

	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Estimated	FY 2027 Requested	FY 2027 Recommended
<u>Expenditure By Object</u>				
Salaries & Fringe Benefits	16,654,224	17,332,928	19,353,328	16,660,954
Travel	160,861	90,000	90,000	90,000
Contractual Services	3,436,146	3,075,706	3,075,706	3,075,706
Commodities	1,804,138	2,089,800	2,089,800	2,089,800
Capital Outlay - Equipment	3,521,091	2,833,515	2,428,102	2,833,515
Vehicles	1,659,909	1,364,791	1,351,509	1,364,791
Subsidies, Loans & Grants	4,157,748	4,633,500	4,633,500	4,633,500
Totals	31,394,117	31,420,240	33,021,945	30,748,266
<u>To Be Funded As Follows:</u>				
Cash Balance - Unencumbered	2,927,194	2,927,194	2,927,194	2,927,194
State Appropriations	17,340,933	17,751,623	17,751,623	17,147,998
Federal Funds	4,127,846	4,921,531	5,798,236	4,932,728
Sales & Service, Crew Assistance	4,822,352	3,654,586	4,379,586	4,379,586
Severance Tax	3,350,362	3,675,000	3,675,000	3,675,000
Acreage Tax	1,508,887	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
Other Special Funds	243,737	17,500	17,500	17,500
Less: Est Cash Available	-2,927,194	-2,927,194	-2,927,194	-3,731,740
Totals	31,394,117	31,420,240	33,021,945	30,748,266
General Fund Lapse	6,214	0	0	0
<u>Summary Of Headcounts</u>				
Permanent	326	259	291	250
Time-Limited	7	7	7	7
Totals	333	266	298	257
<u>Summary Of Funding</u>				
General Funds	17,340,933	17,751,623	17,751,623	17,147,998
State Support Funds	0	0	0	0
Special Funds	14,053,184	13,668,617	15,270,322	13,600,268
Totals	31,394,117	31,420,240	33,021,945	30,748,266

Agency Description and Programs

The Forestry Commission was established under Section 49-19-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, as one of the leading industries in Mississippi. The State Forester is responsible for directing and controlling all matters relating to forestry. Provide an organized means to prevent, control, and extinguish forest fires; encourage forest and tree planting; cooperate with other entities in the preparation and execution of plans for the protection, management, replacement, or extension of the forest, woodland, and roadsides or additional ornamental tree growth; provide commercial tree seedlings, control pine beetles and other insects; protect, manage, and inventory state forest lands; and the effective forest information distribution, necessary for Mississippi's sustainable forest-based economy.

The Commission continues to extend technical and financial support to non-industrial private forest landowners in Mississippi. The Commission designs programs to enhance and protect up to about seventy percent (70%) of the state's timberland (13.86 million acres) with ten (10) acres or greater parcels and natural resources in collaboration with landowners throughout that state.

1. Forest Protection and Information

This program provides wildland fire prevention, detection, and suppression to all non-federal timbered and agricultural lands in the state. Forest Protection offers technical and financial assistance to landowners for wildfire hazard mitigation and prescribed burn management. Additionally, this program provides excess federal property, such as vehicles and equipment, to the state’s volunteer fire departments to aid them in building wildland firefighting capacity. The Forest Information Program educates the public on urban forest, forest health, and forest management issues affecting Mississippi's forest ecosystem and economy.

2. Forest Management

This program provides motivation, limited on-the-ground services, technical assistance, and advice to the landowners to help increase timber production in private non-industrial forestland. It supports all State Forestry Commission programs by providing public information, promotional activities, and publicity. In addition to management responsibilities, this program includes preventing, detecting, and controlling insect and disease epidemics in nurseries, seed orchards, and all ages of trees from seedlings to maturity. This program is responsible for developing and implementing a statewide forest resource inventory necessary for a sustainable forest-based economy and distributing inventory-based information for economic development.

	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Estimated	FY 2027 Requested	FY 2027 Recommended
<u>Summary By Program</u>				
1. Forest Protection & Information				
Total Funds	16,167,971	16,181,424	17,006,302	15,840,788
2. Forest Management				
Total Funds	15,226,146	15,238,816	16,015,643	14,907,478