

# FY2011 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

## McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry

*Greater research investment needed to keep U.S. forests healthy and productive and to provide wood products, clean water, fish and wildlife habitat, and myriad other benefits to the American public.*

Approximately one-third of the United States is forested and these forests enhance our quality of life and economic vitality and are an invaluable source of renewable bioproducts, outdoor recreation, clean water, and fish and wildlife habitat.

Sustaining these forests in a healthy and productive condition requires a strong, continuing commitment to scientific research and graduate education.

Foundational financial support for university-based forestry research and graduate education comes from the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry program, funded through the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). Funds are distributed according to a statutory formula to each of the 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands, with a dollar-for-dollar match required from the states.

Congress has provided funding increases in the last five years and the schools and colleges of forestry and natural resources have developed a McIntire-Stennis strategic plan. As outlined in the strategic plan, significantly enhanced McIntire-Stennis funding is critical to:

- Deliver scientific results and management technologies to forest land owners, managers, and policy-makers.
- Prepare the future workforce in forestry and related natural resource science for the 21st Century.



### McIntire-Stennis funding is essential to...

- Provide the additional scientific discoveries needed to address critical forest issues such as fires, storms, insects, diseases, urbanization, fragmentation, and lost economic opportunities.
- Develop new knowledge and innovations to sustain healthy, productive forests and address the challenges facing forest owners, forest products manufacturers and all Americans who benefit from our forest resources.
- Support research capacity in each state to address issues essential to their private forest owners, and develop new opportunities for economic benefit from their forests.

**A·P·L·U urges members of the Senate and House to support the highest possible FY2011 McIntire-Stennis appropriation. Since both chambers have instituted an earmark moratorium, we urge the reallocation of these project funds to the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry account and our other NIFA priorities.**

**A·P·L·U appreciates the fact that the House has recognized the significant national value of the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry program by recommending a funding level of \$34.816 million in H.R. 1, the FY 2011 Full Year Continuing Resolution.**

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