
AGENCY OVERVIEW

244 NORTH DAKOTA FOREST SERVICE

Date: 12/14/2006

Time: 15:50:00

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

North Dakota Constitution, Article VIII, Section 6.

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The State Forester has the statutory authority and responsibility to meet the forestry needs in North Dakota. The North Dakota Forest Service administers forestry programs statewide. The agency operates a conifer tree nursery at Towner. Technical assistance for management of private forest lands, state forest lands, urban and community forests, tree planting and wild-land fire control is provided. The North Dakota Forest Service owns and manages over 13,200 acres of state forest lands.

AGENCY MISSION

"The mission of the North Dakota Forest Service is to care for, protect and improve forest and natural resources to enhance the quality of life for future generations."

AGENCY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The North Dakota Forest Service utilizes an accountability measures process to assess progress toward achieving long-range strategic goals, and ultimately the agency's mission. Accountability measures are linked to the long-range strategic planning process to document North Dakota Forest Service Program outcomes. The North Dakota Forest Service developed 12 accountability measures using the State Forester's goals and statutory authority. The State Foresters goals are directly linked to the authority granted under North Dakota Century Code 4-19, 18-10 and 57-57 to meet the forestry needs of the state. Performance indicators, units of measure and program accomplishment data will be completed for each of the agency's 12 accountability measures beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2007. A biennial accountability measures report will be prepared by the agency after June 30, 2007. The State Foresters' goals and accountability measures are as follows:

State Forester's Goals:

1. To positively impact forest-based economic growth and sustainability of communities by promoting the wise use of natural resources.
2. To improve the protection of people, property and natural resources by enhancing interagency cooperation in wildfire management.
3. To support informed decision-making and foster individual responsibility in stewards of all ages by raising public awareness about natural resource values.
4. To meet the forest and conservation tree planting needs of private and public landowners by producing and marketing high quality nursery stock.
5. To meet current societal demands by ensuring the health, productivity and growth of private, community and state forests.

Accountability Measures:

1. Provide an environment for forest-based economic growth as measured by the percent of biomass and wood utilization businesses assisted.
2. Support forestry-based economic benefits as measured by the percent of financial assistance provided for forestry practices.
3. Enhance community wildfire protection planning at the local level as measured by the number of counties that improve their level of planning.
4. Maintain or enhance rural fire department capacity as measured by the number of fire protection districts that improve their capacity.
5. Develop wildland fire awareness and prevention programs at the local level as measured by the number of counties that improve their level of fire awareness.
6. Provide education on the importance of North Dakota's forest resources as measured by the percent of K-12 teachers and students participating in educational opportunities.
7. Promote professionalism within the tree care industry as measured by the percentage of arborists that obtain training and certification.
8. Meet conifer (evergreen) conservation tree planting needs of North Dakota as measured by percent of customer tree orders supplied by Towner State Nursery.
9. Sustain North Dakota's natural resources through stewardship as measured by the percent of family forest acreage in active management and/or protection.

10. Develop sustainable community forestry programs as measured by the percent of communities and population served.
11. Ensure the health and sustainability of North Dakota's forests as measured by the percent of at-risk forest resources surveyed for forest health threats.
12. Provide a quality outdoor state forest experience as measured by the percent of state forest land under multiple-use management.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Community Forestry awarded communities \$2,540,500 since 1991 for 761 tree planting and community forestry development projects valued at over \$5.6 million.
2. Fire Management has awarded \$329,788 in Cooperative Fire Protection Assistance cost-share in 2005 to 109 fire departments. As of December 31, 2005, equipment with an original acquisition value of \$8.48 million was on loan to fire departments through the Federal Excess Property Program.
3. Forest Resource Management compiled 4,356 forest resource management plans for 226,700 acres of privately-owned woodlands since 1991.
4. Information and Education raised public awareness and fostered individual responsibility for conserving natural resources by delivering 9,519 seat hours of forestry workshops for elementary school teachers, students, youth organizations and adults in 2005.
5. Sustainable Forestry ensured North Dakota's roads are safe for winter travel by initiating 526 Living Snow Fence projects in 40 counties protecting 233 miles of interstate, state, county, township and tribal roads since 1999.
6. Towner State Nursery initiated a "mechanization plan" in 1999 to minimize strenuous tasks, reduce labor needs, improve efficiency, improve stock quality and develop incentives to attract an adequate workforce. Projects completed in 2006 include mechanization of tree packaging systems, improvements to seed handling and processing facilities, purchase of an aerial lift for seed collection, expansion of herbicide and fungicide test programs, replacement of two tractors, and purchase of additional seed bed shade frames to increase production options and improve stock quality.

FUTURE CRITICAL ISSUES

Adjustments for Costs to Continue include the following:

05-07 EXTRAORDINARY REPAIRS – 2005-07 extraordinary repairs. (-\$101,638)

REQUEST SUMMARY

Date: 12/14/2006

244 NORTH DAKOTA FOREST SERVICE

Bill#: HB1003

Time: 15:50:00

Biennium: 2007-2009

Description	Expenditures 2003-2005 Biennium	Present Budget 2005-2007	Budget Request Change	Requested Budget 2007-2009 Biennium	Optional Budget Request
BY MAJOR PROGRAM					
OPERATIONS	2,592,829	2,925,646	433,085	3,358,731	0
CAPITAL ASSETS	359,367	101,638	65,834	167,472	21,220
TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMS	2,952,196	3,027,284	498,919	3,526,203	21,220
BY LINE ITEM					
OPERATING EXPENSES	2,592,829	2,925,646	433,085	3,358,731	0
CAPITAL ASSETS	132,410	101,638	65,834	167,472	21,220
BIENNIUM CARRYOVER	226,957	0	0	0	0
TOTAL LINE ITEMS	2,952,196	3,027,284	498,919	3,526,203	21,220
BY FUNDING SOURCE					
GENERAL FUND	1,795,272	2,052,283	356,434	2,408,717	21,220
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL FUNDS	1,156,924	975,001	142,485	1,117,486	0
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCE	2,952,196	3,027,284	498,919	3,526,203	21,220
TOTAL FTE	17.97	12.40	7.07	19.47	.00

REQUEST DETAIL

Date: 12/14/2006

244 NORTH DAKOTA FOREST SERVICE

Bill#: HB1003

Time: 15:50:00

Biennium: 2007-2009

Description	Expenditures 2003-2005 Biennium	Present Budget 2005-2007	Budget Request Change	Requested Budget 2007-2009 Biennium	Optional Budget Request
OPERATING EXPENSES					
SALARIES - PERMANENT	921,437	0	0	0	0
SALARIES - OTHER	7,096	0	0	0	0
FRINGE BENEFITS	297,211	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	67,072	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES - IT SOFTWARE	338	0	0	0	0
SUPPLY/MATERIAL-PROFESSIONAL	832	0	0	0	0
BLDG, GROUND, MAINTENANCE	24,780	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLIES	55,116	0	0	0	0
OFFICE SUPPLIES	8,743	0	0	0	0
POSTAGE	6,442	0	0	0	0
PRINTING	4,710	0	0	0	0
UTILITIES	34,928	0	0	0	0
INSURANCE	23,191	0	0	0	0
RENTALS/LEASES-EQUIP & OTHER	754	0	0	0	0
RENTALS/LEASES - BLDG/LAND	4,500	0	0	0	0
REPAIRS	27,953	0	0	0	0
IT - DATA PROCESSING	3,230	0	0	0	0
IT-COMMUNICATIONS	12,938	0	0	0	0
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	7,676	0	0	0	0
OPERATING FEES AND SERVICES	1,021,035	2,925,646	433,085	3,358,731	0
FEES - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	62,847	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2,592,829	2,925,646	433,085	3,358,731	0
OPERATING EXPENSES					
GENERAL FUND	1,519,124	1,950,645	410,600	2,361,245	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL FUNDS	1,073,705	975,001	22,485	997,486	0
TOTAL	2,592,829	2,925,646	433,085	3,358,731	0
CAPITAL ASSETS					
OPERATING FEES AND SERVICES	34,210	0	0	0	0
LAND AND BUILDINGS	0	0	120,000	120,000	0
EXTRAORDINARY REPAIRS	98,200	101,638	-54,166	47,472	21,220
TOTAL	132,410	101,638	65,834	167,472	21,220

REQUEST DETAIL

Date: 12/14/2006

244 NORTH DAKOTA FOREST SERVICE

Bill#: HB1003

Time: 15:50:00

Biennium: 2007-2009

Description	Expenditures 2003-2005 Biennium	Present Budget 2005-2007	Budget Request Change	Requested Budget 2007-2009 Biennium	Optional Budget Request
CAPITAL ASSETS					
GENERAL FUND	132,410	101,638	-54,166	47,472	21,220
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL FUNDS	0	0	120,000	120,000	0
TOTAL	132,410	101,638	65,834	167,472	21,220
SPECIAL LINES					
BIENNIUM CARRYOVER	226,957	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	226,957	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL LINES					
GENERAL FUND	143,738	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL FUNDS	83,219	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	226,957	0	0	0	0
FUNDING SOURCES					
GENERAL FUND	1,795,272	2,052,283	356,434	2,408,717	21,220
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL FUNDS	1,156,924	975,001	142,485	1,117,486	0
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES	2,952,196	3,027,284	498,919	3,526,203	21,220

CHANGE PACKAGE SUMMARY

244 NORTH DAKOTA FOREST SERVICE

Biennium: 2007-2009

Bill#: HB1003

Date: 12/14/2006

Time: 15:50:00

Description	FTE	General Fund	Federal Funds	Special Funds	Total Funds
AGENCY BUDGET CHANGES					
Cost To Continue	5.57	-101,638	0	0	-101,638
3 CAP ASSET BASE AND INCR	.00	47,472	0	0	47,472
4 2007-09 MAJ CAP PROJ	.00	0	0	120,000	120,000
5 OPERATING INFLATION	.00	36,546	0	0	36,546
6 CTC FY2007 SAL INCR	.00	37,890	0	0	37,890
7 HEALTH INSUR INCR	.00	63,068	0	0	63,068
8 2007-09 SAL INCR	.00	123,096	0	0	123,096
10 FOREST SERVICE INCR	1.50	150,000	0	0	150,000
11 OTHER REV	.00	0	0	22,485	22,485
Agency Total	7.07	356,434	0	142,485	498,919
OPTIONAL REQUEST					
30 OPT DEF MNT INCR	.00	21,220	0	0	21,220
Optional Total	.00	21,220	0	0	21,220

BUDGET CHANGES NARRATIVE

244 NORTH DAKOTA FOREST SERVICE

Date: 12/14/2006

Time: 15:50:00

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 3	Priority: 1
------------------------	-----------------------	---------------------	--------------------

CAP ASSET BASE AND INCR - \$47,472

This provides an amount equal to the 2005-07 base funding (\$36,638) for extraordinary repairs, plus a proportionate share (\$10,834) of the \$4 million capital assets increase that is included by the NDUS in the base budget requests. The \$4 million increase is much lower than the total amount called for in the capital asset funding model (\$24.4 million), which is part of the NDUS long-term finance plan. The NDUS is currently funded at an average of 12.2% of the OMB building and infrastructure formulas (ranging from 5.8% to 20.6%), and outstanding deferred maintenance totals \$117.8 million for the NDUS.

A prioritized listing of extraordinary repair projects is included in the extraordinary repairs subschedule (because of OMB's requirement to do so), however these priorities can very easily change, due to unforeseen circumstances and emergencies. The priority listing is only a best estimate at this time. The actual use of these dollars will be left to the discretion of the institutions (with appropriate approvals by the SBHE where required for projects greater than \$100,000). All NDUS entities will be given the authority to allocate dollars to repair and replacement priorities for both deferred maintenance and regular repair and replacement projects as determined by each entity.

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 4	Priority: 1
------------------------	-----------------------	---------------------	--------------------

2007-09 MAJ CAP PROJ - \$120,000

All details of the major capital projects are included in the Capital Assets schedule.

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 5	Priority: 1
------------------------	-----------------------	---------------------	--------------------

OPERATING INFLATION - \$36,546

Cost of GF portion of 2.4% per year operating inflation.

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 6	Priority: 1
------------------------	-----------------------	---------------------	--------------------

CTC FY2007 SAL INCR - \$37,890

Cost to continue legislatively funded salary increases for FY2007.

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 7	Priority: 1
------------------------	-----------------------	---------------------	--------------------

HEALTH INSUR INCR - \$63,068

Cost of GF portion of 2007-09 health insurance increases, estimated at 10% per year

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 8	Priority: 1
------------------------	-----------------------	---------------------	--------------------

2007-09 SAL INCR - \$123,096

Cost of GF portion of 5% per year salary increase, the same level computed in the parity calculations for the NDUS campuses. National surveys indicate North Dakota ranks 45th in average salaries for the forestry job classifications. Salary increases are needed to increase North Dakota's competitiveness in regional recruitment with the States of Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, and Wyoming.

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 10	Priority: 1
------------------------	-----------------------	----------------------	--------------------

FOREST SERVICE INCR - \$150,000

A 5% operating increase will provide an additional \$150,000 in salary funds to support 1.5 FTE responsible for providing forestry assistance through a “Building Sustainable Communities Through Forestry Initiative.” The initiative addresses the shortfall in federal funding for forestry programs benefiting communities, fire districts and family forest landowners. The Forest Service has experienced a 21% decline in federal support for state forestry program formula funding in the past two years. “Building Sustainable Communities Through Forestry” highlights the important public forestry program benefits in health, safety and the economy. Key programs include Cooperative Fire Protection, Forest Health Protection, Landowner Assistance, and Urban and Community Forestry. Funded by the USDA Forest Service, these formula-based grant programs provide technical, financial and education services to communities, fire districts and family forest landowners. State General Funds and contributions from grant recipients are used as match to leverage this federal support.

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 11	Priority: 11
------------------------	-----------------------	----------------------	---------------------

OTHER REV - \$22,485

Estimated 2007-2009 revenues will include \$997,486 generated by income from tree seedling sales and the Trees for North Dakota Trust Fund. The additional revenues of \$22,485 will fund part-time salaries and operating expenses at Towner State Nursery.

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 100	Priority:
------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------	------------------

OMB Deferred Maintenance Opt. - \$12,732

Executive Recommendation to fund deferred maintenance in optional package for \$12,732.

The outstanding deferred maintenance of the NDUS, based on recently updated campus master plans, totals \$117.8 million. A one-time infusion of \$10 million would be used to address this critically unfunded need. The Forest Service's share of the \$10 million is \$21,220, based upon a proportionate share of total outstanding deferred maintenance of the NDUS. The priority listing is only a best estimate at this time, and can easily change, due to unforeseen circumstances and emergencies. The use of these dollars will be left to the discretion of the Forest Service to fund most critical deferred maintenance needs (with appropriate approvals by the SBHE where required for projects greater than \$100,000).

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 101	Priority:
------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------	------------------

OMB Storage Bldgs. - \$120,000 from the general fund

Executive recommendation to provide \$120,000 from the general fund for the building of storage buildings and outdoor restroom facilities.

Change Group: O	Change Type: A	Change No: 30	Priority: 10
------------------------	-----------------------	----------------------	---------------------

OPT DEF MNT INCR - \$21,220

The outstanding deferred maintenance of the NDUS, based on recently updated campus master plans, totals \$117.8 million. A one-time infusion of \$10 million would be used to address this critically unfunded need. The Forest Service's share of the \$10 million is (\$21,220), based upon a proportionate share of total outstanding deferred maintenance of the NDUS. The priority listing is only a best estimate at this time, and can easily change, due to unforeseen circumstances and emergencies. The use of these dollars will be left to the discretion of the Forest Service to fund most critical deferred maintenance needs (with appropriate approvals by the SBHE where required for projects greater than \$100,000).