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Support the Forest Legacy Program

Working forests play an important role in sustaining the economic, environmental, and social well-being of American communities through the jobs they support and the benefits they provide, including clean air and water, wildlife habitat, and space to recreate.

The Forest Legacy Program provides critical federal assistance to states, private landowners, and conservation groups to protect working forests through permanent conservation easements and fee acquisitions. Since 1990, the program has helped to keep working forests working, and in turn, providing a multitude of public benefits on over 2.6 million acres across 53 states and territories.

In FY22, state and territorial foresters ask that \$128 million be allocated to the Forest Legacy Program from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to keep working forests working.

Sample Forest Legacy Successes:

In northern Minnesota, the purchase and donation of 2,751 acres from The Nature Conservancy to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources was the culmination of a multi-year Forest Legacy effort to ensure sustainable forestry, protect wildlife habitat, and guarantee public access on industrial forestlands. The easement now supports a large block of mixed-forest (pine and hardwood) habitat for white-tailed deer, black bear, timber wolf, and ruffed grouse along the shoreline of Camp Lake, and provides ample opportunities for hunting, fishing, hiking, bird watching, and other outdoor recreation.

In northern Idaho, the Idaho Department of Lands, in partnership with the Trust for Public Lands, acquired 6,800 acres within the McArthur Lake Wildlife Corridor to protect environmentally sensitive, high-value forestlands threatened by development. Thanks to the Forest Legacy Program, the Stimson Lumber Company will continue to manage this land under an easement restricting development and subdivision, ensuring that the land will forever remain in active timber production while protecting wildlife habitat and providing free public recreation.



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