



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Oregon 2018



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2017 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$797,131
Forest Legacy	\$0
Forest Stewardship	\$317,500
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$25,000
State Fire Assistance	\$5,065,000
Urban and Community Forestry	\$578,531
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$507,259
Total	\$7,290,421

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

Cooperative Forestry programs are implemented through a partnership between the State of Oregon, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of private forestlands, city and community trees and forests, and rural economies. Emphasis is on sustainable forests for timber and other forest products, watersheds, healthy urban and community ecosystems, wildlife habitat, and local economies. The goal is to continue providing economic, environmental, and social values and products.

Program Goals

- Increase cost effectiveness through the use of partnerships in delivery.
- Use voluntary, rather than regulatory approaches.
- Empower landowners, cities, and communities to be stewards of the land.

Key Issues

- Assist communities to mitigate the wildland fire problem in the Wildland-Urban Interface.
- Administer the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program to effectively support eligible rural fire departments and improve the fire protection district capabilities.
- Utilize unused forest residue materials for energy production as an alternative to burning and as a means to reduce fire hazards.
- Minimize damage from native insects, such as bark beetles and other defoliators, and diseases, both foliage and root pathogens, which often results from overly dense stands, management history, or low species diversity.
- Respond to introductions of non-native insects, pathogens, and invasive plants on state and private lands using early detection/rapid response practices for new introductions and management & suppression practices for established populations.
- Slow the spread of *Phytophthora ramorum*, the cause of sudden oak death, through early detection, eradication, and containment. Funding remains a limiting factor in the state's ability to mitigate the spread and damage of the disease.
- Maintain large blocks of private industrial forestlands as working forests despite the loss of forest product markets and increasing development.
- Encourage long-term sustainable management of family forestlands by assisting the owners to develop and implement a plan to actively manage their forest and related resources according to their objectives.
- Improve infrastructure for better access for fire protection while enhancing fish habitat.

- Educate cities about the public safety, economic development, environmental quality, and community livability benefits that result from the proper planting and management of their urban trees.
- Help strengthen, or pass new, tree ordinances, develop tree inventories and management plans, train local staff, support tree advisory committees, and develop comprehensive municipal urban forestry programs.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2017 Accomplishments	Value
Population	3,831,074	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	5,041
Acres of Forest Land	29,656,156	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	5,564
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	6,970,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	4,220
Number of NIPF Landowners	149,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	48
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	2,411,706	State Fire Communities Assisted	82
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	13,493,620	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	199
Number of Rural Fire Departments	168	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	242	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	117
Forest Based Employment	41,161	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	2,726,902
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	3	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	17,337
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	147,429,143		

Program Highlights

Cohesive Wildfire Strategy

In 2017, ODF's Southwest Oregon District implemented an innovative landowner outreach program. The collaborative project (ODF, OSU Extension, and NGO partners) provides small, non-industrial forest landowners guidance to help increase their understanding of forest resource management, wildfire risks on their properties, and info about assistance programs available in their area. To date, over 50 private forestland and home assessments have been conducted by ODF staff. Outcomes have included landowners with interest in forest management plans, and locating landowners to participate in NRCS and other cost-share programs. This project is on-going and will continue thru 2018. Also partnering with OSU Extension, the SWO District began a series of semiannual forest fuels and understory thinning demos on private non-industrial lands. This series visits rural areas around the District and educates the area's landowners on today's forest health concerns, wildfire risks, community preparedness, and on safe forest fuels thinning and disposal techniques. The SWO District established a multi-agency integrated fuels mitigation planning group with federal land partners, and other local stakeholders. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was entered into by the USFS, BLM, ODF, and the Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative as a partnership to help guide strategic all-lands restoration projects in the District. Collaborative mixed ownership (USFS & private non-industrial lands) fuels mitigation projects were completed and will continue to expand in southwest Josephine County (demo areas were created on public and private lands), with adjacent BLM project work in the planning stages. ODF continues to assist the USFS & BLM with community and private landowner engagement, in the development of the Upper/Middle Applegate Watershed all-lands landscape restoration projects.

Community Forestry and Open Space

In 2016, Oregon's Miller Tree Farm Community Forest in Deschutes County was selected through national competition to receive a \$400,000 Community Forest and Open Space grant. The funding assisted in the Bend Park and Recreation Department's acquisition 309 acres of working forestland adjacent to the Deschutes National Forest and Bend Park and Recreation's Shevlin Park. The forest, acquired in September 2017, provides the community with an example of a healthy forest, a wildlife refuge, an educational classroom and lab, and a haven for recreation. The Miller Tree Farm Community

Forest is the second Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program project in the state of Oregon, joining the Thurston Hills Community Forest acquisition of 2014.

Cooperative Fire Protection

Cooperative Fire funds are a key component of Oregon Department of Forestry's (ODF's) fire budget and strategy to improve protection efficiency and effectiveness on non-Federal lands. These funds allow the Oregon Department of Forestry to address critical preparedness needs for safety, increased initial attack capability, new and improved fire control technologies and intelligence, organizational improvement, and strategic planning. ODF foresters statewide worked closely with Wildland Urban Interface landowners and homeowners to limit wildfire damage and conserve forestland by reducing hazardous fuel loading. 54 fire departments and rangeland associations were funded through the VFA program in 2017. These dollars allowed for the growth and expansion of 22 rangeland protection associations engaged in suppression efforts. Often the first resource to attack a fire, these organizations saved the public potentially millions of dollars in suppression costs in 2017. The number of Firewise Communities increased to 124 statewide, with the addition of 11 new communities in 2017. The 2017 Western State Fire Managers (WSFM) grant projects will mitigate fire hazards in thirty four communities with a goal of treating 2,165 acres in the wildland / urban interface. The Community Assistance grant has projects that treat hazardous fuels in twelve communities and are forecasted to treat 1,600 acres.

Forest Biomass

ODF's biomass program aims to build biomass markets that increase the pace and scale of federal land restoration, reduce fire risk, and support local economies. The approach is increasing market demand in five key sectors: thermal energy, liquid fuels, biochar, cross-laminated timber, and integrated manufacturing. Agency efforts rely on collaboration and partnerships to deploy the financial, technical, communication, and coordination assistance that supports biomass enterprise development. The collaboration can be showcased in the 2018 International Mass Timber Conference to be held in Portland, Oregon. The agency supports several collaborative market development efforts and provides direct technical assistance to project and business developers. The landscape-scale forest restoration project includes private, state, and federal land managers working toward shared goals. ODF works to ensure sufficient markets for the by-products resulting from these collaborative treatments. 1) The Oregon Statewide Wood Energy Team employs an integrated approach to advance wood to energy use. The team includes academic, private, state, federal, non-profit partners and is focused on leveraging expert resources to raise the level of public awareness and support for high-priority biomass projects. 2) The Western Juniper Group emphasizes coordinated collective action to grow markets for western juniper as part of rangeland restoration efforts. The strategy focuses on strengthening the juniper brand with green consumers, supporting utilization businesses, and building a comprehensive juniper supply chain. Additionally, ODF engages a broad array of biomass stakeholders to ensure they are informed and aware of opportunities to participate in the development of climate and energy policies affecting forests and the forest industry.

Forest Health Protection

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) cooperatively conducts aerial and ground based surveys for insect, disease, and animal damage and mortality, and provides technical assistance and training to landowners and forest managers. The annual survey covers approximately 30 million acres including additional surveys for agents like Sudden Oak Death (SOD), a major concern along the south coast. The current SOD strategy is early detection surveys and eradication treatments on newly infested sites to slow the spread of the pathogen. Swiss needle cast continued to increase in the Coast Range. Tree mortality attributed to bark beetles and the flatheaded fir borer decreased due to a return to average precipitation; although the extended, dry end of summer caused some water stress in trees planted on unsuitable sites. Cost-share funds provided by the USFS are available for private landowners to improve resiliency in stands at risk to bark beetles. Balsam woolly adelgid, a chronic pest of true fir sites, continued to spread. ODF and Oregon State University Extension cooperated in the Oregon Pest Detector Program to educate arborists, foresters and other professionals on the early signs of emerging invasive species (e.g. emerald ash borer). Sampling continued for the Invasive Woodborer Survey along the Columbia River. ODF and OPRD held a Hazard Tree Training for state park employees across the state. ODF participated in the newly formed Sudden Oak Death Task Force co-convened by US Senator Merkley and State Rep. Brock-Smith. Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) reported no moths captured in areas treated for Asian Gypsy moth in 2016, and no new significant finds of European GM were reported. ODA continues with an invasive plants and weeds program treating 10,050 acres of 13 priority weed species with

numerous partners, and continues an active public outreach and education program. The governor declared May 14-20, 2017 as Oregon Invasive Weed Awareness Week.

Forest Legacy

Oregon acquired its first Forest Legacy working forest conservation easement in February 2017 with the acquisition of the 1,360 acre Blue Mountain Heritage project. The Blue Mountain Heritage project consists of a working forest conservation easement conserving family owned mixed-pine timberlands, wetlands, sage-steppe communities, and rare beaver pond complexes in northeast Oregon. The project contributes to an integrated landscape of important forests by conserving ecologically diverse forest types; sustaining economies through forest products and ranching; and contributing socially via recreation, education programs, and historic and archaeological sites. ODF and project partners have initiated due diligence activities related to the 1,533 acres East Moraine Wallowa Lake project, a fee-title acquisition which will be held by Wallowa County. The acquisition will be supported by FY2016 and FY2017 grant, and key partners include Trust for Public Land and Wallowa Lake Land Trust. An appraisal and review appraisal have been contracted for and are in progress. It is anticipated that East Moraine Wallowa Lake project will be acquired end of 2018 or early 2019 once partner fundraising activities for the required non-federal match are completed.

Forest Stewardship

ODF Stewardship Foresters served 643 requests for on-site, one-on-one technical assistance from individual landowners, operators, forestry, and other natural resource professionals on improving resource conditions on private (primarily family forest) and local government owned forestlands. Examples include providing assistance to: 401 family forest owners on general forestry and forestland management affecting 13,828 acres of forestland; 12 forest operators on marketing and forest product utilization; 6 landowners on watershed improvement activities affecting 57 acres; 32 landowners on afforestation or reforestation projects covering 536 acres; 214 landowners on timber stand improvement projects on 6,626 acres; 5 landowners on wildfire fuel treatment and slash reduction projects on 208 acres; and 4 landowners on wildlife habitat enhancements covering 61 acres. The above accomplishments include ODF's continued support of the USDA Farm Service Agency's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program in partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Watershed Councils, and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. ODF also provided financial assistance to 73 family forest owners so they could hire a professional forester or other qualified natural resource professional to write a multiple resource, long-term management plan meeting national Forest Stewardship Program standards on their property. Total plan accomplishments in 2017 covered 5,564 acres, on which 18 landowners developed new plans covering 4,954 acres and 4 landowners conducted updates to an existing plan covering 610 acres. ODF Stewardship foresters also spent 2,075 hours responding to walk-in and phone technical assistance inquiries and assisted an additional 4,264 participants in training sessions, watershed council meetings, local advisory groups and other education/outreach forums.

Tree Improvement

Funded under the Forest Stewardship Program, ODF's Tree Improvement efforts made significant progress in 2017. In 2017, Douglas-Fir and western hemlock cones were harvested at the Schroeder Seed Orchard complex. The total Douglas-Fir harvest across the Pacific Northwest was impacted by a storm in early April 2017. The impact of the storm resulted in most orchards not harvesting Douglas-fir. Schroeder was impacted but was able to harvest a few orchards which were less affected by the storm. The overall harvest came in at around 1,300 bushels. The cone processing is in progress with about 400 pounds of seed expected which would produce about 5.4 million Douglas-fir seedlings. Based on the western hemlock harvest, this collection should produce around 88 pounds of seed and 12 million western hemlock seedlings. Public education and outreach remains an important part of ODF's mission. Two tour events were held at the Schroeder Seed Orchard to educate the public on the process of tree improvement and the importance of proper genetic selections for reforestation. An updated 2017/2018 Seedling catalog was developed, written, and posted on the ODF website to assist Family Forest Landowners in their reforestation needs. We continue to support Family Forest Landowner reforestation efforts by facilitating availability of the best available seed. Seed sources were purchased for the Oregon Seed Bank to fill critical need areas with existing seed deficiencies, and to replace seedlots purchased for sowing. Meeting these needs is a continual process, and reliance on natural seed collections with often erratic crop cycles means that substantial work remains to build seed inventories to desired levels.

Urban and Community Forestry

ODF's urban forestry staff serves as a catalyst to help Oregonians improve their quality of life by promoting community investment in their urban forests. Federal urban forestry dollars in Oregon help leverage over \$11 million in local urban forestry investment annually. In 2017, ODF provided assistance to nearly half of Oregon's cities, representing nearly 90% of Oregon's urban population. A sampling of accomplishments from this assistance includes helping cities learn about how to prepare for an manage invasive insects and diseases in their community forests; an annual urban forestry conference that attracted over 140 people to discuss ways to "Diversify the Urban Forest– [through] people, partnerships, and trees;" another conference, attended by approximately 60 people on collaborative conservation efforts in Greater Forest Park, highlighting wildlife, connectivity, fire preparedness, and community engagement; the development of green infrastructure planning projects in small communities, and a new free online self-paced online green infrastructure course to help Oregon cities with green infrastructure planning. ODF lent assistance to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to help train front line personnel to recognize potentially hazardous trees. ODF staff assisted communities with a wide range of technical, educational, and organizational services, and Oregon cities and non-profit organizations continue to rely on ODF to provide sound technical urban forestry advice to help improve their livability and public safety.

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