



State Foresters by the Numbers

Data and Analysis from the
2012 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey



February 2015

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Introduction

About This Report

The National Association of State Foresters (NASF) is a non-profit organization that represents the directors of all 50 state forestry agencies, the eight U.S. territories (American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, the Northern Marianas Islands, Palau, Puerto Rico, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands), and the District of Columbia. This report uses “states” as an inclusive term for both states and territories.

Every two years NASF conducts a survey of its 59 members to capture key information about the non-federal forest lands in the United States and the role of State Foresters in enhancing their value, representing public interests, and protecting these lands from fire, disease, fragmentation and other resource threats. The survey includes information about forestry programs, agency budgets, and funding support pertinent to each state and territory.

The ***State Foresters by the Numbers*** report is based the 2012 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey. It has been designed to provide an easy-to-understand summary of the responses from the NASF members for fiscal year 2012. Part I of the report looks at forest land and forest land ownership; Part II at state forestry agency employment and expenditures; Part III at program delivery areas; and Part IV at demand for services and funding. In many cases, survey responses have been summarized by region. In addition to providing a national voice for state forestry agencies, NASF collaborates with three regional state forestry agency organizations. The geographical regions represented by these three organizations are described in Appendix I of this report.

The 2012 survey was sent out to NASF members in early 2014 with 50 of the 50 states, and the District of Columbia, providing responses. In this report, territories are not included due to limited response both in 2012 and in previous years. In order not to distort trends across years with different participation levels from the states, only those states reporting in the years of an identified trend (e.g., states that reported in both 2010 and 2012) were included in the year to year comparisons.

The State Foresters by the Numbers report was prepared by Industry Insights, Inc. of Columbus, Ohio, while working closely with NASF representatives in the design of the study. Survey forms were distributed to NASF members in early 2014.

Data clean-up included a check of totals, metrics, and variances to past survey responses. In some cases, follow-up was made with state contacts to provide clarification of submitted information. **However, any use of the data should be qualified by the fact that not all the data discrepancies could be addressed, particularly those related to the different interpretation and definitions applied to the survey questions by the different respondents.** This caution applies to comparisons between states in 2012 and to comparisons between survey years within the same state. Efforts continue to improve data quality and consistency thereby increasing the value of future benchmarking reports. Any questions about the study should be sent to Greg Manns of Industry Insights at gmanns@industryinsights.com or Amanda C. Cooke at acooke@stateforesters.org.



Fiscal Year 2012 Overview

- **Private forest lands make up 58 percent of the total forest land in the U.S.; state and local government make up 11 percent, and federal forest lands, 31 percent.** Almost seven out of every 10 acres of forest land in the United States are in non-federal ownership. [page 4]
- **State forestry agencies provided technical assistance to 199,793 forest landowners in 2012.** State Forestry agencies are the primary source of forest management advice for family forest owners. [page 13]
- **On average, state forestry agencies spend 76 percent of their budgets providing services for private and local government owned forest land and other wildland areas in their states.** This means that three out of every four dollars spent by state forestry agencies are often for services to lands not owned by the state. [pages 9 and 12]
- **State Foresters face increasing demands for services at a time when funding sources for programs are vulnerable to budget cutbacks.** The top five issues expected to take an increasing amount of attention for state forestry agencies in coming years are: 1) pest infestation and disease outbreak, 2) reducing risks of wildfire impacts, 3) invasive species, 4) forest fragmentation, conversion and development, and 5) forest markets. [pages 19-21]
- **Acres under wildfire protection by state forestry agencies in 2012 totaled 1.56 billion acres, and state forestry agencies trained 57,863 firefighters in 2012.** NASF members also help provide funding for fire suppression equipment and assist with formation and expansions of volunteer fire departments. [page 12]
- **Total program expenditures in 2012 for state forestry agencies were up 18 percent or \$427 million from 2012.** This was largely due to increased demand and spending surrounding wildfire programs in the western states. As was the case in 2010, outreach and education spending again experienced a significant decline from 2010 to 2012. [page 10]
- **State forestry agencies provided technical assistance under Urban & Community Forestry to 8,654 communities in 2012.** This comes during a time of decreased funding for Urban & Community Forestry programs as expenditures decreased another 5% in 2012, following a 19% decrease in 2010. [page 14]
- **State forestry agencies employed 25,729 individuals in 2012.** State forestry agency employment decreased by 3,183 positions between 2008 and 2010. Many of these positions were recovered in 2012 with the addition of 2,052 positions, which represents a 9% increase in the size of the workforce from 2010 to 2012. [pages 6-8]



Part I: State, Local and Private Forest Land in the United States

Forest Land Area

Forest land¹ makes up 823 million acres of the total 2.3 billion acres, or 36 percent of the total land area of the United States. Forest cover in individual states ranges from 89 percent of the state's total land area (Maine) to 2 percent (North Dakota). The forest lands of U.S. represent 8 percent of the world's forests and the U.S. ranks fourth in comparison with other countries in total forest area behind the Russian Federation, Brazil, and Canada (FAO, 2011).

Table 1: Percent of Forest Area by State – Top 15 States

State	% Forest Land to Total Land Area
Maine	89%
New Hampshire	84%
Vermont	78%
West Virginia	78%
Alabama	71%
Kansas	10%
Iowa	8%
South Dakota	4%
Nebraska	3%
North Dakota	2%
U.S. Total	36%
Median of U.S. States	42%

Source: 2012 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey and U.S. Department of Commerce²

¹ Survey Definition of "Forest Land" = Forest land is a contiguous predominantly vegetated land area that is at least 120 feet wide and 1 acre in size with at least 10 percent cover (or equivalent stocking) by live trees of any size, including land that formerly had such tree cover and that will be naturally or artificially regenerated within the next 10 years. (2012 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey)

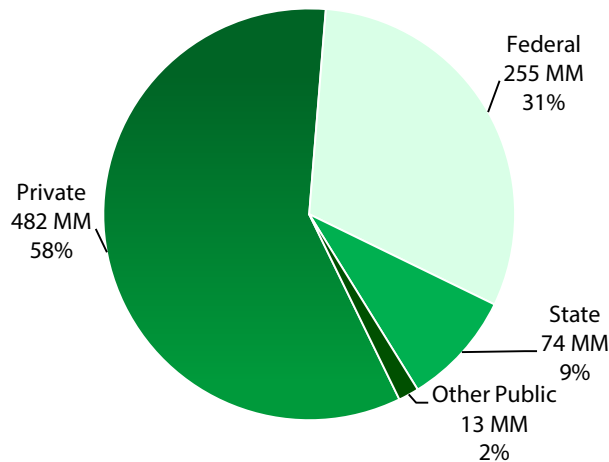
² Total Land Area Source: U.S. Department of Commerce. Census 2010 U.S. Gazetteer Files at <http://www.census.gov/geo/maps-data/data/gazetteer2010.html>.



Total Forest Ownership

More than half of the nation's forests are held in private ownership; states hold 9 percent, and local public entities, such as counties and municipalities, own 2 percent; and the federal government, such as National Forests and Bureau of Land Management, own 31 percent. Nearly seven out of every 10 acres of forest land in the United States are non-federal. Non-federal forest land ownership is concentrated in geographic proximity to U.S. population centers and these are the lands where state forestry agencies focus their efforts.

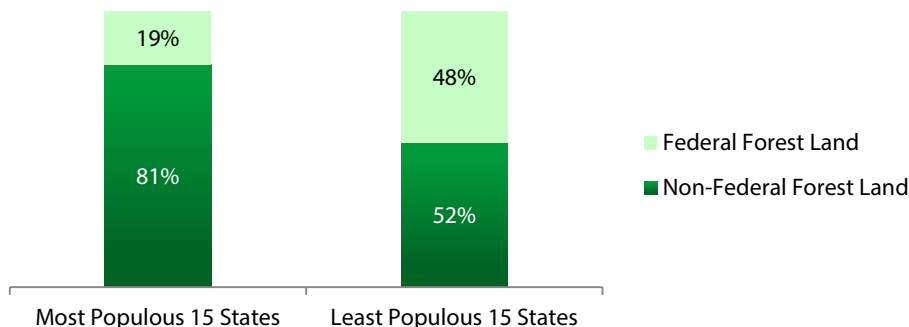
Table 2: U.S. Forest Land Ownership – 2012 Acres



Forest Ownership and Centers of Population

Within the most populous 15 states, representing two-thirds of the nation's population, the amount of non-federal forest land is over five times that of the federal forest land (please see Appendix I for a detailed data table). Within the least populous 15 states, the amount of federal (48%) vs. non-federal (52%) forestland is nearly equal. State forestry agencies have influence over those areas closest to population centers and consequently greater responsibilities for interacting and informing the public. Protection and sustainable management of these forest lands have positive impacts on water protection, air quality, wildlife habitat, renewable forest products for building, raw materials for paper and packaging products, jobs, and recreation.

Table 3: U.S. Forest Land Ownership and Centers of Population





Private Forest Ownership

Private forest land is composed of several owner groups: corporate, forest industry, non-industrial private, and Native American. The largest owner group within private is non-industrial private, comprising 65 percent of the total private forest in 2012. The next largest group within private is the corporate ownership group at 25 percent. Corporate represents business owners without a wood processing plant within the state; many of these owners manage their forest properties as an investment. This group's share of the private forest has been climbing over the past four NASF surveys, from 14 percent in 2004 to 25 percent in 2012. The increase has been the result of forest industry owners selling their forest lands. Forest industry ownership in 2012 was 7 percent of the private forest, down from 9 percent of the private forest in the 2010 survey. The Native American ownership type, which is defined as forest land acres held in trust by the U.S. and administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for Native American tribes, families or individuals, consists of 3 percent of the private forest land in 2012.

The state with the largest number of forest land acres owned by non-industrial private individuals is Texas with 45.7 million acres. The state with the largest amount of private corporate ownership is Alaska due to the land holdings of native corporations. Oregon has the largest number of acres owned by the forest industry. Arizona has the largest number of forest land acres held in trust for Native American tribes, families or individuals.

Table 4: Private Forest Land by Ownership Type – 2012

	Acres MM	%
Private Individuals	313.3	65%
Corporate Ownership	120.4	25%
Forest Industry	32.8	7%
Native American	15.1	3%
Total U.S. Private Forest Land	481.7	100%

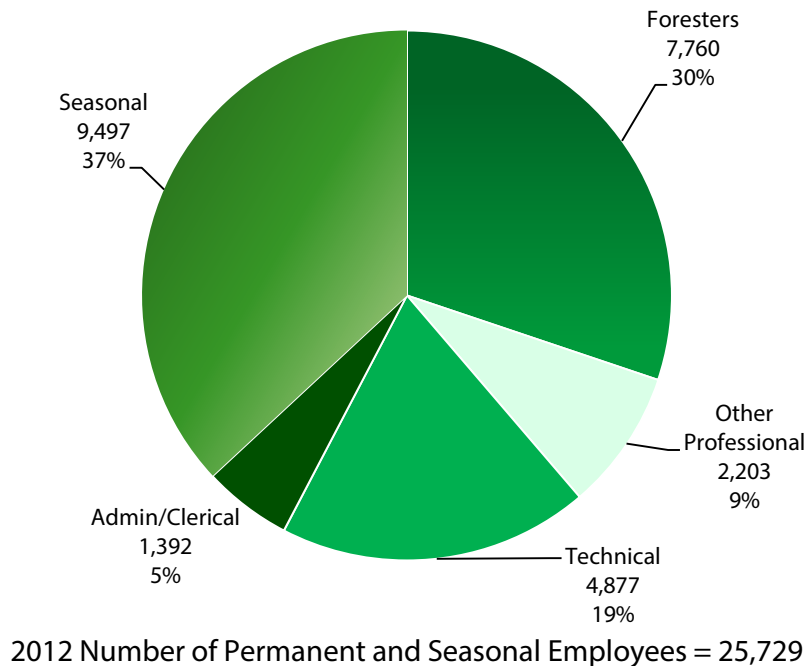


Part II: State Forestry Agency Employees and Expenditures

Total Employees in 2012

State forestry agencies employed 25,729 individuals in 2012. The largest category of permanent employees consists of foresters. In addition to foresters, other professionals employed at state forestry agencies include staff with college and advanced degrees in recreation, fire and fuels management, environmental/ land use planning, conservation, watershed, wildlife, information technology, finance, and accounting. The technical category includes employees who provide a wide range of support services including working in the nurseries, driving heavy equipment and those who provide technical support to the resource professionals. Half of the state forestry agencies receive administrative, professional or other categories of support from allocated personnel from other agencies in the state.

Table 5: State Forestry Agency Employees – 2012

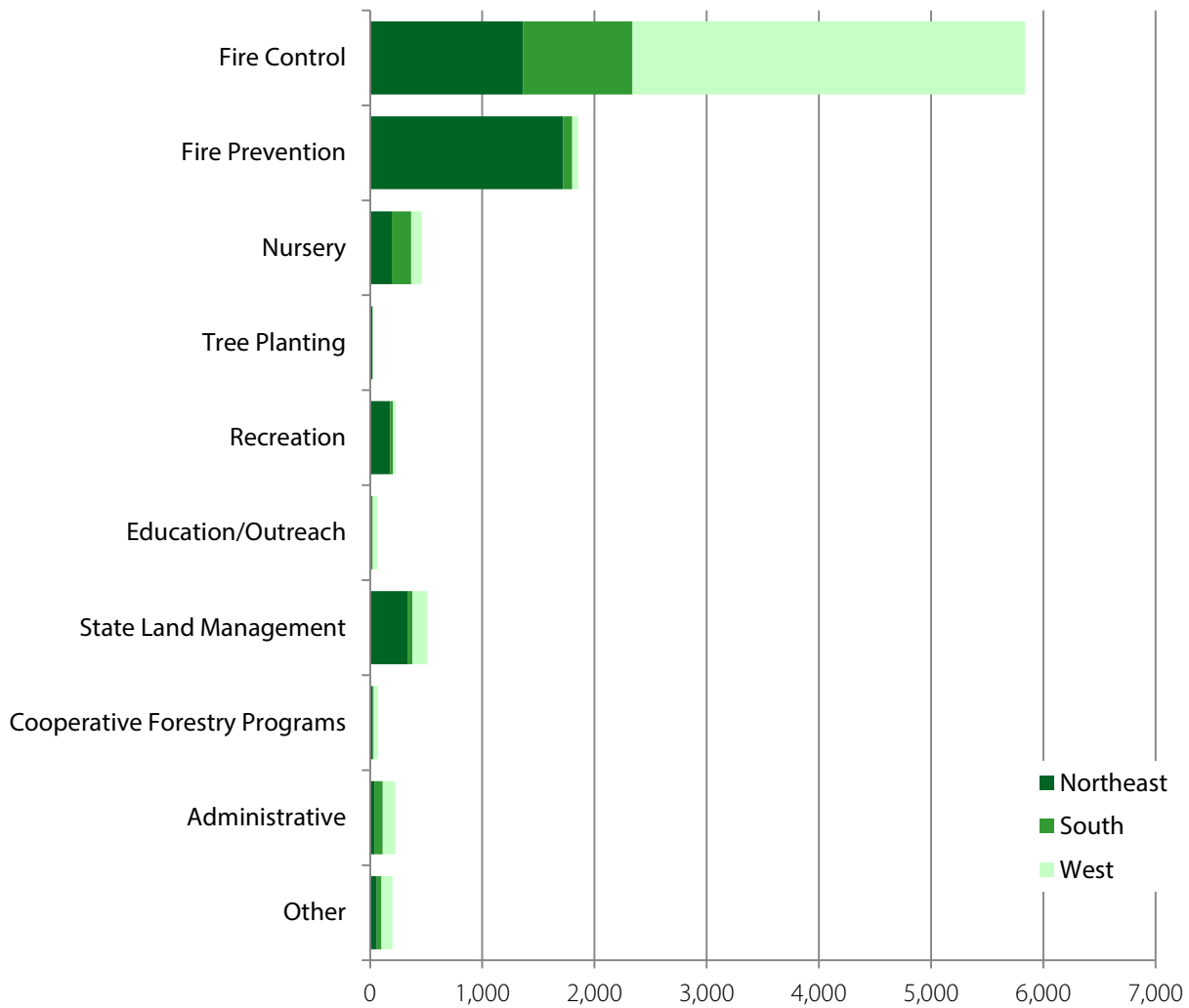




Seasonal Employees in 2012

Seasonal employees make up the largest number of positions in state forestry agencies. Seasonal jobs at the agencies make key contributions to field work in areas such as fire control, fire prevention, nursery, recreation, monitoring, and other land management activities. These seasonal jobs provide important economic support in rural communities across the states and the nation.

Table 6: Number of Seasonal or Temporary Employees by Major Function – 2012

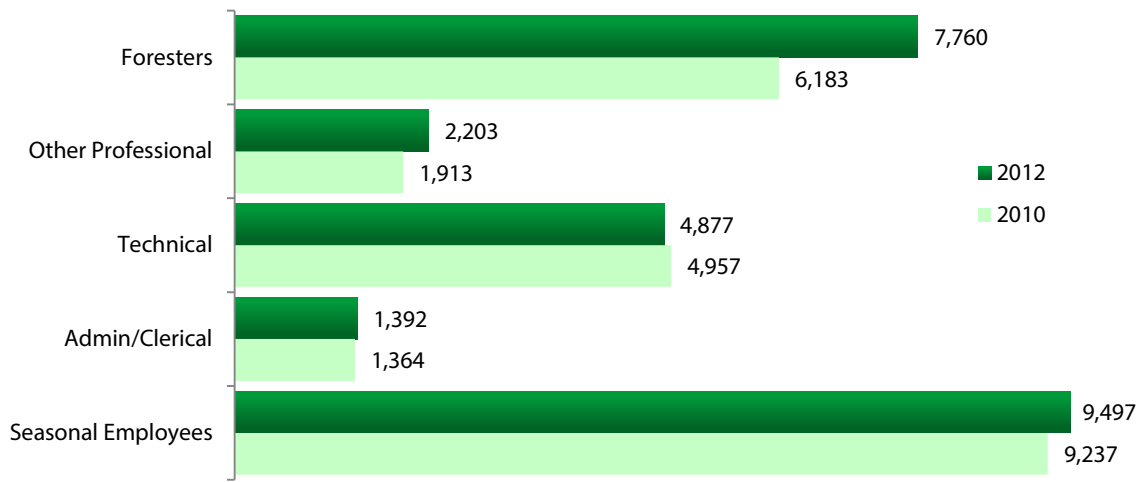




Employment Trends

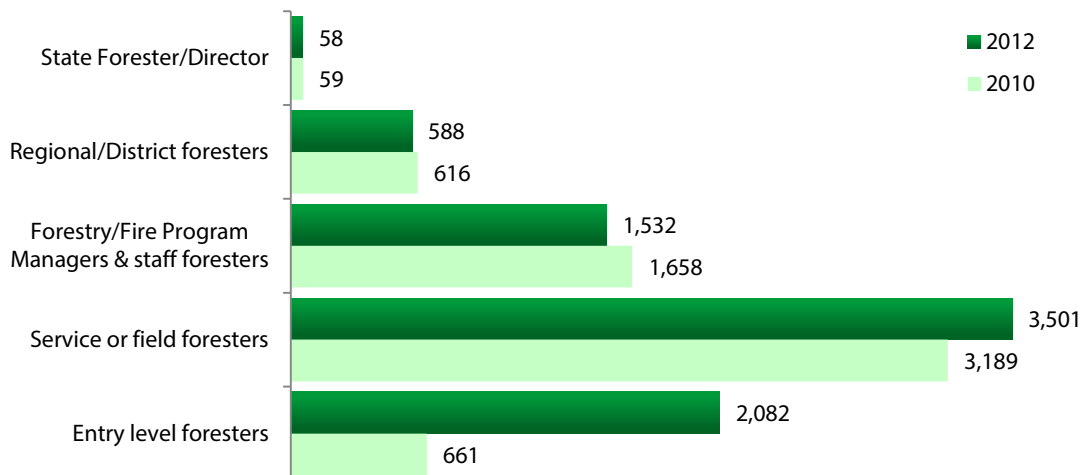
State forestry agency employment decreased by 3,183 positions between 2008 and 2010. Many of these positions were recovered in 2012 with the addition of 2,052 positions, which represents a 9% increase in the size of the workforce over the two year period. Increases occurred in every staff category, except Technical positions. The number of foresters increased the most, adding 1,577 positions.

Table 7: State Forestry Agencies Staffing Changes – 2010 vs. 2012



In the forester job category, 2010 experienced a large reduction in service/field foresters and entry-level foresters. In many cases, these losses were a result of reduced authorized expenditures. Open positions were not advertised as individual foresters moved up in their organizations to fill vacancies requiring more experience. In 2012, there were large expansions in entry-level foresters, adding 1,421 positions, and field foresters added 312 positions. Just as California had a major impact on this decline in 2010, it again had a major impact on the 2012 figures with a significant increase in entry-level foresters in 2012.

Table 8: Forester Positions Staffing Changes – 2010 vs. 2012



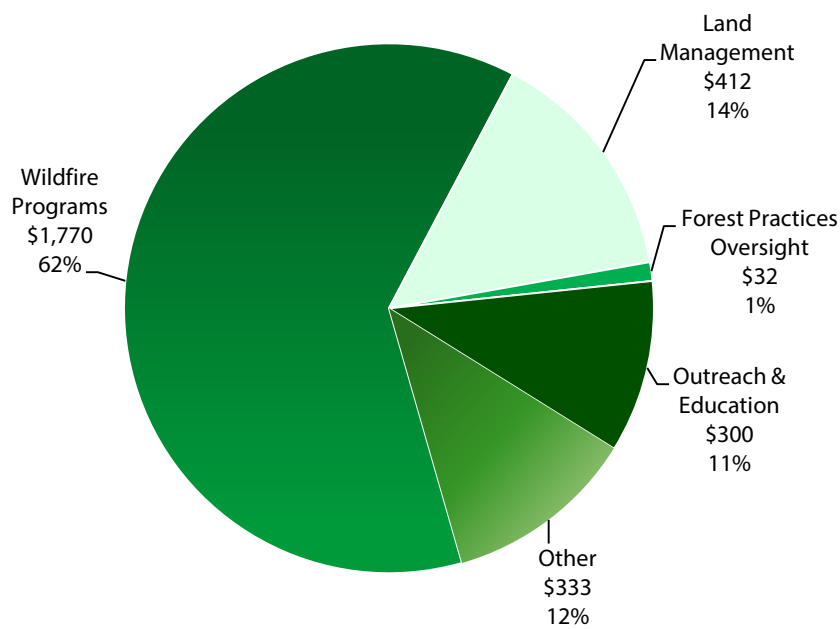


Total 2012 Expenditures

State forestry agency expenditures in 2012 totaled \$2.8 billion. This represents an increase compared to 2010 expenditures of \$427 million or 18 percent. Nineteen members reported decreases; twenty-seven reported increased expenditures. The majority of these expenditures (62%) were related to fire control, prevention, education, protection, and management. Most of these wildfire related expenses are incurred on non-state lands and this is a significant budget item for every NASF member.

Land management includes funds spent on managing public lands controlled by the state forestry agency. Outreach and education expenditures include cooperative forest management landowner assistance programs, forest products utilization and marketing programs, forest health, Urban & Community Forestry, nursery programs, forest recreation, and Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA). Forest practices oversight includes enforcement of watershed and water quality protection measures.

Table 9: 2012 State Forestry Agencies Expenditures (Millions)



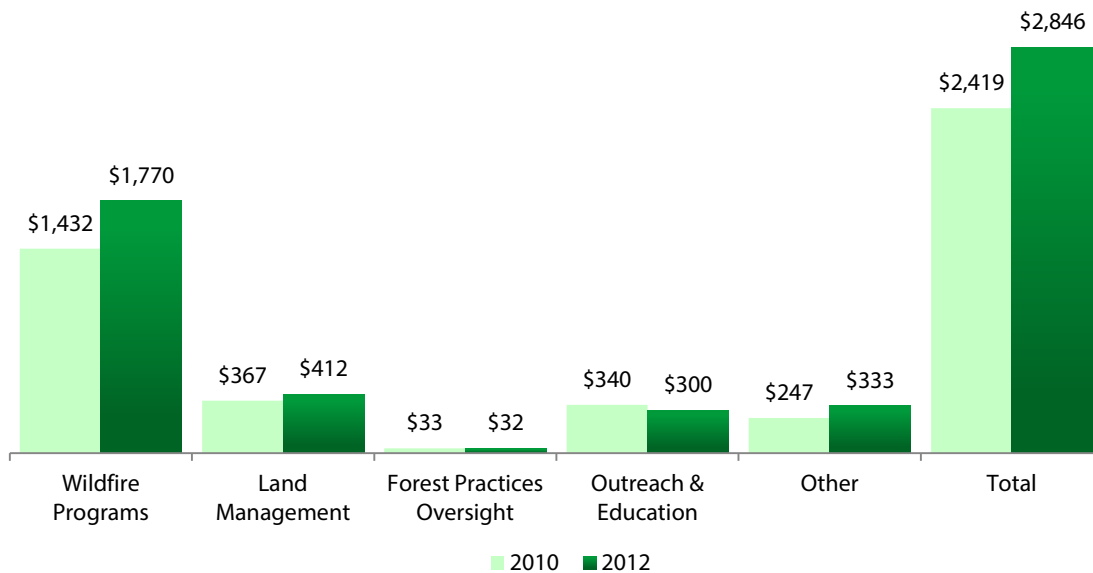
2012 Total Expenditures = \$2,846 Million



Trends in Expenditures by Category

Total expenditures in 2012 were up 18% or \$427 million from 2010. The majority of this increased spending was for wildfire programs which increased over \$338 million or 15%. Significant reductions were again found in the outreach and education category for Cooperative Forestry Management Assistance programs (down \$31 million or 19%), Urban & Community Forest Programs (down \$2 million or 5%), and Forest Recreation Programs (down \$7 million or 17%).

Table 10: State Forestry Agency Spending (Millions) – 2010 vs. 2012





Trends in Expenditures by Region

A regionally focused review of expenditures shows both different distributions of funds across program areas as well as different trends over time.

The northeastern region on a proportionate basis has spent more on outreach education programs than the other two regions (27 percent of total expenditures on average in 2012). These include programs such as Cooperative Forest Management and Urban & Community Forestry, both of which receive higher percentages of total agency budgets than in other regions. Total expenditures in the Northeast were down less than 1 percent between 2010 and 2012.

The southern region dedicates higher percentages of agency budgets on wildfire related programs (63 percent on average for 2012) compared to the Northeast but still apportions considerable amounts in outreach and education programs (16 percent on average for 2012). Total expenditures in the South were up \$85 million between 2010 and 2012 and most of this increase was attributable to an increase in wildfire related programs.

The western region spent 70% of their total budgets on wildfire related programs, which totaled over \$1 billion in 2012. The West experienced an increase of \$344 million in total expenditures (\$228 million in wildfire programs) in 2012.

Table 11: State Forestry Agency Spending by Region (Millions) – 2010 vs. 2012

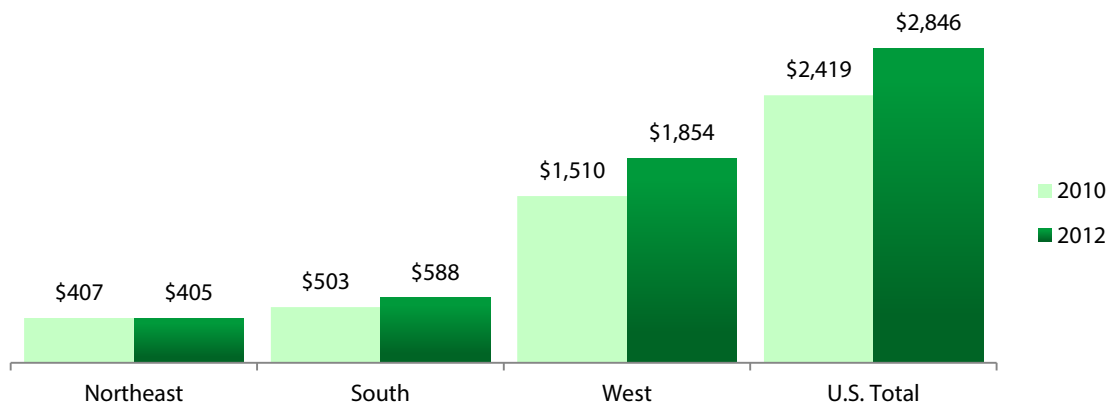
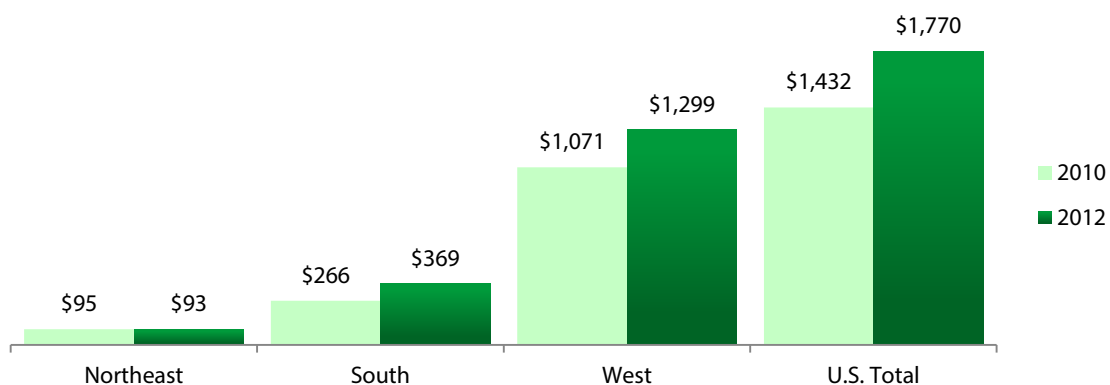


Table 12: Wildfire Program Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2010 vs. 2012





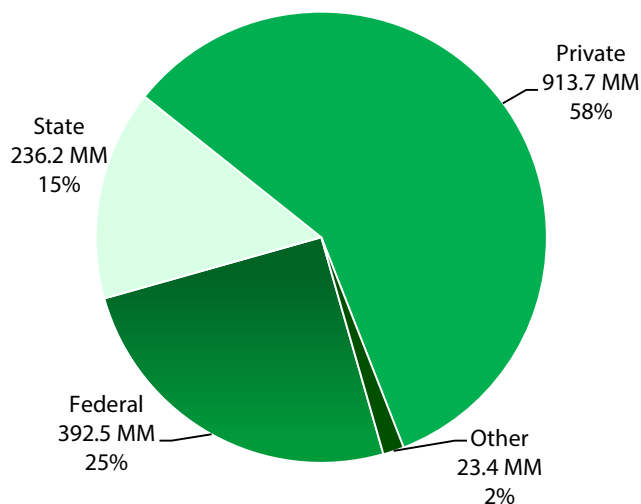
Part III: State Forestry Agency Program Areas

This section reports on survey data gathered for programs delivered by state forestry agencies. State forestry agency impact on the nation's natural resources is greater than generally thought, not only through the management of state-owned forestlands but also through technical assistance to private forest land owners, monitoring and oversight of forest and best management practices on private lands, and wildland wildfire suppression and prevention for all types of ownerships.

Wildfire Protection Activities

Wildfire related programs take a majority of the budget and staff resources of most state forestry agencies, particularly in the West and the South. Acres under wildfire protection by state forestry agencies in 2012 totaled to 1.56 billion acres. In 43 of the 50 member states, state forestry agencies managed nearly 8 million acres of prescribed fire in 2012.

Table 13: Wildland Protected by State Forestry Agencies (Millions) – 2012 Acres



Community Capacity Building

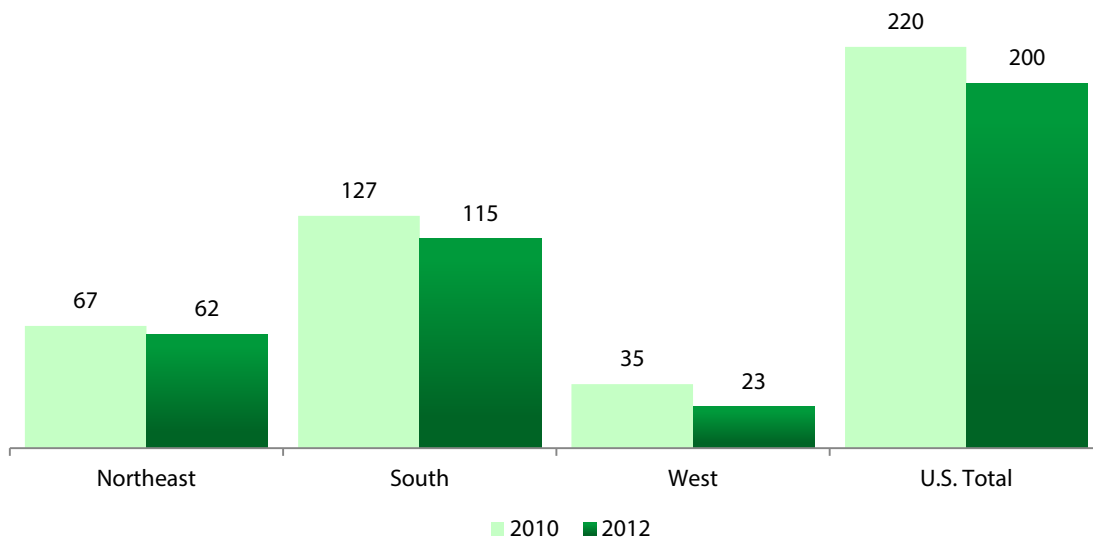
NASF members help communities prioritize their preparedness and mitigation efforts through the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs). State forestry agencies help communities develop preparedness and response capabilities through rural firefighter training supported by the federal State Fire Assistance and Volunteer Fire Assistance programs. NASF members also help provide funding for fire suppression equipment and assist with formation of and expansions of volunteer fire departments. In 2012, State Forestry Agencies trained nearly 58,000 firefighters and provided assistance to a significant number of rural fire departments, as well.



Cooperative Forest Management and Landowner Assistance

State forestry agencies offer professional forestry assistance, answer technical questions, and provide other services for landowners concerning their forest lands. State forestry agencies are the primary source of forest management advice for family forest owners⁵. This may include advice on timber marketing, fuels management, insects and disease, seedling purchase, tree planting, implementation of Forest Stewardship Plans and participation in Cooperative Forest Management cost share programs. State forestry agencies reported technical assistance to 199,793 landowners in 2012. Although this was a decrease of 10% compared to 2010 service levels, this was accomplished during a period that saw a decrease of 19% in spending on cooperative forest management and landowner assistance.

Table 14: Private Landowner Assists by Region (Thousands) – 2010 vs. 2012





Urban & Community Forestry (U&CF) Programs

Another program with decreased expenditures in 2012 is Urban & Community Forestry. All 51 respondents show their state forestry agency with the lead role in administering the Urban & Community Forestry program in their respective states. This program maintains, restores, and improves parks, street trees, and landscaped boulevards. Spending on Urban & Community Forestry decreased about 5 percent, or \$2 million in 2012 compared to 2010. This follows a \$10 Million drop from 2008 to 2010. Communities receiving state forestry agency technical assistance for this program in 2012 totaled 8,654 with the majority of these in the Northeast.

Table 15: Urban & Community Forestry Program Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2010 vs. 2012

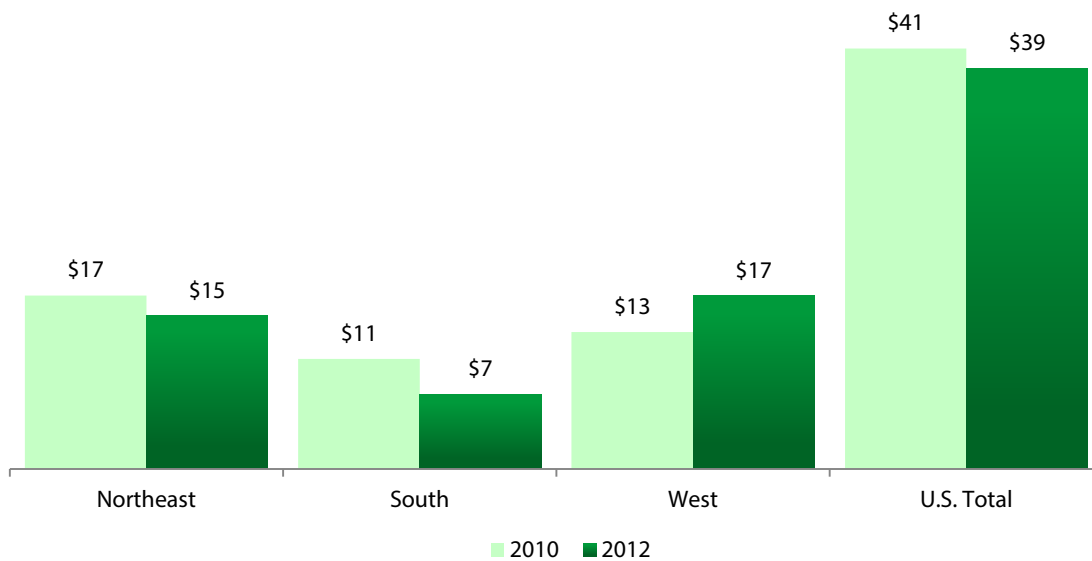


Table 16: Communities Receiving Forestry Agency Technical Assistance by Region – 2012

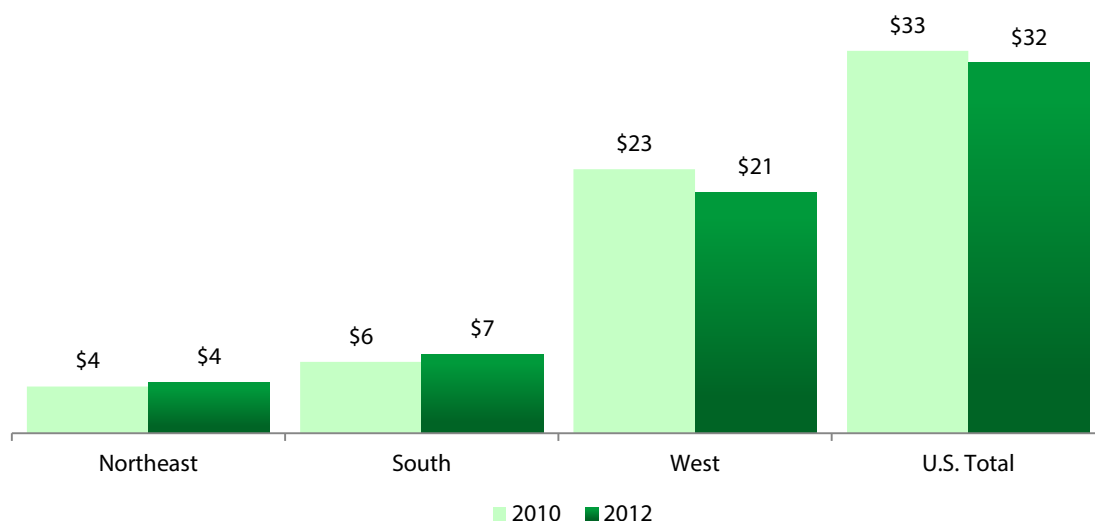
Region	Total	% of Total
Northeast	4,542	52%
South	1,887	22%
West	2,225	26%
U.S. Total	8,654	100%



Watershed/Water Quality Protection/BMPs

Most state forestry agencies are the lead agency for water quality protection related to forest silviculture on forest lands within their states. To this end, state forestry agencies have been involved in the development and field monitoring of best management practices (BMPs). Emerging issues with anadromous fish habitat, invertebrate habitat, enforcement, and BMP effectiveness have resulted in higher state forestry agency workload in this area. However, in 2012, total expenditures decreased 3% from 2010. The hardest hit was the west region with about a 9% drop in program expenditures. The loss of capacity in the state forestry agencies indicated by this decrease could have ramifications for water quality.

**Table 17: Watershed/Water Quality Protection/ BMPs
Program Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2010 vs. 2012**

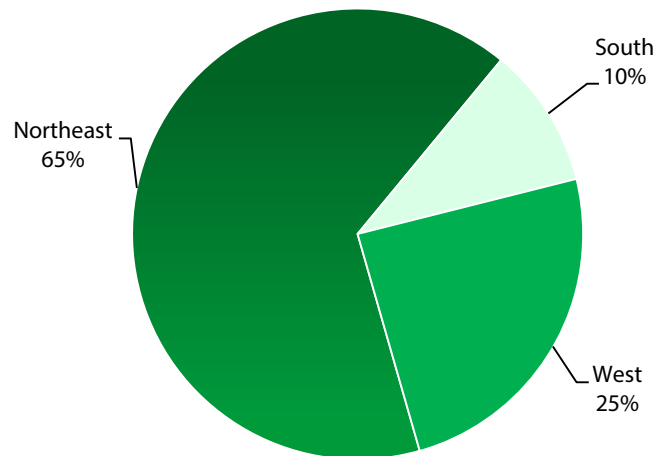




Forest Legacy Projects

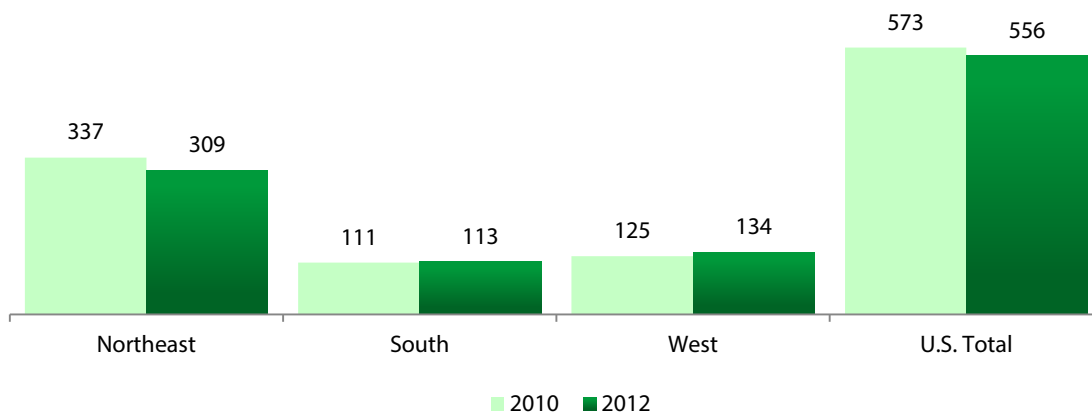
State forestry agencies are extensively involved with the Forest Legacy program (FLP). NASF members reported 556 total number of forest legacy projects in 2012. Although this was a slight decrease in the number of projects compared to 2010, the cumulative acres in the program increased about 200,000 to a total of over 2.7 million acres. These numbers show the program is continuing to grow as rapidly as the availability of funding from sources such as the U.S. Forest Service's State and Private Forestry (SPF) budget. It helps states to protect working forest lands that are threatened by development or other land uses, either through outright (fee simple) purchase or conservation easements. Landowner participation in FLP is completely voluntary. Landowners who choose to put a conservation easement on their lands must have a Forest Stewardship Plan prepared with technical assistance from the state forestry agency.

Table 18: Cumulative Acres of Forest Legacy Projects by Region – 2012



Cumulative Forest Legacy Acres through 2012 = 2.7 Million Acres

Table 19: Number of Forest Legacy Projects – 2010 vs. 2012

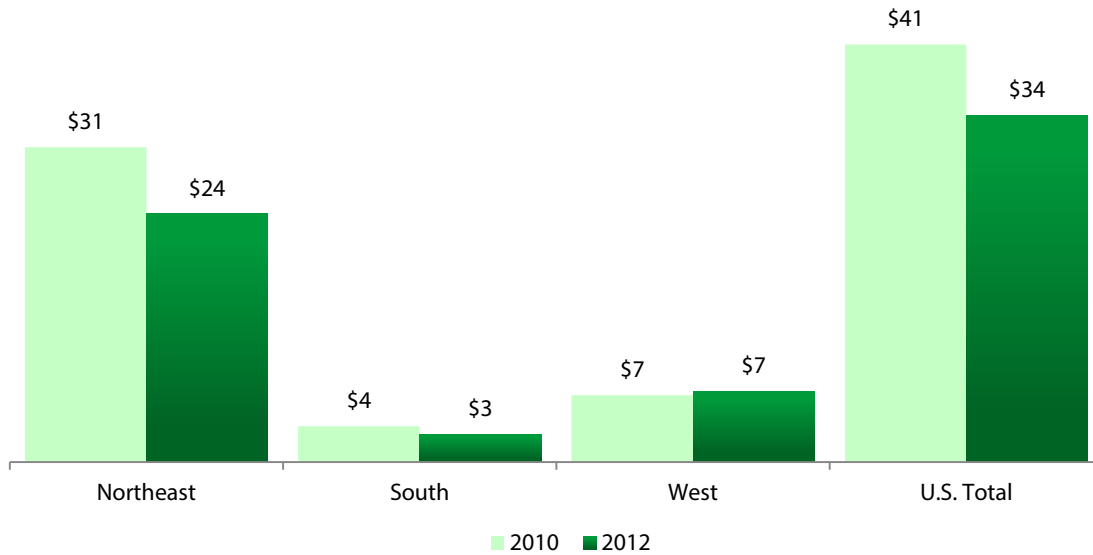




Forest Recreation Programs

Forest Recreation is a program to provide public recreational opportunities in state and other non-federal forests. Spending on Forest Recreation programs decreased 17 percent, or \$6.9 million in 2012 compared to 2010.

Table 20: Forest Recreation Program Expenditures (Millions) – 2010 vs. 2012





State Forest Nursery Programs

After numerous years of decreases, expenditures for state forest nursery programs increased \$2.3 million or 8 percent in 2012 compared to 2010. Annual seedling production dropped by nearly 5 million during this time period. The reductions in state nursery programs may have implications for long-term reforestation capacity. Some losses in state forestry seedling production occurring in the South are being replaced with private nurseries in that region. Other states are keeping their nursery programs and making them more competitive with updated on-line sales and shipping.

Table 21: State Forest Nurseries Program Expenditures (Millions) – 2010 vs. 2012

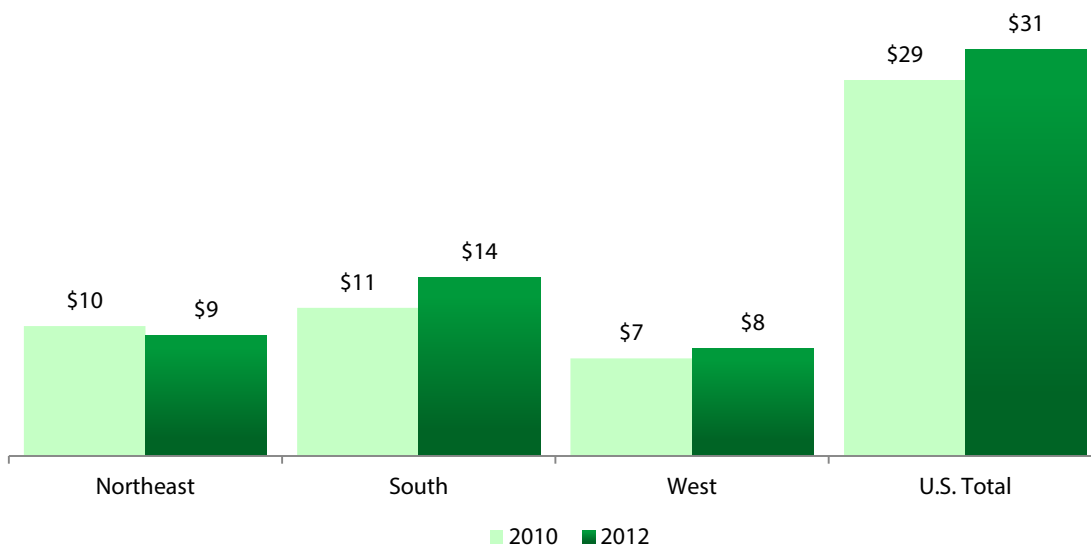
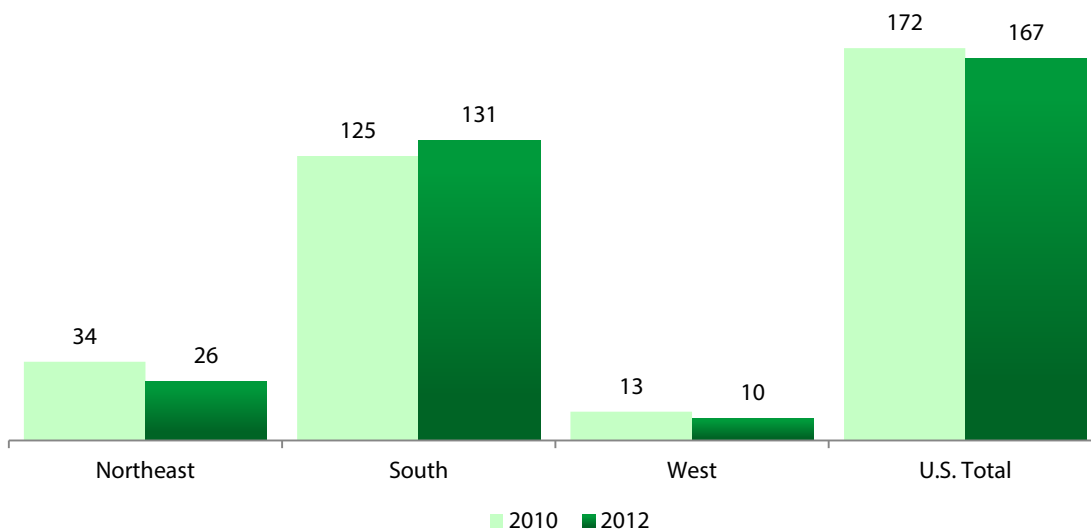


Table 22: State Forest Nurseries Annual Tree Seedling Production (Millions) – 2010 vs. 2012





Part IV: Demand for Services, Funding Sources, and Funding Challenges

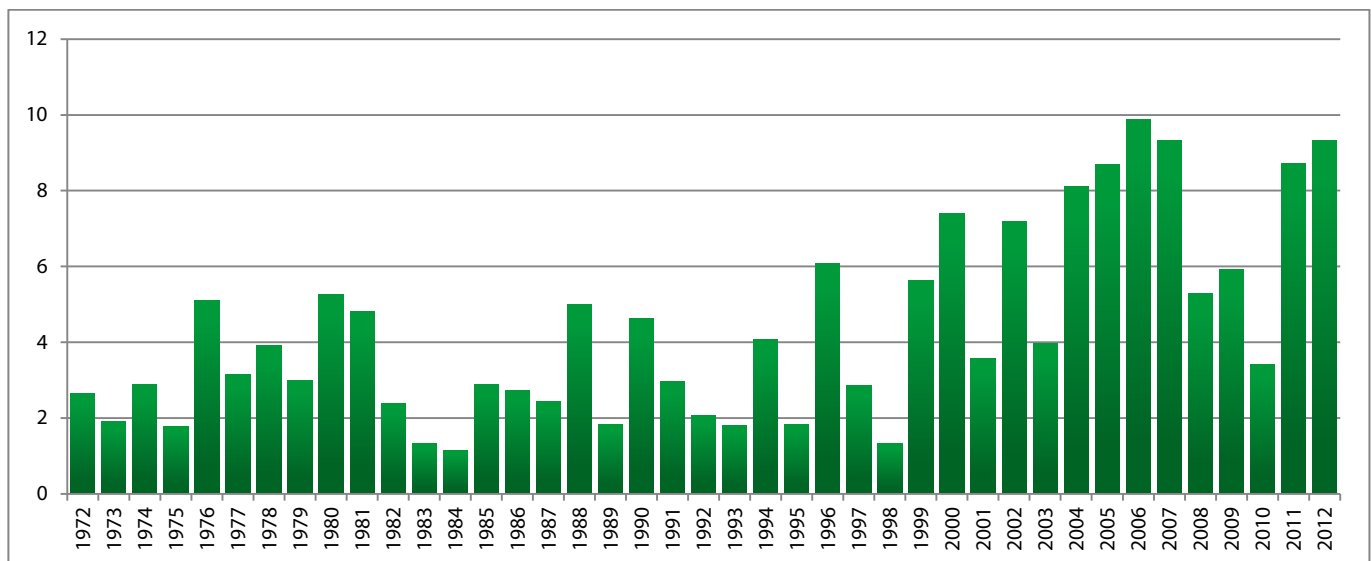
Growing Demand for Services

The 2012 NASF State Forest Statistics Survey shows an industry that is trying to meet the growing demand for services from state forestry agencies. Following large declines in employees and expenditures in 2010, the expenditures increased and additional employees were hired to help meet the escalating demand for services from state forestry agencies. This was particularly true in terms of wildfire programs.

High density population centers continue to expand in proximity to the non-federal forest lands for which services from state forestry agencies are utilized. Total area in private, non-corporate ownership is growing resulting in forest fragmentation and smaller average tract size. Consequently, the resources required for state forestry agencies to conduct outreach with education and technical forest management expertise will be stretched to a greater degree.

Wildland acres burned were down in 2008 and 2010 from recent mid-decade highs, but they again reached near record numbers in 2012. This trend is compounded by mortality from insects and disease, which are occurring more often and on more acres than in the past. The top five issues expected to take an increasing amount of attention for state forestry agencies in coming years are: 1) pest infestation and disease outbreak, 2) reducing risks of wildfire impacts, 3) invasive species, 4) forest fragmentation, conversion and development, and 5) forest markets (see Appendix III for a full list of the high impact issues).

Table 23: Total U.S. Wildland Acres Burned (Millions) – 1972 - 2012



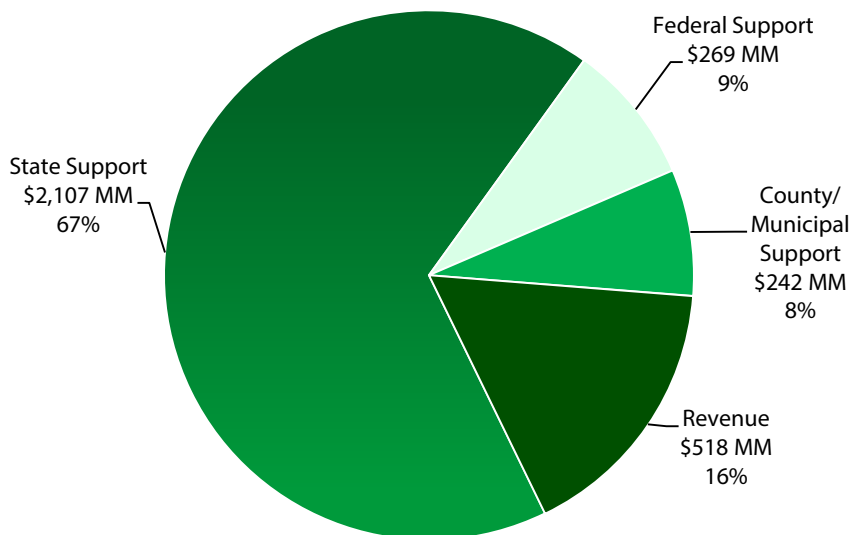
Source: National Interagency Coordination Center



Funding Sources

Overall funding support for state forestry agency programs came from state government (67 percent), state forestry agency revenues (16 percent), federal government (9 percent), and county and municipal government (8 percent). These percentages varied only slightly as reported by the West and South, with the Northeast showing less reliance on state support and more on state forestry agency revenues (includes product sales and royalties, land sales and leases, permit sales, and service charges).

Table 24: State Forestry Agencies Funding Sources



2012 Total Funding = \$3.1 Billion

The biggest funding loss came from federal funding, down \$60 million, or 18 percent from 2010. This loss in federal funding was offset by state funding increasing nearly 19% from 2010 to 2012 and state forestry agency revenues increasing 13%. County and municipal funding was also up significantly, primarily due to a large increase in California. Individual states and regions showed a lot of variability between the two years. Federal funding in the Northeast fell 30% along with state funding declining 15%. They were able to increase agency revenues but this was not enough to offset the other funding losses as the Northeast region's total funding fell 9%. Both the South and West regions experienced over 20% increases from 2010 to 2012.



Table 25: State Forestry Programs Funding Sources by Region (Millions) – 2010 vs. 2012

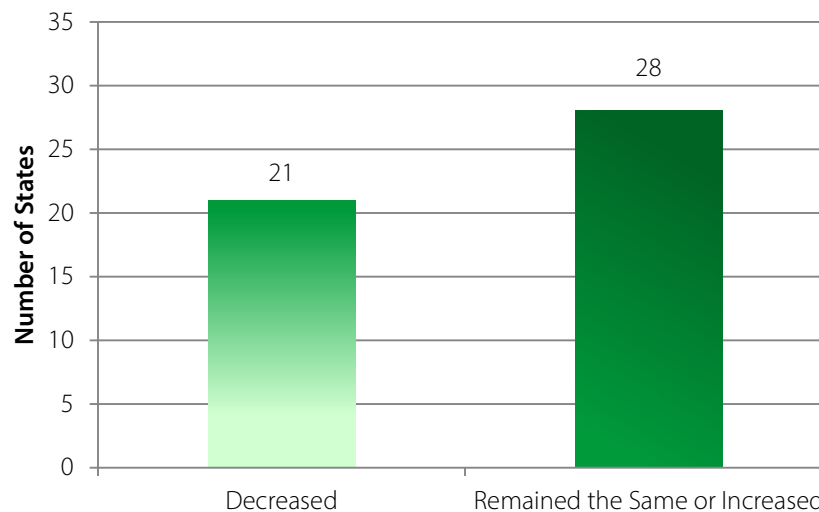
State Funding	2012	2010	% Chg.	Federal Funding	2012	2010	% Chg.
Northeast	\$202	\$238	-15%	Northeast	\$62	\$89	-30%
South	\$469	\$360	30%	South	\$81	\$91	-10%
West	\$1,435	\$1,178	22%	West	\$126	\$149	-16%
U.S. Total	\$2,107	\$1,776	19%	U.S. Total	\$269	\$329	-18%

State Forestry Agency Revenue	2012	2010	% Chg.	County & Municipal Funding	2012	2010	% Chg.
Northeast	\$153	\$138	11%	Northeast	\$22	\$18	18%
South	\$72	\$61	18%	South	\$4	\$5	-15%
West	\$293	\$259	13%	West	\$217	\$72	201%
U.S. Total	\$518	\$458	13%	U.S. Total	\$242	\$95	155%

State Funding Support

State funding support was \$2.1 billion out of a total of \$3.1 billion, or 67 percent of total funding for state forestry agencies in 2012. This was an increase of \$331 million over 2010 or 19 percent. More states experienced increases in spending than reductions. From 2010 to 2012, 28 states experienced increases in state funding or remained relatively flat, while 21 had decreases. While this is promising, state forestry agencies continue to seek new partners to enable them to cope with the challenging fiscal environment while still providing important products and services to their stakeholders.

Table 26: Changes in State Funding Dollars – 2010 vs. 2012





Appendix I: NASF Regions and Regional Forest Land Ownership

Regional Forest Ownership

NASF works with three regional organizations – the Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters (NAASF), the Southern Group of State Foresters (SGSF), and the Council of Western State Foresters (CWSF) – to support forest management practices and policies unique to the regional characteristics of U.S. forests. The Northeast and South have predominately private ownership of their forest lands while the West has high federal ownership. The different ownership profiles impact priorities and work for the state forestry organizations.

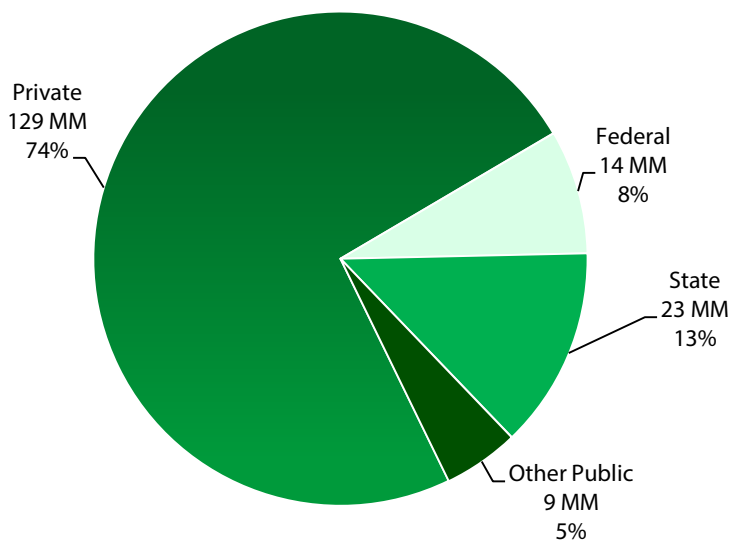
Northeastern Region

Partner Organization:

Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters (NAASF) <http://www.northeasternforests.org/>

The twenty Northeastern and Midwestern states and the District of Columbia are home to 40 percent of the nation’s population and contain 21 percent of the nation’s forests—some 175 million acres. Here, the majority of the forest land—74 percent—is owned by private citizens and corporations.

Northeastern Region Forest Land Ownership – 2012 Millions of Acres



Northeast Region Total Forest Land: 175 MM Acres

States & Territories

- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New York
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- Vermont
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin



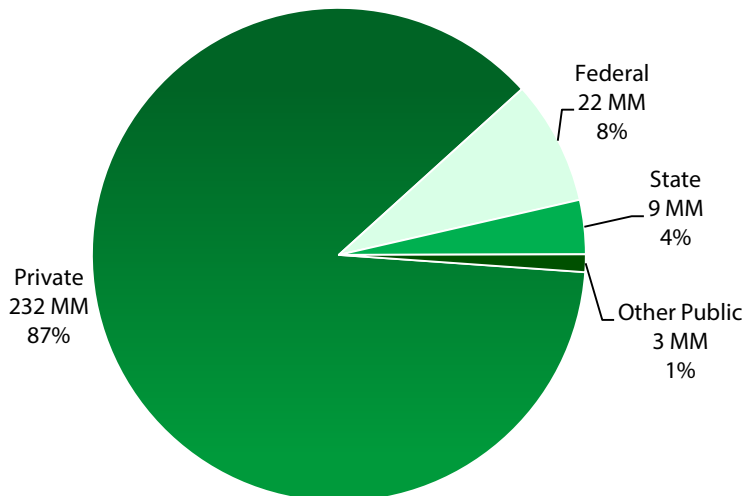
Southern Region

Partner Organization:

Southern Group of State Foresters (SGSF) <http://www.southernforests.org/>

The South is home to vast and diverse forest resources. Forests account for a large portion of land in the South, with some states having two-thirds or more of their land area in forests. Over 87% of Southern forests are privately owned by over 5 million landowners. Southern forests are being shaped by several trends, including population growth, urbanization, changing landowner characteristics and extreme weather and fire events.

Southern Region Forest Land Ownership – 2012 Millions of Acres



States & Territories

Alabama
Arkansas
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
Louisiana
Mississippi
North Carolina
Oklahoma
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia

Southern Region Total Forest Land: 266 MM Acres



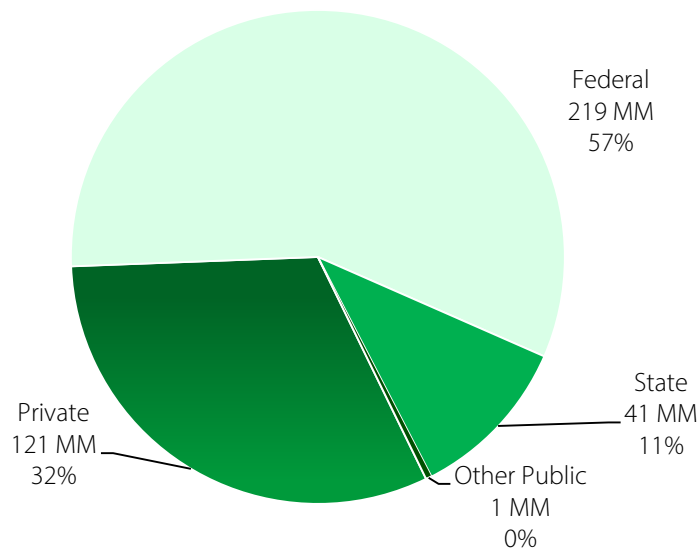
Western Region

Partner Organization:

Council of Western State Foresters (CWSF) <http://www.wflcweb.org>

Forests of the West contain an incredible assemblage of resources. They cover about 383 million acres (46% of the nation’s total forested area) and are managed by a diversity of owners, both public and private. The issues facing western forests —wildfire, invasive species, changing ownership patterns and markets, fragmentation, and climate change—affect all lands and all people, threatening basic assets we need and often take for granted: clean air and water, safe communities, open space, and economic opportunities.

Western Region Forest Land Ownership – 2012 Millions of Acres



Western Region Total Forest Land: 383 MM Acres

States & Territories

- Alaska
- American Samoa
- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Guam
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Kansas
- Marshall Islands
- Micronesia
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Mexico
- North Dakota
- Northern Marianas
- Oregon
- Palau
- South Dakota
- Utah
- Washington
- Wyoming



Appendix II: Land and Population Data

State	Thousands of Acres				Population ⁵
	Non-Federal Forest Land	Federal Forest Land	Total Forest Land ³	Total Land Area ⁴	
California	16,410	21,785	38,195	99,699	37,999,878
Texas	60,199	1,578	61,777	167,188	26,060,796
New York	18,866	140	19,006	30,161	19,576,125
Florida	13,775	2,743	16,518	34,447	19,320,749
Illinois	4,142	264	4,406	35,532	12,868,192
Pennsylvania	16,020	632	16,652	28,635	12,764,475
Ohio	7,740	304	8,044	26,151	11,553,031
Georgia	22,971	1,781	24,752	36,809	9,915,646
Michigan	17,277	3,019	20,296	36,185	9,882,519
North Carolina	16,477	2,144	18,621	31,115	9,748,364
New Jersey	1,847	120	1,966	4,707	8,867,749
Virginia	13,614	2,270	15,884	25,274	8,186,628
Washington	12,501	9,885	22,387	42,532	6,895,318
Massachusetts	3,138	81	3,219	4,992	6,645,303
Arizona	8,976	9,688	18,664	72,700	6,551,149
Indiana	4,770	370	5,140	22,929	6,537,782
Tennessee	12,518	1,402	13,920	26,390	6,454,914
Missouri	13,587	1,898	15,485	43,995	6,024,522
Maryland	2,375	71	2,446	6,252	5,884,868
Wisconsin	15,460	1,613	17,073	34,661	5,724,554
Minnesota	14,381	2,990	17,371	50,961	5,379,646
Colorado	7,391	16,512	23,903	66,331	5,189,458
Alabama	21,893	1,020	22,913	32,413	4,817,528
South Carolina	12,015	1,029	13,044	19,239	4,723,417
Louisiana	13,159	979	14,138	27,650	4,602,134
Kentucky	11,199	1,176	12,375	25,271	4,379,730
Oregon	11,605	17,995	29,600	61,432	3,899,801
Oklahoma	11,900	800	12,700	43,901	3,815,780
Connecticut	1,709	15	1,724	3,099	3,591,765
Iowa	2,910	3	2,913	35,749	3,075,039
Mississippi	18,642	1,524	20,166	30,031	2,986,450
Arkansas	15,796	3,151	18,947	33,303	2,949,828
Kansas	5,215	93	5,308	52,326	2,885,398
Utah	4,538	13,689	18,227	52,589	2,854,871
Nevada	901	10,462	11,363	70,260	2,754,354
New Mexico	11,837	10,158	21,995	77,631	2,083,540
West Virginia	10,771	1,203	11,974	15,384	1,856,680
Nebraska	1,484	85	1,569	49,167	1,855,350
Idaho	4,865	17,219	22,085	52,892	1,595,590
Hawaii	2,302	583	2,885	4,110	1,390,090
Maine	17,448	190	17,638	19,739	1,328,501
New Hampshire	4,009	806	4,815	5,730	1,321,617
Rhode Island	364	0	364	662	1,050,304
Montana	7,660	16,220	23,880	93,149	1,005,494
Delaware	355	0	355	1,247	917,053
South Dakota	827	1,075	1,902	48,519	834,047
Alaska	64,283	64,295	128,578	365,616	730,307
North Dakota	586	186	772	44,161	701,345
District of Columbia*	15	0	15	0	633,427
Vermont	4,114	481	4,595	5,899	625,953
Wyoming	2,400	8,832	11,232	62,140	576,626

*District of Columbia land area is included in Maryland.

³ 2012 NASF Statistical Survey

⁴ U.S. Department of Commerce. Census 2010 U.S. Gazetteer Files at <http://www.census.gov/geo/maps-data/data/gazetteer2010.html>.

⁵ Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2013 (NST-EST2013-01), Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Release Date: Dec. 2013.



Appendix III: High Impact Issues

The top issues expected to take an increasing amount of attention for state forestry agencies in coming years were determined by the answers to a question in the 2012 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey where each member was asked to list the three “highest impact” issues facing their agency. “High Impact Issue” was defined as: “an issue which is drawing an increasing amount of attention in your state and one which is likely to have significant impact on your state forestry agency in the coming years.” A chart of the full range of response is below:

High Impact Issues Affecting State Forestry Agencies

