



Forest Service Accomplishments Summary FY 2004

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service Strategic Planning and Resource Assessment

The Executive Leadership Team of the Forest Service selected the FY 2004 Executive Priorities as the key performance measures aligned to the USDA Forest Service Strategic Plan 2004-2008. These Executive Priorities were the basis for the Forest Service's Performance and Accountability Report—Fiscal Year 2004 (P&AR).



To meet Congress' accelerated reporting timelines for FY 2004, the Forest Service developed a process to project annual accomplishments prior to the close of the fiscal year, using existing data sources and tools. All performance information in the P&AR is *projected*, whereas in this Accomplishment Summary, the information is the 12-month *actual* performance. You will find differences between the two sets of performance numbers.

GOAL 1: Reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire.

In FY 2004, the Forest Service minimized the harmful effects of wildland fires to communities and natural resources by reducing the flammability of hazardous fuels in forests, woodlands, shrublands, and grasslands. To accomplish this, the agency sought landscape-scale improvements in hazardous fuels by prioritizing vegetative treatments across national forests for In addition to hazardous fuels reduction, these treatments may have also included:

- Invasive species mitigation.

- Insect and disease prevention or control.
- Watershed improvement.
- Fish and wildlife enhancement.
- Range betterment.
- Stand density management.

For information on condition classes and fire regimes, or on approaches to reducing risk from wildland fire, refer to: *A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment: 10-Year Comprehensive Wildland Fire Strategy* (Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture, 2001).

GOAL 2: Reduce the impacts from invasive species.

Invasive species—particularly insects, pathogens, plants, and aquatic pests—pose a long-term risk to the health of the Nation's forests and grasslands by interfering with natural and managed ecosystems, degrading wildlife habitat, reducing the sustainable production of natural-resource-based goods and services, and increasing the susceptibility of ecosystems to other disturbances such as fire and flood. Often when new organisms are introduced into ecosystems and their natural enemies do not follow, the organisms multiply rapidly and serious consequences occur. Habitat fragmentation (the division of forest and grassland habitat into smaller, more isolated patches) limits containment and eradication of invasive species.

GOAL 3: Provide high-quality recreation while sustaining natural resources.

The Forest Service continued to provide high-quality recreational experiences for the American public, especially in the national forests near the growing urban centers. To provide benefits for all recreational users, the Forest Service maintained public access to its facilities, roads, and trails, and acquired new rights-of-way (ROW) for public access to NFS lands.



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GOAL 4: Help meet energy resource needs.

A specific strategy is currently being developed to address this strategic goal and objectives within the context of the Forest Service's multiple use mandate. The new strategy will be implemented within the 2004 to 2008 Strategic Plan window.

The strategic objectives are:

- Work with other agencies to identify and designate corridors for energy facilities, improve the efficiency of processing permit applications, and establish appropriate land tenure (including transferability clauses) in easements and other authorizations to provide for long-term project viability.
- Stimulate commercial use of small-diameter trees from NFS lands for biomass energy.

GOAL 5: Improve watershed condition.

Many Americans depend on NFS watersheds for their public water supplies at home and while enjoying outdoor recreation as they visit the national forests and grasslands. Sustaining functional watershed

conditions over time maintains the productive capacity of the Nation's land and water.

In FY 2004, the Forest Service worked toward achieving the desired ecological conditions of the Nation's watersheds through enhancements to stream, lake, and terrestrial habitat, as well as completing over 100 watershed assessments for future enhancements of these habitats.

The agency also provided technical, educational, and planning assistance through State forestry agency partners, thus ensuring the long-term management of important private forest resource areas.

GOAL 6: Improve productivity and efficiency.

The Forest Service provides direction for natural resource stewardship through direct land management practices, indirect management under partnership agreements, and research and development programs. The agency also provides many goods and services—such as recreational opportunities, clean water, and wood products—to the American people. The agency consistently strives to maintain the organizational structure and capacity to deliver the necessary mission-related work.

FY 2004 Executive Priorities	2004 PLANNED	2004 PROJECTED ¹	2004 ACTUAL ²
Goal 1: Reduce the risk from catastrophic wildland fire			
Number of acres of hazardous fuels treated with Direct Hazardous Fuels dollars that are in the wildland urban interface.	1,016,759	1,294,598	1,320,317
Number of acres of hazardous fuels treated with Other (NOT Direct Hazardous Fuels) dollars that are in the wildland urban interface.	292,720	313,770	274,330
Number of acres treated with Direct Hazardous Fuels dollars that are in Condition Classes 2 or 3 in Fire Regimes 1, 2, or 3 outside the wildland-urban interface.	590,876	398,319	418,135
Number of acres treated with Other (NOT Direct Hazardous Fuels) dollars that are in Condition Classes 2 or 3 in Fire Regimes 1, 2, or 3 outside the wildland-urban interface.	317,084	253,114	215,400
Number of acres brought into stewardship contracts	90,000	29,711	41,834

¹ Projected performance was based on 9 months of actual performance and 3 months of estimated performance.

² Actual 2004 performance was compiled December 16, 2004.



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FY 2004 Executive Priorities	2004 PLANNED	2004 PROJECTED¹	2004 ACTUAL²
Goal 2: Reduce the impacts from invasive species			
Noxious weeds acres treated	67,438	85,081	103,703
Number of acres treated for selected invasives species	1,046,482	1,046,482	1,046,482
Goal 3: Provide high-quality recreation while sustaining resources			
Miles of road maintained to standard (high-clearance and passenger)	54,800	64,866	103,748
Number of facilities maintained to standard	15,465	19,743	15,465
Miles of trail maintained to standard	19,630	22,657	23,160
Number of ROW acquired to provide public access	244	215	182
Goal 4: Help meet energy resource needs			
A specific strategy is currently being developed to address this strategic plan goal within the context of the Forest Service's multiple use mandate. The new strategy will be implemented within the 2004-2008 strategic plan window.	NA	NA	NA
Goal 5: Improve watershed condition			
Watershed assessments completed	122	130	116
Acres of terrestrial habitat enhanced to achieve desired ecological conditions	232,350	217,999	218,727
Miles of stream habitat enhanced to achieve desired ecological conditions	1,860	1,797	1788
Acres of lake habitat enhanced to achieve desired ecological conditions	10,953	14,771	12,451
Goal 6: Improve productivity and efficiency			
Acres of land adjustments to conserve the integrity of undeveloped lands and habitat quality	699,461	640,481	666,018
Acres Adjusted to conserve the integrity of undeveloped lands and habitat quality	341,536	54,896	56,948
Acres Acquired to conserve the integrity of undeveloped lands and habitat quality	57,925	50,954	45,884
Acres Protected by Legacy Program to conserve the integrity of undeveloped lands and habitat quality	300,000	534,632	563,186
Number of Land and Resource Management Plans (LRMPs) developed or revised	14	12	12
Number of forest plan monitoring reports completed	105	112	96
Not aligned to a Strategic Goal			
Grazing allotments analyzed with decisions signed (NEPA)	368	472	405



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<i>Actual (not Projected) Accomplishments by Executive Priorities</i>	<i>RESULTS³</i>
Reduced risk from catastrophic wildland fire	
1,320,317 acres of hazardous fuel within the WUI that are treated with Direct Hazardous Fuels funding	EXCEEDED
274,330 acres of hazardous fuel within the WUI that are treated, but not with Direct Hazardous Fuels funding	UNMET
418,135 acres in Condition Classes 2 or 3 in Fire Regimes 1, 2, or 3 outside the WUI that are treated with Direct Hazardous Fuels funding	UNMET
215,400 acres in Condition Classes 2 or 3 in Fire Regimes 1, 2, or 3 outside the WUI treated, but not with Direct Hazardous Fuels funding	UNMET
41,834 acres brought into stewardship contracts	New Baseline
Communities at risk with completed and current fire management plans or risk assessments	No specific measurement protocol in FY 2004
Acres covered by partnership agreements	New Baseline
Reduced impact from invasive species	
103,703 acres of noxious weeds acres treated	EXCEEDED
1,046,482 acres treated for selected invasives species	MET
High-quality recreation provided	
103,748 miles of road maintained to standard (high-clearance and passenger)	EXCEEDED
15,465 facilities maintained to standard	MET
23,160 miles of trail maintained to standard	EXCEEDED
182 rights-of-way acquired to provide public access	UNMET
National Forest System lands covered by travel management implementation plans	No specific measurement protocol in FY 2004
Improved watershed condition	
116 watershed assessments completed	MET
1,618,000 acres of nonindustrial private forest land under approved stewardship management plans	MET
218,727 acres of terrestrial habitat enhanced to achieve desired ecological conditions	UNMET

³ Actual performance information will be analyzed in order to evaluate why a planned accomplishment was **EXCEEDED** (>105% of planned performance) or **UNMET** (<95% of planned performance). This analysis will be available in April 2005.



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<i>Actual (not Projected) Accomplishments by Executive Priorities</i>	<i>RESULTS³</i>
12,451 of lake habitat enhanced to achieve desired ecological conditions	EXCEEDED
1,788 miles of stream habitat enhanced to achieve desired ecological conditions	MET
<i>Improved productivity and efficiency</i>	
76 percent of the Nation for which forest inventory and analysis (FIA) information is accessible to external customers	New Baseline
Percent of performance data were current and complete	New Baseline
666,018 acres of land adjustments to conserve the integrity of undeveloped lands and habitat quality (sum of next three rows)	MET
56,948 acres adjusted (exchanged) to conserve the integrity of undeveloped lands and habitat quality	UNMET
45,884 acres acquired to conserve the integrity of undeveloped lands and habitat quality	UNMET
563,186 acres protected by Legacy Program to conserve the integrity of undeveloped lands and habitat quality	EXCEEDED
12 Land Management Plans (LMPs) revisions completed	UNMET
Proportion of data within information systems that are current to standard	No specific measurement protocol in FY 2004
96 forest plan monitoring reports completed	UNMET

MORE INFORMATION

If you wish to learn more about performance accountability in the Forest Service, please visit our Website at www.fs.fed.us to download a copy of the Forest Service Performance and Accountability Report—Fiscal Year 2004.