245 employees protected 15.8 million acres of forestland and provided services to 373,600 private landowners who own 12.9 million acres.

Employees responded to 1,114 wildfires that burned 22,022 acres.

VDOF wildland firefighters protected more than 4,000 homes and other structures thereby preventing more than $470 million in losses.

Employees conducted 5,904 timber harvest inspections to ensure water quality protection on 240,000 acres.

The average employee has worked for VDOF for 15 years and makes $44,000.

Overall best management practices for timber harvesting had a compliance rate of 84.5 percent, and 98.7 percent of sites had no water quality sedimentation issues.

The Commonwealth lost 16,000 acres of forestland – that’s 44 acres every day.

VDOF managed 22 State Forests (67,901 acres).

State Forests generated $181,483 in payments to counties from timber sales and forest use permits.

Hardwood trees comprised 78 percent of Virginia’s forests; 22 percent were pine species.

The ratio of tree growth to removal continued to improve with a 1.8 to 1 ratio.

Virginia’s forests captured and stored 6.42 million metric tons of carbon dioxide, offsetting about 14 percent of the total carbon dioxide emissions in the state.

VDOF recorded 24 conservation easements that permanently protected more than 8,000 acres.

Agency employees prepared stewardship plans that ensured good management on more than 110,000 acres of forestland.

The Agency provided more than 11,000 hours of training to more than 350 firefighters from across the Commonwealth at the Interagency Wildfire Academy.

Disbursed more than $233,000 in grants to help rural volunteer fire departments improve their capabilities and effectiveness.

VDOF paid for the installation of 27 new dry hydrants.

Tree improvement research has enhanced forest productivity (growth) from 25 percent to 60 percent in pine species.

Two VDOF nurseries planted, grew and sold 24 million tree seedlings.

VDOF Concerns:

- Recruitment and retention of public safety employees
- Threats to public safety due to an aging firefighting and law enforcement workforce
- Maintaining the fleet of emergency response vehicles
- Remaining effective and efficient in a world of changing technology
- Dwindling markets and the sustainability of the forest resource
- Continued ability to provide core services