Projecting the Economic Impact of SLF

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Tasked with developing an estimate of the impact of SLF on agriculture/forestry in effected areas of Pennsylvania

- Received small grant from Center for Rural Pennsylvania to conduct study...so Pennsylvania focused, but SLF doesn’t recognize state borders
- Must come up with estimates in the next year...Grant started in May and ends in April 2019.
- Important to demonstrate need for funding from USDA etc.
How do you estimate impact?

• Data on crop acreage and value
• Damage estimates from experts (entomologists) on the potential impact of SLF on various crops
  • Annual crops
  • Tree and vine crops
  • Nursery crops
  • Forest trees
  • Etc.
• Estimate the cost of management practices
  • Monitoring
  • Spraying
  • Banding
  • Managing Ailanthus
• ??? Estimate total direct economic impact
• Estimate total indirect economic impact (impact beyond producers on economy)

Result: $$ estimate that will live forever and help us get grant funding!!!
Where are we today?

• Compiling data from NASS (Census of Ag etc.)
• Meeting lots of people who will help
• Planning next steps including a producer survey (IRB approval)