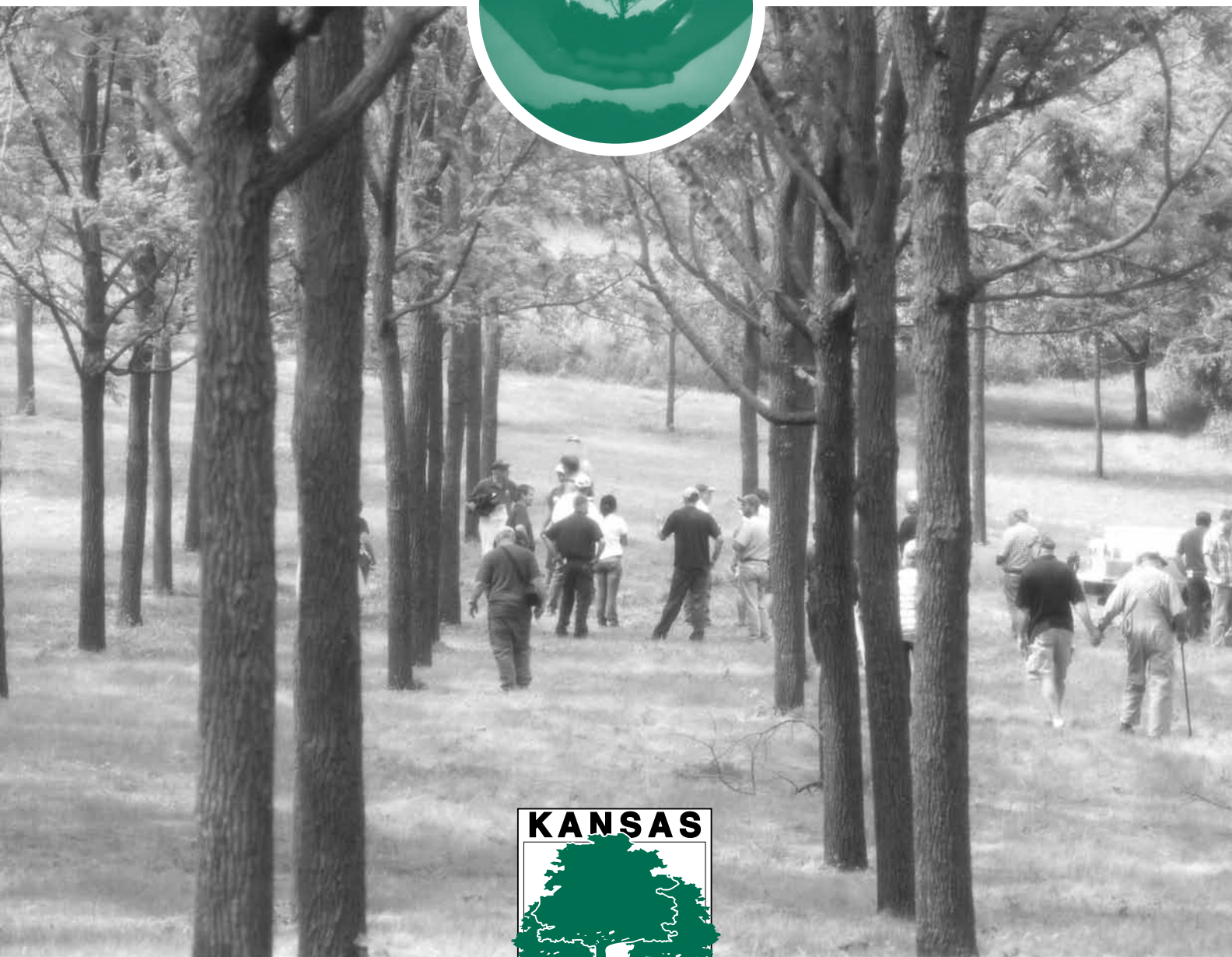


KANSAS FOREST SERVICE

2010 ANNUAL REPORT



PROGRAMS, PEOPLE, AND GROUNDS

Fiscal year 2010 found the Kansas Forest Service expanding, engaging, and improving. The year began with staff and partners engrossed in the state's prescribed burning and smoke management issue. A Kansas Forest Service staff member served as co-lead for the team addressing this issue. The outcome of their work is the State of Kansas, Flint Hills Smoke Management Plan. This plan was adopted for the 2011 debris burning season as a temporary regulation for the Flint Hills and three metro counties. A permanent regulation, tracking closely to the temporary regulation, is expected before the 2012 burning season.

Closely behind the smoke management issue, chronologically, was the dismantling and subsequent reconstruction of a shade house for the Conservation Trees program. Most of the design, materials, and construction labor were provided by Westar Energy's Green Team. Not only did Westar's skills and generosity solidify the Agency's containerized seedling operation but it also ridded the agency of a safety problem created by the deterioration of the dismantled structure.

Overlapping these two events was a plethora of paperwork pertaining to the hiring of new and replacement staff. Aggressive grant writing and subsequent grant awards in 2009 and early 2010 allowed the Kansas Forest Service to fill three new positions and refill a vacancy. The new positions are watershed forester, forest inventory and analysis / forest health forester, and a wood energy forester. The vacancy was the southeast district forester position. In all cases, the Kansas Forest Service attracted and subsequently recruited very talented persons. These persons have immersed themselves in their work and dividends are starting to flow.

An immediate outcome was state and district staff coaching, counseling, and mentoring of the watershed forester. Through this process, the watershed forester completed a riparian forest assessment for the Delaware River Watershed. This assessment provides a means of prioritizing stream banks in need of riparian forest treatment. Overlaying this information with landowner information allows for targeted education and outreach to landowners. Moreover, this information allows the agency to instill a contiguous approach to riparian forest management thus enhancing cumulative effects.



The forest inventory and analysis forester quickly immersed herself into the data collection functions of the inventory and analysis program. Her work will culminate in the 2010 Forest Inventory and Analysis report of the USDA Forest Service. She also immersed herself into two very threatening forest health issues, emerald ash borer and thousand cankers of black walnut. Should those insect and disease threats enter Kansas, the state has at risk its third and fifth most abundant commercial species as well as the states most valuable timber species, black walnut. Moreover the borer and the canker could wreak havoc on many landscape trees in towns and cities. In that regard, the Community Forestry staff, in cooperation with the Kansas Department of Agriculture and Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service, planned and conducted several workshops central to these forest health issues. These groups established thousand cankers monitoring protocols for the western part of the state and they established a quarantine for regulating the movement of black walnut materials into the state.

The wood energy and southeast district foresters began their employment late in the fiscal year thus their achievements are just beginning to gel. We are confident that these two foresters will add value to the agency and look forward to reporting on their activities in the 2011 annual report.

Fiscal year 2010 also brought professional recognition to the south central district forester, Dennis Carlson. Dennis was one of four field foresters across the nation selected as field forester of the year by the Society of American Foresters. Dennis was selected over peer field foresters from nine other states.

Fiscal year 2010 closed with a parking lot upgrade. Through the leadership of Kansas State University's Facilities staff, the agency's sidewalks, driveways, and parking lot were reshaped for handicap needs, repaved, and restriped. These improvements benefit the Kansas Forest Service's constituents and employees, and the university's motor pool staff and clients.

With added staff and upgraded facilities we are confident that the Kansas Forest Service can provide even more programs and services on behalf of, and in response to, the state's forests and related natural resources. As we enter 2011, we look forward to working with our many partners to advance natural resources appreciation in honor of the state's sesquicentennial and the United Nation's International Year of Forests.

Larry Biles
State Forester



COMMUNITY FORESTRY

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Technical assistance to communities in organizing public tree programs.
- Public tree assessments, inventories, and long-range management plans for communities with recommendations to improve the health of the public forest.
- Training sessions on timely tree care and management topics for professional arborists, municipal employees, and private citizens.
- Tree City USA, Tree City USA Growth, Tree Line USA, and Tree Campus USA recognition programs offered to cities and towns.
- Coordinated Kansas Arborists Association course, providing training for 40 arborists to become certified.

BENEFITS TO KANSANS

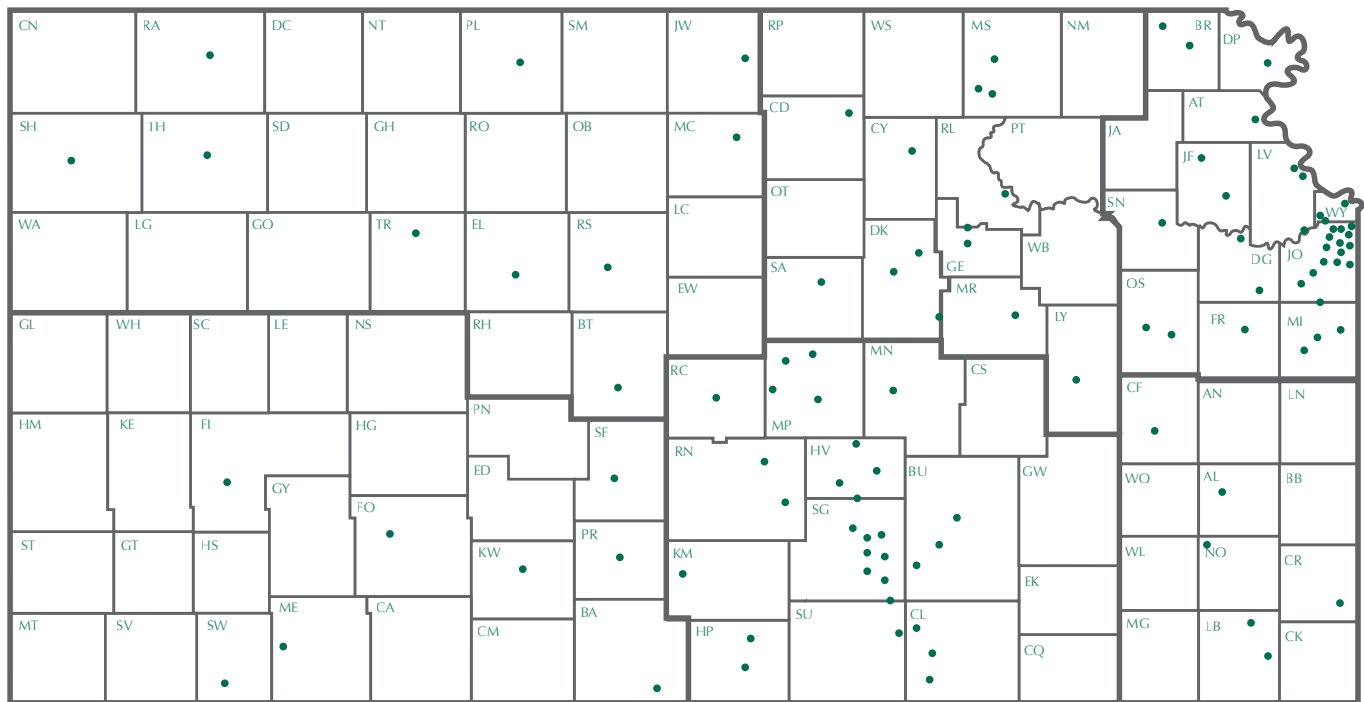
- An organized approach to public tree management results in a healthier, more diverse community tree population.
- A more attractive community draws potential residents and shoppers, resulting in positive economic impacts.
- Trees increase property values, reduce heating and cooling costs, sequester carbon, and improve the living environment.

SUMMARY OF 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Provided 261 technical forestry assists to 136 communities.
- Assisted 172 communities with active community forestry management plans representing 85 percent of the state's population.
- Assisted 15 communities with tree planting projects.
- Provided 29 training sessions for 948 participants representing 292 communities and an additional 43 outreach events with 1,931 participants.
- State and national recognition for 104 cities and towns as Tree City USAs; one public utility company received Tree Line USA recognition; and 12 communities received Growth Awards.
- Tree Board Members and other volunteers contributed 35,884 hours of service to their communities' tree resources.
- In 2010 Kansas TCUSA communities planted 12,058 trees, pruned 45,661 trees and removed 12,809 dead and dying trees.
- Kansas Tree City USA communities spent more than \$16.5 million managing their tree resource.



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● Certified Tree City USA Community

Tree City USA communities must meet national standards for managing public trees. Through the efforts of 541 tree board members, 102 departments and 541 volunteers, these communities collectively spent \$16.4 million to plant 11,834 trees, prune 45,489 trees and remove 12,786 dead and dying trees. Westar earned certification as a Tree Line USA Utility Company for the 12th year. Baker University earned certification as a Tree Campus USA for the first time.

SOUTH CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHWEST		
Anthony	25	Udall	1	Oskaloosa	15	*Marysville	30	
Arkansas City	16	Rose Hill	6	Ottawa	11	Salina	20	
Augusta	5	Wichita	24	*Overland Park	31	Waterville	33	
Bel Aire	14	Windom	17	*Paola	6			
Cunningham	17	Winfield	29	De Soto	8	Prairie Village	13	
Derby	17			*Fairway	25	*Roeland Park	17	
*El Dorado	17	SOUTHEAST		Gardner	7	*Shawnee	13	
Halstead	32	*Burlington	17	Hiawatha	10	Spring Hill	14	
Harper	13	Chanute	31	Kansas City	2	Topeka	24	
Haven	30	Iola	6	Lake Quivira	15	Troy	13	
Haysville	10	Oswego	20	Lansing	10	Valley Falls	15	
Hesston	25	Parsons	21	*Lawrence	32	Westwood	22	
Hillsboro	15	Pittsburg	5	Leavenworth	16	Westwood Hills	13	
*Hutchinson	16			Leawood	14			
*Lindsborg	25	NORTHWEST		Lenexa	22	NORTH CENTRAL		
Lyons	5	Atwood	14	Louisburg	13	Abilene	18	
Maize	12	Beloit	33	Lyndon	9	Blue Rapids	28	
Marquette	15	Colby	7	Merriam	25	Chapman	2	
McConnell AFB	16	Formoso	25	Mission	8	Clay Center	34	
*McPherson	32	Goodland	31	Mission Hills	18	Clyde	8	
*Mulvane	19	Great Bend	27	Morrill	5	Council Grove	14	
Newton	34	Hays	31	*Olathe	27	Emporia	24	
Oxford	11	Phillipsburg	23	Osage City	19	Ft. Riley	23	
Park City	11	Russell	24	Osawatomie	5	Herington	21	
Sedgwick	13	WaKeeney	21			Junction City	34	
						Manhattan	33	

Numbers denote years as a Tree City USA.

*Denotes Growth Award Recipient.

CONSERVATION TREE PLANTING

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Technical assistance in designing successful conservation tree and shrub plantings, meeting landowner's objectives.
- Spring and fall distribution of low-cost trees and shrubs for conservation planting including farmstead, livestock, and field windbreaks; living snow fences; timber production; riparian forest buffers; wildlife habitat; and Christmas tree production.
- Offer weed barrier fabric squares, root protective slurry, marking flags, and rabbit protective tubes to improve planting success.
- Tree planting and weed barrier installation machines are available on loan for large plantings.

BENEFITS TO KANSANS

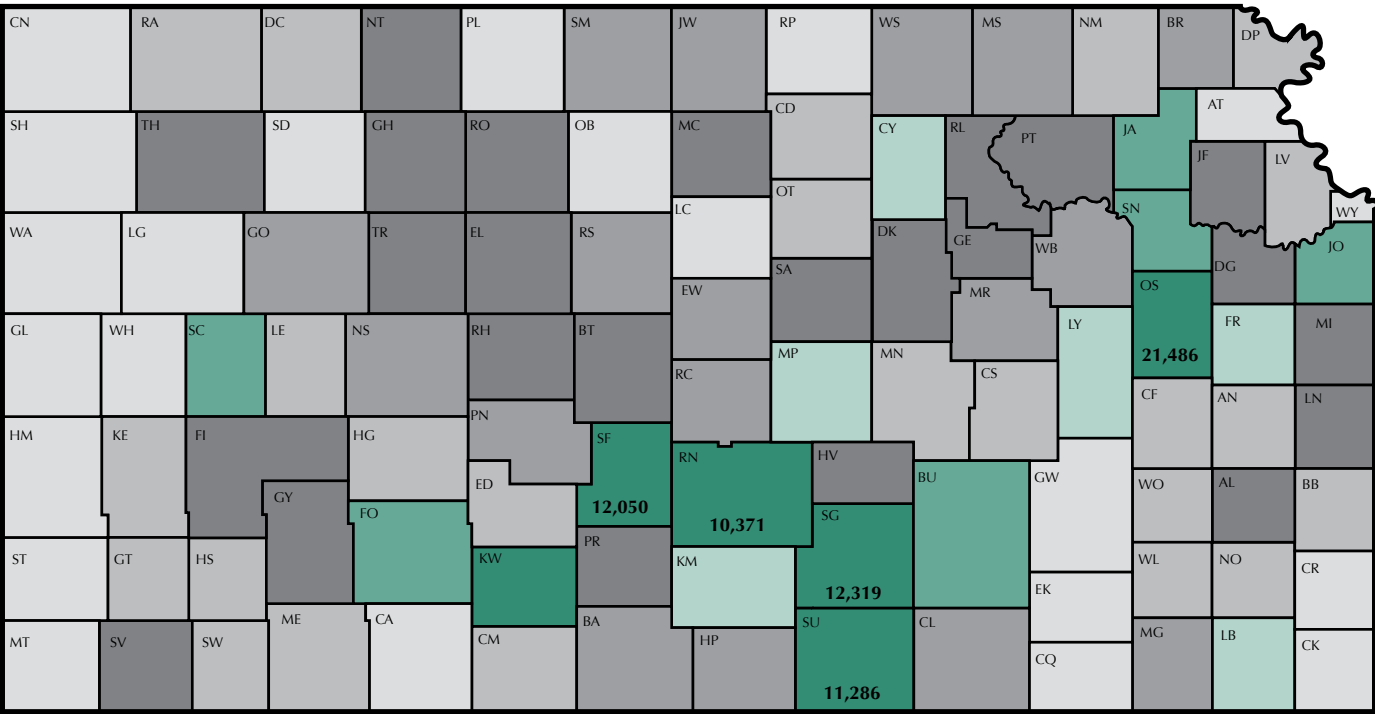
- Windbreak plantings reduce home energy costs; protect livestock during severe weather, reducing feed intake; and reduce cropland soil loss while increasing crop yields.
- Living snow fences keep roadways open during severe winter storms, reducing cost of snow removal.
- Quality wildlife habitat improves hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities, increasing revenue to rural areas of the state.
- Riparian forest buffers reduce nonpoint pollution and improve water quality, resulting in a reduction in municipal water treatment costs.
- A source of affordable, adaptable tree and shrub seedlings available to all landowners for conservation planting statewide.



SUMMARY OF 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed 54th year by filling 2,329 orders in 105 counties with 347,664 seedlings.
- Landowners planted 551 acres of windbreaks, 24 acres of riparian planting, 31 acres of woodlots, and 189 acres of wildlife habitat, totaling 795 acres.
- Sold 10,600 marking flags, 16,750 rabbit protective tubes, 170 units of root protective slurry, and 5,700 weed barrier fabric squares.
- Loaned three tree planting machines to landowners that were in use 31 days.
- Loaned three weed barrier machines to landowners for 30 days.
- Loaned one root plow to landowners for two days.

2010 COUNTY DISTRIBUTION OF SEEDLINGS



Distribution of Seedlings

- 1 - 1,000

1,001 - 2,000
- 2,001 - 3,000

3,001 - 5,000
- 5,001 - 6,000

6,001 - 9,000
- 9,001 - 21,500

(actual amounts are noted)

FIRE MANAGEMENT

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Train volunteer firefighters in fire behavior, proper fire fighting techniques and safety, and assist local fire departments with large wildland fires.
- Provide opportunities for Kansas firefighters to participate in Federal All-Risk deployments.
- Loan Federal Excess Property to fire departments serving communities of less than 10,000 population for wildland fire suppression as well as low-cost repair parts and technical assistance to keep them operational.
- Refurbish and distribute used fire equipment, donated from public and private sources, to rural fire departments through the Equipment Donation Program.
- Long-range planning for rural fire departments including recommendations for improvements in suppression techniques and equipment, prevention education, and lowering fire insurance premiums for commercial and residential property.
- Promote fire prevention through the Smokey Bear Program with costumes and wildland fire prevention material to fire departments, schools, and civic organizations.
- Prevention materials for homeowners to reduce the threat of wildland fire in rural and high-risk urban interface areas through Kansas Firewise Program.
- Cost-share funds to rural fire departments to purchase needed fire-fighting equipment.

DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL COST-SHARE FUNDS TO FIRE DEPTS



Distribution of Federal cost-share funds to rural fire departments by county
Total distribution for 2010: \$308,400 to 118 departments

- \$1 - 3,000
- \$3,001 - 5,000
- \$5,001 - 7,000
- \$7,001 - 9,000
- \$9,001 - 11,000
- \$11,001 - 16,500
- * Indicates Unused Funds
- ★ \$100,000 Fuel Reduction Grant (Total)

BENEFITS TO KANSANS

- Reduction in loss of life and property.
- Increased capability of rural fire departments in reducing wildland fire risk and suppressing fire.
- Savings to local taxpayers in acquiring vehicles and equipment.
- Educating communities about the value of fire prevention and proactive community involvement.
- Networking with state and federal agencies to improve the outcome of large natural and man-made disasters.
- Working proactively with other stakeholders to develop viable smoke management plans.
- Informing independent land managers about new and safe techniques to conduct prescribed burns.

SUMMARY OF 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Smokey Bear costumes appeared at 34 events; fire departments, schools, and civic organizations received 24,900 pieces of fire prevention materials; and displayed the Firewise Mobile Education trailer at seven events.
- Conducted 28 wildland fire training classes for 408 firefighters from 66 departments.
- Provided 287 pieces of equipment through the Equipment Donation Program with a replacement value of \$72,560.
- Prepared county-wide fire plans for Rice County and the city of Nashville.
- Facilitated one Fuel Reduction Project that provided training and employment for 32 wildland firefighter students. This project reduced fuel on 113 acres of K-State property, an additional 4,223 acres were treated in which Kansas Forest Service staff assisted our federal, state, local, and private partners.

VALUE OF FEDERAL EXCESS VEHICLES ON LOAN TO FIRE DEPTS



Acquisition value of Federal Excess vehicles in service at rural fire departments for wildland fire suppression

446 pieces of equipment in 79 counties with acquisition value of \$14.0 million

\$1 - 200,000

\$200,001 - 400,000

\$400,001 - 600,000

\$600,001 - 800,000

\$800,001 - 1,600,000

★ Counties with Master Fire Plan

RURAL FORESTRY

SERVICES PROVIDED

- On-site assessment of condition of forest and agroforestry resources.
- Long-term planning to protect and improve the health and productivity of forest and agroforestry resources with a focus on water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, soil conservation, recreation, and timber products.
- Short-term planning to implement forest stand improvement practices and tree plantings for field, farmstead, and livestock windbreaks, living snow fences, wildlife habitat, woodlots, and riparian forest buffers.
- Diagnosis and control of insect, disease and other threats to forestlands and tree plantings.
- Educational workshops, publications, and web resources on all aspects of forestry including financial incentives for implementing forestry practices.

BENEFITS TO KANSANS

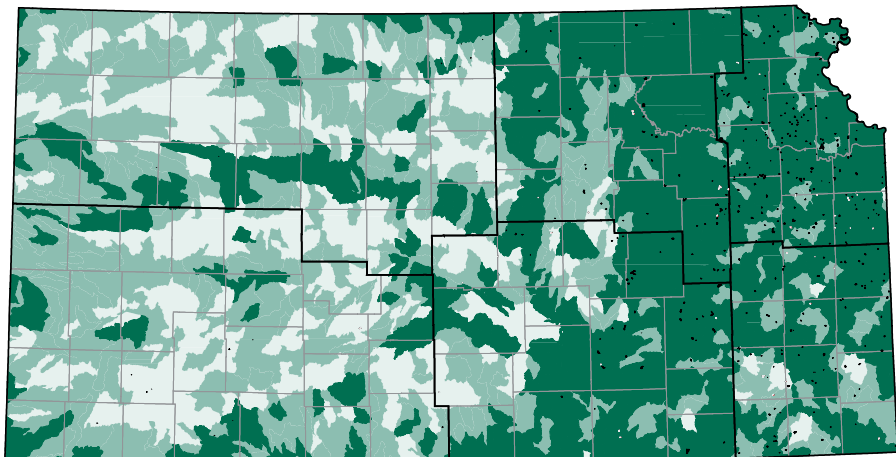
- Improved health and productivity of forestlands providing improved water quality, wildlife habitat, recreation, soil erosion control, streambank stabilization, carbon sequestration, and timber products.
- A total of 289,577 acres of windbreaks stretching 43,436 miles and protecting 1.2 million acres.
- Windbreaks that offer \$31 million dollars in improved crop yields and \$26 million in annual energy savings.
- Riparian forests that reduce soil sedimentation rates into lakes and reservoirs prolonging public water supplies and improving water quality.
- Forestland that provides habitat for 19 rare wildlife species identified in the Kansas Wildlife Action Plan that are in need of conservation and protection.



SUMMARY OF 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

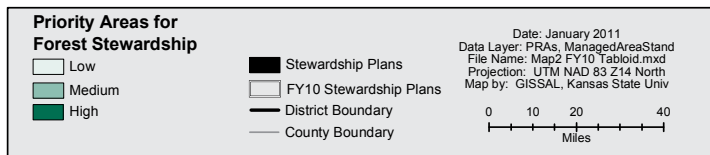
- Provided technical assistance to 261 private landowners.
- Prepared 35 comprehensive Forest Stewardship Management plans on 1,244 acres.
- Prepared 19 basic forest management plans for 1,325 acres.
- Prepared 151 practice plans, including timber stand improvement and tree planting on 650 acres.
- Implemented 464 acres of stand improvement and tree planting practices.
- Provided forestry technical assistance through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to forest landowners preparing 150 plans.
- Participated in or hosted 25 forestry workshops and educational sessions for 2,920 people.

PRIORITY AREAS FOR THE FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM AND PLANS



	Forest Stewardship Program Priority Ranking			Total:
	Low	Medium	High	
Acres Capable of Stewardship:	10,397,703	21,183,787	21,089,921	52,671,411
2010 Stewardship Plan (acres):	147	223	1,244	1,614
Stewardship Plan Acres 2000-2009:	861	3,348	14,133	18,342
Current Stewardship Plan Acres 2000-2010:	1,008	3,571	15,377	19,956
Total Stew. Plan vs. Acres Capable of Stew. (%)	0.01%	0.02%	0.07%	0.04%

Total Number of Acres in High Priority Areas Being Managed Sustainably: 10,303



Stewardship Potential	Priority Areas for the Forest Stewardship Program					
	Forest		Non-Forest		Total	
	Acres	% of Total For.	Acres	% of Total non-For.	Acres	% of Total
High	1,575,883	72%	19,514,038	39%	21,089,921	40%
Medium	498,885	23%	20,684,902	41%	21,183,787	40%
Low	108,922	5%	10,288,781	20%	10,397,703	20%
Total:	2,183,690		50,487,721		52,671,411	

Forest acreage based upon Kansas Land Cover Patterns Map 2005, developed by the Kansas Applied Remote Sensing, Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas

FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Forest Stewardship Program is a cooperative effort between the Kansas Forest Service and the USDA Forest Service that targets high priority private forestlands and encourages their management and protection through the preparation of long-term Forest Stewardship Management plans. The goals of the program are 1) to sustain forestlands in productive, healthy condition; 2) increase the economic, environmental and social benefits; and 3) enhance and protect timber, wildlife, soil, water, recreation, and aesthetics values.

- Nearly 21 million acres (42 percent) are considered “important forest resource areas” with high potential for forest stewardship.
- Within the last 10 years, 381 Forest Stewardship Management plans have provided recommendations for 19,956 acres (77 percent) in important forest resource areas.
- Kansas Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy is available at www.kansasforests.org/assessment.shtml

FOREST UTILIZATION AND MARKETING

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Provide list of active timber buyers, sawmill operators, and secondary processors for public and industry use.
- Training for forest industry personnel in harvesting techniques, processing logs, lumber grading, and chain saw safety.
- Assist in utilization of low-valued timber species as bio-fuels for energy conservation.
- Develop local markets for locally produced timber products.

BENEFITS TO KANSANS

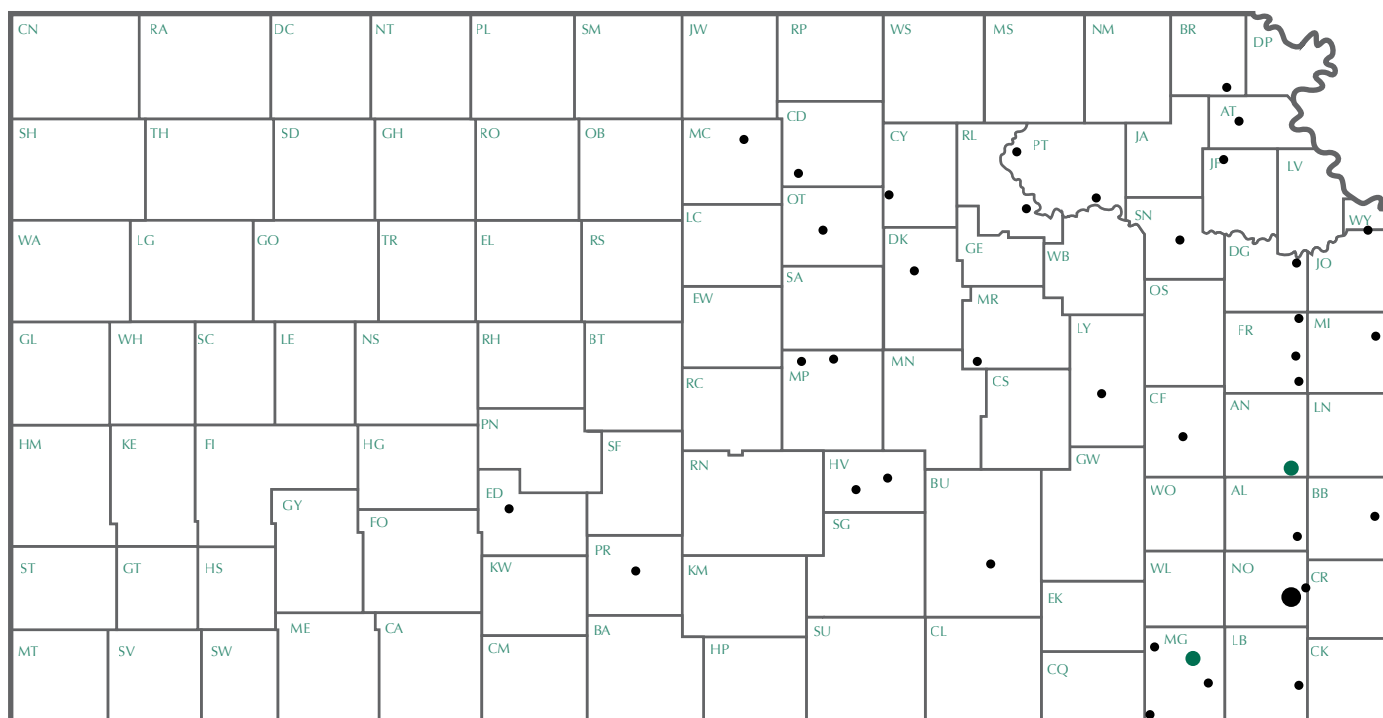
- The Kansas forest products industry contributes an estimated \$1.3 billion annually to the Kansas economy including 6,700 jobs with a payroll of \$329 million, \$63 million in federal income taxes, and \$39 million in other state taxes.
- Improved local economies through use of timber products by local sawmills and manufacturers.
- Access to loggers and sawmills for harvesting and processing timber products.
- Energy conservation through the use of wood as an alternative fuel.
- More efficient use of timber produced on private forestlands.

SUMMARY OF 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Assisted Frito Lay with the analysis of woody feedstock data to install a wood-fired boiler into their Topeka food-processing plant.
- Completed a statewide woody biomass supply and utilization assessment.
- Presented information on woody biomass energy opportunities to the Natural Resources Committee of the Kansas House of Representative and the Energy and Utilities Committee of the Kansas Senate.
- Assisted new wood pellet plant analyze “clinker” issue. Clinker information and material was routed to the USDA Forest Service Forest Products Laboratory.
- Secured grant funds for woody biomass staff position.
- Secured grant funds to quantify wood waste materials from towns and cities if emerald ash borer and thousand cankers of black walnut appear in Kansas.
- Worked with the Kansas Department of Agriculture to establish a statewide quarantine on the inbound movement of black walnut logs, lumber with bark, and nursery material.



PRIMARY SAWMILL LOCATIONS



Annual Mill Receipts in MBF (thousand board feet)

- Less than 100 MBF/year
- 100 - 1,000 MBF/year
- More than 1,000 MBF/year

FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Cooperate with the USDA Forest Service in conducting inventory of forestlands based on 5-year cycle with 20 percent of designated field plots completed annually.
- Provide information to forest industry, natural resource agencies and public on conditions of forestlands based on tree species, tree health, trees per acre, tree growth, and presence of non-native, invasive plants.

BENEFITS TO KANSANS

- Condition of forestlands is used by industry and natural resource agencies in long-range planning that affects potential jobs and management of programs.
- Public is informed of extent and benefits of forest resources.

SUMMARY OF 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed 147 field plots across the state and 11 plots designed to measure presence of ozone.
- Continue to promote findings from Kansas Forests 2005 report and annual 2010 report.



INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Web site including personnel, programs, publications, technical information, and events.
- Quarterly newsletter published and distributed in paper and electronic form.
- Technical publications available in paper and electronic form.
- Educational workshops, conferences, and field days for the public.
- Environmental education workshops for teachers and resource professionals through partnership with Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE).
- Annual Arbor Day Poster Contest in cooperation with the National Arbor Day Foundation.
- Forest resource and program information through newspapers, radio, and television.

BENEFITS TO KANSANS

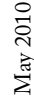
- Informed public understands the benefits of forest resources and makes wise decisions to improve and protect them for future generations.
- Private landowners, community employees, arborists, volunteers, and firefighters have readily available information to assist in meeting goals.
- Jobs, ecological restoration of forest and rangelands, and increased application of silviculture.

SUMMARY OF 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Published quarterly newsletter, Kansas Canopy, and distributed to 2,700 people.
- Produced news releases, displays, and radio and television spots for the public on a variety of forestry topics.
- More than 1,200 fifth-grade students and 70 educators participated in the annual Arbor Day Poster Contest with state and district winners recognized.
- 410 educators participated in 21 Project Learning Tree workshops reaching 12,300 Kansas children.
- Significant educational events included the Kansas Arborist Association Training Course, Kansas Forest Service Community Forestry Statewide Training sessions, Tree City USA Recognition Day, Agroforestry Field Day, Fall Forestry Field Day, and the Kansas Natural Resources Conference.



DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE,
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