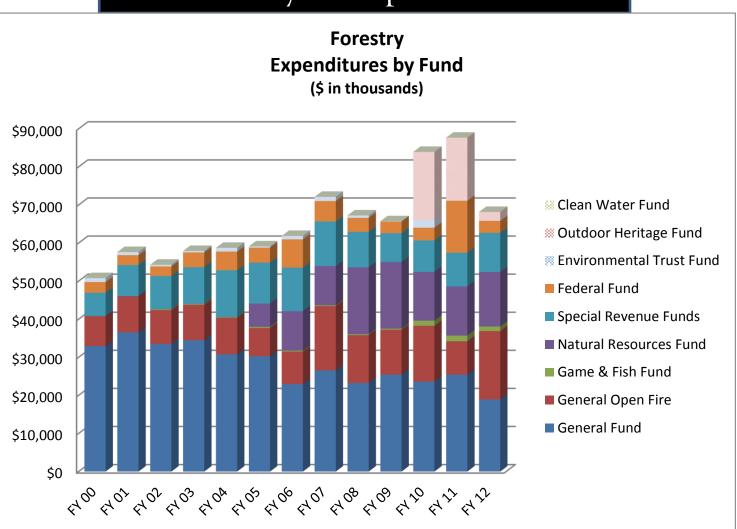
# FORESTRY Director Forrest Boe

### Division of Forestry

- Provides a long-term, sustainable yield of forest resources from state forest lands; improves forest health and productivity or other public, private and community forest lands; and protects life, property, and natural resources from wildfires.
- Promotes the conservation, enjoyment, and use of forests.

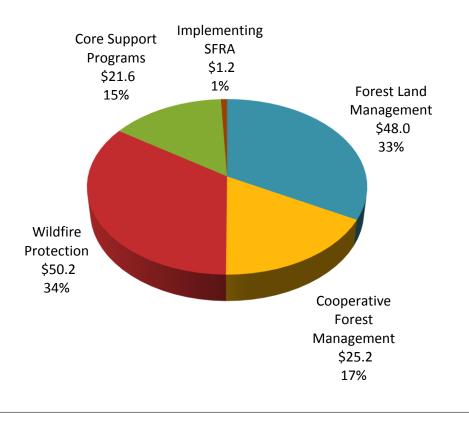
### Division of Forestry: History of Expenditures



- General Fund appropriations declining since 2003
- In 2005, the Forest Management Investment Account (FMIA), an appropriation from the Natural Resources Fund, was created to partially offset General Fund dollars.

# Division of Forestry: Strategic Objectives and Performance Measures

### FY2012-13 Forestry Program Breakdown by Activity \$146.1 Million



Strategic Objective 1: Forest Land Management

**Strategic Objective 2:** Wildfire Protection

**Strategic Objective 3:** Cooperative Forest Management

**Strategic Objective 4:** Core Support Programs

**Strategic Objective 5:** Implementation of the Sustainable Forest Resources Act

## Division of Forestry: Strategic Objective 1. Forest Land Management

Cords (thousands)

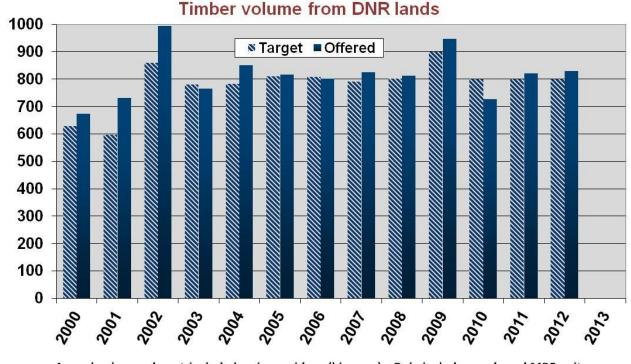
<u>Public Result</u>: A thriving economy that encourages business growth and employment opportunities

### **DNR Performance**

**Measure**: Cords of wood products offered for sale.

### Why is this important?

Timber harvest provides low cost maintenance of forest health and productivity thus ensuring sustainable wildlife habitat and wood supply to the forest product industry.



Annual volumes do not include logging residues (biomass). Only includes cords and MBF units.

How are we doing? DNR annually evaluates approximately 50,000 acres of forests for treatment action to support up to 800,000 cords of wood products offered for sale statewide.

<u>What is needed to make progress</u>? Additional on-the-ground management is needed to improve forest productivity and diversity, including thinning of young forest stands, planting seedlings, aerial seeding, and preparation of sites for reforestation.

### Division of Forestry: Strategic Objective 2. Wildfire Protection

100 3 90 Number of Fires in Thousands Acres burned in Thousands 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 Acres burned Fires

Wildfires Suppressed in Minnesota

Public Result: People in Minnesota are safe.

**DNR Performance Measure:** 

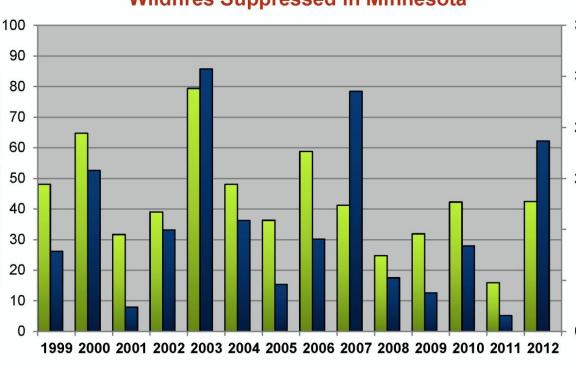
Wildfires are kept under 10 acres in size on average.

Why is this important?

Research has shown that costs of wildfire suppression increase exponentially after fires reach a size of larger than 10 acres.

How are we doing? DNR has met this target in each of last 6 years. The average number of fires suppressed each year is 1,780. Over the last 10 years, average response time to fires was 19.5 minutes. Weather conditions drive the number, size, intensity and suppression costs of fires

What is needed to make progress? Continue to support fire management activities and maintain and expand DNR wildfire protection leadership.



### Division of Forestry: Strategic Objective 3. Cooperative Forest Management

Acres in Thousands

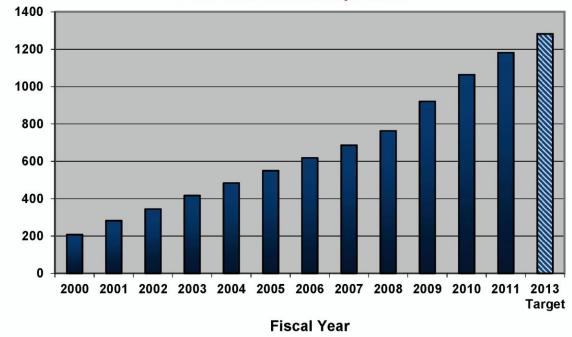
**Public Result**: A clean, healthy environment with sustainable uses of natural resources.

**DNR Performance Measure:** 

Acres of private forest lands with forest stewardship plans. Why is this important?

Approximately 147,000 individuals and organizations (excluding industry) own 40% of MN's forest land. Participating landowners pursue sustainable forestry goals, including improving wildlife, maintaining water quality, and applying sustainable timber harvesting.

#### Cumulative Number of Acres with Forest Stewardship Plans



<u>How are we doing</u>? DNR's long-term target to have 50% (2.5 million acres) of nonindustrial private forest land 20 acres or larger in size under stewardship plans is within reach. <u>What is needed to make progress</u>? DNR will work with partners to enroll additional acres in stewardship plans.

# Division of Forestry: Strategic Objective 4. Core Support Programs

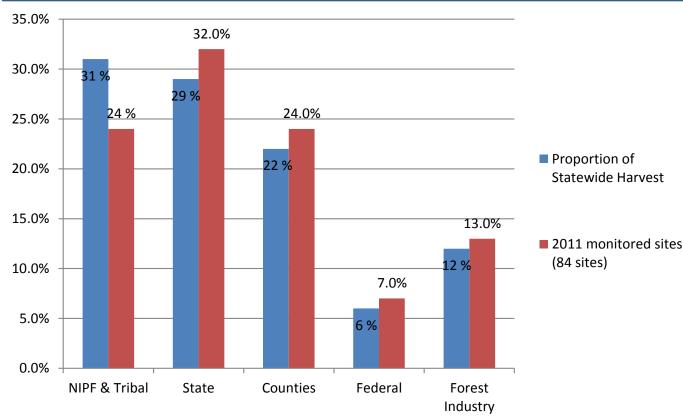
<u>Public Result</u>: A clean, healthy environment with sustainable uses of natural resources.

### **DNR Performance**

<u>Measure</u>: Voluntary sitelevel guideline monitoring of harvest sites.

### Why is this important?

Loggers, landowners, and resource managers use voluntary site-level guidelines that establish



best management practices for timber harvesting and forest management. Monitoring helps inform how guidelines can improved management.

How are we doing? DNR postponed monitoring in FY2012. Continued implementation monitoring is needed to inform resource management policies.

<u>What is needed to make progress</u>? Conducting on-the-ground measurements on a scientific sample of harvest sites across ownerships will require a stable funding source

### Division of Forestry: Strategic Objective 5. Implementation of the Sustainable Forest Resources Act (SFRA)

**Public Result:** A clean, healthy environment with sustainable uses of natural resources.

**DNR Performance Measure:** Advice to the Governor, and federal, state, and local governments on forest policy from the MFRC is timely and effective. Requirements of the SFRA are met.

<u>Why is this important</u>? Science based management and effective government require a working relationship between forestry management, research, and outreach activities.



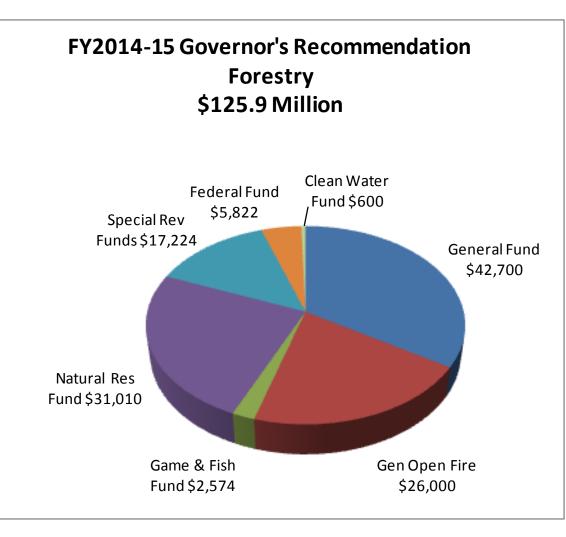
How are we doing? In FY12, the MFRC provided recommendations to the legislative and executive branches on:

- Sustainable use, management and protection of private forestlands
- Maintaining and improving the health of the forest products industry.
- Management and control of invasive species.

<u>What is needed to make progress</u>? Continued engagement with the Minnesota Legislature, Governor's office, and state and local governments. Resources to maintain functional operations.

# Division of Forestry: FY14-15 Budget Overview by Fund

- FY14-15 budget includes \$4 million General Fund increase, slight decreases in dedicated/statutory funds, and anticipated federal funds.
- Forecasted revenue does not support \$5 million in appropriations from the Forest Management Investment Account (FMIA).
- Fire management budget (\$50 million) remains stable.



# Change Item: Investments in Forest Management

\$2,000,000 FY14/\$2,000,000 FY15 (General Fund)

**Description:** Minnesota forest lands serve as the foundation for an extensive forest-based economy, a vital tourism industry, and high-quality recreation. This investment will allow DNR to support critical forest management activities.

### **Outcomes:**

- Total volume of wood offered for sale approximately 600,000-650,000 cords annually.
- Reforestation of harvested sites primarily through natural regeneration or aerial seeding.
- Forest roads maintained to provide basic access to state lands.
- Inventory data on state forest lands maintained at minimum level to ensure sound forest management.



Change Item: Scientific Management Tools for Sustainable Forestry

\$1,000,000 FY14/\$1,000,000 FY15 (Heritage Enhancement Account)

**Description:** This request will:

- Accelerate native plant community (NPC) mapping on state forest lands
- Continue development of Ecological Land Classification System (ECS)
- Silvicultural data interpretations
- Help respond to forest health threats **Outcomes:**
- Inventory and mapping of NPCs on 100,000 acres of state forest land each year.
- Complete silvicultural interpretations of 30 additional NPCs.
- Guidelines to manage ash tree resources
- Interpretation aerial photos across 300,000 acres to detect and map buckthorn and other invasive species.



# Division of Forestry

Performance Measure	Target	Outcome
Acres of Cooperative Stand Assessment (CSA) Forest Inventory completed Aannually.	Maintain inventory sufficient to update the full DNR land base on a 15 year rotation.	
Acres of DNR forest land characterized to Native Plant Community (ecological units) annually.	In years with dedicated funding, complete 100k acres annually.	
Cords of wood products offered on the market at public auction as DNR timber sales.	Approximately 600,000 to 800,000 cords of wood are offered for sale annually. Resource conditions and staffing may shift this downward in future years.	
Percent of structures threatened by wildfire, that are protected.	The goal is 100% of structures threatened by wildfire are protected. Approximately 96% are protected.	
Wildfires are kept under 10 acres in size where possible.	Median size of wildfires has been kept under 10 acres in each of the last 6 years.	
Number of communities (cities and towns) with a basic urban tree inventory completed. (Rapid Assessment)	Complete 700 plans by FY2012. (Status complete.)	
The degree to which the network of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) First Detectors is sufficient to detect EAB.	Volunteers are present in over 75% of counties statewide by FY2012. Status met. Over 450 volunteers in 70 counties have been trained in detection of EAB	
Acres of non-industrial private and non-federal public lands monitored via aerial survey for insect and disease, and other forest health threats.	Completed approximately 13 million acres annually.	
Maintain involvement in DNR forestry education initiatives to ensure a knowledgeable public.	The School Forest Program will increase participating schools and support its existing 120 sites and 7,500 acres of land. Minnesota PLT program activity will increase to train at least 500 educators each year.	
Acres of forest inholdings and access secured via fee title acquisition.	6,100 acres in FY2012 were secured.	
Adequacy of support to the Northern Climate Change Response framework (NCCRF) development.	The MFRC's goal to manage the NCCRF during FY2012 was met via the information services program.	
Degree to which the Voluntary site-level guidelines are up to date.	A three-year revision process that included public and scientific review was completed in CY2012.	
Level of support for innovative approaches to serving private landowners, amongst funders	. Over \$2 m was located over the last three years to support development of private lands service delivery by the MFRC and partners.	