



State Foresters by the Numbers

*Data and Analysis from the
2014 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey*



November 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 2014 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 2014. 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 ***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 2015 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 2014 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 2012 and 2014) were included in the year to year comparisons.

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 2014 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 2014 Overview

- **Private forest lands make up 59 percent of the total forest land in the U.S.; state and local government make up 11 percent, and federal forest lands, 30 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 235,532 technical assists to landowners in 2014.** State Forestry agencies are the primary source of forest management advice for family forest owners. [page 14]
- **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 10 and 13]
- **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) invasive species, 3) reducing risks of wildfire impacts, 4) forest fragmentation, conversion and development, and 5) water quality and quantity. [pages 20-22]
- **Acres under wildfire protection by state forestry agencies in 2014 totaled 1.52 billion acres, and state forestry agencies trained 58,669 firefighters in 2014.** NASF members also help provide funding for fire suppression equipment and assist with formation and expansions of volunteer fire departments. [page 13]
- **State forestry agency expenditures in 2014 totaled \$2.8 billion. Compared to 2012 expenditures, this represents a slight decrease of \$19 million or -1 percent.** Wildfire programs reported a decline of \$73 million or 4% for 2014 vs. 2012. As was the case in 2012, outreach and education spending again experienced a significant decline from 2012 to 2014. [page 11]
- **State forestry agencies provided technical assistance under Urban & Community Forestry to 8,579 communities in 2014.** This comes during a time of decreased funding for Urban & Community Forestry programs as expenditures decreased another 20% in 2014, following decreases of 5% and 19% in 2012 and 2010, respectively. [page 15]
- **State forestry agencies employed 25,830 individuals in 2014.** Overall state forestry agency employment increased slightly from 2012 to 2014; although, the total number foresters employed decreased slightly. [pages 7-9]



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

Forest Land Area

Forest land¹ makes up 821 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 5 and Bottom 5 States

State	% Forest Land to Total Land Area
Maine	89%
New Hampshire	81%
West Virginia	79%
Vermont	77%
Alabama	71%
Kansas	10%
Iowa	8%
South Dakota	4%
Nebraska	3%
North Dakota	2%
U.S. Total	36%
Median of U.S. States	47%

Source: 2014 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. (2014 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey)

² Total Land Area Source: U.S. Department of Commerce. Census 2010 U.S.

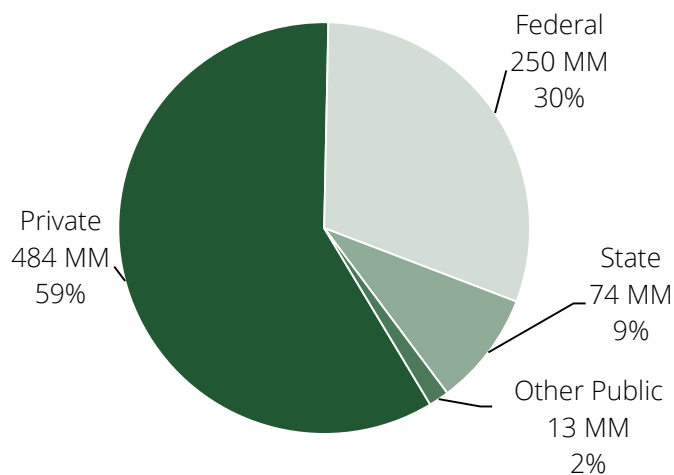
http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC_10_SF1_GCTPH1.US01PR&prodType=table



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 30 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 – 2014 Acres

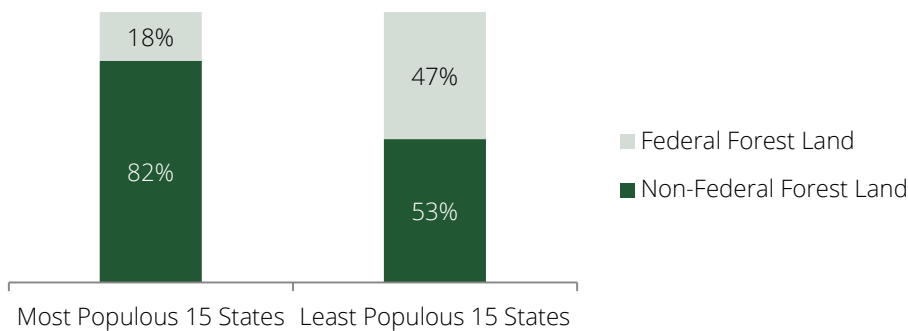




Forest Ownership and Centers of Population

Within the most populous 15 states, representing two-thirds of the nation's population, the amount of non-federal forest land is over four 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 (47%) vs. non-federal (53%) 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 65.2 percent of the total private forest in 2014. The next largest group within private is the corporate ownership group at 24.4 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 previous four NASF surveys, from 14 percent in 2004 to 25 percent in 2012 and leveling off to 24.4% in 2014. The increase has been the result of forest industry owners selling their forest lands. Forest industry ownership in 2014 remained at 7 percent of the total private forest land. 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 3.4 percent of the private forest land in 2014.

The state with the largest number of forest land acres owned by non-industrial private individuals is Texas with 45.4 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 – 2014

	Acres	
	MM	%
Private Individuals	315.2	65.2%
Corporate Ownership	117.8	24.4%
Forest Industry	34.1	7.0%
Native American	16.7	3.4%
Total U.S. Private Forest Land	483.7	100.0%

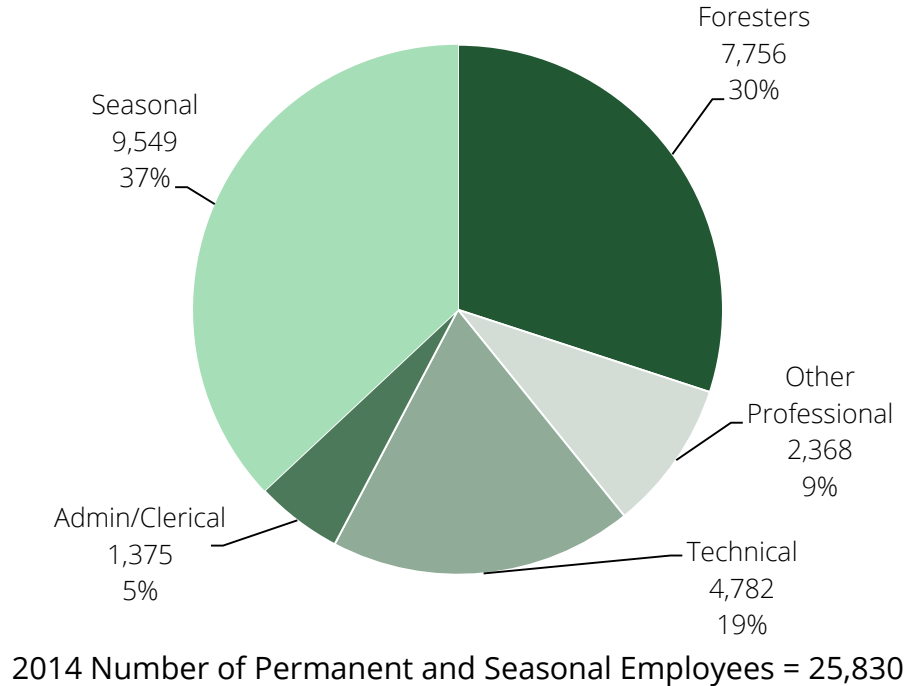


Part II: State Forestry Agency Employees and Expenditures

Total Employees in 2014

State forestry agencies employed 25,830 individuals in 2014. 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. Twenty-one 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 – 2014

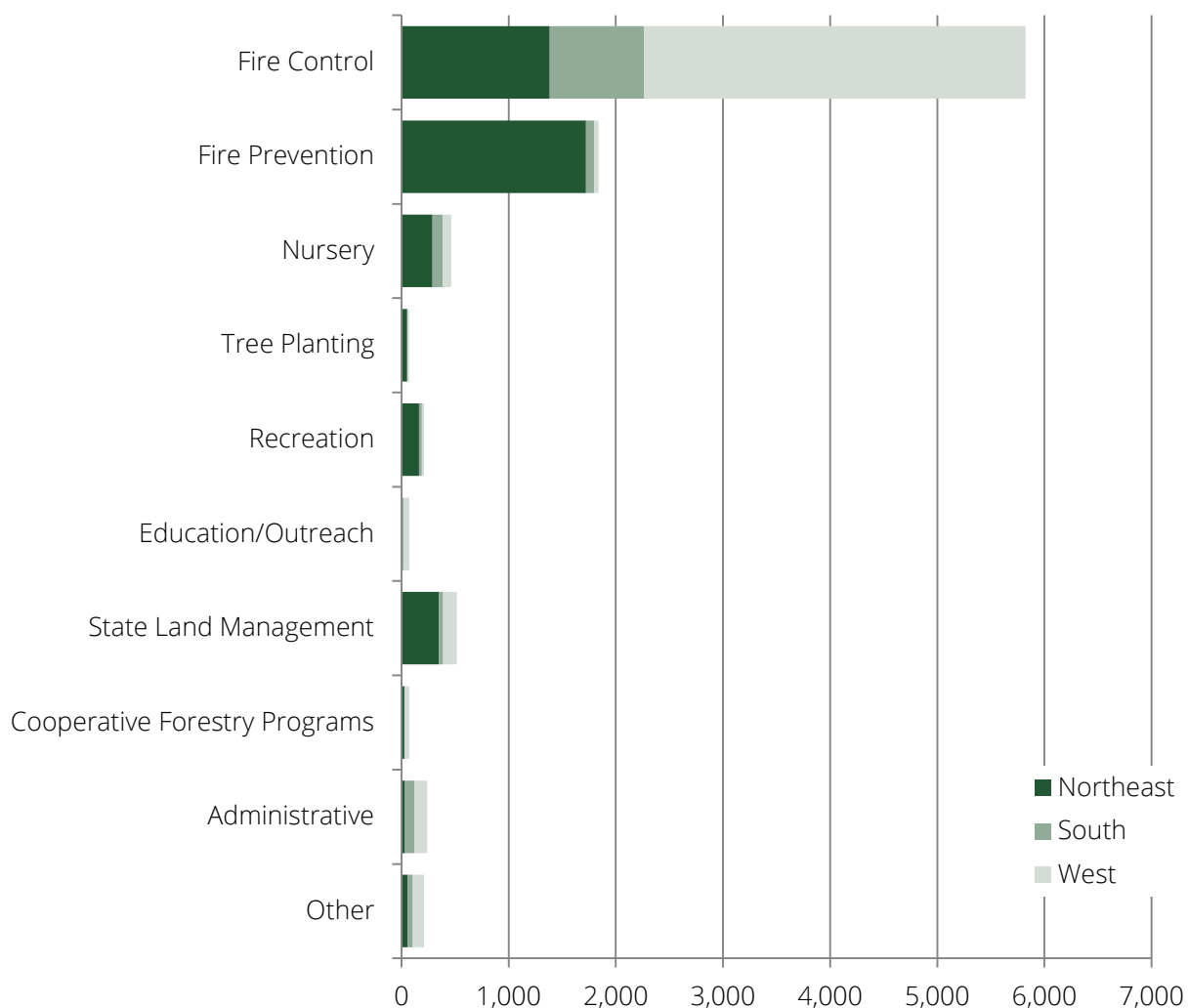




Seasonal Employees in 2014

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. In 2014, state forestry agencies employed 5,823 seasonal employees in fire control and 1,839 seasonal employees in fire prevention.

Table 6: Number of Seasonal or Temporary Employees by Major Function – 2014





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 represented a 9% increase in the size of the workforce over the two year period. After the increase in 2012, there was very little change in staffing levels in 2014. At a time when state forestry agencies are being asked to provide additional services, the staffing levels are remaining flat or declining. The total number of employees edged up slightly in 2014 primarily due to an increase in other professional employees. Decreases occurred in every staff category, except the Other Professional category.

Table 7: State Forestry Agencies Staffing Changes – 2012 vs. 2014

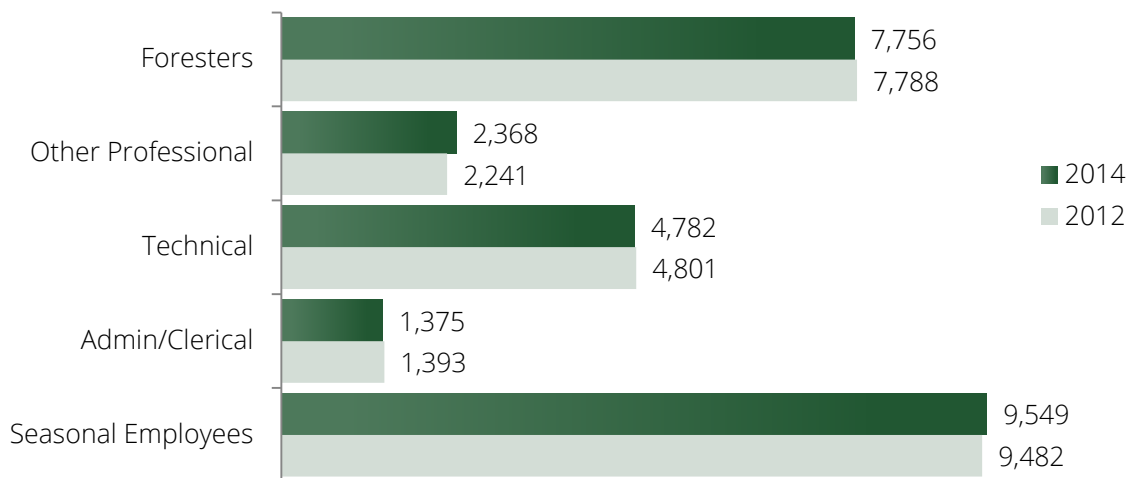
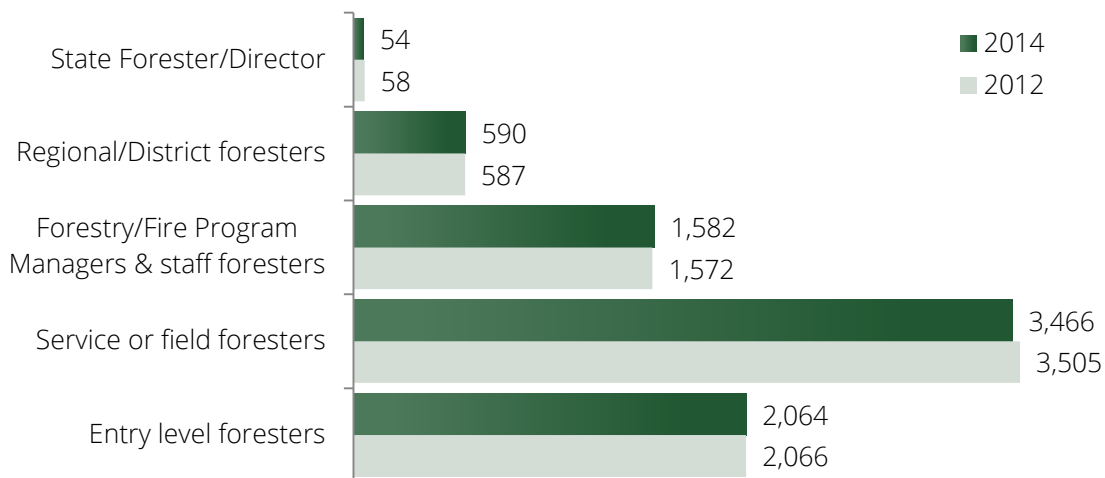


Table 8: Forester Positions Staffing Changes – 2012 vs. 2014



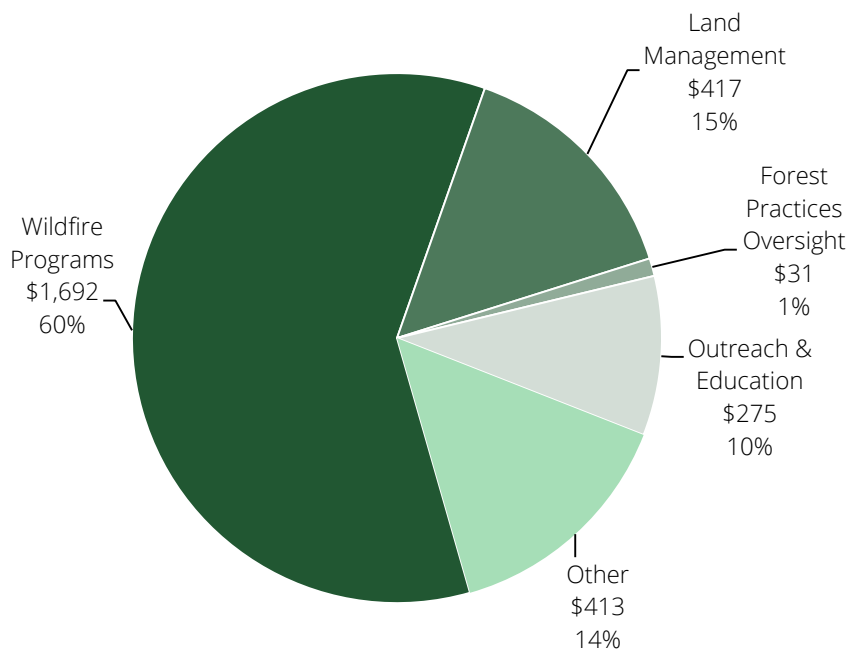


Total 2014 Expenditures

State forestry agency expenditures in 2014 totaled \$2.8 billion. Compared to 2012 expenditures, this represents a slight decrease of \$19 million or -1 percent. Twenty-five members reported decreases and only eighteen reported increased expenditures. The majority of these expenditures (60%) 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: 2014 State Forestry Agencies Expenditures (Millions)



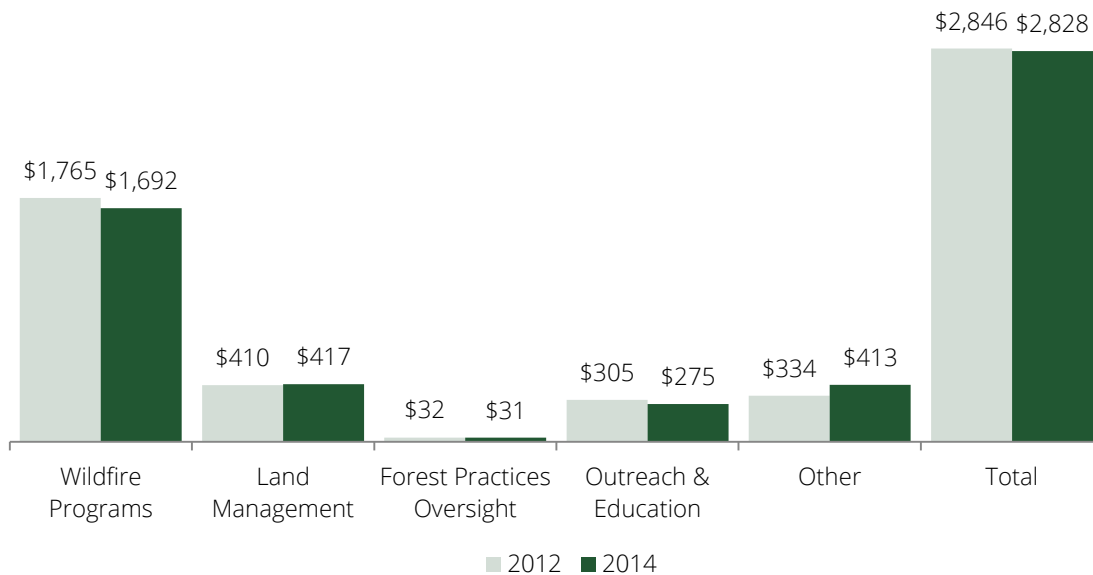
2014 Total Expenditures = \$2,828 Million



Trends in Expenditures by Category

Total expenditures in 2014 fell 1% or \$19 million from 2012. Wildfire programs reported a decline of \$73 million or 4% for 2014 vs. 2012. Significant reductions were again found in the outreach and education category for Cooperative Forestry Management Assistance programs (down \$11 million or 8%), Urban & Community Forest Programs (down \$8 million or 20%), and Forest Recreation Programs (down \$11 million or 32%).

Table 10: State Forestry Agency Spending (Millions) – 2012 vs. 2014





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 (26 percent of total expenditures on average in 2014). These include programs such as Cooperative Forest Management and Urban & Community Forestry. Total expenditures in the Northeast were down 8 percent between 2012 and 2014.

The southern region dedicates higher percentages of agency budgets on wildfire related programs (58 percent on average for 2014) compared to the Northeast but still apportions considerable amounts in outreach and education programs (17 percent on average for 2014). Total expenditures in the South fell up \$110 million between 2012 and 2014, with most of this decrease in wildfire related programs.

The western region spent 68% of their total budgets on wildfire related programs, which totaled over \$1.3 billion in 2014. The West experienced an increase of \$98 million in total expenditures in 2014.

Table 11: State Forestry Agency Spending by Region (Millions) – 2012 vs. 2014

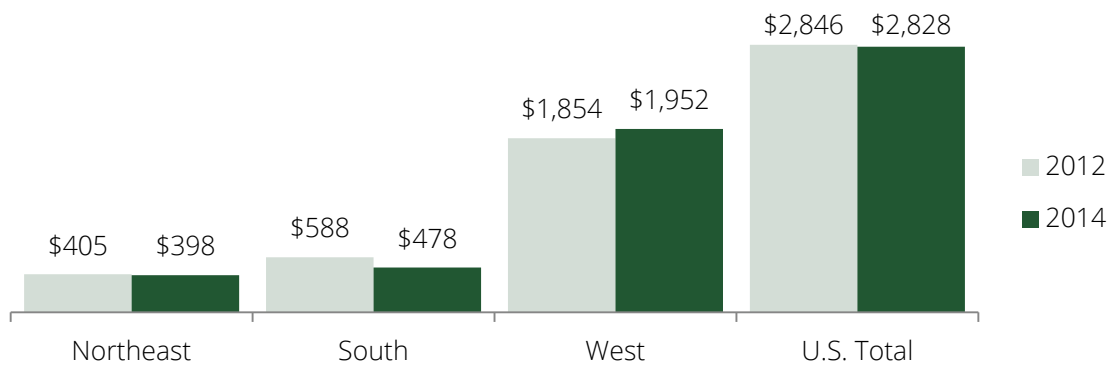
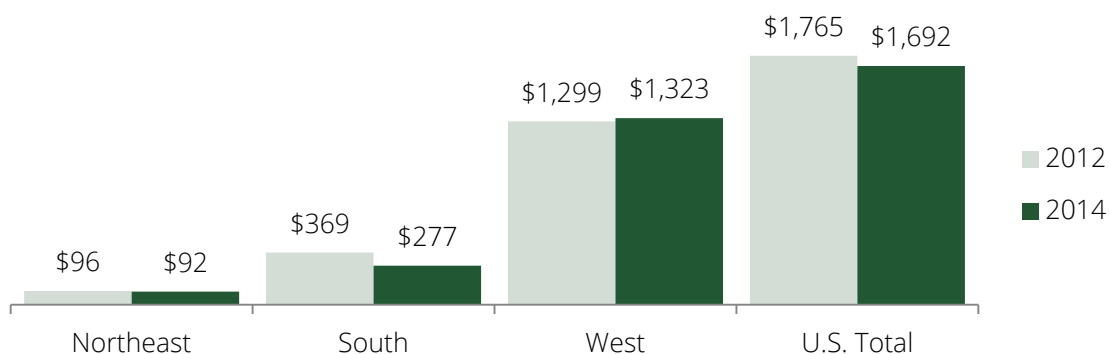


Table 12: Wildfire Program Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2012 vs. 2014





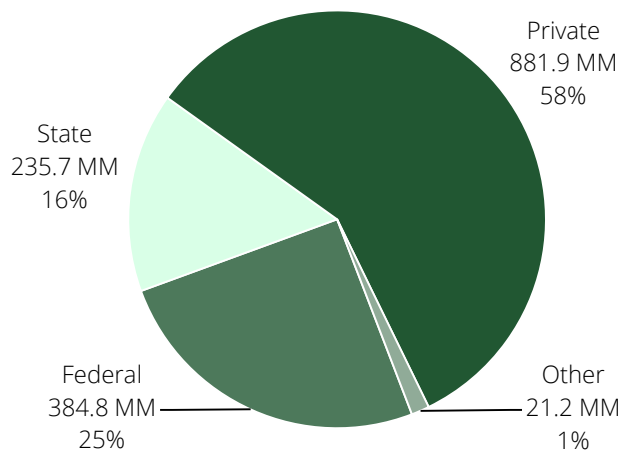
Part III: State Forestry Agency Program Areas

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 2014 totaled to 1.52 billion acres. Of the 50 member states, 45 state forestry agencies managed nearly 8.6 million acres of prescribed fire in 2014.

Table 13: Wildland Protected by State Forestry Agencies (Millions) – 2014 Acres



Community Capacity Building

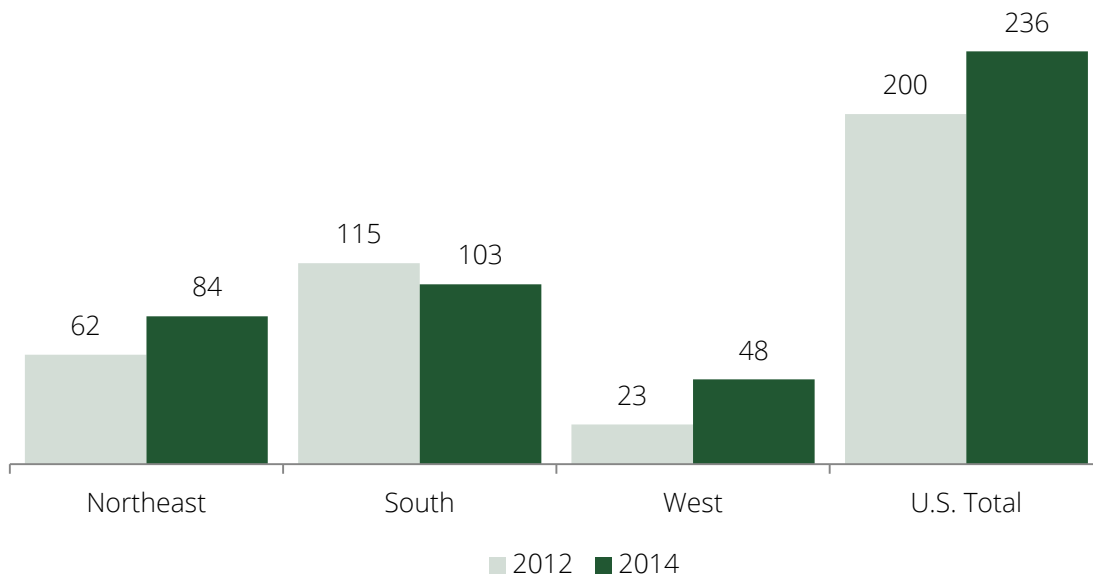
NASF members help communities prioritize their preparedness and mitigation efforts through the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs). State forestry agencies help communities develop preparedness and response capabilities through rural firefighter training supported by the federal 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 2014, State Forestry Agencies trained over 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 owners. 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 235,532 landowner assists in 2014. This was accomplished during a period that saw a decrease of 8% in spending on cooperative forest management and landowner assistance.

Table 14: Private Landowner Assists by Region (Thousands) – 2012 vs. 2014





Urban & Community Forestry (U&CF) Programs

Another program with decreased expenditures in 2014 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 20 percent, or \$8 million in 2014 compared to 2012. This follows a \$10 Million drop in 2010 and a \$2 million drop in 2012. Communities receiving state forestry agency technical assistance for this program in 2014 totaled 8,579 with the majority of these in the Northeast.

Table 15: Urban & Community Forestry Programs Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2012 vs. 2014



Table 16: Communities Receiving Forestry Agency Technical Assistance by Region – 2014

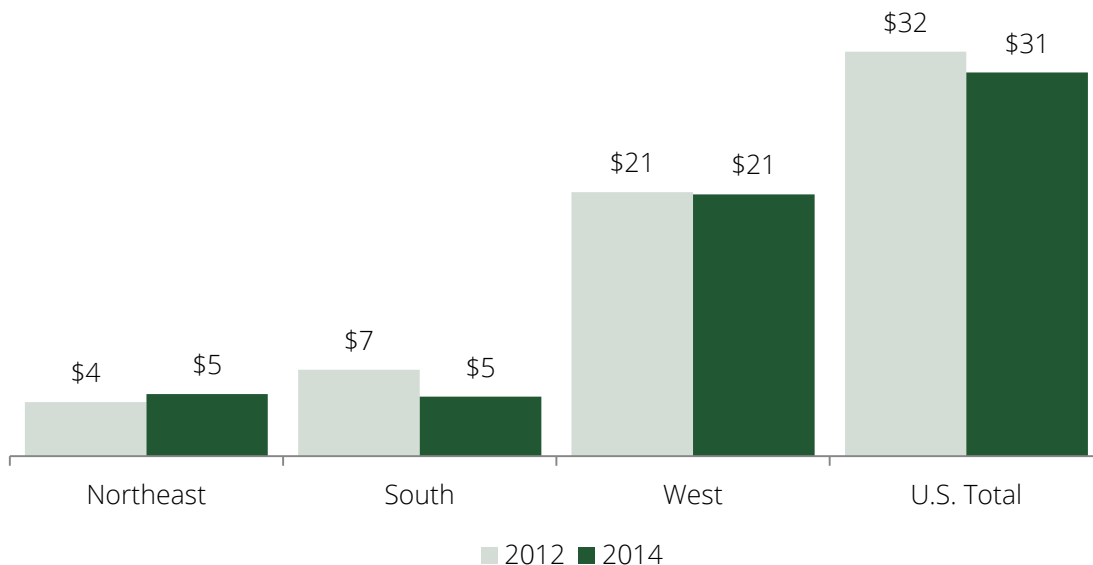
Region	Total	% of Total
Northeast	4,699	55%
South	1,543	18%
West	2,337	27%
U.S. Total	8,579	100%



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 2014, total expenditures decreased 5% from 2012. The hardest hit was the south region with about a drop of over 31% in program expenditures. The loss of capacity in the state forestry agencies indicated by this decrease could have significant ramifications on future water quality.

Table 17: Watershed/Water Quality Protection/ BMPs
Program Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2012 vs. 2014

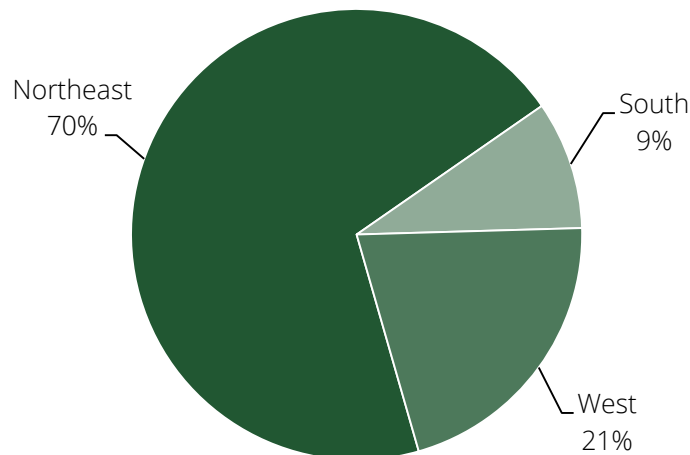




Forest Legacy Projects

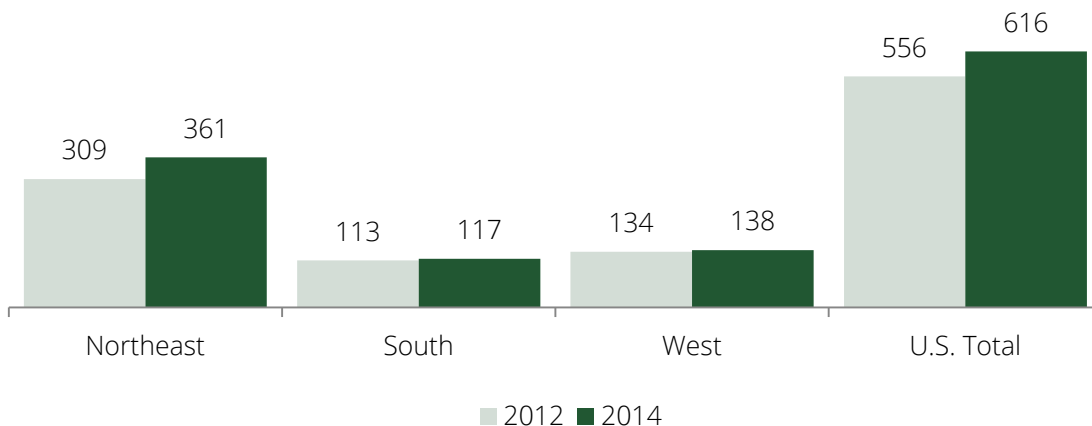
State forestry agencies are extensively involved with the Forest Legacy program (FLP). NASF members reported 616 total forest legacy projects in 2014, representing an 11 percent increase over 2012. The cumulative acres in the programs increased by over 100,000 to a total of over 2.8 million acres. These 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 – 2014



Cumulative Forest Legacy Acres through 2014 = 2.8 Million Acres

Table 19: Number of Forest Legacy Projects – 2012 vs. 2014





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 32 percent, or \$11 million in 2014 compared to 2012. This was primarily driven by a significant drop in Michigan due to a shift in budget responsibilities.

Table 20: Forest Recreation Program Expenditures (Millions) – 2012 vs. 2014





State Forest Nursery Programs

Expenditures for state forest nursery programs decreased \$1 million or 3 percent in 2014 compared to 2012. Annual seedling production dropped by over 20 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) – 2012 vs. 2014

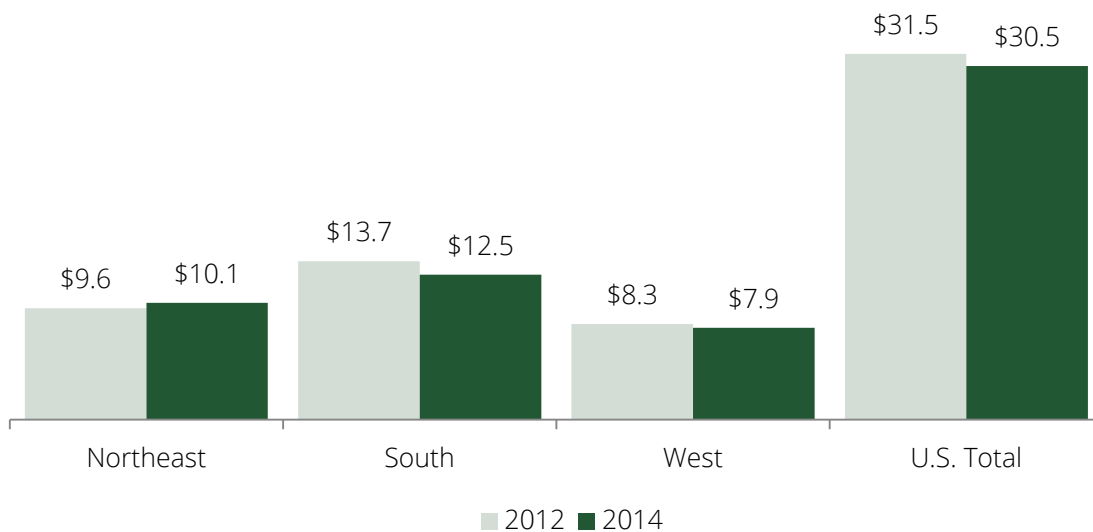
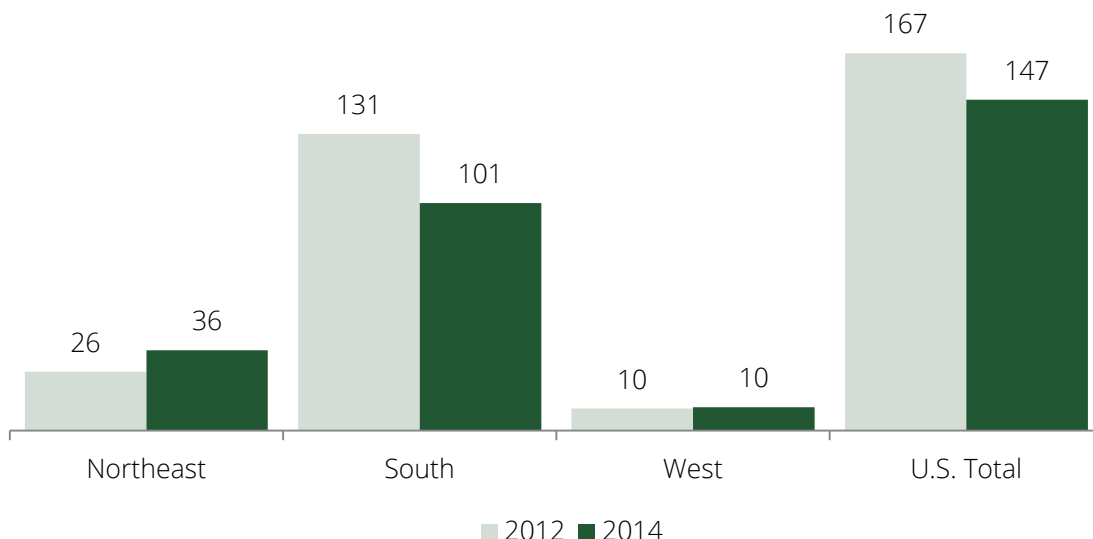


Table 22: State Forest Nurseries Annual Tree Seedling Production (Millions) – 2012 vs. 2014





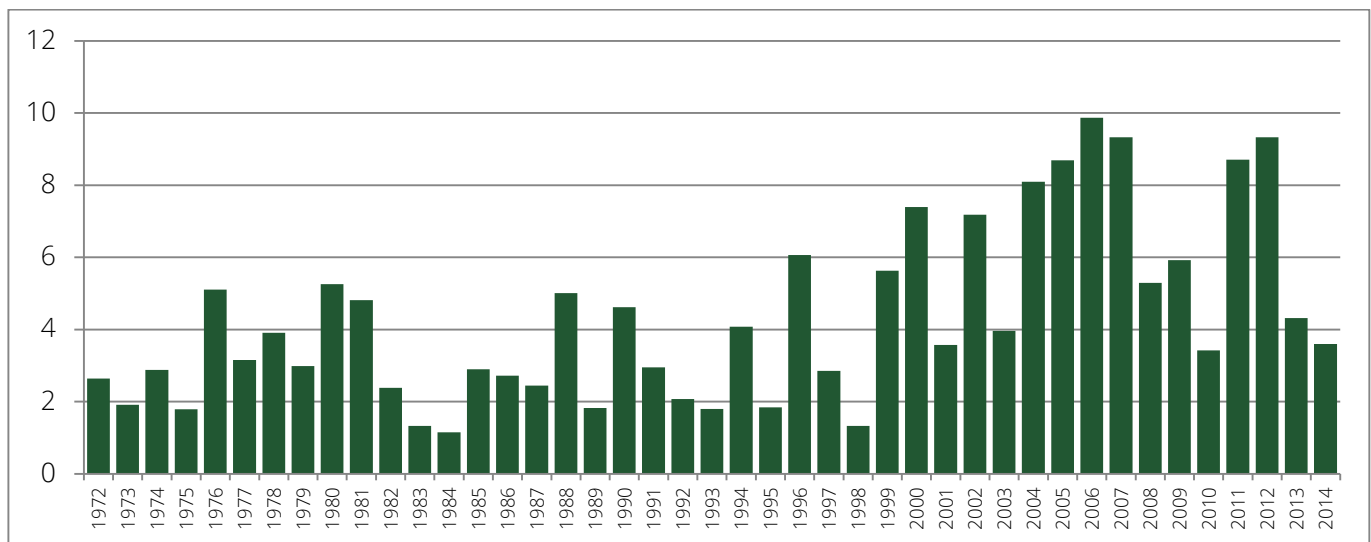
Part IV: Demand for Services and Funding Sources and Challenges

Growing Demand for Services

The 2014 NASF State Forest Statistics Survey shows an industry that is trying to meet the growing demand for services from state forestry agencies. This is all the more challenging as expenditures declined in 2014. 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 2013 and 2014 from the recent mid-decade highs that were nearly matched in 2012. At the time of this writing, 2015 is shaping up to potentially top the 2006 high. 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) invasive species, 3) reducing risks of wildfire impacts, 4) forest fragmentation, conversion and development, and 5) water quality and quantity (see Appendix III for a full list of the high impact issues).

Table 23: Total U.S. Wildland Acres Burned (Millions) – 1972 - 2014



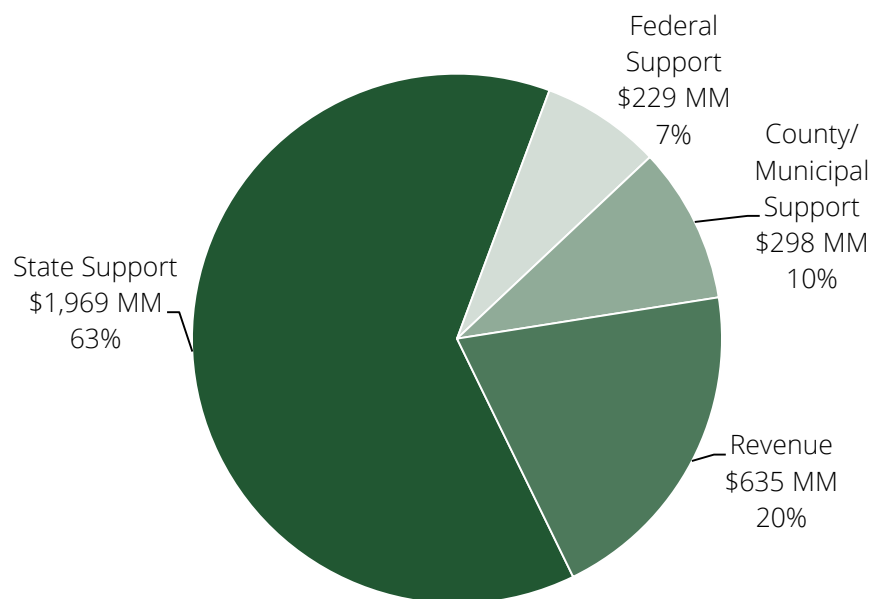
Source: National Interagency Coordination Center



Funding Sources

Overall funding support for state forestry agency programs came from state government (63 percent), state forestry agency revenues (20 percent), federal government (7 percent), and county and municipal government (10 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.

Table 24: State Forestry Agencies Funding Sources



2014 Total Funding = \$3.1 Billion

Overall funding remained relatively flat from 2012 to 2014, falling only \$6 million. There were some shifts in terms of the funding support categories. Federal funding continued to decrease, down \$40 million or -15 percent in 2014, after the \$60 million drop from 2010 to 2012. In the past, the loss in federal funding was offset by state funding, but state funding also declined \$138 million or -7% in 2014. State forestry agency revenues increased \$116 million or 22% and county and municipal funding was also up significantly, primarily due to another large increase in California. Individual states and regions showed a lot of variability between the two years. The northeast and west were able to offset the federal and state funding cuts enough to report small growth in overall funding (2% and 5%, respectively). The south region was unable to offset the declines in federal and state funding and reported a -20% decrease in overall funding from 2012 to 2014.



Table 25: State Forestry Programs Funding Sources by Region (Millions) – 2012 vs. 2014

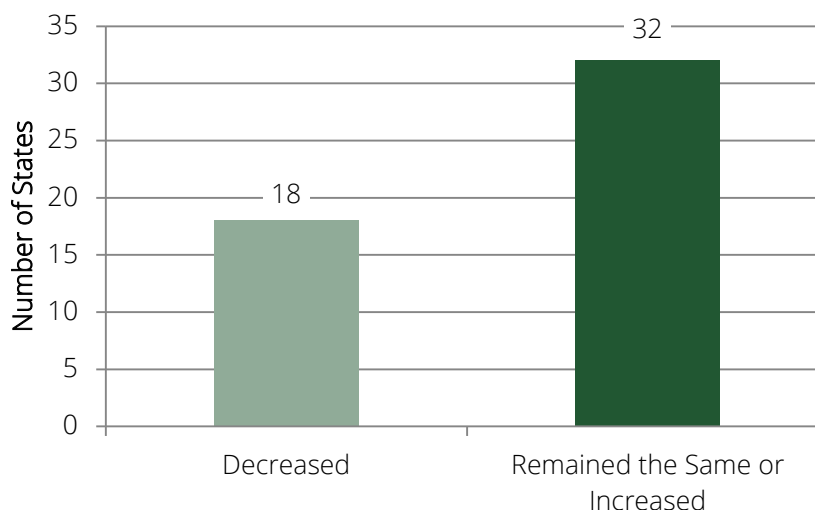
State Funding	2014	2012	% Chg.	Federal Funding	2014	2012	% Chg.
Northeast	\$216	\$202	7%	Northeast	\$58	\$62	-6%
South	\$362	\$469	-23%	South	\$69	\$81	-15%
West	\$1,390	\$1,435	-3%	West	\$102	\$126	-19%
U.S. Total	\$1,969	\$2,107	-7%	U.S. Total	\$229	\$269	-15%

State Forestry Agency Revenue	2014	2012	% Chg.	County & Municipal Funding	2014	2012	% Chg.
Northeast	\$154	\$153	0%	Northeast	\$18	\$22	-19%
South	\$62	\$72	-13%	South	\$9	\$4	127%
West	\$419	\$293	43%	West	\$272	\$217	25%
U.S. Total	\$635	\$518	22%	U.S. Total	\$298	\$242	23%

State Funding Support

State funding support was \$1.97 billion out of a total of \$3.1 billion, or 63 percent of total funding for state forestry agencies in 2014. This was a decrease of \$138 million over 2012 or -7 percent. Although in aggregate this represented a decrease, more individual states experienced increases in spending than reductions. From 2012 to 2014, 32 states experienced increases in state funding or remained relatively flat, while 18 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. Some of the agencies that experienced decreases had significant declines. Wyoming, Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado reported over 50% declines in their state funding dollars from 2012 to 2014. Additionally, Texas and California reported both reported over \$100 million decreases in state funding.

Table 26: Changes in State Funding Dollars – 2014 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.

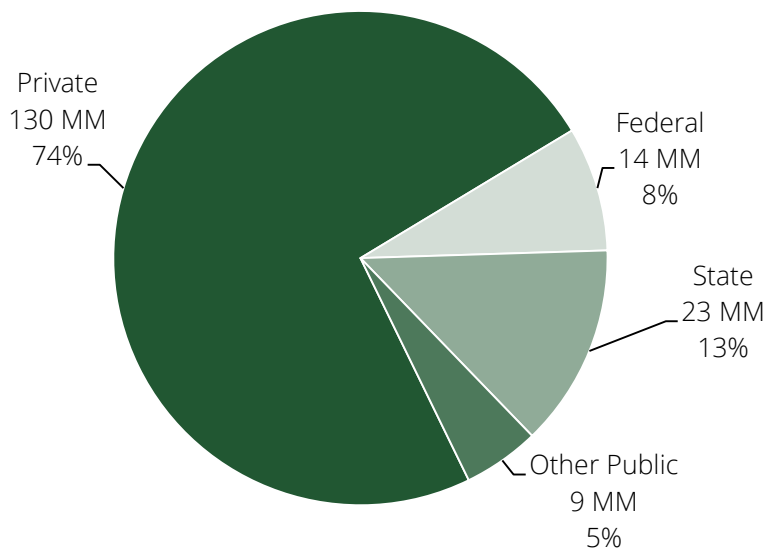
Northeastern Region

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 176 million acres. Here, the majority of the forest land—74 percent—is owned by private citizens and corporations.

Northeastern Region Forest Land Ownership – 2014 Millions of Acres



Northeast Region Total Forest Land: 176 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



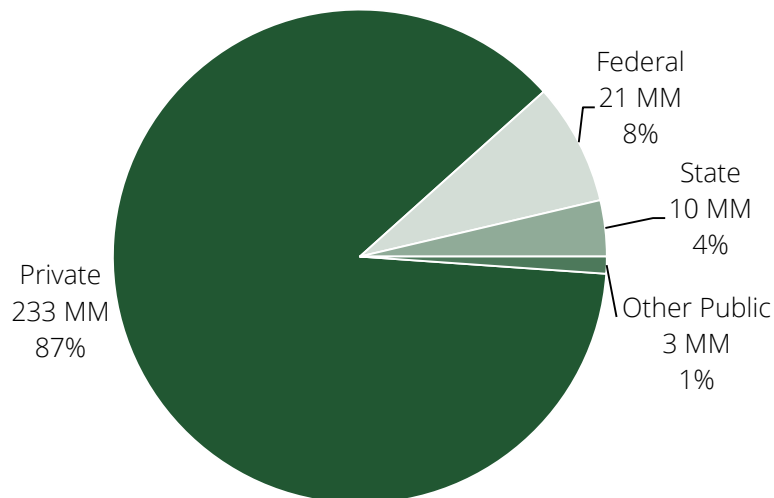
Southern Region

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 – 2014 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: 267 MM Acres



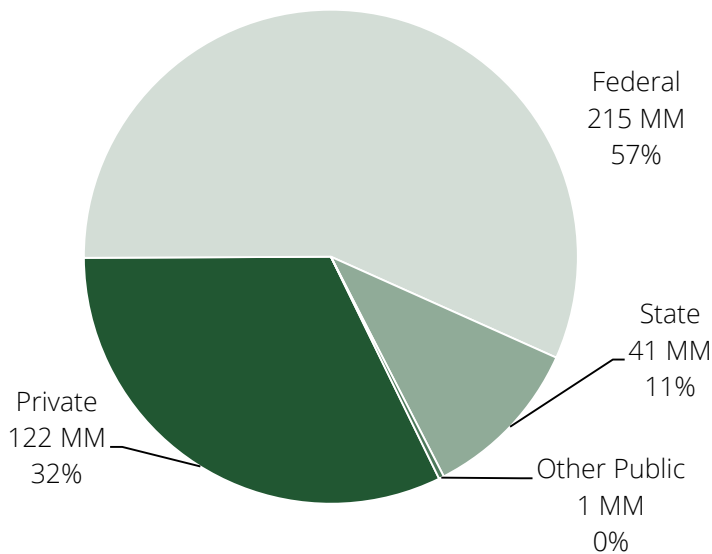
Western Region

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 378 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 – 2014 Millions of Acres



Western Region Total Forest Land: 378 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	14,152	18,634	32,786	99,699	38,802,500
Texas	61,011	1,620	62,630	167,188	26,956,958
Florida	13,973	2,277	16,250	34,320	19,893,297
New York	18,866	140	19,006	30,161	19,746,227
Illinois	4,645	283	4,928	35,532	12,880,580
Pennsylvania	16,020	632	16,652	28,635	12,787,209
Ohio	7,836	326	8,163	26,151	11,594,163
Georgia	22,971	1,781	24,752	36,809	10,097,343
North Carolina	16,711	2,104	18,814	31,115	9,943,964
Michigan	17,257	3,040	20,297	36,185	9,909,877
New Jersey	1,880	122	2,002	4,707	8,938,175
Virginia	13,531	2,318	15,849	25,274	8,326,289
Washington	12,502	9,885	22,387	42,532	7,061,530
Massachusetts	3,208	81	3,289	4,992	6,745,408
Arizona	8,976	9,688	18,664	72,700	6,731,484
Indiana	4,517	362	4,880	22,929	6,596,855
Tennessee	12,561	1,406	13,967	26,390	6,549,352
Missouri	13,587	1,898	15,485	43,995	6,063,589
Maryland	2,392	71	2,462	6,213	5,976,407
Wisconsin	15,470	1,622	17,092	34,661	5,757,564
Minnesota	14,381	2,990	17,371	50,961	5,457,173
Colorado	7,391	16,512	23,903	66,331	5,355,866
Alabama	22,192	942	23,133	32,413	4,849,377
South Carolina	12,015	1,029	13,044	19,239	4,832,482
Louisiana	13,159	979	14,138	27,650	4,649,676
Kentucky	11,320	1,191	12,510	25,271	4,413,457
Oregon	11,605	17,995	29,600	61,432	3,970,239
Oklahoma	11,385	889	12,274	43,901	3,878,051
Connecticut	1,778	14	1,793	3,099	3,596,677
Iowa	2,966	3	2,969	35,749	3,107,126
Mississippi	18,642	1,524	20,166	30,031	2,994,079
Arkansas	15,853	3,172	19,024	33,303	2,966,369
Utah	4,538	13,689	18,227	52,589	2,942,902
Kansas	5,215	93	5,308	52,326	2,904,021
Nevada	901	10,462	11,363	70,260	2,839,099
New Mexico	11,837	10,158	21,995	77,631	2,085,572
Nebraska	1,484	85	1,569	49,167	1,881,503
West Virginia	10,965	1,220	12,185	15,384	1,850,326
Idaho	7,534	17,157	24,691	52,892	1,634,464
Hawaii	2,302	583	2,885	4,110	1,419,561
Maine	17,452	186	17,638	19,739	1,330,089
New Hampshire	3,762	856	4,618	5,730	1,326,813
Rhode Island	367	0	367	662	1,055,173
Montana	7,660	16,220	23,880	93,149	1,023,579
Delaware	355	0	355	1,247	935,614
South Dakota	873	1,071	1,944	48,519	853,175
North Dakota	623	174	797	44,161	739,482
Alaska	63,445	63,423	126,868	365,210	736,732
District of Columbia	15	0	15	39	658,893
Vermont	4,023	491	4,514	5,899	626,562
Wyoming	2,400	8,832	11,232	62,140	584,153

³ 2014 NASF Statistical Survey

⁴ Source: U.S. Census Bureau. http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC_10_SF1_GCTPH1.US01PR&prodType=table.

⁵ Annual Estimates of the Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2014 (NST-EST2013-01), Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Release Date: Dec. 2014. <http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=bkmk>



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 2014 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

