

APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry

Greater investment needed to support forestry and natural resources research and graduate education at land-grant and related universities.

America's vast forests (approximately one-third of the U.S. is forested) enhance our quality of life and economic vitality and are an invaluable source of renewable bioproducts, outdoor recreation, clean water, fish and wildlife habitat, and carbon sequestration. Sustaining these forests in a healthy and productive condition requires a strong, continuing commitment to scientific research and graduate education.

Principal financial support for university-based forestry research and graduate education comes from the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry program, funded through the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). Funds are distributed according to a statutory formula to each of the 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands, with a dollar-for-dollar match required from the states.

Congress recently recognized the need to expand the McIntire-Stennis program and has provided some small funding increases. (See page two.) In response, the schools and colleges of forestry and natural resources developed a McIntire-Stennis strategic plan. As outlined in the strategic plan, significantly enhanced McIntire-Stennis funding is critical to:

- Deliver scientific results and management technologies to forest land owners, managers, and policy-makers.
- Prepare the future workforce in forestry and related natural resource science for the 21st Century.

A.P.L.U. urges Congress to fund the McIntire-Stennis program at \$30 million, which is the minimum necessary to sustain this critical research program. It is especially important to increase funding to this level in FY 2010 since the 2008 Farm Bill expanded eligibility to include the 1890 (historically black) land-grant institutions.



Excerpts from the McIntire-Stennis Strategic Plan...

"An investment in the future of our forests is an investment in the future of our nation..."

"McIntire-Stennis has been critical to the training and mentoring of the nation's scientific capacity related to forests and natural resources and has supported the education of greater than a third of all doctoral-level scientists in natural resources..."

"Given the huge need for [research capacity] in natural resources, especially in view of major changes resulting from climate change, population growth, changes in forestland ownership patterns, and restoration needs, at least triple the current federal investment is needed..."

"[Forests] are critical [to our] vitality, wealth, and resiliency. By influencing ecological, economic, and social conditions, the nation's forests contribute directly to... a vibrant and productive economy... the quality of life of our citizens, and our competitive position in an increasingly complex global marketplace..."

A.P.L.U. PRIORITY REQUEST FOR FY 2010

McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry.....\$30 M

For additional information see page two
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McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry

Appropriations Bill	Agriculture				
Agency	National Institute of Food and Agriculture (formerly Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service)				
Account	Research and Education Activities				
Program Name	McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry				
Requested Amount	\$30,000,000				
Authorization	16 U.S.C. 582a, et seq. (McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Act of 1962).				
Description	This program provides funding to support forestry research, (which includes forests and related rangelands) at institutions offering graduate training in the sciences basic to forestry or having a forestry school.				
Benefits/Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ America’s forest resources are under continually increasing pressures from fires, storms, climate change, insects, diseases, urbanization, fragmentation, and lost economic opportunities. Research funded through the McIntire-Stennis program is essential to address these issues. ■ The program develops new knowledge and innovations to sustain healthy, productive forests and address the challenges facing forest owners, forest products manufacturers and all Americans who benefit from our forest resources. ■ The McIntire-Stennis program provides base funding that can be leveraged at up to 9:1 for forestry research projects. ■ The program also supports capacity within each state to address issues that are essential to their private forest owners, and develop new opportunities for economic benefit from their forests. 				
Funding History					
FY 2010 President’s Budget	FY 2009	FY 2008	FY 2007	FY 2006	FY 2005
\$27,535,000	\$27,535,000	\$24,791,000	\$30,008,000	\$22,008,000	\$22,205,000
Misc.. Information					
Matching Funds	McIntire-Stennis funds are distributed to eligible institutions under a statutory formula. A dollar-for-dollar match is required from the states.				
Final Recipients	1862 and 1890 land-grant institutions, or other “state supported colleges and universities offering graduate training in the sciences basic to forestry and having a forestry school.”				
Note for Senate Offices	Funding is not being requested for this program through another appropriations bill.				
Additional Information	www.land-grant.org/kb.htm				

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, represents 217 U.S. universities and has members in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories.