



State Forest Properties

In FY2007-08 timber harvests were conducted on 5,256 acres of the 155,000 acres of State Forests producing revenue of \$2,899,907. In addition, the following resource management activities were accomplished: 10,418 acres of forest inventory and management planning, 2,647 acres of

timber stand improvement, 193 acres of tree planting and plantation management and 922 acres of fish and wildlife habitat improvement. Control of exotic and invasive species on state forests is a critical need, and control of invasive and exotic species has been completed on 1,280 acres.

Upgrade of recreation facilities on state forests continues to be a priority. Conversion of a portion of the Deam Lake SRA electric campground to horse camping sites will be completed with the construction of the remaining six horse barns by spring. Remodeling of the campground comfort stations and development of a new (flat) horse trail loop are planned for this year.

Campsites at Starve Hollow SRA have been upgraded to 55 full hook-up and 87 electric hook-up sites. The new sites were opened last spring, and are extremely popular. Plans this year include remodeling of the campground comfort stations.

The Division of Forestry has purchased a 300 acre property in the west central part of the state. Commonly known as the Gelhausen Property, it contains a campground, horse trails and a large horse barn. The Division intends to develop this property for continued use by horse riders and other recreational uses.

The following dams have been upgraded or are in the process of being upgraded: Yellowwood Lake, Prather Lake, Bryant Creek Lake, Crooked Creek Lake, Bear Lake, Knob Lake, Franke Lake, Bowen Lake and Starve Hollow Lake. Silt removal was done or is underway at Yellowwood Lake, Knob Lake, and Starve Hollow Lake.

The Division of Forestry has completed the first Environmental Assessment of the timber management program on state forests. This document projects the activities of the State Forest Timber Program for the 20 year period from 2008 through 2027.

The Hardwood Ecosystem Experiment research group continued to collect baseline data on the flora and fauna in selected study areas to compare changes that might occur after management begins in these research areas.

In 2008 the Division of Forestry internally monitored 47 timber harvest sites for Best Management Practices (BMPs), and also carried out a third party audit for BMPs on sites internally monitored in 2007. The overall BMP effectiveness rates for sites monitored by state employees was 97.4% and the effectiveness scores from the 3rd Party audit was 98.9%.