

DIVISION OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY



FISCAL YEAR 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

523 East Capitol Ave.
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182
Phone: (605) 773-3623
Toll Free Hotline: 1-800-228-5254 (SD Calls Only)

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Introduction

The mission of the Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry is to conserve, protect, improve, and develop the natural resources of South Dakota for its citizens.

The Division continues to implement its mission through the active implementation of the strategic plan. The plan is reviewed on an annual basis to make sure that it is relevant.

This year we continue to receive Forest Health Program grants funds to address the growing beetle epidemic in the Black Hills. This epidemic shows no sign of collapse, and, even though the devastation has occurred predominantly on federal lands, it threatens to move onto private forestlands in the near future. We continue to attack the problem on state and private lands in an aggressive manner. Our efforts are hindered by large areas of infestation on adjacent federal lands.

The Forest Land Enhancement Program was created and funded by Congress in the 2002 Farm Bill. The division received some funding under this program which was used to provide cost/share to private forest landowners.

The division, as part of our strategic plan, has implemented an urban tree inventory system that will provide us with needed information on the makeup and health of our urban forest resources. A preliminary report summarizing the inventory results that have been collected over the past few years will be published in the near future. This report will be updated as more communities are added to the inventory.

The division administers a wide range of programs in order to accomplish our goals and objectives. The following pages briefly describe our accomplishments in each of the division's many programs during the state fiscal year 2005. Each program is designed to provide quality technical assistance and, in some cases, financial assistance to our citizens and cooperators.

A summary of the grants awarded to our cooperators during the year can be found in the back of this report.



South Dakota's Forest Resources

This section provides a summary of South Dakota's forest resources as described in the publication *"South Dakota's Forest Resources Outside the Black Hills National Forest, 1996"* unless otherwise noted. South Dakota has 1.6 million acres of traditional forest land, representing only 3.2 percent of its land area of 49.3 million acres. To portray the distribution of forest land, the state is divided into five river basin areas (Figure 1). The state's forests are dominated by western ponderosa pine timberland that occupies 1.1 million acres, or 69 percent of the forested area. The pine forest occurs in the Black Hills, the Short Pines and the Slim Buttes areas of the Cheyenne and Belle Fourche-Grand Moreau River basins, and on or near the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Indian Reservations of the White-Niobrara River basin.

The Black Hills region, located in the far western part of South Dakota and in northeastern Wyoming, is recognized as a national geologic landmark. This isolated, mountainous island of granite, limestone and metamorphic rock is roughly 100 miles long and 60 miles wide and rises from the surrounding plains to an elevation of 7,242 feet at the top of Harney Peak.

The remaining forest lands are found in the plains portion of the state and are primarily associated with lakes and waterways. The majority of these forested areas are located along the Missouri River and its major tributaries such as the Cheyenne, Grand, Moreau, White and Bad Rivers in the west, and the Vermillion, James and Big Sioux Rivers in the east. Other areas of forest land are found along the Minnesota River and in the Coteau area of northeastern South Dakota. Forest lands in the eastern river basins comprise only about one percent of the total land area, and about 9 percent of the total forest area in the state. They consist primarily of tree species associated with eastern hardwoods such as ash, basswood (linden), bur oak, hackberry, honeylocust, elm, cottonwood and willow.

South Dakota's native woodlands and forests are predominately publicly owned. Only 35 percent (566,000 acres) are privately owned. Approximately 82 percent of the publicly owned forest land is administered by the Black Hills National Forest. The remaining 18 percent is owned by the Custer National Forest, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the State of South Dakota. Most of the state-owned forest is within Custer State Park. Most forest land located east of Rapid City in the plains portion of the state is privately owned.

South Dakota has an additional 1.3 million acres of non-forest land with trees. Non-forest land with trees includes narrow wooded strips and windbreaks, wooded pasture, urban forests, and other land with trees. Seventy-three percent of the non-forest land with trees is pasture. In past years eastern red cedar and Rocky Mountain juniper have encroached into pastures. The result has been a loss of forage production and livestock handling problems. On the positive side, the trees offer shelter against wind and control soil erosion.

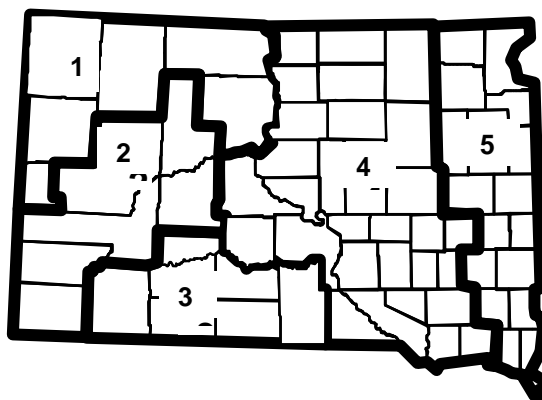


Figure 1: Forest Basin Areas.
1 - Belle Fourche-Grand Moreau
2 - Cheyenne
3 - White-Niobrara
4 - Bad-Missouri-Coteau-James
5 - Minnesota-Big Sioux-Coteau

There are an estimated 205,000 acres of narrow wooded strips and windbreaks in South Dakota that make up the state's agroforestry resource. Located almost entirely on private land, these areas include native woody vegetation found along streams and rivers, and narrow tree and shrub plantings adjacent to homes, farm buildings, roads, crop lands, livestock feeding areas, and other developments. There are about 95,000 acres of narrow wooded strips and 105,000 acres of windbreaks. These trees conserve natural resources, increase crop and livestock production, act as living carbon sinks and atmosphere scrubbers, protect water quality by holding soil and filtering nutrients, protect public right-of-ways from drifting snow, provide valuable wildlife habitat and otherwise improve human environments.

Conservation tree planting began in earnest with the Prairie States Forestry Project of 1935-1942. Since 1943 an average of 5,351 acres of windbreaks and shelterbelts have been planted each year in South Dakota (NRCS data). This equates to over three million tree and shrub seedlings annually. Each year, on the average, over 500 acres of older, deteriorating windbreaks are being restored to workable condition using silvicultural (forestry) practices, including replanting and supplemental planting.

Urban and community forests are gaining more attention as important forest resources in need of proper care and management. The urban forest consists of the trees and other woody vegetation that grow within the limits of our cities and towns. According to the *2000 Census of Population and Housing* (<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/>), there are 308,800 acres of urban and developing lands in South Dakota. There are 309 incorporated communities ranging in population from 3 in Hillsview to 123,975 in Sioux Falls. In addition, there are many unincorporated communities and housing developments, especially on tribal lands. While the urban and development acreage represents only 0.6 percent of the total land area in the state, approximately 493,500 people, or 71 percent of the state's population, live within our communities and housing developments, whether incorporated or not.



South Dakota's forest lands, woodlands, windbreaks, shelterbelts and urban forests provide a wide range of multiple benefits to our citizens. The benefits include wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, quality water, energy savings, an aesthetically pleasing environment, increased crop and livestock production and forest products, in addition to the jobs that forest industry creates. As our state's population increases and shifts from rural to urban, our relationship with forest resources becomes increasingly complex. More demands are being placed on private woodlands and agroforestry areas to provide a multitude of economic and environmental benefits. Biodiversity and ecosystem management are becoming important considerations when managing our forest resources. Along with increased demand comes the need to practice good forest stewardship to ensure the sustainability of our forests for future generations.

The mission of the division is to conserve, protect, improve and develop the natural resources of South Dakota for its citizens. The division manages various programs in its effort to accomplish this mission. On the following pages are brief descriptions and actual accomplishments attributed to each service forestry program during fiscal year 2005.



Service Forestry Programs

Forest Stewardship Program (FSP)

The Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) is the division's primary source of funding for forest management technical assistance. Technical assistance is based on landowner objectives, health and composition of the existing forest, capability of the site and stewardship principles. Detailed forest stewardship plans are prepared based on forest land examinations. Planting designs are prepared for tree and shrub plantings for windbreaks, living snow fences, wildlife habitat, Christmas trees, fuelwood, reforestation and other purposes. Assistance is also offered in preparing pre-commercial and commercial timber stand improvement recommendations, identifying and offering solutions to forest insect and disease problems and other forest resource management related assistance as appropriate.

The FSP is financed and administered nationally by the USDA Forest Service. The program takes a multi-disciplinary approach to forest land management involving many agencies with the Resource Conservation and Forestry Division as the lead agency. The Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee (FSCC) advises the State Forester on how FSP should be implemented in South Dakota.

The FSCC is made up of representatives from the following organizations:

USDA Forest Service, Black Hills National Forest
USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
USDA Farm Services Agency
USDI Fish & Wildlife Service
SD Dept. Game, Fish & Parks
SD Dept. of Environment & Natural Resources
SD Cooperative Extension Service
SD Association of Conservation Districts
SD Conservation Commission

United Sioux Tribes
Black Hills Forest Resource Association
Rosebud Sioux Tribe
SD Tree Farm Committee
Keep South Dakota Green
Pheasants Forever
Consulting Foresters
Industry Foresters
Forest Stewards

Fiscal Year 2003 was the final year of new funding for the Stewardship Incentive Program (SIP). A grant was obtained from the USDA Forest Service that allowed cost share incentives for forest health practices that addressed specific insect pests. The last SIP practices in SD were completed in FY 2005.

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service administers the Forestry Incentive Program (FIP). Responsibility for FIP technical assistance is delegated to the state agencies through the USDA Forest Service Cooperative Forestry program. The program provided 65% cost-share for timber stand improvement and reforestation work on eligible non-industrial private forest lands in the state. FIP was discontinued with passage of the 2002 Farm Bill. The last FIP practices in SD were completed in 2005.

The Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP) was created and funded by Congress in the 2002 Farm Bill. It was designed to adopt the best characteristics of the SIP and FIP programs, and replace them. South Dakota received \$25,000 to implement FLEP in FY 2005 – the second year of funding for the program.

The division continued to operate under a forest health grant from the USDA Forest Service to combat growing bark beetle populations in the Black Hills. The division provided up to 50% cost-share to landowners for thinning to improve forest health.

FY 2005 Accomplishments

The South Dakota Forest Stewardship Plan was revised in FY 2002 to reflect current forest resource conditions and provide direction to the division over the next five years. Emphasis areas include forest health; continuing education in forest ecology, silviculture and BMPs for loggers, landowners, and resource professionals; an expanded role in the Forest Inventory Analysis; development of a programmatic agreement with the State Historical Preservation Office to facilitate protection of cultural resources; and coordinated implementation of the Forest Land Enhancement Program.

The Resource Conservation and Forestry Division provided 807 forest management and prairie forestry technical assists to private landowners, organizations and government agencies across the state in FY 2005. Forest stewardship plans were written and approved for 16 private landowners covering 5,425 acres and 4 forest management plans covering 16 acres. Consultants completed plans for 3 private landowners covering 448 acres.

Stewardship Incentive Program (SIP) funding was limited to forest health related practices. The pest problems targeted with the funds included mountain pine beetle, Ips beetle, elm bark beetle, and rodents. Three SIP cost-shared noncommercial thinning practices were completed on 191 acres of land.

Under the Forestry Incentive Program (FIP), 22 acres of pre-commercial thinning were completed in FY 2005.

Windbreak and Shelterbelt Plantations

Assistance and planning by division service foresters resulted in the planting of 111,560 new trees and shrubs on 292.3 acres for conservation purposes. Restoration was completed in 13 existing shelterbelts and windbreaks covering 22.3 acres. Division service foresters assisted with the establishment of 44 new shelterbelts, windbreaks, and living snow fences covering 139 acres, resulting in the planting of 46,570 trees and shrubs. Wildlife plantings received the most attention from service foresters who designed 46 plantings for 131 acres involving 57,423 trees and shrubs. Most landowners utilized one or more of the cost-share incentive programs that are available. Only a few relied totally upon their own resources to get their trees planted.

Four brochures were written and distributed to educate landowners about the value of windbreaks for various purposes. Two brochures were written describing the use of fabric mulch and other weed control strategies. "How Windbreaks Work" was developed to describe the importance of design in establishing effective windbreaks. "The Living Snowfence Program in South Dakota" was re-written to provide a better description of living snowfences, stress the importance of proper design, and describe their benefits.



Living Snow Fence in Turner county using fabric and wildflowers for weed control

FY 2005 Tree Planting Accomplishments

Assistance Program	Projects	Acres Planted	Trees Planted
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Only			
New Establishment	6	38	10233
CRP and GF&P			
New Establishment	4	20	7446
Total CRP	10	58	17679
Department of Transportation Living Snowfence			
New Establishment	16	37	15065
Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) only			
New	4	13	3400
Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP) only			
New Establishment	4	13	5065
Renovation	1	1	254
WHIP and GF&P			
New Establishment	1	5	1870
Total WHIP	6	19	7189
Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP) only			
New Establishment	9	36	14114
Renovation	3	5	1447
FLEP and GF&P			
New Establishment	1	21	12567
Renovation	3	9	3077
Total FLEP	16	71	31205
Other cost share program (Other) only			
New Establishment	2	10	2200
Renovation	1	2	265
Total Other	3	12	2465
Game Fish & Parks Only			
New Establishment	36	72	30475
Renovation	4	5	2452
Total GF&P Only	40	77	32927
Total Game Fish & Parks and Other Programs	43	89	35392
No Cost-Share Program			
New Establishment	7	5	1558
Renovation	1	0.3	72
Total No Cost-Share	8	5.3	1630
Total Establishment New	90	270	103993
Total Renovation	13	22.3	7567
Grand Total	103	292.3	111560

Urban & Community Forestry (UCF)

The Division offers urban and community forestry (U&CF) technical assistance to individuals, service organizations, non-profit groups and communities. The division provides technical assistance for establishing tree boards, developing tree ordinances, organizing street tree inventories, tree planting and maintenance, identifying and controlling insects and disease problems and grant preparation and administration. The division also provides training in all aspects of urban forestry and arboriculture (the care and maintenance of trees). Technical assistance is provided by one full time U&CF Coordinator, eight service foresters located throughout the state and Dr. John Ball, Associate Professor of Arboriculture and Forestry at South Dakota State University. Dr. Ball also acts as "Volunteer Coordinator" for U&CF programs across the state of South Dakota.

The Division directs its effort on assisting communities with the development of local community forestry programs. Local tree boards, which are a very important part of any community forestry program, provide the foundation for most of the community forestry programs in South Dakota. These volunteer tree boards perform a wide variety of functions, including development of local tree ordinances, preparation of annual work plans, planning and implementing planting, pruning, and removal projects. They also provide information and education to local citizens, secure and administrate grant funds and conduct Arbor Day activities. At the present time there are 59 known tree boards across the state.

During FY 2005 service foresters provided 87 technical assists to 37 different communities in South Dakota. Another 236 tree planting and care assists were provided to individuals, organizations, and agencies around the state. At the end of fiscal year 2005, 68.94% percent of South Dakota's population is living in communities that have managing programs to plant, protect and maintain their urban and community trees and forests. 13.87% percent of the population is living in communities developing programs and/or activities to plant, protect and maintain their urban and community trees and forests.



<u>FY 2005 Community Information</u>	<u>Numbers of South Dakota Communities</u>
With Management Plans	33
With Professional Forestry Staff	53
With Tree Ordinances	70
With Tree Advisory Organizations	90

The division's U&CF program continues to work to provide much needed outreach assistance to the Native American communities in the state. Plans are being formed for a cost-share project on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation. This project will help raise homeowner awareness along with creating shaded community areas that will help lower cooling and heating costs and improve the aesthetics of the area.

The spring of 2005 included a large scale tree planting for the community of Bridger, SD which lies on the Cheyenne Indian Reservation. The division provided a tree grant along with technical assistance to plant 55 landscape trees to improve aesthetics, shading and other environmental benefits for this struggling area of the state. The division assisted 20 other communities with urban forestry tree planting grants.

Also, interest in establishing multi-purpose community windbreaks, or greenbelts, has been very strong. The division is working with communities, the State Department of Transportation, South Dakota State University, local county highway departments, local conservation districts and Planning & Development Districts to see that as many of these tree plantings as possible and feasible are installed.

The division also takes measurements of large trees and forwards their nominations to the South Dakota Register of Big Trees in cooperation with the National Big Tree Program administered by the American Forests organization of Washington, DC. A total of 282 trees of 61 different species are recorded on the South Dakota Big Tree Register.

South Dakota continues to maintain two trees recognized as national champions: a Russian-olive located near Rapid City and a Black Hills spruce (our state tree) near Lead. However, the largest tree in South Dakota is a large cottonwood located near Yankton in Yankton County. The tree trunk is 26'5" in circumference with a height of 145 feet, a crown spread of 102 feet, and a point score of 487.5.

The GreenSpace listserv, also managed by the UCF program sends out newsletters by email at least once a month on current events and upcoming events in the field of urban forestry. Currently, there are 145 subscribers to this listserv, many of those being communities.

Dr. John Ball, South Dakota State University, Brookings, made 31 presentations in South Dakota on various aspects of tree management. Topics at other conferences and events included tree and shrub selection, identification and care, animal damage, and tree risk management. These presentations drew over 1,000 people and over 3,000 seat hours. In addition, over 10 Public Television presentations drew TV audiences interested in tree care, sweating nursery stock, Dutch elm disease management, transplanting with a tree spade and tree pest management.

Dr. Ball's workshops and presentations are broken down as follows:

<u>Conference/Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>No. of Participants</u>
Today's Ag TV Presentations	Brookings	7 Segments	Public TV
Garden Line TV Presentations	Brookings	3 Segments	Public TV
SD Rural Coop Utilities	Sioux Falls	Electrical Safety	83
Mellette County Annual Landowner Workshop	White River	Two-Lined Chestnut Borer	47
SD Pesticide Recertification	5 locations	Tree Insect and Mites	290
SD Nursery and Landscape Conference	Sioux Falls	Forest Pest Update	56
Davison County Home Show	Mitchell	Common Tree Insects	28
Master Gardener Training	Hermosa/Huron/Sioux Falls	Tree Care & Selection	47
South Dakota State Fair	Huron	Trees for South Dakota	28
Redfield Tree Clinic	Redfield	Tree Insects and Mites	22
Logger Education	Rapid City	Mountain Pine Beetle Update	54
Rapid City Urban Forestry Workshop	Rapid City	Common Tree Pests	68
Beadle County. Conservation District	Huron	Shelterbelt Tree Problems	28
Sioux Falls Tree Care Workshop	Sioux Falls	Emerald Ash Borer and other Pest Problems	22
Faulk County Extension Workshop	Evergreen Colony	Fruit Tree Pests	46
Pierre Master Gardener Workshop	Pierre	Emerald Ash Borer	34
Cooperative Extension Annual Conference	Pierre	Emerald Ash Borer and other Threats to Our Urban Forest	38
Harding County Extension Workshop	Buffalo	Tree Care	35
Urban Forestry Workshop	Salem	Common Tree Pests	16

U&CF Challenge/Sub-Grant Program

Through the Urban & Community Forestry Program, the division provides technical and financial assistance to our communities. A portion of the division's annual allocation of Urban and Community Forestry Assistance funds is awarded to local governments and community volunteer service organizations in the form of focused cost-share grants.

The grants are used to fund tree planting projects which provide benefits to the general public, solve a specific urban and community forestry problem, demonstrate the importance of trees in our communities, and challenge other organizations to plan and implement similar projects. The community or service organization must match the grant funds on a 50-50 basis. This has traditionally been accomplished through the volunteer labor and donated supplies that are needed to properly plant, mulch, and otherwise maintain the trees until they are established. In 2002, the South Dakota Urban and Community Forestry Council made the decision to target sub-grant funding toward specific projects that would advance the missions of the South Dakota and federal urban and community forestry programs. In FY 2005, twenty communities received grant funds for various urban forestry projects.



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Forest/Timber Management

Division service foresters wrote or approved 20 forest management plans in FY 2005 covering 5,425 acres. Forest Stewardship Plans made up 16 of those plans covering 5,409 acres. The other 4 plans were less detailed Forest Management plans.

Service foresters provided 313 forest management assists to various landowners, businesses and other agencies. Written prescriptions for 13 timber stand improvement projects were prepared, and when completed, will result in the improvement of 390 acres of timber and hardwoods. Fieldwork was completed in preparation for 13 non-commercial timber stand improvement projects covering 402 acres. One project, covering 12 acres, was approved for cost-share assistance through the Stewardship Incentives Program (SIP), 4 projects covering 132 acres have applied for cost-share through the Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP), 1 project covering 49 acres applied for cost-share through the bark beetle program, and three projects covering 32 acres applied for cost-share through the Environmental Quality Improvement Program (EQIP).

Pre-commercial thinning was completed on 24 projects involving 619 acres of forestland: two projects covering 22 acres received cost-share under FIP, and 3 projects covering 191 acres were cost-shared by SIP. Thinning under the bark beetle cost-share program was completed on 14 projects covering 256 acres.

Division service foresters referred one request for assistance to consulting foresters.



Overstocked Stand prior to thinning



Thinned stand

Forest Health Management

Forest health management in South Dakota encompasses a wide array of growing conditions, management practices, and host species. Insect and disease pressures and priorities differ among commercial forest, agroforestry (windbreaks and shelterbelts) and the urban and community forests. Service foresters, along with the Forest Health Specialists, provided more than 400 assists to private landowners. The Forest Health Specialists, along with service foresters, provided another 800 assists to cooperative extension educators and conservation district personnel. The level of assistance was very high for some problems, particularly bark beetle infestations in the Black Hills and two-lined chestnut borer in the south central part of the state, where extensive sampling was required to delineate infested pockets of trees. In other cases, services consisted of a disease or insect problem diagnosis and management recommendation for landowners.

The FY 2005 gypsy moth monitoring program was, as in past years, conducted as a cooperative effort with the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service. The gypsy moth is a defoliating insect that was introduced into New England from Europe in the 1860s. It has spread since then into deciduous forests throughout eastern United States and is now established in Wisconsin and Minnesota. The feeding by the insect can become a contributing factor in tree decline. The large masses of moth caterpillar also become a nuisance to campers and result in reduced park and campground visitation. There were 743 traps retrieved which yielded 5 adult gypsy moths captured in 5 traps. Four of the gypsy moths were collected from two campgrounds in the Black Hills and a single moth captured at a nursery in eastern South Dakota.

The gypsy moth is not the only invasive insect that the division has assisted in monitoring. The banded elm bark beetle, an Asian borer that feeds in elms and may be a vector for Dutch elm disease, was first identified in the United States in April 2004. The insect has been collected from traps in Rapid City, from elm logs in Brookings and in declining Siberian elms in Shadehill and Interior. It is most likely present throughout South Dakota, as well as the other Great Plains states.

The division is also alerting nurseries, conservation districts, campground owners, communities and landowners about the potential threat of another recently introduced insect, the emerald ash borer. This Asian insect has infested thousands of acres of forests, resulting in the loss of more than 8 million ash trees in southeastern Michigan and northern Ohio and has been detected in several other locations. The emerald ash borer appears to be a primary insect on all ash species native to North America, including green ash. Since many of South Dakota's windbreaks are planted in green ash and is the most common city street tree in the state, the potential damage from an infestation of this insect is very high. The Division will educate the public on identifying this pest as well as cooperate with APHIS in monitoring incoming stock to prevent the accidental introduction of this pest to our state. While movement of infested nursery stock from Michigan has been responsible for some infestations in eastern United States, the most likely threat for South Dakota is from the accidental introduction of this pest through infested firewood. The movement of infested firewood has been responsible for the spread of the insect in Michigan and also into Indiana. The adult emerald ash borer emerges from infested wood during the summer months so its emergence is timed perfectly with high campground use from visitors from other states including Michigan. The division is developing an effort to educate campground owners and visitors of the possibility of moving this insect and the need to dispose of any firewood brought in from outside the state. While the alert could be limited to ash wood from certain counties in Michigan, Indiana and Ohio, there are other insects such as the banded elm bark beetle, that can be transported into our state from other regions of the country and on other species. A general alert to dispose of any firewood brought into the state is a valuable means of reducing the possibility of any number of exotic insects from entering our state. We are also planning to begin a trap-tree monitoring program for this insect in selected campgrounds in the Black Hills. We do

not anticipate catching any emerald ash borers in the first years of monitoring but this will provide valuable means of establishing an effective and efficient monitoring procedure.

The mountain pine beetle program, in response to the epidemic in the Black Hills region of South Dakota, continues to yield positive results. A comprehensive, long-term plan is being developed to protect private lands adjacent to National Forest land and those forests that have been affected by fire. The epidemic, now in its 8th year, shows no signs of decreasing. The pine engraver beetle has also been a major concern of landowners this year. The population is reaching near epidemic proportions in some parts of the Black Hills due to a number of factors including snow and wind damage, hail and fires. The division conducted a mass-trapping program of two mills, Pope & Talbot and Rushmore Products, to reduce the potential for pine engraver beetles emerging from infested logs and infesting trees outside of the mills. The trapping program was very successful with more than 200,000 beetles captured in traps placed around each mill during past years.

An increasing population of mountain pine beetles was noted in the northwestern corner of Custer State Park. The infestations appeared to be concentrated in the Hood Tunnel and Cathedral Spires areas, adjacent to a major outbreak already occurring on the Black Elk Wilderness Area. Plans are being formulated to manage this infestation through the use of sanitation/salvage cuts, spot baiting to concentrate attacks into certain trees that will be felled following attack and anti-aggregation baiting to repel mountain pine beetles away from the relic limber pine stands found in the park.

A major and continuing concern was drought. Many areas of the state are on their second and third year of drought conditions, which is beginning to show in the trees. There has been an increase in tree mortality in oaks, primarily in the south-central region of the state but also occurring East River and the northern Black Hills. The mortality is due to drought stressed trees becoming infested by two-lined chestnut borer, and native insects that have a population increase during droughts when trees are most vulnerable to attack. The division is developing a plan to assist landowners in conducting salvage and sanitation operations to reduce the impact of this pest.

Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) Program

The FIA program collects, analyzes, and reports information on the status and trends of America's forests. Information is collected on how much forest exists, who owns it and how it is changing, as well as how the trees and other forest vegetation are growing and how much has died or has been removed in recent years. This information can be used in evaluating wildlife habitat conditions, assessing the sustainability of ecosystem management practices and supporting planning and decision-making activities undertaken by public and private enterprises. The FIA program combines this information with related data on insects, diseases and other types of forest damaging agents and stresses. This is done to assess the health condition and potential future risks to forests. The program also projects what the forests may be like in 10 to 50 years under various scenarios. This information is essential for evaluating whether current forest management practices are sustainable in the long run and whether current policies will allow future generations to benefit from the many uses that America's forests provide.



There are five primary FIA regions across the lower 48 states. South Dakota is part of the 11 state North Central Region administered by the North Central Field Station located in St. Paul, MN. South Dakota chose to conduct their own inventory, and contracted the work to a private timber management consulting firm.

In 2005 the State of South Dakota received \$83,139 from the USDA Forest Service, North Central Research Station Forest Inventory Analysis Unit, to inventory 79 P2 forest inventory plots, 25 QAQC plots and 12 ozone plots. For this field season the State of South Dakota went back to a single contracting zone, contracting the P2 and QAQC fieldwork to a private consultant. The North Central Research Station was solely responsible for collecting data for the P3 (forest health) plots. There are a total of 4 P3 plots for the 2005 inventory cycle. This will be the final year for the current five year inventory cycle and following processing of the data, the North Central Research Station will issue a final report on the status of South Dakota's forest resources.

For the 2006 inventory season the State plans to enter into another 5 year agreement for a second annualized inventory of South Dakota's forest resources. Negotiations for this agreement with the North Central Research Station are in progress.

Economic Action Program

The Economic Action Program (EAP) provides the opportunity to help businesses and communities realize the economic potential of under utilized and unutilized wood, wood waste, and non-traditional forest products.

In FY 2005, division activities focused on using woody biomass for heat in a project similar to the Montana/Idaho/North Dakota Fuels for Schools program. The division received a grant from the Western Governors' Association to conduct preliminary studies to determine the feasibility of using woody biomass to heat buildings. South Dakota studies will be available to facilities such as schools, hospitals, and other large buildings that may hold good potential for woody biomass heat. Biomass Energy Resource Center (BERC) of Montpelier, VT was hired to conduct the studies. BERC is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the use of wood for energy production; they have a strong track record for successfully promoting woody biomass heat throughout the country. The division also re-directed existing EAP grant funds to the project. A public meeting was held in the fall of 2005, with studies to take place during the winter of 2006.

Black Hills National Forest Phase II Amendment

The Black Hills National Forest is developing a major Amendment to its 1997 Revised Land and Resource Management Plan. The State of South Dakota has obtained Cooperating Agency Status to provide technical expertise in the development of this amendment. The Department of Agriculture is playing the lead role with Secretary Gabriel as the principle liaison in this endeavor. The Secretary has delegated the coordination of the cooperating agency process to the Resource Conservation and Forestry Division.

Other state agencies that have taken an active role in the process include the Departments of Game, Fish, and Parks, Environment and Natural Resources, Labor, Tourism, and Transportation.

The State has invited County Governments and Conservation Districts in the area of the Black Hills National Forest to join the process as cooperating partners. Cooperating Agency Status was accepted by County Commissioners in Lawrence, Meade, Pennington, Custer, and Fall River Counties and Lawrence, Pennington, Custer, Elk Creek, and Fall River Conservation Districts.

During FY 2005, cooperating agencies provided input into completion of the Final Draft Environmental Impact Statement, provided formal comment on the DEIS during the public comment period, and provided input to development of the Final EIS.

Conservation Programs

Coordinated Soil and Water Conservation (CSWC) Grants

During the 1992 legislative session, the South Dakota Coordinated Soil and Water Conservation Plan was adopted. One provision of the plan was the establishment of a grant fund to be used by conservation districts to address local natural resource needs.

During FY 2005, 24 grant applications were received. The 18 conservation districts (20 projects) that received funding are listed below:

<u>District</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>	<u>Match</u>	<u>Project Objective</u>
Day	\$27,150.00	\$34,994.00	Shelterbelt Renovation & Establishment
Roberts	\$60,942.00	\$60,942.00	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Restoration
Deuel	\$22,925.00	\$598,905.00	Deuel Co Lakes Watershed Improvement
Todd	\$40,000.00	\$114,371.00	Multi-Purpose Ponds
Sanborn	\$40,000.00	\$65,400.00	Shelterbelt Conservation Project
Bennett	\$17,472.00	\$17,972.00	Establishment of Shelterbelts
Miner	\$42,350.00	\$515,203.00	Vegetative Treatment System
Hutchinson	\$20,000.00	\$33,900.00	Multi-Purpose Shelterbelts
Mellette	\$81,000.00	\$133,371.00	Mellette County Ponds Project
Deuel	\$10,000.00	\$32,635.00	Resource Conservation Technician
Bon Homme	\$35,000.00	\$48,700.00	Conservation Enhancement 2
Day	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00	Resource Conservation Technician
Marshall	\$56,700.00	\$72,420.00	Shelterbelt Renovation Establishment
American Creek	\$60,000.00	\$864,950.00	Medicine Creek 319 Phase 1
Butte	\$43,250.00	\$69,000.00	Multi-Purpose Ponds
Moody	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00	Resource Conservation Technician
Hyde	\$61,200.00	\$60,000.00	NAWCA Threatened Habitats 2
Kingsbury	\$70,000.00	\$1,241,165.00	Kingsbury Shelterbelt Conservation
Hanson	\$14,000	\$68,400	Hanson County Conservation
Davison	\$31,475.00	\$51,525	Davison County Conservation
TOTAL	\$768,464.00	\$4,118,853.00	

Conservation District Revolving Loan Fund

The Conservation District Revolving Loan fund was established by the South Dakota Legislature during 1949. Loans can be made to conservation districts or watershed districts for securing, by purchase or otherwise, necessary equipment, trees and other plant materials and supplies needed to further their programs. Loans are made at 3 percent interest per annum. Loans made in FY 2005 were:

<u>Conservation District</u>	<u>Loan Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Grant	\$ 19,000	Fabric Machine & Fabric
Total	\$ 19,000	

Range Management

The purpose of the Prairie Rangeland Conservationist position is to provide technical assistance to producers for range monitoring, grazing plans, range development and other conservation planning.

The Prairie Range Conservationist is assigned to the south central part of the state, but provides technical assistance statewide as needed. As well as working with individual producers and landowners, the Rangeland Conservationist works with other agencies and organizations in conservation planning and projects. Planning includes outreach for new and on-going conservation projects throughout the State.

The Rangeland Conservationist also conducts outreach and educational projects.

This includes: The Society for Range Management's Youth Range Camp serving 50-60 young people interested in rangeland judging and plant identification ; SD Rangeland Days, an educational program hosted by local Conservation Districts around the State; scholarship assistance for grazing managers and producers to attend grazing schools; and School programs that have addressed rangeland plant identification and conservation to local 4-H groups, grade schools, Environmental Fairs and after-school programs serving 250 to 300 children in grades K-Six in 2005.

Type of Assistance 2005	Affected Acres 2005
Rangeland Inventories	620
Conservation Planning Maps	620
Grazing Assistance	3000
Rangeland Monitoring	900
Planning Assistance	4000
Total Acres	9140

Wetlands Program

In FY 2002 the division received an EPA grant in the amount of \$45,791, which was used to demonstrate the environmental and social benefits of adding buffers adjacent to wetlands. We are currently working with NRCS, SDSU and several farm organizations to explore the development of a wetland hydrology model for use in the field.

Assistance to Conservation Districts

The division is currently providing the following conservation program services:

- Administration of Coordinated Soil and Water Conservation Grants
- Administration of Conservation District Revolving Loan Fund
- Forestry technical assistance to districts (covers all 7 Natural Resource Areas)
- Range Specialist assigned to Prairie Natural Resource Area
- Monitor supervisor elections and maintain supervisor history
- Resource Conservation Speech Contest
- Respond to requests for assistance (legal questions, accounting and financial record keeping, grant and loan information, tree planting and personnel issues)
- Maintain a conservation district supervisor and employee telephone directory
- Special projects
- Provide training when requested (QuickBooks, grant management and planning)
- Participate at district and SDACD functions (area meetings, annual convention, board meetings, advisor on SDACD committees, SDACDE board advisor, etc.)
- Maintain district records, reports and history (financial, election, minutes, progress, grants and loans, etc.)



CAFO Engineering Design Assistance Grants

The US Environmental Protection Agency set a deadline of September 2005 for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) in South Dakota to comply with state and federal water pollution control laws and become permitted.

The immediate need at these facilities was for engineering designs to determine the best management practices for each individual feeding site. In order to help meet this need, DENR, NRCS and the SD Department of Agriculture teamed up to provide nearly 1.3 million dollars in matching grants during the last two years. This has enabled livestock producers and livestock auction barns to hire licensed professional engineers to complete the designs for their manure management systems. This initiative pays up to 60%, with a maximum of \$12,000 in grant funding per design. These grants will help nearly 120 to 130 CAFOs complete engineering designs and construction plans.

Producers with an approved design will be in a better position to receive construction funding through federal programs such as Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). This program will pay up to 75%, with a cap of \$150,000, for construction costs.

The number one benefit of this project will be protected or improved water quality for the citizens of South Dakota. It also keeps our livestock industry strong and helps to promote agriculture development as envisioned in Governor Rounds' 2010 Initiative.

BEFORE



AFTER



Information and Educational Activities

Smokey Bear and Wildland Fire Prevention

A total of 20 fire prevention and Smokey Bear programs were presented by service foresters to school classes, service organizations and other groups around the state, including appearances by Smokey during State Fire School, State Fair, and at various other events. Smokey Bear fire prevention materials valued at approximately \$4,000 were distributed by service foresters to schools, service organizations, fire departments, and many others who can use and learn from them. Materials were also distributed at the South Dakota State Fair in Huron, Dakota Fest in Mitchell and other major public events.

Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Poster Contest 2005 Winners

The 2005 Woodsy Owl Poster Contest was sponsored by the Keep South Dakota Green Association (KSDG) and the State Federation of Garden Clubs (SDFGC). Entries were accepted in five competition divisions. First place winners received \$25 and certificates of achievement; second place winners received \$15 and certificates of achievement; third place winners received \$10 and certificates of achievement; honorable mentions received certificates of achievement. The winners selected by representative judges from the Dept. of Agriculture, Resource Conservation & Forestry Division, KSDG and SDFGC are:

First Grade Competition Division

First Place: Kade Hieb, Highmore, SD

Second Place: McKayla Pappens, Lennox, SD

Third Place: Dana LeVan, Tea, SD

Honorable Mention: Shae Knox, Highmore, SD

Second Grade Competition Division

First Place: Kay Dee Dawn Kirwan, Bonesteel/Fairfax, SD

Second Place: Levi Austin Davies, Yankton, SD

Third Place: Katie Groeblichhoff, Groton, SD

Third Grade Competition Division

First Place: Camille Sippel, Groton, SD

Second Place: Kiara Anderson, Rosholt, SD

Third Place: Tyann Hamlin, Highmore, SD

Honorable Mention: Hayden Houdek, Highmore, SD

Fourth Grade Competition Division

First Place: Rachel Carnes, Tea, SD

Second Place: Mesa Pfeifer, Groton, SD

Third Place: Erika Stack, Chancellor, SD

Fifth Grade Competition Division

First Place: Rachel Raysby, Chancellor, SD

Second Place: Meghan Dohman, Groton, SD

Third Place: Brittney Short, Highmore, SD

Honorable Mention: Alexa Schuring, Groton, SD



Cash awards were provided courtesy of the KSDG association & the SDFGC.

Urban and Community Forestry

In FY 2005 service foresters and the urban forestry specialist made 245 presentations to school classes and civic groups about Arbor Day, Tree City USA, and other urban forestry subjects. Three workshops on tree planting and care were presented. There were four interviews with Dakota Farm Talk Radio Program and 17 TV, radio and newspaper spots about Arbor Day, tree planting and care were also produced.



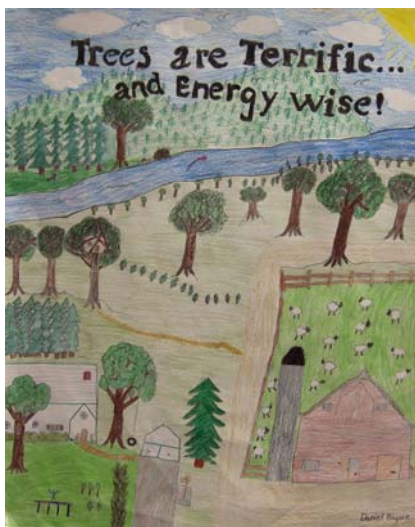
Arbor Day

The last Friday in April was established by the 1947 State Legislature as South Dakota's official Arbor Day. The law was repealed in 1995 as part of an omnibus elimination of laws that restrict or pertain to state education, but re-established by the 1998 Legislature. Arbor Day traditionally falls on the last Friday in April. In FY 2005, that day was April 29th. It is the one day set aside each year to commemorate and plant trees for the many benefits they provide and the impact they have on our environment. On or around that date, division service foresters provided a total of 61 presentations to school classes, service clubs and other groups on the importance of planting and properly caring for our rural and urban trees, and of celebrating Arbor Day.

The division, in cooperation with the McDonald's Restaurants of South Dakota, the Keep South Dakota Green Association, and the South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts sponsored the 2005 Arbor Day Essay Contest. This was the 28th annual competition which is open to 5th and 6th grade students. A total of 1932 essays were entered from 48 conservation districts. The first place state winner, **Ryan Yackley**, a sixth grader from Onida, SD in Sully County Conservation District, received a cash award of \$100 and a handsome engraved plaque. In addition, Yackley's school, **ABO School**, received \$150 to purchase educational supplies or equipment. The second place winner, **Benson Kleinschmidt**, a fifth grade student from Raber Elementary in Hughes County Conservation District was awarded \$75 and an engraved plaque. Carolyn Williams, a sixth grader and the third place winner from Watertown in Codington County Conservation District was awarded \$50 and an engraved plaque. Courtesy of Keep South Dakota Green Association, every student who

entered the contest received a packet of honeylocust tree seeds and instructions on how to grow their own trees.

The division also cooperated with the National Arbor Day Foundation to sponsor the 12th annual Arbor Day Poster Contest, open to fifth grade students. Also cooperating at the local level and providing the prize money was the South Dakota Arborists Association and the Dakota Society of American Foresters. The theme of the 2005 contest was "Trees Are Terrific...and Energy Wise" in celebration of the 133rd anniversary of the founding of Arbor Day. The first place winner, **Daniel Bogue** who attends Bogue Home School in Beresford, was awarded a \$200 savings bond and an attractive certificate of achievement. **Daryn Skjefte**, the second place winner from Warner Elementary School in Warner, received a \$150 savings bond and a certificate of achievement. Third place winner, **Charissa Etrheim** of Robert Bennis Elementary School in Brandon, was awarded a \$100 savings bond and a certificate. Daniel's first place poster was forwarded to the national competition, but was not selected as the national winner.



2005 Arbor Day Poster Contest Winner
by Daniel Bogue, Beresford

Tree City USA

Tree City USA is a community improvement and national recognition program for towns and cities that meet established standards and effectively manage their public tree resources. The program is sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation and the US Forest Service at the national level, and by the South Dakota Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry at the state level. To qualify for Tree City USA designation, a community must meet four standards:

1. Organize a community tree board to oversee the urban & community forestry program
2. Establish and enforce an effective community tree ordinance
3. Implement a community forestry program funded by a minimum of \$2.00 per capita
4. Celebrate Arbor Day with an official proclamation and organized observance

Division foresters re-certified 34 active Tree City USA communities for work done in 2004. South Dakota's Tree City USA communities with first year of recognition, population, 2004 forestry budgets, and per capita spending are as follows:

Tree City USA	Year First Recognized	Population	Urban Forestry Budget (2003)	Per Capita Spending
Aberdeen	1980	28,000	\$ 261,275	\$ 9.33
Andover	1986	106	\$ 417	\$ 3.93
Baltic	2003	811	\$ 11,250	\$ 13.87
Belle Fourche	1991	4,565	\$ 24,472	\$ 5.36
Brookings	1982	18,700	\$ 268,835	\$ 14.38
Burke	1982	676	\$ 1,800	\$ 2.66
Clark	1981	1,285	\$ 46,698	\$ 36.34
Deadwood	1992	1,840	\$ 174,560	\$ 94.87
Dell Rapids	1984	3,020	\$ 13,105	\$ 4.34
Desmet	1997	1,164	\$ 2,454	\$ 2.11
Ellsworth Air Force Base	1999	8,640	\$ 206,859	\$ 23.94
Freeman	2003	1,317	\$ 2,650	\$ 2.01
Gregory	1984	1,432	\$ 3,000	\$ 2.09
Hartford	1992	1,844	\$ 6,566	\$ 3.56
Henry	2002	275	\$ 3,168	\$ 11.52
Huron	1982	11,893	\$ 31,536	\$ 2.65
Lead	1987	3,027	\$ 73,162	\$ 24.17
Madison	1980	6,540	\$ 26,271	\$ 4.02
Mitchell	1980	14,500	\$ 102,534	\$ 7.07
Mobridge	1983	3,200	\$ 7,000	\$ 2.19
Pierre	1983	13,876	\$ 59,817	\$ 4.31
Platte	1995	1,367	\$ 2,814	\$ 2.06
Rapid City	1980	60,441	\$ 185,732	\$ 3.07
Redfield	1990	2,510	\$ 6,634	\$ 2.64
Sinai	2003	130	\$ 16,019	\$ 123.22
Sioux Falls	1980	134,600	\$ 690,000	\$ 5.13
Sisseton	1982	2,572	\$ 5,680	\$ 2.21
Spearfish	1984	9,000	\$ 21,000	\$ 2.33
Spencer	1999	160	\$ 458	\$ 2.86
Sturgis	1983	7,000	\$ 47,902	\$ 6.84
Vermillion	1984	9,765	\$ 25,160	\$ 2.58
Watertown	1982	19,000	\$ 168,098	\$ 8.85
Winner	1984	3,137	\$ 12,883	\$ 4.11
Yankton	1983	13,969	\$ 68,085	\$ 4.87

Average Per Capita Spending: \$8.14

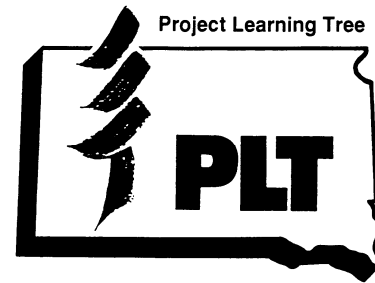
2005 South Dakota Census Est. 764,309

51% of S.D. Population live in TCUSA

** indicates new TCUSA*

South Dakota Project Learning Tree, Inc. (PLT)

South Dakota Project Learning Tree, Inc. (SD PLT) is an award-winning environmental education program designed primarily for teachers and other educators working with students in pre-kindergarten through grade eight. Special modules, or teaching units are available for high school teachers. SD PLT uses the forest as a "window" into the natural world, helping young people gain an awareness and knowledge of the world around them, as well as their place within it. Children learn **how to think** -- rather than what to think about our complex environment, and they have fun learning as they and their teachers work with any of the 93 action-oriented activities described in the *Environmental Education Pre K-8 Activity Guide*. SD PLT materials also include great material for High School educators.



SD PLT was became a Non-Profit corporation in South Dakota during FY 2005. To aid educators SD PLT correlated the Basic, Focus on Forest and Forest Ecology guides to South Dakota Science Educational Standards.

During FY 2005, one part-time PLT Coordinator, Dianne Miller, planned and coordinated workshops, classroom presentations, events and Walk in the Forest Days to promote the environmental education efforts statewide. Dianne devoted an average of 30 hours per week to the PLT program. A total of 7 educator and facilitator workshops in South Dakota resulted in the training of 154 educators:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Workshop</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>No. of Trained</u>
Spearfish, BHSU Pre Service Class	Basic Educator	Hickenbotham, Miller, Gray	84
Ellsworth Air Force Base After school program	Basic and Fire Educator	Golliher, Root, Sear, Miller	14
Belle Fourche After School program	Basic and Fire Educator	Miller, Tussing	5
Rapid City YMCA After School Program	Basic Educator	Garbisch, Hettick, Sears	18
BHSU Out-Door Education Class	Basic Education	McCart, Miller	14
Facilitators Retreat	Facilitator training	Miller	19
Total Trained			154

Conferences and Events

Ag Fest Pierre	Booth	Miller	200
Lumberman's Conference Sioux Falls	Booth	Miller	650
Early Childhood Educator Conference	PLT Activities	Miller	175
SD Math and Science Conference	PLT Activities	Golliher, Miller	250
Watertown Zoo	PLT activities	Miller, Brown	100

Kids Fair Rapid City	Booth and activities	Miller, SAF members	3,500
After School Convention	Booth and Activities	Miller	250
Girl Scout Day Camp	Activities	Miller	125
Girl Scout Jam	Booth and Activities	Golliher, Smith	200

Classroom Presentations

Belle Fourche Pre School, Kindergartens and First Grades		300
Spearfish First Grade	Miller	180
Arbor Day/Firewise Lead Fifth Grade	Miller	165

Summer School program Rapid City	Miller	145
Canyon Science Day Spearfish Fifth Grade	Miller and SAF members	180
Spearfish Kindergarten Walk in the Park Day	Golliher, Miller	185
Total		6,605

The PLT Coordinator, service foresters and other facilitators hosted PLT activities at several Water Festivals to fourth grade students and their teachers. The Water Festivals were sponsored by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and were held at Brookings, Rapid City, Pierre, Sioux Falls, Huron, Watertown, and Vermillion. Educational displays for hands on activities were also held at the Boy Scouts Day Camp and Girl Scout Jams.

Across SD several schools hosted Arbor Day Events which included PLT activities including, Tree Factory, Adopt a Tree, and Tree poetry.

Tree Farm



The division also participates in the American Tree Farm System. The South Dakota Tree Farm Committee is sponsored in part by the Keep South Dakota Green Association. Thirty-one Tree Farms were inspected that cover 2,899 acres of forestland and windbreaks; division service foresters completed 25 of the inspections. There were ten inspections of new Tree Farms. There are currently 188 Tree Farms in South Dakota covering 25,946 acres. Leroy Smith of Burke was chosen as the 2005 Outstanding Woodland Tree Farmer of the Year. Bruce

Wintle of Huron was chosen as the 2005 Windbreak Tree Farmer of the Year. Service foresters from the division nominated both award winners for the awards. The division also provides secretarial, and database administration services for the Tree Farm Committee. On May 7th, a landowner workshop was held in Rapid City, SD for 33 individuals from 3 states.



Logger Education



The Central Rockies Sustainable Forestry Education Program (CRSFEP) is an organization made up of professionals representing loggers, forest products industry, state forestry agencies, forest landowners, and natural resource educators from South Dakota, Wyoming, and Colorado. The mission of the organization is to develop, support, and provide a course curriculum to improve the knowledge and implementation of forestry practices. In 2005, the division provided leadership to the organization by occupying the role of President.

Logger Education in South Dakota is a cooperative effort involving the division, South Dakota Extension Service, Black Hills Women in Timber, the Black Hills Forest Resource Association, and the Black Hills National Forest. Workshops cover a wide range of forestry related topics including silviculture and forest ecology. FY 2005 workshops focused on safety training.

Resource Conservation Speech Contest

Each year for the last 44 years the division has sponsored a Resource Conservation Speech Contest in cooperation with the South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts (SDACD) and East River Electric who currently provide \$2,300 in scholarships per year.

Any South Dakota student in grades 9-12, is eligible to compete. The scholarships will be contributed by South Dakota Rural Electric Association, East River Electric Power Cooperative and Rushmore Electric Power Cooperative. Five place winners are selected each year. The scholarships are paid to any college, university or accredited vocational technical school in the state of South Dakota chosen by the winners.

The theme for the 2005 contest was "Grass – Nature's Blanket." All contestants participated in a local contest coordinated by the local conservation district. Stage two was an area contest held at seven locations around the state, corresponding to the South Dakota Natural Resource areas. The last stage was the State Final contest held in Pierre on April 2, 2005.

Winning first place and a \$1,100 scholarship was Pam Wilson, a junior at Wall High School, sponsored by the East Pennington Conservation District. She is the daughter of Philip and Mary Kay Wilson Elm Springs.

The second place winner, Jasmine Roberts, a freshman at Belle Fourche High School in Belle Fourche, was awarded a \$750 scholarship. She is the daughter of Renae Brosam of Belle Fourche and was sponsored by the Butte County Conservation District.

Placing third and receiving a \$450 scholarship was Amanda Nolz, a junior at Mitchell High School, sponsored by the Davison Conservation District in Mitchell. Amanda is the daughter of Dave and Peggy Nolz of Mitchell.

ATV Training

The division had an employee take the ATV Safety Institute instructor training in October of 2004. Now certified, this person taught a total of 6 ATV safety classes throughout the state this year to personnel from SD Dept of Agriculture, SD Dept of Game Fish & Parks, and Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. A total of 37 people took the rider-active course, which takes 4 hours to teach.



Financial Assistance to Local Organizations

Summary of Grants Awarded by County, Program and Amount During State Fiscal Year 2005

U&CF = Urban & Community Forestry Sub-Grants, See Pages 11-12
CSWC = Coordinated Soil & Water Conservation Grants, See Page 16

<u>County</u>	<u>Grant Recipient</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>	<u>Local Match</u>	<u>Total Project Cost</u>
Aurora					
Beadle	City of Huron	U&CF	\$2,950	\$2,950	\$5,900
Bennett	Bennett Conservation District	CSWC	\$17,472	\$17,972	\$35,444
Bon Homme	Bon Homme Conservation Dist.	CSWC	\$35,000	\$45,000	\$83,700
Brookings					
Brown	City of Aberdeen	U&CF	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Brule	City of Chamberlain	U&CF	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Buffalo					
Butte	Butte Conservation District	CSWC	\$43,250	\$54,000	\$112,250
Campbell					
Charles Mix					
Clark					
Clay					
Codington					
Corson					
Custer					
Davison	Davison Conservation District	CSWC	\$31,475	\$45,425	\$83,000
Day	Day Conservation District	CSWC	\$27,150	\$34,994	\$62,144
	Day Conservation District	CSWC	\$17,500	\$8,750	\$35,000
Deuel	Deuel Conservation District	CSWC	\$22,925	\$123,705	\$621,830
	Deuel Conservation District	CSWC	\$10,000	\$3,999	\$42,635
Dewey	City of Eagle Butte	U&CF	\$3,670	\$3,670	\$7,340
Douglas					
Edmunds					
Fall River					
Faulk					
Grant					
Gregory	City of Gregory	U&CF	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$3,600
Haakon					
Hamlin					
Hand					
Hanson	Hanson Conservation District	CSWC	\$14,000	\$24,750	\$39,950
Hanson	City of Alexandria	U&CF	\$2,366	\$2,366	\$4,732
Harding					
Hughes	City of Pierre	U&CF	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Hutchinson	Hutchinson Conservation Dist..	CSWC	\$20,000	\$32,150	\$53,900
Hyde	Hyde Conservation District	CSWC	\$61,200	\$60,000	\$121,200
Jackson	City of Kadoka	U&CF	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Jerauld	City of Wessington Springs	U&CF	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
Jones					
Kingsbury	Kingsbury Conservation District	CSWC	\$70,000	\$397,495	\$1,311,165
Lake					
Lawrence	City of Spearfish	U&CF	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000

Lincoln					
Lyman	American Creek Conserv. Dist.	CSWC	\$60,000	\$303,050	\$924,950
McCook					
Marshall	Marshall Conservation District	CSWC	\$56,700	\$71,820	\$128,520
Meade	City of Sturgis	U&CF	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Mellette	Mellette Conservation District	CSWC	\$81,000	\$103,371	\$214,371
Miner	Miner Conservation District	CSWC	\$42,350	\$114,773	\$557,553
Miner	City of Carthage	U&CF	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$4,000
Minnehaha	City of Dell Rapids	U&CF	\$1,050	\$1,050	\$2,100
Minnehaha	City of Humboldt	U&CF	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$2,600
Moody	Moody Conservation District	CSWC	\$17,500	\$8,750	\$35,000
Moody	City of Colman	U&CF	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
Pennington	Journey Museum	U&CF	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Perkins					\$21,440
Potter					
Roberts	Roberts Conservation District	CSWC	\$60,942	\$61,942	\$121,884
Sanborn	Sanborn Conservation District	CSWC	\$40,000	\$63,650	\$120,717
Shannon					
Spink	City of Redfield	U&CF	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$7,000
Stanley					
Sully					
Todd	Todd Conservation District	CSWC	\$40,000	\$44,371	\$154,371
Tripp					
Turner	City of Parker	U&CF	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000
Union	City of Elk Point	U&CF	\$4,911.50	\$4,911.50	\$9,822
Walworth					
Yankton	City of Yankton	U&CF	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Ziebach					
TOTALS			\$828,012	\$1,679,515	\$5,000,118