



Brenda Huter  
Forest Stewardship Coordinator

COOPERATIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT

# CFM: DoF's Private Side

**Our Mission:** Indiana's Private Forestland Program promotes the stewardship of Indiana's privately owned forests by providing forest management information and professional services to forest owners and others to ensure forest benefits, both tangible and intangible for present and future generations.



# CFM: Meet the Staff



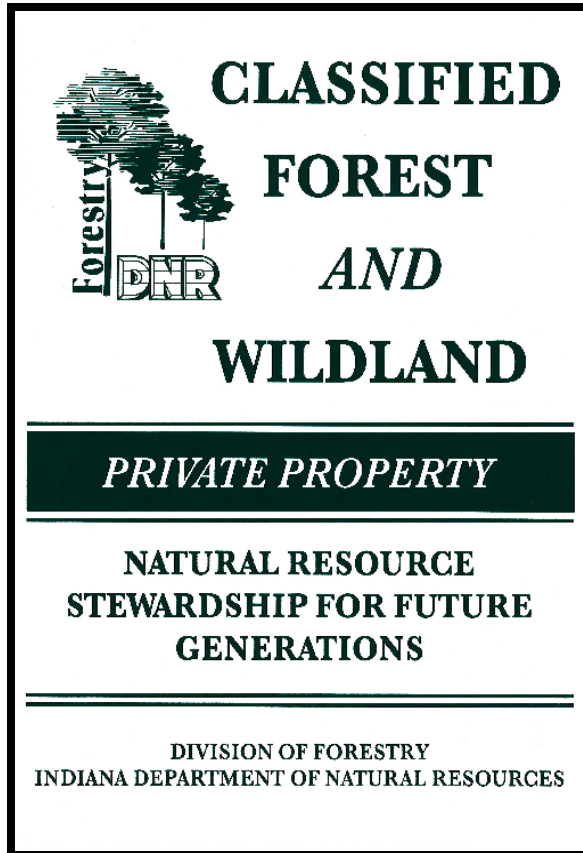
20 District Foresters, 2 Assistant District Foresters, 14 Office Managers, 3 Seasonal Foresters  
2 Program Staff, 1 Assistant State Forester, 1 State Forester  
(currently 4 full-time vacancies)

# CFM: What We Do

- Meet with landowners, walk their property, and discuss management options (1,179 new + 1,839 repeat clients; 163,590 acres)
- Write plans (stewardship plans: 3,020; practice plans: 476)
- Educational programming (241 programs, 13,588 attendees)
- Cost share - \$ for management
- Refer landowners to private foresters (1,534 referrals)
- Manage the Classified Forest & Wildlands Program (20,209 acres in 387 tracts enrolled; 68 withdrawals; 2,298 re-inspections, 129 revised applications, 424 certified timber harvest reviews)



# Classified Forest & Wildlands Program



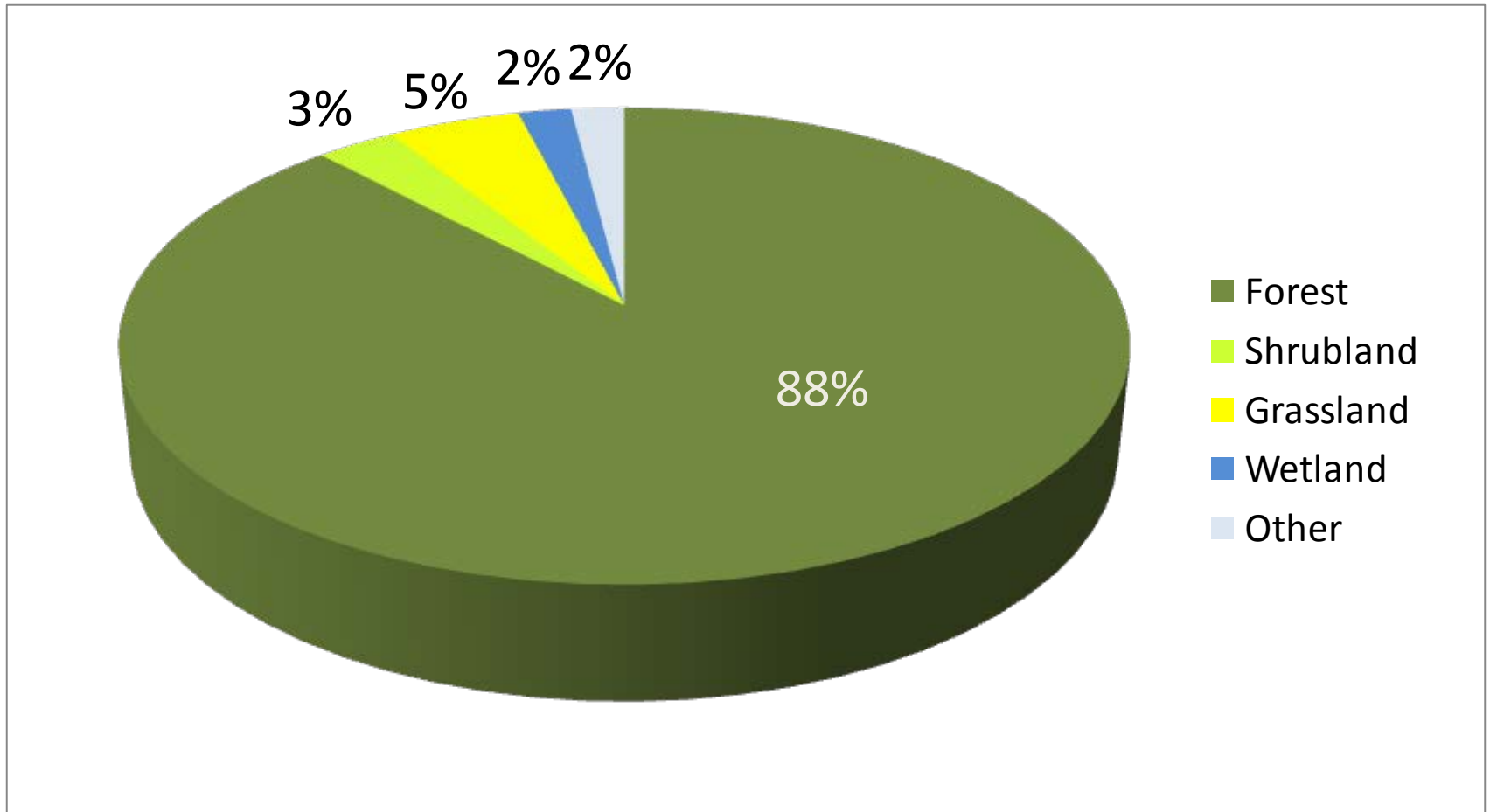
Program authorized March 10, 1921.

Purpose: To encourage timber production, wildlife habitat, and protect water quality on private lands.

Landowner incentive: Property tax reduction (Assessed value for enrolled land = \$1/acre)

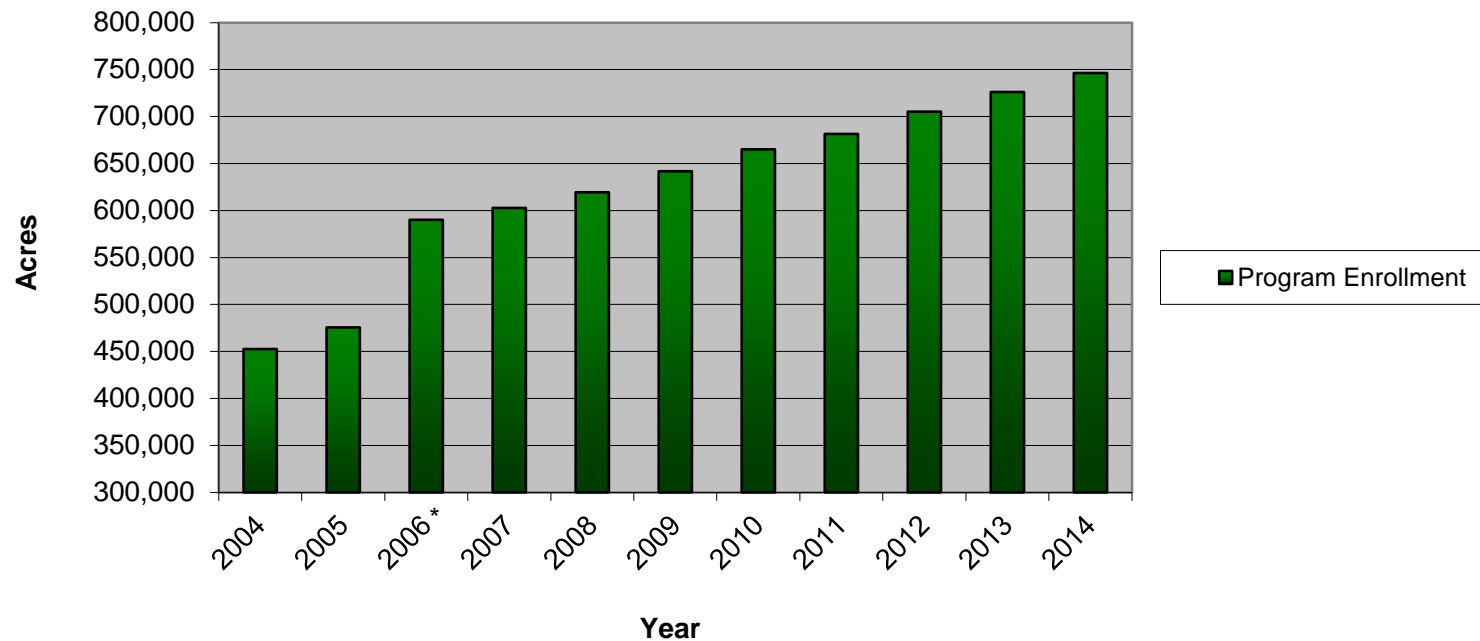
Current enrollment:  
761,161 Acres; 15,406 tracts

# Enrolled Land by Habitat



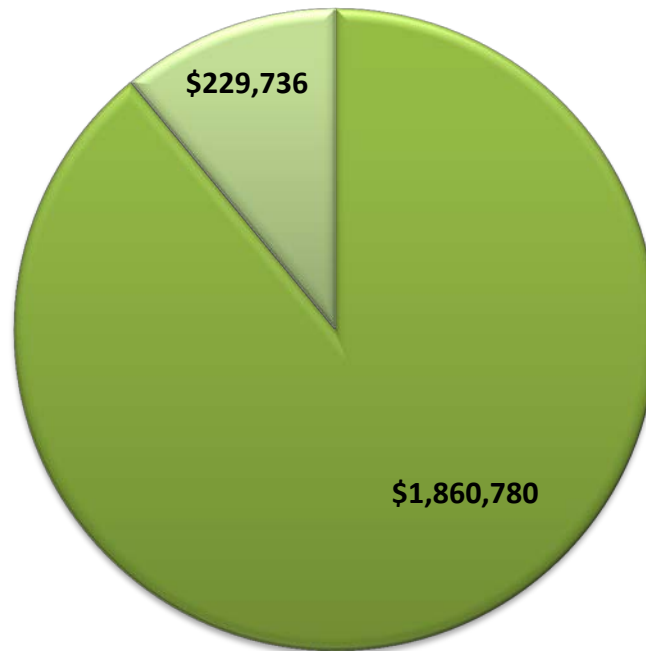
# Classified Program Growth

**PROGRAM ENROLLMENT**  
**Classified Forest Program 2004-2005**  
**Classified Forest & Wildlands Program 2006 - Present**



\* Classified Forest Program & Classified Wildlife Habitat Program merged to create Classified Forest & Wildlands Program

# CFM: Budget



## CFM Budget

- Salary/Fringe
- Equipment/Supplies

Total: 2.09 million

Non-State Revenue: Stewardship grant -\$171,000; Competitive grants: ?





CFM STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-2019

# Goal 1: Retain Working Forests

- Strengthen the Classified Forest & Wildlands Program
  - Enrollment target 12,000 acres/year
  - Target large tracts & forests
  - Preferential access to cost share
  - Maintain Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®-C071226) certification
  - Cost recovery of District Forester time

# Goal 1: Retain Working Forests

---

- Improve Program Administration
  - Update law, rules, policies to reduce administrative burden
  - Merge multi-tract ownerships to reduce reporting requirements
  - Increase staff to handle increased work due to program growth
  - Reduce program administrative time by District Foresters

# INFRMS – CFW Online Database



[www.INForestryX.com](http://www.INForestryX.com)

**Forestry**  
**DNR**  
INDIANA

Home

View State Forest Management Plans

**Management**

Manage My Forest Land

Work Task Calendar

Management Reports

My Account

Tract Location

Add Property Tract

User Account Management

Management Plan

Admin Helper

Logout

**INFRMS**  
**Indiana Forest Resource Management System**

*Click Here to Submit Annual Report*

Comments or questions about this site? Send email to: [DNRForestry@dnr.in.gov](mailto:DNRForestry@dnr.in.gov)  
©2009-2012 IDNR - DoF, All Rights Reserved | Legal Disclaimer

FAQ



Tract Information

Tract: 07-0007

Deactivate

Search Other Tract

Edit

General Information	Area Info	Notes	Classified Program
Owner Information	Location	Inventory	Easement
Harvest Inventory	Tract Map	Documents	Management History

Home

View State Forest Management Plans

Management

Manage My Forest Land

Work Task Calendar

Management Reports

My Account

Tract Location

Add Property Tract

User Account Management

Management Plan

Admin Helper

Logout

Click Here to Submit Annual Report

**Landowner/Org:** IMA LANDOWNER  
**Phone Number:** (123) 456-7890  
**Tract Number:** 07-0007  
**Tract Name:** HICKORY HILL  
**Ownership Type:** Private  
**State Tree Farm ID:**

**Account Number:** 22876  
**County:** BROWN  
**DoF Prop Code:** District 14  
**Classified:** Yes  
**Certification:** Eligible-Opted Out

**Active Management Plan:** No  
**Total Acres:** 102.700  
**Commercial Acres:** 102.700  
**Representative Forest Area:** No

**Mgmt Cycle:**

**Description:**

**High Conservation Value Forest:** No

**Description:**

Easements/Permits

**Forest Legacy:** No  
**Easement:** No  
**Special Permit:** No

**Criteria:**

Archived Tract(s)



Tract Information

Tract: 07-0007

Deactivate

Search Other Tract

Edit

General Information

Area Info

Notes

Classified Program

Owner Information

Location

Inventory

Easement

Harvest Inventory

Tract Map

Documents

Management History

Home

View State Forest Management Plans

Management

Manage My Forest Land

Work Task Calendar

Management Reports

My Account

Tract Location

Add Property Tract

User Account Management

Management Plan

Admin Helper

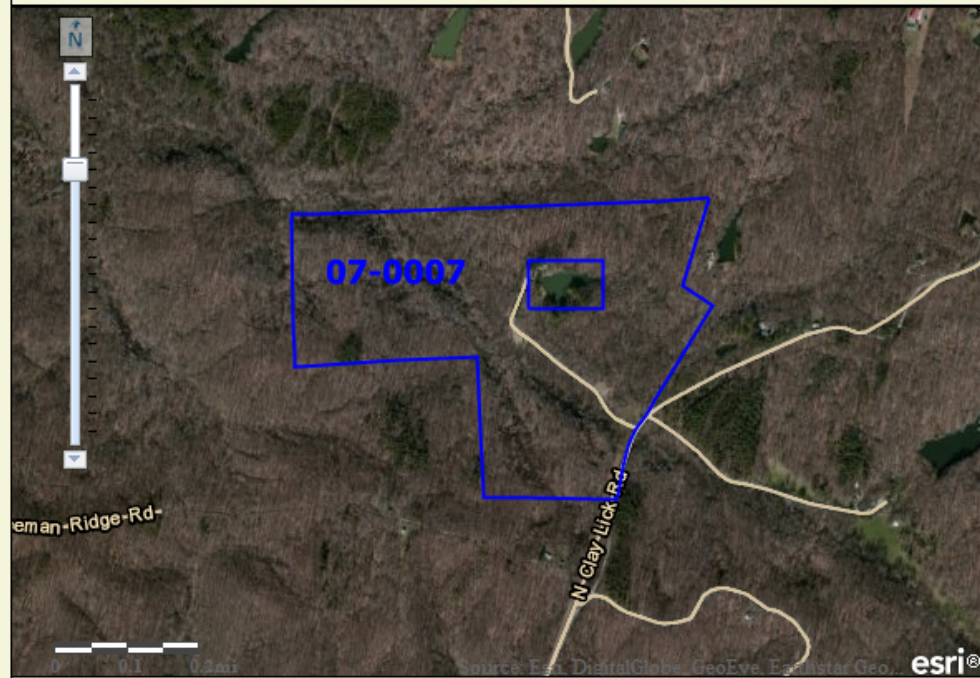
Logout

Click Here to Submit Annual Report

- Street
- Aerial
- Topo
- Ecoregion
- Watershed
- Natural Region

Reset Extent

Print Map





Tract Information

Tract: 07-0007

Deactivate

Search Other Tract

Edit

General Information

Area Info

Notes

Classified Program

Owner Information

Location

Inventory

Easement

Harvest Inventory

Tract Map

Documents

Management History

ALL ALL GO

Management Activity History:

Delete	Schedule Date	Activity	Tract	Note
<a href="#">Delete</a>	12/31/2014	Invasive Species Control with Herbicide	07-0007	
<a href="#">Delete</a>	12/31/2014	Prescribed burning	07-0007	

Add Completed Activity

Planned Management Activities:

Delete	Schedule Date	Activity	Tract	Note
<a href="#">Delete</a>	8/01/2015	Invasive Species Control with Herbicide	07-0007	Complete?

Schedule an Activity

Home

View State Forest Management Plans

Management

Manage My Forest Land

Work Task Calendar

Management Reports

My Account

Tract Location

Add Property Tract

User Account Management

Management Plan

Admin Helper

Logout

Click Here to Submit Annual Report

# Goal 1: Retain Working Forests

---

- Long Term Conservation Agreements
  - Work with land trusts
  - Develop estate planning materials with partners
- Local Planning & Public Policies



# Goal 2: Restoration of Private Forests

---

- Financial and other Incentives for Management
  - Secure significant and permanent funding for Indiana Woodland Restoration Program and Forest Restoration Fund
  - Work to increase fund USDA forestry practices
- Planting of Forests on Critical Non-forested Lands
  - Secure significant and permanent funding from Forest Restoration Fund for restoration of forests on targeted lands

# Goal 3: Forest Sustainability & Forest Resource Awareness

- Improve Access to Forestry Knowledge & Technical Information
  - Demonstration Forests – expand system and use
  - Forest Mentor Program
  - Woodland Steward
  - Web-based information
  - Materials on economics and forest investment
  - Working with partners for programming and research

# Goal 3: Forest Sustainability & Forest Resource Awareness

## Forestry Commerce Website – Forestry Exchange



The screenshot shows the homepage of the INForestryX.com website. The top left corner features the logo for Forestry DNR INDIANA, which includes a stylized green tree. To the right of the logo is a photograph of a forest path with the website URL [www.INForestryX.com](http://www.INForestryX.com) overlaid in red text. Below the logo, a vertical navigation menu lists "Forestry Exchange", "INFRMS", and "Conservation Go Point". The main content area has a dark background with a large green maple leaf and a small white flower. The text in this area reads: "Welcome to eResource Management Services by the Indiana Division of Forestry". At the bottom of the page, a footer contains contact information: "Comments or questions about this site? Send email to: [IndianaFXAdmin@dnr.in.gov](mailto:IndianaFXAdmin@dnr.in.gov)" and "©2009-2012 IDNR - DoF, All Rights Reserved | [Legal Disclaimer](#)".

# Goal 3: Forest Sustainability & Forest Resource Awareness

- Improve Access to and Scope of Forestry Assistance
  - Develop new approaches to reach landowners
  - Increase number of private & public foresters by 10%
  - Integrate new technology to improve program delivery, share resources with partners
  - Review Division of Forestry structure to ensure effective delivery of programs

# Goal 3: Forest Sustainability & Forest Resource Awareness

## □ Invasive Species Work

- Develop a statewide invasive species management strategy
- Provide landowner training, tools, and assistance regarding invasive species and forest health
- Work with Division of Fish & Wildlife to develop policies and tools to manage wildlife populations at level to support forest sustainability (deer, turkey, hogs, etc.)

# CFM: Fees - Why?

Indiana Code:

IC 14-23-1-1

Duties of Department

Sec. 1. The department shall do the following:...

(1) 2) Examine private forest land:

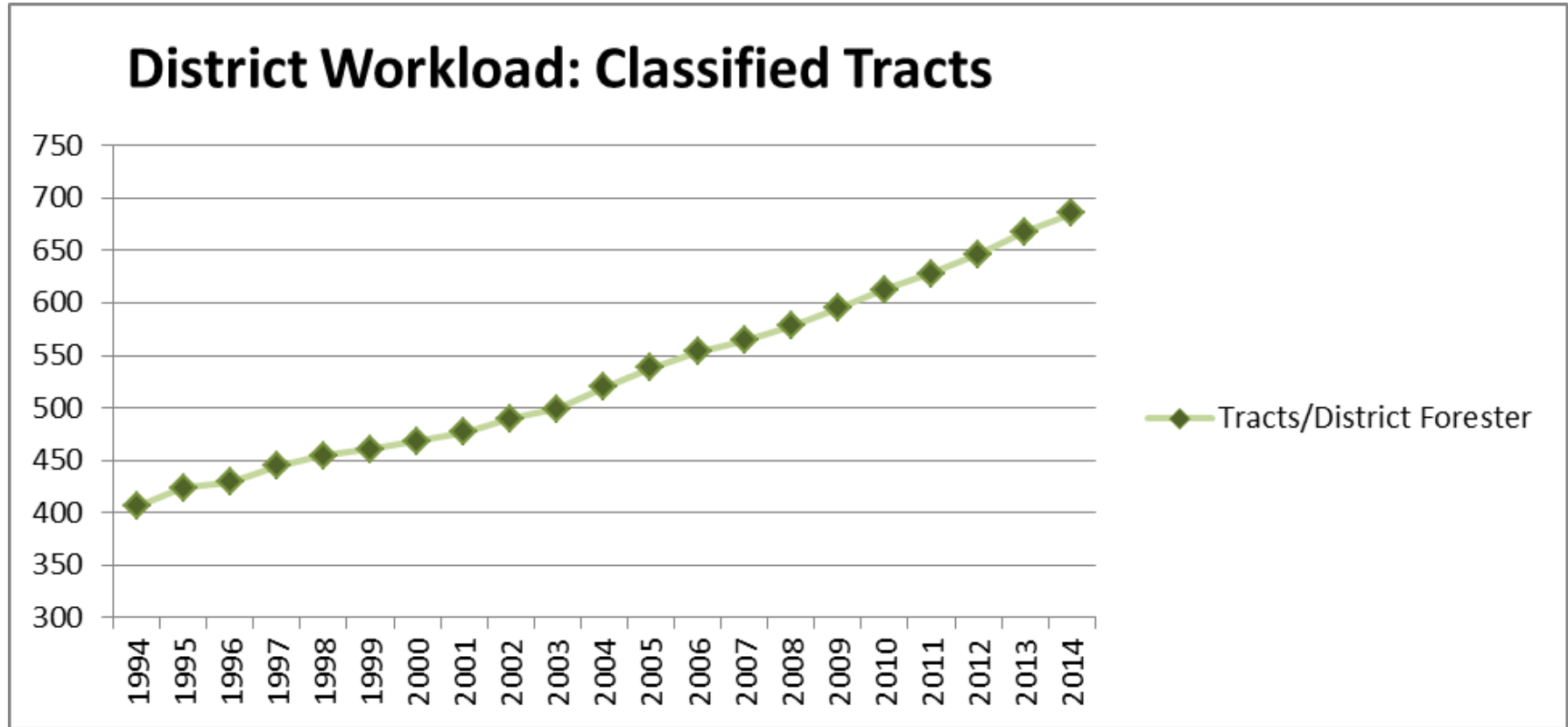
(A) upon the request of; and

(B) at the expense of;

the owner for the purposes of advising the owner on the proper methods of forest management.

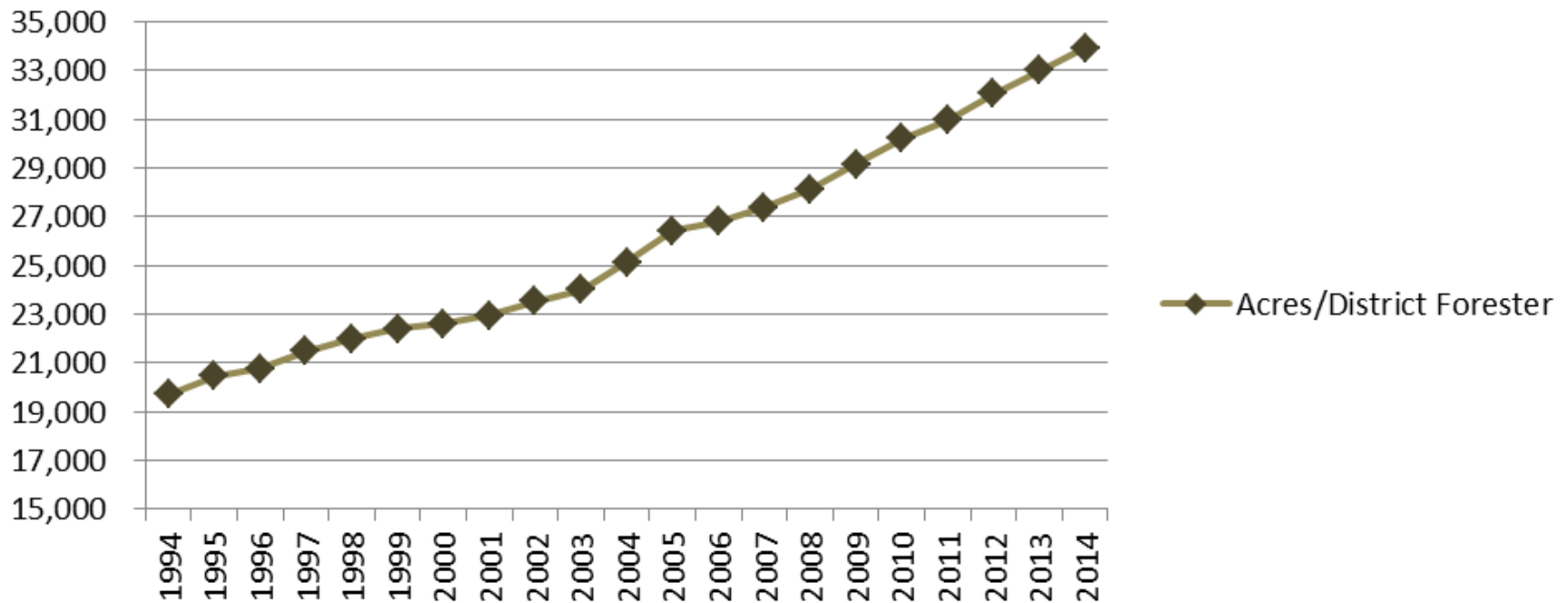
This section was added to the law in 1995.

# CFM: Fees – Why?



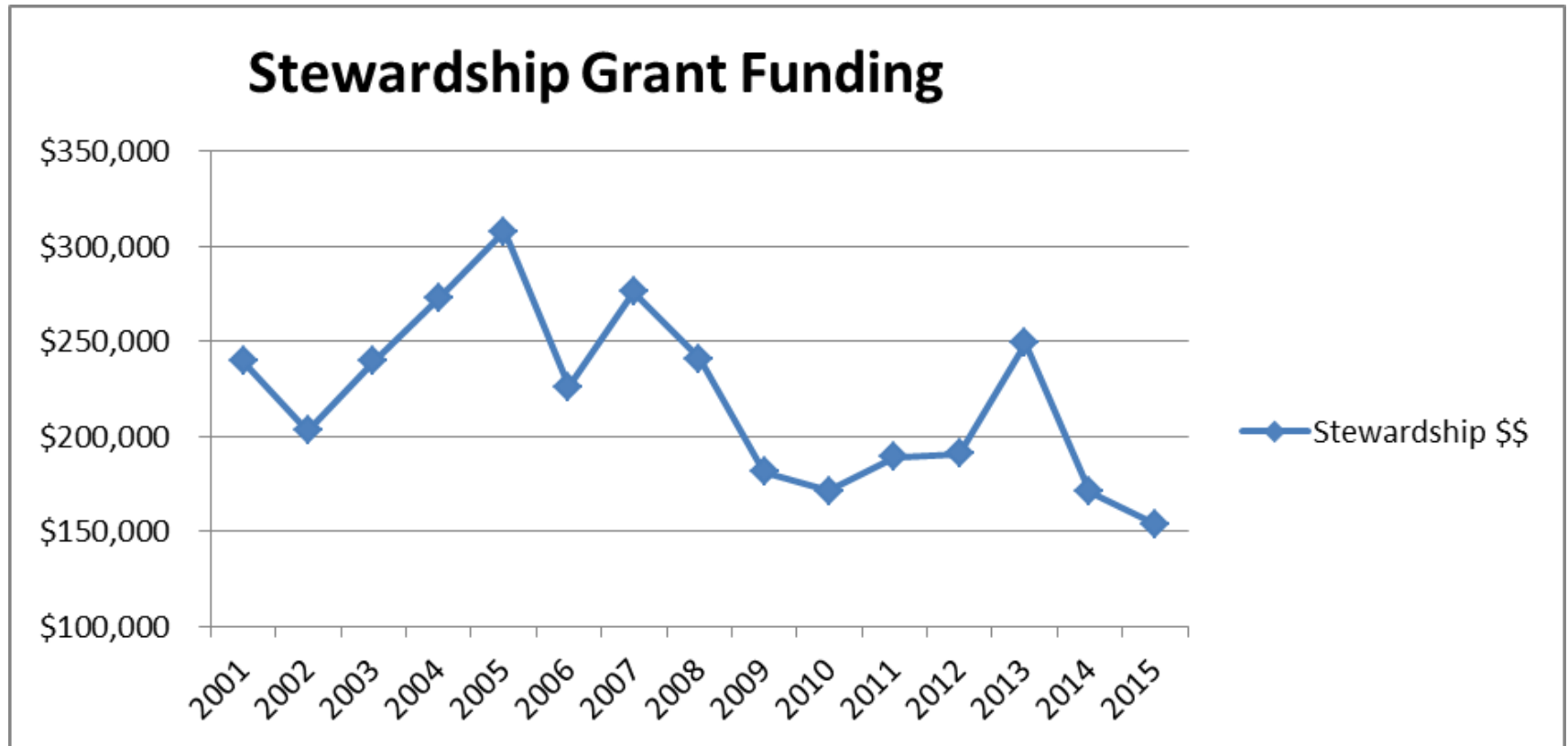
# CFM: Fees – Why?

## District Workload: Classified Acres





# CFM: Fees – Why?



# CFM: Fees

---

CFM budget: \$2.1 million

Spring 2015 Natural Resources Commission approved CFM fee of \$10/acre.

Remainder of 2015 Division of Forestry meeting with interest groups to get input.

Final recommendation to Natural Resources Commission by end of year.

# CFM: Fee Proposal

## Classified Forest & Wildlands Program

- ▣ Annual administration fee of \$2/acre
- ▣ Current minimum tax saving is \$4/acre for enrolled land
- ▣ All other services free for classified landowners
- ▣ Fee collected by county for a percentage (10%)
- ▣ Estimated revenue \$1.3 million for Division of Forestry

# CFM: Fee Proposal

## Non-Classified Lands

- ▣ Stewardship Plan \$200
- ▣ TSI Marking \$100 up to 5 acres; \$200 up to 10 acres (max. 10 acres per year/landowner)
- ▣ Practice plans for invasive species and tree planting \$100 (CRP related practice plans provided at no charge- fed provide reimbursement to state)
- ▣ \$100 Revision of existing stewardship plan for cost share (non-CRP only)
- ▣ Estimated revenue: \$190,000

# Thanks for attending!

---

Contacts:

Brenda Huter

W: (317) 232-0142

C: (317) 371-4727

[bhuter@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:bhuter@dnr.IN.gov)