

The National Information Center

USDA Forest Service
Northeastern Area
State and Private Forestry



Description: The National Information Center (NIC) is a real-time, web-based data collection and reporting system for State and Private Forestry program accomplishments and highlights.

Key Issues:

- Recent advances in internet and database technology have made real-time reporting a reality.
- Accurately accounting for program dollars and reporting their associated accomplishments is a high priority for State and Private Forestry.
- Previous State and Private Forestry data collection activities were uncoordinated, redundant, inefficient, and the collected data often inaccessible.
- End of the year reporting based on the data was burdensome and often resulted in varying report quality.
- The National Information Center allows for efficient, one-time entry of data by all State and Private Forestry programs into one database system. The web-based system allows easy access to data by both federal and state program coordinators. Standardized reports allow real-time, efficient accomplishment reporting.

Accomplishments:

- Developed a web-based system for collecting information for the State Fact Sheets, which are comprehensive state-by-state reports of State and Private Forestry accomplishments.
- Developed the Community Accomplishment Reporting System – a database that collects and reports accomplishments for the Urban and Community Forestry Program.
- Developed a portal that allows users to access NIC applications through a single user account.
- Developed the National Forest Legacy Information System – a database that collects information on the status and progress of Forest Legacy tracts.
- Developed the National Urban and Community Forestry Grants Database – collects information on urban and community forestry sub-grants across the country.
- Assisted in the development and operation of the National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS).
- Provided on-going support for the National Fire Plan Website.

Budget History:

National Information Center				
(\$ Thousands)				
	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Total	\$150	\$250	\$250	\$250

Future Direction:

- Add spatial display of Urban and Community Forestry information and integrate grant and community information into a single application.
- Redesign the National Information Center home page to provide a suite of real-time reports, and incorporate information for Forest Health and Conservation Education.

Kathryn Maloney, Director
11 Campus Blvd., Suite 200
Newtown Square, PA 19073
610-557-4103 (4177-FAX)
kmaloney@fs.fed.us

Michael Prouty, Field Rep.
1992 Folwell Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
651-649-5276 (5238-FAX)
mprouty@fs.fed.us

Peter Bedker,
National Information Center Coord.
1992 Folwell Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
651-649-5030 (5238-FAX)
pbedker@fs.fed.us

