

Woodland Incentive Fund

FY 2019 -2022

Department of Natural Resources
August 2024



Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Josh Kurtz, Secretary
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

August 21, 2024

The Honorable Brian Feldman
Chair, Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
House Office Building, Room 251
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Natural Resources Article §5-307(j) (MSAR 12294)

Dear Chairs:

I am pleased to provide you this report on the status of the Woodland Incentive Fund for FY19 through FY22.

The Woodland Incentive Fund (Natural Resources Article, Section 5-307) may be used toward private landowner cost-share assistance and administrative costs for preparing forest stewardship plans; annual grants to the Forest Conservancy District Boards' outreach efforts; establishing a Forest Health Emergency Contingency Program; financial assistance for the administration of an Urban and Community Forestry Program; funding a forest marketing and utilization program in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and helping DNR, in cooperation with other public and private entities, develop and expand forest mitigation banking, carbon credit, clean water credit trading and environmental services credit training programs; and offsetting the administrative costs for providing staff assistance to the Sustainable Forestry Council.

Funding sources include revenues from forestry practices on designated lands owned and managed by the Department subject to approval by the Secretary and the Board of Public Works, as well as the woodland transfer tax and surcharge and various fees for landowner services.

Revenue derived from forestry practices on designated lands owned and managed by the Department consist of timber sale revenues from State Forests and the Chesapeake Forest Lands and are deposited in the Forest and Park Reserve Fund (FPRF). We had no need during the reporting period to transfer any of these funds to the Woodland Incentive Fund (WIF).

The following is a summary of revenue and expenditures for the Woodland Incentive Fund during FY19 through FY22:

Revenue Source	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Woodland Transfer Tax	\$158,865	\$61,336	\$37,430.66	\$41,481
Ag Transfer Tax-woodland surcharge	\$41,135	\$15,081	\$9,301.41	\$10,620.25
Forest Conservation & Management Agreement	-	\$5,675	-	
Forest Stewardship Plans	\$111,316	\$104,080	\$111,623.10	\$88,714.25
Timber Stand Improvement Services	\$1,427	\$1,358	\$1,846.60	\$486.20
Planting Site Exams	\$150	-	\$40	
Management Plan Inspections	\$53,265	\$66,495	\$70,463.20	\$70,933
Forestry Services Coordination	\$474	\$1,378	\$1,028.20	\$1,541.20
Forestry Equipment Rental	-	\$30	\$99.60	\$25.00
Total Revenues	\$366,632	\$255,483	\$231,832.77	\$213,800.90
Expenditure Purpose				
Cost Share to Landowners	\$119,292	\$208,807	\$191,445.76	\$205,298.79
Grants to Forestry Boards	\$36,500	-	-	
Office of Secretary	\$42,900	\$25,000	\$14,600	-
Contractual Wages	\$5,000	\$40,823	\$70,089.82	\$66,464.81
Miscellaneous	\$1,750	\$428	\$592.20	\$592.60
Bad Debt Expense	\$1,236	-	\$1,050	\$1,525
Total Expenditures	\$206,678	\$292,958	\$277,777.78	\$273,881.20
Net Gain/Loss	\$159,954.00	(\$37,475.00)	(\$45,945.01)	(\$60,080.30)
WIF Fund Balance	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Beginning FY	\$484,884	\$644,838	\$607,363	\$561,417.99
Ending FY	\$644,838	\$607,363	\$561,417.99	\$501,337.69

If you have any questions about this submission, please do not hesitate to contact Dylan Behler, Director of Legislative and Constituent Services at (410) 260-8113 or dylan.behler@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,



Josh Kurtz
Secretary

cc: Sarah Albert, Mandated Reports Specialist, Legislative Library (5 copies)
Dylan Behler, Legislative and Constituent Services Director