The National Forest Stewardship Program

Program Purpose

Approximately forty-five percent of all forestland in the United States, or 354 million acres is under nonindustrial private ownership, contributing significantly to America's clean water and air, wildlife habitat, recreational resources and timber supplies. Authorized by the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978, the Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) provides technical assistance, through State forestry agency partners, to nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) owners to encourage and enable active long-term forest management. A primary focus of the Program is the development of comprehensive, multi-resource management plans that provide landowners with the information they need to manage their forests for a variety of products and services.

From www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry

This brochure was created with funding from the United States Forest Service and the Forest Stewardship Program.

“This institution is an equal opportunity Provider and employer.”
The purpose of the Stewardship Program is to assist nonindustrial private landowners in more actively managing their land and related resources; to keep these lands in a productive and healthy condition for present and future owners; and to increase the economic and environmental benefits of these lands.

Stewardship is the pursuit of a landowner’s personal goals within a set of stewardship principles. Landowner goals and stewardship principles combine to create a Stewardship Plan.

Principles for a well managed forest, as developed by the National Association of State Foresters include:

- Contribute to the conservation of biological diversity of the forest and the landscape in which it resides.
- Maintain and improve productive capacity.
- Maintain the health and vigor of the forest and its landscape/watershed.
- Protect soil and water resources.
- Consider carbon cycles.
- Consider socio-economic benefits
- Comply with laws and rules.

The objective of the Forest Stewardship Program is to promote good stewardship through good planning, technical advice and financial assistance available to landowners.

Complex issues often face landowners in decisions about managing their resources. A thorough Forest Stewardship Plan will provide guidance and clarity to help landowners decide the best course of action in managing their natural resources, and guide the landowner through the maze of applications, permits, and other regulatory devices that must often be satisfied.

Through the Stewardship Program, the Nevada Division of Forestry provides natural resource expertise that can assist you in becoming a better steward of your property.

Participation in the Forest Stewardship Program is open to any non-industrial private landowners who are committed to the active management and stewardship of their properties for at least ten years.

The Nevada Division of Forestry’s Forest Stewardship Program can help landowners qualify for financial assistance from other agencies by helping develop a comprehensive forest stewardship or land management plan.

Forest Stewardship Program Contact Information

Southern Region (Nye, Lincoln, Clark and Esmerelda Counties) Resource Management Officer (775) 486-5123

Northern Region (Humboldt, Elko, Lander, Eureka and White Pine Counties) Resource Management Officer (775) 738-3454

Western Region (Pershing, Churchill, Mineral, Washoe, Storey, Carson, Douglas and Lyon Counties) Resource Management Officer (775) 849-2500

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