

# Spatial Analysis Project – WebDET / WinDET

USDA Forest Service (Arial 8 pt)

**Northeastern Area**

State and Private Forestry



**Description:** The Spatial Analysis Project (SAP) was originally designed by the 20 states served by the Northeastern Area (NA) with NA staff to support the Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) as a tool for state forestry agency partners to assess areas across the landscape that could most benefit from FSP assistance. SAP, adopted by all fifty states and nine territories, now provides a foundation and methodology for development of State Forest Resource Assessments (per State and Private Forestry [S&PF] Redesign Components: “*States are encouraged to build on the existing Spatial Analysis Project and other geospatial analyses available...*”) SAP continues to provide States the tool to report and spatially display FSP accomplishments in important forest resource areas, and monitor Forest Stewardship Plan implementation.

WebDET, an outgrowth of SAP, is a geodatabase computer application developed to aid state forestry agencies to maintain SAP stewardship plan activities and accomplishments. NA provides significant project coordination in the development, design, and implementation of this Forest Service application. WebDET and WinDET (desktop version) respond directly to the NA mission and vision, and are being implemented according to all of NA’s guiding principles. They touch every goal of the NA Strategic Plan in innovation, focus on sustainable forest management, and providing effective public service.

## **Key Issues:**

- SAP will likely become a component of S&PF Redesign’s State Forest Resource Assessments, intended to provide in-depth analyses of forest conditions and trends in states and delineate important forest areas to focus efforts.
- WebDET is precedent-setting for the Forest Service, in providing a geodatabase computer application to state forestry agencies and their partners – private consultant foresters.
- WebDET was primarily developed to support the FSP, but has the potential to track and report activities and accomplishments for other programs supported by the Forest Service and implemented by state forestry agencies.

## **Accomplishments:**

- 20 NA states’ SAP statewide assessments were completed by April 15, 2007. NA developed a regional composite of the assessments; the first and only composite, thus far, in the nation.
- With state contributions, NA is the only major Forest Service unit (region or Area) able to fully identify and report on their “Important Forest Resource Areas” as defined in the FSP National Standards and Guidelines, and per FSP reporting requirements for FY 07.
- Twelve NA states have completed their SAP historic Stewardship Plan database and were able in FY 07 to report on new or revised Forest Stewardship Management plans in important forest resource areas.
- Seven states are in the process of developing their SAP historic Stewardship Plan Database.
- WinDET (desktop version) was developed and tested during FY 07 and released as a beta on Sept. 17. This provides NA states with the capability of writing a Stewardship Plan and recording spatial and attribute components to the plan as it is approved and uploaded to WebDET, enabling states to meet FSP performance reporting requirements in FY 08.
- The NA team within the national WebDET effort has provided significant support to troubleshooting the application with national teams of S&PF, CIO and contracted developer.

**Budget History:**

<b>NA Spatial Analysis Project</b> <i>(\$ Thousands)</i>				
	<b>FY 2005</b>	<b>FY 2006</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>
Forest Stewardship	\$230	\$176	\$250	0

**Future Direction:**

These activities are planned to continue the USDA Forest Service role:

- Fully deploy WinDET to all interested state forestry agencies and their partners.
- Deploy WebDET 1.3 in full production, pending USDA and Forest Service security clearances.
- Develop WebDET 2.0, with increased functionality and performance, and capability to report other program planned activities and accomplishments.
- Assist state forestry agencies in the transition from SAP state assessments to S&PF Redesign State Forest Resource Assessments.

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January 2008 – revised