



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Wyoming 2018



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2017 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$1,135,000
Forest Legacy	\$0
Forest Stewardship	\$120,630
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$0
State Fire Assistance	\$1,173,361
Urban and Community Forestry	\$208,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$182,727
Total	\$2,819,718

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 Wyoming, the USDA Forest Service and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of Wyoming forest lands and rural economies by providing leadership in forest and fire management in Wyoming's rural and community forests. Additionally, these cooperative program are key components of the State Forest Action Plan as well as the Governor's Task Force on Forests Recommendations.

Program Goals

- Continued implementation Wyoming's Forest Action Plan through integrated forestry program delivery.
- Continue to address the recommendations from the Governor's Task Force on Forests Report.
- Cooperate with partners to improve forest management across boundaries, including GNA.
- Strive to enhance the availability of well trained firefighters and quality equipment to safely accomplish fire suppression, management and utilization objectives.
- Deliver cooperative forestry programs through voluntary and non-regulatory approaches.
- Provide technical assistance to private forest landowners to improve forest management.
- Sustain the response framework for State, federal, county, and municipal partners to readily react to the detection of an invasive agent in a community or rural forest.

Key Issues

- Insect threats are still a big concern and restoration efforts are ongoing in areas heavily impacted by the recent epidemic.
- Restricted timber supply limits forest products industry capacity which in turn limits active forest management in some areas.
- A greater understanding of the benefits of community forests by the public and elected officials is crucial for successful management.
- Private landowners need technical forestry expertise due to threats such as fire/fuels and forest health concerns.
- Invasive agents present ongoing threats to forests in communities and rural areas.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2017 Accomplishments	Value
Population	563,626	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	1,301
Acres of Forest Land	10,492,815	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	16,957
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	1,942,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	9,808
Number of NIPF Landowners	24,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	99
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	159
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	29,100,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	1,310
Number of Rural Fire Departments	147	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	99	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	95
Forest Based Employment	925	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	451,885
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	0	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	11,474
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	8,500,000		

Program Highlights

Conservation Education

WSFD partners closely with Wyoming Project Learning Tree (PLT) for K-12 youth education. WSFD also partnered with PLT to sponsor the statewide Arbor Day poster contest and curriculum for 4th and 5th grade students. On June 4-7 2018, the 32nd Annual International Coordinators' Conference will take place in Cody WY bringing educators from around the country to visit the state.

The Northern Rockies Tree School (NRTS) is a joint educational training between Wyoming and Montana. In 2018 the 9th annual NRTS will be in Cody Wyoming, October 11-12. A Central Wyoming Tree Care Workshop was held in Casper that promoted tree care, health, and diversification of tree species.

Cooperative Fire Protection

WSFD Fuels Mitigation Program supported the completion of 119 defensible spaces, 454 acres of fuel treatments, and 121 acres of fuel breaks throughout the state. This includes an 84 acre fuel break in the South Laramie Range that connects treatments on Federal, State and Private lands. Two counties, Big Horn and Washakie, were able to update their CWPPs, keeping the total number of CWPPs in Wyoming at 21. Wyoming received \$527,617 in Adjacent Lands Grants (CAFA) and will be sub-awarding these funds to Crook and Washakie Counties for the Black Butte and Annie Tolman fuels reduction projects. Additionally, Wyoming received \$607,246 in funding through National Fire Plan and Western States WUI grant program and will sub-award these funds to Natrona, Washakie, and Converse Counties. No new Firewise Communities were recognized in Wyoming in 2017, leaving the total number at seven. The program is also currently developing a public facing portal.

The WSFD FEPP program and FFP managed 356 pieces of property valued at 13 million dollars and acquired an additional \$905,119.01 in equipment for distribution to local fire departments around the state. WSFD distributed a total of \$182,472 to 20 counties in SFA grants. VFA grant program awarded funds to 23 applicants from 18 counties for \$101,622.82.

There were 790 red cards issued by WSFD for Firefighter Type 2, Firefighter Type 1 and Single Resource Boss Positions. There were another 273 red cards issued by those counties who are managing their own training records with assistance from WSFD for Firefighter Type 2, Firefighter Type 1 and Single Resource Boss. WSFD issued 204 red cards for Unit Leader and above positions equaling a total of 1,267 red cards issued. This is an increase of 10% from 2016.

Wyoming State Forestry Division's helicopter flew a total of 52 missions. These missions included: 48 wildland fire suppression missions, 2 reconnaissance missions, 2 missions to position for wildland fire severity

Forest Health Protection

Restoration treatments, mostly on Wyoming State Trust lands, continue with Western Bark Beetle funds. State legislative funds totaling \$500,000 were awarded to six bark beetle mitigation projects in Big Horn County, Campbell County, Carbon County, Converse County, Crook County, and Weston County. These projects will conduct silvicultural and restoration treatments to mitigate the impacts of bark beetles on private and public forest land. The mountain pine beetle (MPB) epidemic was officially declared over, but vast stands of dead-standing lodgepole pine remain. In the wake of the MPB epidemic, Ips and wood borers continue to cause concern. In other parts of the state, Western spruce budworm and spruce beetle have recently caused significant mortality in the Wind River and Absaroka Ranges. Western balsam bark beetle is contributing to subalpine fir mortality throughout the state. White pine blister rust continues to damage limber pine. One gypsy moth was positively identified in Lovell in 2015 and in Casper in 2016, but subsequent trapping did not reveal additional moths. USDA-APHIS continues to monitor gypsy moth. Emerald ash borer (EAB) has not been detected in WY but it has been detected within 60 miles of the state border in Boulder County, CO. An interagency EAB response plan was finalized in 2017 to provide internal and cooperative direction upon EAB detection in WY.

Forest Legacy

WSFD works in cooperation with state, federal, and non-governmental partners to identify areas of importance to be maintained as intact working forest land. WSFD together with partners, developed and applied for a legacy project covering a 4,814 acre, \$13,240,000 land acquisition project in Wyoming's Black Hills. Efforts continue to explore opportunities for federal, state, and private funding to see this project through.

Forest Stewardship

Program provides landowners with comprehensive resource management plans designed to reach management objectives while maintaining and improving resource components. Delivery is provided via Wyoming State Forestry personnel, wildfire mitigation coordinators, private consultants and local Conservation Districts. Plan follow up and direct on the ground assistance to aid in the active implementation of landowner management goals is a significant program focus. Eighteen Forest Stewardship Plans covering 9,808 acres were developed.

Landowner Assistance

Provided on the ground, technical assistance to 142 Wyoming landowners. Developed management plans for 16,957 acres of private forest lands; a total of 162,687 acres of private land in Wyoming are now under management plans as a result of WSFD assistance. Facilitated 24 landowner workshops and field days with 1,159 attendees.

Urban and Community Forestry

Over \$48,000 in cost share grants was made available to 14 communities in 2017 for tree planting and community forestry program development. Projects funded included community tree inventories and management plans, urban forestry interns, volunteer and advocacy group support, and scholarships for training.

Tree City USA, 41 of Wyoming's 99 incorporated cities and towns were certified in this successful program in 2017. One Tree Campus USA renewed, Sheridan College.

In 2017 the Statewide Community Tree Managers Focus Group held an interactive workshop in Buffalo focused on the EAB threat and a hosted a webinar on grant funding. The group meets regularly at various project locations and has been an important education and networking opportunity for city, county, and state employees responsible for managing local community forests.

Contact Information



Wyoming State Forestry Division

Bill Crapser
State Forester
5500 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-7586
bill.crapser@wyo.gov

US Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region

Roy Mask
Acting Director, State & Private Forestry & Tribal Relations
USDA Forest Service
1617 Cole Boulevard, Building 17
Lakewood, CO 80401-3305
303-275-5061
rmask@fs.fed.us