

# USDA Forest Service Natural Resource Manager



**Date:** December 4, 2014

**Topic:** Natural Resource Manager (NRM) Roads application in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska Regions

**Summary:** The Pacific Northwest Region (R6) and the Alaska Region (R10) have been using the NRM Roads application for road management planning and recording all road construction, maintenance and decommissioning accomplishments since 2009. The road application provides federal auditors the requirements and accomplishments in a reliable, repeatable, and auditable format, providing consistent information to report accomplishments in the agency's official system of record while also meeting agency direction for annual maintenance planning.

The Legacy Road & Trail program was created to address the need for additional funding for road maintenance on National Forests lands. This new funding source came with a cost. State agencies that regulate the clean water act required more data. The Forest Service met this new requirement using data and reports from the NRM Roads application.

**Key Points:** The NRM Roads application includes inventory, planning and costing capabilities based on road program business rules. It stores inventory data and other useful information to determine the cost of managing Forest Service roads. The NRM Roads application is integrated with other agency tools and includes functionality to integrate tabular and spatial data. The inventory data is organized by each road and includes:

- Beginning and ending mile posts
- Surface type
- Jurisdiction
- Primary maintainer
- Road-specific constructed features, such as signs and gates
- Work items and corresponding costs required for road maintenance
- Location and occurrence of natural disasters that affect the road

Annual road condition survey accomplishments are also recorded. The Roads application offers extensibility. This is the ability to tailor the application to meet the needs of individual regions, forests or districts.

## **Key Features:**

- Provides consistency and efficiency from year-to-year for road maintenance planning
- Provides consistent reports for all twelve performance measures in the Performance Measures Data Dictionary
- Provides query capabilities to report detailed information such as quantity, and location of all types of road work (maintenance, decommissioning, storage, and reconstruction)
- Compatible with NRM databases and modules (Electronic Road Log , Work Items, etc.)
- Interfaces with GIS and can display accomplishments spatially
- Provides permanent accomplishment records in a standard format
- Utilizes one data system to plan and track accomplishments.