



State Foresters by the Numbers

Data and Analysis from the
2020 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey



December 2021

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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 District of Columbia, the U.S. territories (American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands), and the nations in free association with the U.S. (the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands). This report uses “states” as an inclusive term for all of NASF’s members.

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.

The ***State Foresters by the Numbers*** report is based on the 2020 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 2020. 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 in the design of the study. Survey forms were distributed to NASF members in early 2021 with 49 of the 50 states and the District of Columbia providing responses. In this report, territory and nation members are not included due to limited response in 2020 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 2018 and 2020) were included in the year-to-year comparisons.

Data clean up included a check of totals, metrics, and variances against 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 2020 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 380.215.1074.



Fiscal Year 2020 Overview

- More than half of the nation's forests are held in private ownership; states hold 9%; local public entities, such as counties and municipalities, own 2%; and the federal government, through agencies like the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, own 30%. [page 4]
- State forestry agencies provided 249,000 technical assists to landowners in 2020. State forestry agencies are the primary source of forest management advice for family forestland owners. [page 13]
- Forestry program expenditures in 2020 totaled \$2.9 billion. The majority of these expenditures (63%) were related to fire prevention, education, and management. Most of these wildfire-related expenses were incurred on non-state lands. [page 9]
- The top five most significant issues state forestry agencies expect to contend with in coming years are: 1) responding to pest and disease outbreaks, 2) managing wildfire risk, 3) strengthening forest markets, 4) minimizing forest fragmentation/conversion/development, and 5) reducing the impacts of climate change. [pages 21-23]
- State forestry agencies were responsible for providing wildfire protection across 1.56 billion acres in 2020. They trained nearly 43,000 firefighters, helped provide funding for fire suppression equipment, and assisted with the formation and expansion of hundreds of volunteer fire departments in 2020. [page 12]
- State forestry agencies provided technical assistance through Urban and Community Forestry programs to 7,931 communities in 2020. Spending on Urban and Community Forestry increased 32% to \$11 million in 2020 compared to 2018. [page 14]
- In 2020, total watershed/water quality protection/BMPs expenditures increased 63% from 2018 in large part due to enhanced funding for these activities in western states. [page 15]
- State forestry agencies employed 26,658 individuals in 2020. Overall state forestry agency permanent staffing levels in 2020 declined just over 1%. Seasonal employment levels also declined 4% in 2020 to 9,943. The total number foresters employed increased slightly (0.8%) from 2018 to 2020. [pages 6-8]



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

Forest Land Area

Forest land¹ makes up 811 million acres, or 36% of the total land area,² of the United States. Forest cover in individual states ranges from 89% of the state's total land area (Maine) to 2% (North Dakota). The forests of the U.S. represent nearly 8% of the world's forests and rank fourth in total forest area compared to all other countries. Russia, Brazil, and Canada beat the U.S. in this category (FAO, 2020).

Table 1: Percent of Forest Area by State – Top 5 and Bottom 5 States

State	% Forest Land to Total Land Area
Maine	89%
West Virginia	83%
New Hampshire	82%
Vermont	74%
Alabama	71%
Iowa	8%
Kansas	5%
South Dakota	4%
Nebraska	3%
North Dakota	2%
U.S. Total	36%
Median of U.S. States	41%

Source: 2020 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey and U.S. Census Bureau²

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. (2020 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey)

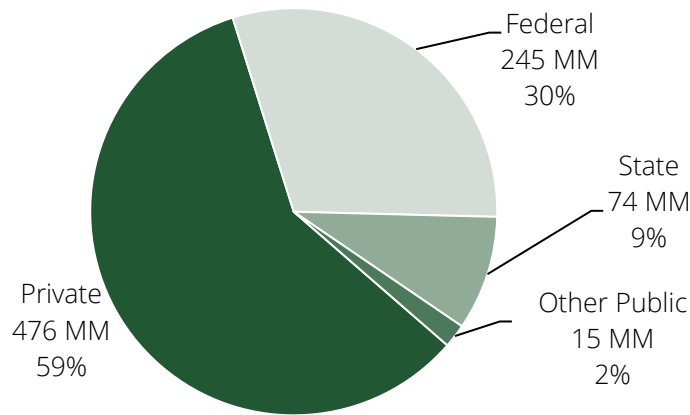
² Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2021). State Area Measurements and Internal Point Coordinates. <https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-files/2010/geo/state-area.html>



Total Forest Ownership

More than half of the nation’s forests are held in private ownership; states hold 9%, local public entities, such as counties and municipalities, own 2%; and the federal government, through agencies like the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, own 30%. Seven out of every 10 acres of forested 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 – 2020 Acres

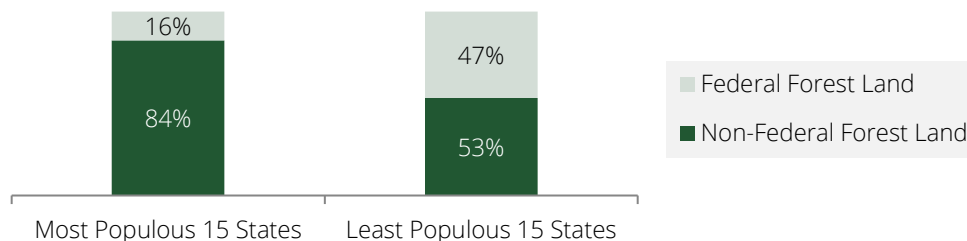


Source: 2020 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey

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 federally owned forest land (see Appendix I for a detailed data table). Within the least populous 15 U.S. states, the amount of federal (47%) vs. non-federal (53%) forest land is nearly equal. State forestry agencies have influence over those areas closest to population centers and consequently greater responsibilities for interacting with and informing the public. Protection and sustainable management of these forest lands have positive impacts for 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 owned by several ownership types: corporate, forest industry, non-industrial private, and Native American. Most private forest land (65%) is owned by non-industrial private owners. Corporate owners, which are defined as in-state business owners that do not own or operate a wood processing plant, own 26% of private forest lands. 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% in 2004 to 25% in 2012. Ownership share dropped to 24% in 2014 but increased to 27% in 2018, then declined slightly in 2020 to 26% of total private forest land ownership. Forest industry owners owned 7% of private forest land in 2018 and 6% in 2020. 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, hold 3% of the private forest land in the U.S.

The state with the largest number of forest land acres owned by non-industrial private individuals is Texas with 40.5 million acres. The state with the largest amount of private corporate ownership is Alaska (largely 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 – 2020

	Acres MM	%
Private Individuals	310.5	65.3%
Corporate Ownership	122.7	25.8%
Forest Industry	27.5	5.8%
Native American	15.0	3.1%
Total U.S. Private Forest Land	475.8	100.0%

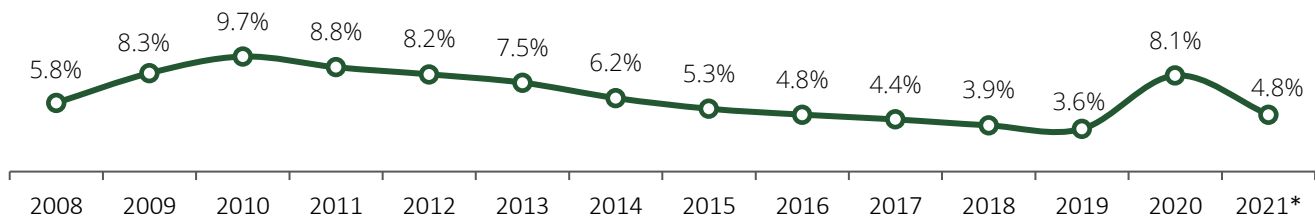


Part II: State Forestry Agency Employees and Expenditures

The Economy

We would be remiss not to acknowledge the influence of COVID-19 in 2020 and 2021. The U.S. announced its first confirmed COVID-19 case on Jan. 21, 2020. During April, all 50 U.S. states had one or more restrictions in place related to COVID-19. On March 19, California was the first state to issue a stay-at-home order, and by April 7, a total of 45 states had instituted stay-at-home orders. As a result, Americans in the second quarter of 2020 witnessed a complete collapse of many industries and regional economies. U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) contracted over 30% and unemployment peaked at nearly 15%.

Unemployment Rate



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

*Forecast—Federal Reserve

A useful employment measure to keep an eye on is the labor force participation rate, which tracks the percentage of the population that is either employed or actively seeking employment. From 2014 to 2019, labor force participation was between 62% and 63% – the lowest it’s been since the 1970s. September 2021 saw reported participation rates of 61.6%. The U.S. government provided significant unemployment benefits to many during the pandemic, even as the economy recovered. Some industries have blamed that continuation of benefits for impeding hiring. The current labor market continues to reflect a demand for employees that outpaces supply.

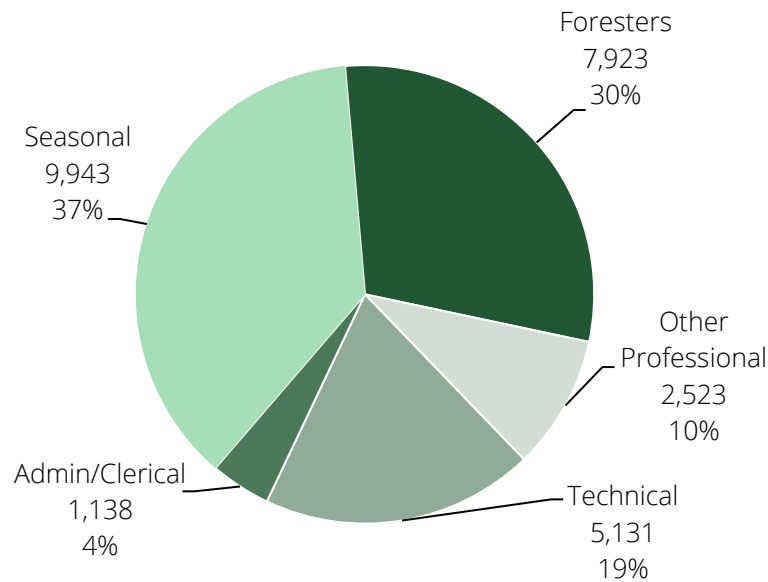
Now more than 60% of the U.S. population is fully vaccinated and some of the population has started to receive booster shots to improve protection against COVID-19. Most travel restrictions have been dialed back or eliminated as well, but significant supply chain issues, a tight employment market, and inflationary pressures remain. The next few years bring a larger list of uncertainties as a result, including possible state budgetary shortages, diminished labor force participation, and difficulty in recruiting/retaining qualified employees.



Total Employees in 2020

State forestry agencies employed 26,658 individuals in 2020. The largest category of permanent employees consists of foresters. In addition to foresters, other professionals employed at state forestry agencies included staff with college and advanced degrees in recreation, fire and fuels management, environmental/land use planning, conservation, watershed or wildlife management, information technology, and accounting. The “technical” job category includes employees who provide a wide range of support services like state tree nursery management and policy support. Twenty-four 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 – 2020



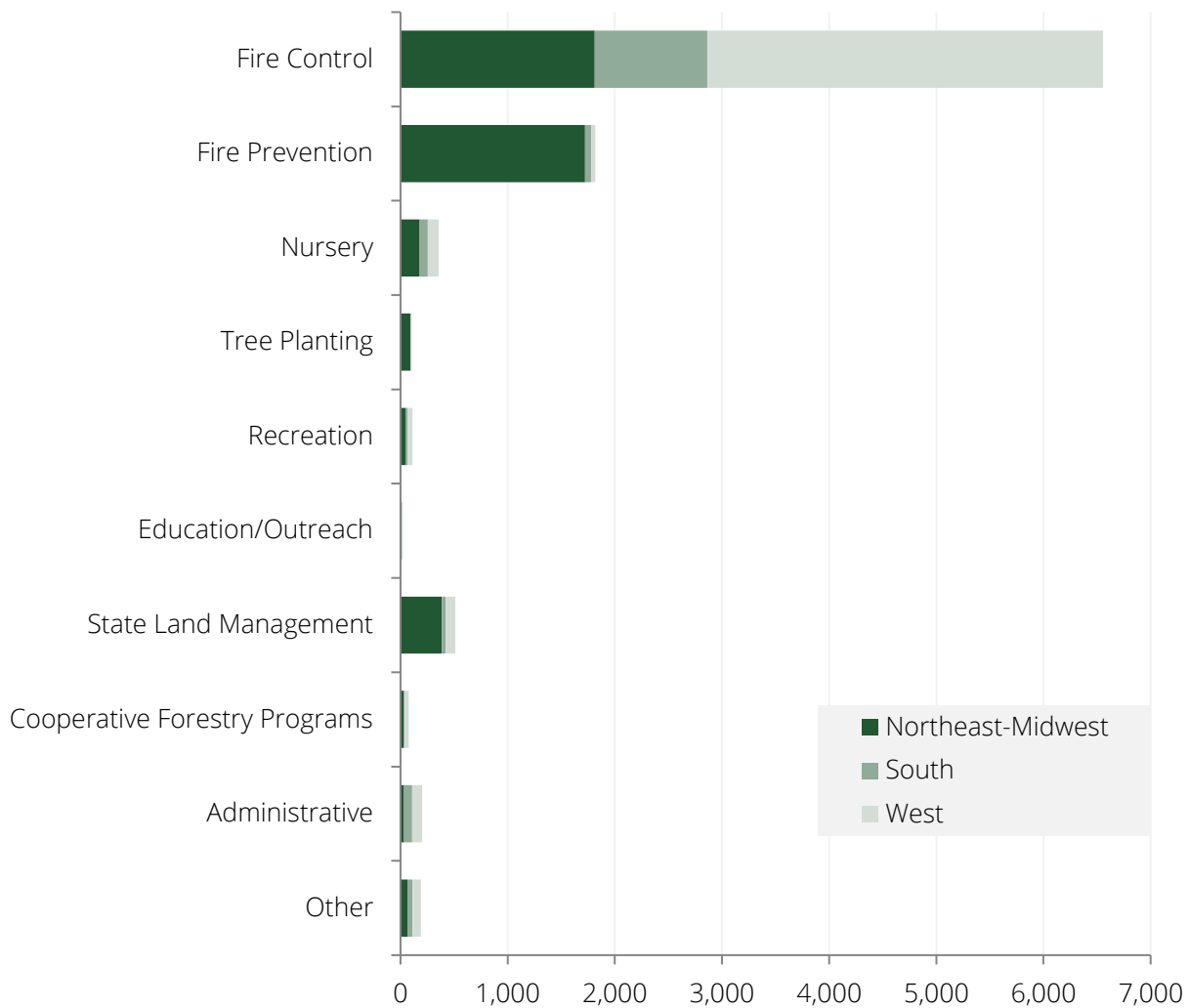
2020 Number of Permanent and Seasonal Employees = 26,658



Seasonal Employees in 2020

Seasonal employees make up the largest number of positions employed by state forestry agencies. Seasonal jobs make key contributions to field work in areas including fire control, tree planting, and trail improvement and consistently provide important economic support to rural communities across the nation.

Table 6: Number of Seasonal or Temporary Employees by Major Function – 2020





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 state forestry agencies' workforce over the two-year period. After the increase in 2012, there was very little change in staffing levels until 2016 when the number of permanent employees increased by 2% and seasonal employees increased by over 6%. Following a 2% increase in overall staffing levels during 2018, total employment declined just over 1% in 2020.

Table 7: State Forestry Agencies Staffing Levels – 2020 vs. 2018

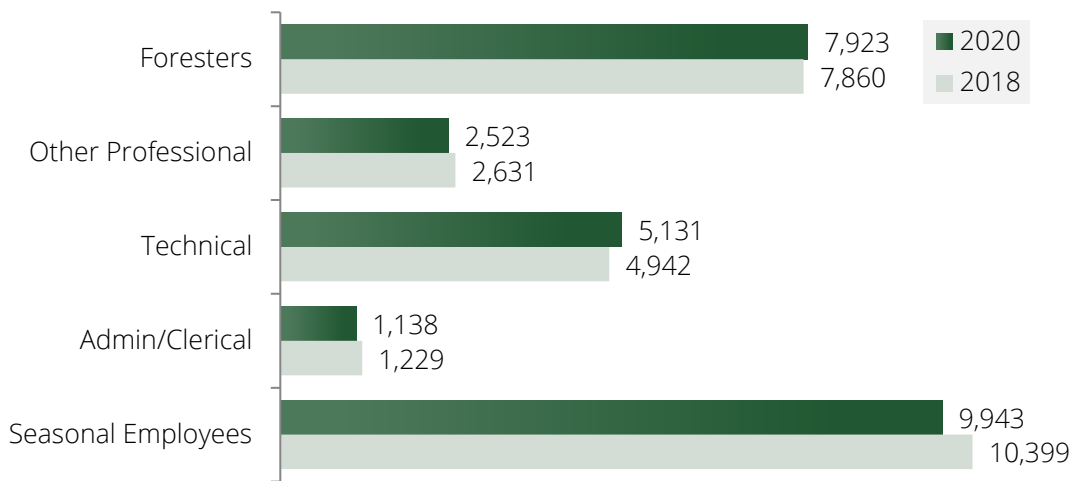
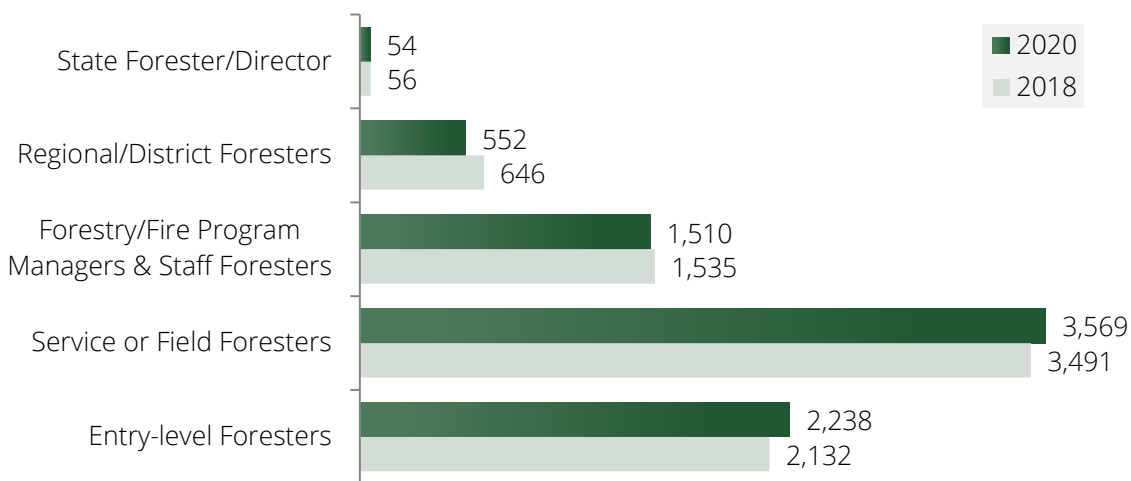


Table 8: Forester Positions Staffing Levels – 2020 vs. 2018



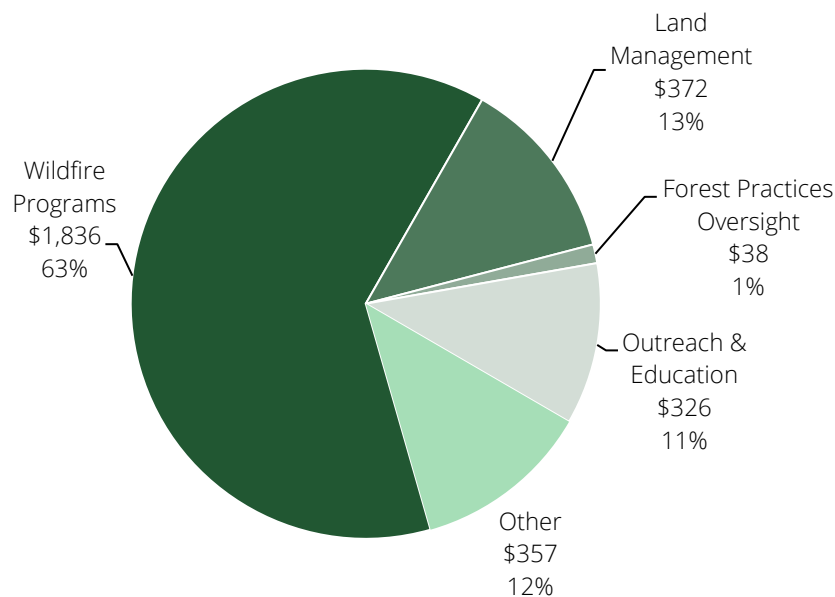


Total 2020 Expenditures

Forestry program expenditures in 2020 totaled \$2.9 billion, a figure close to 2018 levels. The majority of these expenditures (63%) were related to fire control, prevention, education, protection, and management. Most of these wildfire related expenses are incurred on non-state lands.

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 and community forestry programs, nursery programs, forest recreation, and Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) implementation. Forest practices oversight includes enforcement of watershed and water quality protection measures.

Table 9: 2020 State Forestry Agencies Expenditures (Millions)



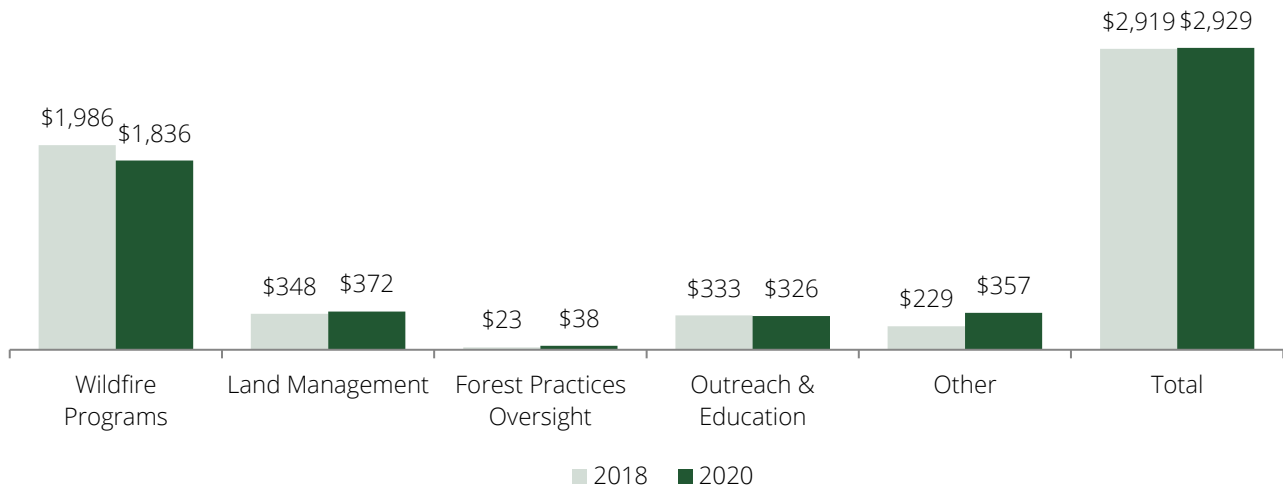
2020 Total Expenditures = \$2.929 Billion



Trends in Expenditures by Category

Expenditures related to wildfire programs declined \$150 million or 8% for 2020 versus 2018. State forest land management expenditures increased in 2020 by \$24 million, or 7%, compared to 2018. Forest practices oversight spending increased by \$15 million, or 65%, in 2020, which is a considerable change compared to 2018 levels. Outreach and education category expenditures declined \$7 million, or 2%. Outreach and education category expenditures declined \$7 million, or 2%.

Table 10: State Forestry Agency Spending (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2020





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.

State forestry agencies in the Northeast-Midwest, on a proportionate basis, have spent more on outreach education programs than in the other two regions (31% of total expenditures in 2018). These programs include Cooperative Forest Management and Urban and Community Forestry. Total expenditures in the Northeast-Midwest were relatively flat compared to levels reported during 2018.

Southern state forestry agencies dedicated 50% of their agency budgets on wildfire-related programs in 2020. Total expenditures in the South were down \$79 million between 2018 and 2020.

State forestry agencies in the West region spent 76% of their total budgets on wildfire-related programs during 2020. The West experienced a \$34 million decline in total expenditures during 2020 versus 2018 levels.

Table 11: State Forestry Agency Spending by Region (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2020

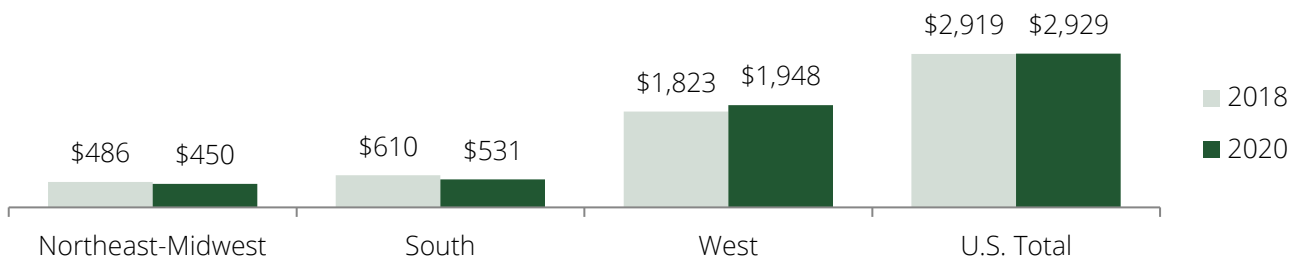
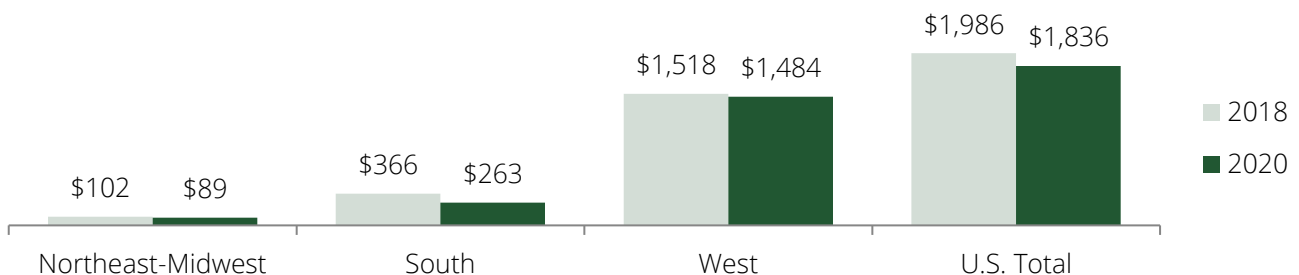


Table 12: Wildfire Program Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2020





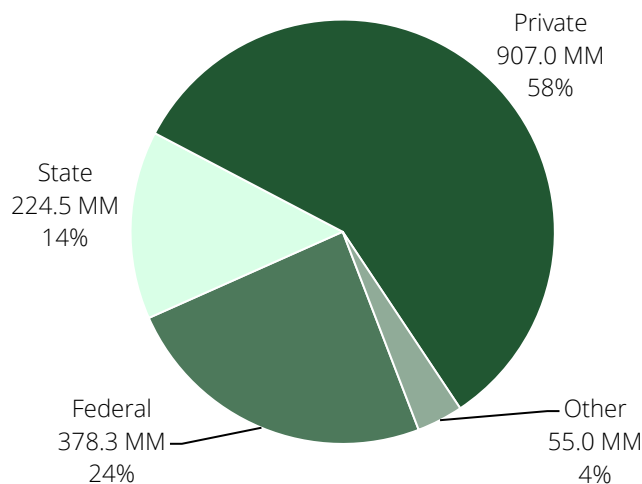
Part III: State Forestry Agency Program Areas

This section reports on survey data gathered for programs delivered by state forestry agencies. State forestry agencies' impact on the nation's natural resources is significant. These agencies directly manage over 74 million acres of state-owned forestlands, provide technical and financial assistance to private forest landowners, monitor best management practice utilization on private lands, and protect all types of land ownerships from wildfire.

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 South. Total acres under wildfire protection by state forestry agencies in 2020 totaled 1.56 billion acres³.

Table 13: Wildland Protected by State Forestry Agencies (Millions) – 2020 Acres



³ Total amount of land protected by state forestry agencies under a written fire protection plan or mutual aid agreement. Includes federal, state, private, and other land areas.

Community Capacity Building

NASF members help communities prioritize their preparedness and mitigation efforts through the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs). The preparedness and response capabilities required in these plans is fulfilled in part with local and volunteer firefighter training provided by state forestry agencies. NASF members also help provide funding for fire suppression equipment and assist in the formation and expansion of volunteer fire departments. In 2020, state forestry agencies trained nearly 43,000 firefighters and aided nearly 19,000 rural fire departments.

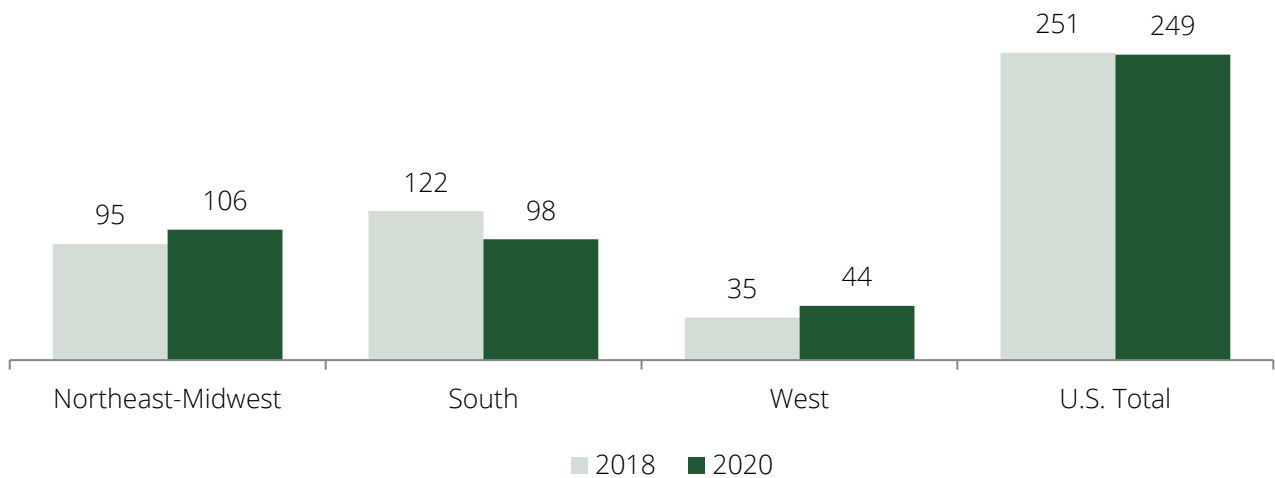


Cooperative Forest Management and Landowner Assistance

State forestry agencies offer professional forestry assistance, answer technical questions, and provide other services for landowners concerning their forest lands. This assistance may include advice on timber marketing, fuels management, insect and disease control, seedling purchases, or tree planting, and often results in a Forest Stewardship Plan and/or landowner participation in cost-share programs.

Nationwide, state forestry agencies are the primary source of forest management advice for family forest owners. State forestry agencies reported over 249,000 landowner assists in 2020 – a mere 1% decrease from the number reported in 2018 despite a pandemic.

Table 14: Private Landowner Assists by Region (Thousands) – 2018 vs. 2020





Urban & Community Forestry (U&CF) Programs

Urban and community forestry programs maintain, restore, and improve the quality of trees and tree canopy in parks, along streets, and around waterways. Spending on U&CF programming increased 32%, or \$11 million, in 2020 compared to 2018.

Table 15: Urban and Community Forestry Programs Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2020

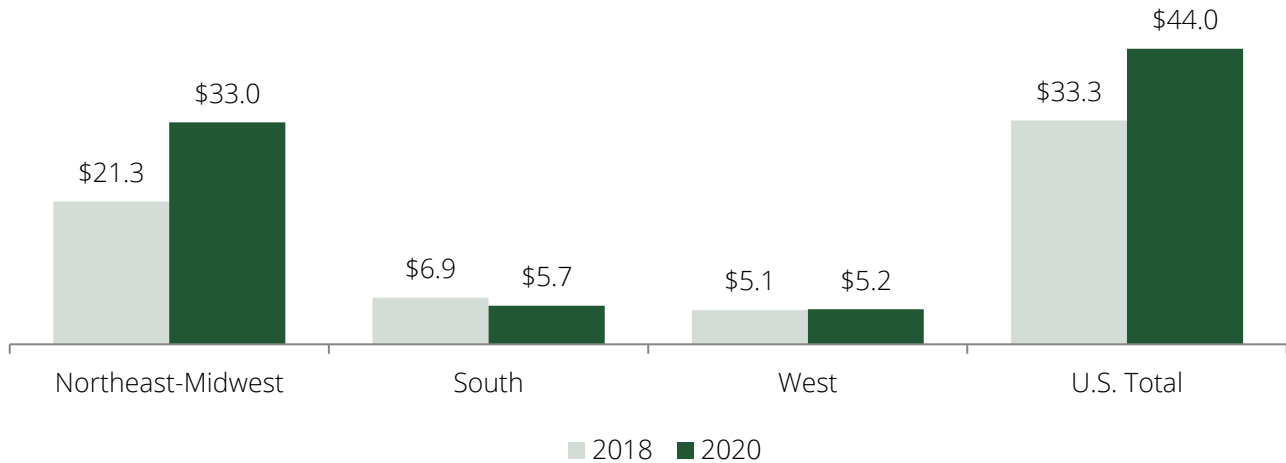


Table 16: Communities Receiving Forestry Agency Technical Assistance by Region – 2020

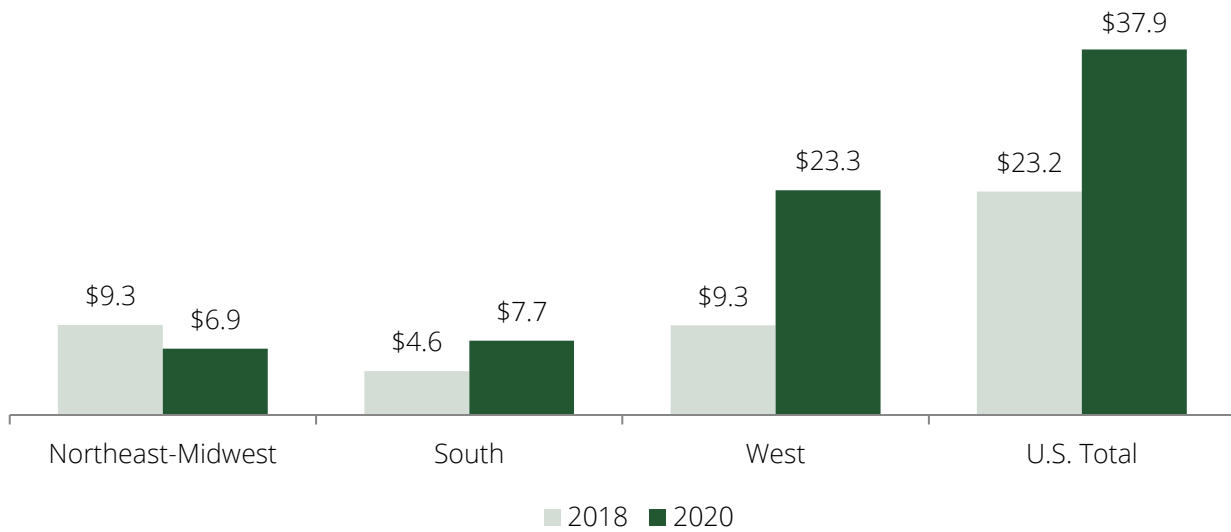
Region	Total	% of Total
Northeast-Midwest	4,285	54%
South	1,341	17%
West	2,305	29%
U.S. Total	7,931	100%



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). In 2020, total expenditures related to BMPs increased 63% from 2018 – driven primarily by significant increases in total expenditures by states in the West.

Table 17: Watershed/Water Quality Protection/BMPs Program Expenditures by Region (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2020

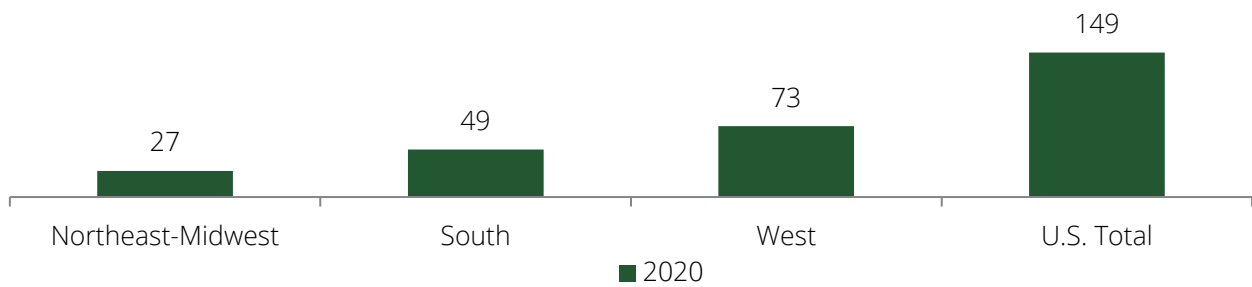




Forest Legacy Projects

State forestry agencies are extensively involved with the federal Forest Legacy Program (FLP). In 2020, NASF members reported that 149 FLP projects were initiated, active, or had been completed on a total of 694,000 acres across the U.S. FLP helps states protect working forest lands that are threatened by development or conversion through outright (fee simple) purchase or conservation easements. Landowner participation in FLP is completely voluntary; however, it requires that a Forest Stewardship Plan be prepared by the state forestry agency.

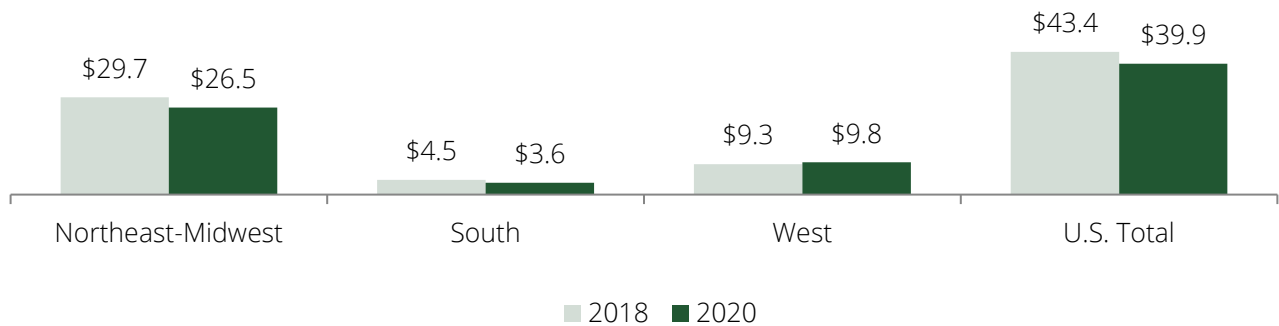
Table 18: Number of Forest Legacy Projects Initiated, Active, or Completed – 2020



Forest Recreation Programs

Forest recreation programming provides opportunities for outdoor enjoyment in state and other non-federal public forests. Spending on forest recreation programs decreased 8%, or \$3.5 million, in 2020 compared to 2018.

Table 19: Forest Recreation Program Expenditures (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2020





State Forest Nursery Programs

Expenditures for state forest nursery programs increased \$2.5 million, or 9%, in 2020 compared to 2018. Annual seedling production dropped by more than 17 million seedlings during this time period. The seedling production in state nursery programs can have implications for long-term reforestation capacity. State forestry seedling production changed significantly in the Northeast-Midwest Region, decreasing by over 10 million, or 44%, in 2020.

Table 19: State Forest Nurseries Program Expenditures (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2020

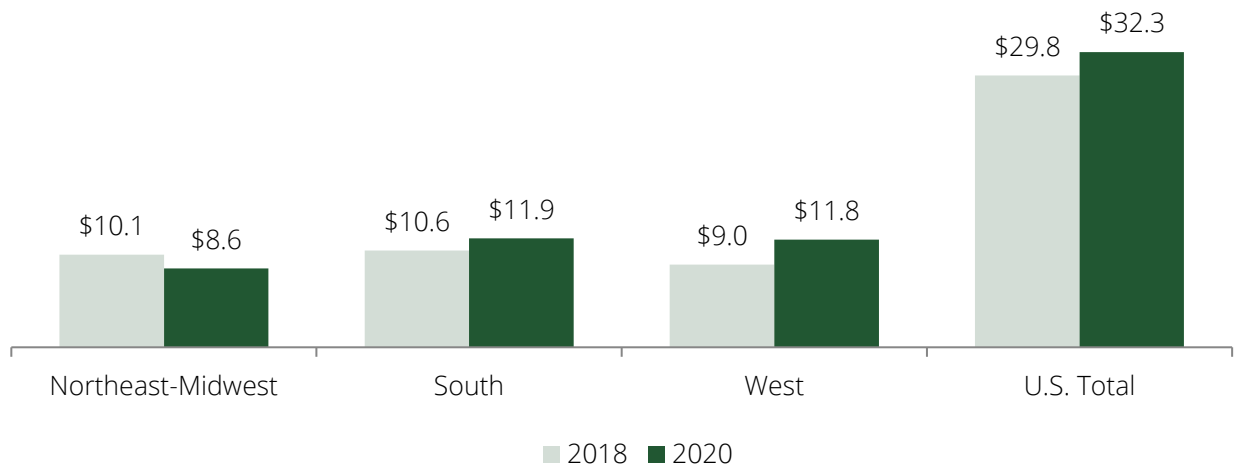
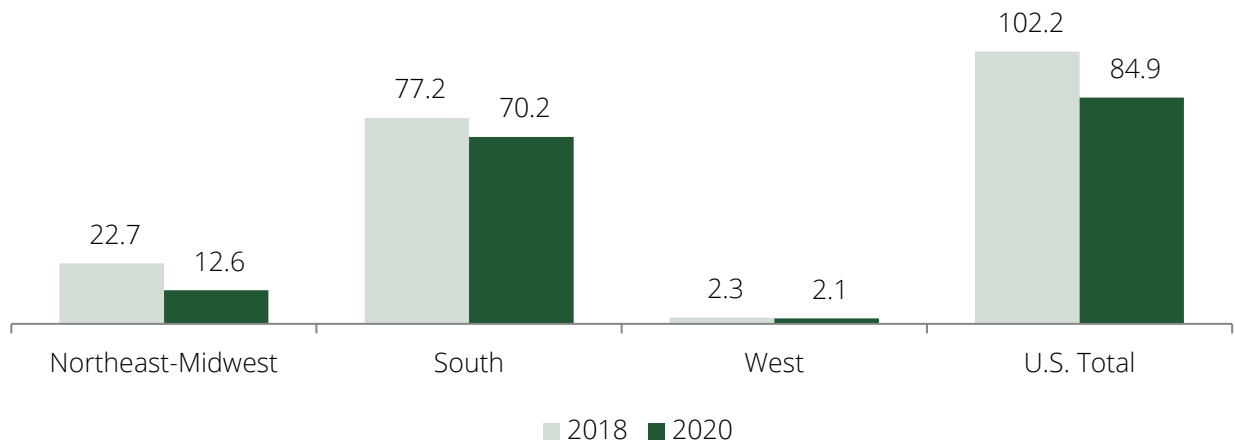


Table 20: State Forest Nurseries Annual Tree Seedling Production (Millions) – 2018 vs. 2020



Figures above are based on only states reporting figures for both 2018 and 2020.

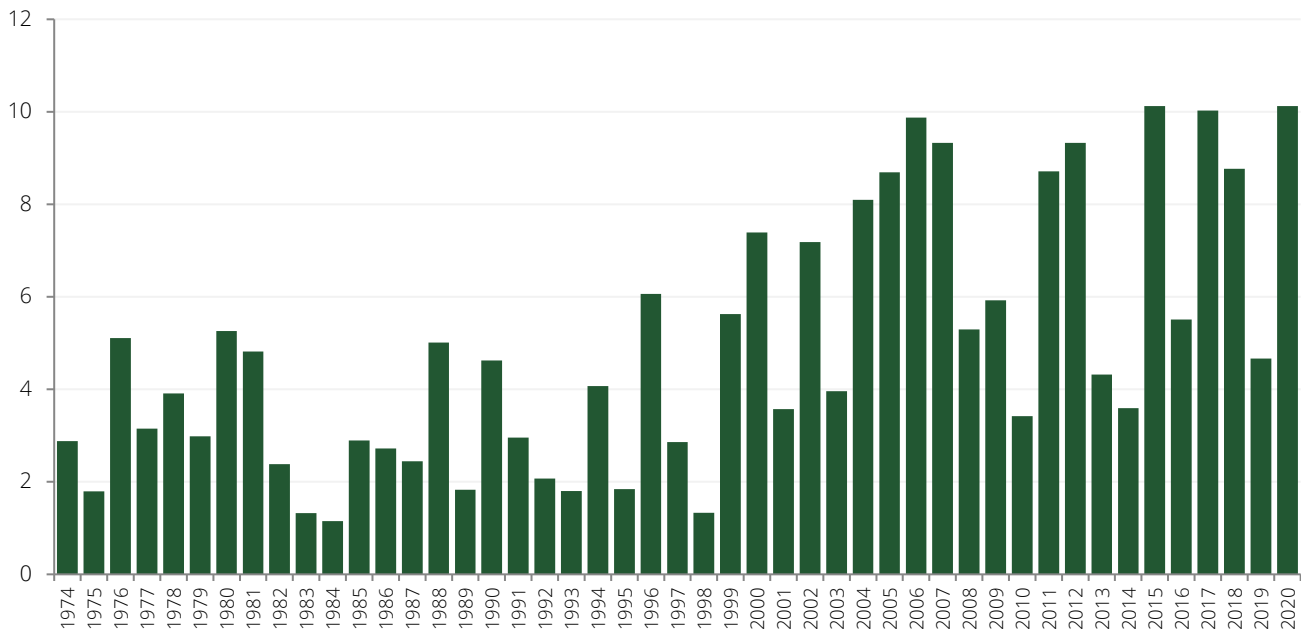


Part IV: Funding Sources and Challenges

Wildfire Challenges

After a down year in 2019, the number of acres burned in the U.S. reached record highs in 2020. According to the National Interagency Fire Center, more than 6.8 million acres were burned through December 1, compared with 9.5 million during the same period in 2019. The severity and duration of wildfires has grown in recent decades, in part due to greater tree mortality caused by insects (both native and invasive) and diseases. The top five most significant issues state forestry agencies expect to contend with in coming years are: 1) responding to pest and disease outbreaks, 2) managing wildfire risk, 3) strengthening forest markets, 4) minimizing forest fragmentation/conversion/development, and 5) reducing the impacts of climate change (see Appendix III for a full list of high impact issues).

Table 21: Total U.S. Acres Burned (Millions) – 1976 - 2020



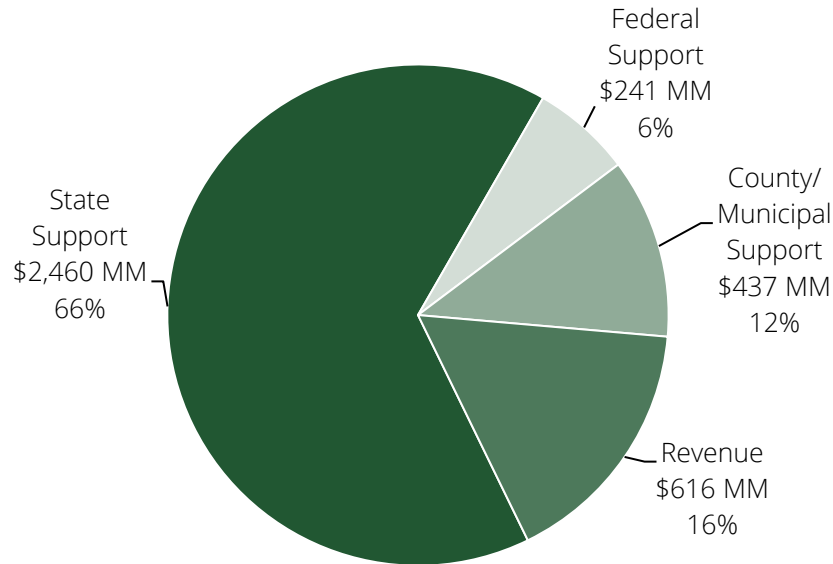
Source: National Interagency Fire Center



Funding Sources

Overall funding support for state forestry agency programs came from state government (66%), state forestry agency revenues (16%), federal government (6%), and county and municipal government (12%).

Table 22: State Forestry Agencies Funding Sources – 2020



2020 Total Funding = \$3.8 Billion

Funding decreased by \$77 million, or 2%, from 2018 to 2020. On an individual state basis, the typical, or median, agency reported funding was flat from 2018 to 2020. There were some shifts in terms of the funding support categories. After federal funding increased more than \$50 million from 2014 to 2018, agencies reported federal support declined \$33 million, or 12%, in 2020. State forestry agency revenues were also down considerably, primarily due to a large decrease reported by Washington. County, municipal, and state funding were relatively flat from 2018 to 2020.



Table 23: State Forestry Programs Funding Sources by Region – 2020 vs. 2018 (\$ Millions)

State Funding	2020	2018	% Chg.
Northeast-Midwest	\$305	\$283	8%
South	\$405	\$417	-3%
West	\$1,751	\$1,705	3%
Total U.S.	\$2,460	\$2,404	2%

Federal Funding	2020	2018	% Chg.
Northeast-Midwest	\$46	\$47	-3%
South	\$67	\$79	-15%
West	\$128	\$147	-13%
Total U.S.	\$241	\$274	-12%

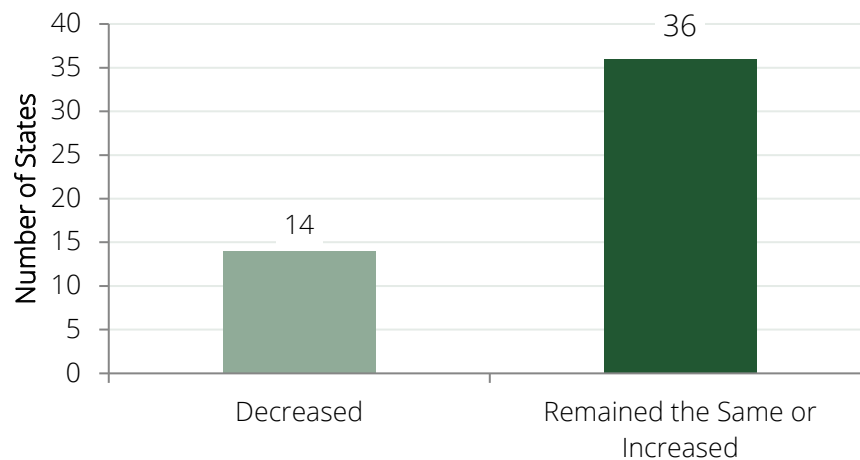
State Forestry Agency Revenue	2020	2018	% Chg.
Northeast-Midwest	\$195	\$177	10%
South	\$60	\$67	-11%
West	\$361	\$468	-23%
Total U.S.	\$616	\$712	-14%

County & Municipal Funding	2020	2018	% Chg.
Northeast-Midwest	\$24	\$25	-6%
South	\$4	\$4	-4%
West	\$409	\$412	-1%
Total U.S.	\$437	\$441	-1%

State Funding Support

State funding support represented \$2.5 billion out of a total of \$3.8 billion, or 66% of total funding for state forestry agencies in 2020. From 2018 to 2020, 36 states experienced maintained or increased state funding, while 14 had decreases. Washington, Pennsylvania, and New Mexico reported the largest increases in state funding from 2018 to 2020.

Table 24: Changes in State Funding Dollars – 2020 vs. 2018





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 the Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters), the Southern Group of State Foresters (SGSF), and the Council of Western State Foresters (CWSF). The forests in the Northeast–Midwest and South are predominately owned by private owners, while the West has high federal ownership. The different ownership profiles impact the priorities of the regional state forestry organizations.

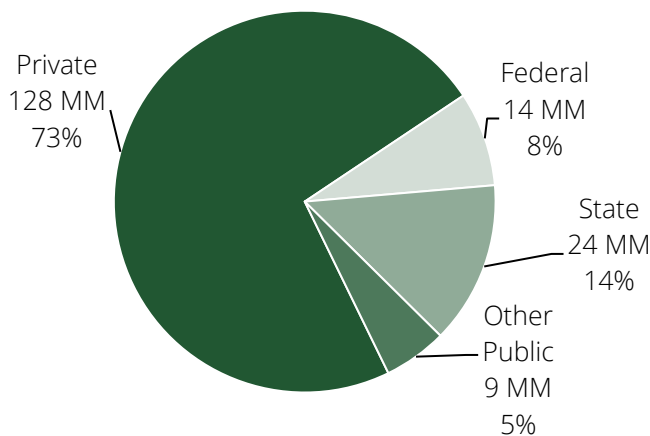
Northeast-Midwest Region

Partner Organization: **Northeast–Midwest State Foresters Alliance**

www.northeasternforests.org

The 20 states and the District of Columbia that make up the Northeast-Midwest Region are home to 39% of the nation’s population and 22% (176 million acres) of the nation’s forests. Here, the majority of the forest land (73%) is owned by private citizens and corporations. According to the region’s state foresters, the top issues faced by these forests in 2020 were pests and disease, the effects of climate change, and forest fragmentation/conversion.

Northeast-Midwest Region Forest Land Ownership – 2020 (Millions of Acres)



Northeast-Midwest Region Total Forest Land: 176 Million 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



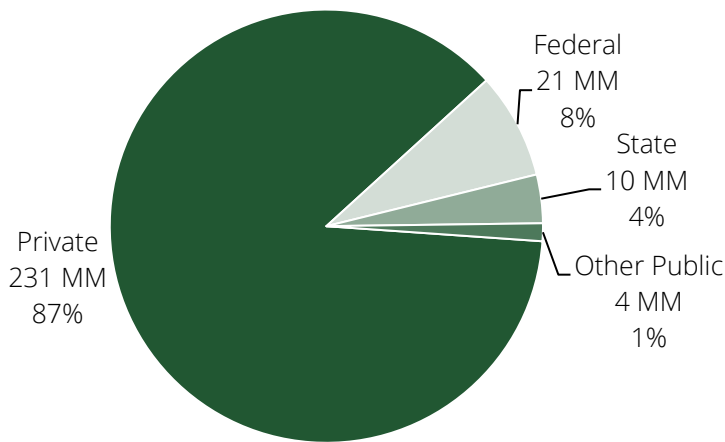
South Region

Partner Organization: **Southern Group of State Foresters**

www.southernforests.org

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. The top issues facing forests in the South in 2020 included access to forest markets, recruitment of diverse professionals, economic development/timber supply, and forest fragmentation/conversion.

South Region Forest Land Ownership – 2020 (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 Million Acres



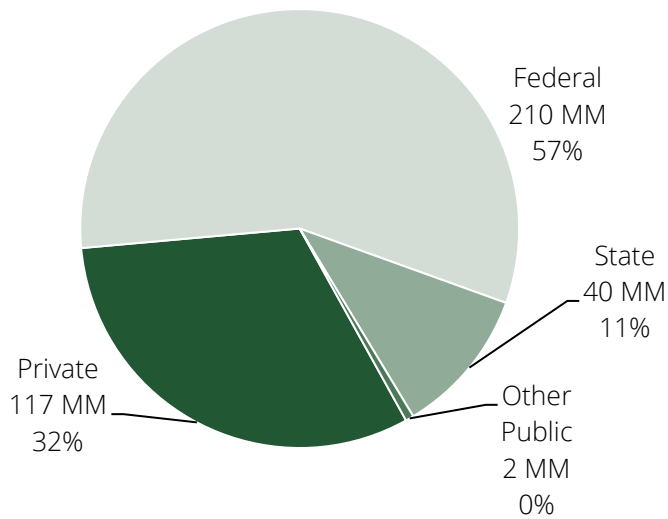
West Region

Partner Organization: **Council of Western State Foresters**

www.westernforesters.org

Forests of the West cover nearly 370 million acres (46% of the nation's total forested area) and are managed by a diversity of owners, both public and private. The top issues facing western forests in 2020 included wildfire risk, access to forest markets, and the impacts of climate change.

West Region Forest Land Ownership – 2020 (Millions of Acres)



West Region Total Forest Land: 370 Million Acres

States & Territories

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



Appendix II: Land and Population Data

State	Thousands of Acres				Population ⁶
	Non-Federal Forest Land	Federal Forest Land	Total Forest Land ⁴	Total Land Area ⁵	
California	13,566	18,041	31,607	99,699	39,368,078
Texas	60,289	1,714	62,003	167,188	29,360,759
Florida	13,965	2,280	16,245	34,320	21,733,312
New York	18,575	155	18,730	30,161	19,336,776
Pennsylvania	15,966	655	16,622	28,636	12,783,254
Illinois	4,980	283	5,263	35,532	12,587,530
Ohio	7,535	326	7,861	26,151	11,693,217
Georgia	22,623	1,841	24,464	36,808	10,710,017
North Carolina	16,671	2,079	18,750	31,116	10,600,823
Michigan	17,599	2,766	20,365	36,185	9,966,555
New Jersey	1,880	122	2,002	4,707	8,882,371
Virginia	13,850	2,218	16,068	25,274	8,590,563
Washington	12,358	9,763	22,120	42,532	7,693,612
Massachusetts	2,906	79	2,984	4,992	6,893,574
Tennessee	12,487	1,394	13,881	26,390	6,886,834
Indiana	4,535	378	4,913	22,929	6,754,953
Missouri	13,478	1,878	15,356	43,995	6,151,548
Maryland	2,386	73	2,460	6,212	6,055,802
Wisconsin	15,383	1,635	17,018	34,661	5,832,655
Colorado	8,302	15,800	24,102	66,331	5,807,719
Minnesota	14,723	2,898	17,621	50,961	5,657,342
South Carolina	11,818	1,038	12,856	19,239	5,218,040
Alabama	22,152	942	23,094	32,413	4,921,532
Louisiana	14,395	605	15,000	27,651	4,645,318
Kentucky	11,214	1,162	12,376	25,271	4,477,251
Oregon	11,823	17,833	29,656	61,432	4,241,507
Oklahoma	11,385	889	12,274	43,901	3,980,783
Connecticut	1,756	8	1,763	3,099	3,557,006
Utah	4,355	13,945	18,300	52,589	3,249,879
Iowa	2,784	116	2,900	35,748	3,163,561
Nevada	694	9,797	10,491	70,260	3,138,259
Arkansas	15,768	3,158	18,926	33,302	3,030,522
Mississippi	17,438	1,662	19,100	30,031	2,966,786
Kansas	2,334	66	2,400	52,326	2,913,805
New Mexico	14,445	11,538	25,983	77,631	2,106,319
Nebraska	1,485	85	1,569	49,167	1,937,552
Idaho	4,444	13,773	18,217	52,892	1,826,913
West Virginia	11,584	1,221	12,806	15,384	1,784,787
Hawaii	1,356	122	1,478	4,111	1,407,006
New Hampshire	3,932	760	4,692	5,730	1,366,275
Maine	17,355	223	17,579	19,740	1,350,141
Montana	7,660	16,220	23,880	93,149	1,080,577
Rhode Island	367	0	367	662	1,057,125
Delaware	351	0	351	1,247	986,809
South Dakota	844	1,054	1,897	48,519	892,717
North Dakota	657	152	809	44,161	765,309
Alaska	63,804	63,423	127,227	365,210	731,158
District of Columbia	2	6	8	39	712,816
Vermont	3,842	510	4,352	5,899	623,347
Wyoming	2,400	8,832	11,232	62,140	582,328

⁴ 2020 NASF Statistical Survey

⁵ Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2021). State Area Measurements and Internal Point Coordinates. <https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-files/2010/geo/state-area.html>

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau (2021). State Population Totals: 2010-2020. <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/technical-documentation/research/evaluation-estimates/2020-evaluation-estimates/2010s-state-total.html>



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 2020 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey where each member was asked to list the three “highest impact” issues facing their agency. “High impact issues,” for the purposes of the 2020 NASF State Forestry Statistics Survey, are those topics that state foresters expected would demand an increasing amount of attention from their agencies in coming years. Each state forester was asked to rank their top three high impact issues. Their responses are listed below:

High Impact Issues Affecting State Forestry Agencies

