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Support the Forest Inventory and Analysis Program

Through a national network of plot measurements and rigorous data analysis, FIA assesses the rate of land use changes, the loss of native plant species, the spread of non-native insects and invasive pests, loss of threatened and endangered species habitat, wildfire risk, and more. The FIA program is the only reliable means of gauging changes in timber supply, wildlife habitat, and forest threats nationwide.

State foresters are the primary partners in FIA program delivery. Every year, states contribute more than \$5 million to shorten the inventory's measurement cycles, increase the number of research plots, and measure additional forest attributes.

In FY22, state and territorial foresters ask that FIA be allocated \$93.5 million, including \$32.4 million to guarantee sufficient funding for state partner agreements that deliver the program. Increases to FIA funding should not be made at the expense of USDA Forest Service Research and Development or State and Private Forestry programs. NASF also asks that Congress work with the Forest Service to establish a budget line item for FIA salaries and expenses.



Since the 1930s, the nation's forest census has provided data collection, analysis, and reporting on forest conditions countrywide. It's findings support: (1) national, regional, and state-level analysis of forest health and land-use trends; (2) forest products industry planning and investment; (3) wildfire protection and risk analysis; and (4) wildlife habitat assessments.

Through FIA, the USDA Forest Service implements annual forest sampling in 49 states, with Hawaii and the U.S. territories receiving specialized periodic sampling. Nationally, there is one plot for every 6,000 acres, or more than 300,000 plots nationwide across all forest ownerships.

When sufficiently funded, FIA measures these plots every five years in the East and every ten years in the West. The forest industry, a sector which provides at least 2.8 million U.S. jobs, uses this data routinely to make management and investment decisions.

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