



Support America's Forests through the Forest Stewardship Program

The Forest Stewardship Program supports state forestry agencies in their work to equip private landowners with the unbiased, science-based information they need to sustainably manage their forests for any number of benefits, including timber production, wildlife habitat, and recreation.

This on-the-ground technical assistance yields tremendous economic and environmental benefits for individual families, local communities, and the nation as a whole. In fact, much of the actively managed forestland in private ownership is in close proximity to federal lands, which means the Forest Stewardship Program plays a significant role in curbing forest threats—such as invasive insects, disease, and wildfire—that know no bounds.

In FY 2024, state foresters ask that \$22 million be appropriated for the Forest Stewardship Program to support state forestry agency delivery of essential forestry assistance to landowners.



About 90% of the wood produced in the U.S. comes from privately owned forests. In FY22, the Forest Stewardship Program developed 10,925 forest management plans for 1,675,638 acres of private forestland and reached 498,000 private forestland owners nationwide. This is a 15% increase in plan acres over FY21.

Non-commercial forestland owners that have management plans are 2.7 times more likely to meet their management objectives and 2.4 times more likely to reforest their land compared to those without management plans. **With Forest Stewardship Program dollars, state forestry agencies can provide management plans to private landowners at a discounted rate or free of charge.**

On average, state forestry agencies match federal investments 2:1, which means the impact of federal dollars delivered through the Forest Stewardship Program have amplified on-the-ground impacts. For example, **timber harvests resulting from each additional \$100,000 in federal investment conservatively result in 25 to 58 jobs and \$1.3 to \$2.9 million in annual income.**

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