



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet California 2018



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2017 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$791,198
Forest Legacy	\$0
Forest Stewardship	\$128,601
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$20,000
State Fire Assistance	\$4,842,000
Urban and Community Forestry	\$1,593,443
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$1,437,445
Total	\$8,812,687

NOTE: This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

The cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the State of California, the USDA Forest Service and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of California's forest lands, rural economies, and urban forests. Emphasis focuses on timber and other forest products, fuels management, wildlife, water resources, rural economies, conservation practices, and the multiple benefits of urban forests. These programs emphasize an overarching goal of integrated landscape scale management.

Program Goals

- The goals of the programs are to maintain and improve the health of California's urban and rural forests and related economies.
- Improve forest resiliency to climate change impacts (i.e. wildfire, pest outbreaks, and other disturbances).
- Additional goals include: maintaining environmental services from forests (i.e. water supply, water quality, clean air, carbon sequestration, ...), reducing wildfire risk to communities in Wildland Urban Interface, promoting renewable energy (i.e. forest biomass) and forest products

Key Issues

- Wildland/Urban Interface fire hazard and fuel reduction issues; increasingly severe wildfires - impacts to communities and ecological impacts.
- Forest health and public safety concerns related to increased tree mortality.
- Rapid urbanization and development in wildland areas.
- Water quality and riparian habitat rehabilitation.
- The effects of climate change on forests, and the role that reforestation will play in climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Organizational staffing capacity and operational challenges associated with increased demand.
- Wildfire behavior – size and burn severity are ongoing issues.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2017 Accomplishments	Value
Population	37,253,956	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	3,677
Acres of Forest Land	31,941,479	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	10,665
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	10,101,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	10,665
Number of NIPF Landowners	202,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	685
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	3,415,464	State Fire Communities Assisted	1,141
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	21,576,307	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	500
Number of Rural Fire Departments	750	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	480	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	728
Forest Based Employment	101,351	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	33,408,913
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	0	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	136,238
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	770,581,815		

Program Highlights

Conservation Education

In FY 2017, Forestry Educators Incorporated received a \$50,000 grant to support the Forestry Challenge. The Forestry Challenge is a competitive event for high school students in technical forestry and forestry issues. At each event, students spend four days in the forest interacting with natural resource professionals. Participants learn about the ecology and management of the forested landscapes that provide their communities with water, recreational opportunities, wood products, and wildlife habitat. Youth benefit by better understanding the relationship of the forested environment to their communities by exposure to natural resource management as a potential career option, and by conducting a rigorous analysis of a current forestry topic. Students develop and write a forest management plan as part of the program. The FY 2017 grant supported four of five Forestry Challenge events held during the summer and fall of 2017 – Eldorado, San Bernardino, Santa Cruz, and Sequoia. 329 students from 43 schools participated in these four events.

Cooperative Fire Protection

The State Fire Assistance funding has assisted in training approximately 1,200 firefighters, funding fire prevention/education/detection programs and both communications and safety equipment upgrades. The Volunteer Fire Assistance program serves approximately 138 rural departments and helps to purchase much-needed equipment and supplies. Funding is getting harder for small fire departments to come by and this program assists those rural departments in keeping pace with safety, training and equipment updates.

Forest Health Protection

Forest Health Protection Exotic pests remain the most significant threat to California's forests. Sudden oak death (SOD) is found in 15 counties infecting over 100 species. SOD incidents increased in 2017 due to the high rainfall of the previous. Aerial surveys mapped over 20 million dead and dying trees due to the ongoing drought and the bark beetle epidemic with the worst area being the southern Sierra Nevada. Goldspotted oak borer continues to expand in Southern CA. The Zone of Infestation for GSOB has been extended to cover new infestation areas. The invasive shot hole borer complexes (polyphagous and Kuroshio) in southern CA has rapidly spread to 8 counties, attacking native and exotic hardwood trees. Riparian and urban forests have been the worst hit. CAL FIRE staff assist in early detection/rapid response trapping for exotic bark beetles, emerald ash borer, sudden oak death and the shot hole borers. Native bark beetle activity lessened from previous epidemic levels but remain high. Staff serve on the CA Forest Pest Council, GSOB Task Force, Oak Mortality Task Force, Invasive Species Advisory Committee, Firewood Task Force, National FH Monitoring Mgmt Team and Tree Mortality Task Force. Staff reviews

timber harvest plans and respond to pest requests from the public. Trainings were held for government personnel, forest industry and private citizens (>2000 trained). Forest Health surveys included 17,500 ac for Douglas fir tussock moth, 1,500,000 ac for SOD (aerial and stream), 800,000 ac for GSOB, 1000 ac for shot hole borers and 5000 ac for general pest evaluations. FHP funds are also used by CA Food and Ag Agency to manage invasive plants throughout the state in cooperation with county-level weed management areas.

Forest Legacy

In Fiscal year 2016/2017 the Federal Legacy Program did not fund any projects in California. California did forward 3 projects for National funding consideration for \$9.7 million for the FY 2018. Those projects were considered and ranked for funding, but the Federal list of ranking was never released and the funding for the National Legacy ranking list was never resolved. Existing Legacy administration funds were extended in order to be ready to support closure of these potential projects . California forwarded 3 additional projects for National consideration for Legacy funding in late 2017. Ranking is in the process of being reviewed for funding in FY 2019. Currently CA has conserved over 111,000 acres through the FLP. In 2018 we plan to close a minimum of two, and as many as 6 additional working forest conservation easement projects using state funds that will put us well over the 120,000 acre mark.

Forest Stewardship

CAL FIRE is utilizing the California Cooperative Forest Management Plan template which will satisfy multiple program requirements and allow a landowner(s) to produce one plan that qualifies for a variety of State and Federal cost-share funding. The federal Forest Stewardship Program and Forest Health Management Program in combination with California's Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) provided valuable technical assistance and funds for Stewardship Planning, timber stand improvement, forest rehabilitation, reforestation and fuels reduction. The funding allows many landowners to work with California Registered Professional Foresters to develop Stewardship plans to help them achieve their management goals. These plans will also assist landowners to participate in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) to address climate change. The GGRF provides significant funding for incentives to reforest and or reduce fuels on forestlands. In addition, the USDA-CAL FIRE programs have provided a broad scope of educational forums including the Forest Landowner Stewardship Curriculum, the quarterly Forestland Steward Newsletter that reaches over 7000 readers via hard and electronic copies, and the toll-free HELPLINE. The HELPLINE provides valuable assistance over the phone to anyone who calls. There is always a Registered Professional Forester to answer questions regarding forest health, harvesting, insects and diseases, fire, reforestation., etc. as well as information on where the caller can receive more information on State Forest Practice Regulation or Federal Policy. Additionally, the service mails out brochures and pamphlets as available.

Landowner Assistance

The California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) is the State's primary landowner assistance program providing eligible landowners with technical and financial assistance for planning, reforestation and resource management investments that improve the quality and value of forestland. In 2017 the program provided substantial subgrants to landowners for management plans, fuel hazard reduction projects, and forest thinning projects. CFIP is a forestry cost-share program that provides funds to non-industrial private forest landowners with ownerships of less than 5000 acres of timberland for a variety of practices including: management plans, supervision, site preparation, planting, thinning, pruning, release , land conservation, and improvement of fish and wildlife habitat and fuels reduction. CFIP's purpose is to encourage private and public investments in forestlands and resources within the state to ensure adequate future high quality timber supplies, related employment and other economic benefits, and to protect, maintain, and enhance the forest resource for the benefit of present and future generations. Since its establishment CFIP has helped landowners with forest improvement activities on over 1,000,000 acres. This program did not utilize Federal funds in FY 2017, however this is only due to significant increases in State contributions to this program which allowed the Federal Stewardship funds to be used elsewhere, thus, increasing the reach of the Federal assistance.

Landscape Scale Restoration

Landscape Scale Restoration Through the State's Greenhouse Gas Reduction fund, five projects were allocated approximately \$5 million in funding to accomplish landscape scale restoration activities. Projects are on lands that were subject to large conflagrations involving multiple private landowners and public

lands. These projects are focused on multiple resource goals across large multi-ownership areas where project managers are seeking to align management objectives across administrative boundaries. These projects are reducing overall costs by focusing on partnerships that share planning and expenditures. .

Urban and Community Forestry

The CAL FIRE U&CF Program has forged strong partnerships with local governments and non-profits to advance its objectives. At 95% of the population considered urban, and with some of the largest population centers in the U.S., CA has a great need for urban forestry. Projects involving CAL FIRE and partners include the City Plants project in Los Angeles, the Greenprint for 28 local governments in the Sacramento region to double the canopy, and numerous other projects. CAL FIRE helped develop materials for the Urban Forestry, Green Infrastructure, and Climate Change portions of the Forest Action Plan and are implementing the program based on the plan and in alignment with the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan developed by the California Urban Forestry Advisory Committee. CAL FIRE is represented in the state's climate change strategies and will be assisting with implementation of these strategies. CAL FIRE is leading the Urban Greening Health In All Policies Implementation for California. Numerous state level policy advancements were made as well. CAL FIRE has received significant funding from the California Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), which provided \$22 million for urban forestry in California for fiscal year 16/17. The GGRF is the fund created from cap and trade auction proceeds. This resulted in the funding of 37 grants throughout the state. The grants are for tree planting, management plans and inventories, and urban wood utilization and will assist in reducing GHG emissions.

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