan of work. Thirteen TSP candidates from five tribes have attended the required Conservation Planning Training. Two sessions were conducted, one on Feb. 22-24 at Keshena, and one on March 20-22 at Lac Courte Oreilles on the western side of Wisconsin. The training involved 2 days of classroom and 1 day in the field.

The next step is for TSP candidates to prepare the sample plan required as part of the TSP certification. In order to facilitate and encourage candidates to do their sample plans, CMN proposed that they host a webinar for all the candidates to work through the sample plan. CMN had never hosted a statewide webinar before and they were eager to try this new capability at the college. The date of the webinar is still being worked out but will be in early summer.

For more information, contact:

Renae Anderson, Tribal TSP Agreement Manager  
Public Affairs and Outreach  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Madison, Wisconsin  
[Renae.anderson@wi.usda.gov](mailto:Renae.anderson@wi.usda.gov)





Participants at the Tribal TSP Training session in Keshena in the Menominee Forest. NRCS State Biologist Steve Bergiens (in the blue jacket) and NRCS Forester Greg Rebman (far right) conducted the training for the eight participants attending this session



Greg Rebman (center), WI NRCS Forester, talking with two tribal foresters during the field portion of the conservation planning training in Keshena at the Menominee College.





Chris Caldwell, forester from Menominee, talking about tribal forest resources, issues and practices at the training session.

## 2012 WTCAC EQIP SCENARIO PROPOSALS w/NRCS Responses

### • Stream Crossing- NRCS Standard 578

1. Pipe Arch CMCP 57" x 38"
  - \$269.00 lineal foot
2. Pipe Arch CMCP 83" x 57"
  - \$565.00 lineal foot
3. Aluminum Box Culvert 10'-11"w x 6'-4"h
  - \$1054.00 lineal foot
4. Multi Plate Arch 12'w x 6'-3"h
  - \$873.00 lineal foot
5. Aluminum Arch 8'w x 4'-2"h
  - \$543.00 lineal foot
6. Aluminum Arch 12'w x 6'-3"h
  - \$797.00 lineal foot
7. Pre-engineered Bridge
  - \$1875.00 lineal foot

**NRCS Response (1-7):** The basis for EQIP funding is the minimum practice needed to address the resource concern. Existing scenarios provide the least-cost alternatives for addressing the resource concerns associated with stream crossings.

### • Water Well- NRCS Standard 642 (Aquaculture)

1. High Capacity Well
  - 6" casing \$108.00 lineal foot

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed.

### • Pond Flexible Membrane-NRCS Standard 521A (Aquaculture)

1. 45 mil EPDM
  - \$1.10 Sq Ft Installed

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed.

### • Underground Outlet-NRCS Standard 620 (Aquaculture)

1. 16" HDPE
  - \$62.85 lineal foot installed

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed.

## 2012 WTCAC EQIP SCENARIO PROPOSALS w/NRCS Responses

### 2. CMP Inlet Structure

- Waiting on bid

**NRCS Response:** Concur with technical recommendation but may need to be incorporated into Aquaculture Pond (397) as it does not appear to be an Underground Outlet (620).

### 3. Concrete Inlet Structure

- Waiting on bid

**NRCS Response:** Concur with technical recommendation but may need to be incorporated into Aquaculture Pond (397) as it does not appear to be an Underground Outlet (620).

### • Livestock Pipeline-NRCS Standard 516 (Aquaculture)

#### 1. 4" HDPE

- \$16.90 lineal foot installed

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed.

### • Fence-NRCS Standard 382 (Aquaculture)

#### 1. 8' chain link fence with two strand barbed wire and amphibian barrier

- \$18.50 lineal foot installed

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed.

### • Aquaculture Pond-NRCS Standard 397 (Aquaculture)

#### 1. \$0.07 per gallon of capacity (includes fish kettle)

#### 2. \$0.06 per gallon of capacity (w/o fish kettle)

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed and other elements may need to be incorporated (see Underground Outlet proposal above).

### • Access Road-NRCS Standard 560

#### 1. Two Lane Access Road

- Tom working on cost

**NRCS Response:** The basis for EQIP funding is the minimum practice needed to address the resource concern. Existing scenarios provide the least-cost alternatives for addressing the resource concerns associated with access roads.





United States Department of Agriculture    Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services    Farm Service Agency    OFFV FSA Office  
2187 North Stevens Street, Suite A  
Rhinelander, WI 54501-8036  
Serving Oneida, Florence, Forest and Vilas Counties  
Phone: 715-362-5941  
Fax: 715-362-9370

## **Farm Service Agency (FSA) REPORT TO WTCAC – JUNE 20, 2012**

By Susan Hunter, (608) 742-5361 ext 104, [susan.hunter@wi.usda.gov](mailto:susan.hunter@wi.usda.gov)

### **Reporting 2012 Crop Acreage by July 16th.**

Anyone that grows or manages any type of crop, including grains, forages, fruits, vegetables, maple sap, wild rice, etc., should make an appointment with the local FSA office to report the location and acreage of the fields or areas. The deadline to report is July 16<sup>th</sup>. Reporting these acreages and crops to the local FSA office could help ensure possible eligibility for future programs.

### **County Committee Elections.**

Local FSA offices are holding County Committee elections in certain townships of most counties in Wisconsin. We are looking for individuals (especially tribal and women producers) who are active in some time of agriculture (cash cropping, wild rice, vegetables, raising animals, forestry, aquaculture, etc) to run for a position on the local County Committee as a voting member. Nomination petitions must be filled out and provided to the local FSA office by August 1<sup>st</sup>. Attached is a nomination petition and fact sheet on the election. If any tribal member is interested they should contact their local FSA office to see if the township you live in is holding an election this year. Members elected would serve a three year term and would meet quarterly.

**Farm Bill.** With respect to the bill currently being considered by the Senate, the Administration would make further cuts to commodity and crop insurance programs. Direct payments to farmers will be cut and possibly some other FSA programs. Last week, the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee approved its version of legislation that would fund all USDA agencies next fiscal year except the Forest Service, which is funded through a different appropriations bill. The Subcommittee's legislation would reduce USDA's operating level by over \$850 million – a four and a half percent cut – from the level requested in the President's Budget. Although the amounts vary, nearly every agency would be reduced by some amount. In late April, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved its version of the Agriculture appropriations bill at a level that provides an increase of over \$100 million above the President's Budget request. Both the House and Senate versions of the appropriations are subject to further change as the legislative process continues.

FSA-669A  
(02-22-12)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Farm Service Agency

### NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE <i>(Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)</i>	TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE	4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION:  <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i>	5. COUNTY	
<input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.	6. LAA	7. STATE
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION:  <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR  8B. DATE  <i>(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).</i>	

**9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE**

**VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES:** The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

<b>ETHNICITY</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<b>RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White	<b>GENDER</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
--	---	---

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

- ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
  - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
  - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
  - C. Willing to serve if elected.
- ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.
- ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
- ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.
- ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. *(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)*
- ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.

**ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2012.**

**NOTE:** The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.**



**FSA-669A**  
(02-22-12)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
Farm Service Agency

## NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

This form allows individuals to nominate themselves or any other person as a candidate. If additional forms are needed, this one may be copied or may be obtained at the County FSA Office or obtained electronically at <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov>. Each form submitted must be:

- A. Limited to one nominee.
- B. Signed and dated by the nominee in Item 3. Nominee must sign if willing to have his/her name placed on the ballot and agrees to serve if elected.

**Note:** Name shown on ballot will appear exactly the same as in Agency records.

- C. Delivered to the County FSA Office or postmarked no later than August 1, 2012.
- D. Signed and dated as a write-in candidate if elected as a member and willing to serve on the COC.

The County FSA Committee is responsible for reviewing each form to determine the eligibility of nominees. A person who is nominated on this form and is found ineligible will be so notified and have an opportunity to file a challenge.

Persons nominated should actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch and be well qualified for committee work. A producer is eligible to be a County FSA committee member if the producer resides in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) in which the election is to be held and is eligible to vote.

This is a non-salary public service position. A small stipend is provided to offset expenses.

Federal regulations may prohibit County FSA Committee members from holding certain positions in some farm, commodity, and political organizations if such positions pose a conflict of interest with FSA duties. The positions include functional offices such as president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer; and positions on boards or executive committees. Conflict of interest restrictions also apply to employees, operators, managers, and majority owners of tobacco warehouses. Questions concerning eligibility should be directed to the County FSA Office.

A candidate has the option to request that all voted ballots for an individual county committee election be returned to the respective State Office in lieu of being returned to the county office. This request must be in writing and submitted to the local County Executive Director prior to the announced end of the nomination period.

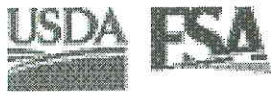
The duties of County FSA Committee members include:

- A. Administering farm program activities conducted by the County FSA Office.
- B. Informing farmers of the purpose and provisions of the FSA programs.
- C. Keeping the State FSA Committee informed of LAA conditions.
- D. Monitoring changes in farm programs.
- E. Participating in county meetings as necessary.
- F. Performing other duties as assigned by the State FSA Committee

*The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).*

*To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*





# FACT SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

March 2012

## FSA County Committee Election

### Overview

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to ensure FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

County committees provide local input on:

- Commodity price support loans and payments
- Conservation programs
- Incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities
- Emergency programs
- Payment eligibility

FSA county committees operate within official

regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

### Election Period

June 15, 2012 – The nomination period begins. Request nomination forms from the local USDA Service Center or obtain online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>

Aug. 1, 2012 – Last day to file nomination forms at the local USDA Service Center

Nov. 5, 2012 – Ballots mailed to eligible voters

Dec. 3, 2012 – Last day to return voted ballots to the USDA Service Center

Jan. 1, 2013 – Newly elected county committee members take office.

### Who Can Vote

Agricultural producers of legal voting age may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm also may be eligible to vote. Members of American Indian tribes holding agricultural land are eligible to vote if voting requirements are met. More

information about voting eligibility requirements can be found in the FSA fact sheet titled “FSA County Committee Election - Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a County Committee Member.” Producers may contact their local USDA Service Center for more information.

### Nominations

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. This form is available at USDA Service Centers and online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

Nomination forms for the 2012 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1, 2012.

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for candidacy for the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Additionally, organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates. Nomination forms are filed for the county committee of the office that administers a producer’s farm records.



# FACT SHEET

## FSA COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

March 2012

### Don't Miss Out on Voting

Ballots will be mailed to voters by Nov. 5, 2012, and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by Dec. 3, 2012. Eligible voters must contact their local FSA county office before the final date if they did not receive a ballot.

### Uniform Guidelines

USDA issued uniform guidelines for county committee elections to help ensure that FSA county committees fairly represent the agricultural producers of a county or multi-county jurisdiction, especially minority and women producers. Minorities are African-Americans, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Hispanics, Asians, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders. The guidelines govern the FSA county committee election process and are designed to increase participation of minorities and women.

The following are just some of the specifics of the guidelines that are now in effect:

- If no valid nominations are filed, the Secretary of Agriculture may nominate up to two individuals to be placed on the ballot.
- County committees must annually review local administrative area boundaries to ensure the fair representation of minority and women producers in their county or multi-county

jurisdictions.

- FSA county offices shall actively locate and recruit eligible candidates identified as minority and women farmers and ranchers as potential nominees for the county committee elections through outreach and publicity, including the development of partnerships with community-based organizations.

To read the guidelines in their entirety, visit the County Committee Elections page at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

In addition to minority and women producers, USDA strongly encourages beginning farmers to actively seek a position on a county committee.

### Role of Advisors

In addition to elected members, FSA county committees may also include advisors. Advisors are appointed to county committees in counties or multi-county jurisdictions that have significant numbers of minority or women producers and lack such members on FSA county committees. Advisors play an important role by providing diverse viewpoints and by representing the interests of minorities and women in decisions made by county committees. FSA state committees officially appoint advisors who are recommended by county committees or community-based organizations.

### For More Information

For more information about FSA county committees, visit a local FSA or USDA Service Center or the website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

---

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of Discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



NA S&PF programs are cost effective and concentrate on outcomes. Our workforce is small and administrative costs are low. About 80 percent of Federal funds allocated to NA S&PF go directly to delivering programs. Every Federal dollar spent leverages another \$10 through cost-sharing and matching grants.

**Forestry ranks fourth in economic impact** on State economies in the Northeast and Midwest. NA S&PF addresses economic obstacles to owning forest land and forest-related businesses, for example, by...

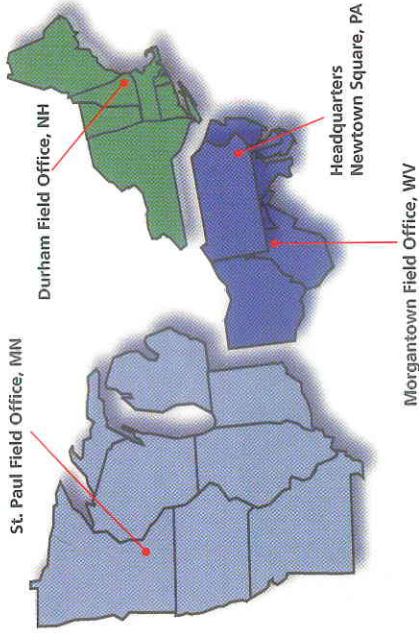
Providing tax and estate planning information to landowners, tax preparers, and professional foresters;

Expanding markets for wood products, such as finding new uses for low-grade wood;

Fostering the use of wood in transportation projects, such as bridges and guardrails; and

Supporting training and business opportunities for the woodworking industry.

NA S&PF carries on a **legacy of conservation**. It administers Grey Towers National Historic Site—the home of former Forest Service Chief Gifford Pinchot, now a conference center for natural resource organizations, and a base for local educational outreach programs. NA S&PF also supports conservation education programs of States and nonprofit organizations, to help a new generation develop appreciation and understanding of natural resources.



### ***For more information, contact:***

#### **Northeastern Area Headquarters**

USDA Forest Service  
11 Campus Boulevard, Suite 200  
Newtown Square, PA 19073  
610-557-4103

#### **The Northeastern Area field office for your State:**

##### **Midwest and Lake States**

USDA Forest Service  
1992 Folwell Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
651-649-5243

##### **Mid-Atlantic States**

USDA Forest Service  
180 Canfield Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
304-285-1541

##### **New York and New England States**

USDA Forest Service  
271 Mast Road  
Durham, NH 03824  
603-868-7600

**[www.na.fs.fed.us](http://www.na.fs.fed.us)**

*The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

# **Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry At a Glance**

*Caring for the Land and Serving People*



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest Service

NA-IN-07-06  
April 2006



The **State and Private Forestry** branch of the **USDA Forest Service** promotes sustainable management of non-Federal forest lands, which make up two-thirds of the forests in the United States. This work supports the Forest Service's role as steward of the Nation's forests and ensures that private forests yield public benefits. Among these benefits are clean air, drinking water, wildlife habitat, wood products, and recreational opportunities.

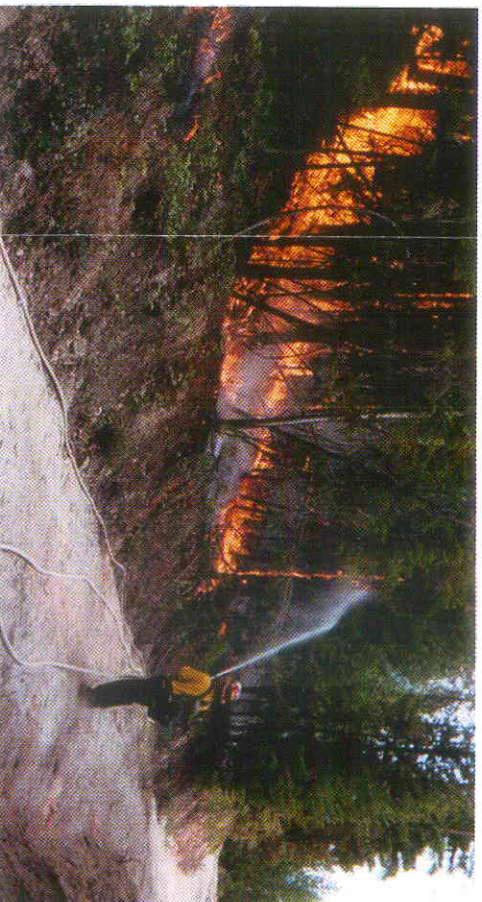
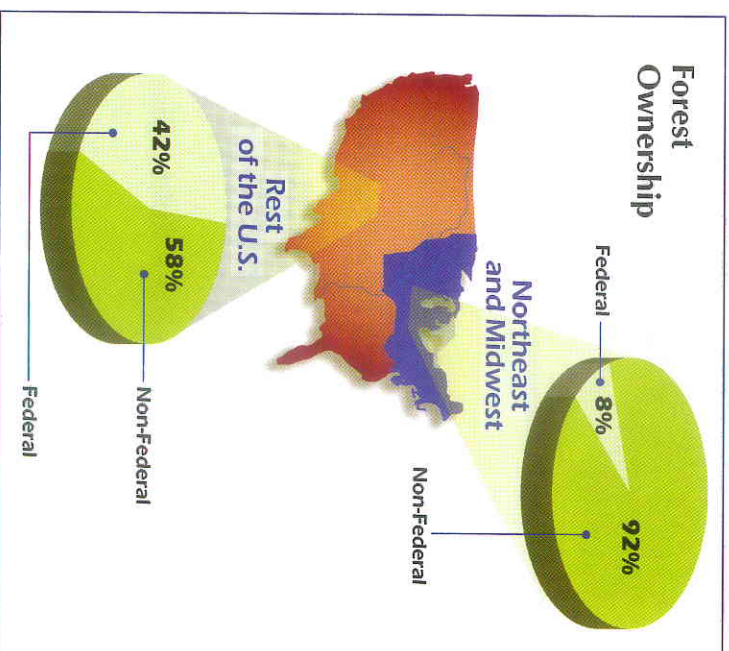
The **Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry (NA S&PF)** works with the 20 Northeastern and Midwest States and the District of Columbia, helping landowners manage their forests.

The reason for NA S&PF in this geographic region is that it contains about 43 percent of the Nation's population and 23 percent of the forest, most of which is privately owned. This intermingling of communities and forests creates unique challenges to forest sustainability.

In keeping with our mission of **caring for the land and serving people**, our work encompasses a broad spectrum of activities including these:

- *Protecting, enhancing, and restoring forested watersheds that supply drinking water,*
- *Detecting and suppressing or eradicating diseases and pests that damage trees,*
- *Training and supplying volunteer fire departments, particularly in rural areas*
- *Improving the natural elements of the urban forest to make communities more livable,*
- *Protecting forests from development, subdivision, and fragmentation.*

**We work with partners**, particularly State forestry organizations. Partnerships allow us to be adaptive and flexible in caring for forest resources, and position us to capitalize on needs and opportunities where and when they arise. Our partners match or exceed our investments in natural resource management.



**We use nonregulatory approaches**, such as information sharing, technical expertise, and financial assistance. The following are some examples:

The **Forest Legacy Program** helps States and nonprofit partners purchase conservation easements on forest land.

As part of the **Cooperative Fire Program**, NA S&PF coordinates training in the Incident Command System—developed for fighting wildfires and used to organize resources responding to other emergencies and natural disasters.

Through the **Forest Stewardship Program**, a forestry professional helps an individual private forest owner develop and carry out a management plan that meets their goals for their land.

The **Forest Health Management Program** includes monitoring and reporting on forest conditions, including invasive plants and insects.

One aspect of **Urban and Community Forestry** is disseminating information on tree planting and care, and on identifying hazardous trees that pose a risk to people or property.



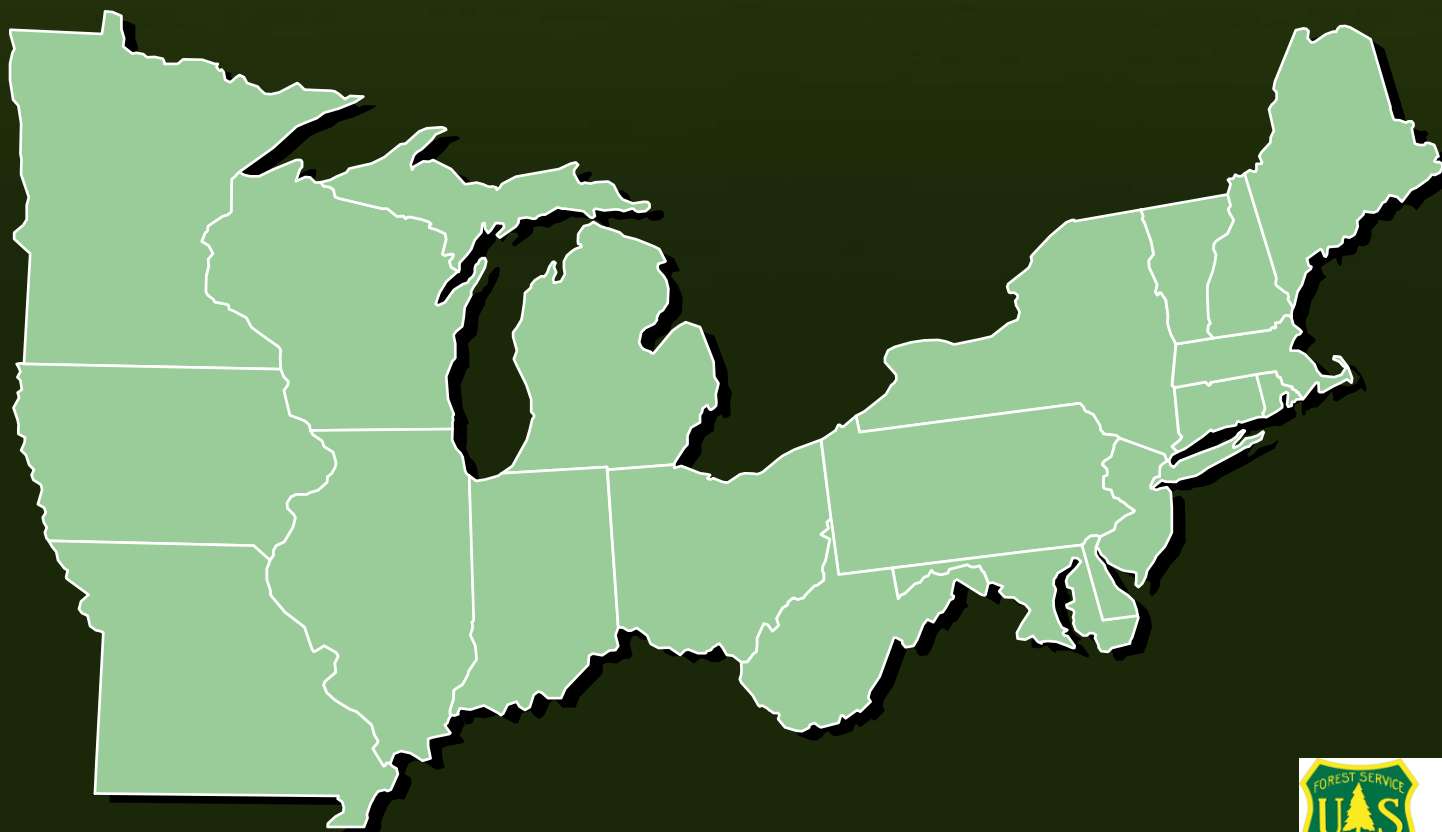
# Northeastern Area – *Overview*

Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
Meeting – June 20, 2012

Barb Tormoehlen

Northeastern Area, S&PF – St. Paul Field Office

# Northeastern Area Overview



# Our Mission

---

- Lead and help support sustainable forest management and use of forests across the landscape –
- To provide benefits for the people of the 20 Northeastern and Midwestern States and the District of Columbia.

## We Achieve This By ...

---

- Providing leading-edge technical assistance,
- Building strong state forestry programs,
- Targeting financial assistance,
- Reducing Federal investments through leverage and prevention,
- Monitoring and assessing forest sustainability trends,
- Acting as an information clearinghouse.

# Northeastern Area Overview

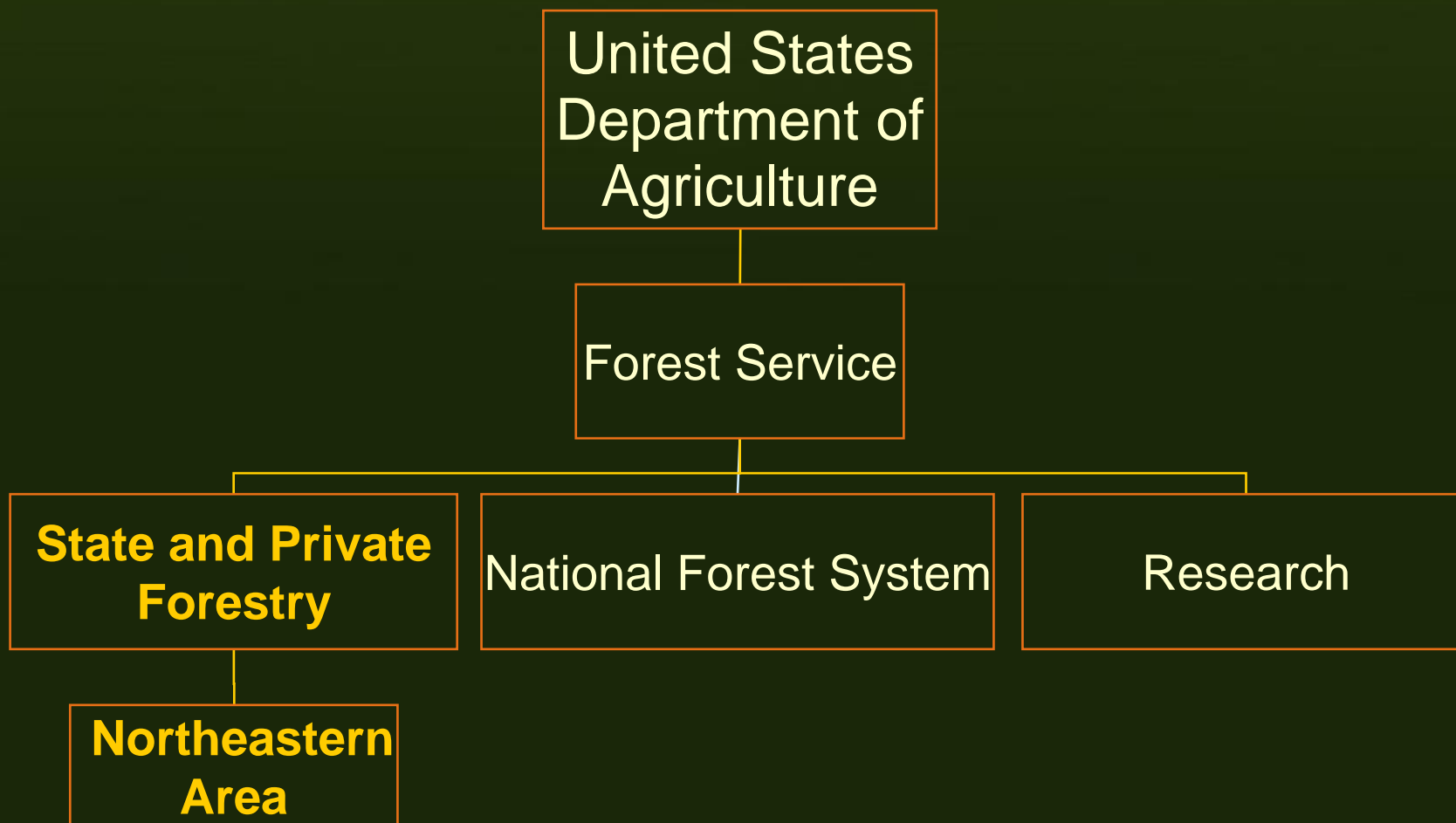
- Who we are
- Who we serve
- What we do
- How we work
- Who cares (And, why they should!)
- How we work together now and in the future



# Who We Are

---

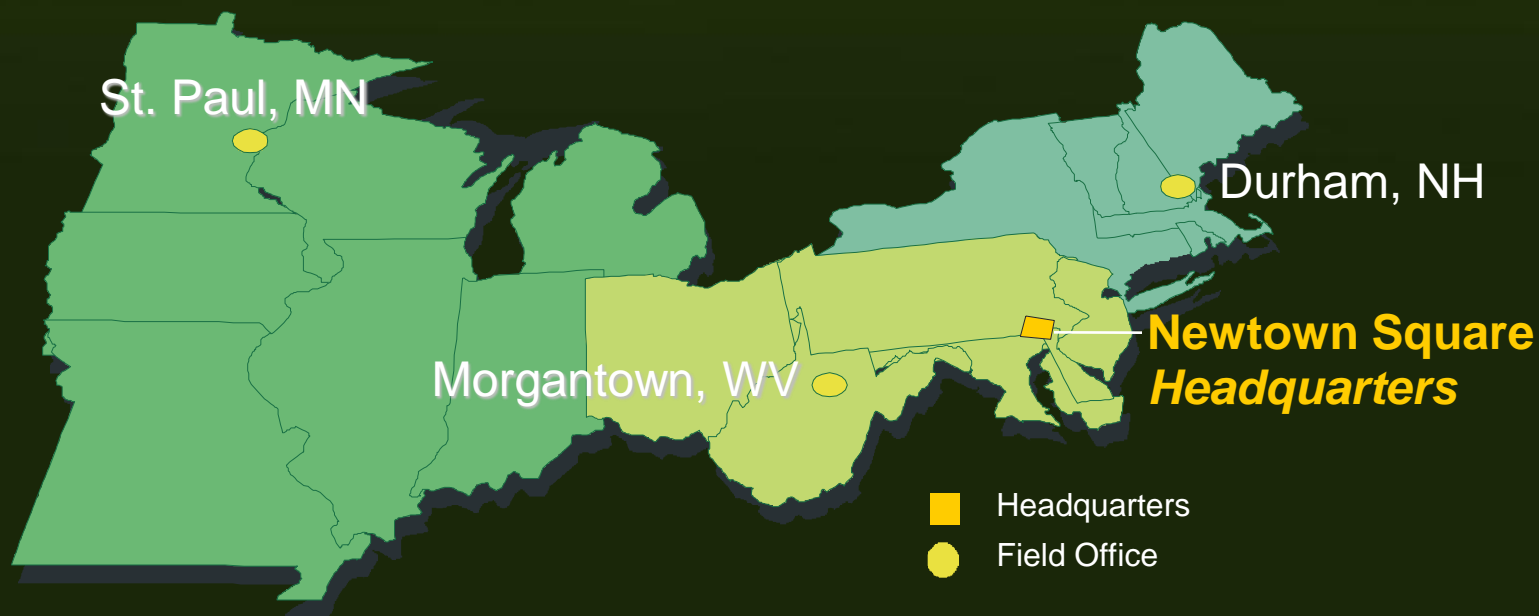
We are Part of the Forest Service



# We Serve

---

## The Northeast and Midwest



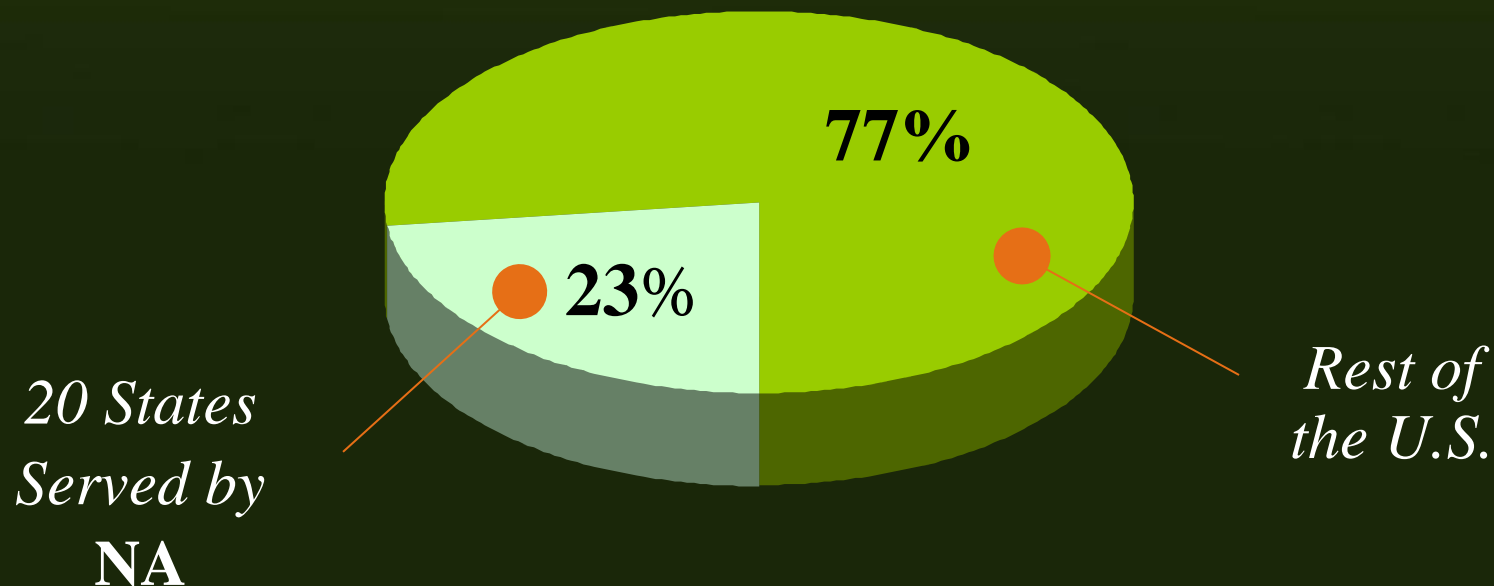
# We Serve

---

- About 5 million non-Federal landowners
- Roughly 170 million acres of forest
- More than 120 million people in 20 states and D.C.
- More than 40% of the US population

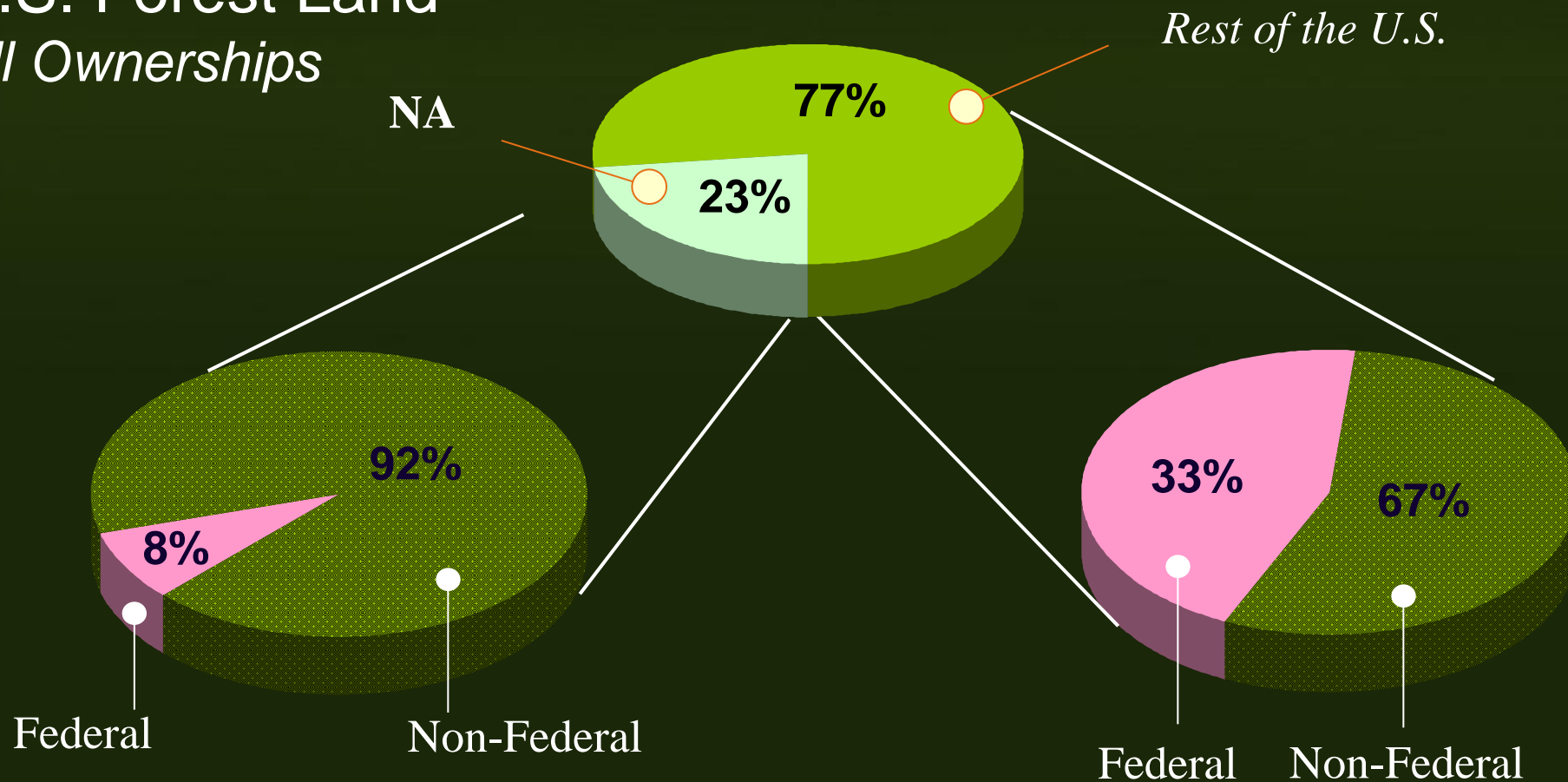
# We Serve the Nation's Forest Land

## U.S. Forest Land



# We Serve State and Private (Non-Federal) Forests \*

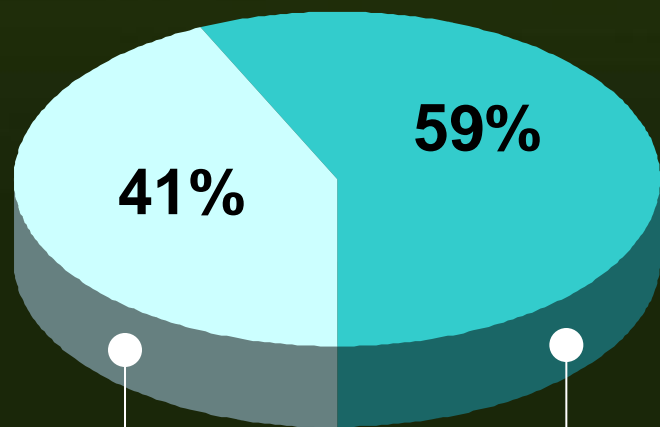
U.S. Forest Land  
All Ownerships



\* Forest health support also provided on federal lands

# We Serve Millions of Americans

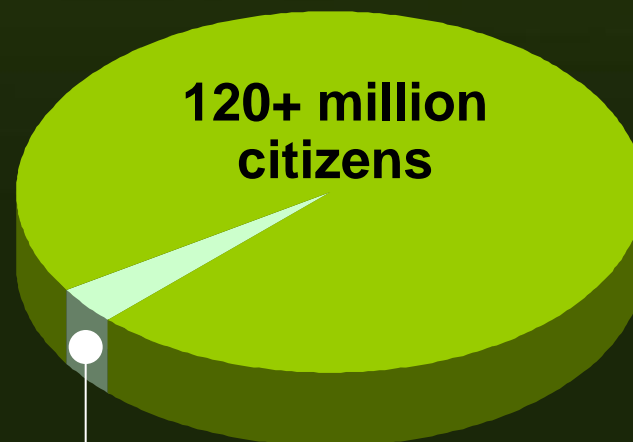
## U.S. Population



*20 States Served by  
NA*

*Rest of  
the U.S.*

## NA Population



*5 Million Private  
Landowners*

# What We Do

---

- Implement S&PF programs of the Farm Bill
- Provide expert advice, innovative technology
- Financial assistance
- Work at Federal, State, and local levels

# How We Work

---

## Partnerships

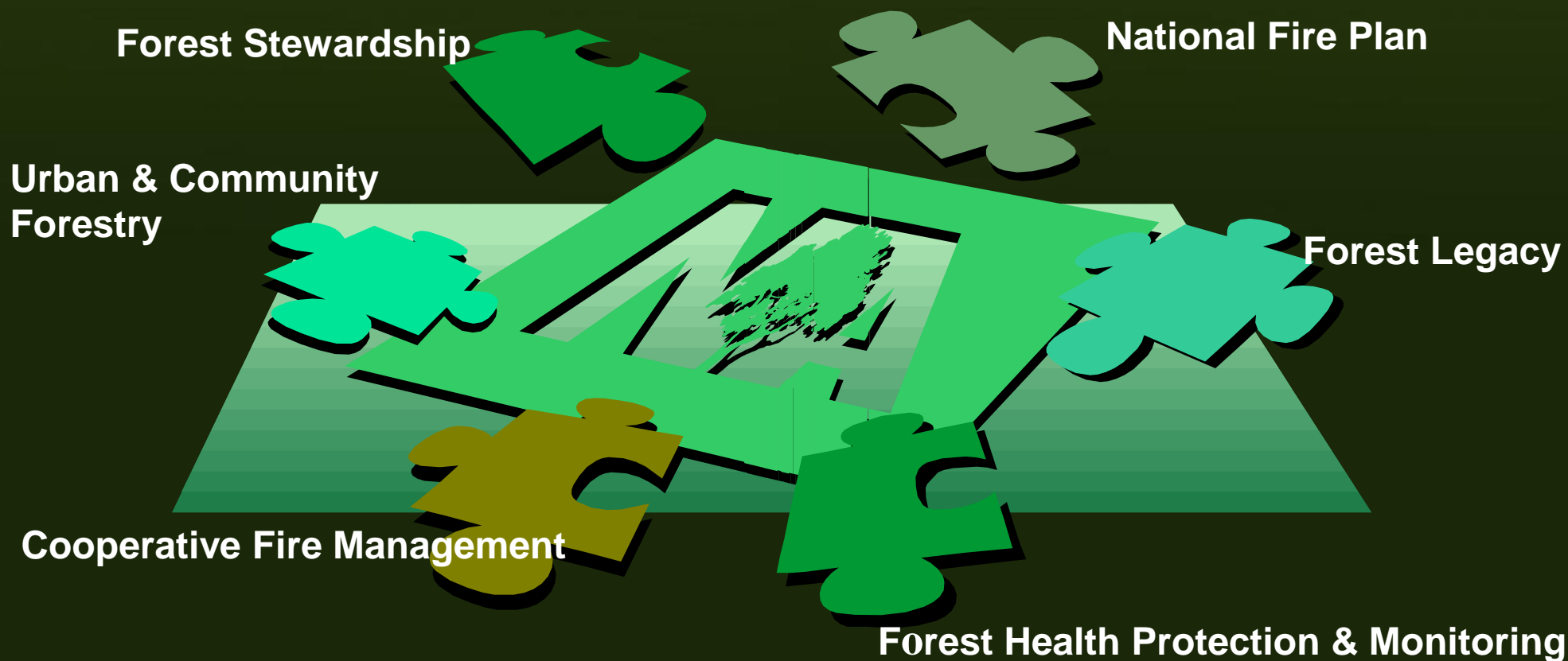
- Forest Service Units (Eastern Region, FPL and NRS)
- State Forestry Agencies and their partners – Focus on implementing ***State Forest Action Plans***
- NRCS, EPA, USF&WS, BIA, other natural resource federal agencies, and tribes



# How We Work

---

We Use a Variety of Programs



# How We Work

---

We Seek to:

- *Add Value* through
  - Voluntary partnerships and cooperation
  - Non-regulatory assistance
- *Create Opportunity*
  - For the people and forest
  - Through improved program delivery

# Who Cares? (*Why We Should*)

---

## *VALUE from...*

- Sustainable forests
- Well-prepared volunteer fire departments
- More-livable towns and cities
- Better informed forest land owners
- Jobs contributing to local economies

# Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program

Under the CFP, the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, awards grants to local governments, Indian tribes, and qualified nonprofit organizations to:

**establish community forests for community benefits by acquiring and protecting private forestlands.**

For Indian tribes, land acquired using a grant provided under the CFP must not be sold, converted to non-forest uses or a use inconsistent with the purpose of the CFP, or converted to land held in trust by the United States on behalf of any Indian tribe.

# Woody Biomass Heating Project

## through the Wood Education Resource Center (WERC)

### Good candidates for biomass heating systems,

1. Fuel Types (cordwood, chips, or pellets) and Costs;
2. Quality and Quantity of Heat – Identify heating NEEDS
3. Appropriate Wood Fuel/System Size (matched to needs and fuel);
4. Heating Distribution System;
5. Backup Fossil Fuel Systems;
6. Fuel Delivery and Site Access.

Key aspects of woody biomass project design: A-System Sizing; B-Thermal storage; C-Combined Heat and Power

# Opportunities to work together

---

## Types of Forest Health projects to fund under Federal suppression projects:

- Oak Wilt suppression
- Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Suppression
- Gypsy Moth Suppression / STS
- Emerald Ash Borer Prevention
- EAB Biosurveillance and/or Survey
- Invasive Plant Control / Eradication
- Dutch Elm Disease Management
- White Pine Blister Rust Prevention (prune)

# Types Federal Forest Health Suppression Projects funded:

- Oak Wilt suppression
- Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Suppression
- Gypsy Moth Suppression / STS
- Emerald Ash Borer Prevention
- EAB Bio-surveillance and/or Survey
- Invasive Plant Control / Eradication
- Dutch Elm Disease Management
- White Pine Blister Rust Prevention (prune)





# Opportunities to work together

---

## SPFO Forest Health Technical Assistance:

- Pest identification
- On-site evaluations
- Management recommendations
- Detection surveys & loss assessments
- Training sessions and workshops
- Publications, reports, websites
- Implementation of new technology





# Opportunities to work together

---

## *Forest Health Aerial Survey*

- Whole State coverage for MN, WI, MI.
- Partially flown by FS FHP, part by States
- Sketch-map to detect major pest impacts



## In Fiscal Year 2011, SPFO provided the following assistance:

- **Aerial surveys** of all major tribal lands to document forest pest damage (~ 1 million acres)
- General insect and disease **training** to Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwae with training to Chippewa NF
- Attended **Intertribal Timber Council Meeting** in Carlton, Minnesota (National Meeting)
- **Gypsy moth suppression** project on Menominee Indian Reservation (IR) in Wisconsin (1360 acres)
- **Oak wilt suppression** - Menominee IR (15 acres)
- Ongoing development of **emerald ash borer (EAB) response team** in MN, including inter-agency coordination, including BIA.

# Current Forest Health Issues we could assist with...

- Nursery pests
- Hazard Tree/ Danger Tree Training
- American elm restoration
- Oak wilt management recommendations
- General pest identification



# Opportunities to work together

---

## Other Existing and Potential Collaborative Efforts:

- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)
- Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework
- Forest Stewardship Project – Landscape Planning & Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration efforts
- CWPPs and CWMAs
- Hazardous Fuels Mitigation
- More?

# Recent USDA Tribal Roundtable

Deputy Under Secretary Arthur “Butch” Blazer:

## Forest Planning

- **USFS Planning Rule** is an opportunity for early, upfront involvement in the process.
- **Partnerships** are an absolute necessity and it is important for USDA/USFS to work with local communities and people.

# Recent USDA Tribal Roundtable

## Deputy Under Secretary Arthur “Butch” Blazer:

- Aging **BIA Integrated Resource Management Plans** – as updated, opportunities to integrate with *State Forest Action Plans* and *State Wildlife Action Plans*.
- **Partnerships/ capacity building** – it is increasingly important to work together to accomplish restoration.
- **Funding is limited** – consider interagency partnerships with multiple institutions to help tribes to develop more programs.

# • Recent USDA Tribal Roundtable

Deputy Under Secretary Arthur “Butch” Blazer:

## Tribal Youth

- ☐ Childhood obesity - Healthy Foods-Healthy Communities.
- ☐ Get as much **education** as possible; seek out good mentors.
- ☐ USDA Cultural Transformation and Ambassador programs – **employment opportunities** for young minority students pursuing higher education - apply for internships and access other stepping stones to success.
- ☐ **American Great Outdoors** – There is strong interagency support for creating youth conservation development opportunities through this program.



# Recent USDA Tribal Roundtable

Deputy Under Secretary Arthur “Butch” Blazer:

Develop **climate change strategies** that include traditional tribal knowledge and create more opportunities to share knowledge.

# Questions / Comments?

Barb Tormoehlen

[btormoehlen@fs.fed.us](mailto:btormoehlen@fs.fed.us)

651-649-5276

## WTCAC – EPA Region V Updates/Info June - 2012

- New IEO Director:  
Darrel Harmon – Started June 18<sup>th</sup>.  
Formerly the Indian Program Manager - Office of Air and Radiation - DC
- Tribal Caucus Meeting: June 28, 11 – 1, Fox Room @ Soaring Eagle Resort and Casino, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.
- Region 5 Tribal Operations Committee Meeting: August 7 - 9, 2012 @ Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- TEA Development: WI TEA Templates were sent out on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, requested first drafts by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Climate Change Educators Workshop: July 16-19, 2012  
Workshop for Teachers on Communicating Climate Change (**Applications due June 22<sup>nd</sup>**)  
See for more info: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/nglvc/climate-change-institute/> & ePacket
- Energy Development on Tribal Lands Course :  
Instructed by the U.S. Department of the Interior and other Indian country experts  
Minneapolis, Minnesota, on July 30-31, 2012.  
Reduced registration rate is available [through July 20, 2012](#).  
<http://teeic.anl.gov/news/>
- Free Energy and Mold Onsite Technical Assistance Visits – HUD  
*“Site visits are FREE and consist of three days of housing energy assessments and technical assistance. The site visit results in a report serving as a plan of action for the tribe to address current and future mold and mildew problems and indoor air quality issues. In addition, the report will recommend strategies for the tribe to improve energy efficiency”*  
Contracted by HUD through FirstPic, Inc  
Site visit form included in ePacket.  
Contact: Sara Fiala 202.393.6400 (p) [sfiala@firstpic.org](mailto:sfiala@firstpic.org)
- New Energy Resources Library - U.S. Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy  
Links to helpful resources for Tribes on energy project development and financing in Indian Country  
<http://energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/energy-resource-library>
- Webinar - Tribal Solid Waste and Pollution Prevention Efforts to Address Climate Change  
Tuesday, **June 26, 2012** - 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm CDT  
Phone: 866-299-3188 - Code: 938-9329# - <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/423133889>  
Using EPA's Waste Reduction Model (WARM) to Calculate Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions from Sustainable Materials Management Efforts

([http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/waste/calculators/Warm\\_home.html](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/waste/calculators/Warm_home.html))

- ITEP is soliciting applications for the National Tribal Waste and Response Steering Committee Selecting up to five (5) individuals to serve on the Steering Committee. Support and guide the Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program, 5 year cooperative agreement between ITEP and EPA  
[www4.nau.edu/itep/waste/twrap.asp](http://www4.nau.edu/itep/waste/twrap.asp)  
**Deadline for applications is June 22, 2012**  
 Todd Barnell, Program Coordinator Senior- Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals  
 928-523-3840- [Todd.Barnell@nau.edu](mailto:Todd.Barnell@nau.edu)
- Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program is Seeking Points of Contact for Reporting Releases in Indian Country to Tribal Authorities. - Final Rule Published April 19<sup>th</sup> 2012.  
*Reporting will be required to EPA and Appropriate Tribal Representatives.*  
 Letter requesting contact info mailed to tribes on May 18<sup>th</sup> (copy of letter in ePacket).  
 Send Contact Info To:  
 Cassandra Vail : 202-566-0753 [Vail.cassandra@Epa.gov](mailto:Vail.cassandra@Epa.gov)  
 USEPA Headquarters, Ariel Rios Building  
 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W. , Mail Code: 2844T  
 Washington, DC 20460
- TRIBAL GREEN CASINOS AND ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE WORKSHOP  
 Week of September 17, 2012 - Grand Portage MN  
 More info: Fayette Bright, [bright.fayette@epa.gov](mailto:bright.fayette@epa.gov) , 312-886-6069
- Upcoming Events on the National Tribal Calendar (see ePacket for complete calendar)

July 16-17	NTC Meeting	Washington, DC	HQ Media Ofc./Chase	Dianne Briggs (202) 564-0279
July 18	NTOC Meeting	Washington, DC	NTC/Administrator/AAs/RAs/DRAs/DAs	Dianne Briggs (202) 564-0279
July 16-19	The 5th Biennial Tribal Drinking Water Conference	Sacramento, CA		
July 24-25	NEJAC Meeting	Crystal City, VA	DePass/Chase	Danny Gogal (202) 564-2576
July 26	Indigenous Peoples Work Group/NEJAC Meeting	DC		Danny Gogal (202) 564-2576 Dona Harris (202) 564-6633
August 7-9	Region 5 RTOC Meeting	Red Cliff Bayfield, WI		
August 20-23	Tribal Lands & Environment: A National Forum on Solid Waste, Emergency Response, Contaminated Sites, and USTs	Coos Bay, OR Coquille Tribe	Koslow	Andrew Baca (202) 566-0185
August 26-29	National Tribal Environmental Council Conference	Acme, MI		Mary Velarde (505) 242-2175 or (505) 717-1581 <a href="mailto:mvelarde@ntec.org">mvelarde@ntec.org</a>





## Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council

### FY 2012 USDA Special Project Proposal

**NAME OF PROJECT:** Herman's Pond Floating Raceway Project

**LOCATION:** Herman's Pond (4.5 acres), Stockbridge – Munsee Reservation, Shawano County (T28N R13E Sect. 34)

**SPONSORING TRIBE/ ORGANIZATION:** Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohicans

**CONTACT PERSON:** Randall Wollenhaup – SMC Fish & Wildlife Biologist

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT, MUST ATTACH A BUDGET. A 10% in-kind Match will be required** (Include Project Goals, Time Line, Tasks and Objectives as they relate to the selected USDA Program(s) below. How will this Project improve the Tribes access to the identified USDA program(s) below?)

The proposed project includes purchasing and installing a floating raceway assembly at Herman's Pond on the Stockbridge-Munsee Reservation. Superior Floating Raceways has quoted a price of \$20,975 for a set of three model 10s Superior Floating Raceways, complete and installed. The kit includes all materials needed for construction, transportation, and on-site assembly. The Tribe has been looking at starting a tribal hatchery but the cost associated with pond construction and permanent raceways has been cost prohibitive. This system offers an affordable alternative to pond building. Since Herman's Pond is at a remote location, electrical service for the floating raceways will be provided through a solar power system. SUNRNR makes a solar power kit that will provide sufficient power at the site. The kit costs \$4,200.00 which includes shipping. The floating raceway system along with the solar power unit will provide flexibility for future expansion as well as other advantages such as predator control, ease of maintenance, and environmental education opportunities. Rokonet Power Failure Dialer Kit will alert staff if a power outage occurs at remote location. Construction of floating raceway and solar power system would occur in the summer/fall of 2012.

---

**PROJECT BENEFIT OUTCOMES:** (quantify tangible and intangible benefits as they relate to the selected USDA Program(s) below.

Program participation barriers identified? Recommendations for barrier removal? New standards or procedures for USDA?)

This project would help with the development of a cost scenario for a floating raceway system powered by solar at a remote location. This project would also help to determine how many cells are needed per run and how many fish can be raised per run. Documentation of solar power at a remote location would also assist tribes in determining the feasibility of using solar as a power source in locations that lack access to the power grid.

**PRESENT STATUS OF THE PROJECT:** The project is currently in the planning stage.

**HAS THIS PROJECT BEEN SUBMITTED TO OTHER FUNDING SOURCES?** (Specify Source and Amount)

Stockbridge – Munsee Community received a USFWS Tribal Wildlife Grant in the amount of \$50,000 which will be used to build a small-scale hatchery building.



09-21-2011

<b>Stockbridge-Munsee Herman's Pond Floating Raceway Project Budget</b>		
<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COST</b>
<i>Floating Raceway Kit</i>	<i>Kit includes all materials needed to construct raceways, docks, transportation and installation</i>	\$20,975.00
<i>Solar Power Kit</i>	<i>Kit includes solar panel, rechargeable battery, power inverter, charge controller, chassis and shipping costs</i>	\$4,200.00
<i>Rokonet Power Failure Dialer Kit</i>	<i>Device will alert up to four people by calling them if power fails at site.</i>	\$220.00
<b>TOTAL REQUESTED FUNDING</b>		\$25,395.00
<i>SMC Personnel for installation &amp; oversight</i>	<i>Biologist: 80 hrs. @\$20/hr. Hydrologist: 80 hrs. @\$20/hr.</i>	\$3,200.00
<b>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING</b>		\$28,595.00



**Superior Floating Raceway™ Price**

A set of three (3) Model 10S Superior Floating Raceways™, complete and installed for Tribal clients within Wisconsin would cost **\$20,975**, plus any tax if necessary. This price would include:

1. The basic raceway “kit”, priced at \$11,700.
2. (86) 50 gallon, used barrels for dock floatation.
3. All lumber and labor for dock construction and on-site assembly, including a 20 foot access ramp section.
4. On-site raceway assembly and launch.
5. All nails, bolts, washers, screw eyes, plastic airline tubing, and misc. hardware.
6. (9) 4 inch airlifts, 3 ft. long, installed.
7. Exit screens and frames, installed.
8. Blower platform, approx. 4 ft. x 4 ft., floating/attached.
9. (1) Regenerative blower, 1 hp. 115v, single phase.
10. All transportation, including that of lumber, docks, and barrels.

The above does NOT include any potential but unknown site preparation, electrical service(s)/connections, legal permits, or ropes/anchors for securing docks. Superior Aquaculture reserves the right to adjust the above offer if component availability or pricing makes it necessary.

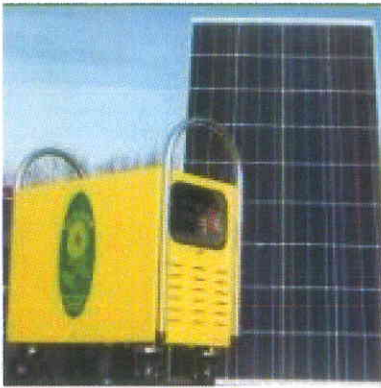
The above offer is made in good faith by:

Superior Aquaculture, LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

Jay Warecki, Ph.D.





### **SUN110 - 110/120 VAC, 60Hz Portable Renewable Energy Generator**

2000+ Whrs stored, 3500W/7000W surge **inverter**.

Rechargeable real-time or when idle by solar, wind, other. Comes standard with one 135 W solar panel (second panel optional).

The SUNRNR SUN110, our flagship model, offers:

Rechargeable Battery

8D AGM - over 2000 Whrs electricity (245 amp-hour)

Solar panel and wind turbine/aux connector portals for charging

Power Inverter

Output: 110/120 VAC 60 Hz

Modified sine wave output

Max continuous power: 3,500 W

Surge capacity (peak power): 7,000 W

Digital LCD wattage power meter

Power and fault LED indicators

Low voltage alarm and shutdown

Four standard AC plug outlets (US)

Solar Panel

Charge rate: 135 W/hr (bright sunlight)

One panel included; second panel optional for faster charge rates

30' cord with plug for easy connection to unit

56"h x 26"w x 2"d; aluminum frame; 27 lbs

Charge Controller

30 amp over/undercharge protector

LCD digital display: voltmeter, solar current ammeter

Battery charger with status display lights

DC End

Rugged master on/off disconnect switch

12V DC cigarette-lighter socket output

Chargeable by other 12V DC supplies such as wind turbine or microhydro

Chassis

Steel enclosure for ruggedness and safety

4" caster wheels for easy portability

Sturdy handles for lifting

28"l x 15"w x 30"h; 260 lbs

User's Manual included. One-year manufacturer's limited warranty.

Easy to use – "plug & play".

Expandable with second solar panel and/or power module options.

MSRP: \$3800. Plus Freight (estimated at \$400.00)

Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
Arizona TCAC Training  
May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**Tribal Conservation Advisory Council Training Evaluation**

1. What was your overall reaction to the training?  
19-Excellent 10-Good 0-Fair 0-Poor

2. Did the training meet your expectations? 26-Yes 0-No

Why/Why Not? **Interaction and questions are good. Presenters are well prepared.** My tribal govt is pursuing agriculture development on virgin land, and I've been hired as farm manager. Historically we have not had too much assistance from NRCS except for this past year. We've been coordinating activities such as land use and water conservation. I got to hear presentations from various agencies that I would have never been able to hear from. **Good information that I could use toward my studies.** Some new info on USDA programs and like the updates and how they are willing to work with us. **The seven generation was included and we need to learn more or need update on new disease that come about the U.S.** As a SWCD it gave me additional insight on how I could better serve farmers and ranchers and improving relationships with all agencies. **There was good information delivered. However, no challenges or tasks given so that when the group meets again they have accomplished something more than just talk. But are taking steps to making a difference.** Was first attended function. Help to better understand the organizations functions & how community are involved to help their communities represented. We want to use the available resources at the USDA level to get resources to Tribes. **Learned a lot more about NRCS USDA programs. Answered most of the questions I had. Went very well. Almost all presenters were able to present. Slight change in agenda.** It was better than I expected. The information presented was a wealth of info and I mean WEALTH (a hee hee). Thank you. **Questions asked. The presenters talk on the programs tribes and members use at area locations. I am new to this but I feel there is so much info that can be utilized in our area. Yes, I believe it helped our clients better understand our programs. In addition it helped NRCS leadership better understand the Tribe's needs. This is the first time all agencies have met with Tribal representatives at the same time, and allowed us to be heard on resource concerns. I am new to the programs and I didn't know there was so many programs out. All these information I will take back to my community and try to work with them to start RMU's and Range Management, Water Management, etc.**



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
 Arizona TCAC Training  
 May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

<b>3. Please rate each of the Training Presentations</b>	
<b>Tribal Conservation District Directors &amp; District Coordinator training.</b>	
Dick Gooby & LuAnn Werdel 11-Excellent 10-Good 1-Fair 0-Poor	
Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>A good presentation. Knows about tribal concerns. This was very helpful. Seemed to be ill prepared to kick off the conference. He's experiences should help to better understand the programs and how to plan for community conservation/agr development. Always great to know INCA has our support in taking care of Mother Earth. Need more info to LuAnn's presentation. I take it back-maybe it was just opening day. Training of the Directors were needed and the information provided was useful.</b>	
<b>Keynote Speaker: James Gore, NRCS Assistant Chief</b>	
11-Excellent 10-Good 3-Fair 1-Poor	
Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>_Still confused. NRCS needs to come down to the level of the tribes. There is more of a connection to the land (kinda like in OK or Kansas who farm). One on One is very important. NRCS District Conservationists need to be committed. Needs to be more open. He was very informative. His presentation was great. His attendance especially at his level in office &amp; making time to be in our presence was really great. Very informative. There is lots of hope for the future. Appears to support local tribes &amp; meeting their needs from the State/Districts using his staff for the benefit of the Tribes. Should have him again come to visit Tribes to be educated. Appreciate the highlights about the Farm Bill budget cuts. Excellent overview of NRCS activities and relevant issues. Responded to all questions. Especially appreciate his attendance to hear our concerns and his commitment to rely our comments.</b>	
<b>Livestock Disease: Terry Clark, APHIS Vet Services</b>	
14-Excellent 7-Good 4-Fair 0-Poor	
Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>Need to bring more update info. Things change constantly. Know it is hard to keep up with things. But updates to Tribes is important, especially if it is going to, or is, effecting them directly. Good – very interesting. I feel it was good presentation but the time was too short. Good information, need to be updated on diseases. This is always good info especially for ranchers and department who are out there working with the public. Very informative. Program presented help to better understand what resources &amp; programs are available &amp; what could be considered to better address, and hope to address, tribal needs. Had several</b>	



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
 Arizona TCAC Training  
 May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

<p><b>Tribal programs.</b> Good to know you work with the Tribes. I learned what APHIS did for Tribes. Information that he gave us for as response to suspicious deaths of livestock is not how it works on the rez. I have to respond and dispose of livestock myself.</p>
<p><b>Tagging and Tracking Livestock:</b> Brian Thomas          17-Excellent 7-Good 2-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. Thanks for the update. It really helps so now we can move forward on traceability. We now have direction. Good information. Overall informative. Good info, whatever change we need to know ASAP. Emphasizing this is important. Many livestock owners should implement to insure livestock health. A great presentation on a successful project. If they can do it then surely we can to. Pictures help a lot to get first hand information to producers &amp; show importance to keeping good useful records for all activities/functions necessary to do good job. Great example. Good producer. Very practical point of view. Good information on tagging &amp; records. Brian always has something good.</p>
<p><b>Agencies Program Presentations.</b> 10-Excellent 13-Good 2-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. Some of the presentations got me confused more (FSA, RD, Risk Mngt). Somehow this needs to be made more clear. I was impressed with their knowledge and expertise. Organization was good. I found out new information on Rural Development and Risk Management. They were all informative. I found some programs that could be used to assist tribal concerns that I did not know existed. Would like to have more time for each. The Rural Development and APHIS were very helpful to get good understanding of the various agencies &amp; what may be available for Tribes to consider to meet specific needs and concerns. FSA person didn't see prepared. He could've presented more and gone more in depth. A lot of good information covered during this session. I am glad they all came together to educate our CD's and listen to concerns.</p>
<p><b>USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service:</b> Keisha Tatem          15-Excellent 11-Good 0-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. She did a great job – clear &amp; concise. Great job helping put this workshop together. Her initiative is like a breath of fresh air for Indian Country. She is doing an excellent job. She seems excited to do a lot on Indian Tribes. Once the working relationship that's being expressed is being done. A good review of programs and commitment to tribal lands. She needs to listen more than talk and not be so</p>



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
 Arizona TCAC Training  
 May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**defensive. Keisha knows her stuff – good to show examples to help understand the role, responsibilities of NRCS & how NRCS can help to develop proposed plans for Tribes at local community or individual basis. Keisha is still on a steep learning curve. May take some time to fully grasp the idea that working with American Indians is whole different ball game. She has so much to offer and very informative. Good source. Glad she is working for us in State. Very supportive of our organization.**

**History of WTCAC: Jerry Thompson**  
 17-Excellent 8-Good 1-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **A good resource person with much experience. He is an excellent speaker – gets the point across. Very good info. Hopefully will be able to iron out the issues that will eventually lead up to getting Tribal voicing although it is already that way it may be different. A great review of how they started the WTCAC. A great mirror for the AATCD. Very useful information as hands-on projects presentation. Very good resources considered for development & improvements. He explained the process that the Tribe went through which helped me to understand what our Tribe can do also to begin programs. Excellent examples and history of organization. Very good training on responsibilities and alternative way of working with State Conservationist.**

**Executive orders, laws, policies, MOU's and directives. Jerry Thompson**  
 16-Excellent 7-Good 2-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **Glad to hear about these topics and will report to my tribal council. Educational. This was great, need to read all the material. PowerPoint very helpful to get understanding of how to better understand the booklet shared with group. Excellent reference material for later reading. Educating our members on all the policies involved helps us find ways to access funding in creative ways.**

**GM Title 410 – RD Part 405 American Indians and Alaska Natives Policy**  
 Jerry Thompson, Keisha Tatem 14-Excellent 9-Good 1-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **Need to know more. Short but informative. Good materials. All good, just need to read the material. Very useful information to better understand the various policies that are needed for interested Tribes who wish to tap into resources available at national level. Need more info. Mostly useful for NRCS folks. Another session that really taught us what our duties and responsibilities are.**



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
 Arizona TCAC Training  
 May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

<p><b>Needs Assessment Action Plan by AATCD: Harold Joseph</b>          12-Excellent 7-Good 5-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>I agree with Keisha, 142 items is too large.</b> What we needed was the outcome of what needs to be done with the needs assessment. Navajo Nation &amp; NRCS State Office. <b>I would like to apply this to our reservation.</b> We went and breeze thru this presentation. <b>Need backup materials.</b> <b>Need to be more organized and powerpoint not presentable.</b> <b>Too small of a font.</b> <b>Needed handouts.</b> <b>I would like a copy of it.</b> <b>Mr. Joseph did a very good job along with those who helped put their comments in to get results needed.</b> <b>No preparation.</b> <b>Good information to be aware of &amp; to see the needs identified by Tribes.</b> <b>The process gone through to develop needs assessment is commended with Tribes participation.</b> <b>Excellent example with real issues/concerns/needs.</b> <b>Allow to plan &amp; identify our needs.</b></p>
<p><b>Identifying Tribal Natural Resource Concerns Randy Gilbertson</b>          13-Excellent 9-Good 2-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>Could learn a little bit more.</b> <b>Good information.</b> <b>Informative.</b> <b>A great presentation on how resource concerns are identified.</b> <b>Very helpful to share process gone through with Tribes to identify concerns and developing scenarios &amp; priorities for specific Tribes.</b> <b>Like the Tribal input to develop standards.</b> <b>Excellent practical perspective.</b> <b>I learned about similar resource concerns and how they are carried out in other areas.</b></p>
<p><b>Developing Tribal Technical Standards and Practices Keith Sengbusch</b>          9-Excellent 11-Good 2-Fair 1-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>Navajo Nation Agency Office only has one man office.</b> <b>Could help if they could have technical support or staff to process faster practices.</b> <b>Good information, plan to follow up.</b> <b>Informative.</b> <b>A great presentation on how standards and practices were developed.</b> <b>Would have like to hear more of the engineering aspects to project planning.</b> <b>Commend efforts to helping Tribes.</b> <b>Excellent procedures provided.</b></p>
<p><b>Indigenous Stewardship Methods and NRCS Conservation Practices</b>          Noller Herbert 12-Excellent 10-Good 3-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>Too long, need to shorten.</b> <b>Really good information.</b> <b>If he could keep it up and distribute the info a little more.</b> <b>Good presentation.</b> <b>He was informative – good presentation.</b> <b>I really like this; it really pertains to our efforts.</b> <b>Good information.</b> <b>I took several notes.</b> <b>Considering his Native livelihood he understood the needs of the Native people and Tribes.</b> <b>Commend his working with State &amp; National level to Tribal</b></p>



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
 Arizona TCAC Training  
 May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

<p>needs addressing &amp; best plan for conservation activities practices on tribal lands. Gave me some really good ideas for dry land. Allowed us to rethink what our practices were and how effective they use to be.</p>
<p><b>Educate USDA about Your Tribal Needs – Tell Your Story: Panel</b>          10-Excellent 8-Good 5-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. Next time have some our leader invited on the panel. They need to hear us. Answered a lot of questions. <b>We need to see Tribal leader on the panel. Several attendees did not stick to the questions. This could have been a good opportunity for tribes to explain project concerns to receive guidance to address those concerns. Due to other commitments was not available for presentation. I will use this in my outreach. Outstanding discussion and questions by group. Perfect way to relay our ways of concerning and needs.</b></p>
<p><b>USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs: Navajo Regional Office: Harold Russell</b>          5-Excellent 13-Good 7-Fair 1-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>Sound just like the BIA. Came with all the right words to say, but no commitment. It was brave of him to stay and take the comments. Most of the time the BIA ups and leaves. Coodos to him for staying. Disjointed, disorganized &amp; unprepared. He was brave. Very brave, but if they could just request for more funding – our government. He's a good talker. Knows his stuff on a short notice. Need to be more prepared. Ms. Pinto should have been here instead of Harold. Continue involvement. Lots of good information. Great review of staffing concerns. Questions dealt with pointing fingers but not on resolve. Would have been better prepared to do good presentation. Commend to representing the BIA (not usually positive feedback from concerned individuals). Of course BIA was no show. Mr. Russell did well as fill in. Could do better at explaining how to collaborate with other organizations and the people.</b></p>
<p><b>AATCD Needs Assessment: Where do we go from here?</b>          8-Excellent 7-Good 4-Fair 1-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>This should have been as a handout and addressed in general not individually off the screen. As a handout we could take it back to our tribes and show how tribes plan to address these issues to NRCS, BIA, etc. so they can be prepared to address the issues. The comment section by the AATCD was very good. I am glad this was added as part of the session. Maybe a solid paper like San Carlos Apache Tribe.</b></p>

Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council

Arizona TCAC Training

May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Should request for a report from the State of AZ NRCS – the data for Navajo Nation to see where we stand, and go from there. **We need to communication with the Tribe. And they is no support. Good to share. No assignments. No items to be accomplished. No one in charge. No deliverables. When are you going to do this?** Would have been best to share hard copies of needs assessment. **With the sharing of how the needs assessment was completed and other representatives involvement. Feel like the intention was not established. Unprofessional act displayed by Navajo Dept. of Agr. Helped us to get a plan in place.**

**State Level Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (TCAC) Discussion**

6-Excellent 5-Good 4-Fair 1-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **It will get better with improved communication/coordination. A lot of confusion. Need to come back together to get it established ASAP. Very much information. Tribal members could not make a decision. Not willing to commit. Consideration for Tribal input is great area of planning to get (full) local participation. This a good idea.**

**District Capacity Building utilizing USDA Programs:**

Dick Gooby, LuAnn Werdel 8-Excellent 4-Good 1-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **I wish my Board members were here. I will try to emphasis what was brought out.**

**Seven Generation Planning Training: Dick Gooby, LuAnn Werdel**

6-Excellent 8-Good 0-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **Need to discuss that school should have agriculture studies in reservation schools. FFA-gardening. Group did participate fairly good in this discussion. However they did need prodding. I really enjoy this presentation.**

**Barriers and overcoming them with the Annual Plan: LuAnn Werdel**

5-Excellent 7-Good 0-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **The groups worked well together to identify barriers and to come up with solutions. We made the barriers like small boulders.**

4. Was the Length of the Training: 2-Too Long 16-Just Right 0-Too Short



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
Arizona TCAC Training  
May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

5. Would you recommend this training to others? 18-Yes 0-No

Why/Why Not? **Very informative. We need to educate and involve more people on conservation –especially on the Navajo Nation. Need to have Ranchers/Farmers need to attending these conferences. We have identified barriers. Now set up solutions, prioritize those solutions, assign tasks, go get the work done. Then come back and report what was completed. Move to the next steps and repeat process. Definitely recommend for other departments outside agriculture/farming/ranching to participate; best involve Fish & Wildlife, Land, Water, and elected officials representing communities. Our leadership from the Navajo Nation Resource Committee need to be here. Involve other Tribes. Because everyone needs to take care of the earth. A lot of info that can be used by all individuals. Other States with AIAN clients.**

6. Recommendations to improve the Training. **Everything is good. Good new people. These different federal and state programs must travel to the reservations to present what was presented over this week. Get Tribal leaders involved so they can understand our needs. Move it to Flagstaff or the Reservation. Assign tasks to group members. Have them work on tasks for 2 days, come back and report what was completed or what needs to happen to complete tasks. Have available hard copies of all presentations & contact info for each presenter available. Most presenter read – stop that!! Need to add activities like banquet, social gathering, dinner or lunch. Entertainment by members, maybe jokes even a social mini Pow Wow. I hope this has a second annual meeting. Invite more Tribal leaders Council – decision makers. It was excellent! Jerry and company you done a great job. More participation from the group would be great but this went well.**

7. Would you like WTCAC to bring this training to your Tribal Nation? **Yes-Navajo. Yes-Chemehyevi Indian Tribe. Yes-Navajo Nation. Yes-Unknown. Yes-Navajo Nation and expand to local communities on Navajo where agr/ranching invested. Yes-Navajo. Yes-President Shirley Navajo Nation. Yes-Unknown. Yes-Unknown**

If yes please provide contact information.

Section (as identified in House draft)	Program	House Changes from Current Law	Senate Changes from Current Law	Major Differences
2101	Conservation Stewardship Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishes implementation years 2013 through 2017</li> <li>• Limits eligible land to that in production for at least 4 of the 6 years preceding Oct 1, 2012</li> <li>• Requires contract offers to meet stewardship threshold for at least 2 priority resource concerns and meet or exceed 1 additional by the end of contract</li> <li>• Allows enrollment of lands that are protected by an agricultural land easement under ACEP</li> <li>• Allows contract to be renewed once if 2 additional priority resource concerns will be addressed</li> <li>• Requires that at least 5 priority resource concerns be identified for each area or watershed</li> <li>• Requires prorating of payments to equal annual payments</li> </ul>	Same	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special enrollment authority for CRP in final year of contract</li> <li>• Emphasizes conservation activities to be implemented across the agricultural operation</li> <li>• Authorizes enrollment of only 9,000,000 acres (Senate authorized 10,348,000 acres)</li> <li>• Special crop rotation includes improving existing rotation [check]</li> </ul>
2201	Environmental Quality Incentives	Adds wildlife habitat as a distinct purpose of the program	Same	None



	Program	Removes definitions related to organic production	Consolidates definitions related to organic production	Senate version still has definition related to National Organic Program
2202	Environmental Quality Incentives Program	Removes definitions related to organic production		
2203	Environmental Quality Incentives Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eliminates requirement that contract must remain in place for a minimum of 1 year after last practice implemented, but keeps requirement that the contract term is not to exceed 10 years</li> <li>Consolidates elements of Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)</li> <li>Provides flexibility for repayment of advance payment if not expended within 90 days and adds veterans as eligible for such advances</li> </ul>	Same	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes person or entity to individual or entity – should be person or legal entity</li> <li>Does not adopt Senate changes regarding special rule for income foregone (Senate modifies the special rule for foregone income to include soil health and water quality/quantity improvement)</li> <li>Advance payments available for up to 50% instead of just 30% as in Senate</li> <li>Funds targeted for wildlife set at 5% rather than not less than 5% as in Senate</li> </ul>
2204	Environmental Quality Incentives Program	Replaces reference to environmental benefits with conservation benefits	Same	None
2205	Environmental Quality Incentives Program	Replaces "farm, ranch, or forest" with "enrolled"	Same	None
2206	Environmental Quality Incentives Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Payment limitation established at \$450,000 and also removes waiver authority</li> <li>Replaces rolling 6-year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Payment limitation established at \$300,000 with ability to waive up to \$450,000</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>House has higher payment limitation and removal of waiver authority</li> </ul>

		<p>payment limitation with payment limitation for FY 2013-FY 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replaces rolling 6-year payment limitation with payment limitation for FY 2013-FY 2017</li> </ul>	
2207	<p>Environmental Quality Incentives Program</p>	<p>Requires Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) reporting no later than Dec 31, 2013 and every 2 years thereafter</p>	<p>Requires Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) reporting no later than Dec 31, 2013 and every 2 years thereafter</p>	<p>House removes special funding for air quality projects House adds projects that facilitate on-farm conservation research and demonstration projects</p>
2208	<p>Environmental Quality Incentives Program</p>	<p>Amendments are effective October 1, 2012, and do not affect existing contracts</p>	<p>Same</p>	<p>None</p>
2301	<p>Agricultural Conservation Easement Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidates the Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program (FRPP), Grassland Reserve Program easement options, and Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) into one program</li> <li>• <u>Agricultural Land Easement</u> Component: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Limits Federal share to not exceed 50 percent of the fair market value of the easement, while requiring the non-Federal share to be equivalent to the Federal share, with the entity contributing at least 50 percent of the Federal share with its own cash resources.</li> <li>o Includes an option to pay up</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not have agricultural viability language added during Senate Committee mark</li> <li>• Requires 50 percent contribution by State or other entity towards easement acquisition for wetlands easement on closed basin lake</li> <li>• House version does not transfer enrollment of former easement programs into ACEP while Elements of FRPP and GRP become the agricultural land easement component of ACEP, and elements of WRP become the wetland easement component of ACEP</li> <li>• Both House and Senate require 40% of annual funding to go towards agricultural land easements but House version requires 50% of funds for agricultural land easements in FY 2017.</li> <li>• House version simplifies provision regarding easement delegation of wetland easements, specifying that conservation organizations can only be delegated easement management responsibilities</li> </ul>



		<p>to 75 percent for grasslands of special environmental significance through agricultural land protection easements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Maintains certification process for eligible entities, with same ability to have longer-term agreements, etc.</li> <li>○ Prohibits bidding down</li> <li>○ Requires easements to be subject to an easement conservation plan</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <u>Wetland Easement Component:</u></li> <li>○ Maintains most elements of WRP eligibility and administrative framework</li> <li>○ Authorizes a waiver process to allow enrollment of CRP lands established to trees</li> <li>○ Allows ranking criteria to consider extent to which landowner or other non-Federal entity leverages Federal investment</li> <li>○ Reduces ownership requirement prior to enrollment from 7 years to 2 years</li> <li>○ Keeps WRP compensation framework for wetland easements</li> </ul>		
--	--	---	--	--

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Joint Provisions:</u></li> <li>○ Specifies the following lands as ineligible— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Federal lands except lands held in trust for Indian tribes</li> <li>▪ State-owned lands, including lands owned by agencies or subdivisions of the State, or unit of local government</li> <li>▪ Land that already receives similar protection that would be achieved by enrollment</li> <li>▪ Lands that have on-site or off-site conditions that would undermine meeting purposes of the program</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Requires at least 40 percent of ACEP funding to be for agricultural land protection easement</li> <li>○ Authorizes easement subordination, modification, exchange, termination of easements under certain limited criteria</li> <li>○ Lands enrolled in FRPP, GRP, and WRP are considered enrolled in ACEP</li> </ul>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishes a program to implement activities through partnership agreements and contracts with producers.</li> <li>• Consolidates attributes of</li> </ul>	Regional Conservation Partnership Program
		Same	2401
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• House requires 6 percent of the funds and acres made available for a covered program be reserved for each FY 2013 through 2017 to supplement baseline funding for the program while Senate requires 8 percent of such funds</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• House requires 50 percent of funds to be allocated to National projects, 25 percent to State projects, and 25 percent to critical conservation areas while Senate requires allocation of 40 percent to National projects, 25 percent to State projects, and 35 percent to critical conservation areas</li> <li>• House limits designation of critical conservation areas to 8 geographic areas while Senate limits designation of critical conservation areas to 6 geographic areas</li> <li>• Includes as eligible partners an entity that is a water district, irrigation district, rural water district or association, or other organization with specific water delivery authority to producers on agricultural land</li> <li>• House has no provision for alternative funding arrangements while Senate has provision for a pooling arrangement with State, subdivisions, and Tribes and limits the number of pooling projects to 10 agreements)</li> <li>• House authorizes the use of the Watershed Operations and Flood Prevention authorities (except for Watershed Rehabilitation) in implementation of projects in critical conservation area</li> </ul>		<p>current partner programs, including the Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative, the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program, and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No established partnership share required, just significant contribution as determined by Secretary.</li> <li>• Limits length of Partnership Agreements to a period not to exceed 5 years with possible 1 time extension of up to 12 months</li> <li>• Requires partner to define scope of a project, conduct outreach, act on behalf of a producer (if requested), leverage Federal financial and technical assistance with additional funds, conduct an assessment of the project and report on results of the project</li> <li>• Requires competitive process to select applications for partnership agreements</li> <li>• Requires criteria used in competitive process to be made public</li> </ul>	
---	--	--	--



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires public disclosure of funded projects</li> <li>Requires report to Congress on status of funded projects no later than December 31, 2013, and every two years thereafter</li> <li>Requires administration of agreements in critical conservation areas to be consistent with program terms</li> <li>Requires activities in critical conservation areas be consistent with other Federal and State programs and water quality strategies</li> </ul>		
2501	Conservation of Private Grazing	Extends program and maintains \$60 million/year authorized funding	Extends program and reduces authorized funding to \$30 million/year	House provides twice the funding per year
2502	Grassroots Source Water Protection Program	Authorizes \$5 million of CCC funds to be available until expended	Authorizes \$15 million/year to be appropriated in FY 2013-2017	House provides one-time mandatory funding of \$5 million while Senate provides yearly authorization of appropriations at \$15 million/year
2503	Voluntary Public Access	Requires reporting on program effectiveness within 2 years of enactment	Same	House provides \$30 million in CCC funds for FY 2013-17 while Senate provides \$40 million for FY 2013-17
2504	ACES	Extends ACES authority and allows Title XII funding for program delivery, with exception of funds made available for the Conservation Reserve Program	Same	None

2505	Small Watersheds	Provides additional funding for Watershed Rehabilitation Program	Same	House provides \$250 million CCC funds to be made available in FY 2013, to remain available until expended and authorizes appropriations in the amount of \$85 million for each of FY2013-FY2017 while Senate version only authorizes appropriations in the amount of \$85 million for each of FY 2013 through 2017.
2506 (House)	Agricultural Management Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removes soil erosion control from authorized funding uses</li> <li>Maintains \$10 million/year CCC funding level</li> <li>Reduces NRCS share from 50% to 30%</li> <li>Maintains 10 % share for AMS</li> <li>Increases from 40% to 60% RMA's share</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removes specific reference to 16 States</li> <li>Authorizes funding at \$23 million/year of CCC funds</li> <li>NRCS share of funds reduced from 50% to 24%</li> </ul>	Senate has overall higher funding but possibly nationwide versus 16 states. Senate reorganizes provision to a greater extent.
2506 (Senate)	Desert Terminal Lakes	No provision addressing Desert Terminal Lakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authorizes \$25 million to be appropriated and \$150 million in CCC funds to be transferred to Bureau of Reclamation</li> </ul>	Senate version addresses Desert Terminal Lakes authority under Title II of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act while House version does not
2601	Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACEP funding is \$450 million in FY 2013; \$475 million in FY 2014; \$500 million in FY 2015; \$525 million in FY 2016; and \$266 million in FY 2017.</li> <li>CSP funding is for 9 million acres</li> <li>EQIP funding is \$1.750 billion for each of FY 2013 through</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACEP funding is \$223 million in FY 2013; \$702 million in FY 2014; \$500 million in FY 2015; \$ 525 million in FY 2016; and \$250 million in FY 2017</li> <li>CSP funding is for 10,348,000 acres</li> </ul>	House provides greater funding for ACEP and EQIP but lower funding for CSP

		<p>2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funds remain available until expended but unobligated balances offset subsequent fiscal year allocation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EQIP funding is \$1.455 billion in FY 2013; and \$1.645 billion in FY 2014; and \$1.650 billion in each of FY 2015 through FY 2017.</li> <li>Funds remain available until expended but unobligated balances offset subsequent fiscal year allocation</li> </ul>	
2602	Technical Assistance	Funds made available for a program shall be used to provide technical assistance and an annual report shall be provided to Congressional committees detailing amount and use of such technical assistance funds	Same	None
2603	Regional Equity	Replaces required \$15 million minimum allocation to each states for a 0.6 percent minimum allocation to each state	Same	None
2604	Reservation of funds for certain producers	Extends special funding pools under EQIP and CSP for beginning and socially disadvantaged producers but adds priority for such producers if they are veterans	Same	None
2605	Annual report on program	Retains requirement to report certain high payments or	Same	None



2606	enrollment	payment limitation waivers but updates programs to which it applies to correspond with new program authorities	Requires a new review of conservation practice standards related to the completeness and relevance of the standards to local agricultural, forestry, and natural resource needs, including specialty crops, native and managed pollinators, bioenergy crop production, forestry, and such other needs as are determined by the Secretary, etc.	No new review required.	House requires new review of certain conservation practice standards
2607	Administrative Requirements for all conservation programs	Requires reduced administrative burden associated with conservation program administration and specifies that payments made under Title XII do not affect availability of other payments	Same	Same	Senate also has a subsection requiring streamlining in the application process in particular
2608	State Technical Committee	Requires review and update as necessary the standards and standard operating procedures of the State Technical Committee	Same	Same	None
2609	Rulemaking Authority	Incorporates as permanent law regulatory flexibility to publish regulations without regard to Paperwork Reduction Act and requires interim rulemaking	Same	Same	None

2701	Comprehensive Conservation Enhancement Program	Repealed	Same	None
2702	Emergency forestry conservation reserve program	Repealed with transition of existing contracts	Same	None
2703	Wetlands Reserve Program	Repeals WRP and authorizes use of ACEP funds for prior year contracts	Repeals WRP, authorizes use of prior year WRP funds, including for provision of technical assistance, provided modification does not increase payment, and authorizes use of ACEP funds for prior year contracts	House does not specify authority to use prior year funds though such funds may be available until expended under current law for existing obligations. Nor does the House version authorize prior year funds for technical assistance. Senate specifies prior year funding to be used until exhausted for any of the prior year contracts as long payment amount not increased through modification. Senate authorizes prior year funds for technical assistance.
2704	Farm and Ranch and Protection Program	Repeals FRPP/Farmland Viability and authorizes use of ACEP funds for prior year contracts	Repeals FRPP/Farmland Viability, authorizes use of prior year FRPP funds, including for technical assistance, and authorizes use of ACEP funds for prior year contracts	House does not specify authority to use prior year funds though such funds may be available until expended under current law to cover existing obligations. Nor does House authorize prior year funds for technical assistance. Senate specifies that prior year funding to be used until exhausted for any of the prior year contracts and authorizes the use of prior year funds for technical assistance
2705	Grassland Reserve Program	Repeals GRP and authorizes use of ACEP funds for prior year contracts	Repeals GRP, authorizes use of prior year funds, including for technical assistance, provided	House does not specify authority to use prior year funds though such funds may be available until expended under current law to cover existing obligations. Nor does House authorize prior year funds for technical assistance. Senate specifies



				modification does not increase payment, and authorizes use of ACEP funds for prior year contracts	that prior year funding to be used until exhausted for any of the prior year contracts as long payment amount not increased through modification and the use of prior year funds for technical assistance.
2706	Agricultural Water Enhancement Program	Repeals AWEP and authorizes RCCP funds for prior year contracts	Repeals FRPP/Farmland Viability, authorizes use of prior year FRPP funds, including for technical assistance, and authorizes use of ACEP funds for prior year contracts	Repeals FRPP/Farmland Viability, authorizes use of prior year FRPP funds, including for technical assistance, and authorizes use of ACEP funds for prior year contracts	House does not specify authority to use prior year funds though such funds may be available until expended under current law to cover existing obligations. Nor does House authorize prior year funds for technical assistance. Senate specifies that prior year funding to be used until exhausted for any of the prior year contracts and authorizes the use of prior year funds for technical assistance
2707	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	Repeals WHIP and authorizes EQIP funds for prior year contracts	Repeals WHIP, authorizes use of prior year WHIP funds, including for technical assistance, and authorizes use of EQIP funds for prior year contracts	Repeals WHIP, authorizes use of prior year WHIP funds, including for technical assistance, and authorizes use of EQIP funds for prior year contracts	House does not specify authority to use prior year funds though such funds may be available until expended under current law to cover existing obligations. Nor does House authorize prior year funds for technical assistance. Senate specifies that prior year funding to be used until exhausted for any of the prior year contracts and authorizes the use of prior year funds for technical assistance
2708	Great Lakes basin program	Repeals Great Lakes basin program	Same	Same	None
2709	Chesapeake Bay watershed program	Repeals CBWI and authorizes RCPP funds for prior year contracts	Repeals CBWI, authorizes use of prior year CBWI funds, including for technical assistance, and authorizes use of RCPP funds for prior year contracts	Repeals CBWI, authorizes use of prior year CBWI funds, including for technical assistance, and authorizes use of RCPP funds for prior year contracts	House does not specify authority to use prior year funds though such funds may be available until expended under current law to cover existing obligations. Nor does House authorize prior year funds for technical assistance. Senate specifies that prior year funding to be used until exhausted for any of the prior year contracts and authorizes the use of prior year funds for technical assistance
2710	Cooperative Conservation	Repeals CCPI and authorizes RCPP funds for prior year	Repeals CCPI, authorizes use of prior	Repeals CCPI, authorizes use of prior	House does not specify authority to use prior year funds though such funds may be available until





## WTCAC – EPA Region V Updates/Info June - 2012

- New IEO Director:  
Darrel Harmon – Started June 18<sup>th</sup>.  
Formerly the Indian Program Manager - Office of Air and Radiation - DC
- Tribal Caucus Meeting: June 28, 11 – 1, Fox Room @ Soaring Eagle Resort and Casino, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.
- Region 5 Tribal Operations Committee Meeting: August 7 - 9, 2012 @ Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- TEA Development: WI TEA Templates were sent out on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, requested first drafts by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Climate Change Educators Workshop: July 16-19, 2012  
Workshop for Teaches on Communicating Climate Change (**Applications due June 22<sup>nd</sup>**)  
See for more info: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/nglvc/climate-change-institute/> & ePacket
- Energy Development on Tribal Lands Course :  
Instructed by the U.S. Department of the Interior and other Indian country experts  
Minneapolis, Minnesota, on July 30-31, 2012.  
Reduced registration rate is available [through July 20, 2012](#).  
<http://teeic.anl.gov/news/>
- Free Energy and Mold Onsite Technical Assistance Visits – HUD  
*“Site visits are FREE and consist of three days of housing energy assessments and technical assistance. The site visit results in a report serving as a plan of action for the tribe to address current and future mold and mildew problems and indoor air quality issues. In addition, the report will recommend strategies for the tribe to improve energy efficiency”*  
Contracted by HUD through FirstPic, Inc  
Site visit form included in ePacket.  
Contact: Sara Fiala 202.393.6400 (p) [sfiala@firstpic.org](mailto:sfiala@firstpic.org)
- New Energy Resources Library - U.S. Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy  
Links to helpful resources for Tribes on energy project development and financing in Indian Country  
<http://energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/energy-resource-library>
- Webinar - Tribal Solid Waste and Pollution Prevention Efforts to Address Climate Change  
Tuesday, **June 26, 2012** - 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm CDT  
Phone: 866-299-3188 - Code: 938-9329# - <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/423133889>  
Using EPA's Waste Reduction Model (WARM) to Calculate Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions from Sustainable Materials Management Efforts

([http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/waste/calculators/Warm\\_home.html](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/waste/calculators/Warm_home.html))

- ITEP is soliciting applications for the National Tribal Waste and Response Steering Committee Selecting up to five (5) individuals to serve on the Steering Committee. Support and guide the Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program, 5 year cooperative agreement between ITEP and EPA  
[www4.nau.edu/itep/waste/twrap.asp](http://www4.nau.edu/itep/waste/twrap.asp)  
**Deadline for applications is June 22, 2012**  
Todd Barnell, Program Coordinator Senior- Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals  
928-523-3840- [Todd.Barnell@nau.edu](mailto:Todd.Barnell@nau.edu)
- Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program is Seeking Points of Contact for Reporting Releases in Indian Country to Tribal Authorities. - Final Rule Published April 19<sup>th</sup> 2012.  
*Reporting will be required to EPA and Appropriate Tribal Representatives.*  
Letter requesting contact info mailed to tribes on May 18<sup>th</sup> (copy of letter in ePacket).  
Send Contact Info To:  
Cassandra Vail : 202-566-0753 [Vail.cassandra@Epa.gov](mailto:Vail.cassandra@Epa.gov)  
USEPA Headquarters, Ariel Rios Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W. , Mail Code: 2844T  
Washington, DC 20460
- TRIBAL GREEN CASINOS AND ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE WORKSHOP  
Week of September 17, 2012 - Grand Portage MN  
More info: Fayette Bright, [bright.fayette@epa.gov](mailto:bright.fayette@epa.gov) , 312-886-6069
- Upcoming Events on the National Tribal Calendar (see ePacket for complete calendar)

July 16-17	NTC Meeting	Washington, DC	HQ Media Ofc./Chase	Dianne Briggs (202) 564-0279
July 18	NTOC Meeting	Washington, DC	NTC/Administrator/AAs/RAs/DRAs/DAs	Dianne Briggs (202) 564-0279
July 16-19	The 5th Biennial Tribal Drinking Water Conference	Sacramento, CA		
July 24-25	NEJAC Meeting	Crystal City, VA	DePass/Chase	Danny Gogal (202) 564-2576
July 26	Indigenous Peoples Work Group/NEJAC Meeting	DC		Danny Gogal (202) 564-2576 Dona Harris (202) 564-6633
August 7-9	Region 5 RTOC Meeting	Red Cliff Bayfield, WI		
August 20-23	Tribal Lands & Environment: A National Forum on Solid Waste, Emergency Response, Contaminated Sites, and USTs	Coos Bay, OR Coquille Tribe	Koslow	Andrew Baca (202) 566-0185
August 26-29	National Tribal Environmental Council Conference	Acme, MI		Mary Velarde (505) 242-2175 or (505) 717-1581 <a href="mailto:mvelarde@ntec.org">mvelarde@ntec.org</a>



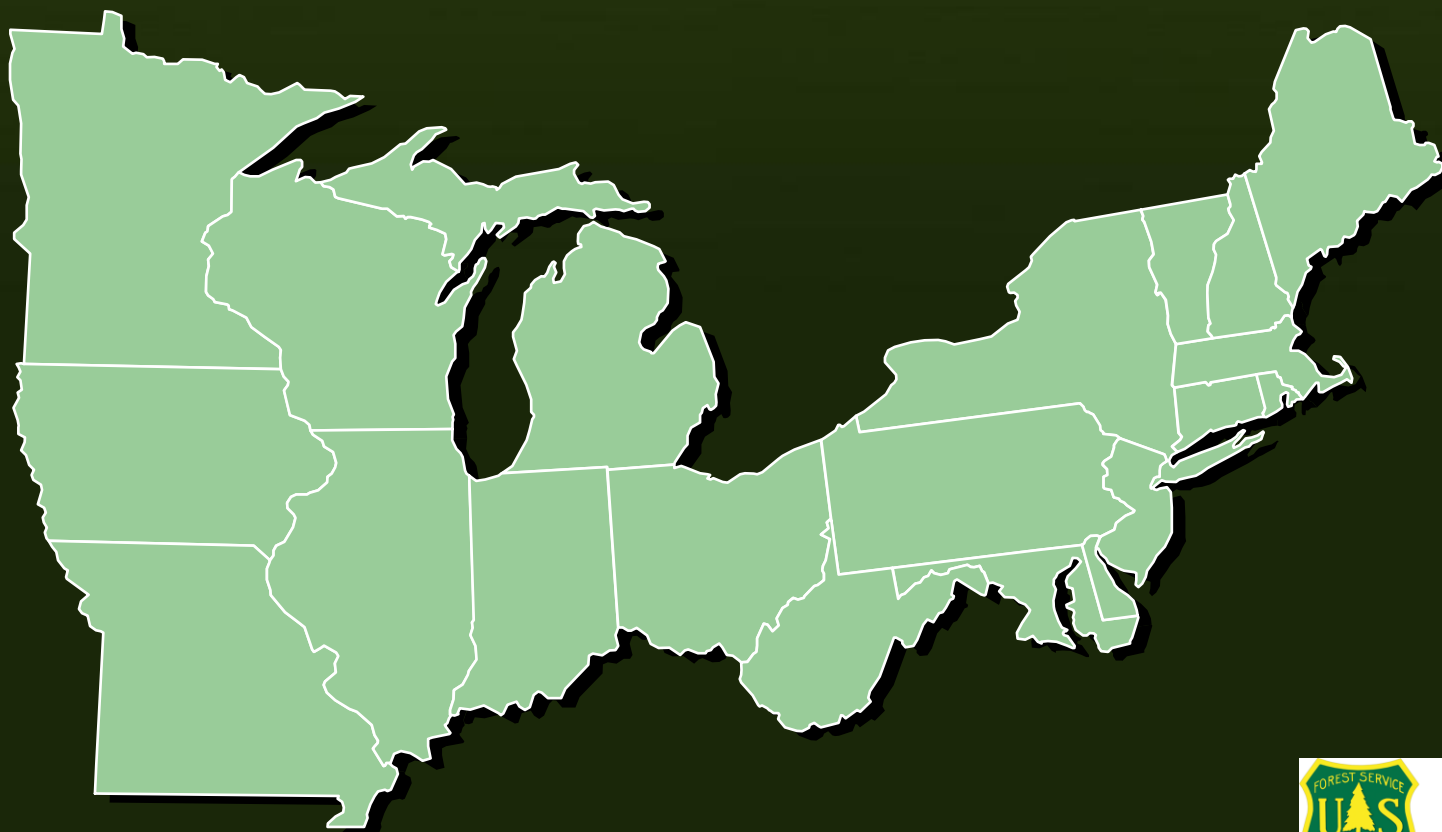
# Northeastern Area – *Overview*

Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
Meeting – June 20, 2012

Barb Tormoehlen

Northeastern Area, S&PF – St. Paul Field Office

# Northeastern Area Overview



# Our Mission

---

- Lead and help support sustainable forest management and use of forests across the landscape –
- To provide benefits for the people of the 20 Northeastern and Midwestern States and the District of Columbia.



## **We Achieve This By ...**

---

- Providing leading-edge technical assistance,
- Building strong state forestry programs,
- Targeting financial assistance,
- Reducing Federal investments through leverage and prevention,
- Monitoring and assessing forest sustainability trends,
- Acting as an information clearinghouse.

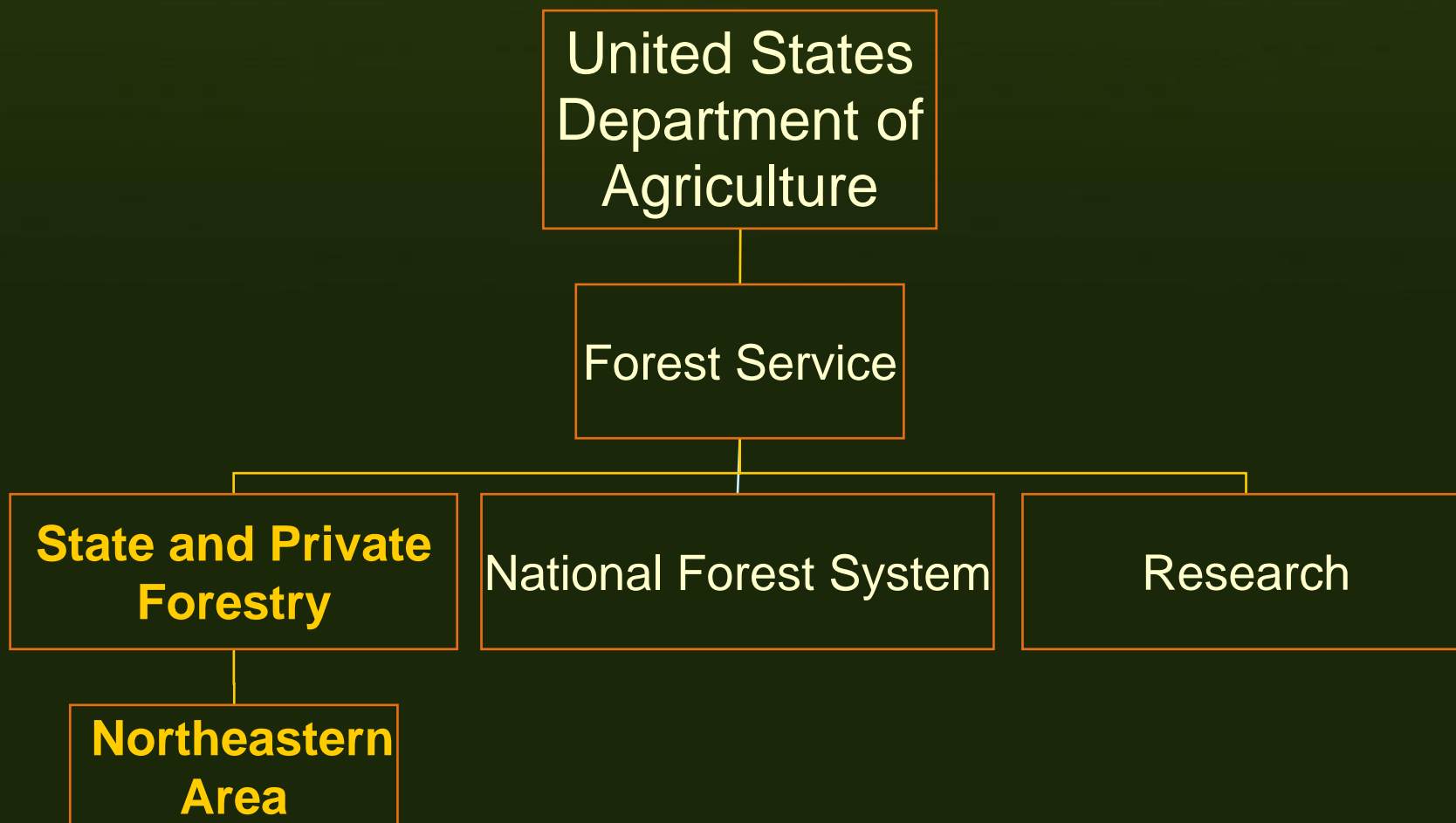
# Northeastern Area Overview

- Who we are
- Who we serve
- What we do
- How we work
- Who cares (And, why they should!)
- How we work together now and in the future

# Who We Are

---

We are Part of the Forest Service

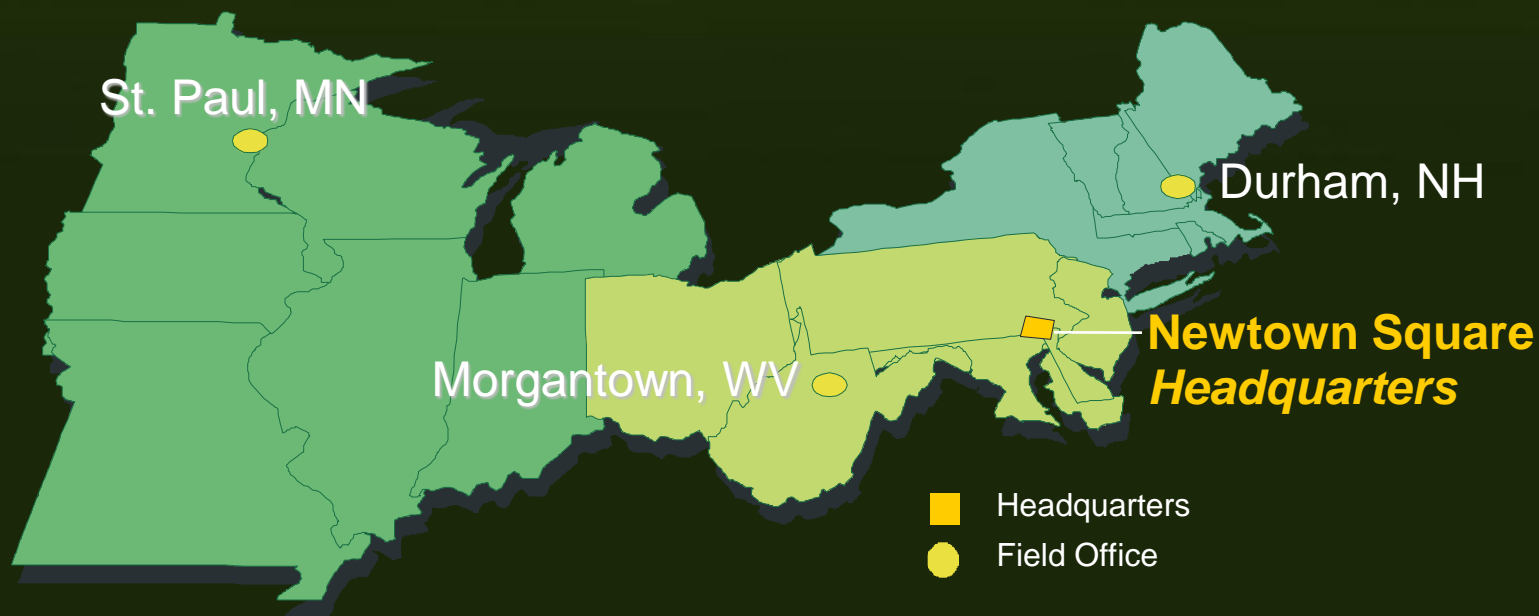




# We Serve

---

## The Northeast and Midwest



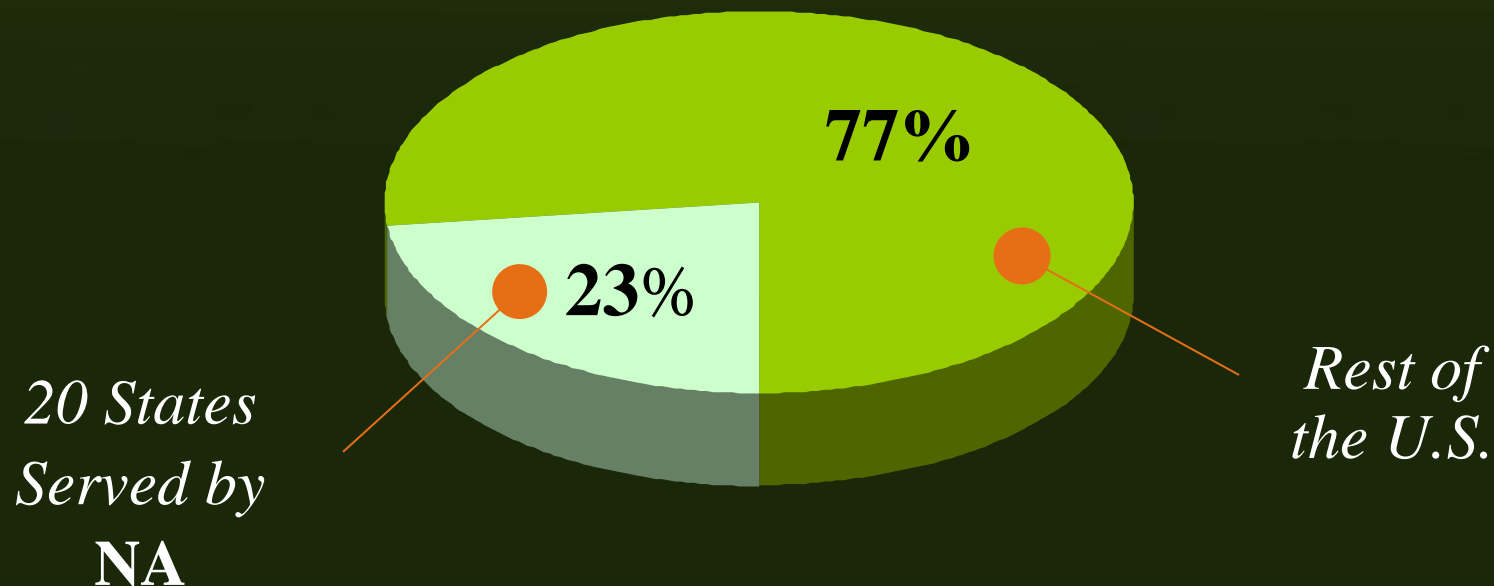
# We Serve

---

- About 5 million non-Federal landowners
- Roughly 170 million acres of forest
- More than 120 million people in 20 states and D.C.
- More than 40% of the US population

# We Serve the Nation's Forest Land

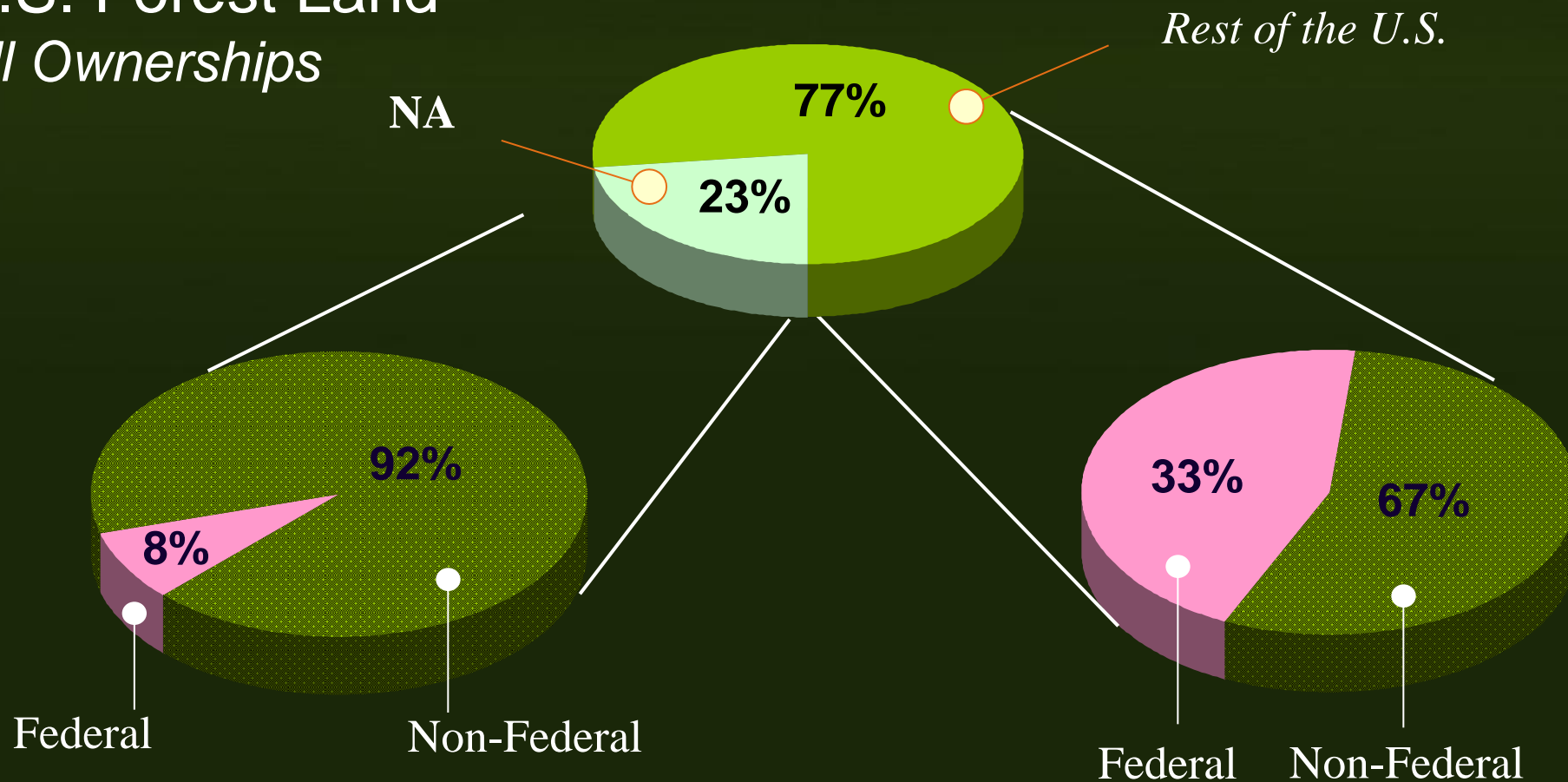
## U.S. Forest Land





# We Serve State and Private (Non-Federal) Forests \*

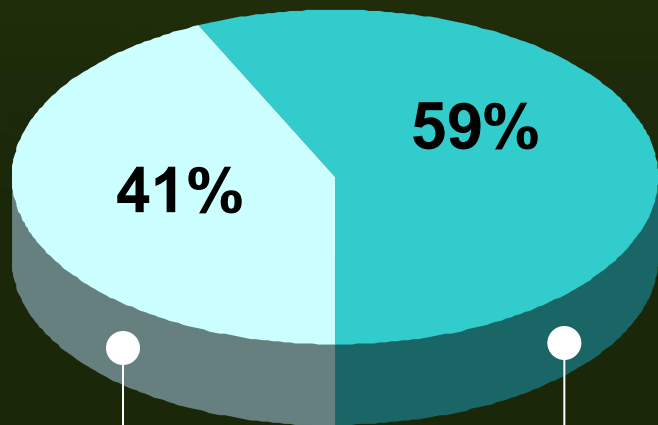
U.S. Forest Land  
All Ownerships



\* Forest health support also provided on federal lands

# We Serve Millions of Americans

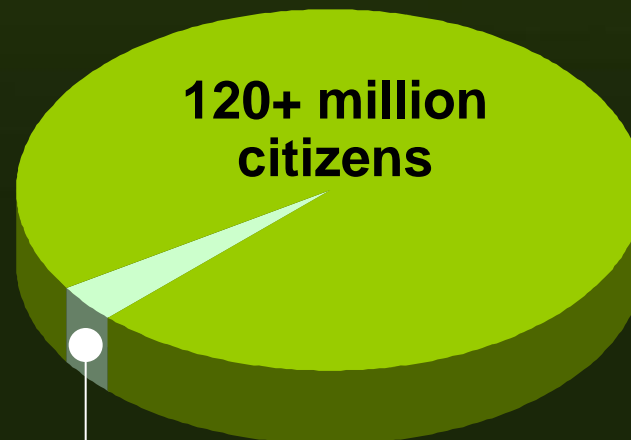
## U.S. Population



*20 States Served by  
NA*

*Rest of  
the U.S.*

## NA Population



*5 Million Private  
Landowners*

# What We Do

---

- Implement S&PF programs of the Farm Bill
- Provide expert advice, innovative technology
- Financial assistance
- Work at Federal, State, and local levels

# How We Work

---

## Partnerships

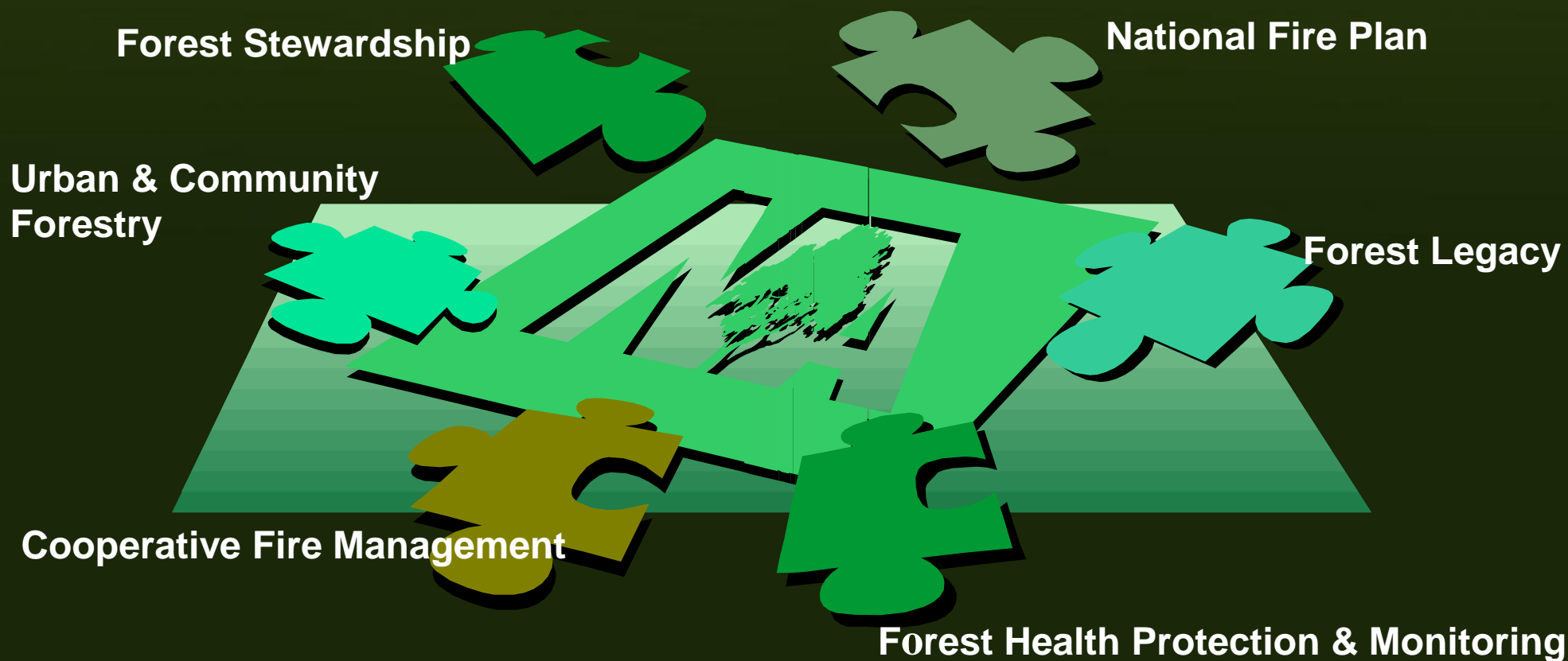
- Forest Service Units (Eastern Region, FPL and NRS)
- State Forestry Agencies and their partners – Focus on implementing ***State Forest Action Plans***
- NRCS, EPA, USF&WS, BIA, other natural resource federal agencies, and tribes



# How We Work

---

We Use a Variety of Programs



# How We Work

---

We Seek to:

- *Add Value* through
  - Voluntary partnerships and cooperation
  - Non-regulatory assistance
- *Create Opportunity*
  - For the people and forest
  - Through improved program delivery

# Who Cares? (*Why We Should*)

---

## *VALUE from...*

- Sustainable forests
- Well-prepared volunteer fire departments
- More-livable towns and cities
- Better informed forest land owners
- Jobs contributing to local economies

# Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program

Under the CFP, the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, awards grants to local governments, Indian tribes, and qualified nonprofit organizations to:

**establish community forests for community benefits by acquiring and protecting private forestlands.**

For Indian tribes, land acquired using a grant provided under the CFP must not be sold, converted to non-forest uses or a use inconsistent with the purpose of the CFP, or converted to land held in trust by the United States on behalf of any Indian tribe.



# Woody Biomass Heating Project

## through the Wood Education Resource Center (WERC)

### Good candidates for biomass heating systems,

1. Fuel Types (cordwood, chips, or pellets) and Costs;
2. Quality and Quantity of Heat – Identify heating NEEDS
3. Appropriate Wood Fuel/System Size (matched to needs and fuel);
4. Heating Distribution System;
5. Backup Fossil Fuel Systems;
6. Fuel Delivery and Site Access.

Key aspects of woody biomass project design: A-System Sizing; B-Thermal storage; C-Combined Heat and Power

# Opportunities to work together

---

## Types of Forest Health projects to fund under Federal suppression projects:

- Oak Wilt suppression
- Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Suppression
- Gypsy Moth Suppression / STS
- Emerald Ash Borer Prevention
- EAB Biosurveillance and/or Survey
- Invasive Plant Control / Eradication
- Dutch Elm Disease Management
- White Pine Blister Rust Prevention (prune)

# Types Federal Forest Health Suppression Projects funded:

- Oak Wilt suppression
- Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Suppression
- Gypsy Moth Suppression / STS
- Emerald Ash Borer Prevention
- EAB Bio-surveillance and/or Survey
- Invasive Plant Control / Eradication
- Dutch Elm Disease Management
- White Pine Blister Rust Prevention (prune)



# Opportunities to work together

---

## SPFO Forest Health Technical Assistance:

- Pest identification
- On-site evaluations
- Management recommendations
- Detection surveys & loss assessments
- Training sessions and workshops
- Publications, reports, websites
- Implementation of new technology





# Opportunities to work together

---

## *Forest Health Aerial Survey*

- Whole State coverage for MN, WI, MI.
- Partially flown by FS FHP, part by States
- Sketch-map to detect major pest impacts



## In Fiscal Year 2011, SPFO provided the following assistance:

- **Aerial surveys** of all major tribal lands to document forest pest damage (~ 1 million acres)
- General insect and disease **training** to Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwae with training to Chippewa NF
- Attended **Intertribal Timber Council Meeting** in Carlton, Minnesota (National Meeting)
- **Gypsy moth suppression** project on Menominee Indian Reservation (IR) in Wisconsin (1360 acres)
- **Oak wilt suppression** - Menominee IR (15 acres)
- Ongoing development of **emerald ash borer (EAB) response team** in MN, including inter-agency coordination, including BIA.

# Current Forest Health Issues we could assist with...

- Nursery pests
- Hazard Tree/ Danger Tree Training
- American elm restoration
- Oak wilt management recommendations
- General pest identification

# Opportunities to work together

---

## Other Existing and Potential Collaborative Efforts:

- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)
- Northwoods Climate Change Response Framework
- Forest Stewardship Project – Landscape Planning & Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration efforts
- CWPPs and CWMAs
- Hazardous Fuels Mitigation
- More?



# Recent USDA Tribal Roundtable

Deputy Under Secretary Arthur “Butch” Blazer:

## Forest Planning

- **USFS Planning Rule** is an opportunity for early, upfront involvement in the process.
- **Partnerships** are an absolute necessity and it is important for USDA/USFS to work with local communities and people.

# Recent USDA Tribal Roundtable

## Deputy Under Secretary Arthur “Butch” Blazer:

- Aging **BIA Integrated Resource Management Plans** – as updated, opportunities to integrate with *State Forest Action Plans* and *State Wildlife Action Plans*.
- **Partnerships/ capacity building** – it is increasingly important to work together to accomplish restoration.
- **Funding is limited** – consider interagency partnerships with multiple institutions to help tribes to develop more programs.

# • Recent USDA Tribal Roundtable

Deputy Under Secretary Arthur “Butch” Blazer:

## Tribal Youth

- ☐ Childhood obesity - Healthy Foods-Healthy Communities.
- ☐ Get as much **education** as possible; seek out good mentors.
- ☐ USDA Cultural Transformation and Ambassador programs – **employment opportunities** for young minority students pursuing higher education - apply for internships and access other stepping stones to success.
- ☐ **American Great Outdoors** – There is strong interagency support for creating youth conservation development opportunities through this program.

# Recent USDA Tribal Roundtable

Deputy Under Secretary Arthur “Butch” Blazer:

Develop **climate change strategies** that include traditional tribal knowledge and create more opportunities to share knowledge.



# Questions / Comments?

Barb Tormoehlen

[btormoehlen@fs.fed.us](mailto:btormoehlen@fs.fed.us)

651-649-5276



United States Department of Agriculture    Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services    Farm Service Agency    OFFV FSA Office  
2187 North Stevens Street, Suite A  
Rhinelander, WI 54501-8036  
Serving Oneida, Florence, Forest and Vilas Counties  
Phone: 715-362-5941  
Fax: 715-362-9370

## **Farm Service Agency (FSA) REPORT TO WTCAC – JUNE 20, 2012**

By Susan Hunter, (608) 742-5361 ext 104, [susan.hunter@wi.usda.gov](mailto:susan.hunter@wi.usda.gov)

### **Reporting 2012 Crop Acreage by July 16th.**

Anyone that grows or manages any type of crop, including grains, forages, fruits, vegetables, maple sap, wild rice, etc., should make an appointment with the local FSA office to report the location and acreage of the fields or areas. The deadline to report is July 16<sup>th</sup>. Reporting these acreages and crops to the local FSA office could help ensure possible eligibility for future programs.

### **County Committee Elections.**

Local FSA offices are holding County Committee elections in certain townships of most counties in Wisconsin. We are looking for individuals (especially tribal and women producers) who are active in some time of agriculture (cash cropping, wild rice, vegetables, raising animals, forestry, aquaculture, etc) to run for a position on the local County Committee as a voting member. Nomination petitions must be filled out and provided to the local FSA office by August 1<sup>st</sup>. Attached is a nomination petition and fact sheet on the election. If any tribal member is interested they should contact their local FSA office to see if the township you live in is holding an election this year. Members elected would serve a three year term and would meet quarterly.

**Farm Bill.** With respect to the bill currently being considered by the Senate, the Administration would make further cuts to commodity and crop insurance programs. Direct payments to farmers will be cut and possibly some other FSA programs. Last week, the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee approved its version of legislation that would fund all USDA agencies next fiscal year except the Forest Service, which is funded through a different appropriations bill. The Subcommittee's legislation would reduce USDA's operating level by over \$850 million – a four and a half percent cut – from the level requested in the President's Budget. Although the amounts vary, nearly every agency would be reduced by some amount. In late April, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved its version of the Agriculture appropriations bill at a level that provides an increase of over \$100 million above the President's Budget request. Both the House and Senate versions of the appropriations are subject to further change as the legislative process continues.



FSA-669A  
(02-22-12)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Farm Service Agency

### NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE <i>(Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)</i>	TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE	
	4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
	5. COUNTY	
	6. LAA	7. STATE
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION:  <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i>	8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION:  <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.	
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		8B. DATE  <i>(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).</i>

**9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE**

**VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES:** The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

<b>ETHNICITY</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<b>RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White	<b>GENDER</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
--	---	---

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM**

Complete the form as follows:

- ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
  - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
  - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
  - C. Willing to serve if elected.
- ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.
- ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
- ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.
- ITEMS 8A & 8B** The nominator must sign and date. *(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)*
- ITEM 9** Completing this item is voluntary.

**ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2012.**

**NOTE:** The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.**



**FSA-669A**  
(02-22-12)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
Farm Service Agency

## NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

This form allows individuals to nominate themselves or any other person as a candidate. If additional forms are needed, this one may be copied or may be obtained at the County FSA Office or obtained electronically at <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov>. Each form submitted must be:

- A. Limited to one nominee.
- B. Signed and dated by the nominee in Item 3. Nominee must sign if willing to have his/her name placed on the ballot and agrees to serve if elected.

**Note:** Name shown on ballot will appear exactly the same as in Agency records.

- C. Delivered to the County FSA Office or postmarked no later than August 1, 2012.
- D. Signed and dated as a write-in candidate if elected as a member and willing to serve on the COC.

The County FSA Committee is responsible for reviewing each form to determine the eligibility of nominees. A person who is nominated on this form and is found ineligible will be so notified and have an opportunity to file a challenge.

Persons nominated should actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch and be well qualified for committee work. A producer is eligible to be a County FSA committee member if the producer resides in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) in which the election is to be held and is eligible to vote.

This is a non-salary public service position. A small stipend is provided to offset expenses.

Federal regulations may prohibit County FSA Committee members from holding certain positions in some farm, commodity, and political organizations if such positions pose a conflict of interest with FSA duties. The positions include functional offices such as president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer; and positions on boards or executive committees. Conflict of interest restrictions also apply to employees, operators, managers, and majority owners of tobacco warehouses. Questions concerning eligibility should be directed to the County FSA Office.

A candidate has the option to request that all voted ballots for an individual county committee election be returned to the respective State Office in lieu of being returned to the county office. This request must be in writing and submitted to the local County Executive Director prior to the announced end of the nomination period.

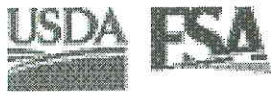
The duties of County FSA Committee members include:

- A. Administering farm program activities conducted by the County FSA Office.
- B. Informing farmers of the purpose and provisions of the FSA programs.
- C. Keeping the State FSA Committee informed of LAA conditions.
- D. Monitoring changes in farm programs.
- E. Participating in county meetings as necessary.
- F. Performing other duties as assigned by the State FSA Committee

*The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).*

*To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*





# FACT SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

March 2012

## FSA County Committee Election

### Overview

The election of agricultural producers to Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees is important to ALL farmers and ranchers, whether beginning or long-established with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer participate in these elections because FSA county committees are a link between the agricultural community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to ensure FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

County committees provide local input on:

- Commodity price support loans and payments
- Conservation programs
- Incentive, indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities
- Emergency programs
- Payment eligibility

FSA county committees operate within official

regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and knowledge to make local decisions.

### Election Period

June 15, 2012 – The nomination period begins. Request nomination forms from the local USDA Service Center or obtain online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>

Aug. 1, 2012 – Last day to file nomination forms at the local USDA Service Center

Nov. 5, 2012 – Ballots mailed to eligible voters

Dec. 3, 2012 – Last day to return voted ballots to the USDA Service Center

Jan. 1, 2013 – Newly elected county committee members take office.

### Who Can Vote

Agricultural producers of legal voting age may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm also may be eligible to vote. Members of American Indian tribes holding agricultural land are eligible to vote if voting requirements are met. More

information about voting eligibility requirements can be found in the FSA fact sheet titled “FSA County Committee Election - Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a County Committee Member.” Producers may contact their local USDA Service Center for more information.

### Nominations

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. This form is available at USDA Service Centers and online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

Nomination forms for the 2012 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1, 2012.

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for candidacy for the county committee. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. Additionally, organizations representing minority and women farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates. Nomination forms are filed for the county committee of the office that administers a producer’s farm records.



# FACT SHEET

## FSA COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTION

March 2012

### Don't Miss Out on Voting

Ballots will be mailed to voters by Nov. 5, 2012, and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by Dec. 3, 2012. Eligible voters must contact their local FSA county office before the final date if they did not receive a ballot.

### Uniform Guidelines

USDA issued uniform guidelines for county committee elections to help ensure that FSA county committees fairly represent the agricultural producers of a county or multi-county jurisdiction, especially minority and women producers. Minorities are African-Americans, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Hispanics, Asians, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders. The guidelines govern the FSA county committee election process and are designed to increase participation of minorities and women.

The following are just some of the specifics of the guidelines that are now in effect:

- If no valid nominations are filed, the Secretary of Agriculture may nominate up to two individuals to be placed on the ballot.
- County committees must annually review local administrative area boundaries to ensure the fair representation of minority and women producers in their county or multi-county

jurisdictions.

- FSA county offices shall actively locate and recruit eligible candidates identified as minority and women farmers and ranchers as potential nominees for the county committee elections through outreach and publicity, including the development of partnerships with community-based organizations.

To read the guidelines in their entirety, visit the County Committee Elections page at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

In addition to minority and women producers, USDA strongly encourages beginning farmers to actively seek a position on a county committee.

### Role of Advisors

In addition to elected members, FSA county committees may also include advisors. Advisors are appointed to county committees in counties or multi-county jurisdictions that have significant numbers of minority or women producers and lack such members on FSA county committees. Advisors play an important role by providing diverse viewpoints and by representing the interests of minorities and women in decisions made by county committees. FSA state committees officially appoint advisors who are recommended by county committees or community-based organizations.

### For More Information

For more information about FSA county committees, visit a local FSA or USDA Service Center or the website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

---

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of Discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Date: February 16, 2012

**Topic: Healthy foods, healthy lands, healthy communities**

This project aims to link USDA resources with the Upper Midwest Hazelnut Development Initiative to accelerate development of native food crops for improved nutrition, conservation, and economic opportunity in the Lake Superior region.

**Background:**

The people in the Lake Superior counties of Wisconsin face numerous challenges. These counties are among the poorest in the United States with limited economic opportunities and ability to compete in commodity crop production. The citizens in the region and tribal communities in particular, struggle with high rates of obesity and diabetes due to limited healthy food options. In addition, this area includes sensitive ecological areas in the Lake Superior watershed in need of conservation and restoration.

Nutritionists and Tribal leaders have been working to promote a healthier diet based on traditional native food plants, including many of the fruit and nut species found in great diversity on public and private lands in the region. The Upper Midwest Hazelnut Development Initiative (UMHDI), supported by an \$846,000 USDA Specialty Crop Research Initiative Program grant, has been working to develop a commercially viable hazelnut crop in the Lake Superior counties of Wisconsin by screening populations of American hazelnut on National Forest System lands for high-performing plants. This model of new crop development in an ecologically rich, but economically depressed region is worthy of increased support from the NRCS and USFS.

**Key Points:**

- The NRCS, three deputy areas of the US Forest Service and the USDA National Agroforestry Center, have an opportunity to leverage land, technical assistance and financial resources to link with the University of Wisconsin Extension's UMHDI and accelerate its advancement across the landscape.
- The UMHDI focuses on a perennial native plant species and incorporates Native American knowledge and cultural values to develop modern sustainable land management systems and could further serve as a model for developing additional native and economically valuable plant species.
- Local demonstration sites can be developed using native hazelnut selections as a part of a productive conservation operation. Native food plants can be grown through agroforestry systems, to provide nutritious food, support the local economy and produce ecosystem services that restore landscape functions to improve water quality and wildlife habitat in critical Upper Midwest watersheds. This approach will demonstrate sustainable production alternatives for addressing local, cultural, and health needs.
- The advancement and expansion of the UMHDI model meets aspects of seven of the eight priorities of the Secretary of Agriculture, and utilizes an all lands approach to addressing local needs and issues.

**Contacts:**

Patricia Leavenworth, Wisconsin State Conservationist, NRCS  
Paul Strong, Forest Supervisor, Chequamegon-Nicolet Forest, USFS  
Jason Fischbach, Ashland & Bayfield County Agent, University of Wisconsin Extension  
Paul DeLong, Administrator Division of Forestry, Wisconsin DNR  
Tom Schmidt, Assistant Director, Northern Research Station, USFS  
Barb Tormoehlen, Field Representative, Northeastern Area S&PF, USFS  
Andy Mason, Director, USDA National Agroforestry Center, USFS





## Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council

### FY 2012 USDA Special Project Proposal

**NAME OF PROJECT:** Herman's Pond Floating Raceway Project

**LOCATION:** Herman's Pond (4.5 acres), Stockbridge – Munsee Reservation, Shawano County (T28N R13E Sect. 34)

**SPONSORING TRIBE/ ORGANIZATION:** Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohicans

**CONTACT PERSON:** Randall Wollenhaup – SMC Fish & Wildlife Biologist

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT, MUST ATTACH A BUDGET. A 10% in-kind Match will be required** (Include Project Goals, Time Line, Tasks and Objectives as they relate to the selected USDA Program(s) below. How will this Project improve the Tribes access to the identified USDA program(s) below?)

The proposed project includes purchasing and installing a floating raceway assembly at Herman's Pond on the Stockbridge-Munsee Reservation. Superior Floating Raceways has quoted a price of \$20,975 for a set of three model 10s Superior Floating Raceways, complete and installed. The kit includes all materials needed for construction, transportation, and on-site assembly. The Tribe has been looking at starting a tribal hatchery but the cost associated with pond construction and permanent raceways has been cost prohibitive. This system offers an affordable alternative to pond building. Since Herman's Pond is at a remote location, electrical service for the floating raceways will be provided through a solar power system. SUNRNR makes a solar power kit that will provide sufficient power at the site. The kit costs \$4,200.00 which includes shipping. The floating raceway system along with the solar power unit will provide flexibility for future expansion as well as other advantages such as predator control, ease of maintenance, and environmental education opportunities. Rokonet Power Failure Dialer Kit will alert staff if a power outage occurs at remote location. Construction of floating raceway and solar power system would occur in the summer/fall of 2012.

---

**PROJECT BENEFIT OUTCOMES:** (quantify tangible and intangible benefits as they relate to the selected USDA Program(s) below.

Program participation barriers identified? Recommendations for barrier removal? New standards or procedures for USDA?)

This project would help with the development of a cost scenario for a floating raceway system powered by solar at a remote location. This project would also help to determine how many cells are needed per run and how many fish can be raised per run. Documentation of solar power at a remote location would also assist tribes in determining the feasibility of using solar as a power source in locations that lack access to the power grid.

**PRESENT STATUS OF THE PROJECT:** The project is currently in the planning stage.

**HAS THIS PROJECT BEEN SUBMITTED TO OTHER FUNDING SOURCES?** (Specify Source and Amount)

Stockbridge – Munsee Community received a USFWS Tribal Wildlife Grant in the amount of \$50,000 which will be used to build a small-scale hatchery building.





09-21-2011

<b>Stockbridge-Munsee Herman's Pond Floating Raceway Project Budget</b>		
<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COST</b>
<i>Floating Raceway Kit</i>	<i>Kit includes all materials needed to construct raceways, docks, transportation and installation</i>	\$20,975.00
<i>Solar Power Kit</i>	<i>Kit includes solar panel, rechargeable battery, power inverter, charge controller, chassis and shipping costs</i>	\$4,200.00
<i>Rokonet Power Failure Dialer Kit</i>	<i>Device will alert up to four people by calling them if power fails at site.</i>	\$220.00
<b>TOTAL REQUESTED FUNDING</b>		\$25,395.00
<i>SMC Personnel for installation &amp; oversight</i>	<i>Biologist: 80 hrs. @\$20/hr. Hydrologist: 80 hrs. @\$20/hr.</i>	\$3,200.00
<b>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING</b>		\$28,595.00

**Superior Floating Raceway™ Price**

A set of three (3) Model 10S Superior Floating Raceways™, complete and installed for Tribal clients within Wisconsin would cost **\$20,975**, plus any tax if necessary. This price would include:

1. The basic raceway “kit”, priced at \$11,700.
2. (86) 50 gallon, used barrels for dock floatation.
3. All lumber and labor for dock construction and on-site assembly, including a 20 foot access ramp section.
4. On-site raceway assembly and launch.
5. All nails, bolts, washers, screw eyes, plastic airline tubing, and misc. hardware.
6. (9) 4 inch airlifts, 3 ft. long, installed.
7. Exit screens and frames, installed.
8. Blower platform, approx. 4 ft. x 4 ft., floating/attached.
9. (1) Regenerative blower, 1 hp. 115v, single phase.
10. All transportation, including that of lumber, docks, and barrels.

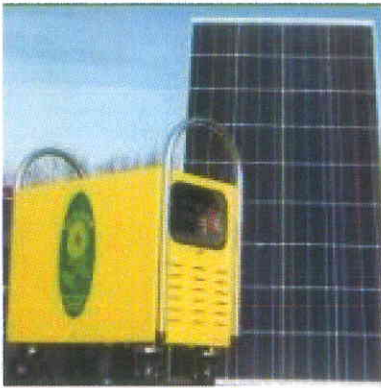
The above does NOT include any potential but unknown site preparation, electrical service(s)/connections, legal permits, or ropes/anchors for securing docks. Superior Aquaculture reserves the right to adjust the above offer if component availability or pricing makes it necessary.

The above offer is made in good faith by:

Superior Aquaculture, LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

Jay Warecki, Ph.D.



### **SUN110 - 110/120 VAC, 60Hz Portable Renewable Energy Generator**

2000+ Whrs stored, 3500W/7000W surge **inverter**.

Rechargeable real-time or when idle by solar, wind, other. Comes standard with one 135 W solar panel (second panel optional).

The SUNRNR SUN110, our flagship model, offers:

Rechargeable Battery

8D AGM - over 2000 Whrs electricity (245 amp-hour)

Solar panel and wind turbine/aux connector portals for charging

Power Inverter

Output: 110/120 VAC 60 Hz

Modified sine wave output

Max continuous power: 3,500 W

Surge capacity (peak power): 7,000 W

Digital LCD wattage power meter

Power and fault LED indicators

Low voltage alarm and shutdown

Four standard AC plug outlets (US)

Solar Panel

Charge rate: 135 W/hr (bright sunlight)

One panel included; second panel optional for faster charge rates

30' cord with plug for easy connection to unit

56"h x 26"w x 2"d; aluminum frame; 27 lbs

Charge Controller

30 amp over/undercharge protector

LCD digital display: voltmeter, solar current ammeter

Battery charger with status display lights

DC End

Rugged master on/off disconnect switch

12V DC cigarette-lighter socket output

Chargeable by other 12V DC supplies such as wind turbine or microhydro

Chassis

Steel enclosure for ruggedness and safety

4" caster wheels for easy portability

Sturdy handles for lifting

28"l x 15"w x 30"h; 260 lbs

User's Manual included. One-year manufacturer's limited warranty.

Easy to use – "plug & play".

Expandable with second solar panel and/or power module options.

MSRP: \$3800. Plus Freight (estimated at \$400.00)



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
Arizona TCAC Training  
May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**Tribal Conservation Advisory Council Training Evaluation**

1. What was your overall reaction to the training?  
19-Excellent 10-Good 0-Fair 0-Poor

2. Did the training meet your expectations? 26-Yes 0-No

Why/Why Not? **Interaction and questions are good. Presenters are well prepared.** My tribal govt is pursuing agriculture development on virgin land, and I've been hired as farm manager. Historically we have not had too much assistance from NRCS except for this past year. We've been coordinating activities such as land use and water conservation. I got to hear presentations from various agencies that I would have never been able to hear from. **Good information that I could use toward my studies.** Some new info on USDA programs and like the updates and how they are willing to work with us. **The seven generation was included and we need to learn more or need update on new disease that come about the U.S.** As a SWCD it gave me additional insight on how I could better serve farmers and ranchers and improving relationships with all agencies. **There was good information delivered. However, no challenges or tasks given so that when the group meets again they have accomplished something more than just talk. But are taking steps to making a difference.** Was first attended function. Help to better understand the organizations functions & how community are involved to help their communities represented. We want to use the available resources at the USDA level to get resources to Tribes. **Learned a lot more about NRCS USDA programs. Answered most of the questions I had. Went very well. Almost all presenters were able to present. Slight change in agenda.** It was better than I expected. The information presented was a wealth of info and I mean WEALTH (a hee hee). Thank you. **Questions asked. The presenters talk on the programs tribes and members use at area locations. I am new to this but I feel there is so much info that can be utilized in our area. Yes, I believe it helped our clients better understand our programs. In addition it helped NRCS leadership better understand the Tribe's needs. This is the first time all agencies have met with Tribal representatives at the same time, and allowed us to be heard on resource concerns. I am new to the programs and I didn't know there was so many programs out. All these information I will take back to my community and try to work with them to start RMU's and Range Management, Water Management, etc.**



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
 Arizona TCAC Training  
 May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

<b>3. Please rate each of the Training Presentations</b>	
<b>Tribal Conservation District Directors &amp; District Coordinator training.</b>	
Dick Gooby & LuAnn Werdel 11-Excellent 10-Good 1-Fair 0-Poor	
Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>A good presentation. Knows about tribal concerns. This was very helpful. Seemed to be ill prepared to kick off the conference. He's experiences should help to better understand the programs and how to plan for community conservation/agr development. Always great to know INCA has our support in taking care of Mother Earth. Need more info to LuAnn's presentation. I take it back-maybe it was just opening day. Training of the Directors were needed and the information provided was useful.</b>	
<b>Keynote Speaker: James Gore, NRCS Assistant Chief</b>	
11-Excellent 10-Good 3-Fair 1-Poor	
Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>_Still confused. NRCS needs to come down to the level of the tribes. There is more of a connection to the land (kinda like in OK or Kansas who farm). One on One is very important. NRCS District Conservationists need to be committed. Needs to be more open. He was very informative. His presentation was great. His attendance especially at his level in office &amp; making time to be in our presence was really great. Very informative. There is lots of hope for the future. Appears to support local tribes &amp; meeting their needs from the State/Districts using his staff for the benefit of the Tribes. Should have him again come to visit Tribes to be educated. Appreciate the highlights about the Farm Bill budget cuts. Excellent overview of NRCS activities and relevant issues. Responded to all questions. Especially appreciate his attendance to hear our concerns and his commitment to rely our comments.</b>	
<b>Livestock Disease: Terry Clark, APHIS Vet Services</b>	
14-Excellent 7-Good 4-Fair 0-Poor	
Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>Need to bring more update info. Things change constantly. Know it is hard to keep up with things. But updates to Tribes is important, especially if it is going to, or is, effecting them directly. Good – very interesting. I feel it was good presentation but the time was too short. Good information, need to be updated on diseases. This is always good info especially for ranchers and department who are out there working with the public. Very informative. Program presented help to better understand what resources &amp; programs are available &amp; what could be considered to better address, and hope to address, tribal needs. Had several</b>	



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
Arizona TCAC Training  
May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

<p><b>Tribal programs.</b> Good to know you work with the Tribes. I learned what APHIS did for Tribes. Information that he gave us for as response to suspicious deaths of livestock is not how it works on the rez. I have to respond and dispose of livestock myself.</p>
<p><b>Tagging and Tracking Livestock:</b> Brian Thomas 17-Excellent 7-Good 2-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. Thanks for the update. It really helps so now we can move forward on traceability. We now have direction. Good information. Overall informative. Good info, whatever change we need to know ASAP. Emphasizing this is important. Many livestock owners should implement to insure livestock health. A great presentation on a successful project. If they can do it then surely we can to. Pictures help a lot to get first hand information to producers &amp; show importance to keeping good useful records for all activities/functions necessary to do good job. Great example. Good producer. Very practical point of view. Good information on tagging &amp; records. Brian always has something good.</p>
<p><b>Agencies Program Presentations.</b> 10-Excellent 13-Good 2-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. Some of the presentations got me confused more (FSA, RD, Risk Mngt). Somehow this needs to be made more clear. I was impressed with their knowledge and expertise. Organization was good. I found out new information on Rural Development and Risk Management. They were all informative. I found some programs that could be used to assist tribal concerns that I did not know existed. Would like to have more time for each. The Rural Development and APHIS were very helpful to get good understanding of the various agencies &amp; what may be available for Tribes to consider to meet specific needs and concerns. FSA person didn't see prepared. He could've presented more and gone more in depth. A lot of good information covered during this session. I am glad they all came together to educate our CD's and listen to concerns.</p>
<p><b>USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service:</b> Keisha Tatem 15-Excellent 11-Good 0-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. She did a great job – clear &amp; concise. Great job helping put this workshop together. Her initiative is like a breath of fresh air for Indian Country. She is doing an excellent job. She seems excited to do a lot on Indian Tribes. Once the working relationship that's being expressed is being done. A good review of programs and commitment to tribal lands. She needs to listen more than talk and not be so</p>



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
 Arizona TCAC Training  
 May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**defensive. Keisha knows her stuff – good to show examples to help understand the role, responsibilities of NRCS & how NRCS can help to develop proposed plans for Tribes at local community or individual basis. Keisha is still on a steep learning curve. May take some time to fully grasp the idea that working with American Indians is whole different ball game. She has so much to offer and very informative. Good source. Glad she is working for us in State. Very supportive of our organization.**

**History of WTCAC: Jerry Thompson**  
 17-Excellent 8-Good 1-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **A good resource person with much experience. He is an excellent speaker – gets the point across. Very good info. Hopefully will be able to iron out the issues that will eventually lead up to getting Tribal voicing although it is already that way it may be different. A great review of how they started the WTCAC. A great mirror for the AATCD. Very useful information as hands-on projects presentation. Very good resources considered for development & improvements. He explained the process that the Tribe went through which helped me to understand what our Tribe can do also to begin programs. Excellent examples and history of organization. Very good training on responsibilities and alternative way of working with State Conservationist.**

**Executive orders, laws, policies, MOU's and directives. Jerry Thompson**  
 16-Excellent 7-Good 2-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **Glad to hear about these topics and will report to my tribal council. Educational. This was great, need to read all the material. PowerPoint very helpful to get understanding of how to better understand the booklet shared with group. Excellent reference material for later reading. Educating our members on all the policies involved helps us find ways to access funding in creative ways.**

**GM Title 410 – RD Part 405 American Indians and Alaska Natives Policy**  
 Jerry Thompson, Keisha Tatem 14-Excellent 9-Good 1-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **Need to know more. Short but informative. Good materials. All good, just need to read the material. Very useful information to better understand the various policies that are needed for interested Tribes who wish to tap into resources available at national level. Need more info. Mostly useful for NRCS folks. Another session that really taught us what our duties and responsibilities are.**



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
 Arizona TCAC Training  
 May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

<p><b>Needs Assessment Action Plan by AATCD: Harold Joseph</b>          12-Excellent 7-Good 5-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>I agree with Keisha, 142 items is too large.</b> What we needed was the outcome of what needs to be done with the needs assessment. Navajo Nation &amp; NRCS State Office. <b>I would like to apply this to our reservation.</b> We went and breeze thru this presentation. <b>Need backup materials.</b> <b>Need to be more organized and powerpoint not presentable.</b> <b>Too small of a font.</b> <b>Needed handouts.</b> <b>I would like a copy of it.</b> <b>Mr. Joseph did a very good job along with those who helped put their comments in to get results needed.</b> <b>No preparation.</b> <b>Good information to be aware of &amp; to see the needs identified by Tribes.</b> <b>The process gone through to develop needs assessment is commended with Tribes participation.</b> <b>Excellent example with real issues/concerns/needs.</b> <b>Allow to plan &amp; identify our needs.</b></p>
<p><b>Identifying Tribal Natural Resource Concerns Randy Gilbertson</b>          13-Excellent 9-Good 2-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>Could learn a little bit more.</b> <b>Good information.</b> <b>Informative.</b> <b>A great presentation on how resource concerns are identified.</b> <b>Very helpful to share process gone through with Tribes to identify concerns and developing scenarios &amp; priorities for specific Tribes.</b> <b>Like the Tribal input to develop standards.</b> <b>Excellent practical perspective.</b> <b>I learned about similar resource concerns and how they are carried out in other areas.</b></p>
<p><b>Developing Tribal Technical Standards and Practices Keith Sengbusch</b>          9-Excellent 11-Good 2-Fair 1-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>Navajo Nation Agency Office only has one man office.</b> <b>Could help if they could have technical support or staff to process faster practices.</b> <b>Good information, plan to follow up.</b> <b>Informative.</b> <b>A great presentation on how standards and practices were developed.</b> <b>Would have like to hear more of the engineering aspects to project planning.</b> <b>Commend efforts to helping Tribes.</b> <b>Excellent procedures provided.</b></p>
<p><b>Indigenous Stewardship Methods and NRCS Conservation Practices</b>          Noller Herbert 12-Excellent 10-Good 3-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>Too long, need to shorten.</b> <b>Really good information.</b> <b>If he could keep it up and distribute the info a little more.</b> <b>Good presentation.</b> <b>He was informative – good presentation.</b> <b>I really like this; it really pertains to our efforts.</b> <b>Good information.</b> <b>I took several notes.</b> <b>Considering his Native livelihood he understood the needs of the Native people and Tribes.</b> <b>Commend his working with State &amp; National level to Tribal</b></p>



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
 Arizona TCAC Training  
 May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

<p>needs addressing &amp; best plan for conservation activities practices on tribal lands. Gave me some really good ideas for dry land. Allowed us to rethink what our practices were and how effective they use to be.</p>
<p><b>Educate USDA about Your Tribal Needs – Tell Your Story: Panel</b>          10-Excellent 8-Good 5-Fair 0-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. Next time have some our leader invited on the panel. They need to hear us. Answered a lot of questions. <b>We need to see Tribal leader on the panel. Several attendees did not stick to the questions. This could have been a good opportunity for tribes to explain project concerns to receive guidance to address those concerns. Due to other commitments was not available for presentation. I will use this in my outreach. Outstanding discussion and questions by group. Perfect way to relay our ways of concerning and needs.</b></p>
<p><b>USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs: Navajo Regional Office: Harold Russell</b>          5-Excellent 13-Good 7-Fair 1-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>Sound just like the BIA. Came with all the right words to say, but no commitment. It was brave of him to stay and take the comments. Most of the time the BIA ups and leaves. Coodos to him for staying. Disjointed, disorganized &amp; unprepared. He was brave. Very brave, but if they could just request for more funding – our government. He's a good talker. Knows his stuff on a short notice. Need to be more prepared. Ms. Pinto should have been here instead of Harold. Continue involvement. Lots of good information. Great review of staffing concerns. Questions dealt with pointing fingers but not on resolve. Would have been better prepared to do good presentation. Commend to representing the BIA (not usually positive feedback from concerned individuals). Of course BIA was no show. Mr. Russell did well as fill in. Could do better at explaining how to collaborate with other organizations and the people.</b></p>
<p><b>AATCD Needs Assessment: Where do we go from here?</b>          8-Excellent 7-Good 4-Fair 1-Poor</p>
<p>Comments/Suggestions about presentation. <b>This should have been as a handout and addressed in general not individually off the screen. As a handout we could take it back to our tribes and show how tribes plan to address these issues to NRCS, BIA, etc. so they can be prepared to address the issues. The comment section by the AATCD was very good. I am glad this was added as part of the session. Maybe a solid paper like San Carlos Apache Tribe.</b></p>

Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council

Arizona TCAC Training

May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Should request for a report from the State of AZ NRCS – the data for Navajo Nation to see where we stand, and go from there. **We need to communication with the Tribe. And they is no support. Good to share. No assignments. No items to be accomplished. No one in charge. No deliverables. When are you going to do this?** Would have been best to share hard copies of needs assessment. **With the sharing of how the needs assessment was completed and other representatives involvement. Feel like the intention was not established. Unprofessional act displayed by Navajo Dept. of Agr. Helped us to get a plan in place.**

**State Level Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (TCAC) Discussion**

6-Excellent 5-Good 4-Fair 1-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **It will get better with improved communication/coordination. A lot of confusion. Need to come back together to get it established ASAP. Very much information. Tribal members could not make a decision. Not willing to commit. Consideration for Tribal input is great area of planning to get (full) local participation. This a good idea.**

**District Capacity Building utilizing USDA Programs:**

Dick Gooby, LuAnn Werdel 8-Excellent 4-Good 1-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **I wish my Board members were here. I will try to emphasis what was brought out.**

**Seven Generation Planning Training: Dick Gooby, LuAnn Werdel**

6-Excellent 8-Good 0-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **Need to discuss that school should have agriculture studies in reservation schools. FFA-gardening. Group did participate fairly good in this discussion. However they did need prodding. I really enjoy this presentation.**

**Barriers and overcoming them with the Annual Plan: LuAnn Werdel**

5-Excellent 7-Good 0-Fair 0-Poor

Comments/Suggestions about presentation. **The groups worked well together to identify barriers and to come up with solutions. We made the barriers like small boulders.**

4. Was the Length of the Training: 2-Too Long 16-Just Right 0-Too Short



Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council  
Arizona TCAC Training  
May 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

5. Would you recommend this training to others? 18-Yes 0-No

Why/Why Not? **Very informative. We need to educate and involve more people on conservation –especially on the Navajo Nation. Need to have Ranchers/Farmers need to attending these conferences. We have identified barriers. Now set up solutions, prioritize those solutions, assign tasks, go get the work done. Then come back and report what was completed. Move to the next steps and repeat process. Definitely recommend for other departments outside agriculture/farming/ranching to participate; best involve Fish & Wildlife, Land, Water, and elected officials representing communities. Our leadership from the Navajo Nation Resource Committee need to be here. Involve other Tribes. Because everyone needs to take care of the earth. A lot of info that can be used by all individuals. Other States with AIAN clients.**

6. Recommendations to improve the Training. **Everything is good. Good new people. These different federal and state programs must travel to the reservations to present what was presented over this week. Get Tribal leaders involved so they can understand our needs. Move it to Flagstaff or the Reservation. Assign tasks to group members. Have them work on tasks for 2 days, come back and report what was completed or what needs to happen to complete tasks. Have available hard copies of all presentations & contact info for each presenter available. Most presenter read – stop that!! Need to add activities like banquet, social gathering, dinner or lunch. Entertainment by members, maybe jokes even a social mini Pow Wow. I hope this has a second annual meeting. Invite more Tribal leaders Council – decision makers. It was excellent! Jerry and company you done a great job. More participation from the group would be great but this went well.**

7. Would you like WTCAC to bring this training to your Tribal Nation? **Yes-Navajo. Yes-Chemehyevi Indian Tribe. Yes-Navajo Nation. Yes-Unknown. Yes-Navajo Nation and expand to local communities on Navajo where agr/ranching invested. Yes-Navajo. Yes-President Shirley Navajo Nation. Yes-Unknown. Yes-Unknown**

If yes please provide contact information.

## 2012 WTCAC EQIP SCENARIO PROPOSALS w/NRCS Responses

### • Stream Crossing- NRCS Standard 578

1. Pipe Arch CMCP 57" x 38"
  - \$269.00 lineal foot
2. Pipe Arch CMCP 83" x 57"
  - \$565.00 lineal foot
3. Aluminum Box Culvert 10'-11"w x 6'-4"h
  - \$1054.00 lineal foot
4. Multi Plate Arch 12'w x 6'-3"h
  - \$873.00 lineal foot
5. Aluminum Arch 8'w x 4'-2"h
  - \$543.00 lineal foot
6. Aluminum Arch 12'w x 6'-3"h
  - \$797.00 lineal foot
7. Pre-engineered Bridge
  - \$1875.00 lineal foot

**NRCS Response (1-7):** The basis for EQIP funding is the minimum practice needed to address the resource concern. Existing scenarios provide the least-cost alternatives for addressing the resource concerns associated with stream crossings.

### • Water Well- NRCS Standard 642 (Aquaculture)

1. High Capacity Well
  - 6" casing \$108.00 lineal foot

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed.

### • Pond Flexible Membrane-NRCS Standard 521A (Aquaculture)

1. 45 mil EPDM
  - \$1.10 Sq Ft Installed

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed.

### • Underground Outlet-NRCS Standard 620 (Aquaculture)

1. 16" HDPE
  - \$62.85 lineal foot installed

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed.

## 2012 WTCAC EQIP SCENARIO PROPOSALS w/NRCS Responses

### 2. CMP Inlet Structure

- Waiting on bid

**NRCS Response:** Concur with technical recommendation but may need to be incorporated into Aquaculture Pond (397) as it does not appear to be an Underground Outlet (620).

### 3. Concrete Inlet Structure

- Waiting on bid

**NRCS Response:** Concur with technical recommendation but may need to be incorporated into Aquaculture Pond (397) as it does not appear to be an Underground Outlet (620).

### • Livestock Pipeline-NRCS Standard 516 (Aquaculture)

#### 1. 4" HDPE

- \$16.90 lineal foot installed

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed.

### • Fence-NRCS Standard 382 (Aquaculture)

#### 1. 8' chain link fence with two strand barbed wire and amphibian barrier

- \$18.50 lineal foot installed

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed.

### • Aquaculture Pond-NRCS Standard 397 (Aquaculture)

1. \$0.07 per gallon of capacity (includes fish kettle)
2. \$0.06 per gallon of capacity (w/o fish kettle)

**NRCS Response:** Concur with recommendation. Payment rate to be developed and other elements may need to be incorporated (see Underground Outlet proposal above).

### • Access Road-NRCS Standard 560

#### 1. Two Lane Access Road

- Tom working on cost

**NRCS Response:** The basis for EQIP funding is the minimum practice needed to address the resource concern. Existing scenarios provide the least-cost alternatives for addressing the resource concerns associated with access roads.



# Wisconsin Tribal Technical Service Provider Pilot Project

---

## USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service College of Menominee Nation, Keshena, Wisconsin

This project was established through a grant from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to identify and train tribal members who are interested in becoming certified Technical Service Providers (TSP) for NRCS conservation programs. The College of Menominee Nation (CMN) entered into an 18-month agreement with NRCS in Wisconsin to establish a cadre of certified TSPs who will be able to carry out selected conservation practices funded through NRCS conservation programs, such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

As of June, 2012, CMN is on track in completing the 18-month plan of work. Thirteen TSP candidates from five tribes have attended the required Conservation Planning Training. Two sessions were conducted, one on Feb. 22-24 at Keshena, and one on March 20-22 at Lac Courte Oreilles on the western side of Wisconsin. The training involved 2 days of classroom and 1 day in the field.

The next step is for TSP candidates to prepare the sample plan required as part of the TSP certification. In order to facilitate and encourage candidates to do their sample plans, CMN proposed that they host a webinar for all the candidates to work through the sample plan. CMN had never hosted a statewide webinar before and they were eager to try this new capability at the college. The date of the webinar is still being worked out but will be in early summer.

For more information, contact:

Renae Anderson, Tribal TSP Agreement Manager  
Public Affairs and Outreach  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Madison, Wisconsin  
[Renae.anderson@wi.usda.gov](mailto:Renae.anderson@wi.usda.gov)





Participants at the Tribal TSP Training session in Keshena in the Menominee Forest. NRCS State Biologist Steve Bergiens (in the blue jacket) and NRCS Forester Greg Rebman (far right) conducted the training for the eight participants attending this session



Greg Rebman (center), WI NRCS Forester, talking with two tribal foresters during the field portion of the conservation planning training in Keshena at the Menominee College.





Chris Caldwell, forester from Menominee, talking about tribal forest resources, issues and practices at the training session.



NA S&PF programs are cost effective and concentrate on outcomes. Our workforce is small and administrative costs are low. About 80 percent of Federal funds allocated to NA S&PF go directly to delivering programs. Every Federal dollar spent leverages another \$10 through cost-sharing and matching grants.

**Forestry ranks fourth in economic impact** on State economies in the Northeast and Midwest. NA S&PF addresses economic obstacles to owning forest land and forest-related businesses, for example, by...

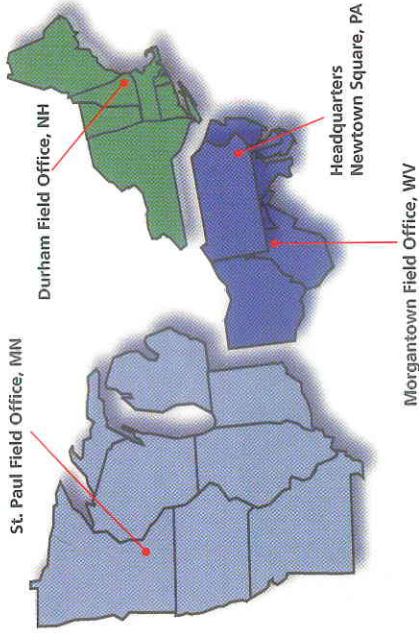
Providing tax and estate planning information to landowners, tax preparers, and professional foresters;

Expanding markets for wood products, such as finding new uses for low-grade wood;

Fostering the use of wood in transportation projects, such as bridges and guardrails; and

Supporting training and business opportunities for the woodworking industry.

NA S&PF carries on a **legacy of conservation**. It administers Grey Towers National Historic Site—the home of former Forest Service Chief Gifford Pinchot, now a conference center for natural resource organizations, and a base for local educational outreach programs. NA S&PF also supports conservation education programs of States and nonprofit organizations, to help a new generation develop appreciation and understanding of natural resources.



### ***For more information, contact:***

#### **Northeastern Area Headquarters**

USDA Forest Service  
11 Campus Boulevard, Suite 200  
Newtown Square, PA 19073  
610-557-4103

#### **The Northeastern Area field office for your State:**

##### **Midwest and Lake States**

USDA Forest Service  
1992 Folwell Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
651-649-5243

##### **Mid-Atlantic States**

USDA Forest Service  
180 Canfield Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
304-285-1541

##### **New York and New England States**

USDA Forest Service  
271 Mast Road  
Durham, NH 03824  
603-868-7600

**[www.na.fs.fed.us](http://www.na.fs.fed.us)**

*The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

# Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry At a Glance

*Caring for the Land and Serving People*



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest Service

NA-IN-07-06  
April 2006



The **State and Private Forestry** branch of the **USDA Forest Service** promotes sustainable management of non-Federal forest lands, which make up two-thirds of the forests in the United States. This work supports the Forest Service's role as steward of the Nation's forests and ensures that private forests yield public benefits. Among these benefits are clean air, drinking water, wildlife habitat, wood products, and recreational opportunities.

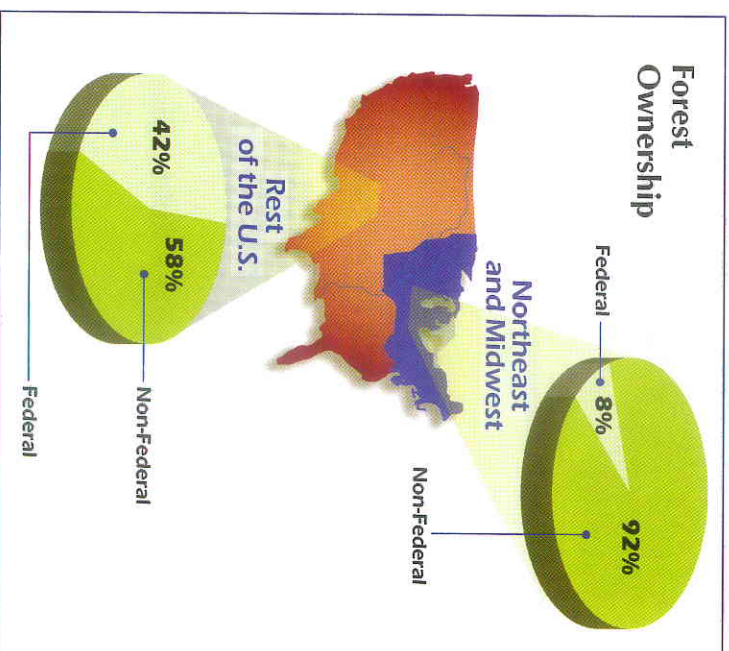
The **Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry (NA S&PF)** works with the 20 Northeastern and Midwest States and the District of Columbia, helping landowners manage their forests.

The reason for NA S&PF in this geographic region is that it contains about 43 percent of the Nation's population and 23 percent of the forest, most of which is privately owned. This intermingling of communities and forests creates unique challenges to forest sustainability.

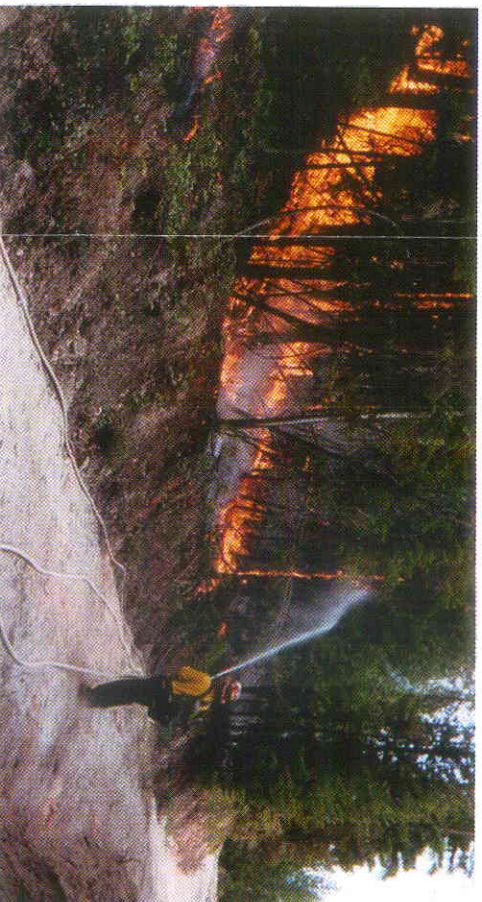
In keeping with our mission of **caring for the land and serving people**, our work encompasses a broad spectrum of activities including these:

- *Protecting, enhancing, and restoring forested watersheds that supply drinking water,*
- *Detecting and suppressing or eradicating diseases and pests that damage trees,*
- *Training and supplying volunteer fire departments, particularly in rural areas*
- *Improving the natural elements of the urban forest to make communities more livable,*
- *Protecting forests from development, subdivision, and fragmentation.*

**We work with partners**, particularly State forestry organizations. Partnerships allow us to be adaptive and flexible in caring for forest resources, and position us to capitalize on needs and opportunities where and when they arise. Our partners match or exceed our investments in natural resource management.



*Twenty-three percent of all U.S. forests are in the Northeast and Midwest, and most of these have non-Federal owners.*



**We use nonregulatory approaches**, such as information sharing, technical expertise, and financial assistance. The following are some examples:

The **Forest Legacy Program** helps States and nonprofit partners purchase conservation easements on forest land.

As part of the **Cooperative Fire Program**, NA S&PF coordinates training in the Incident Command System—developed for fighting wildfires and used to organize resources responding to other emergencies and natural disasters.

Through the **Forest Stewardship Program**, a forestry professional helps an individual private forest owner develop and carry out a management plan that meets their goals for their land.

The **Forest Health Management Program** includes monitoring and reporting on forest conditions, including invasive plants and insects.

One aspect of **Urban and Community Forestry** is disseminating information on tree planting and care, and on identifying hazardous trees that pose a risk to people or property.