

**Part 1 – Agency Profile**

**Agency Overview**

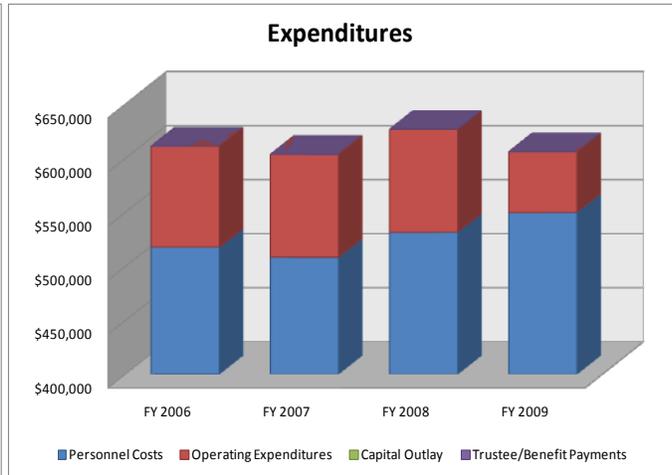
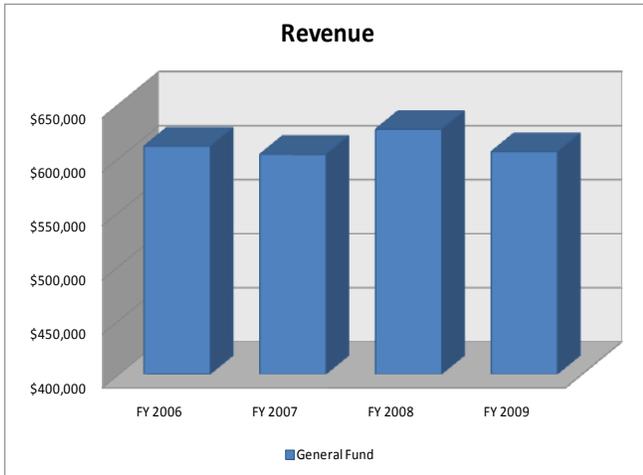
Research into forestry, forest nursery, and related areas is the mission of this program. Part of the College of Natural Resources, Forest Utilization Research also includes the Policy analysis Group which is charged with performing objective research into the critical natural resource issues facing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

**Core Functions/Idaho Code**

Forest Utilization Research House Bill No. 795

**Revenue and Expenditures:**

Revenue	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
General Fund	\$ 611,000	\$ 603,400	\$626,600	\$605,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 611,000</b>	<b>\$ 603,400</b>	<b>\$626,600</b>	<b>\$605,900</b>
Expenditure	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personnel Costs	\$517,600	\$ 508,200	\$ 531,400	\$549,600
Operating Expenditures	93,400	95,200	95,200	56,300
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0
Trustee/Benefit Payments	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 611,000</b>	<b>\$ 603,400</b>	<b>\$ 626,600</b>	<b>\$605,900</b>



**Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided**

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Number of Private Landowners Assisted: Pitkin Forest Nursery	2200	2200	1500	1600
Number of Seedling Industry Research Projects: Pitkin Forest Nursery	5	5	2	2
Number of:				
- Research Projects:				
Experimental Forest	4	3	6	13
Pitkin Forest Nursery	6	5	10	11
- Teaching Projects:				
Experimental Forest	70	70	50	28
Policy Analysis Group	14	17	12	25
Pitkin Forest Nursery	20	20	5	5
- Service Projects:				
Policy Analysis Group	14	17	12	19
Pitkin Forest Nursery	70	70	10	12

## Performance Highlights:

### Experimental Forest:

In FY2009 fifteen (8) CNR faculty conducted fifteen (15) distinct classes on experimental forest lands summarized as follows:

1. FOR 274 Forest Measurement & Inventory; A. Smith; 15-20 students (3-4 trips)
2. FOR 330 Forest Ecosystem Processes; K. Kavanagh; 30 students (3-4 trips)
3. FOR424 Forest Dynamics & Mgt.; K. Kavanagh; 26 students (1-2 trips)
4. FOR426/526 Wildland Fire Mgt. & Ecology; P. Morgan; 26 students (1-2 trips)
5. FOR 427 Prescribed Burning Lab; P. Morgan; 21 students; (4-5 trips)
6. FOR463 Hydrologic Measurement Techniques-Snowpack Properties Lab; T. Link; 5-16 students (1 trip)
7. FOR468 Forest & Plant Pathology; G. Newcombe; 18 students (1 trip)
8. FOR469 Introduction to Forest Insects; S. Cook; 23 students (1 trip)
9. FOR474 Forest Inventory; A. Smith; 25 students (2 trips)
10. FOR504 Snowcover/Veg. Interactions Lab; T. Link; 8 students (1 trip)
11. FOR529 Forest Ecosystem Analysis; K. Kavanagh; 5 students (2 trips)
12. FOR569 Advanced Forest Entomology; S. Cook; 8 students (2 trips)
13. NR101 Exploring Nat. Resources; P. Morgan, S. Cook; 25 students (4 trips)
14. REM357 Rangeland & Riparian Habitat Assessment; K. Launchbaugh; 15 students (1 trip)
15. CSS560 Community Ecology for Environmental Educators; L. Perreault; 17 students (1 trip)

The experimental forest promotes hands-on education as a significant and valuable supplement to a college education. Since 1972 the UIEF has hired College of Natural Resources Students in significant numbers as the work force of choice to provide the hands-on education spoken of in policy and to accomplish management objectives. In fact, student employees may be considered natural resources interns as they are taught job skills well beyond what is required to accomplish the work-at-hand, are required to think critically and solve problems on a daily basis. Some work assignments may be considered to include technology transfer as students learn to use state-of-the-art equipment and techniques. In FY2009 fourteen (14) students were employed providing labor at 4,225 person hours.

Returning for the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) year to the experimental forest was the State FFA Career Development Events Forestry Competition. Experimental forest staff and four student employees set up and ran the competition events as defined by the State FFA organization. Sixty six (66) students and eight (8) advisors were involved in this one day event in 2009. Our outreach program attracts Idaho citizens of all ages and all walks of life from school teachers to practicing foresters.

### Policy Analysis Group:

Publication highlights included Policy Analysis Group issue brief reports prepared in response to specific requests from Idaho legislators. Additionally PAG Fact Sheet #4 "High Forest Mortality and Low Timber Removal Rates in the Western States Promise Hazardous Fuel Accumulations and Big Fires" and PAG Fact Sheet #5 "Environmental Benefits of Using Biomass as an Energy Feedstock" were prepared. Presentation highlights covered topic such as; wildfire risk assessment methods, bio-products and materials, wood bio-energy, and climate change. The Director has remained actively engaged on numerous state and federal level task forces dealing with policy issues of great importance to Idaho.

### 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.

Collaborating on research with 6 faculty members in Forest Resources, Rangeland Ecology and Management, and Forest Products has produced a new integrated approach. Current research areas include forest and range regeneration and restoration, improving understanding of seed germination, the effect of nursery culture on seedling quality assessment, evaluation of potential detrimental effects of herbicide application, and water conservation in nursery settings. Forest Utilization Research support has resulted in external support to further enhance our infrastructure, and in 2008-09 this included our receipt of a Faxitron Digital X-ray machine (value of \$70,000), Remsoft forest management software (value of \$50,000), and a suite of seedling root-growth

analysis equipment (value of \$15,000). This has improved the quality of facilities at the seedling quality assessment laboratory.

Approximately 400,000 seedlings were produced and supplied to over 1600 stakeholders in 2008-09. Seedling quality remained high, and new seedling stock types were developed in response to feedback received from the Inland Empire Christmas Tree Association. These seedlings will reduce tree farm establishment costs and thus help North Idaho’s Christmas tree growers remain competitive. Stakeholders range from non-industrial private forestland owners to large companies and conservation districts.

**Part II – Performance Measures**

<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>FY 2006</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>
Number of New Research Projects Per Year:					
Experimental Forest	4	3	4	6	4
Pitkin Forest Nursery	4	5	4	5	5
Number of Research Studies Completed/Published Per Year	2	2	3	3	5
Number of publications:					
Experimental Forest	2	2	3	2	3
Policy Analysis Group	13	13	14	19	10
Pitkin Forest Nursery	6	5	10	12	10
Number of workshops conducted:					
Experimental Forest	11	13	11	6	12
Policy Analysis Group	14	17	18	25	18
Pitkin Forest Nursery	20	20	15	21	20

**For More Information Contact**

William McLaughlin  
 Special Programs, Forest Utilization Research  
 College of Natural Resources  
 University of Idaho  
 Moscow, ID 83844-1138  
 Phone: (208) 885-6442  
 E-mail: [billm@uidaho.edu](mailto:billm@uidaho.edu)