

Quantifying Forest Health in Minnesota

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

A McIntire-Stennis supported project

Driven to Discover®

The University of Minnesota's Department of Forest Resources is assessing forest health in order to inform and refine management tools that sustain the health, productivity, and resilience of forest ecosystems across Minnesota and the eastern U.S.

Sustaining or increasing the health of forests is ecologically and economically important in the face of uncertain future conditions that may arise from changing global scenarios and increased risks from pests and diseases.

By integrating white-tail deer density data with forest health information and quantifying expected forest mortality rates, project researchers are able to offer more refined management tools to natural resource managers. Key findings are delivered to practitioners through educational programs such as the University of Minnesota Extension's Master Woodland Owner Program, now in its sixth year and approaching its tenth class with landowners.



Photo credit: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

COLLABORATION

The Department of Forest Resources and collaborating agencies make research results available to the citizens of Minnesota.



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Collaborators including public agencies, University units, conservation organizations, and forest industry.

IMPACT

Minnesota forestland owners benefit from project results which are incorporated into the Master Woodland Owner Program.



8,100

Acres of forestland stewarded in the Master Woodland Owner Program since 2016.



30+

In-person woodland owner workshops and field tours since 2016.



185

Master Woodland Owner program participants since 2016.

About McIntire-Stennis

The McIntire-Stennis program, a unique federal-state partnership, cultivates and delivers forestry and natural resource innovations for a better future. By advancing research and education that increases the understanding of emerging challenges and fosters the development of relevant solutions, the McIntire-Stennis program has ensured healthy resilient forests and communities and an exceptional natural resources workforce since 1962.

