



NAUFRP

National Association of University Forest Resources Programs

Creating Knowledge—Developing Leaders

Who We Are

The National Association of University Forest Resources Programs (NAUFRP), (formerly the National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges) was formed in 1981 and celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2006. Today, NAUFRP represents 69 of our nation’s most prestigious universities, and their respective scientists, educators and extension specialists. NAUFRP’s purpose is to advance the health, productivity, and sustainability of America’s forests by providing university-based natural resource education, research, science, extension and international programs.

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TO: Members of Congress
FROM: The National Association of University Forest Resources Programs
RE: Addressing the Stewardship, Security, and Sustainability of Non-federal Forestlands through Research & Extension in the Agriculture Budget

The management of nonfederal forestlands has become a critical economic, environmental and security issue. The ten million owners and managers of our 400+ million acres of non-federal forest land are simply not equipped to deal with the tremendous changes in forest land use and management that have occurred in the last decade. The programs outlined below are keys to addressing the stewardship of these lands. These programs, conducted at universities and administered by the USDA CSREES, are crucial since these schools comprise a large share of the nation’s research and education efforts addressing forest and related resources. This situation leads us to make the recommendations described below.

The top priority for RESEARCH funding is the *McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research (M-S CFR) Program*. This program is the cornerstone of forest resources research in universities and provides knowledge central to sound management from both ecological and economic perspectives. **The top priority for EXTENSION funding is the *Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA)*.** This funding addresses critical extension and stewardship needs. The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), formerly the National Research Initiative (NRI), provides funding for grants crucial to basic research. Approximately five percent of the NRI funding goes to forestry and related areas. NAUFRP’s specific funding recommendations are:

Programs	FY 2008 Millions \$	FY 2009 Millions \$	FY 2010 NAUFRP
M-S CFR	24.791	27.535	30.0
RREA	4.008	4.008	8.0
AFRI	190.883	201.106	300.0

We also ask all new funding be targeted at highest priority needs outlined in our detailed recommendations by the McIntire-Stennis and RREA Strategic Plans to address the crucial issues of forest resources management for: climate benefits, renewable bio-based energy, jobs for a greener economy, enhanced productivity, competitiveness in global markets, environmental quality, resource security, and sustainability of non-federal forestlands in forest uses for ecosystem services.