

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/inyo/news/2009/08/vision.shtml>

**A healthy and prosperous America relies on the health of our nation's forests.**

**Did you know:**

- Nearly 87% of all of the country's fresh water supply originates from forests and agricultural lands, and more than 200 million people rely on their drinking water from public and private forests and grasslands.
- 53% of the nation's total water supply originates from public and private forest lands.
- More than 900 cities rely on national forest watersheds
- 3,400 public water systems serving 66 million people in 33 states are supplied by watersheds with Forest Service land.
- Public and private forests in the 20 Northeastern and Midwestern States help to protect more the 1,600 drinking water supplies that supply more than 4 trillion gallons per day to households of more than 52 million Americans.
- 80% of the forest area in the United States is outside of the National Forest System
- The estimated annual value of water from national forests for in-stream uses is at least \$3.7 billion.