

Forest Resources Information Annual Report Data

- Provided 180 technical assists upon request to various customers on topics of marketing, utilization, and efficiency, Best Management Practices, and forest resource and industry data.
- Provided various training opportunities (log, lumber, tree grades workshops, chainsaw training, Best Management Practices, SFI, etc) to 178 attendees. Those attending were a combination of professional natural resources personnel and forest industry professionals.
- Coordinated 3 Field Days/Industry Education/Industry tour with an attendance of over 170 people
- Private contractors collected forest inventory data from 537 plots across the state. The information, collected annually provides an excellent picture of the forest resource in Indiana.
- The Forest Resources Information program implemented a Continuous Forest Inventory (CFI) program this year. The program which closely resembles the USDA Forest Inventory and Analysis program will program an up close view and provide valuable, timely, and current data regarding the forest resource on our State Forest properties.
- Prepared a forest resource sustainability report detailing growth and removal figures from the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) data. The data pertains to the forest resources of Indiana and addresses the issue of sustainable forestry being practiced.
- A riparian prioritization framework project has been developed that will allow specific watershed groups to use this as a way to prioritize riparian areas where forestry/conservation applications will benefit the watershed. The project also is flexible to allow individual watershed groups to input their own variables, which makes the program very applicable to different settings and locations.

Hot Items – biomass / renewable energy....with the closing of International Paper in Terre Haute, approximately 100-200 thousand tons of chips may have to find a home elsewhere. Our office has been contacted by several entrepreneurs looking at potential business start ups that would utilize these mill residues. As cellulosic ethanol production on a commercial basis gets closer, more and more people are looking at the use of a variety of wood residues.