Support Landscape Scale Restoration Projects

Forest threats—such as catastrophic wildfire, invasive insects, and disease—know no boundaries. That is why landscape-scale, cross-boundary forest management projects are so critical to protecting the nation’s forests and the communities that depend on them.

The Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) Program—which was created to enhance outcomes delivered through the USDA Forest Service’s cooperative forestry programs—gives the federal government and states the ability to implement crucial, cross-boundary forest management projects in the most cost-effective and coordinated way: guided by statewide Forest Action Plans.

Completed in 2010 and reviewed in 2015, each state and territory’s Forest Action Plan provides information for prioritizing forest management on regional and national scales. LSR projects dedicate support to only the top national priorities identified in these comprehensive plans.

In FY19, the nation’s 59 state and territorial foresters ask that $23 million be allocated to the LSR program. This support would ensure critical concerns identified in statewide Forest Action Plans are addressed.

NASF also asks that Congress support legislation to: (1) codify the LSR Program, (2) the 2018 Farm Bill reauthorizes funding to update State Forest Action Plans, (3) require that State Forest Action Plans be the basis for LSR project selection, and (4) direct the USDA Forest Service and the Department of the Interior to spend a portion of their hazardous fuels reduction program resources on cross-boundary work (including thinning trees and using prescribed burns) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire.

Find your state's Forest Action Plan at ForestActionPlans.org

Contact: Policy Director Robyn Whitney at rwhitney@stateforesters.org