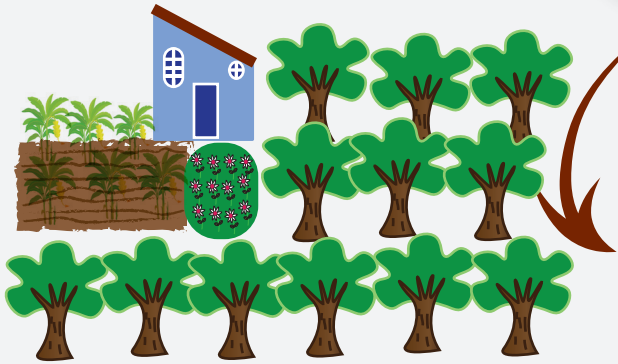


State and Private Forestry Programs

Fact Sheet

Forest Stewardship

This program provides technical assistance to private landowners in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands for the development of management plans that promote sustainable management of forest resources. Partner institutions for this program include the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources Forest Service Bureau, and the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture.



Cafiesencia, SPF partner, has been working alongside the unit to develop management plans for landowners.

Community Forest and Open Space

The Community Forest Program (CFP) is a competitive grant program that provides financial assistance to tribal entities, local governments, and qualified conservation non-profit organizations to acquire and establish community forests that provide community benefits.



The Autonomous Municipality of Mayaguez in Puerto Rico, in partnership with the community-based nonprofit organization "Proyecto Agro Eco Turístico del Barrio Rio Hondo Inc." (Estampas), acquired 67.9 acres of land in September 2018 for the establishment of a community forest. This forest is the first one of its kind in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean to receive funds from the Community Forest and Open Space Program through State and Private Forestry.

Urban and Community Forestry



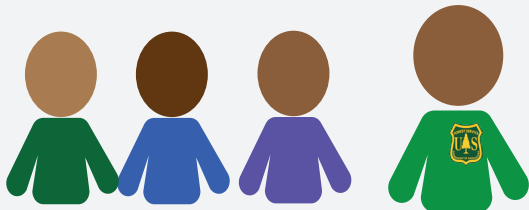
This program promotes the conservation of our urban trees and forests. Each year, community members and volunteers participate in the development of urban forest management plans, tree planting activities, workshops and educational talks, and activities with kids.

The program provides technical assistance to encourage planning and implementation efforts of urban forest programs. Federal funds are available to communities through a competitive cost-sharing program for the implementation of urban and community forestry projects.

Conservation Education

The Conservation Education program works with partners to coordinate the development and delivery of high-quality, science-based education about forests, grasslands and related natural resources for pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students and their educators, and college students in both formal and informal settings.

The Institute partnered with the Puerto Rican Department of Natural and Environmental Resources to sponsor the Project Learning Tree program for the first time in Puerto Rico.

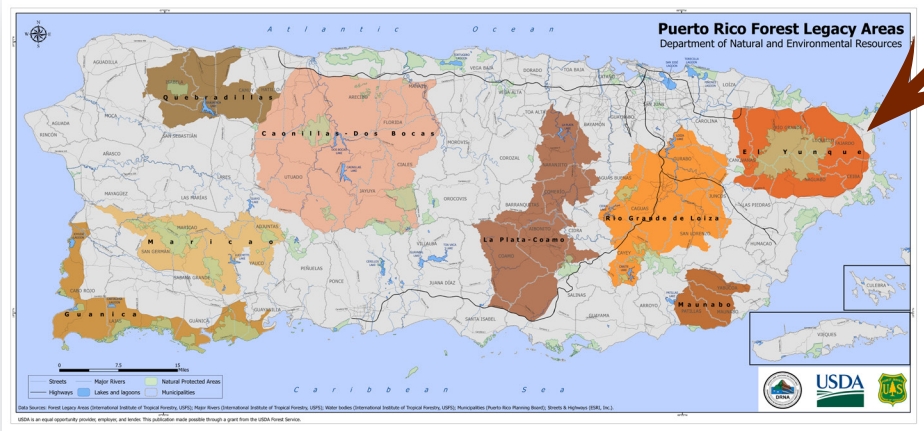


Forest Legacy

This program administered by the U.S. Forest Service in partnership with State forestry agencies to encourage the protection of privately owned forest lands through land purchases. Protection of private forests through FLP maintains a multitude of public benefits including:

Opportunities for recreation such as hunt, fish, and camp, clean and abundant drinking water, habitat for fish and wildlife, and timber, fuel wood, and other forest products.

Through a partnership with the Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) and Protectores de Cuencas, we have acquired private parcels to expand the Guánica State Forest for the establishment of biological corridors. The most recent proposed sites for FY2018 include 220 acres.



Cooperative Fire

The program provides financial and technical support to the Fire Department of Puerto Rico and the Fire Department of the U.S. Virgin Islands to purchase equipment and increase technical capacity for the prevention and suppression of fires in forested areas or open fields, and to support the mitigation of risks in the communities contributing to their safety and health.



In Puerto Rico, the State and Private Forestry Unit from the International Institute of Tropical Forestry directly supports the Wildland Firefighters Crews from the Firefighters Corp. Through IITF, the Wildland Firefighters Crew have access to Cooperative Fire Program funds, from which the Crew recently acquired a biodegradable product that aids to diminish the temperature of a wildfire to effectively fight them.

Forest Health

The Forest Health Protection (FHP) program provides forest insect, disease, and invasive plant survey and monitoring information, and technical and financial assistance to prevent, suppress and control outbreaks threatening forest resources.



A Bryophyte monitoring project is currently on-going. Numerous species have been recorded and catalogued in the UPRRP Herbarium. These samples will be added to existing herbarium specimens for multiple uses that include research on Bryophytes as indicators of forest condition and a field guide for El Yunque visitors.

