



State Foresters by the Numbers

*Data and Analysis from the
2018 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey*



October 2019

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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 Mariana 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 on the 2018 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 2018. 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 2019 with 50 of the 50 states, and the District of Columbia, providing responses. In this report, territories are not included due to limited responses in 2018 and 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 2016 and 2018) 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 2018 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 specific data should be sent to Greg Manns of Industry Insights at gmanns@industryinsights.com or 614.389.2100 x108.



Fiscal Year 2018 Overview

- **Private forest lands make up 59% of the total forest land in the U.S.; state and local government make up 9%, and 30% of forest lands are federally owned.** Seven out of every 10 acres of forest land in the United States are in non-federal ownership. [page 4]
- **State forestry agencies provided nearly 270,000 technical assists to landowners in 2018.** State Forestry agencies are the primary source of forest management advice for family forest owners. [page 14]
- **On average, state forestry agencies spend 80% 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. [page 13]
- **Forest markets are a top concern for state forestry agencies.** The top five issues expected to take an increasing amount of attention for state forestry agencies in coming years are: 1) forest markets, 2) pests and diseases, 3) minimizing forest fragmentation, 4) reducing risks of wildfire impacts, and 5) water quality and quantity. [pages 27]
- **Acres under wildfire protection by state forestry agencies in 2018 totaled 1.59 billion acres. State forestry agencies trained 62,000 firefighters in 2018.** NASF members also provide funding for fire suppression equipment and help establish and expand volunteer fire departments. [page 13]
- **State forestry agency expenditures in 2018 totaled \$2.9 billion. Compared to 2016 expenditures, this represents a decrease of \$106 million or 3%.** The majority of these expenditures (68%) were related to fire control, prevention, protection, and management. [page 10]
- **Forest Legacy projects continued to grow in 2018.** State forestry agencies reported 668 Forest Legacy projects in 2018, a 5% increase over 2016. The cumulative acres in Forest Legacy increased by over 128,000 to a total of over 3.0 million acres. [page 17]
- **State forestry agencies employed 27,179 individuals in 2018.** Overall, both permanent and seasonal staffing levels for state forestry agencies increased in 2018 (1% and 3%, respectively). The total number of foresters employed increased by 1% from 2016 to 2018. [pages 7-9]



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

Forest Land Area

Forest land¹ makes up 819 million acres of the total 2.3 billion acres, or 36% of the total land area of the United States. This is slightly higher than the global figure of 31% for the total percentage of forest land to global land area (FAO, 2015). Forest cover in individual states ranges from 89% of the state's total land area (Maine) to 2% (North Dakota). Forested land in the U.S. represents nearly 8% of the world's forests; and the U.S. ranks fourth in total forest area behind the Russian Federation, Brazil, and Canada (FAO, 2015).

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	83%
West Virginia	78%
Vermont	76%
Alabama	71%
Iowa	8%
Kansas	5%
South Dakota	4%
Nebraska	3%
North Dakota	2%
U.S. Total	36%
Median of U.S. States	43%

Source: 2018 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% 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. (2018 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey)

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

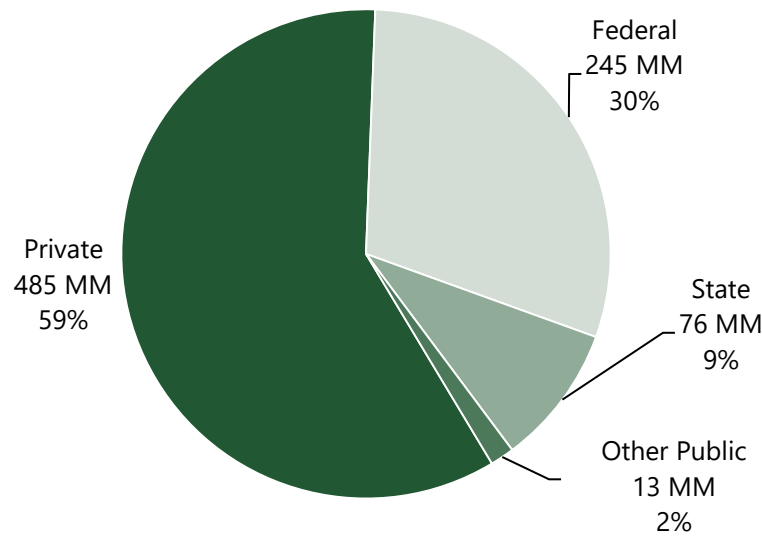
https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC_10_SF1_GCTPH1.US01PR&prodType=table



Total Forest Ownership

More than half of the nation's forests are held in private ownership; states hold 9%, and local public entities, such as counties and municipalities, own 2%. Federal land management agencies, such as the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, hold 30% in public trust. 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.

Table 2: U.S. Forest Land Ownership – 2018 Acres

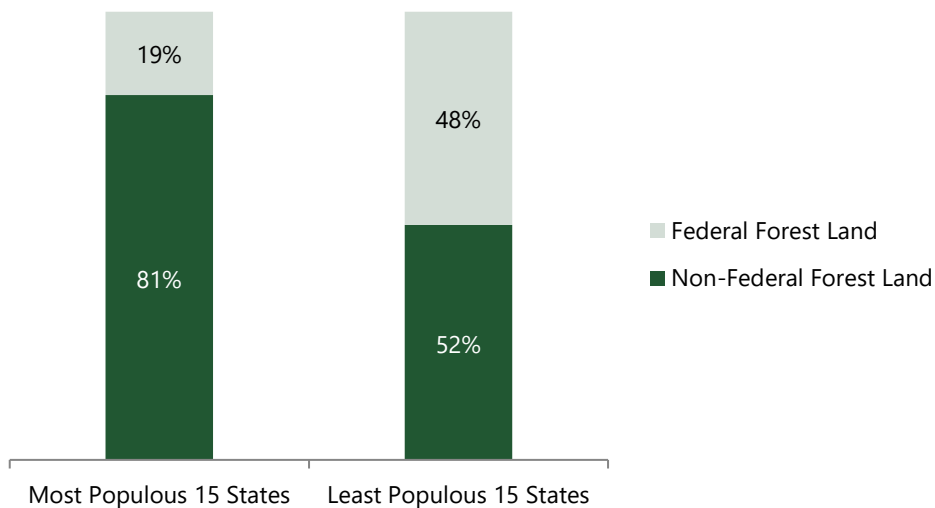




Forest Ownership and Centers of Population

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 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%) forest land is nearly equal. State forestry agencies are most active in those areas closest to population centers and consequently have a greater responsibility to interact with and inform the public. Protection and sustainable management of these forest lands have positive impacts on water availability and quality, 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 ownership groups: corporate, forest industry, non-industrial private, and tribal. The largest private ownership group is non-industrial private, which comprised 64% of all private forest lands in 2018. The next largest segment is corporate ownership, which comprised 27% of all private forest lands in 2018. Corporate private forest land owners are entities that are legally incorporated, such as timber investment management organizations. This group's share of private forest land has increased from 14% in 2004 to 25% in 2012. It dropped to 24% in 2014, but increased in 2016 (26%) and in 2018 (27%). Private forest land owned by forest industry entities increased from 6% in 2016 to 7% in 2018.

In 2018, 3% of private forest land was tribal, that is, held in trust by the U.S. government for Native American tribes, families, or individuals. The state with the most tribal forest land is Arizona. The state with the largest number of forest land acres owned by non-industrial private individuals is Texas with 42.1 million acres. Oregon has the most private forest land owned by the forest industry, and Alaska has the most private forest land acreage in corporate ownership, due to the land holdings of native corporations.

Table 4: Private Forest Land by Ownership Type – 2018

	Acres MM	%
Individual private forest land	309	64%
Corporate forest land	129	27%
Forest industry forest land	32	7%
Tribal forest land	15	3%
Total private forest land	485	100%



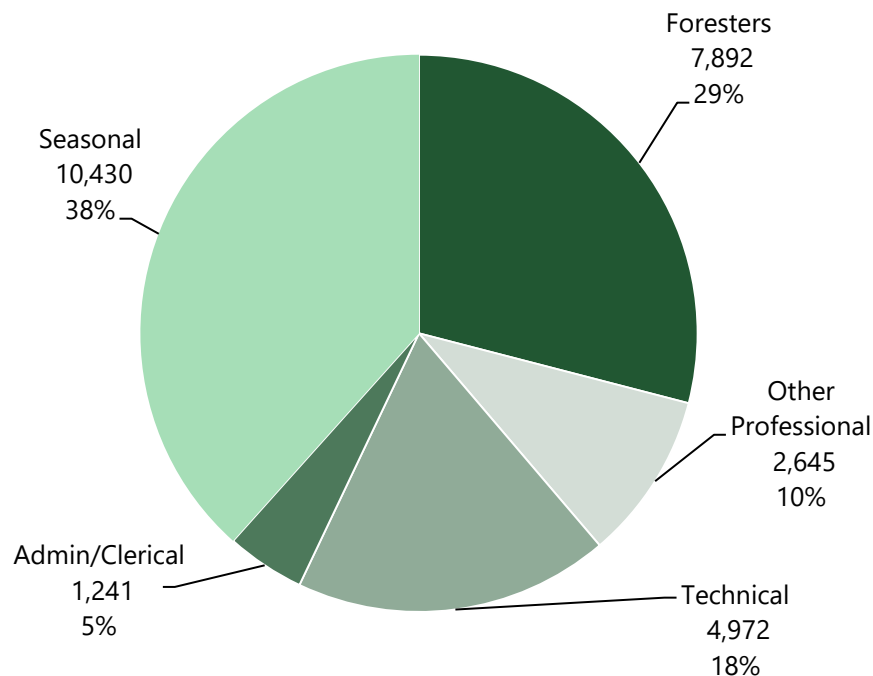
Part II: State Forestry Agency Employees and Expenditures

Total Employees in 2018

State forestry agencies employed 27,179 individuals in 2018. Among permanent employee categories, the "foresters" category was the largest. Other professionals employed at state forestry agencies include staff with undergraduate or advanced degrees in recreation, wildland fire and fuels management, environmental/land use planning, natural resources conservation, watershed science, wildlife, information technology, finance, and accounting.

Permanent employees included in the technical category provide a wide range of support services, including work in nurseries, utilizing heavy equipment, and/or providing technical support to resource professionals. Twenty-one state forestry agencies receive administrative, professional, and/or other support from allocated personnel employed by separate agencies within the state.

Table 5: State Forestry Agency Employees – 2018



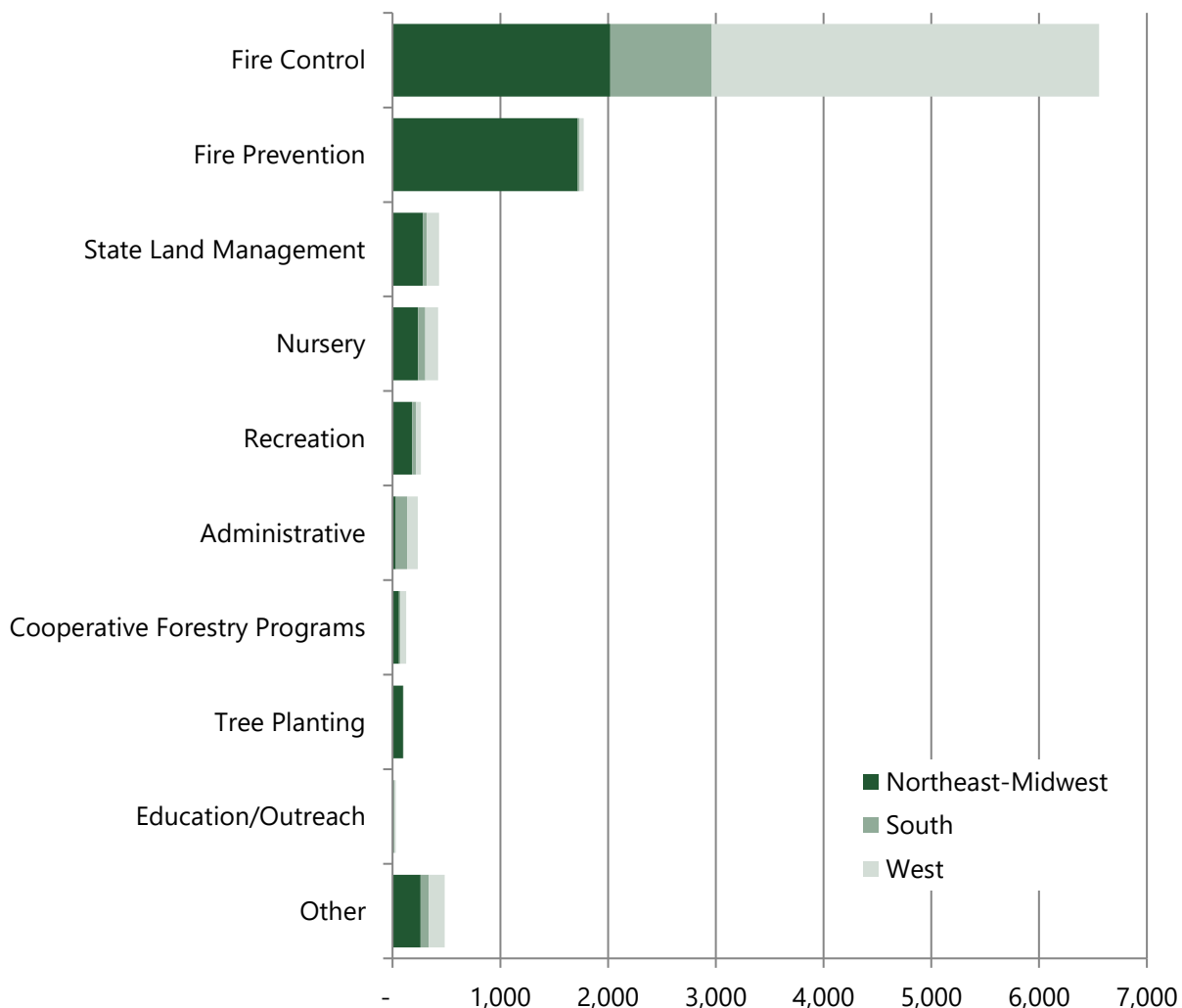
2018 Number of Permanent and Seasonal Employees = 27,179



Seasonal Employees in 2018

The total number of seasonal employees working for state forestry agencies rose 3% in 2018 to 10,430. 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 2018, state forestry agencies employed 6,558 seasonal employees in fire control and 1,775 seasonal employees in fire prevention.

Table 6: Number of Seasonal or Temporary Employees by Major Function – 2018





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. Permanent staffing levels in 2016 increased only 2%, but seasonal employees increased over 6%. The number of foresters in 2016 was essentially the same as 2014, increasing only 0.3%. With the exception of administrative/clerical positions, each staffing category increased in 2018. Overall, staffing levels increased 2% in 2018 when compared to 2016. At a time when state forestry agencies are being asked to provide additional services, it appears that this additional demand is being met by an increase in seasonal staffing.

Table 7: State Forestry Agencies Staffing Changes – 2018 vs. 2016

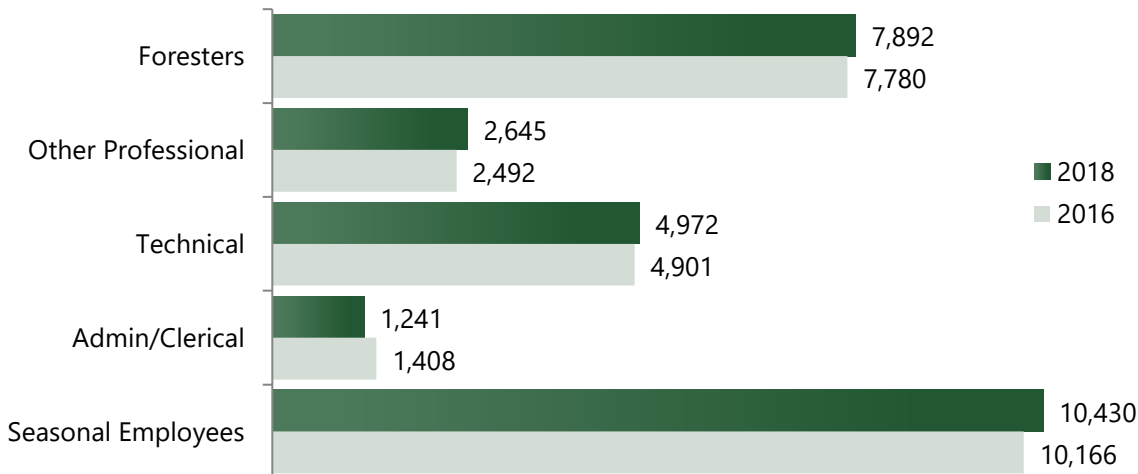
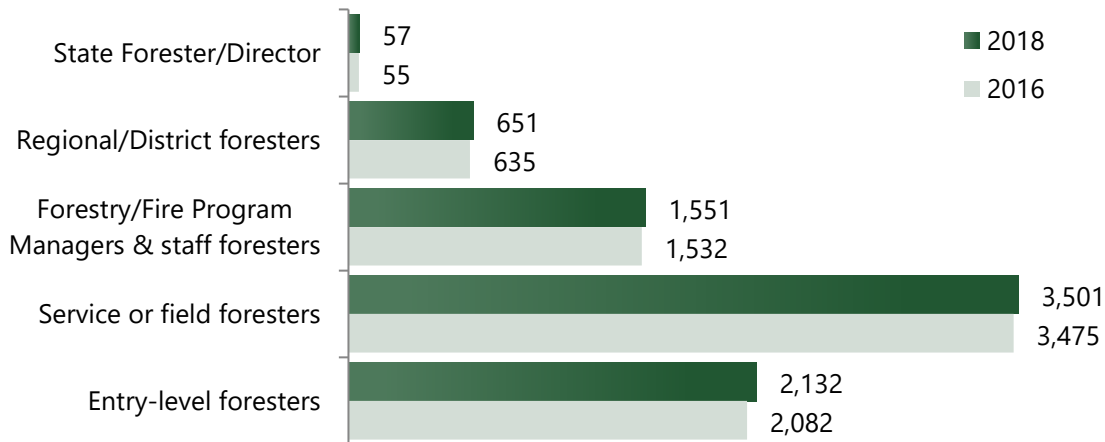


Table 8: Forester Positions Staffing Changes – 2018 vs. 2016



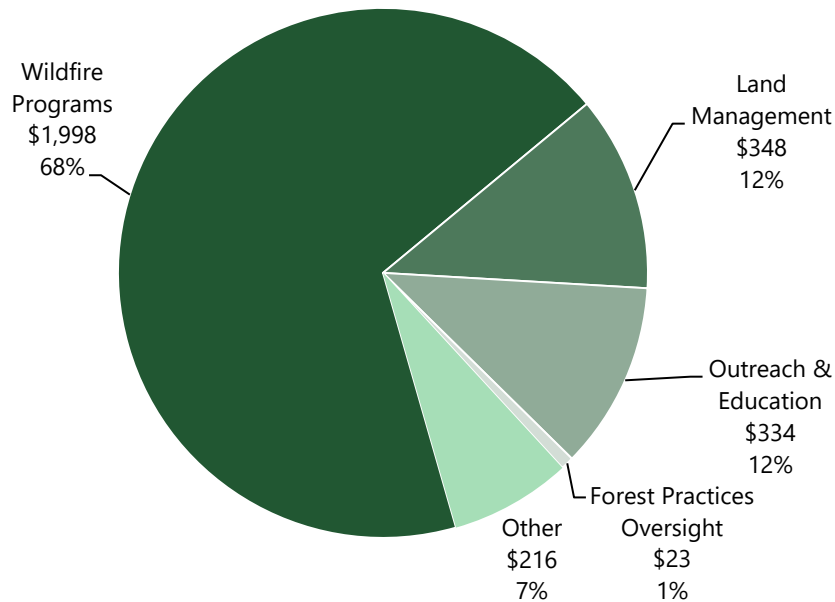


Total 2018 Expenditures

State forestry agency expenditures in 2018 totaled \$2.9 billion. This represents a decrease over 2016 expenditures of \$106 million or 3%. Sixteen state forestry agencies reported decreases in expenditures, while 24 reported increases. The majority of these expenditures (68%) were related to fire control, prevention, protection, and management. Most of these wildfire-related expenses were incurred on non-state lands and constituted 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: 2018 State Forestry Agencies Expenditures (Millions)



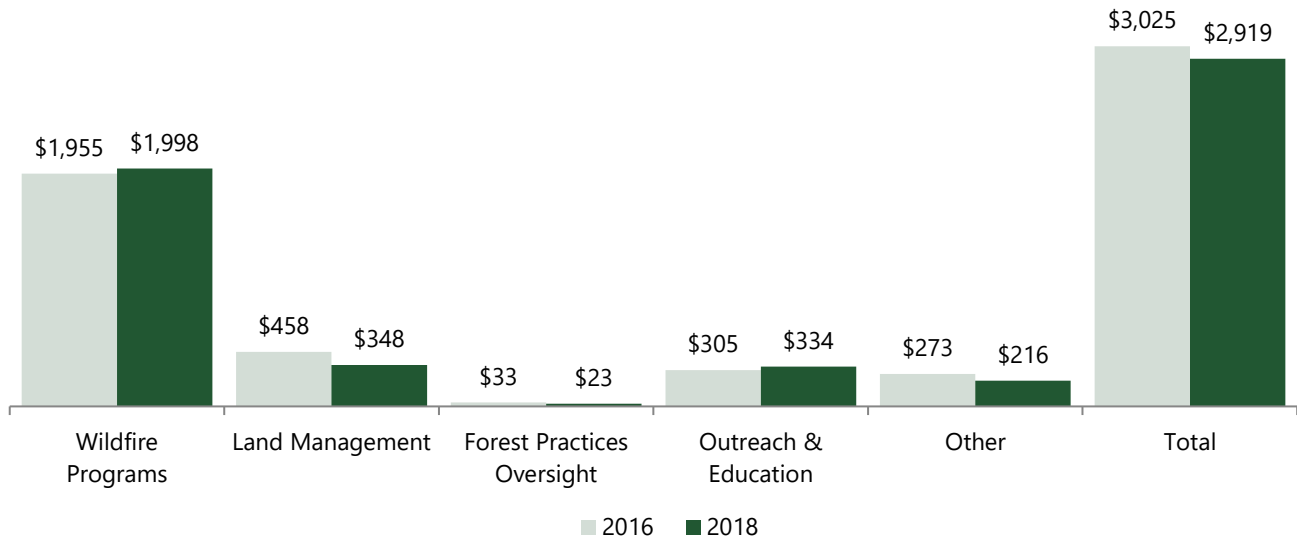
2018 Total Expenditures = \$2,919 Million



Trends in Expenditures by Category

Wildfire programs reported a slight increase in expenditures of \$42 million or 2% for 2018 vs. 2016. Following an increase of 9% in 2016, spending on state forest land management fell \$110 million, or 24%, in 2018. The outreach and education category reported an increase of \$29 million or 10%.

Table 10: State Forestry Agency Spending (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2016





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 Northeast-Midwest Region on a proportionate basis has spent more on outreach education programs than the other two regions (28% of total expenditures in 2018). These include programs such as Cooperative Forest Management and Urban & Community Forestry. Total expenditures in the Northeast-Midwest were up 5% between 2014 and 2016, and up 15% between 2016 and 2018. This comes on the heels of an 8% decline in 2014.

The South Region dedicated a higher percentage of agency budgets on wildfire related programs (61%) compared to the Northeast-Midwest, but still apportions considerable amounts in outreach and education programs (15%). Total expenditures in the South were up \$72 million between 2016 and 2018.

The West Region spent 83% of their total budgets on wildfire related programs, which total more than \$1.5 billion in 2018. The West experienced a decrease of \$240 million in total expenditures in 2018.

Table 11: State Forestry Agency Spending by Region (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2016

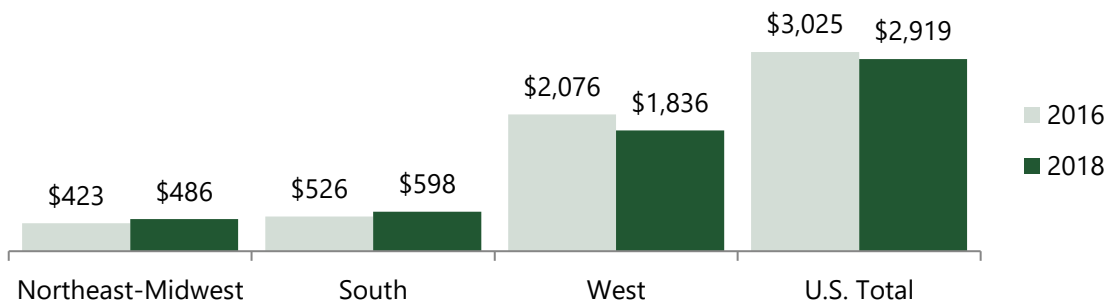
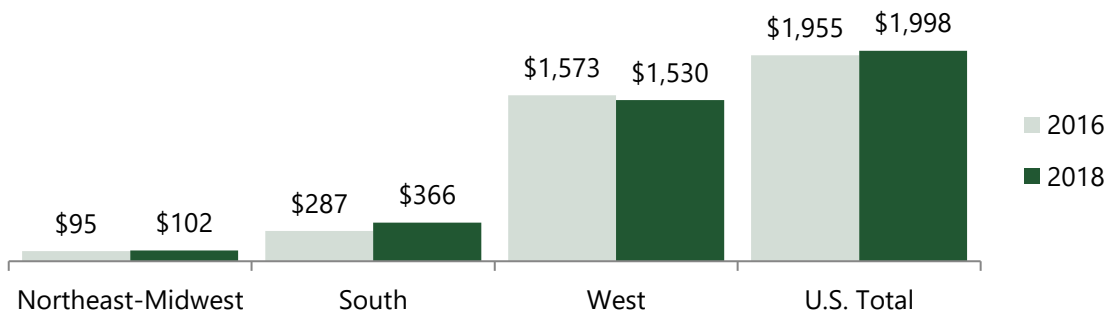


Table 12: Wildfire Program Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2016





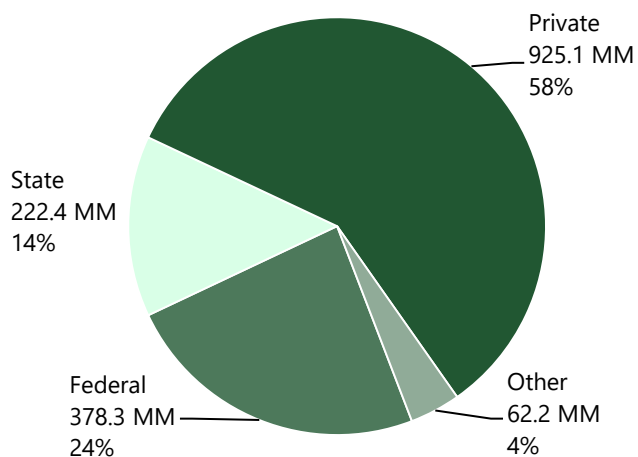
Part III: State Forestry Agency Program Areas

This section reports on survey data gathered on programs delivered by state forestry agencies. The positive affect of state forestry agency work on the nation's natural resources is considerable and far-reaching. State forestry agencies manage state-owned forest lands, provide technical assistance to private forest land owners, and monitor (and in some states oversee) the use of water quality best management practices on private lands, in addition to mitigating and suppressing wildfire across all land 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 2018 totaled 1.59 billion acres. Of the 50 member states, 46 state forestry agencies managed nearly 12.5 million acres of prescribed fire in 2018.

Table 13: Wildland Protected by State Forestry Agencies (Millions) – 2018 Acres



Community Capacity Building

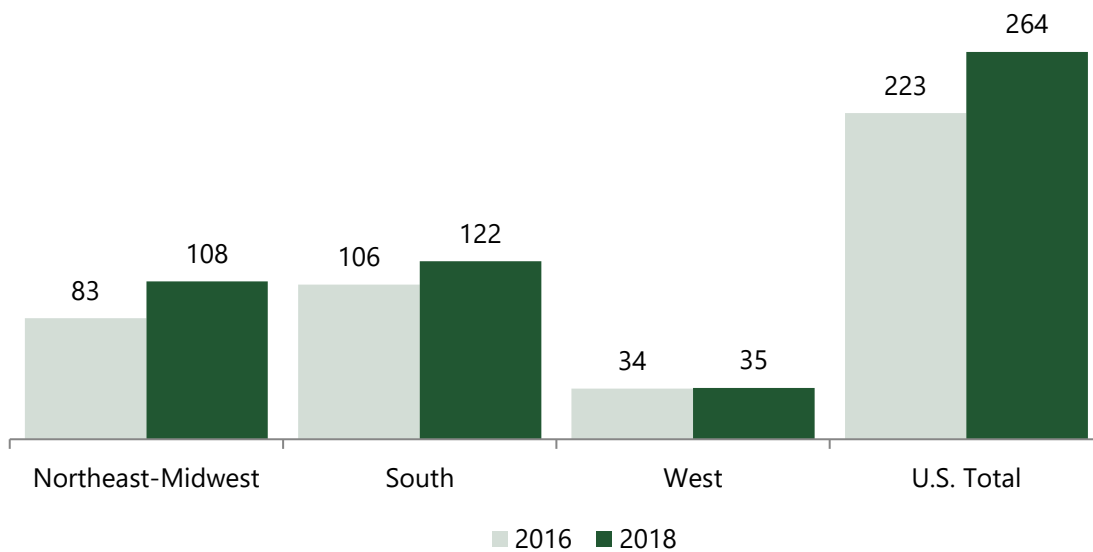
NASF members help communities (1) prioritize their preparedness and mitigation efforts through the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) and (2) enhance their preparedness and response capabilities by training rural firefighters. NASF members also provide funding for fire suppression equipment and help establish and expand volunteer fire departments. In 2018, state forestry agencies trained nearly 62,000 firefighters and provided assistance to nearly 20,000 rural fire departments.



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 nearly 270,000 landowner assists in 2018.

Table 14: Private Landowner Assists by Region (Thousands) – 2018 vs. 2016





Urban & Community Forestry (U&CF) Programs

The Urban & Community Forestry Program maintains, restores, and improves parks, street trees, and landscaped boulevards. Spending on Urban & Community Forestry increased 4%, or \$1.3 million in 2018 compared to 2016. This follows declines in each of the last four survey cycles (2010, 2012, 2014, and 2016).

Table 15: Urban & Community Forestry Programs Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2016

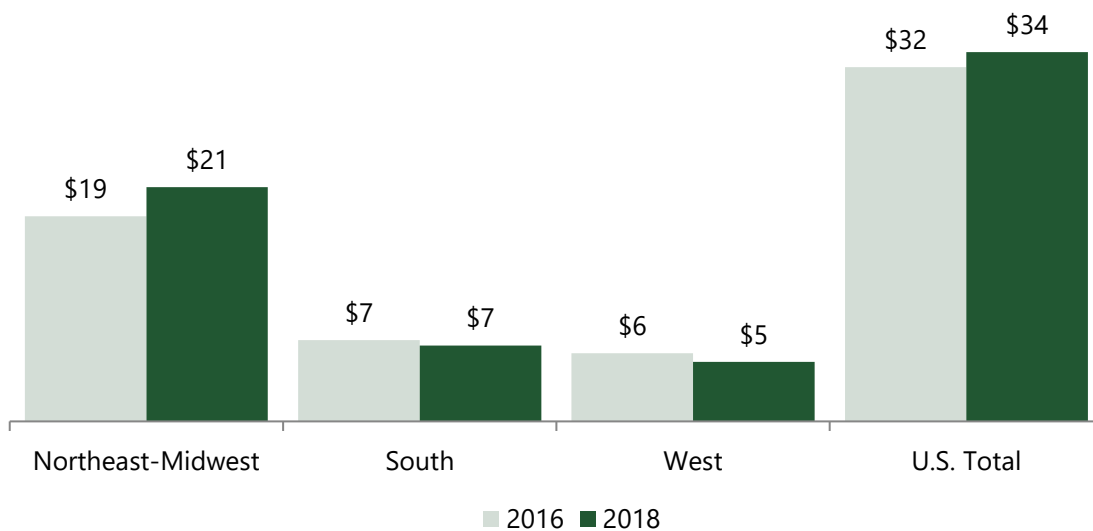


Table 16: Communities Receiving Forestry Agency Technical Assistance by Region – 2018

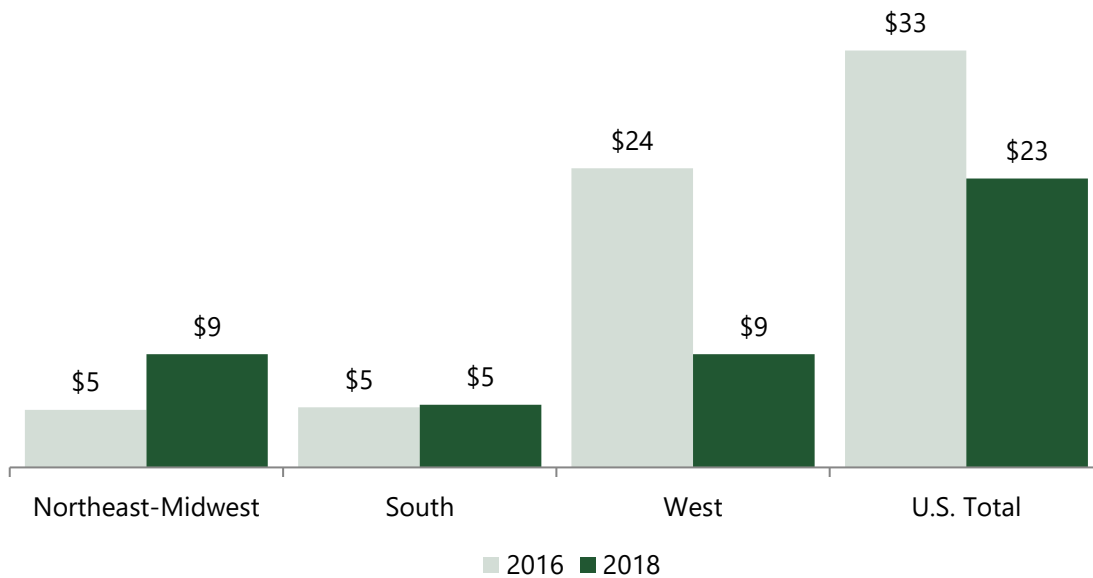
Region	Total	% of Total
Northeast-Midwest	4,577	54%
South	1,549	18%
West	2,376	28%
Totals	8,502	100%



Watershed & Water Quality Protection/BMPs

Most state forestry agencies are the lead agency charged with ensuring water quality is protected before, during, and after forest management activities take place within their states. To this end, state forestry agencies have been involved in the development and field monitoring of best management practices (BMPs). In 2018, total watershed & water quality protection/BMPs expenditures decreased 30% from 2016. The significant decrease in expenditures was driven primarily by a 61% decline reported by the West Region.

Table 17: Watershed & Water Quality Protection/ BMPs Program Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2016



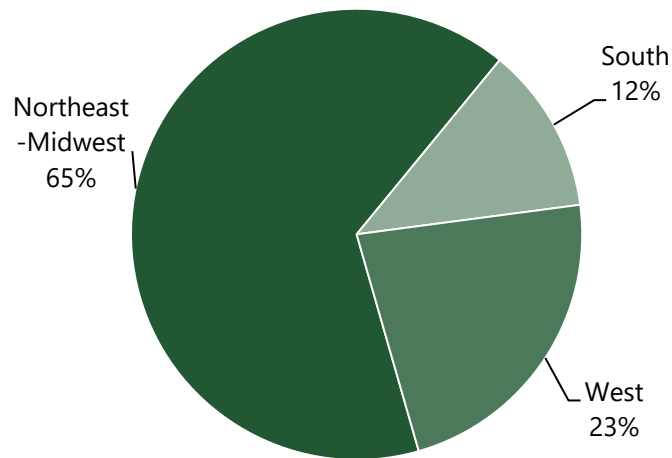


Forest Legacy Projects

State forestry agencies are essential to the success of the USDA Forest Service's Forest Legacy program (FLP). Forest Legacy helps states 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, and those who choose to put a conservation easement on their lands must have a Forest Stewardship Plan prepared by a state forestry agency.

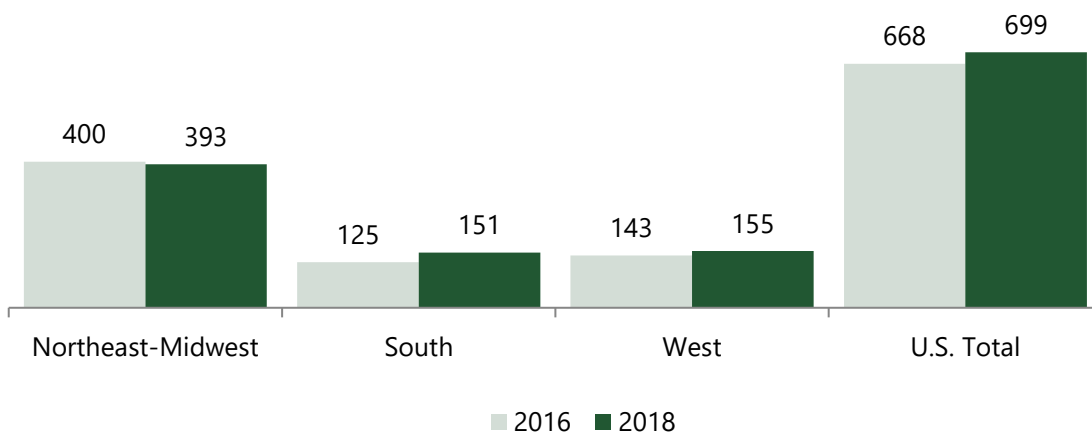
State forestry agencies reported 699 Forest Legacy projects in 2018, a 5% increase over 2016. The cumulative acres in Forest Legacy increased by over 128,000, to a total of over 3.0 million acres, in 2018. These numbers show the program is continuing to grow as rapidly as funds become available.

Table 18: Cumulative Acres of Forest Legacy Projects by Region – 2018



Cumulative Forest Legacy Acres through 2018 = 3.0 Million Acres

Table 19: Number of Forest Legacy Projects – 2018 vs. 2016

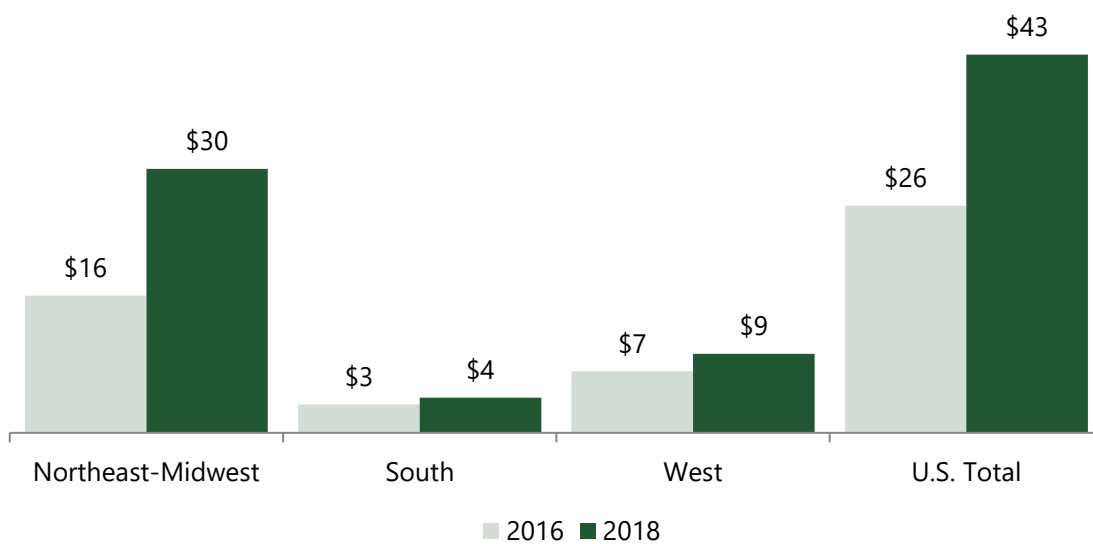




Forest Recreation Programs

Forest Recreation is a program to provide public recreational opportunities in state and other non-federal forests. Spending on Forest Recreation programs decreased 32%, or \$11 million in 2014 compared to 2012, primarily driven by a significant drop in Michigan due to a shift in budget responsibilities. In 2016, spending on Forest Recreation programs increased \$1.8 million or 7%. In 2018, expenditures for this program increased 68%, primarily driven by Pennsylvania.

Table 20: Forest Recreation Program Expenditures (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2016





Nursery Programs

State forestry agency expenditures on nursery programs decreased \$1.8 million or 6% in 2018 compared to 2016. Annual seedling production dropped by nearly 49 million during this time period. The seedling production in state nursery programs can have implications for long-term reforestation capacity. State forestry seedling production declined significantly in the South Region, decreasing by over 39 million (48%) in 2018.

Table 21: State Forest Nurseries Program Expenditures (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2016

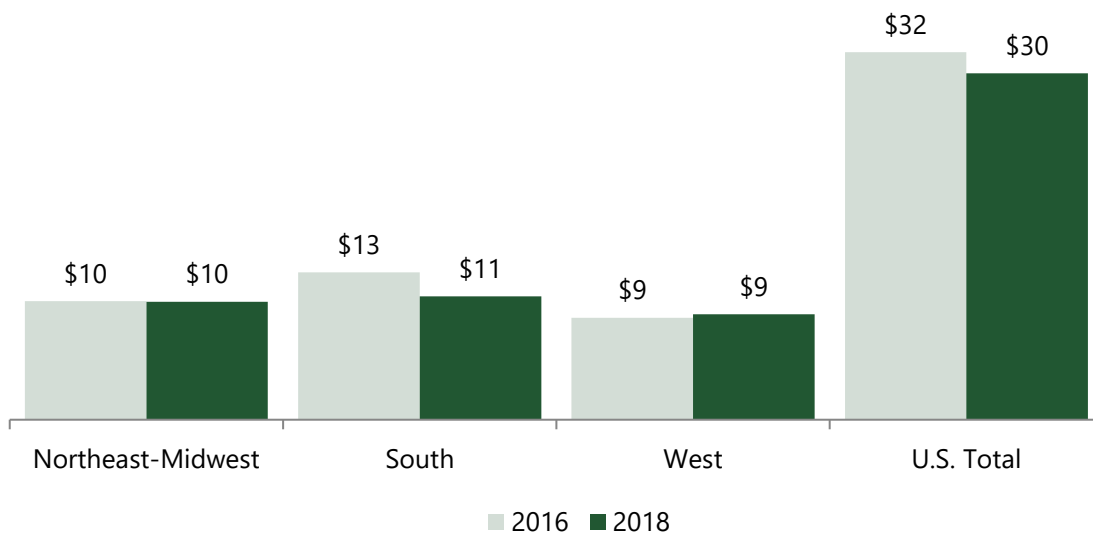
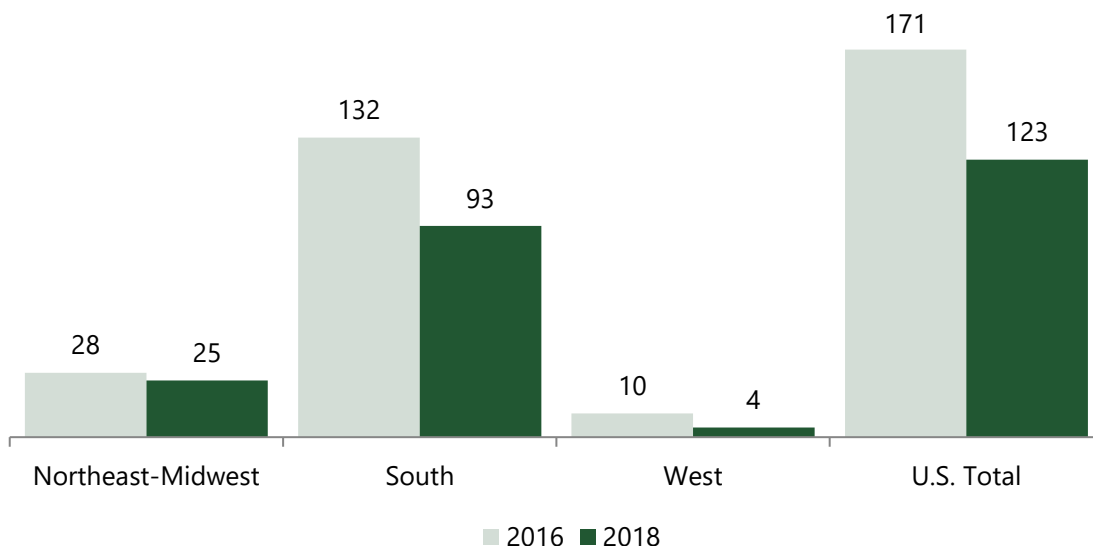


Table 22: State Forest Nurseries Annual Tree Seedling Production (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2016





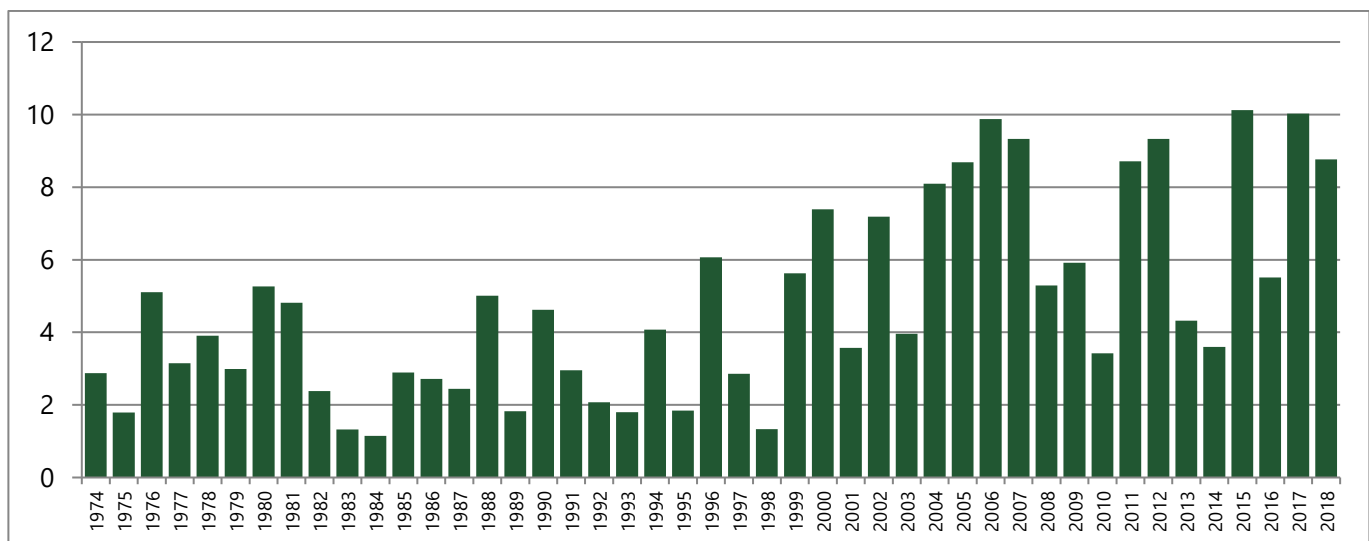
Part IV: Demand for Services and Funding Sources and Challenges

Growing Demand for Services

The 2018 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey finds and details a growing demand for state forestry agency services. While funding and expenditures remained high in 2018 to meet the demand for services, maintaining funding moving forward will continue to be a challenge, as 2019 has brought many natural disasters that have impacted state forestry agencies. 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 forest land 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.

After a significant jump in 2017, the number of acres burned by wildfire went down 13% in 2018. At the time of this writing, acreage burned by wildfire in 2019 was down considerably compared to 2018, during which over 4.5 million acres burned. The top five issues expected to take an increasing amount of attention for state forestry agencies in coming years are: 1) strengthening forest markets, 2) managing pests and disease, 3) preventing and mitigating forest fragmentation/land conversion and development, 4) reducing wildfire risk, and 5) ensuring water quality and availability (see Appendix III for a full list of the high-impact issues).

Table 23: Total U.S. Wildland Acres Burned (Millions) – 1976 - 2018



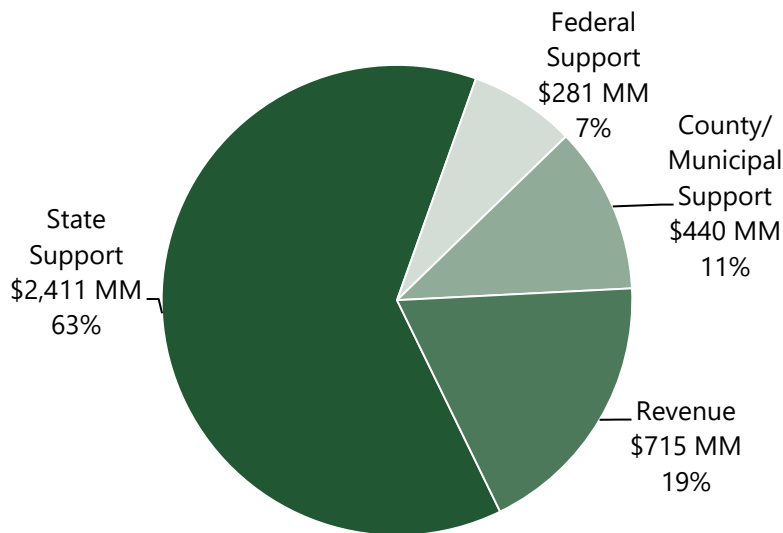
Source: National Interagency Coordination Center



Funding Sources

Overall funding support for state forestry agency programs came from state government (63%), state forestry agency revenues (19%), county municipal government (11%), and federal government (7%). These percentages varied slightly by region, with the Northeast-Midwest showing less reliance on state support and more on state forestry agency revenues.

Table 24: State Forestry Agencies Funding Sources – 2018



2018 Total Funding = \$3.8 Billion

Overall funding increased over \$80 million, or 2%, from 2016 to 2018. On an individual state basis, agencies reported an average increase of 9%. There were some shifts in terms of the funding support categories. After consecutive decreases amounting to a \$100 million decline from 2010 to 2014, overall federal funding increased more than \$50 million from 2014 to 2018. State funding decreased \$16 million or 1% in 2018. State forestry agency revenues were up significantly, primarily due to a large increase in Washington. County and municipal funding was up \$11 million or 2% in 2018. Individual states and regions showed a lot of variability between the two years. The Northeast-Midwest and South reported overall funding increases of 15.0% and 4.9%, respectively. The West Region reported a slight decrease in overall funding of 0.5% in 2018.



Table 25: State Forestry Programs Funding Sources by Region (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2016

State Funding	2018	2016	% Chg.
Northeast-Midwest	\$283	\$240	18%
South	\$416	\$396	5%
West	\$1,711	\$1,791	-4%
U.S. Total	\$2,411	\$2,426	-1%

Federal Funding	2018	2016	% Chg.
Northeast-Midwest	\$47	\$55	-14%
South	\$79	\$77	3%
West	\$154	\$141	10%
U.S. Total	\$281	\$273	3%

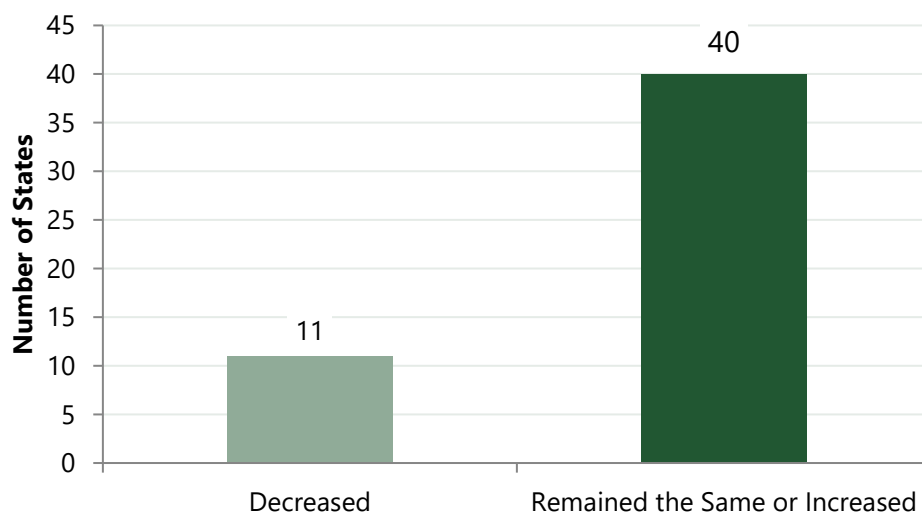
State Forestry Agency Revenue	2018	2016	% Chg.
Northeast-Midwest	\$177	\$167	6%
South	\$70	\$63	11%
West	\$468	\$406	15%
U.S. Total	\$715	\$636	12%

County & Municipal Funding	2018	2016	% Chg.
Northeast-Midwest	\$25	\$1	2395%
South	\$4	\$8	-49%
West	\$411	\$421	-2%
U.S. Total	\$440	\$429	2%

State Funding Support

State funding support was \$2.4 billion out of a total of \$3.8 billion, or 64% of total funding for state forestry agencies in 2018. This was a 1% decrease of \$16 million compared to 2016. From 2016 to 2018, 40 states experienced increases in state funding or remained relatively flat, while 11 states experienced a decrease. Hawaii, Montana, and Pennsylvania reported the largest increases in state funding from 2016 to 2018.

Table 26: Changes in State Funding Dollars – 2018 vs. 2016





Appendix I: NASF Regions and Regional Forest Land Ownership

Regional Forest Ownership

NASF works with three regional organizations—the Northeast-Midwest State Foresters Alliance (formerly Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters), 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-Midwest and South have predominately private ownership of their forest lands while the West has high federal ownership. The different ownership profiles affect the priorities of the regional state forester organizations.

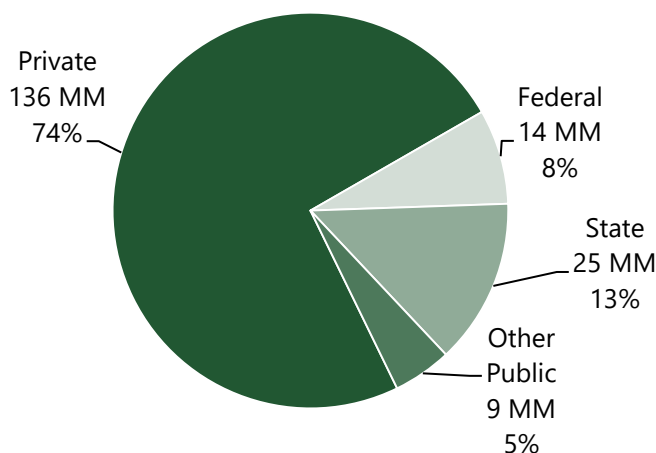
Northeast-Midwest Region

Partner Organization:

Northeast–Midwest State Foresters Alliance <http://www.northeasternforests.org>
(formerly Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters)

The 20 Northeast-Midwest states plus the District of Columbia are home to 39% of the nation’s population and contain over 22% of the nation’s forests—some 184 million acres. Here, the majority of the forest land—74%—is owned by private citizens and corporations. The top issues Northeast-Midwest forests faced in 2018 were pests and diseases, minimizing forest fragmentation, and strengthening forest markets.

Northeast-Midwest Region Forest Land Ownership – 2018 Millions of Acres



Northeast-Midwest Region Total Forest Land: 184 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



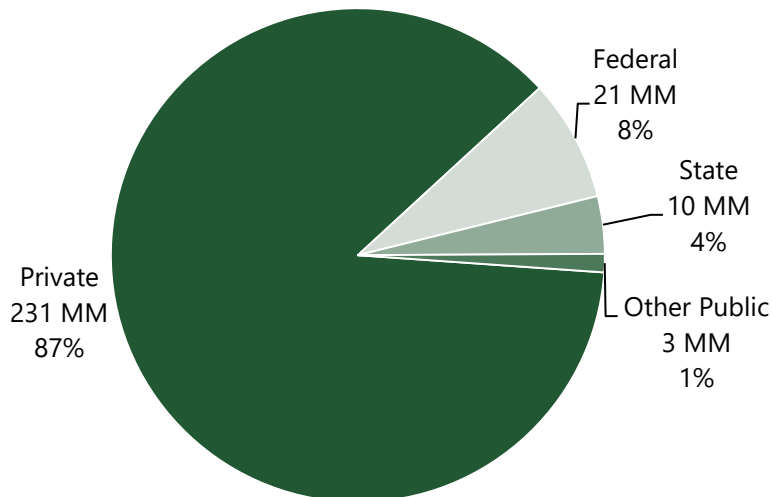
South Region

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 South Region forests are privately owned. The top issues forests in the South faced in 2018 were strengthening forest markets, wildfire suppression funding, and economic development/timber supply.

South Region Forest Land Ownership – 2018 Millions of Acres



States & Territories

Alabama
Arkansas
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
Louisiana
Mississippi
North Carolina
Oklahoma
Puerto Rico
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
U.S. Virgin Islands
Virginia

South Region Total Forest Land: 265 MM Acres



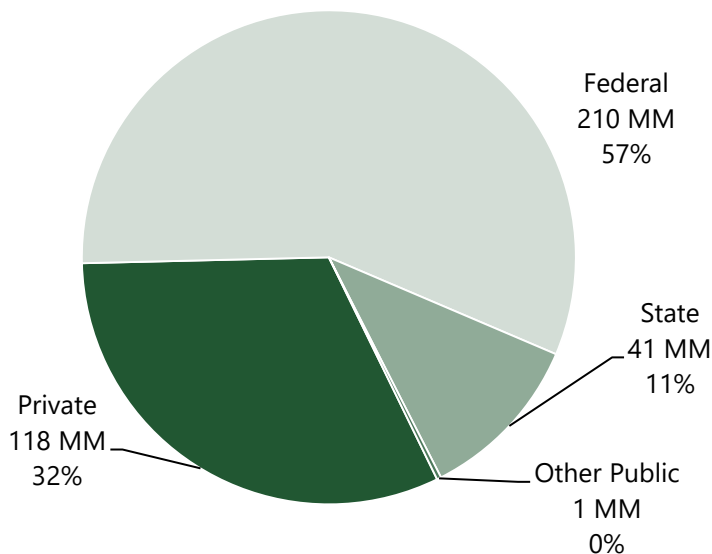
West Region

Partner Organization:

Council of Western State Foresters (CWSF) <https://www.westernforesters.org>

Forests of the West contain an incredible assemblage of resources. They cover nearly 370 million acres (45% of the nation's total forested area) and are managed by a diversity of owners, both public and private. The issues facing forests in the West—wildfire impacts, climate change, water quality/quantity—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.

West Region Forest Land Ownership – 2018 Millions of Acres



West Region Total Forest Land: 370 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				
	Non-Federal Forest Land	Federal Forest Land	Total Forest Land ³	Total Land Area ⁴	Population ⁵
California	13,378	18,369	31,747	99,699	39,557,045
Texas	60,544	1,639	62,184	167,188	28,701,845
Florida	13,965	2,280	16,245	34,320	21,299,325
New York	18,613	155	18,768	30,161	19,542,209
Pennsylvania	16,256	635	16,891	28,635	12,807,060
Illinois	4,980	283	5,263	35,532	12,741,080
Ohio	7,632	355	7,987	26,151	11,689,442
Georgia	22,736	1,829	24,565	36,809	10,519,475
North Carolina	16,705	2,089	18,794	31,115	10,383,620
Michigan	17,257	3,040	20,297	36,185	9,995,915
New Jersey	1,880	122	2,002	4,707	8,908,520
Virginia	13,836	2,224	16,060	25,274	8,517,685
Washington	11,672	10,181	21,853	42,532	7,535,591
Arizona	9,091	9,621	18,712	72,700	7,171,646
Massachusetts	3,208	81	3,289	4,992	6,902,149
Tennessee	12,487	1,394	13,881	26,390	6,770,010
Indiana	4,535	378	4,913	22,929	6,691,878
Missouri	13,478	1,878	15,356	43,995	6,126,452
Maryland	2,386	73	2,460	6,213	6,042,718
Wisconsin	14,854	1,620	16,474	34,661	5,813,568
Colorado	6,786	15,800	22,586	66,331	5,695,564
Minnesota	23,128	2,767	25,895	50,961	5,611,179
South Carolina	11,805	1,053	12,858	19,239	5,084,127
Alabama	22,191	942	23,133	32,413	4,887,871
Louisiana	13,159	979	14,138	27,650	4,659,978
Kentucky	11,205	1,174	12,379	25,271	4,468,402
Oregon	11,823	17,833	29,656	61,432	4,190,713
Oklahoma	11,385	889	12,274	43,901	3,943,079
Connecticut	1,855	14	1,870	3,099	3,572,665
Utah	4,355	13,945	18,300	52,589	3,161,105
Iowa	2,784	116	2,900	35,749	3,156,145
Nevada	661	9,226	9,887	70,260	3,034,392
Arkansas	15,808	3,162	18,970	33,303	3,013,825
Mississippi	18,276	1,524	19,800	30,031	2,986,530
Kansas	2,334	66	2,400	52,326	2,911,505
New Mexico	16,208	8,691	24,899	77,631	2,095,428
Nebraska	1,484	85	1,569	49,167	1,929,268
West Virginia	10,771	1,203	11,974	15,384	1,805,832
Idaho	5,179	16,344	21,523	52,892	1,754,208
Hawaii	1,356	122	1,478	4,110	1,420,491
New Hampshire	3,927	814	4,741	5,730	1,356,458
Maine	17,355	223	17,579	19,739	1,338,404
Montana	7,660	16,220	23,880	93,149	1,062,305
Rhode Island	367	0	367	662	1,057,315
Delaware	351	0	351	1,247	967,171
South Dakota	902	1,051	1,954	48,519	882,235
North Dakota	629	176	805	44,161	760,077
Alaska	63,804	63,423	127,227	365,210	737,438
District of Columbia	2	6	8	39	702,455
Vermont	3,992	502	4,494	5,899	626,299
Wyoming	2,400	8,832	11,232	62,140	577,737

³ 2018 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 Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2018, Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Release Date: Dec. 2018. https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2018_PEPANNRES&src=pt



Appendix III: High-Impact Issues

In the 2018 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey, each NASF member was asked to identify their top three "high-impact" issues. A "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 with their responses is below:

High-Impact Issues Affecting State Forestry Agencies

