



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet Nevada 2020



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2019 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$196,986
Forest Legacy	\$25,000
Forest Stewardship	\$142,700
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$276,402
State Fire Assistance	\$1,669,190
Urban and Community Forestry	\$226,249
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$133,432
Total	\$2,669,959

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

Cooperative Forestry programs are administered and implemented through partnerships between the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF), USDA Forest Service (USFS) and other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of Nevada's forests, rangelands and rural economies. We emphasize conservation practices, water resource protection, forest product utilization, wildfire hazard reduction, wildlife habitat enhancement and support of rural economies.

Program Goals

- Improve health of Nevada's watersheds and ecosystems through increased technical and financial assistance to landowners and land managers
- Promote science-based conservation, stewardship ethics and best management practices
- Provide technical and financial assistance to local governments and private landowners to help reduce the threats from catastrophic wildland fires.

Key Issues

- Loss of sagebrush cover type and associated habitat values from wildland fire and invasive species
- High forest stocking and poor forest health across all land ownerships
- Diminished forest products industry and associated impacts on economic viability of vegetation management projects
- Riparian system degradation from non-native, invasive species and altered hydrology
- Impacts of persistent drought on ecosystem resilience to and recovery from disturbances
- Fire threat in the wildland-urban interface.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2019 Accomplishments	Value
Population	2,700,551	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	1,826
Acres of Forest Land	10,607,454	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	317
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	212,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	314
Number of NIPF Landowners	15,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	224
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	20,920,000	State Fire Communities Assisted	209
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	9,500,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	1,000
Number of Rural Fire Departments	211	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	18	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	21
Forest Based Employment	2,961	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	1,944,188
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	21	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	963
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	61,715,690		

Program Highlights

Community Forestry and Open Space

In 2019, NDF continued outreach efforts to private landowners, municipalities and eligible nonprofits regarding the Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program (CFP) using informational emails and in-person contacts during meetings with interested landowners, land trusts and eligible government entities. The program was also promoted through the agency's website and social media accounts. In 2019, no eligible landowners applied for CFP funding.

Conservation Education

The Conservation Education and Outreach program provides science-based environmental education opportunities to Nevada's citizens. In 2019, NDF continued to support the implementation of conservation education modules for students and teachers throughout the state. Sub-grants were awarded to Sierra Nevada Journeys (SNJ) and Chaparral High School for conservation education programs. NDF, SNJ, and the Southern Nevada Conservancy reinvigorated the Project Learning Tree steering committee, which will be active in 2020.

Cooperative Fire Protection

Nevada's state and local fire programs protect approximately 9.5 million acres of state and private land. Over 560 wildfires burned more than 82K acres in Nevada and NDF responded to 260 fires, cost-shared on 32, and incurred suppression costs of \$7.9M. In 2019, NDF signed cooperative wildfire protection agreements with 25 fire protection districts in 16 counties, furthering cooperation between state and local fire response and wildfire mitigation. Enhanced coordination with federal, state and local cooperators occurred by sending 149 staff to multiple critical interagency planning/operations meetings. Through the FEPP/FPP programs NDF acquired a bulldozer, tractor and lowboy transport, one type 4 wildland brush truck and one type 6 wildland fire engine for use by local cooperators and a Rural Fire Protection Association. NDF held 123 public fire prevention education events, contacting approximately 26,230 people, and provided 120 first responder trainings for state and local cooperators. NDF trained 2,675 first responders, including sending 799 staff to wildland fire-related trainings. NDF completed 7,145 acres of fuel reduction and resilient landscapes projects, improving protection for at least 30 communities. Pass-through funds were awarded to at-risk communities with current CWPPs, using an interagency competitive process.

Economic Action

NDF continued with efforts to find higher value product for the wood harvested from forest restoration and

fuel reduction projects. Increasing value-added products helps reduce air quality impacts through reducing the amount of slash burning, removes green waste from local landfills and offsets the treatment costs. NDF used largely hand crews to produce over 340 cords of firewood and 600 tons of chips with an estimated value of \$17,000. NDF added the Tahoe Fund as a new partner this year who is supporting an interagency effort to bring a state-owned 1mw cogeneration power plant into production. USFS and BLM co-funded a feasibility study that is informing the interagency groups decision making process.

Forest Health Protection

NDF provided technical Forest Health Protection assistance to 15 private landowners, agencies, and local government covering 246 acres. Technical assistance was also provided to three state parks, two county parks and three city parks. Forest pest control projects on private lands addressed pine and pinyon engraver, pinyon blister rust, dwarf mistletoe, mountain pine beetle and conifer encroachment in Aspen stands. NDF completed 42 acres of tamarisk eradication to restore native trees and riparian vegetation along the Virgin River near Mesquite, Nevada and with the Clark County park system. Clark County will follow up with native tree and shrub planting the heavily used park. A restoration plan was written and restoration treatments such as planting native mesquite, trees, and other native vegetation was completed in Big Bend State Park, in Laughlin, Nevada. The park experienced a stand replacing fire that burned over 90% of the park in the summer of 2019.

Cooperative bark beetle monitoring continued in the Spring Mountains, and the Carson Range with the Nevada Dept of Agriculture, USFS, and local landowners. Populations in trapping areas remaining at endemic levels. Aerial detection surveys showed a 14,000 acre decrease in insect or disease activities across the state. Localized mountain pine beetle outbreaks of 100 acres or more were recorded. Pinyon needle scale damage impacted 18,000 acres statewide which was an increase over 2018. Most of this damage was recorded in the western slopes of the Pine Nut Mountains.

The extent of Aspen defoliation from the non-native satin moth was approximately the same as areas infested in 2018, although defoliation intensity in those areas decreased 30-50%. Documented occurrences of white satin moth are still found in the same in five counties across northern Nevada where recorded in 2018.

Forest Legacy

The Forest Legacy Program Coordinator continues to work with state partners, local governments and private landowners to develop eligible projects in the Northern and Western Regions of Nevada. In 2019, NDF worked with the Nevada Land Trust, Carson City Open Space and 3 local landowners to submit a combined Forest Legacy application for three projects. If awarded, these projects will conserve 500 acres of forested open space along the Sierra Nevada Front in Washoe, Carson City and Douglas Counties. This proposal is currently under review for funding. Final project rankings and funding decisions will be announced during the summer of 2020. Additional outreach efforts include highlighting the program on the agency's website, social media accounts and through press releases. In 2019, the Program Coordinator participated in the Western States Review Panel as one of six state government representatives.

Forest Stewardship

The NDF Advisory Committee held two day-long meetings in 2019 on March 20th and October 17th. The spring meeting focused primarily on reviewing project pre-proposals submitted to NDF for the Landscape Scale Restoration and Western States Fire Managers grants, while the fall meeting provided programmatic updates from NDF Natural Resources staff and Advisory Committee members in attendance. NDF staff continue to publicize the Forest Stewardship and Rural Forestry Assistance programs to local conservation districts and other interested landowners and groups throughout the state. Additionally, NDF staff attended the 2019 Nevada Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) annual meeting in Winnemucca, Nevada. The NDF Forest Stewardship Program sponsored a booth at the NACD meeting where NDF staff provided information on Forest Stewardship grant programs, NDF plant materials, and natural resource services provided by NDF camp crews. NDF staff continue to develop management plans for all project work, which are entered into the Stewardship Mapping and Reporting Tool (SMART) national database. During 2019, 16 resource management and project plans encompassed project work on 9,721 acres of private and state lands throughout Nevada. Management Plan monitoring was completed for four flagged plans (142 acres) during the summer and fall of 2019.

Landowner Assistance

During 2019, NDF provided 410 landowners and agency partners with technical assistance or education on issues related to forest health, wildland fire hazard reduction, post-fire rehabilitation, plant material recommendations, tree care, protected species management and other stewardship related topics. These contacts range from shorter on-site assessments, verbal education, and written recommendations to longer engagements, including authored stewardship plans, permitting and compliance, grant assistance and treatment implementation. NDF also reached 1,416 landowners through landowner education programs.

Landscape Scale Restoration

LSR funding was awarded to NDF to implement the Meadow Valley Riparian Project. This project seeks to improve habitat and water quality/availability along 18 mi. of Meadow Valley Wash and expand the canopy cover of native cottonwood galleries.

Truckee Meadows Weed Management 2019 Accomplishments: Sub grant awarded to Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB) to assist with training "citizen scientists". Funding will assist KTMB with the creation of traditional and digital media messaging materials and provide for educational programs targeted to school-aged children in the Truckee Meadows area. Weed awareness, identification, prevention and treatment will be the focus of outreach materials and educational programs.

Optimizing Urban Tree Canopy Coverage under Water Conservation Programs 2019 Accomplishments: Climate change and water restrictions require an effective way to maintain urban tree canopy in the face of extended drought. To increase tree survival under water conservation efforts, NDF and statewide partners, are creating and will disseminate an irrigation handbook and video on efficient and effective tree irrigation. This publication is in final draft, under final review, and preparing for print.

Fire Information Portal 2019 Accomplishments: Funds continued to support updates and maintenance for the portal while marketing it to potential users. 2019 Deliverables in progress: 1. A web hit counter tracking outside use of NV-NRFIP as a measure of project success. The Timmons support team has provided our GIS Specialist with Google Analytics to aid with tracking portal use and whether the portal was accessed from the main NDF website, directly, or from a web search.

Nevada Network of Fire Adapted Communities

NDF collaborates with other state, federal and local stakeholders to maintain and grow the Nevada Network of Fire Adapted Communities (The Network). The Network fosters the widespread occurrence of Fire Adapted Communities, where people living in high fire threat locations fully prepare themselves, their homes and the landscape where they reside to survive the destructive force of wildfire. The Network achieves this mission by connecting community-level stakeholders with supporting resources, such as funding, education, peer mentors, technical expertise and labor sources available. The Network includes an advisory board composed of the major stakeholder representatives, community-level guidance information, chapter leader handbook, website, statewide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) database, newsletter and annual statewide fire adapted communities conference. Four communities were recruited in 2019 to become chapters and 262 individual members added. Currently there are 13 approved chapters in Nevada. In 2019, The Network delivered outreach materials and presentations to every county in Nevada. The Network also participated in 56 outreach events that provided education on wildfire prevention and mitigation as well as fire adapted community information to 6,451 people. Additionally, the Network assisted communities in securing 12 fire adapted community improvement grants funding fuels reduction, community fire mitigation education and CWPP development.

Nevada Shared Stewardship and Cohesive Strategy

NDF, USFS and other federal, state and local partners accept the Cohesive Strategy as Nevada's wildfire management strategy and the Shared Stewardship concepts as how Nevada collaboratively implements the Cohesive and other strategies. These cooperators spent a week in late 2019 reviewing progress made on the 2016 Nevada Cohesive Strategy goals and objectives and revising the strategy to include current needs. At the conclusion of the meeting, the State of Nevada, USFS, and Dept of Interior signed the Nevada Agreement for Shared Stewardship. The agreement recognizes that all parties have a shared responsibility and commitment to collaboratively and actively address landscape scale natural resource and fire management challenges that don't stop at political boundaries. Cooperators will expand their

working relationships, jointly set priorities, implement projects at the appropriate scale, co-manage risks, and share resources. These concepts will allow all cooperators to use all available tools for actively doing the most appropriate work, in the right place, at the right scale. Partners will collectively identify priority landscapes, coordinate investments, and implement projects that improve the health and productivity of forest, rangeland, watersheds and wildlife habitats in Nevada. Shared agreement priorities include ecological restoration, conserving and protecting Nevada's industries, sustainable recreation, conserving and protecting fish and wildlife, and enhancement of cultural and demographic diversity. All parties will use the best available science and models to inform decisions and science-based tools, focus on mutually beneficial priorities as outlined by existing plans and strategies, avoid duplicative efforts, and allocate resources to ensure partnership growth and goal achievement. The agreement requires the creation of an executive committee to review, resolve and report challenges and success and maintain a 5-year strategy and plan of work.

Sagebrush Ecosystem Conservation

NDF provides staff to the Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team, an interdisciplinary team representing sagebrush ecosystem and greater sage-grouse threats, at the direction of the Governor's Sagebrush Ecosystem Council. The main efforts of the Sagebrush Ecosystem Program have included development of a state conservation plan for greater sage-grouse and the development and implementation of a compensatory mitigation program for large-scale disturbances impacting greater sage-grouse habitat called the Nevada Conservation Credit System (CCS). NDF staff assisted with improvements to the CCS and the drafting and passage of temporary and permanent regulations requiring the use of the CCS for mitigation in the state, worked toward mitigation projects on public lands, and managed private lands mitigation projects. On private lands mitigation projects in 2019, treatments included 25 acres benefitting from livestock exclusion fencing and Beaver Dam Analog installations as well as 775 acres benefitting from pinyon-juniper removal. Four new credit projects (20K acres of habitat) were awarded seed funding to begin mitigation projects of their own with approximately \$750K in state funds. These funds will be used to determine the credits available for mitigation offsets from quantification of habitat quality and quantity, develop management plans, as well as improve habitat, and are expected to be returned to the state through future credit sales. These projects are predominantly focused on stewardship actions and preservation, but also have elements of riparian and meadow improvement, removal of encroaching pinyon-juniper, weed treatment actions, and improved grazing practices, among others.

Urban and Community Forestry

The Urban and Community Forestry Program (U&CF) promotes active management of urban forest resources through delivery of management tools for canopy-related assessments, fostering education of green industry professionals, and providing technical and financial assistance. The U&CF Program was without a U&CF Coordinator for 9 months in 2019 and accomplishments in 2019 reflect this vacancy. The U&CF Program helped sponsor the annual Desert Green XXIII-Cultivating Sustainable Landscapes event in Las Vegas. NDF funded University of Nevada Cooperative Extension to create educational materials and tree watering guides for northern and southern Nevada. These guides will be available in spring 2020. NDF sponsors and supports the Tree City USA program in Nevada and coordinates the renewal of the 13 currently qualified cities, while also supporting the recruitment of more cities to join the program. The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) and University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) both continued being recognized as Tree Campus USA's. The U&CF Program also supports many Arbor Day Events throughout Nevada by supplying trees for planting on Arbor Day, and participation at Arbor Day events by NDF staff. In an effort to increase urban landscape species diversity in harsh environments, U&CF is working with our state nursery in southern Nevada on performance trials of six tree species.

Contact Information



Nevada Division of Forestry

Kacey KC
State Forester
2478 Fairview Drive
Carson City, NV 89701
775-684-2522
kaceykc@forestry.nv.gov

US Forest Service Intermountain Region

Tim Garcia
Director, State & Private Forestry
USDA Forest Service
324 25th Street
Ogden, UT 844401
406-329-3250
timothy.p.garcia@usda.gov
