



## USDA FOREST SERVICE international programs

*Watershed Management Seminar*

*June 23, 2004*

*Presenter*

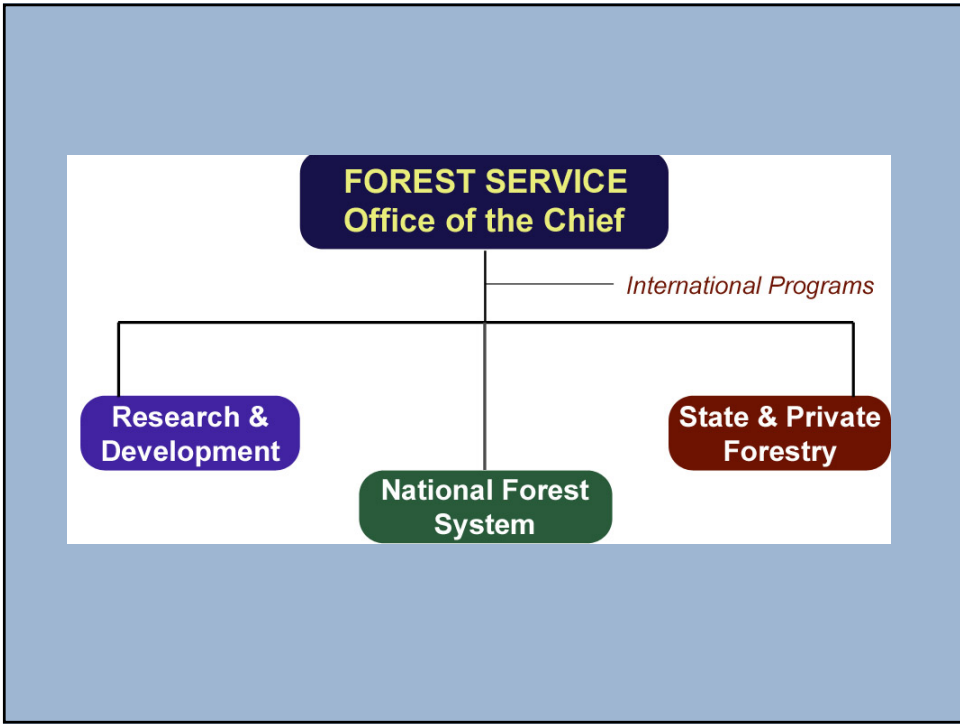
*Oliver Pierson*



## USDA Forest Service

- USFS is an agency in USDA w/ 35,000 employees w/many diverse skills, managing 80 million ha
- USFS established in 1905 to conserve water and manage timber resources
- USFS currently employs a multiple-use approach and manages forests at the landscape level, balancing environmental and social concerns





### THE FOREST SERVICE WORKS INTERNATIONALLY TO:

- Bring our expertise to bear on natural resource policies, trade and conservation
- Bring important research and technology gained overseas back to the US
- Assist countries in responding to disasters
- Internationalize the USDA Forest Service
- Leverage our investments in workforce diversity awareness—overseas assignments provide agency personnel with cross-cultural experiences



## CURRENT SUPPORT

- Legislative authority: *International Forestry Cooperation Act of 1990*
- \$6 million—Interior Appropriations
- \$6 million—funding from US Agency for International Development (USAID)
  - \$1.5 million—from USAID/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
  - \$1.5 million—from USAID/Washington
  - \$3.0 million—USAID Missions overseas
- \$1.2 million—funding from Department of State
  - Mideast Water work
  - International Policy work
  - Forest Reform in Liberia
- 40 Employees



## INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

- Technical Cooperation
- Policy
- Disaster Assistance Support Program
- Outreach and Partnerships
- Director's Office





## PARTNERSHIPS

- **The Forest Service**—National Forests, Research Stations, State & Private cooperators
- **Other USDA agencies**—FAS, APHIS, ARS
- **Other USG agencies**— Department of State, US Agency for International Development (USAID), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), US Trade Representative, US Geological Survey (USGS)
- **Host-country governments**

*more...*



## PARTNERSHIPS

- **Private sector**—Home Depot, International Paper Inc., Caterpillar
- **Non-governmental organizations**—Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, Tahoe-Baikal Institute, Memphis Zoo, in-country NGOs
- **Universities**—Land grant universities, including Colorado State U., University of Montana, University of Wisconsin, Mississippi State U.
- **Multilateral organizations**—Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)



## WHERE WE WORK

<p><b>LATIN AMERICA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mexico</li> <li>▪ Central America</li> <li>▪ Brazil</li> <li>▪ Bolivia</li> <li>▪ Peru</li> </ul> <p><b>ASIA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Indonesia</li> <li>▪ China</li> <li>▪ India</li> </ul> <p><b>AFRICA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Congo Basin</li> <li>▪ Madagascar</li> <li>▪ Liberia</li> <li>▪ Tanzania</li> </ul>	<p><b>WEST ASIA &amp; NORTH AFRICA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Israel</li> <li>▪ Jordan</li> <li>▪ Palestinian Authority</li> <li>▪ Turkey</li> <li>▪ Tunisia</li> </ul> <p><b>EUROPE &amp; EURASIA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bulgaria</li> <li>▪ Poland</li> <li>▪ Romania</li> <li>▪ Russian Far East</li> <li>▪ Siberia</li> <li>▪ Eastern Europe</li> </ul>
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## SUBJECT AREAS

- Invasive Species\*
- Migratory Species
- Fire\*
- Improved Forestry Practices
- Protected Areas
- Habitat Management\*
- Watershed Management\*
- Global Natural Resource Policies & Trade
- Global Disaster Support
- Forest Planning and Monitoring
- Ecotourism\*

\*Relates to Four Threats



## INVASIVE SPECIES PROJECTS

- Collaborative research fruitful—similar ecosystems and forest pests
  - Sudden Oak Death
  - Asian long-horned beetle
  - Hemlock Woolly Adelgid
  - Emerald Ash Borer
- Collaboration with other USDA agencies (APHIS, ARS, etc.) and Chinese counterparts
- *Benefits to the US include:*
  - Improved control of existing pests
  - Prevention of potential infestations



## US MIGRATORY SPECIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

- *Habitat restoration for:*
  - Bicknell's thrush in the Dominican Republic
  - Kirtland's warbler in the Bahamas
  - Cerulean warbler in Ecuador/Venezuela
- *Benefits to the US include:*
  - Protection of bird species vital to the ecological and economic health of many local communities
  - Reduced listed and declining migratory bird species under Endangered Species Act—*Prevent land-use restrictions in the US*
  - Protects US investments at home



## ASSESSING THE CAUSES & IMPACTS OF FIRE IN INDONESIA

- 23.7 million acres burned in Indonesia in 1997 & 1998 *in comparison to* 15.5 million acres burned in US in 2000 & 2002
- The work in Indonesia focused on underlying causes needed to guide changes in policies and practices
- Benefits to US include giving the USDA Forest Service a large-scale laboratory to assess fire behavior under different conditions and scales.



## IMPROVING FORESTRY PRACTICES IN CENTRAL AFRICA

- Conventional logging practices highly destructive
- Logging → degradation → fire → deforestation
- Reduced-impact logging conserves forest benefits
- Benefits to the US include:
  - Conservation of world biodiversity
  - A sustainable source of tropical timber needed by US manufacturers





## ARID WATERSHED MANAGEMENT IN WEST ASIA AND NORTH AFRICA

- Collaborative research among Israel, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, Tunisia, Turkey and the US
- Work with Jewish National Fund
- USDA Forest Service organized a *Sustainable Land and Water Management in the Middle East Conference (October 2003)*:
  - Participants from Cyprus, Palestinian Authority, Turkey, Jordan, Tunisia, Israel, European Community and the US



## WATERSHED ANALYSIS / MANAGEMENT IN TANZANIA

- Support to USAID, TANAPA, and African Wildlife Foundation: Biodiversity Conservation Objective
- Unsustainable Natural Resource Use Practices outside of Protected Areas are negatively impacting habitat and wildlife populations **within** these areas
- Recognition that a larger, landscape approach is necessary to implement watershed management activities to maintain habitat and promote sustainable use of natural resources





## WATERSHED ANALYSIS / MANAGEMENT IN TANZANIA

- A Six Step Watershed Assessment Process was used:
  - 1) characterization of the watershed
  - 2) identification of issues and key questions
  - 3) description of current conditions
  - 4) description of reference conditions
  - 5) synthesis and interpretation of information
  - 6) recommendations.
- Results from assessment used to guide management of additional conservation and development activities, obtain funding, and in influence policy



## CAPACITY BUILDING

- USDA Forest Service works with host-country government forest management agencies to develop and implement a range of training courses
- Training programs apply USFS expertise here in the US to unique forest management issues all over the world
- Recent courses:
  - *Cruising, Inventory, Appraisal and Valuation in Madagascar*
  - *Reduced-Impact Logging in Congo Basin*
  - *Protected Area Management Plans in Gabon*



## **CONSORTIUM FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT**

- Forest Service partnership with the University of Montana, Colorado State University, and University of Idaho to strengthen capacity for protected area management internationally.

For example:

- *Working to resolve conflicts between fishermen and conservationists in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador*
- *Training managers in Guatemala and collaborating with communities as they plan and manage the resources in protected areas (Meso-American Corridor Program)*



## **HABITAT MANAGEMENT IN RUSSIA**

- Managing the Siberian Tiger's habitat—threatened by illegal logging and catastrophic fires
- Managing forests for biodiversity while meeting the needs of users
- Tahoe-Baikal partnership addressing habitat management and eco-tourism



## GLOBAL NATURAL RESOURCE POLICIES AND TRADE

- Lead technical agency on international forestry issues.
- *USDA Forest Service participates in international policy fora on:*
  - Third-party certification, criteria and indicators, illegal and destructive logging, improved data and monitoring, trade and environmental reviews, etc.
- *Benefits to the US include:*
  - Improved forest management at home (Montreal Process Criteria and Indicators)
  - Reduced illegal and environmentally subsidized timber flowing to the international market—levels the playing field for US industry



## GLOBAL DISASTER SUPPORT

- USDA Forest Service applies incident command system to disasters around the world.
- USDA Forest Service has responded to both natural and human-caused disasters.
- Mitigation and Preparedness:
  - India Incident Command Training*
- Recent responses:
  - Iran Earthquake Crisis Effort, Iraq Humanitarian Crisis, Afghanistan Humanitarian Crisis, India Earthquake, Post 9-11 New York City Training, Columbia Shuttle Recovery*



## ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SEMINARS

- **International Seminar on Protected Area Management**—with *University of Montana, Colorado State U., and University of Idaho*
- **Spanish Language Field Course in Wildlands & Protected Area Management**—with *University of Montana, Colorado State U., and University of Idaho*
- **International Seminar on Forest & Natural Resource Administration and Management**—with *Colorado State U.*
- **International Seminar on Watershed Management**—with *University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point*



## Africa Program

- Focus on Sustainable Use of Forest Resources and Habitat Conservation
- Primary Partners: USAID and State Department
- USFS Technical Assistance Complements Existing Field Programs



## Africa Program

- Congo Basin: Sustainable Forest Management and Protected Area Planning
- Madagascar: Institutional Support to the Forest Ministry, including forest zoning and permitting
- Liberia: Forest Sector Reform
- Tanzania: Watershed Assessment
- Kenya: Fire Management



## Africa Program

- Congo Basin: Sustainable Forest Mgmt. &Protected Area Planning
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- Liberia: Forest Sector Reform
- Tanzania: Watershed Assessment
- Kenya: Fire Management
- South Africa: Capacity Building for Protected Area Mgmt.



## Africa Program

- Southern Africa: Okavango River Watershed Management
- Senegal: Partnership with USAID for Forest Management Planning
- Mozambique: Improving Transparency in Logging

*Thanks for your attention !*

