

Part 1 – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

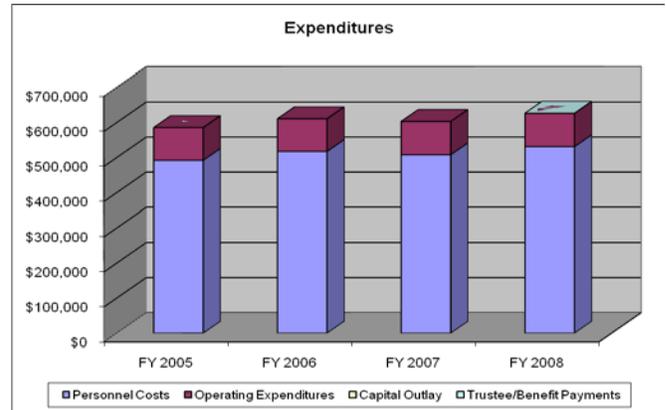
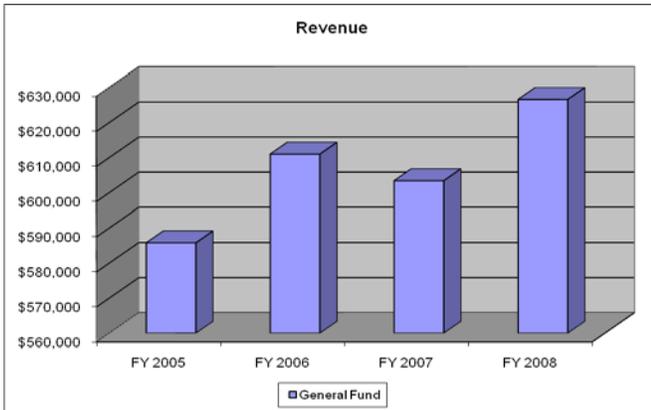
Research into forestry, forest nursery, and related areas is the mission of this program. Part of the College of Natural Resources, Forest Utilization Research also includes the Policy analysis Group which is charged with performing objective research into the critical natural resource issues facing this state and region.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

Forest Utilization Research House Bill No. 795

Revenue and Expenditures:

Revenue	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
General Fund	\$ 585,800	\$ 611,000	\$ 603,400	\$626,600
Total	\$ 585,800	\$ 611,000	\$ 603,400	\$626,600
Expenditure	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Personnel Costs	\$ 492,400	\$517,600	\$ 508,200	\$ 531,400
Operating Expenditures	93,400	93,400	95,200	95,200
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0
Trustee/Benefit Payments	0	0	0	0
Total	\$ 585,800	\$ 611,000	\$ 603,400	\$ 626,600



Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Number of Private Landowners Assisted: Pitkin Forest Nursery	2100	2200	2200	1500
Number of Seedling Industry Research Projects: Pitkin Forest Nursery	10	5	5	2
Number of:				
- Research Projects:				
Experimental Forest	2	4	3	6
Pitkin Forest Nursery	10	6	5	10
- Teaching Projects:				
Experimental Forest	65	70	70	50
Policy Analysis Group	12	14	17	12
Pitkin Forest Nursery	6	20	20	5
- Service Projects:				
Policy Analysis Group	12	14	17	12
Pitkin Forest Nursery	65	70	70	10

Performance Highlights:

Experimental Forest:

1. Teaching: NR101 course (Introduction to Natural Resources). The students learned about forest ecology and careers in forestry and they took measurements of forest characteristics.
2. Teaching: FOR569 course - The class did experimental procedures on bark beetles and other associated organisms.
3. Teaching: FOR404 course - Class diagnosed insect infestations.
4. Teaching: Forest Regeneration Field Course identified good and bad tree plantings, as well as potential problems.
5. Outreach: As part of the Intermountain Container Seedling Growers' Association annual meeting (65 people), looked at rooting problems in plantations.
6. Research: The Intermountain Forest Tree Nutrition Cooperative has two active studies located in the West Hatter Creek area of the UI Experimental Forest. One study is looking at forest site nutrient pools and growth effects of whole tree versus bole only harvesting. This study is looking at the effects of an operationally thinned and fertilized forest stand on nutrient pools, stand growth and insect infestation mechanisms.
7. Research: Comparison of Incoming Solar and Thermal Radiation in a Discontinuous Forest Relative to Varying Meteorological Conditions
8. Research: Snowmelt Energetics in Discontinuous Canopies. Activities were micrometeorological and snow measurements, and hydrological modeling.
9. Research: Examined the impact of thinning and fertilization on tree resistance mechanisms to insect pests.
10. Research: Identified a site on the school forest for planting gene archives for IETIC. The site selected at Big Meadow Creek is about 10 acres in size. The site has been cleared and is being prepared for the first plantings in 2009.

Policy Analysis Group:

Publication highlights included two Policy Analysis Group issue brief reports prepared in response to specific requests from Idaho legislators. One was "Timber Harvests and Receipts from National Forest System Lands in Idaho" prepared as requested testimony by the PAG director before the National Forest System and Woody Biomass Interim Committee. The other was "Carbon Sequestration Strategies in the Forest Sector" in reply to a legislator's question during the PAG director's testimony on wildfire management to the Resources and Environment Committee of the Idaho Senate. Presentation highlights included 1) wildfire risk assessment methods to the Joint Fire Sciences Program Governing Board, and 2) a situation report by the Forestry Task Force Chair (PAG director) to the Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance board or directors.

Pitkin Forest Nursery:

The University of Idaho Pitkin Forest Nursery, administered through the College of Natural Resources with guidance from stakeholders, emphasizes the tripartite components of a land grant university: teaching, research, and service. The nursery program has served the conservation needs of Idahoans since 1909. The mission of this program, achieved through our staff, students, collaborators, and facilities, focuses on native plant regeneration. We teach students and professionals, conduct relevant research, and serve the native plant industry and Idahoans by sharing information and producing high-quality nursery stock.

The University of Idaho Pitkin Forest Nursery interacted with approximately 1500 private landowners in 2007-08 through seedling orders and advice pertaining to seedling establishment. As well, two major industry-based research projects, with numerous field sites in the region, are ongoing. Approximately 10 additional new research projects were initiated. The nursery was an active participant in five courses offered through the Department of Forest Resources and provided service programs to approximately 10 Moscow area non-profit groups.

Approximately 10 new research projects were initiated in 2007-08. The results of three of these projects have been presented at regional science and professional association meetings, while the others are ongoing and should be completed in the current fiscal year. It is expected that this rate of research project initiation, maintenance, and completion should continue for the foreseeable future.

Part II – Performance Measures

	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	Benchmark
Number of New Research Projects Per Year:					
Experimental Forest	2	4	3	4	4
Pitkin Forest Nursery	4	4	5	4	5
Number of Research Studies Completed/Published Per Year	2	2	2	3	5
Number of publications:					
Experimental Forest	2	2	2	3	3
Policy Analysis Group	10	13	13	14	10
Pitkin Forest Nursery	10	6	5	10	10
Number of workshops conducted:					
Experimental Forest	12	11	13	11	12
Policy Analysis Group	12	14	17	18	18
Pitkin Forest Nursery	6	20	20	15	20

For More Information Contact

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