



Association of Natural Resources
Extension Professionals

Natural Resources Extension Programs and Impacts

Forest & Range Management

Logger Training in Idaho – Loggers affect management of a great deal of land in Idaho and communicate with many family forest owners. The more they know about forest management, the better they can communicate with forest owners, foresters, and others involved in managing forests. Participating in education programs can improve demand for their services and document their commitment to forest stewardship.



University of Idaho Extension is meeting this need for education through the Logger Education to Advance Professionalism (“LEAP”) program, with over 20 hours of training designed to increase loggers’ understanding and skills related to forest ecology,

silviculture, and water quality. Sixty-four LEAP sessions were attended by over 1,400 loggers in Idaho since 1994. They also helped create the “Idaho Pro-Logger” program which involves a “LEAP Update” created by Extension. Participants in 2009 LEAP update sessions indicated they were better able to identify pests, select leave trees, evaluate forest stand density, manage slash, and make decisions on biomass harvesting. **Contact:** Chris Schnepf, Area Extension Educator – Forestry, University of Idaho Extension; phone: 208-446-1680; email: cschnepf@uidaho.edu.

Urban Tree Canopy Assessment in Virginia – Tree canopy cover in urban areas provides aesthetic value and contributes economically valuable ecosystem services, but to quantify its benefits the amount of canopy cover must first be estimated. Virginia Tech Extension and several partners addressed this need by creating the Urban Tree Canopy Assessment Project. The goal is to assist communities by providing tools and technical infrastructure to assess and establish a baseline of community tree canopy



coverage and to support the efforts of localities to maintain or increase their tree canopy coverage. Currently 949 square miles have been analyzed through the Urban Tree Canopy project, resulting in the identification of 420 square miles of urban tree canopy. Using Fairfax County’s estimates for air pollution, energy conservation, and storm water management benefits, 420 square miles of urban tree canopy generates approximately \$6 billion annually in ecosystem service benefits. **Contact:** Dr. Robert Smith, Associate Dean for Engagement, College of Natural Resources and the Environment, Virginia Tech; phone: 540-231-7679; email: rmith4@vt.edu.

Forest and Range Owners Field Day Held in

Washington – In Washington State 215,000 families and individuals control 5.8 million acres of forest land, making them the largest rural land use group in the state, yet they generally are not technically prepared to steward their forests. Washington State University, the University of Idaho, and Oregon State



University created the Forest and Range Owners Field Days to increase awareness of forest management techniques, emerging issues, and essential products and services. The 2010 field day season resulted in

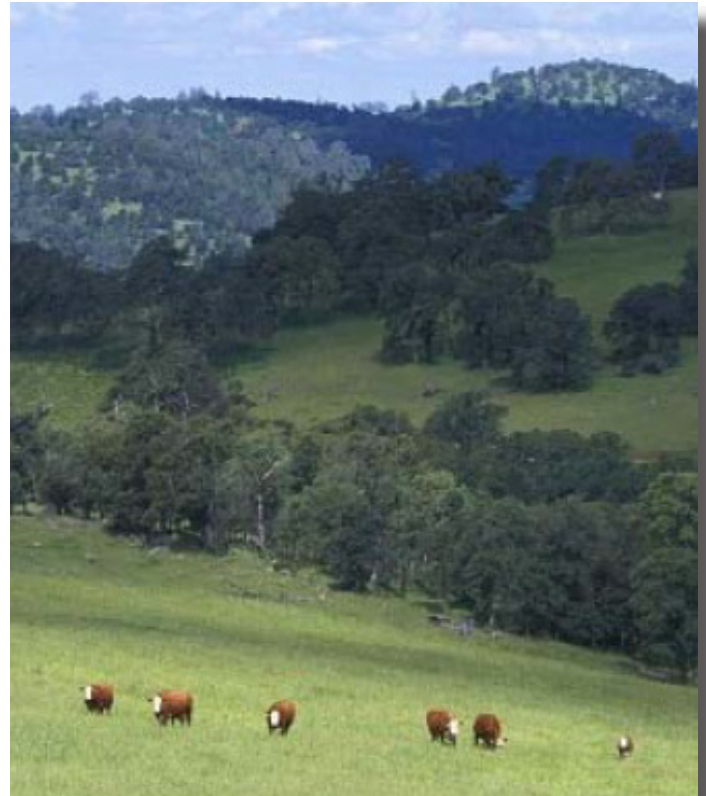
720 family forest owners executing at least two new practices on their land learned about at the field day. For 643 of the participants the field day was their first experience with an organized educational event. Nearly 100% said they would recommend the field day to family, friends, and neighbors. WSU Extension Forestry and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources have cooperatively delivered field days around the state since 1992 with a total attendance of 8,500 landowners and others. **Contact:** Andrew B. Perleberg, Extension Forester, Washington State University; phone: 509-667-6658; email: andyp@wsu.edu.

Cattle and Native Oak Regeneration in California –

California's native oak woodlands are a valuable resource, but regeneration can be difficult. The University of California's 'Integrated Hardwood Range Management Program' has learned how to regenerate native oaks even when cattle are present if cer-

tain precautions are taken to protect the oaks. Their education programs now incorporate this knowledge.

Contact: Dr. Doug McCreary, Natural Resources Specialist, Sierra Foothill Research and Extension, University of California – Berkeley; phone: 530-639-8807; e-mail: mccreary@nature.berkeley.edu.



Minnesota Forest Pest First Detector Program

Finds Emerald Ash Borer - The Minnesota Forest Pest First Detector Program, a partner of the National Pest Diagnostic Network, was developed in 2007 to address the concern of emerald ash borer's (EAB) arrival in the state. The program was partially responsible for the discovery of EAB in the state, helping prepare foresters and other resource managers for dealing with these extremely damaging exotic insects. It also was responsible for finding the first gypsy moth in Minnesota in 2010. **Contact:** Jeff Hahn, Extension Professor Entomology, University of Minnesota; phone: 612-624-4977; email: hahnx002@umn.edu; or Angela Gupta, Extension Forestry Educator, University of Minnesota; phone: 507-280-2869; email: agupta@umn.edu.

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