



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Idaho 2020



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2019 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$197,696
Forest Legacy	\$3,855,000
Forest Stewardship	\$191,600
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$600,000
State Fire Assistance	\$2,162,204
Urban and Community Forestry	\$224,065
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$333,079
Total	\$7,563,644

NOTE: This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

From Main Street to mountaintop, cooperative programs administered and implemented through partnerships between Idaho Department of Lands (IDL), USDA Forest Service (USFS) and other private and government entities promote the health and productivity of Idaho's forests and rural economies. To guide investments in our forests, IDL utilizes the Idaho Forest Action Plan (FAP), National Cohesive Wildfire Strategy, Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) agreements and input from the Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council to ensure resources are invested in areas with the greatest opportunity to address shared priorities and achieve measurable outcomes.

Program Goals

- Idaho's Forests are diverse and resilient to climatic changes and other natural and unique stresses
- The ecosystem benefits that Idaho forests provide are identified, maintained and enhanced
- Forestlands with the highest benefits are identified, protected and enhanced
- Forest ecosystems are resilient to human activities (development, recreation, forest practices, noxious weeds, etc.)
- Forest-based wood products markets are economically vibrant and sustainable
- An integrated framework for implementing the Idaho Forest Action Plan guides project development, legislative/policy actions and cohesive management of Idaho's urban and rural forests.

Key Issues

- Threats of wildfire to Idaho communities and forests both in the urban interface and in high-value productive forestlands
- Assist in implementation and completion of federal land management practices
- Stressors on forest health, including impacts from invasive species and climate change
- Conversion from traditional forest use to non-forest use
- Overall degradation of water quality/quantity, air quality, wildlife habitat and biodiversity.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2019 Accomplishments	Value
Population	1,567,582	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	5,916
Acres of Forest Land	21,709,351	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	65,325
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	1,427,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	54,113
Number of NIPF Landowners	34,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	216
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	915,774	State Fire Communities Assisted	14
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	3,289,303	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Number of Rural Fire Departments	254	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	132
Cities and Towns	201	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	85
Forest Based Employment	10,510	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	1,002,386
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	3	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	45,598
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	0		

Program Highlights

Addressing Issues with Special Projects

IDL collaborates with numerous partners throughout the state to develop and fund projects that address key issues and strategies with Idaho's Forest Action Plan. Highlights are presented on S&PF Programs and the following special projects: Forest Health Special Projects.

Shared Stewardship: Since the signing of the Shared Stewardship Agreement between Regional 1, 4 and Idaho Department of Lands collaborative efforts have rapidly developed. The designation of two Shared Stewardship Priority Areas, Panhandle and McCall areas, has helped IDL and the US Forest Service to identify Focal Areas within the designated landscapes where cross-boundary land management actions will be undertaken. The intent of the focal areas is to increase the pace and scale of forest management to a degree not historically seen in Idaho to improve forest health while reducing wildfire risk across private, state and federal ownership.

Community Assistance - Hazardous Fuels

IDL supports a wide range of activities that reduce wildfire impacts on communities. Collaboration with counties includes fiscal and contract management plus landowner education. 2019 efforts included:

- Twenty two (22) Idaho organizations received planning, educational and hazard fuel reduction assistance.
- Eight (8) entities (Idaho State Parks, Clearwater-Potlatch Timber Protective Association, Nez Perce County, City of Boise, Island Park Fire Adapted Community, Bonner County, Kootenai County, Shoshone County) received Hazardous Fuels Reduction funding to reduce fuel loads on private lands. Several of these projects are adjacent to similar efforts on USDA Forest Service lands.

Conservation Education

IDL provided funding and administrative support to host the annual Idaho State Forestry Contest. The contest brought 600 youth from across the state to compete in basic forestry skills such as tree identification, cruising, silviculture, surveying, and scaling logs. Over 300 forestry professionals and volunteers assisted in this event.

IDL partnered with organizations to host the 31th Family Forest Landowners and Managers Conference in Moscow, Idaho. Three hundred landowners and managers attended this three day event.

Cooperative Fire Protection

Protection of forestlands, rangelands and urban interface areas from wildfire is a critical function of IDL. Funding helps hire, train, and equip firefighters for deployment to both local and national incidents. This program supports four interagency dispatch centers and an interagency fire cache where small local fire districts can obtain firefighting equipment and supplies. The "Keep Idaho Green" initiative is the educational arm of the statewide interagency "Idaho Firewise" program. Additionally, Rural Fire Capacity (RFA) funding helps train and equip volunteer departments in rural communities.

Forest Health Protection

IDL staff conducted comprehensive evaluation surveys on approximately 10.5 million acres of state, private, and other lands to detect, map and assess forest health issues. This included aerial detection surveys of 9,427,246 acres of forested lands of all ownerships. Since 2015, the aerial detection survey has been conducted using a grid pattern by IDL and Forest Service aerial observers in the same aircraft. Forested lands from the Washington border to the Montana border north of the Salmon River were surveyed by observers regardless of ownership. Since final survey numbers are not available until the following year, 2019 totals are reported in 2020.

Additionally, field surveys were conducted to monitor for gypsy moth, an invasive defoliator, on 1,008,801 acres in northern Idaho, and to track populations of Douglas-fir tussock moth, a native defoliator, on 119,164 acres. A total of 70 forest health training sessions were held, educating 3,504 state and private landowners and managers. Staff also provided 222 technical assists to landowners and managers.

Forest Health Special Survey

Douglas-fir tussock moth (*Orgyia pseudotsugata*) defoliated over 200,000 acres on and near the Boise and Payette National Forests in 2019, and this was the third year of defoliation in southern Idaho. IDL and USFS entomologists conducted surveys to determine the continued population success of this insect in the current outbreak. Larval, pupal, and egg mass surveys on the Packer John State Forest near Smiths Ferry indicated high levels of viral infection and parasitism affecting the population, which appears to have crashed this year.

Forest Legacy

IDL purchased one Forest Legacy conservation easement to protect 130 acres on private land that might otherwise be developed or lost as a productive working forest. IDL worked with The Nature Conservancy and private landowners to secure this easement.

Working with the Kaniksu Land Trust and private landowners, the Forest Legacy Program provided funding to facilitate the donation of 2 conservation easements across 83 acres in Bonner and Boundary County. These private landowners have provided assurance that these lands will continue to be managed as working forests and provide valuable wildlife habitat. IDL Forest Legacy projects are strategic in connecting ownerships to protect forest lands within high priority areas without removing those lands from private ownership.

Forest Stewardship

The Forest Stewardship Program provided landowners with comprehensive resource management plans designed to achieve landowner goals to protect, enhance or conserve their forest resources. IDL partners with the University of Idaho, landowners, private consultants and other agencies to develop the plans. Professional assistance was provided to landowners to improve the health, productivity and resilience of private forested lands. IDL provided landowner education and outreach through workshops, field tours, landowner visits, and distribution of information through printed materials, the internet, and media outlets.

Landscape Scale Restoration

Idaho Fire Resilient State Parks: project will develop, promote and implement a Fire Resilient Parks (FRP) program and protection initiative to increase awareness and reduce risk/loss in Idaho's State Parks. The project is intended to reduce threats by educating park visitors about wildfire risk reduction activities--Firewise principles; while implementing those same activities in the Parks thereby reinforcing concepts and improving fire resilience and creating living classrooms within parks.

Restoring the Teton River Riparian Forest: project will work with diverse partners to restore riparian forests on high-profile county park and adjacent ranch land; increasing community stewardship capacity

and providing educational opportunity. Work will be done with landowners to conserve, restore, and maintain riparian forest structure and function, and mitigate threats to the ecological processes that promote/protect ground and surface water resources, Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout habitat and ecological resilience.

Urban and Community Forestry

Idaho's Community Forestry Program assists communities manage public trees within cities to address critical issues, such as energy conservation, Stormwater management, air quality and human health.

Highlights include:

- IDL continues to utilize Idaho Tree Plotter (ITP), a statewide tree inventory geospatial database for Idaho Cities. This year, 3 existing city tree inventories were converted into this program. Currently, we have 4 additional cities with information waiting to be converted into ITP, and a tree inventory and corresponding management plan are being completed for Post Falls and Coeur d'Alene using this system. <https://pg-cloud.com/Idaho/>
- The program expanded opportunities for historically underserved and rural communities by providing scholarships to the Society of Municipal Arborist's Municipal Forestry Institute training program. The program will provide attendees with community planning and public administration training in the context of community forestry. In addition, IDL provided 5 workshops on tree canopy health assessment, storm water management, and tree removal safety to rural communities in Bonner, Ada, and Jefferson Counties.

USFS/IDL Collection Agreement

IDL and the Caribou-Targhee National Forest (CTNF) have extended the Collection Agreement, a first of its kind in Idaho, for a joint prevention and mitigation position. The agreement has proved highly successful with USFS staff providing necessary skills and tools, on a cost recoverable basis, to complete prevention and mitigation education activities throughout the CTNF and eastern portion of the local IDL district. This undertaking, was a collaborative effort to further the education outreach to forest users and residents within the Eastern Idaho area. Additionally, this project provides another tool to IDL and USFS to expand the prevention and mitigation programs across landscapes and ownership boundaries.

Contact Information



Idaho Department of Lands

Craig Foss
State Forester
 PO Box 83720
 Boise, ID 83720-0050
 208-334-0200
cfoss@idl.idaho.gov

US Forest Service Northern Region

Tim Garcia
Director, State & Private Forestry
 USDA Forest Service
 200 East Broadway
 Missoula, MT 59807
 406-329-3250
timothy.p.garcia@usda.gov
