



American Samoa



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

Program	FY 2011 Final
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	45,000
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management - National Fire Plan	0
Forest Legacy	0
Forest Stewardship	40,000
State Fire Assistance	84,385
State Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	157,715
Urban and Community Forestry	100,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	0
Volunteer Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	0
Total	427,100

This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

American Samoa's Statewide Assessment and Resource Strategy (SWARS) identified five key issues and priority areas for the Forestry Program. Additionally, American Samoa's SWARS identified resource strategies to address the key issues and priority areas.

- Increase community awareness and appreciation of trees, forests, wildlife, and natural and cultural resources
- Multiply and distribute native trees for private, community, and urban projects
- Survey and control invasive tree species and other pests and diseases
- Increase the number of agro-forestry and watershed management projects
- Sustain partnership with federal and local government agencies, and non-government organizations
- Build local staff capacity

Key Issues:

- Sustainability of urban forests
- Protection of coral reefs
- Conservation of wetlands
- Maintaining fresh water quality
- Conservation of native flora and fauna

Forest Facts and Accomplishments:

Selected Facts		FY2011 Accomplishments	
Population	57,291	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	340
Acres of Forest Land	44,479	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	63
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	23,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	21
Number of NIPF Landowners	20,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	0
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	0
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	0	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	30
Number of Rural Fire Departments	2	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	0
Cities and Towns	73	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	60
Forest Based Employment	0	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	51,102
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	0	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	3,262
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	730,000		

Program Highlights:

Forest Health Protection

Cooperative Forest Health Protection and Invasive Plant Species (CFHPIP): The CFHPIP staff continues to conduct prevention and management control of invasive plants species and forests pests, insects and plants disease with assistance from CNR Entomologist and Plant Pathologist for the island of American Samoa. In collaboration with other Forestry Programs, the staff conducted outreach presentations to 527 students, 48 teachers and 40 parents from 15 different schools and one government group with 7 participants; and assisted the Entomologist in conducting survey for citrus greening island wide and searches for brush-footed trapdoor spider. Moreover, FHP staff conducted chemical control on 9 acres of *Castilla elastica* applying Glyphosate on 490 saplings, and 400 trees with Glyphosate Remuda herbicide. Two Forest Health staff attended workshop conducted by Katie Friday (Cooperative Forester for Pacific islands and Hawaii) for Grants management and report and attend the Pacific Island Committee meeting in Hawaii on October 30th to November 2nd, 2011. The Forest Health staff attended three (3) meetings for the American Samoa Invasive Species Team to continue collaboration efforts with government agencies, Office of Samoan

Affairs, USFS, clients, community residents and others in preventing new pests, diseases, and invasive species introduction to American Samoa and developing a Noxious Weed list for American Samoa. Continual funding of this program will enable the staff to continue to survey, monitor and control, and to purchase materials and to eradicate invasive species infestations and introductions in American Samoa and other Pacific islands.

Forest Stewardship

Forest Stewardship Program (FSP): The FSP staff collected more than 6418 seeds and 1430 seedlings; transplanted 9484 seedlings; distributed more than 3263 planting materials to landowners, schools, villages, and clients projects; completed 22 visitations to 42 clients; hosted 27 greenhouse tours to more than 1070 participants from 23 elementary schools, 1 Culinary Institute, 4 American Samoa Community College (ASCC) classes, and 3 government groups. Distributed 2450 vetiver, *Chrysopogon zizanioides* grass slips to 6 landowners for soil conservation. The FSP staff worked with CNR Entomologist in continuing survey for citrus plants in American Samoa for known pest called Asian Citrus Psyllid (*Diaphorina citri*), brushfoot trapdoor spider (Family: Barychelidae) and tropical millipede *Asiomorpha coarctata*. Staff participated in grants management workshop hosted by Katie Friday for Grants management and report; staff members attend the Pacific Island Committee meeting in Hawaii on October 30th to November 2nd. Staff hosted radio talk to promote good stewardship of the land, conducted 2 stakeholder meetings to 21 participants, 2 Forestry Advisory Council meetings to discuss progress of Forestry Program and introduce new Program Manager. The forest stewardship program established 1 Tree Stand improvement plot at Taputimu planting a total of 27 native tree species. Staff continues emphasize good stewardship towards the land to landowners and community members' through outreach and advisory councils. Staff also provides technical assistance and educational assistance during site visitations, office visits, and tour. Staff continues to provide technical assistances on topics such as soil conservation, planting materials, wildlife habitat, native tree preservation, and agro-forestry. Continual funding will sustain the FSP Program and the operation of the two greenhouses and provide opportunities for staff capacity building.

Urban and Community Forestry

The UCF Coordinator and staff conducted tree presentations and demonstrations to 1385 student participants from 12 public and 3 private schools, 139 participants from church groups, and 560 participants from 11 community groups; collaborated with Parks & Recreation in conducting 5 tree plantings at 5 parks; collaborated with 3 villages in conducting coastal stabilization projects planting 232 native coastal plants of 9 tree species and held 2 advisory council meetings to update the council on forestry program implementation and introduce the new Forestry Program Manager. Moreover, UCF staff conducted presentations, demonstrations, and tree plantings to 6 schools in Tutuila and 4 in Manu'a and 2 villages in American Samoa during Arbor Week. The theme for Arbor Week was "Our Forests, Our Lives; O Tatou Vaomatua, o lo Tatou Ola". A total of 324 students and 33 teachers participated during Arbor Week. Tree plantings for restoration and coastal stabilization during Arbor Week were implemented at the two villages in the east whose shorelines are slowly eroding due to rising tide and sand mining. Four UCF staff members participated in grants management workshop hosted by Katie Friday for Grants management and report and 4 staff members attend the Pacific Island Committee meeting and Society of American Foresters convention in Hawaii on October 30th to November 5th, 2011. UCF staff continues to work together with Forestry Advisory Council, Office of Samoan Affairs, government agencies, church groups (youth and choir), village communities, schools and non-government organizations in planning and implementing Urban and Community Forestry Projects (agro forestry, coastal stabilization, beautification and awareness programs). Continuation of program funding is essential for program existence, staff capacity building, protecting and sustaining urban forests, and preserving the forests for future generations of

American Samoa.

Professional Internships in Pacific Terrestrial Islands Ecosystem Management (PIPTIEM):

The two forestry staff members from American Samoa who were recipients of the PIPTIEM Internship program attended the Society of American Foresters Convention held in Honolulu, Hawaii on November 3rd to 5th, 2012 to present their final poster for their focus project; the maintenance and controlling invasive plant species and trash at the Nu'uuli Papa Stream Watershed. The interns continue to conduct follow up visitations to the watershed area and provide technical assistance and management if needed. Furthermore, the interns participated in the Pacific Island Committee meeting in November to discuss a possible PIPTIEM Two and new interns for the upcoming year. The interns continues to expand and share knowledge acquired from program in watershed management, water quality, invasive species control, restoration of infested lands and mangrove forest, grant writing, project management, and related areas. Continuation of funding for this project is essential for local staff capacity building.

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