



Ohio DNR – Division of Forestry

Summary of Monitoring Results for Fiscal Year 2014

July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

Introduction

On an annual basis, the Division offers a publicly available summary of results for the various monitoring activities that occur on state forests. This summary is a component of our public input process as well as a component of our management review process. The intent of this monitoring summary is to show progress and / or challenges as an implication of our management of state forests.

A. Progress on implementation of the Strategic Plan for State Forests

In 2008, the Division completed a strategic planning effort with the following five objectives. Each Objective is listed with corresponding progress made in the last year.

Objective 1: Manage forest to ensure the health and sustainability of forest systems.

Progress Highlights:

- The Division continues to be verified as being in conformance to both the Forest Stewardship Council and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative standards. State Forests are the only dual-certified forestland in Ohio and have been certified as “Well-Managed”.
- Maumee State Forest has completed several HCVF restoration areas in the rare Oak Openings region.

Objective 2: Produce high-quality forest products that contribute to local communities.

Progress Highlights:

- The Division of Forestry continues to operate its merchandising program.
- The Division of Forestry harvested more than 12.5 million board feet of hardwood sawtimber this year with the revenue from stumpage timber sales being distributed to local governments.

Objective 3: Provide recreational opportunities that require a large forest land base.

Progress Highlights:

- Trail maintenance continues to be a priority for the Division.
- Hunter opportunities at Vinton Furnace State Forest were expanded.
- The horse camp at Harrison State Forest was improved and rehabbed.

Objective 4: Provide unique forestry education sites and promote outreach and long-term research.

Progress Highlights:

- The Division continues to facilitate and promote forestry through efforts such as teacher field days, NIPF woodland owners, trade shows, events, and the Ohio State Fair.
- Logger training is conducted at Scioto Trail each year. Forestry staff help facilitate this effort.

Objective 5: Maintain a highly trained and well-equipped work force.

Progress Highlights:

- The Division's training program continues to be enhanced with several training sessions held this year. This year a renewed focus on Dam emergency response training was required of foresters who manage lands with dams.
- The Division sent three separate wildfire suppression crews to western states in fire suppression assistance activities.

B. Forest Condition

1. Compartment Review – The compartment review process is a long-term mechanism to monitor the condition of the forest. Each state forest is divided into compartment of roughly 300 acres each. Compartments are reviewed on a 20-year cycle so that each compartment is reviewed once every 20 years. Approximately 9,000 acres are reviewed each year. Compartment reviews also generate prescriptions for various activities including timber sales, prescribed fires, or timber stand improvement.
2. Logging Inspections – State Forest timber sales are inspected on a regular basis, usually once per week or sometimes daily depending on conditions. Inspections ensure that contractors are complying with the terms and conditions set forth in the timber sale agreement. Inspections are also an important part of protecting sensitive forest features, soil, and water quality. This year over 400 inspections were completed. The inspection process is a vital way to protect water quality.
3. High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) Monitoring - HCVF monitoring will occur each year on selected portions of HCVF areas. Over a 5-year time frame, all HCVF will be monitoring at least once. This year the Division of Forestry conducted a monitoring protocol to monitor the HCV's that exist in the delineated HCVF's consistent with the FSC HCVF assessment protocol. The HCVF's visited this year were found to be in relative stable condition. Minor impacts from littering, illegal ATV riding, and or weather events were noted in this year's monitoring. Several areas containing non-native invasive species were located.

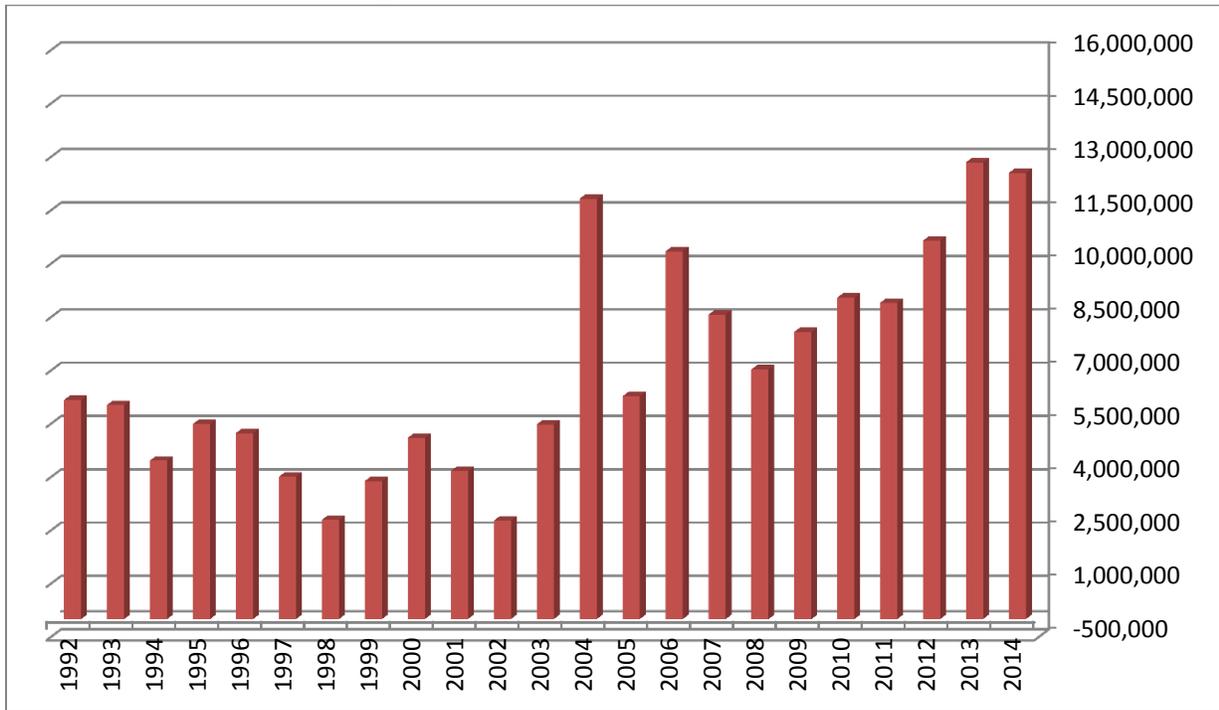
4. Inventory and Growth and Yield – Using state forest inventory data that was procured in 2009, the Division of Forestry has calculated an estimated 1.9 billion board feet of standing sawtimber inventory on state forests. Growth rates from this data were determined using the USFS Forest Vegetation Simulator. The acreage available for these calculations were constrained based on a number of environmental factors including removing areas of High Conservation Value. The constrained growth rate across all state forest is estimated to be over 41 million board feet of sawtimber per year. In order to promote sustainability, protection of sensitive resources, produce forest products, while achieving biodiversity goals the **Division of Forestry will set an annual allowable harvest target at 40% of the annual constrained growth. 40% of the annual constrained growth is roughly equal to 16 million board feet of sawtimber.**

C. Yield of Forest products and Chain of Custody

In Fiscal Year 2014, there were 19 stumpage timber sales that were sold by competitive bid. There were an additional 10 timber sales offered to the Glatfelter facility in Chillicothe, Ohio to fulfill our obligation in the fiber supply agreement. .

In Fiscal Year 2014, over 10.8 million board feet of hardwood sawtimber was harvested in stumpage timber sales or supply agreement timber sales. Over 1.7 million board feet of hardwood sawtimber was harvested in merchandising log sales. The total board feet harvested in fiscal year 2014 was 12.5 million board feet.

Last 20 years of timber harvest levels on State Forests.



D. Social and Economic Impact monitoring (open house and recreation)

1. Timber Sale Revenue Distribution – The table below summarizes the total stumpage revenue received by the Division of Forestry in Fiscal Year 2014 and distributed to local governments according to ORC 1503 in Fiscal Year 2015.

Total R043 Revenue	\$3,295,341.67
Cost	\$568,386.66
Net	\$2,726,955.01
Local Gov't Portion (65% of Net)	\$1,772,520.76
Forestry Portion (35% of Net plus Cost)	\$1,522,820.91

Local Government Distribution

ADAMS

COUNTY	\$32,077.08
FRANKLIN TWP	\$12,416.61
GREEN TWP	\$19,660.46
ADAMS COUNTY/OHIO VALLEY LSD	\$24,833.23
MANCHESTER LSD	\$39,320.93
TOTAL PAYMENT	\$128,308.31

ATHENS

COUNTY	\$139.21
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YORK TWP	\$139.21
BERN TWP	\$0.00
NELSONVILLE LSD	\$278.42
FEDERAL HOCKING LSD	\$0.00
TOTAL PAYMENT	\$556.84

HARRISON

COUNTY	\$42.45
ARCHER TWP	\$42.45
HARRISON HILL LSD	\$84.91
TOTAL PAYMENT	\$169.81

HOCKING

COUNTY	\$21,159.17
BENTON TWP	\$14,283.84
LAUREL TWP	\$5,903.43
SALT CREEK TWP	\$672.36
PERRY TWP	\$299.54
LOGAN HOCKING LSD	\$40,374.54
LOGAN ELM LSD	\$1,943.79
TOTAL PAYMENT	\$84,636.67

JACKSON

COUNTY	\$672.36
WASHINGTON TWP	\$672.36
WELLSTON LSD	\$1,344.72
TOTAL PAYMENT	\$2,689.44

MEIGS

COUNTY	\$24,388.16
OLIVE TWP	\$24,388.16
EASTERN LSD	\$48,776.32
TOTAL PAYMENT	\$97,552.64

MUSKINGUM

COUNTY	\$10,421.54
BLUE ROCK TWP	\$1,851.40
SALT CREEK TWP	\$8,570.14
FRANKLIN LSD	\$20,843.09
TOTAL PAYMENT	\$41,686.17

PERRY

COUNTY	\$5,547.34
CLAYTON TWP	\$5,547.34
NEW LEXINGTON LSD	\$11,094.68

TOTAL PAYMENT **\$22,189.36**

PIKE

 COUNTY \$43,496.81
 BENTON TWP \$42,824.45
 MIFFLIN TWP \$672.36
 PERRY TWP \$0.00
 WESTERN LSD \$86,993.62
TOTAL PAYMENT **\$173,987.24**

ROSS

 COUNTY \$58,235.09
 COLERAIN TWP \$2,211.76
 FRANKLIN TWP \$20,439.19
 HARRISON TWP \$35,584.15
 ZANE TRACE LSD \$4,423.52
SOUTHEASTERN LSD \$112,046.67
TOTAL PAYMENT **\$232,940.38**

SCIOTO

 COUNTY \$83,230.95
 BRUSH CREEK TWP \$6,402.18
 MORGAN TWP \$5,760.13
 NILE TWP \$49,792.17
 RARDEN TWP \$18,125.91
 UNION TWP \$3,150.55
 NORTHWEST LSD \$38,717.45
WASHINGTON-NILE LSD \$99,584.35
 SCIOTO VALLEY LSD \$28,160.10
TOTAL PAYMENT **\$332,923.79**

VINTON

 COUNTY \$163,720.02
 BROWN TWP \$96,769.94
 EAGLE TWP \$42,181.40
 KNOX TWP \$3,529.28
 MADISON TWP \$21,239.42
 VINTON LSD \$327,440.05
TOTAL PAYMENT **\$654,880.11**

2. Recreation Program – State Forests track the number of users based on a voluntary registration system. The system, while not a totally accurate representation of the actual use, gives an indicator of trends and quantity of visitors per recreational activity. The table below represents voluntary registration. The actual number of visitors may be substantially greater than the recorded data.

Recreation	# of Visitors
Campers -	
Backpackers	4295
Horse	4046
Family	750
Hunter	196
APV Riders	5938
Snowmobilers	49
Horseriders	20494
Hunters/Anglers	9922
Hikers	18250
Gun Range Users	5400
Rockclimb/Rapellers	3341
Mountain Bikers	2735
Harvesters	1004
Misc Day Use	15191

3. Annual Open House and Comments – Each summer the Division of Forestry holds open houses at select locations. Citizens are invited to attend to review and offer comment on proposed forest management activities for the upcoming year. This past summer, open houses were held at Maumee, Chillicothe, and New Philadelphia.

There were 57 total people who attended at least one of these 3 open houses. The Division received approximately 50 written comments. The feedback received from these public open houses were reviewed by the Division Administrators.