


**USAID / US
FOREST SERVICE
Partnership in Latin America**

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*to the USAID
Forest Team
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1. Brief overview of the Forest Service
2. Why we work internationally
3. Forest Service programs in LAC which support our domestic agenda
4. Key partnerships with USAID
5. New important areas of work



DID YOU KNOW?

- The Forest Service has more recreation visitor days than any other US Government agency.
- 85% of the water west of the Mississippi flows from Forest Service lands.



WHAT IS THE FOREST SERVICE?

FS has 35,000 natural resource professionals with responsibility to:

- Directly manage 77 million hectares (191 million acres) of forest and rangeland in the US for wide range of social and environmental benefits
- Contribute to the management of an additional 150 million hectares (360 million acres) of privately-owned land in the US.
- Conduct research at 8 Research Stations and associated locations in the US and Puerto Rico.
- Coordinate, through International Programs, FS efforts to improve forest management and conserve biodiversity worldwide.



CURRENT KEY SUBJECT AREAS FOR FS LATIN AMERICA PROGRAM

- Improved Forestry Practices (RIL, Reduced Impact Roads)
- Biodiversity Conservation/Migratory Species
- Protected Area Management
- Rural Economic Development (Wood Processing and Marketing, Ecotourism, Economic Analysis)
- Natural Resource Policy
- Disaster Prevention and Preparedness
- Ecological Fire Management
- Watershed Management



WHERE WE WORK

- Mexico
- Honduras
- Panama

- Bahamas
- Dominican Republic
- Haiti
- Jamaica
- Trinidad and Tobago

- Brazil
- Bolivia
- Chile
- Colombia
- Ecuador
- Peru



PARTNERSHIPS

- USAID—Washington, Missions, Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
- Other US government agencies—Department of Interior, State Department
- Host-country governments
- International and local NGOs—TNC, WWF, Ducks Unlimited, Rainforest Alliance, Wildlife Conservation Society, Instituto Floresta Tropical
- Universities
- Private sector, community groups, research institutes
- Multilateral organizations—FAO, ITTO, IUCN



WHY IS THE FOREST SERVICE WORKING INTERNATIONALLY?

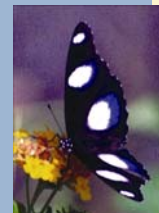
- Promote sustainable forest management worldwide
- Conserve biodiversity—particularly migratory species
- Impact global natural resource policies
- Learn from other countries
- Assist countries in responding to disasters
- Internationalize the Forest Service



BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Protecting threatened or endangered migratory birds by restoring habitats:

- Kirtland's Warbler (Michigan ↔ Bahamas)
- Bicknell's Thrush (Vermont ↔ Dominican Republic)
- Cerulean Warbler (Southeast US ↔ Central America and the Andes)
- Prairie Birds (Central US ↔ Mexico)
- Shorebirds (Alaska ↔ Mexico to Panama)
- GIS Mapping to detect change in the Pantanal Wetlands



CAPACITY BUILDING FOR PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT

Through the Consortium for International Protected Area Management (CIPAM), FS partners with leading US universities to provide capacity building for protected area management.

- Training in Amazon-Andes with Moore Foundation funding (Colombia, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador).
- Capacity building along the Meso-American Trail.
- Partnership to develop a Protected Area Management center of excellence in Mexico through the USAID funded Training, Internships, Exchanges Program (TIES).



BUILDING A GLOBAL NETWORK OF NATURAL RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS THROUGH 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 Colorado State U.
- International Seminar on Forest & Natural Resource Administration and Management—with Northern Arizona University
- International Seminar on Watershed Management—with University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point



USAID/USFS PARTNERSHIP IN MEXICO

Since 1998, when devastating forest fires affected Mexico, the FS and Mexico have worked on capacity building for fire prevention, management and restoration.

- FS provides technical assistance and training to certified ejidos in Durango and Oaxaca on reduced impact logging and low impact rural roads.
- New collaboration will focus on grazing land management in the border area (San Pedro River watershed) and leverages migratory bird program support to The Nature Conservancy.



USAID/USFS PARTNERSHIP IN BRAZIL

- FS partners with the Instituto Floresta Tropical (IFT) which provides reduced impact logging training and research—over 350 received training in 2005.
- FS, NC State Univ. and Brazilian partners are carrying out economic studies to support community development in the Amazon, and have developed natural resource economics courses to be implemented summer 2006.
- FS supports research partnerships to consider environmental and socioeconomic impacts of current and alternative land use trends, and to collect information about Amazon ecosystem functions.



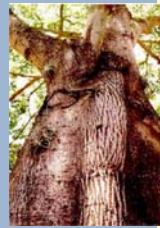
FOREST LAW ENFORCEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

- FS Policy Unit works in international policy fora on issues (criteria and indicators, illegal and destructive logging, trade and environmental reviews, etc.)
- Our LAC team works bilaterally on these issues, collaborating with host-country governments and local institutions.
 - In Mexico we have collaborated to develop and field test local level criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management.
 - In Honduras we are working to provide input on organizational restructuring to COHDEFOR.
 - In Peru, FS experts worked with the Commission Against Illegal Logging to advance their strategy to combat illegal forest sector activity.



PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS FOR DISASTERS

- FS has significant emergency management capability applicable to all types of disaster responses.
- FS Disaster Assistance Support Program collaborates with OFDA to assist with the response.
 - FS aids in prevention of and preparedness for disasters. *In Honduras, FS radio communication experts are providing assistance for procurement and installation of a new communications network to improve disaster response.*
 - FS aids in response to disasters. *In Mexico, FS teams will assist with watershed assessment in Chiapas (following Hurricane Stan) and a fuels assessment in Yucatan (following Hurricane Wilma).*



REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Amazon/Andes – Regional protected area management and reduced impact logging training, regional workshop on Approaches to Transparency in the Forest Sector, migratory bird activities, marketing and development of lesser-used species.
- Central America – Meso-American trail training, ecotourism activities, support to GFTN (Jagwood), migratory bird activities.
- Mexico/Guatemala – Cross-border fire management cooperation



PARTNERSHIP WITH THE USAID LAC BUREAU

- FS LAC team is working in partnership with the USAID's LAC Bureau. This new partnership is helping us explore programmatic linkages.
- A number of key staff positions have been filled under the new PASA.
 - Collaboration between the Forestry Team, LAC Bureau and FS has allowed for leveraging resources—regional workshop on Approaches to Transparency in the Forest Sector, support for Brazil Expo trade show exhibits, etc.



FOREST SERVICE LEADERS LEARN FROM LATIN AMERICAN EXPERIENCES

- **Oaxaca Seminar** to explore critical forest management issues reshaping the forest sector globally and assess implications for the FS specifically, and for forest management in the US generally.
- **Ecosystem services/Costa Rica**— FS leadership invited Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, the Minister of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica to present on his country's experience with ecosystem services and discuss issues. A follow-up visit to Costa Rica may be planned.
- **Consultations** with key Brazilian forestry leader who advised Forest Service leadership on significant new developments in forest policy and management in Brazil.



HOW WE WORK TOGETHER

- **Technical Assistance** to natural resource projects in Latin America
 - Short-term—Through Inter-Agency Agreement (IAA), Forest Service provides technical experts, usually contributing salary.
 - Long-term technical assistance advisors and foreign nationals—Forest Service provides assistance through PASA agreements or third-party contracts.
- **Training** of natural resource professionals and entrepreneurs—Forest Service arranges seminars, study tours and technical assistance visits.
- **Administrative Services**—Forest Service can purchase equipment, arrange J-1 visas, debit cards, third-party grants, electronic funds transfer and ticketing.



LEARN MORE

- **Newsletter**—covers a range of forestry and natural resource management topics, available electronically and in hard-copy.
- **Electronic Mailing list**—includes 12,000 names and growing, allows us to get information about Forest Service efforts across the globe to a wide range of partners and contacts—please join!
- **Website**—an award-winning site, which provides in-depth information on our ongoing activities by region or by topic as well as the latest news.



HOW TO CONTACT THE FOREST SERVICE LAC TEAM

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