

**State and Private Forestry  
 FY 2010 Western Competitive  
 Resource Allocation  
 Single-State Project Proposal**

Filename	
2010 Single State Competitive Grant Template - History	
Administration Information	
Dollar Amount Requested:	<b>\$257,540</b>
Matching Share:	<b>\$257,540</b>

Applicant Information	
<b>State Forestry Agency:</b>	Kansas Forest Service
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Larry Biles
<b>Address:</b>	2610 Claflin Road
<b>City/State/Zip Code:</b>	Manhattan, KS 66502
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Project Information			
<b>Descriptive Title of Project:</b>	About Trees in Kansas - A Sesquicentennial/Int. Yr. of the Forests Commemoration		
<b>Names of Partnering Agencies / Organizations:</b>	United Nation's International Year of the Forests; Kansas' Sesquicentennial Committee (Kansas Historical Society, Kansas Department of Tourism, Kansas Department of Commerce, etc.); Kansas State University's History Department - Environmental History Section; Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE).		
<b>State(s):</b>	KS	<b>Congressional Districts:</b>	1, 2, 3, 4
<b>Counties:</b>	all 105	<b>Forest Service Regions:</b>	2

Total Leverage							
Please specify each 3 <sup>rd</sup> party contributor (partnering organizations and agencies, including other Federal) and the dollar value of each contribution. Please DO NOT show grant requested funds in this table.							
3	<b>Contributors:</b> (Please specify by name)	History	Kansas Communities & Partners	KACEE			<b>TOTAL</b>
	<b>Value of Contributions:</b>	\$32,771	\$91,191	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	<b>\$143,962</b>

Project Budget					
	Grant Share (\$ requested)	Applicant	Non-Federal Contributors	TOTAL	
		Cash <sup>1</sup>	In-Kind <sup>2</sup>		
4	<b>Personnel / Labor:</b>	\$109,389	\$24,921	\$0	<b>\$134,310</b>
	<b>Fringe Benefits:</b>	\$31,579	\$7,850	\$0	<b>\$39,429</b>
	<b>Travel:</b>	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	<b>\$15,000</b>
	<b>Equipment:</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$ 0</b>
	<b>Supplies:</b>	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	<b>\$25,000</b>
	<b>Contractual:</b>	\$60,000	\$0	\$20,000	<b>\$80,000</b>
	<b>Construction:</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$ 0</b>
	<b>Other:</b>	\$16,572	\$0	\$91,191	<b>\$107,763</b>
	<b>Indirect Costs:</b>	\$0	\$113,578	\$0	<b>\$113,578</b>
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$257,540</b>	<b>\$146,349</b>	<b>\$111,191</b>	<b>\$515,080</b>

Project Duration	
5	What is the duration of this project? <input type="checkbox"/> One Year <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two Years <input type="checkbox"/> Three Years

National Relevance	
6	Conserve Working Forest Landscapes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protect Forests From Harm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Public Benefits From Trees and Forests <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Description	
<p>Maximum 5500 Characters Including Spaces – Clearly summarize the proposed project, including goals, objectives, measurable outputs, outcomes, and how grant funds will be used towards successful completion of the project.</p> <p>The purpose of this project is to study the history of trees and forest in Kansas and to develop, in harmony with the United Nation's 2011 International Year of the Forest and Kansas' Sesquicentennial, promotional and educational materials to raise the awareness of and, to strengthen sustainable forest management practices on Kansas' private and community forests. Our approach and products follow:</p>	
7	<p>Trees in Kansas? This question sums up the average person's knowledge of Kansas trees and the long history of the state's forest service. On the eve of Kansas' 150th anniversary in 2011, we have a unique opportunity to raise public awareness of both the economic and cultural value of trees in Kansas as well as the legacy of the very active role Kansans played in the creation of national organizations dedicated to the development and stewardship of forests. Increased public awareness of the 122 year history and positive work of the Kansas Forest Service, and its predecessor agencies, will have the added benefits of protecting current forests from harm and conserve working forest landscapes. This International Year of the Forest and sesquicentennial project, "About Trees in Kansas" will undertake three specific tasks to increase public awareness and appreciation in 2011 and beyond.</p> <p>The first task will be to uncover the untold story of the Kansas Forest Service. This project is unique because it</p>

<sup>1</sup> 'Cash' is the value of any qualifying match the applicant pays for such as cash, staff time, supplies, or equipment.

<sup>2</sup> 'In-Kind' is the value of any qualifying match contributed by a non-federal 3<sup>rd</sup> party contributor such as donated time, supplies, or equipment.

combines the resources of the Kansas Forest Service with history faculty at Kansas State University and students working in the Chapman Center for Rural Studies at Kansas State University. The “About Trees in Kansas” project will engage foresters and historians, each with a strong desire to tell the story of the Kansas Forest Service.

This celebration will be a truly cooperative venture. A first step is the task of uncovering the remarkable story of the Kansas Forest Service. Students in Dr. Jim Sherow’s Environmental History classes will put together the preliminary pieces. PhD candidate David Vail will follow their work with a storyline gleaned from archives in Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Through archival research, oral interviews and site visits, student interns in the Chapman Center will follow the stories of lumberyard and general store owners. Through these efforts, the linkages between westward expansion, town development, lumberyards, transportation systems, agricultural extension and public policy will be revealed.

The second task of this project will be communicating the legacy of the Kansas Forest Service to the public. Specifically, the project partners will seek to have the story of the Kansas Forest Service published. This will be the primary task of Dr. Jim Sherow, a nationally respected environmental author. One targeted publication is *Kansas History*. Having published numerous articles in this journal, Professors Jim Sherow and Lynn-Sherow have an excellent grasp of that journal’s focus and audience. Similarly, *Environmental History*, sponsored by the Forest History Society, is a nationally distributed journal that will give the Kansas Forest Service international attention.

Project partners will also reach out to a more popular audience. We will provide copy for a gubernatorial proclamation as well as state-wide proclamations to be read on Kansas Day and Arbor Day 2011. Over the course of the International Year of the Forest and the sesquicentennial year, we will submit newspaper stories, press releases, extension publications and a full range of educational materials suitable for K-12 classrooms. These efforts will be directed by Larry Biles of the Kansas Forest Service and Dr. Bonnie Lynn-Sherow, Director of the Chapman Center for Rural Studies. In addition, Dr. Laura Downey, Director – Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education will provide leadership for the development of K-12 classroom materials that highlight the often amazing story of trees in Kansas that will be provided to a minimum of 200 educators throughout the year, impacting a minimum estimated 6000 Kansas children. The development of calendars, book marks and other memorabilia to mark the anniversary, distributed by the State Forest Service, will be an important part of the project focus—providing a physical and lasting reminder of the legacy of trees in Kansas and a reminder of their importance to the state and nation.

The third, and potentially most far reaching effort in the project, will be the creation of a web site that will serve as a permanent home for the story of the Kansas Forest Service to be updated annually as new information is found and events unfold. In today’s world, it makes sense to invest in a living archive that will educate and inspire Kansans long after the celebration is over. Fortunately, the software platforms and server space (provided by Kansas State University) for a digital archive of the Kansas Forest Service will be readily accessible through a National Endowment for the Humanities Digital I grant (Principal Investigator: Lynn-Sherow). This digital archive will be among the first in the nation to incorporate primary texts, oral interviews, video footage and narrative history into a globally accessible learning experience. As the sesquicentennial year draws to a close, the task of forging a link between the work of the project and the people of Kansas will have just started.

	<p><b>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</b></p> <p>The work planned central for the 2011 International Year of the Forests and Kansas' Sesquicentennial Commemorations will compliment the Kansas Forest Service's Technical Assistance and Educational Outreach functions. Moreover, this work will compliment all of the Kansas Forest Service's program areas --- Rural Forestry, Community Forestry, Wildland Fire, Forest Health, and Conservation Trees. Kansas has more than 2.2 million acres of natural and planted forestland. Although forestland makes up only 4 percent of the State's total land area, it is a vital natural resource. Healthy forests provide many benefits, including clean water, soil erosion control (water and wind), critical wildlife habitat, wood products, recreational opportunities, and scenic beauty. Private individuals own 94 percent of the State's forest land, with the balance being in public ownership. Kansas' communities own and manage more than 1 million acres of additional land and a large number of planted trees. A noted community tree planting exception is the encroachment of red cedar into "built up areas." This phenomena is forcing the Kansas Forest Service to incorporate "defensible space" training and technical assistance into most all of its programs.</p>
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9	<b>Collaboration</b>
	<p><b>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</b></p> <p>This project combines the resources of the Kansas Forest Service with history faculty at Kansas State University, students working in the Chapman Center for Rural Studies at Kansas State University, and the Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education. The "About Trees in Kansas" project will engage foresters, historians and educators all, with a strong desire to tell the story of Kansas Forest and the Kansas Forest Service. Moreover, the project takes advantage of special awareness and education promotions central to the United Nation's 2011 International Year of the Forest and the state's Sesquicentennial. Lastly, the project provides an exciting, state specific compliment to the American Forest Foundation's Project Learning Tree.</p>

10	<b>Leverage</b>
	<p><b>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</b></p> <p>Fiscal, intelluctual and marketing leverage will abound in this project. First, the project will couple fiscal resources from the Kansas Forest Service, Kansas State University's History Department, the Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education --- the State's purveyor of Project Learning Tree material and training under the leadership of the American Forest Foundation. Secondly, the project will couple intellectual prowess from educators working at the elementary level to the collegiate level. Lastly, the project, in a local way, will tag to the outreach activities developed by the United Nation's International Year of the Forest and the State of Kansas' Sesquicentennial. One sesquicentennial example of connectivity is a listing and a map of "Champion Trees" to be incorporated into the State's Travel and Tourism Bureau's brochure on "Points of Interest."</p>

11	<b>Meaningful Scale</b>
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**Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces**  
 The scale of the “About Trees in Kansas Project” is highly appropriate for projected goals. As a sesquicentennial project based in KS, a state-wide initiative makes both geographic and intuitive sense. As the home of the Forest Service, the Agricultural Extension Service and the USDA in Kansas, Manhattan is the most logical base of operations for this project. An extant network already exists between the Forest Service and KSU's College of Ag to the people of the state that will facilitate the distribution of materials and the educational potential of the website and other activities associated with this project.

More succinctly, this is a state wide classroom and public outreach commemoration project. It will involve students and educators at the elementary school level as well as persons working on PhD degrees. Moreover, it will involve the general public and persons who market to the general public. This project is both current and futuristic. It will be specific to 2011 through statehood day and arbor day celebrations. Lastly, the project will be far reaching as a website will serve as a permanent home for the story of trees and forest in Kansas and the Kansas Forest Service. In short, the stories will be preserved.

**Sphere of Influence**

**Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces**  
 The sphere of influence for this project encompasses the entire state and a large section of the State's population. This program will advance forest and forest sustainability to old and young, rural and urban, property owners and non-property owners, government agencies and elected officials, industrial and civic groups, formal and non-formal educators, and the media.

**12** Moreover, this project is designed to provide value beyond the boundaries of the state of Kansas through the publication of the project research at the state and national level. The interactive website, benefiting from the expertise provided through an National Endowment for the Humanities grant, will make the Kansas Forest Service’s online presence a model for all other state agencies. The interactive nature of the site will broaden interest over time as individuals outside of the state contribute their own perspectives on the Sesquicentennial.

**Sustainability of Outcomes**

**Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces**  
 The outcomes will be largely unmeasurable in the near term, but will render the application of forestry science on rural and urban properties, and the adoption of state and local policy for years to come. Moreover, the project should foster multi-group and agency(ies) cooperation on rural and community forest sustainability and like subjects for years to come.

**13** One way to measure the sustainability of the project goals is to track the use of the materials that are distributed from the Forest Service or downloaded from the project website. An inventory of the site, indicating how many times the site has been visited will also help to demonstrate the continuing relevance of the project. Upkeep of the website, with additions of new materials will keep the spirit of the year fresh and in the public eye for many years to come.

Finally, the educational materials can be indefinitely used with the Project Learning Tree workshops that are conducted annually in the state. The new, locally developed, material will help make Project Learning Tree more relevant and meaningful for Kansas educators. Combining relevancy with accessibility ensures sustainability.