

ForMAP News



ForMAP Update

By Josh Baldwin

ForMAP By the Numbers	April '18	July '18	April '19
Users — Total	1138	1157	1236
Users — LaSR Project Preparers	406	413	431
Users — ForHealth	91	93	105
Approved Forest Stewardship Plans	135,562	133,902	136,380
Approved Forest Stewardship Plans (Acres)	23,560,164	23,162,913	23,533,114
LaSR Projects — Draft	123	96	119
LaSR Projects — Published	147	161	144
LaSR Projects — Complete	426	442	488
Forest Health Projects - Draft	635	640	675
Forest Health Projects - Proposed	346	314	450
Forest Health Projects - Approved	1,997	2200	2451
Forest Health Projects - Approved	12	16	19

Inside this issue

ForMAP Update	1
ForMAP V 5.3	2
ForMAP Contact Info	2
New LaSR Features	3
USFS Contact Info	5

General info

ForMAP Web Application:
<https://apps.fs.usda.gov/formap>

USFS ForMAP Help Desk:

- www.formap.info
- 303-275-5341

Outreach Highlights

- Dec 11-13: Onsite trainings for Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands forestry staff. International Institute of Tropical Forestry hosted Application Support Specialist Josh Baldwin for 3 days of SMART trainings.
- Dec 22-Jan 25: During the government shutdown, the ForMAP help desk was operational.
- Feb 13-28: ForMAP User Survey. We received 220 completed responses, and are currently analyzing results.
- March 3-5: Federal Forest Stewardship Program Manager’s meeting. Acting ForMAP Program Manager Tom Luther and Josh Baldwin gave a ForMAP update and led discussion on SMART and accomplishments reporting.
- April 23-25: Northeast-Midwest State Foresters Alliance (formerly NAASF) Cooperative Forest Management Meeting in Columbus, OH. The USFS ForMAP team will present new features, results from our recent user survey, and provide an update on the data dashboard, Prism.

A Note from Laurie Schoonhoven—National Forest Stewardship Program Manager

On March 18th, Arvind Bhuta joined the Cooperative Forestry team as the ForMAP Project Manager. He brings a breadth of experience and knowledge to the position including a Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology, Masters of Science in Geography, and a PhD in Geospatial and Environmental Analysis. Before joining Cooperative Forestry, Arvind was the forest ecologist for the Forest Service National Forests of Alabama where he developed ecological models for the ecology, soil and water programs, and developed geospatial data management and analyses of ecological conditions. Arvind has experience working with federal and state agencies, academia, non-profit organizations, and private forest landowners. As a Region 6 Forester, Arvind used geospatial, data science, statistical data analysis through ArcGIS, R and Python to provide reports to Congress and agency leadership. Welcome Arvind!



What's New in 5.3?

By Josh Baldwin

The development team has been working hard on enhancements and bug fixes to ForMAP. Version 5.3.0 has now been released and includes the following:

Miscellaneous

- Move the Priority Lands URL out of the config and into the database for ForMAP (does not include refactoring for Prism)

LaSR

- LaSR Project Impact Area Map requirement
- Update LaSR Project Brief Report to conditionally omit Map section
- LaSR Search Report - Add Impact Area Map requirement field
- LaSR Search by 'Impact Area Map' requirement
- LaSR Project Numeric Accomplishments
- View Numeric Accomplishments on LaSR Summary Page
- LaSR Search Report - Add Accomplishment Category & Quantities
- Bug fix - LaSR Report lists all projects instead of a single state's
- Bug fix - Error when running LaSR search results report related to report generation using project IDs instead of search criteria (and hitting max)

SMART

- Bug fix - Cannot edit project shape if shape has more than 50 activities
- Bug fix - SADL displays "Empty geometries cannot be constructed" error instead of notifying the user of an error on the row with the problem
- Bug fix - SADL does not report an error for a blank PlanId for all shapefiles
- Bug fix - SADL wrongly marks PlanId as duplicate when multiple records with ****missing**** PlanId are in single shapefile
- Bug fix - Nebraska user cannot save Plan, because of query limit of 50 related to funding types
- Bug fix - When there are more than 50 total funding sources (all federal and all state) but less than 50 funding sources available for a state user, some funding sources cause failure when creating and editing stewardship plans and projects

ForHealth

- Add "Other Department or Agency" to the list of Grantees (associated to Other Fed / Other Dept)
- Bug fix - ForHealth search report generation is slow
- Remove hard coded dev Bing token/key

USFS ForMAP Team Contact Information

Peter Bedker

USFS Northeast Area, Office of Knowledge Management
ForMAP Project Team Leader
651-649-5030
pbedker@fs.fed.us

Tom Luther

USFS Northeastern Area
GIS Team Leader
603-868-7710
tluther@fs.fed.us

Josh Baldwin

ForMAP National Administrator & Help Desk Associate
303-275-5341
jcbaldwin@fs.fed.us

Arvind Bhuta

USFS ForMAP Program Manager
202-205-1391
arvindabhuta@fs.fed.us

Kelli Groy

ForMAP National Administrator & Help Desk Associate
303-275-5341
kgroy@fs.fed.us

New LaSR Features

By Kelli Groy

The recent release of ForMAP v.5.3 brought a lot of changes to the LaSR module. A bundle of new fields and features were added to improve upon the LSR narrative so S&PF can effectively demonstrate the value of investing in state programs.

Users can now:

- enter numeric accomplishments—these metrics are optional for the 2018 reporting season
- designate a USFS Contact person to a project
- choose project Impact Area requirement
- download an updated report from search results

Numeric Accomplishments

In addition to the qualitative descriptions, grant monitors and recipients can quantify various treatments and impacts over the course of a plan.

Accomplishments are viewable and editable at the bottom of the project Summary page, as well as the new Search report.

Narrative / Quantities

Quantitative Accomplishments To Date

Entering numeric accomplishments is optional for Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Reporting.

Users are encouraged to enter numeric accomplishments by category and unit in addition to describing them in the narrative portion of LaSR. While numeric accomplishments are entered annually, by the end of the project the total amount should reflect cumulative accomplishments over the life of the project. Numeric accomplishments will be aggregated across LSR projects to tell a national story.

Category	Unit	Quantity	Description
Engagement	Number of People:	<input type="text"/>	People reached through outreach, education, and training
Hazardous Fuels Management	Acres:	<input type="text"/>	Acres treated to reduce hazardous fuels
Insect and Disease Management	Acres:	<input type="text"/>	Acres treated for insects and disease
Invasive Plant / Weed Management	Acres:	<input type="text"/>	Infested acres treated for invasive plants
Water Quality Enhancement	Acres:	<input type="text"/>	Acres of trees and seedlings planted to enhance water quality
Water Quality Enhancement	Miles:	<input type="text"/>	Miles of riparian forest treated to enhance water quality
Water Quality Enhancement	Number of Trees:	<input type="text"/>	Number of trees and seedlings planted to enhance water quality
Wildlife Habitat Enhancement	Acres:	<input type="text"/>	Acres of habitat treated to enhance wildlife
Wildlife Habitat Enhancement	Miles:	<input type="text"/>	Miles of riparian forest treated to enhance wildlife

Save and go to Summary

USFS Contact

USFS Grant Monitors will be added as the project Contact via a drop-down list on the General Info tab. Grantees or Help Desk personnel can easily find who to contact regarding project inquiries, or use the Contact name as a search key. *Note - a USFS Project Contact must be added before the project can be activated in the database.

New LaSR Features, Con't

Map Impact Area Option

Impact area maps are some of the most powerful tools available for LaSR projects – but not all landscape projects can be encompassed by a general polygon. To remove the expectation that every project requires a map element, Grant Monitors explicitly indicate that a Project requires an Impact Area to be mapped by simply choosing “Required” or “Not Required” on the Agreements & Requirements tab. LaSR Brief Reports will also reflect whether or not a map is required.

This feature is meant to encourage Monitors and Grantees to add a mapped footprint to projects with on-the-ground treatments; making a better impact on the storytelling of the project when possible, without sacrificing the integrity of those projects without a map.

Agreement Information

Budget (legacy data)
The Federal funding for this grant (\$128,500) will support contracts to perform the UTC analysis. In Ohio, each participating community will contribute at least a 1:1 match for the cost of their imagery and analysis. Contract for the website and other work contracted with Eastern Michigan University is supported under the Michigan portion of this project.

Forest Service Funding: \$0
Other Federal Funding: \$0

Non-Federal State Contributions: \$0
Non-Federal Other Contributions: \$0

Grantee: Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Lead State Agency: OH Division of Forestry

Agreements: Add
Participating Agencies: Add

Impact Area: Required: Not Required:

Save and enter Purpose and Strategy details

.xls Search Report

In efforts to expand access to the data within LaSR, users can now download a report from advanced Search results for offline use. The report output is an xls document that provides a summary and key details of any number of LaSR projects, including the new numeric accomplishment fields.

Search Keys Search by Project Title, Lead State Agency, Contact Name, Grantee, Agreement Number, USFS Admin Region, and more...

USFS_ADMIN_REGION: USDA Forest Service - NA

Statuses: Publish: Published, Project: [dropdown]
Funding Years: Between [] and []
National Themes: Conserving and Managing Working Forest Landscapes, Protect Forests from Threats, Enhance Public Benefits from Private Forests

Results Showing 1 to 5 of 28 matches

Enhance Public Benefits from...
2009 USDA Forest Service - NA OH

Multi-State Working Forest...
2009 USDA Forest Service - NA MI

Creating a Buy Local Model...
2010 USDA Forest Service - NA MA

Coalition To Improve Manag...
2009 USDA Forest Service - NA MI

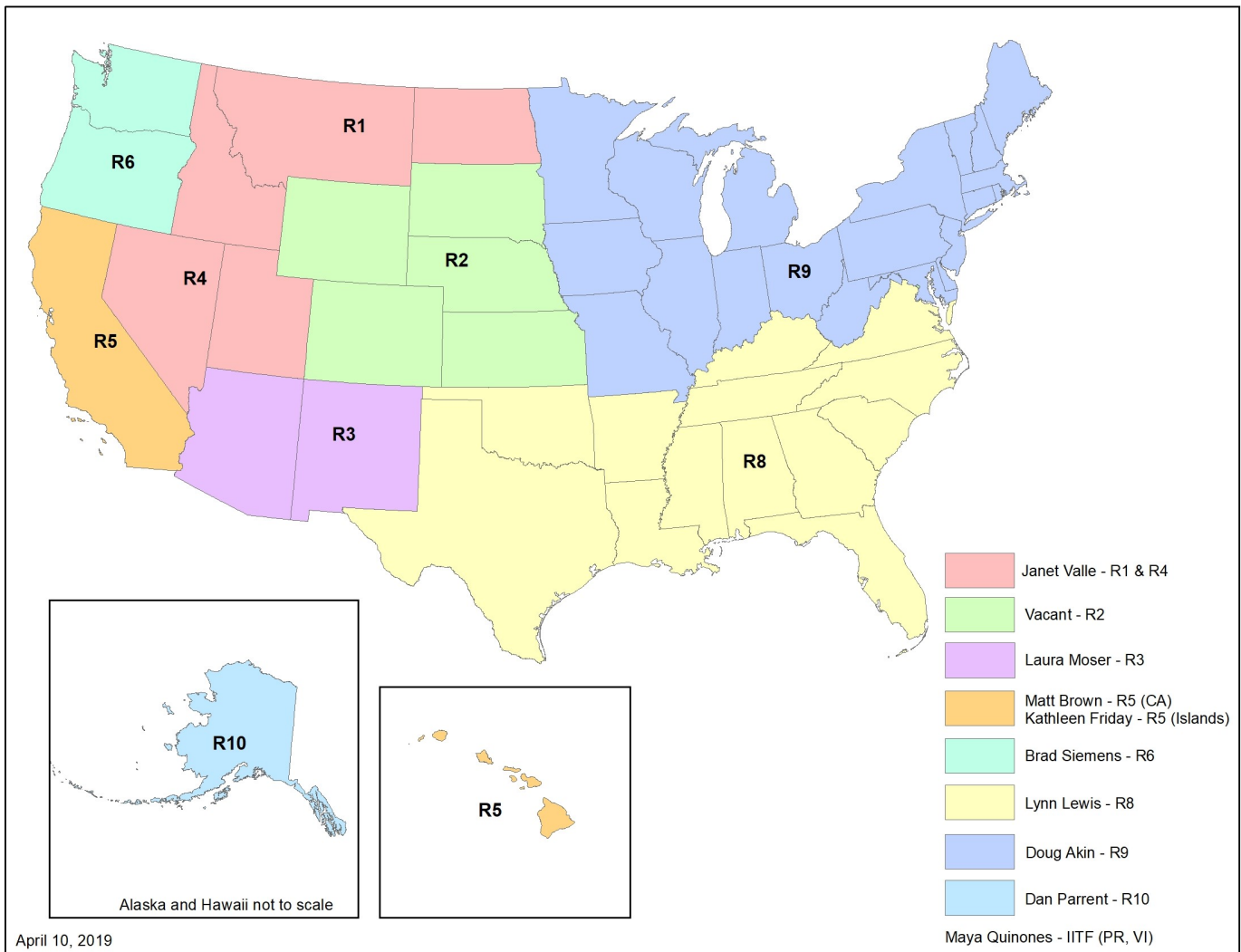
Saginaw Bay Forest Owners...
2011 USDA Forest Service - NA MI

LaSR Projects Summary Report

1	LaSR Projects Summary Report	
2	US Forest Service - Landscape Scale Restoration Projects (LaSR)	
3	Report Date	03/27/2019
4		
5	Total Number of Projects	28
6	Total GIS Acres of Impact	113,536,722.89
7	% Published Project Acres in Priority Lands	30.58
8	Number of Published Projects	28
9	Number of Draft Projects	0
10	Number of Active Projects	28
11	Number of Complete Projects	28
12		
13		
14		

We hope these new features allow for a better user experience. If there are any other changes you'd like to see, please contact us at the ForMAP Help Desk website — www.formap.info.

Forest Stewardship Program Managers



April 10, 2019

US Forest Service Forest Stewardship Regional Program Managers

Janet Valle
Regions 1 & 4
801-625-5258
jvalle@fs.fed.us

Laura Moser
Region 3
505-842-3887
lmoser@fs.fed.us

Kathleen Friday
Region 5 (Islands)
808-854-2620
kfriday@fs.fed.us

Lynn Lewis
Region 8
803-507-5681
lynnlewis@fs.fed.us

Dan Parrent
Region 10
907-743-9467
djparrent@fs.fed.us

Vacant
Region 2

Matt Brown
Region 5 (CA)
707-562-9122
matthewd-brown@fs.fed.us

Brad Siemens
Region 6
503-808-2353
btsiemens@fs.fed.us

Doug Akin
R9 (Northeast Area)
Contact info
coming soon

Maya Quiñones
IITF, PR, VI
787-764-7156
mquinones@fs.fed.us