



# Colorado State Forest Service Forest Ag Newsletter

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## *Message from the Manager* ——— Naomi Marcus ———

Now is as good a time as any to get out there and work on your forestland, line up your forestry service contractor to implement your next forestry project, monitor regeneration within previously cut areas, and more. Being a forest steward, particularly on your own property, is an honor, and the Colorado State Forest Service thanks you immensely for all that you do. Not everyone has their piece of forestland that they can live within, escape to, or witness change. As forest stewards and participants in forest stewardship programs such as Forest Ag, you can manage your forest to help enhance wildlife habitat, reduce wildfire risk, support the local forest products industry, and improve your forest's health. As a Forest Ag participant, you already have your forest stewardship management plan, connection with your local CSFS District Office, and access to a suite of publications stored on the CSFS website to help guide you in implementing your annual work plans. This newsletter will serve as a complimentary resource to provide critical program reminders, forestry information, and partners to support your efforts. So, now is the time to take that next step in conserving your forest landscape. Have fun!

## *Programs, Prescriptions, and Partners, oh my!*

It can be overwhelming or exciting each year to determine how you will dedicate your efforts implementing the forest management recommendations as outlined in your forest stewardship plan. Here are a few things to consider when developing and implementing your annual work plan, especially when there are a variety of programs, prescriptions, and partners available in your tool box:

- How does a cost-share program or grant program requirements fit within the Forest Ag Program? Which organization is administering which program?
- How does a project design and prescription meet the Forest Ag Program eligibility criteria and my land management objectives? Is forest restoration, thin-from-below, or another prescription most appropriate?
- How can I be a conduit to bring partnering agencies, contractors, and organizations together to help me successfully meet my forest stewardship objectives? Is everyone on the same page?

Remember to contact the correct agency with any questions you may have about their specific program. Additionally, your local CSFS district office is available to help you assess which tools may be the most beneficial and strategic for your continued Forest Ag eligibility.

## *Got Changes?*

Have your forest conditions changed? Have your forest management priorities changed? Do you have the opportunity to fund your forest management activities with a cost-share or other grant program? If you answer yes to any of these questions, have you decided how and where on your forested property you want to implement your annual work plan? Does your annual work plan outline approved forestry practices to meet the changes you are experiencing? If not, or if you are uncertain, contact your local CSFS district office to confirm that your plans are aligned with your annual work plan, forest stewardship management plan, and the Forest Ag Program. If your forest management plans change, remember to submit work plan changes to your local CSFS district office prior to implementation. Any changes or adjustment to your annual work plan due to unforeseen circumstances and/or opportunities must be documented and mutually agreed upon between the landowner and your local CSFS district as soon as they are realized for that year. Keep in mind that significant changes may require an update to your forest stewardship management plan. The Colorado State Forest Service wishes to support you in your forest stewardship efforts.

<http://csfs.colostate.edu/media/sites/22/2014/11/ForestAg-AnnualWorkplan-E-formJuly2014.pdf>





- For more information about the Forest Ag Program, please contact your local Colorado State Forest Service district office:
- Alamosa (719) 587-0915
  - Boulder (303) 823-5774
  - Cañon City (719) 275-6865
  - Durango (970) 247-5250
  - Fort Collins (970) 491-8660
  - Fort Morgan (970) 867-5610
  - Franktown (303) 660-9625
  - Golden (303) 279-9757
  - Granby (970) 887-3121
  - Grand Junction (970) 248-7325
  - Gunnison (970) 641-6852
  - La Junta (719) 383-5780
  - La Veta (719) 742-3588
  - Montrose (970) 249-9051
  - Salida (719) 539-2579
  - Steamboat Springs (970) 879-0475
  - Woodland Park (719) 687-2921

## Talk Like a Forester

**Cost-share:** A funding opportunity in which the agency awarding funds provides a percentage of the total project cost.

**Forest treatment is to a forestry prescription as a single dose of an antibiotic is to the entire prescription to achieve improved health and wellness.** In forest management a treatment is implemented to initiate change, accelerate change, or maintain the condition of trees on an individual tree and on a forest basis. Meanwhile, a forestry prescription is a planned series of multiple forest management treatments and will consider ecological, economic, and societal constraints at a larger perspective.

**Forest restoration:** A prescription that initiates or accelerates the recovery of a damaged, degraded, or destroyed ecosystem with respect to its health, integrity, and sustainability.

**Tangible wood products:** This includes forest products such as transplants, Christmas trees and boughs, sawlogs, posts, poles. Firewood, etc.

**Thin-from-below:** The removal of trees from the understory while retaining the tallest trees.

For more terms to know, we invite you to check out the Society of American Foresters *Dictionary of Forestry* <http://dictionaryofforestry.org/dict/browse>

## Marketing Tip !

Creating a brand for your product may improve recognition, consumer perceptions, and sales by setting you apart from other businesses. Your brand can be used as a tool to promote your business' philosophy to your customers and provide internal direction. A brand goes beyond the logo, it is a customer experience and encompasses everything from your product packaging to your website. Develop a strategic plan for brand development and brand promotion.

For more information, be sure to check out *Forest Products: From Marking to Market*, a publication brought to you by the Colorado State Forest Service and the American Tree Farm System.

## What's an Acre?

A common term for owning land or working in the forest is acre. So what exactly is an acre? An acre is 43,560 ft<sup>2</sup>, which is roughly ¾ of a football field for a common reference. These are pictures of what an acre would look like on a landscape. An acre of land differs in size due to topography. An acre is taken from the two-dimensional view of the landscape, which means that the size is not measured through slope distance but horizontal distance. This means that an area of the same acreage will have greater surface area on a slope than the flat area. The more surface area could mean more trees which could make thinning an acre on a sloped landscape more difficult. The main concerns for landowners is distinguishing the amount of acres treated and the designation of treatment. It is beneficial to understand the difference between cutting, thinning of whole trees to make canopy less dense, and pruning, the thinning of branches on trees to make the canopy and understory less dense. Also make sure that you do not count acres that have been previously thinned or pruned, these will not be used for numerous years of acres treated.





## Recognizing Fellow Forest Ag Participants!

The Colorado State Tree Farm Committee initiated the Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year award in 1980 to recognize a tree farmer that has done an exceptional job of forest management on their properties, and an exceptional job of promoting sustainable forestry in Colorado. Many Forest Ag landowners also participate as tree farmers within the American Tree Farm System.

The purpose of this award is to:

1. Promote sustainable forest management.
2. Recognize outstanding tree farmers and the foresters who work with them.
3. Focus public attention on the tree farmer as a symbol of good forestry and encourage other landowners to manage their lands by showing what tree farmers can accomplish.
4. Utilize successful candidates as advocates for sustainable forestry to positively influence legislation and policy that may affect private forest landowners.

The Forest Ag and Tree Farm programs complement each other. To learn more about becoming a tree farmer visit <http://csfs.colostate.edu/tree-farm/>



- 2014-Raymond and Emilie Herrmann
- 2013-Bill and Patti Szilva
- 2012-Jim and Vicki Norton
- 2011-Ron and Windsor Chacey
- 2010-Donna and Randy Moore
- 2009-Florence Kroulik and Family
- 2008-Baasch Family Tree Farm
- 2007-Ken and Lois Carpenter
- 2006-Charles and Veta Mitchell
- 2005-Bud and Sylvia Halldorson

## Things to Watch for:

- ◆ October 1 deadline
  - Submit your Request For Inspection
  - Submit Annual Work Plan for the next tax year
  - Submit your 2014 Accomplishment Record
  - Submit your annual inspection fee
- ◆ How old is your management plan? Plans need to be reviewed for updates at least every 10 years



- ◆◆Future issues of this newsletter will be shared electronically to your e-mail address. Please be sure to provide your current e-mail address to your local CSFS District Office.◆◆



## We Want to Hear from You!

If you wish to learn about a particular forestry topic or an exciting forestry venture in your community please send us your ideas at [csfs\\_dl\\_forest\\_management@mail.colostate.edu](mailto:csfs_dl_forest_management@mail.colostate.edu)