



Republic of Palau



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

	FY 2004 Final	FY 2004 Final	FY 2005 Estimate	FY 2005 Estimate
Programs	SPF	NFP	SPF	NFP
Coop Forest Health Management	\$30,000	\$39,824	\$25,000	\$39,824
Forest Health Prevention and Suppression	\$24,000	\$24,680	\$30,000	\$30,100
State Fire Assistance	-	-	-	-
Volunteer Fire Assistance	-	-	-	-
Forest Stewardship Program	\$45,000	\$31,360	\$50,000	\$33,530
Stewardship Incentives	-	-	-	-
Forest Legacy Program	-	-	-	-
Urban and Community Forestry	\$60,000	\$80,312	\$75,000	\$77,809
Economic Action Programs	-	-	-	-
PNW Assistance Program	-	-	-	-
Forest Resource Information and Analysis	-	-	-	-
Forest Land Enhancement Program	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	\$159,000	\$176,176	\$180,000	\$181,263

The cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the Republic of Palau, the USDA Forest Service and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of Palau's forest lands and rural economies. Emphasis focuses on timber and other forest products, wildlife, water resources, rural economies and conservation practices. The goal is to maintain and improve the health of Palau's urban and rural forests and related economies. These programs:

- *Increase cost effectiveness* through the use of partnerships in delivery,
- *Increase values* through sustained productivity of forests, and
- *Are voluntary*, and use non-regulatory approaches.

Key Issues:

Key issues which state and federal programs will address together in the next few years include:

- Expansion of the nursery, extension and reforestation programs.
- Diversification of nursery production including greater use of native species.
- Public education and participatory planning to conserve mangrove forests.
- Reduction of the adverse impacts of invasive plant species on Palau's native lands.

- Sharing initiative and resources with traditional leaders, states (within Palau), villages, schools women’s groups and non-profit groups, through a mini-grants program and other assistance under the Urban and Community Forestry Program. Forest Facts and 2004 Accomplishments.

SELECTED FACTS		FY 2004 ACCOMPLISHMENTS	
Population	19,129	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)	
Acres of Forest Land		Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year)	
Acres of NonIndustrial Private Forest Land		Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years)	
Number of NIPF Landowners		Multi-resource practices implemented on NIPF - Acres	
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection		Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted SPF NFP	
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection		State Fire – Communities Assisted SPF NFP	
Number of Rural Fire Departments		Coop Forest Health – Acres Protected SPF NFP	
Number of Cities and Towns		Coop Forest Health – Acres Surveyed SPF NFP	
Forest Based Employment		Forest Legacy Project Acquisition - Acres	
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)		Urban Forestry -Participating communities	16
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)		Urban Forestry –Volunteer Assistance Generated-Days	
		EAP-Communités working under broad-based local strategic plans	
		PNW-Communities working under broad-based local strategic	

Program Highlights:

Urban and Community Forestry:

- The U&CF program has hired a new Coordinator of Volunteers, namely Ms. Alice Pangelinan. Ms. Pangelinan has past experience in working with youth and community groups and is very eager about her work. She has been working diligently for the past couple of months and has conducted several tree plantings and meetings with community members.
- Conducted four tree plantings at Ngardok Lake Nature Reserve with students from Palau High School, Ibobang High School, and Ngiwal Elementary School where a total of 164 students planted approximately 280 native tree species. A total area of about ½ acre at Ngardok Lake Nature Reserved was planted. Students and their teachers were able to walk down and tour the trail at the lake and see the newly constructed floating dock and boardwalk.
- The Ngardok Lake trail floating dock and boardwalk has been completed and is in use.
- During the Festival of Pacific Arts, Ngardok Lake was able to generate revenue so the Nature Reserve Board took action and opened an account so that the revenue could be used for the maintenance of the trail. This is the first step for Ngardok Trail to become a sustainable project.
- Ibobang High School has submitted a proposal to start a Noni plantation on their school campus. Even though the proposal has not been reviewed by our local U&CF Council, the student have initiated work by having the area for the plantation surveyed by Forestry staff and have also prepared seedling to be planted in the plantation.
- Conducted two U&CF Council meetings where council members reviewed four proposals. The four proposals were, Ibobang Tree Plantation, Ngatpang Tree Planting, Aimeliik Tree Planting and

Ngarameliwei Path Restoration Project. All except the Aimeliik Tree Planting project were approved. Aimeliik state was supposed to revise their proposal and resubmit it to the council for approval but never did.

Landowner Assistance:

- Renovations on the roof of the National Forestry Nursery at Nekken, Aimeliik have been completed.
- Distributed 4,979 seedlings of native and fruit trees to local interested farmers and individuals.
- Our Peace Corps Volunteer has completed a native tree species propagation trial. He took 22 native tree species for the experiment and had 15 that were successfully propagated.
- Boundary survey and mapping for one private farmer has been completed and more work on the management plan for the farmer will follow soon.
- A second boundary survey has been started with another private farmer and mapping and work on the management plan will follow soon.

Forest Health Protection:

- Conducted 4th Annual Mikania cleanup in Koror in May 2004. Over 50 volunteers showed up to clean up Mikania sites around the Palau Community College campus.
- Conducted community meetings in Ngarchelong, Ngaraard, Ngatpang, Ngiwal, Kayangel, and Peleliu states to raise community level awareness on invasive weeds in their respective states and what they can do to help combat the problem.
- Conducted schools visits and presentations on invasive weeds at Ibobang, Ngiwal, and Kayangel Elementary schools.
- Attended Earth Day activities and had an invasive weed clean up during that time.
- Conducted Strategic Planning Workshop with Ms. Ann Marie LaRosa and completed the 5 year Strategic Plan for Invasive Weeds.
- Updated Mikania and Imperata map; maps will be completed by the end of 2004.
- In Ngiwal State, a person was hired through the initiative of the Ngiwal State Delegate, Noah Idechong, to combat Merremia along the compact road within the state. For 2 ½ months this person worked alone and has successfully suppressed the growth of Merremia manually. This person was paid by another federal grant and by the office of the Delegate on a short-term contract for only 6 months.
- Conducted community meetings in several states in Babeldaob to meet with community people on strategies and plan of actions to take on Merremia control. This was carried out based on state requests.
- Conducted first Merremia clean up in Ngarchelong, Ngaraard States based on the Governor's requests and Ngiwal State based on a request made by parents of the elementary school students.
- Made trips to all elementary schools on Babeldaob to do a presentation on invasive weeds and how they threat our forest and the environment and also distributed invasive weed booklets, posters, and tree planting guide booklet.
- Conducted three Merremia clean ups with elementary schools students on Babeldaob.
- The total area treated of Merremia infested areas is 6,000 sq. ft. while the total area cleared is 20,000 sq. ft.
- A total of 10 news articles have been published in the local newspapers on the invasive weed clean-ups.
- Merremia clean up in Ngatpang State in conjunction with the Division of Fish and Wildlife is on going.
- Conducted 2nd Annual Mikania clean up in Peleliu where over 100 volunteers from Koror and Babeldaob went to Peleliu to assist in the clean up.

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