

FOR IMMEDIATE NEWS RELEASE

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NDSU-NORTH DAKOTA FOREST SERVICE
307 1st Street East
Bottineau ND 58318-1100

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ND FOREST SERVICE SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT ON STATE FOREST ACTION PLAN

Bottineau - The North Dakota Forest Service is seeking input from the public and partnering stakeholders on the *North Dakota Forest Action Plan* initiated five years ago. The Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act, as enacted in the 2008 Farm Bill, required each state and US territory to develop a *State Forest Action Plan* to ensure federal and state resources would be focused on important landscape needs and achieve measurable outcomes.

The *North Dakota Forest Action Plan* was completed in 2010. The forestry needs in North Dakota were prioritized and are addressing the following: Invasive Tree Pests; Over Maturity and Limited Natural Regeneration; Lack of Species Diversity and Vulnerability to Damaging Agents; Strengthening Forestry Educational Outreach; Conversion from Historic Vegetation Type, Wildfire, Limited Wood Utilization Opportunities and Climate Change Impacts.

The five question survey asks if these forestry priorities are still relevant, should new priorities be included, and are there any existing programs and activities that could assist or complement the *Forest Action Plan*. The comment period is open now and closes on August 1, 2015. Citizens and stakeholders are encouraged to view the *Forest Action Plan* and take the

following short survey on the agency's website www.ag.ndsu.edu/ndfs. Click on the *Forest Action Plan*. Written comments may be mailed to: Office of the State Forester, 307 1st Street E, Bottineau ND 58318-1100. Questions and comments will also be taken by calling (701) 231-5936.

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