Iowa’s Forest Action Plan

An Overview of Iowa’s Forest Action Plan
Why Forest Action Plans

- Required by the 2008 Farm Bill for all State Agencies receiving federal funding
- No Forest Action Plan, No Funding
What is the Forest Action Plan

- Document that:
  - Provides data on Iowa’s forests – past, present, and future
  - Addresses priority issues and landscapes, identifies problems, provides strategies to address issues
What’s In It

- The IFAP has nine sections –
  1. Conservation of Biological Diversity
  2. Productive Capacity of Forest Ecosystems
  3. Forest Health & Vitality
  4. Soil & Water Resources
  5. Forest Contribution to Global Carbon Cycles
  6. Enhancement of Long-Term Multiple Socioeconomic Benefits of Forests
  7. Legal, Institutional, & Economic Framework for Forest Conservation & Management
What's In It

8. Priority Landscape Areas

9. State Issues and Strategies
Conservation of Biological Diversity

- Detailed information on the history of Iowa’s rural and urban forest resource – overall and by region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest Type</th>
<th>Forest Age</th>
<th>Forest Size</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Density</th>
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<tr>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Water Protection Zones</th>
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Conservation of Biological Diversity

- Wildlife Species of Special Concern – Borrows from State Wildlife Action Plan
- Bird Conservation Areas
Productive Capacity of Forest Ecosystems

- Areas of timber land
- Net growth vs. removals
- Harvesting trends
- Volume
- Management Implications
  - i.e. 1954 white oak 17%, 2006 white oak 11%
Forest Ecosystem Health

- Forest land affected by potentially damaging agents
  - EAB
  - Gypsy Moth
  - Bur Oak Blight
  - Oak Tatters
  - Oak Wilt
  - TCD
  - Invasive Plants
  - Deer

- General forest tree mortality
- Wildfire Risk
- Weather
Soils & Water Resources

- Water
  - Forested wetlands
  - Buffers
  - Nutrient management
  - Priority Watershed identification

- Soil
  - Quality
  - Erosion
Forest Carbon Cycles

- Forest Carbon Pools
- Forest Carbon by Forest Type
- Forest Contributions to Carbon Sequestration
- Urban Tree Canopy Role in Sequestration
Enhancement of Long-Term Multiple Socioeconomic Benefits of Forests

- **Wood Product Production & Consumption**
  - # Sawmills
  - $ paid to landowners
  - Jobs/Payroll

- **Non-timber Forest Products**

- **Forest Based Recreation**
  - Camping
  - Hunting/Fishing
  - Fall Foliage
  - Bird Watching
Enhancement of Long-Term Multiple Socioeconomic Benefits of Forests

- Investment in Forest Health and Management
  - SFN
  - Landowner Incentive Programs
  - USDA Forest Service
  - State General Fund
Forestry Bureau FY 2008 Revenue Sources by Dollar & Percent

- Conservation Receipts, $1,053,244, 20%
- Federal Funds, $871,448, 17%
- Donations, $365,119, 7%
- General Fund, $2,945,556, 56%
Forestry Bureau FY 2013 Revenue Sources by Dollar & Percent

- Conservation Receipts, $1,339,110, 27%
- Donations, $365,163, 7%
- General Fund, $1,638,379, 33%
- Federal Funds, $1,668,598, 33%
Legal, Institutional, & Economic Framework for Forest Conservation & Sustainable Management

- Forest Planning & Law
- Incentives for Landowners
  - District Foresters
  - SFN
- # and location of Forest Stewardship Plans
- Forest Laws – Forest Reserve
Priority Landscapes

- High Priority Forestlands
- Priority Urban Areas
- Forest Legacy

Landscapes

Driftless Area
Issues and Strategies

Issues
- Loss of Forest Land
- Changing Ownership
- Insufficient Technical Assistance

Strategies
- Promote Conservation easements
- Use new technology to inform landowners
- Seek funding for field foresters
How You Can Use the Plan

- Information
- Advocacy
Forest Action Plan

Implementation

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RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT