Pennsylvania’s Forests

- 16.6 million ac. (6.7 million ha.) of forest (58% of the state)
- More forest today than in the last 150 years
- Maturing forest
- World-class quality hardwoods
- Suite of uses and values
- Vital to our economy and quality of life
Pennsylvania is 58 percent forested

16.6 Million acres
Tree Species Composition by Number of Trees, 2002

- Red maple: 21%
- Black birch: 10%
- Black cherry: 9%
- American beech: 6%
- Sugar maple: 6%
- Eastern hemlock: 3%
- Northern red oak: 3%
Percent Forestland by Stand Size Class, 2002

- Seedling-sapling stands: 10%
- Large tree stands: 58%
- Mid-size tree stands: 32%
Wood Volume
Millions of Board Feet, 1955-2002

Year of Inventory

- 1955: 22,820
- 1965: 26,269
- 1978: 46,426
- 1989: 72,819
- 2002: 85,822
Pennsylvania’s Forest

- Forest products
- $5 U.S. billion/year
- 90,000 employee
Pennsylvania’s Forest

- Recreation & Tourism
  - Multi-billion $/year
- Habitat ~ flora & fauna
Pennsylvania’s Forest

• Clean water – 25,000 miles of streams
Pennsylvania’s Forests

- Spiritual and esthetic value
PA Forest Ownership

PUBLIC (29%)

- State Forest 2.1 million acres
- State Game Lands 1.5 million acres
- Allegheny National Forest 0.5 million acres
- Other 0.9 million acres

PRIVATE (71%)

- 528,000 landowners
- 12 million acres
State Forest System

- Established in 1898
- Created for:
  - Continuous supply of timber & wood products
  - Protect watersheds & conserve the waters
  - Furnish opportunities for healthful recreation
State Forest System

- 2.1 million acres
- 20 districts
- Multiple Resources Management 1.1 million acres
- 61 Natural Areas 70,000 acres
- 16 Wild Areas 146,000 acres
• Management Guidance

- Legal Mandates
- Strategic Plan
- SFRMP
- Forest Certification
- Advisory Committees
  - CNRAC
  - EMAC
  - STAC
  - RAC
Sustainability and Ecosystem Management

- Resources
- Uses
- Values
120-160 TIMBER SALES PER YEAR
WELL-MANAGED FOREST CERTIFICATION

Scientific Certification Systems does hereby certify that an independent Forest Management evaluation under the Forest Conservation Program has been conducted on the company or district named below and that this company or district has been shown to meet all of the necessary qualifications to be certified as a Well-Managed Forest, in accordance with the Forest Stewardship Council's Principles and Criteria.

Pennsylvania State Forests: All Districts (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 & 20)

SCS Certification Registration Number: SCS-FM-00011

P.O. Box 8552, Harrisburg, PA 17105 U.S.A

Certified species: All merchantable species such as: Beech, Cherry, Hemlock, Maple, Oak, White Pine

Signed

October, 1998

Dated

Valid until 10/2002
Average volume of 50 million board feet sawlogs harvested annually from state forests.
State Forest Timber Sales

- 2004 $36.3 Million
- 2002 $31.8 Million
- 2000 $28.3 Million
- 1998 $20.3 Million
- 1996 $15.6 Million
- 1994 $12.2 Million

- 2008 $26.3 Million
- 2006 $39.3 Million

2009 $15 Million?
Tree Regeneration is Lacking

- White-tailed deer overbrowsing
- Competition from other plants
Shelterwood System
Natural Regeneration
Deer Impact on Regeneration
~Major Issue~
Deer browse line

Fern understory
REGENERATION - State Forest

- 2,500 acres treated annually with herbicide
- 36,000 acres fenced
- 3,000 acres/yr

$4 million annual cost
RECREATION
Trails
The PA Wilds Opportunity

- Over 2.1 million acres of Public Land!
- 27 state parks, with 1,200 overnight camping sites.
- 8 state forest districts with 1.3 million acres of public forestland.
- Over 500,000 acres of forestland in Allegheny National Forest, with over 600 campsites.
- 10 major rail-trail systems, with over 134 miles of trails.
- 1100 miles of designated hiking trails in state parks and state forests.
Wildlife Viewing

Sinnemahoning State Park
Wilds Waters
Opportunities Abound
Cherry Springs State Park
A view into the night skies
Forest Ownership, Pennsylvania

- National Forest
- Private
- Nonforest
- State forests
- State game lands
Rural and Community Forestry

- Rural Forestry Assistance
- Conservation Education
- Urban and Community Forestry
- Watersheds & Riparian Partnerships - USFS
Rural Forestry Assistance

Forest Landowner Assistance
- Stewardship Plans & Forest Practices
- Trainings for Landowners and Professionals
- Outreach

Forest Legacy Program
- Conservation Easements
• Forest Stewardship
Fire Prevention
Volunteer Fire Assistance
Federal Excess Property
Fire Suppression
Pest Management
Exotic Insects and Diseases

Gypsy Moth

Hemlock Wooly Adelgid

Asian Longhorned Beetle

Emerald Ash Borer

Sudden Oak Death Syndrome (SODS)
Our Vision

- Forest are a renewable resource
- Sustainable Management
  - Provide uses and values for our citizens and future generations
- Protect environmental systems
DEER BROWSING
DEER BROWSING
Pennsylvania’s State Forest

- Oil and Gas
  - 71,526 acres gas storage leases
  - 174,000 acres under lease
  - 490 royalty producing gas wells