

**FINAL REPORT**  
**FOREST SERVICE GRANT NO. 04-DG-111244225-443**  
**Period covered by this report: September 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006**

*NOTE: Please review the following information and revise/complete as necessary.*

Issued to: American Forests

Address: P.O. Box 2000, Washington, DC 20013

Congressional District Number: AL

Project Name: Big Trees = Big Value

Contact Person/Principal Investigator:

Name: Deborah Gangloff  
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Date of Award: September 1, 2004

Grant Modifications: N/A

Date of Expiration: December 31, 2006

Funding: Federal Share: \$79,200 plus Grantee Share: \$288,240 = Total Project: \$367,440

FS Grant Manager: Phil Rodbell

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**Please provide an abstract on your project and its results. This abstract will be posted on the NUCFAC internet site. (approximately 200 words or less).**

American Forests, Davey Tree Expert Company, and Virginia Tech partnered to enhance the accessibility and relevance of the National Register of Big Trees to communicate the values of urban and rural forests. The Register lists the National Champion trees- the largest of their species- for all native and naturalized species in the United States. Big Trees hold tremendous value to communicate the benefits of trees in cities and towns. This two-year project involved a committee of experts and included an interactive website, online database, criteria for tree species eligibility and measurement standards, and a national training forum for Big Tree Coordinators.

### Project main objectives:

- To develop and enhance the Big Tree Database online.

Partnered with Virginia Tech, American Forests worked to enhance the Big Tree Database online to show the ecosystem services our trees and forests provide. Connecting our nation's national champions and their natural capitol to the public.

- To update the National List of eligible native and naturalized tree species.

American Forests consults Little's guide of native and naturalized trees when determining species qualified for the national register. Partnering with Virginia Tech and other experts American Forests worked to update this list and modify species according to current sources. A new process was also developed to make additions to the species list.

- To standardize measurements for big tree nominators.

### Objectives met successfully:

- Email survey to state coordinators, big tree hunters, and nominators.
- Posted the initial evaluation on the web in order to allow Big Tree State Coordinators and others highly involved with Big Trees to evaluate the current process.
- Processed the data from these evaluations.
- Literature review of tree species list.
- Successful Big Tree Coordinator workshop at National Urban Forest Conference November 17-18 2005.
- Big Tree 2006 Calendar released
- Big Tree Committee formed to finalize measurement standards.
- Big Trees Values posted on the web along with new measurement standards and 2006-2007 Register.
- 2006-2007 National Register of Big Trees released.
- Updated list of Native & Naturalized Species

### Objectives not met:

- none

### List the major research or policy findings of your project?

The value of the big trees came from American Forests Urban Forest Ecosystems analysis reports from the GIS program CITYgreen. Research was also done for the development of the new eligible native and naturalized tree species list.

If not apparent in the above, or if your project did not involve research, how did the project increase the knowledge we have about urban forestry? How did (will) the public benefit?

By increasing and improving the accessibility of our nation's big trees through the online register, this project will increase the awareness, importance, and economical benefits of our urban forests, furthering us in the protection of our world's forests. The update of both the nomination process and species list will encourage more public involvement and support for the protection and care of our trees.

**What recommendations might you make for community foresters or others who might benefit from your project?**

State and local programs can use our new measurements and species list as guidelines for their programs.

**Attach copies of reports, publications, or videos. If your work has been published (journals, popular press, etc.), provide where they have been published or reported and how copies can be obtained.**

- Register, which are distributed to members and to people that email or call requesting a copy
- Calendar, distributed to State Big Tree Coordinators, nominators and landowners
- Website

**How were your results disseminated to the public?**

We reached the public through the printed National Register of Big Tree, the website and the Big Tree calendar.

**What are the logical next steps or future direction of your project/research?**

Further steps for this project are to continue to update the list and conduct media outreach to get more people involved in nominating trees. We will encourage all states to have a Big Tree Program and to work with the national program closely. We will also continue to reach out to the public and express the importance and beauty of big trees.

**List the active partners (key individuals or organizations) involved in the project:**

*American Forests*

Deborah Gangloff, Executive Director

Ethan Kearns, Program Coordinator

Margo Dawley, Program Coordinator

*Davey Tree Expert Company*

Sandra Burns

*Virginia Tech*

Dr. Jeffery Kirwan, Extension Specialist, Natural Resources Education

Dr. Brian C. Kane, assistant Professor of Arboriculture and Urban Forestry

Dr. Philip Radtke, Assistant Professor of Forestry

Tree Species Coordinator

Whit Bronaugh

Big Tree Committee

Pete Smith, Texas Big Tree Coordinator

Susan Stead, Nevada Big Tree Coordinator  
Ron Mahoney, Idaho Big Tree Coordinator  
Dave Johnson, New Jersey Big Tree Coordinator  
Ken Morrow, Arizona Big Tree Coordinator  
Jeff Kirwan, Virginia Big Tree Coordinator

Photo or Illustration: If possible, please provide a photo or illustration for our use that summarizes or represents the project. Indicate how this illustration should be credited.

See attached

If a no-cost time extension was granted for this project, why was it needed?

None was needed

How would you evaluate the grant process? What changes, if any, would you recommend?

We appreciate the ability to participate in this grant program. The progress reports were useful to keep our project on track. The whole grant process was easy to follow and complete. Thank you for this opportunity to further develop our National Big Tree Program to inform the public of the importance and value of big trees.

Comments considered of importance but not covered above:

This report was prepared by:

Name: Margo Dawley

Title: Big Tree Coordinator

Phone Number: 202-737-1944 Ext. 224

Date: December 20, 2006



## National Register of Big Trees

Home | Resources | National Register of Big Trees | Register | Details

### Register

- Introduction
- The 2006-2007 Register
- Search the Register
- How to Measure a Big Tree
- Species Without Champs
- Hunting for Big Trees
- Big Tree Trivia
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Big Tree Coordinators
- State Registers
- Nominate a Tree
- Download Wallpaper

### Resources

- Resources
- National Register of Big Trees
- Urban Forests
- Forest Policy
- Sprawl Information
- Historic Tree Nursery
- Resources for Kids
- Links

### Giant Sequoia *Sequoiadendron giganteum*

**Location:** Sequoia National Park, CA

**Circumference:** 1020 inches

**Height:** 274 feet

**Spread:** 107 feet

**Points:** 1321

**Most Recent Measurement:** 1975

**Nominator/s:** Isabelle F. Story

#### Ecosystem Services:

It would cost **\$3589.32** to replace the storm water control service provided by this tree, based on the engineering standards used in the building industry. The same tree removes **20.32** lbs. of nitrogen, sulfur, ozone and particulate matter every year.

*\*Based on average US precipitation and air pollution, using CITYgreen formulas.\**

Join American Forests



and get a FREE printed version of  
The National Register of Big Trees





Courtesy: The Davey Tree Expert Company

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### Giant Sequoia

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