

The information in these slides was presented during the 2017 Wildlife Action Plan and Spatial Tools workshops.

The NC FAP takes a comprehensive look at NC's forest TOTAL resources (trees, plants, water, air, wildlife, soil etc.)

The assessment is an excellent snapshot of where our resources have been, where they are today and projections of where they will be in the future.



## STATE FOREST ACTION PLANS & RESOURCE STRATEGIES

- US Forest Service / National Assoc. of State Foresters initiative to “re-design” State & Private Forestry Program
- “Tell the Story” better
- Focused on 3 USFS themes:
  - ✓ *Conserve Working Forests*
  - ✓ *Protect Forests from Harm*
  - ✓ *Enhance Public Benefits from Trees & Forests*

USFS and NASF have a long partnership history of implementing the federal State & Private Forestry program.

To address congressional concerns about where and how these federal funds were being spent, the USFS and NASF initiated a “re-design of the S&PF program. Congress captured language from this re-design effort and included it in the 2008 Farm Bill.

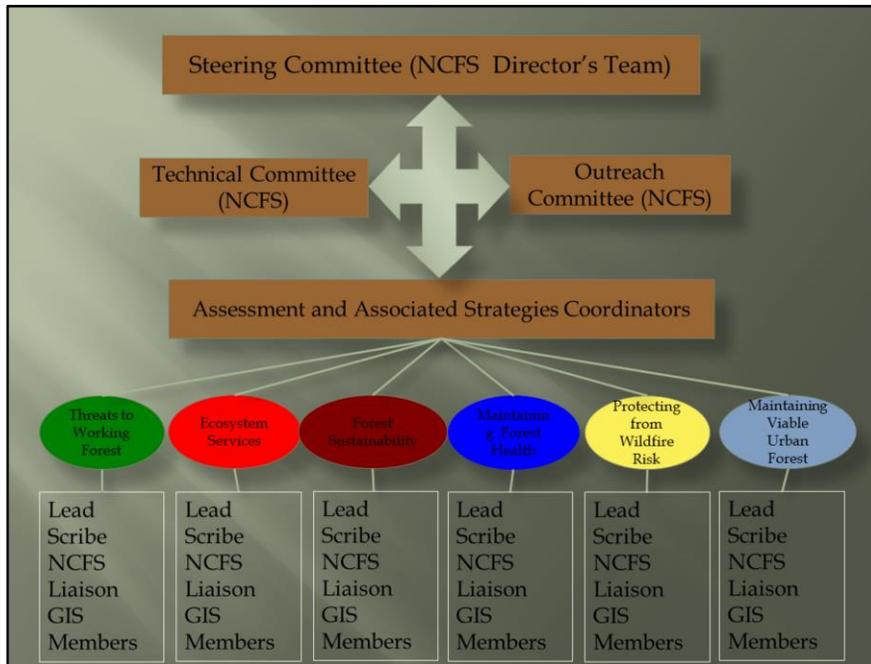
Each State and territory would be required to complete a statewide forest resources assessment to be completed by June, 2010.



## STATE FOREST ACTION PLANS & RESOURCE STRATEGIES

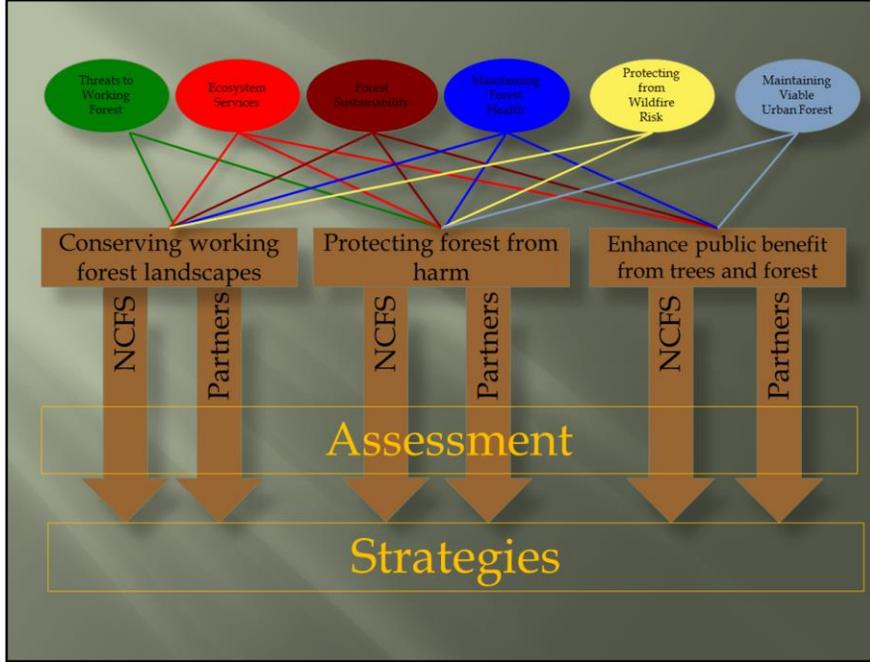
- *“Statewide analysis of past/current/projected conditions of the forest”*
- Followed Wildlife Action Plan efforts
- 2008 Farm Bill requirement to receive USFS funding
- Tied to future grants
- June, 2010 release date

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NCFS task force/steering committee established in fall 2008 to begin discussion about how we would complete the assessment and strategies.

- Hired NCSU as assessment coordinators, established Technical and outreach committees.
- Worked with more than 40 partners and 100's of stakeholders to identify 6 broad Meta-issue categories.
- Created work groups for these 6 categories using NCFS, partners and stakeholders.



Each work group began collecting assessment data and brainstorming about their category. Lots of crossover and common issues between groups. All ideas and data were categorized under three themes which were federal directives.

## **NC FAP Chapter 2: Conserving Working Forests**

- ▣ North Carolina's forests in 2007
- ▣ Declining forest types
- ▣ Family & minority forest ownership
- ▣ Population growth & land-use change impacts
- ▣ Management practices for forestry & wildlife
- ▣ Emerging markets in Ecosystem services

Assessment contains 3 chapters based on the national priorities. Numerous sub-chapters under each chapter.

## **NC FAP Chapter 3: Threats to Forest Health**

- ▣ Insects, diseases & non-native invasive plants
- ▣ Fire & fire exclusion in North Carolina's forests
- ▣ Climate, atmosphere & natural disasters

Assessment contains 3 chapters based on the national priorities. Numerous sub-chapters under each chapter.

## **NC FAP Chapter 4: Enhancing the Benefits of NC's Forests**

- ▣ Forest industry employment
- ▣ Timberland property values
- ▣ Timber stumpage prices
- ▣ Primary wood-using industries
- ▣ Water quality & quantity
- ▣ Bioenergy
- ▣ Recreation resources
- ▣ Heritage resources
- ▣ Maintaining viable urban forests

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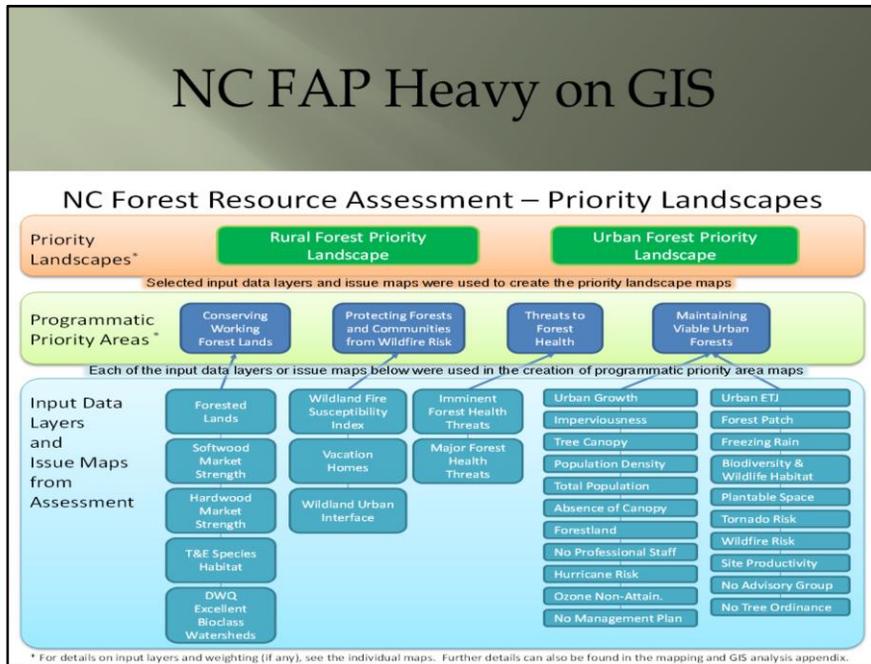
NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES

## Key Concepts from the 2010 NC Forest Action Plan

- Importance of strong & diverse forest markets
- Significance of urbanization / parcelization
- Critical role forests play in protecting water

The assessment is an excellent snapshot of where our resources have been, where they are today and projections of where they will be in the future.

# NC FAP Heavy on GIS



The relationship between the 2 priority landscape maps, 4 programmatic priority maps and the input data layers and issue maps from the Assessment that contributed.

## **Six Priority Maps\* Developed To:**

- 1) Tell the Story of Forests in NC**
- 2) Educate and Inform**
- 3) Build Constituencies to Effect Positive Change**

\* 4 are “programmatic” .....2 are “landscape-level “

Issue maps were used to create 6 priority maps.

## **Six Priority Maps NOT Developed To:**

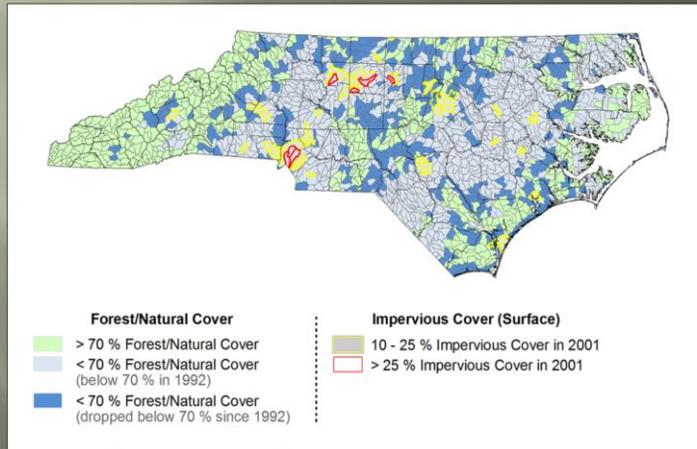
- 1. Restrict the delivery of certain programs or**
- 2. Exclude citizens from state-provided services**

*“Need to reach balance between statewide service and effective targeting/utilization of federal funds”*

Priority maps are not intended to restrict the delivery of certain programs or to exclude citizens from state provided services.

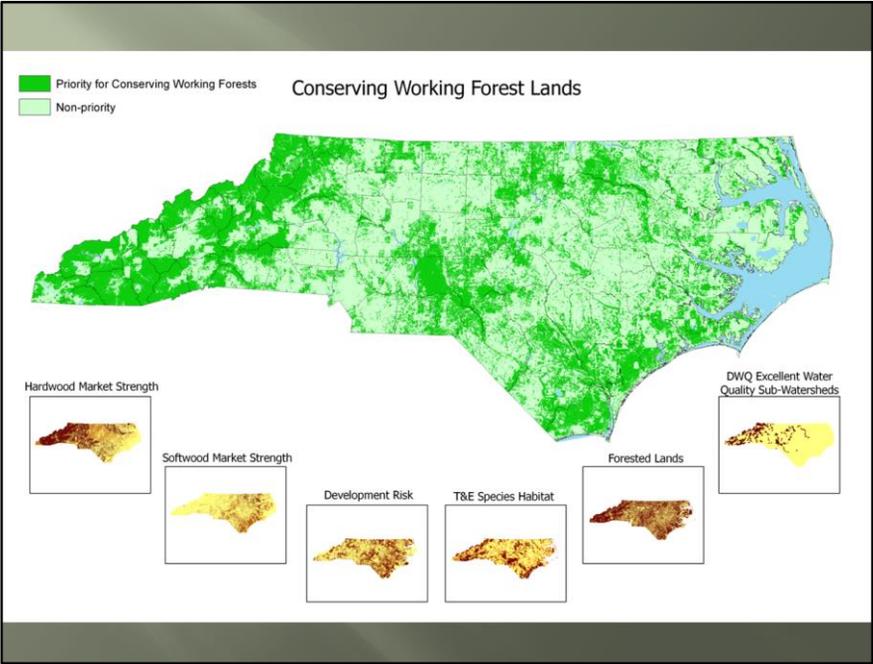
Example "Issue Map"

Figure 4f-5. Forest and/or natural cover trends in relation to impervious cover

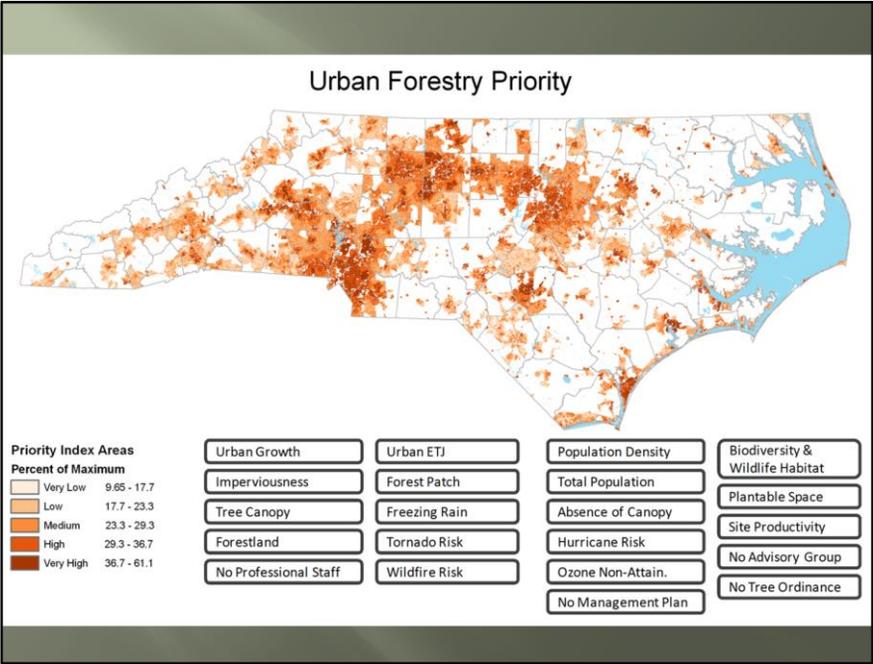


Created by D.G. Jones, NCDFR, 2009

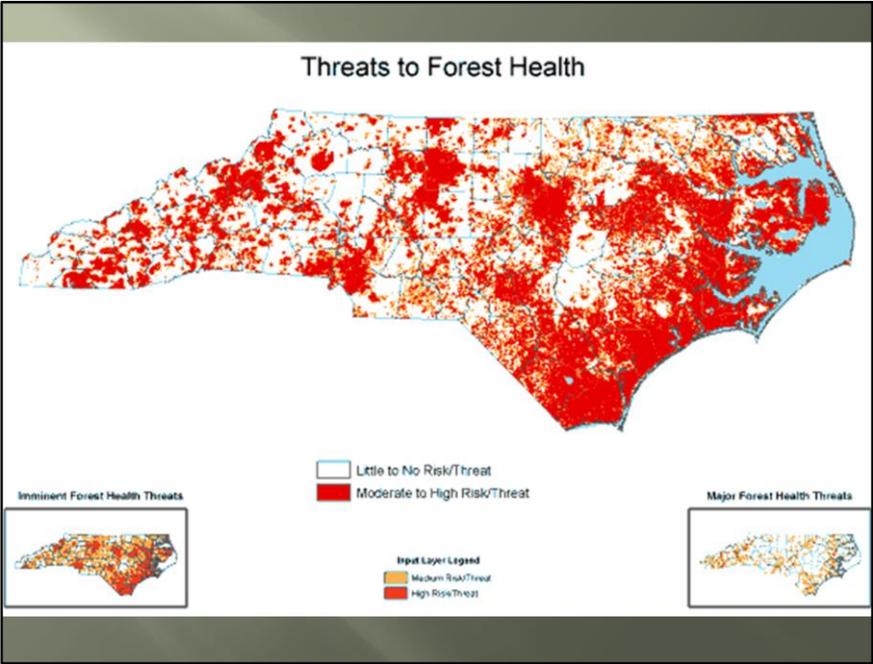
Issue map example showing decreasing forest cover trends in relation to impervious cover.



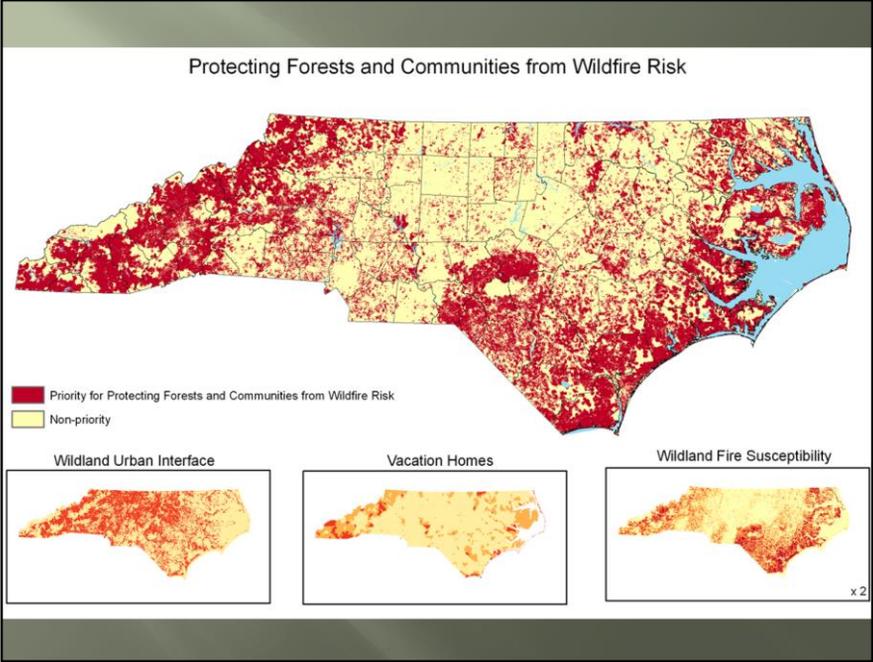
Example of a programmatic priority map



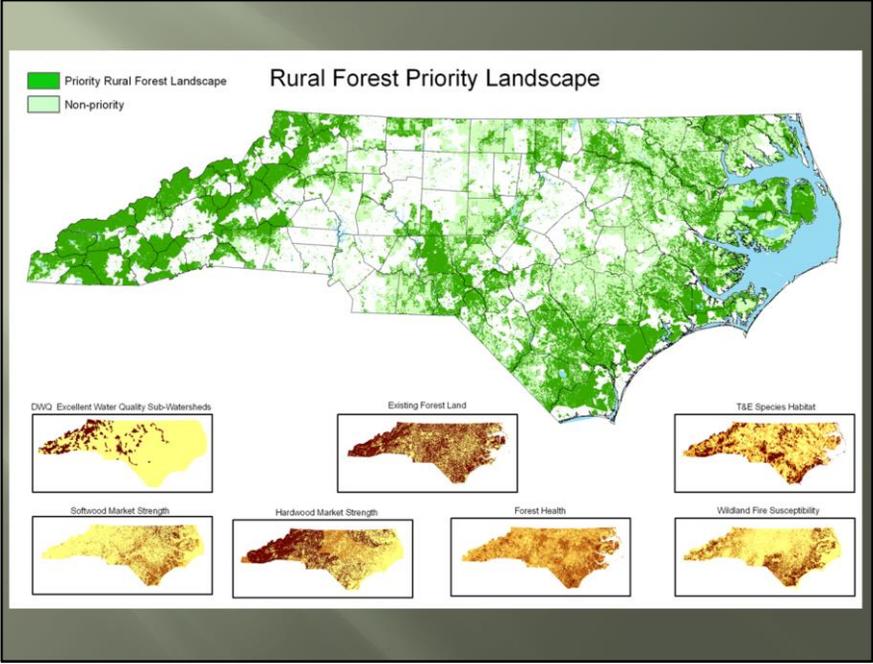
Example of a programmatic priority map



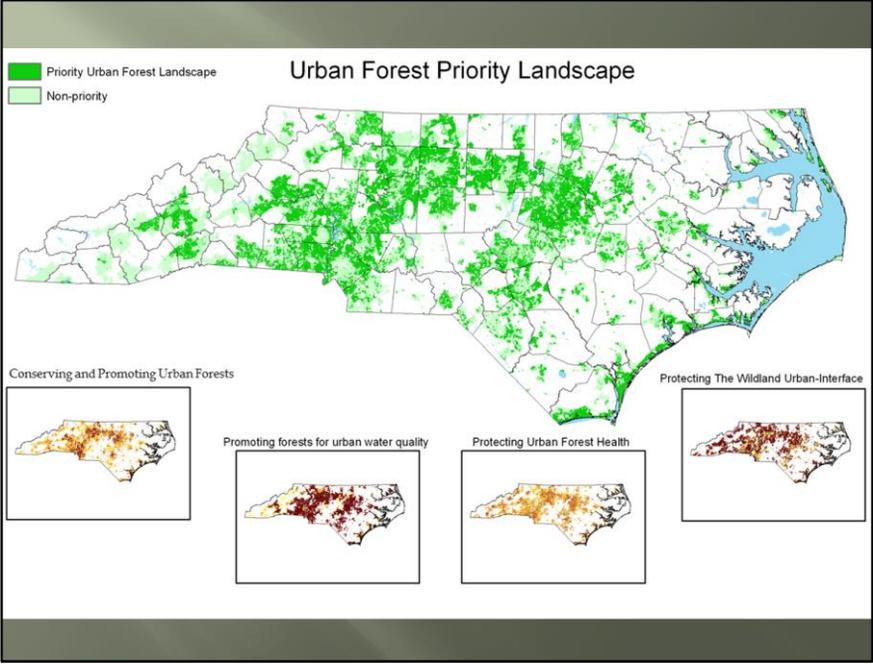
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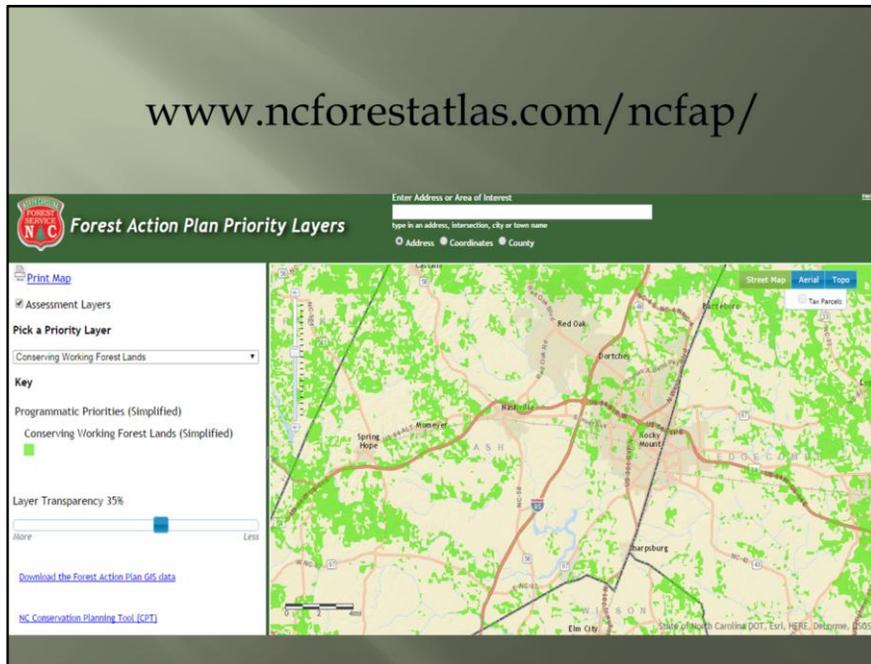
Example of a programmatic priority map



One of two over-arching landscape-scale priority maps – Rural Forest Landscapes



Urban Forest Landscape Priorities



We developed a mapping tool to help NCFS and all interested partners and stakeholders visualize the spatial distribution of the 4 programmatic priorities and the Rural and Urban Landscape-Level Priorities.

The viewer is searchable by address or coordinates and contains tax parcel attributes.

FAP GIS data is available on the internet from NC OneMap  
<http://www.nconemap.com>

## NC Forest Action Plan Strategic Goals

**Goal 1: Sustainably manage & conserve forests**

**Goal 2: Reduce forest threats**

**Goal 3: Enhance fire-adapted species and ecosystems**

**Goal 4: Maintain or increase forest markets**

**Goal 5: Increase fish & wildlife habitat**

**Goal 6: Effectively manage forests for clean water**

**Goal 7: Enhance the management of urban forests**

(26 Objectives, 90 Strategies support these Goals)

After completing the assessment it was time to begin developing strategies. At this stage we needed to ask the question of “What do we need to do to address what was found in the assessment?”

We developed 7 goals and 26 objectives by asking the “What” question.

Once we determine what we needed to do then we asked the question “How are we going to do it?” and that led to the development 90 strategies. Number of objectives and strategies per goal are listed.

## NC Forest Action Plan "Goals, Objectives & Strategies Matrix"

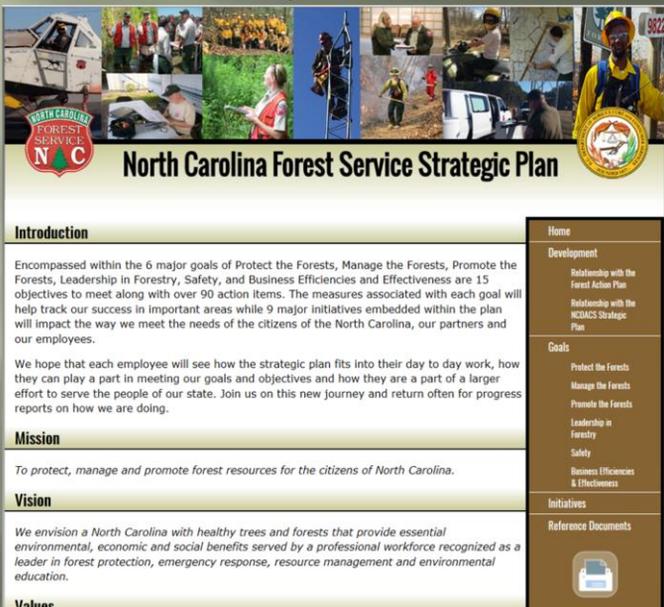
**Objective 1.1. – Conserve high-priority forest ecosystems and landscapes.**  
(Addresses key Assessment findings in sections 2b, 3a, 3b, 4g, 4j, and USDA Forest Service national objectives 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2,3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7.)

**Strategy1.1.1. – Collaborate with other natural resource organizations to identify high-priority forest ecosystems and landscapes.**

Priority Area(s)	DFR Program Areas	Key Stakeholders and Partners	Resources Needed	Measures of Success
Rural Forest Priority Landscape Map Conserving Working Forestlands Map Urban Forest Priority Landscape Map Forest Legacy "Areas of Need" Priority Ecosystems (State Wildlife Action Plan) Significant Natural Heritage Areas (Natural Heritage Program)	Forest Legacy Forest Stewardship FM GSB	DENR – NHP NCWRC NRCS Land trusts ADFPTF CWMTF NHT	Increased funding for GIS mapping capability  Identification of lead individual and/or agency and formation of interagency team focusing on forestland conservation	Improved level of coordination among state agencies responsible for land acquisition and conservation  Current and new partnerships that develop to assist with conservation efforts or to create new initiatives within high-priority ecosystems or landscapes  Acres of forest permanently protected or conserved that are considered to be high priority forest ecosystems or landscapes

Example – a matrix was created to tie strategies to priority areas, DFR programs, key partners/stakeholders, resources needed and measures of success.

## NC Forest Action Plan Heavily Influenced NCFS's Future Efforts



**North Carolina Forest Service Strategic Plan**

**Introduction**

Encompassed within the 6 major goals of Protect the Forests, Manage the Forests, Promote the Forests, Leadership in Forestry, Safety, and Business Efficiencies and Effectiveness are 15 objectives to meet along with over 90 action items. The measures associated with each goal will help track our success in important areas while 9 major initiatives embedded within the plan will impact the way we meet the needs of the citizens of the North Carolina, our partners and our employees.

We hope that each employee will see how the strategic plan fits into their day to day work, how they can play a part in meeting our goals and objectives and how they are a part of a larger effort to serve the people of our state. Join us on this new journey and return often for progress reports on how we are doing.

**Mission**

*To protect, manage and promote forest resources for the citizens of North Carolina.*

**Vision**

*We envision a North Carolina with healthy trees and forests that provide essential environmental, economic and social benefits served by a professional workforce recognized as a leader in forest protection, emergency response, resource management and environmental education.*

**Values**

**Home**

**Development**

- Relationship with the Forest Action Plan
- Relationship with the NCMAIS Strategic Plan

**Goals**

- Protect the Forests
- Manage the Forests
- Promote the Forests
- Leadership in Forestry
- Safety
- Business Efficiencies & Effectiveness

**Initiatives**

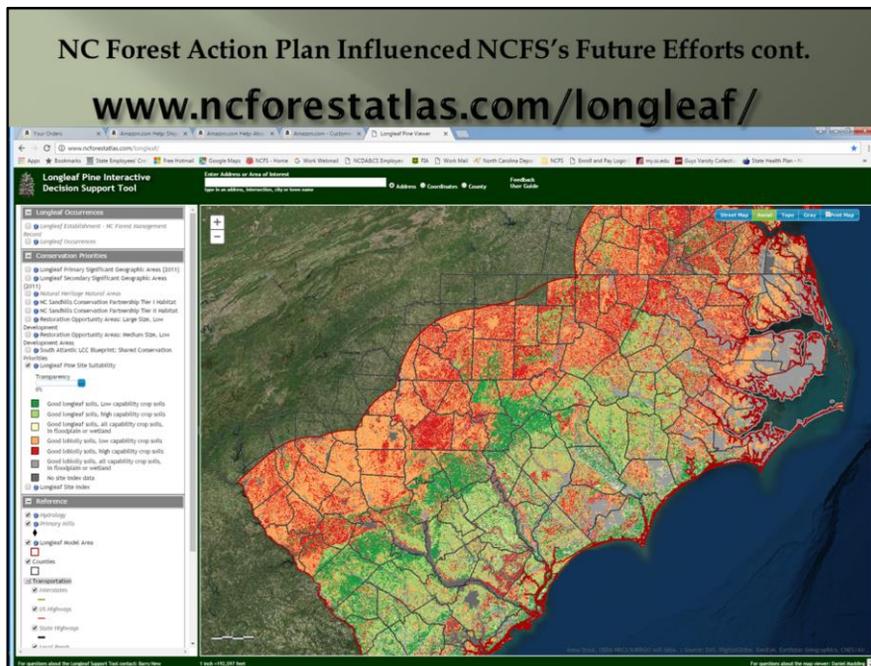
**Reference Documents**



In 2013 we released a 3-year Strategic Plan for the NCFS designed to focus our efforts, improve our services, and meet our mission.

[http://www.ncforestservice.gov/strategic\\_plan](http://www.ncforestservice.gov/strategic_plan)

[http://www.ncforestservice.gov/strategic\\_plan/pdf/NCFS\\_StrategicPlan.pdf](http://www.ncforestservice.gov/strategic_plan/pdf/NCFS_StrategicPlan.pdf)



The Longleaf Pine Interactive Decision Support Tool was developed through a partnership between the NCFS, SCFC and VADOF.

The purpose of the LIDST is to bring together the best available geographic information related to longleaf pine restoration and conservation in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia and make that information available to all.

The goal of the longleaf site suitability model is to identify areas where growing longleaf pine may be competitive economically as compared to other leading agricultural land uses, specifically loblolly pine plantations and cultivated crops, as well as areas where longleaf is more easily managed.

## NC FAP 5-Year Review (2015)

### Notables:

- ▣ Working forests & the military partnership
- ▣ Longleaf pine restoration progress
- ▣ Forest threats increasing (ex. invasives)
- ▣ Challenges with T&E species
- ▣ Full report on NC FAP website

# www.ncforestactionplan.com



A statewide analysis of the past, current and projected future conditions of North Carolina's forest resources.

[NC Forest Action Plan Document](#)

[NC Forest Action Plan Priority Layer Map Viewer](#)

- NC Forest Action Plan 5-Year Review
- 2015 Summary of Actions Taken in Support of National Priorities
- Forest Action Plans from the National Association of State Foresters
- Presentations from the October 19, 2010 Forest Assessment Overview Webinar
- "Other States' Forest Resource Assessments" and "Strategies for the Southern Region"
- Planning for the Future of Southern Forests
- N.C. Wildlife Action Plan



Thank you for your time!



*To protect, manage and promote forest resources  
for the citizens of North Carolina*



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