Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>FY 2019 Final</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Forestry and Open Space</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management</td>
<td>$782,006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Legacy</td>
<td>$2,350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Stewardship</td>
<td>$275,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Scale Restoration</td>
<td>$310,401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fire Assistance</td>
<td>$3,221,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban and Community Forestry</td>
<td>$252,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Fire Assistance</td>
<td>$623,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,414,565</strong></td>
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NOTE: This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

Cooperative Forestry programs are implemented through a partnership between the State of Oregon, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of private forestlands, city and community trees and forests, and rural economies. Emphasis is on sustainable forests for timber and other forest products, watersheds, healthy urban and community ecosystems, wildlife habitat, and local economies. The goal is to continue providing economic, environmental, and social values and products.

Program Goals

- Increase cost effectiveness through the use of partnerships in delivery.
- Use voluntary, rather than regulatory approaches.
- Empower landowners, cities, and communities to be stewards of the land.

Key Issues

- Assist communities to mitigate the wildland fire problem in the Wildland-Urban Interface.
- Administer the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program to effectively support eligible rural fire departments and improve the fire protection district capabilities.
- Utilize unused forest residue materials for energy production as an alternative to burning and as a means to reduce fire hazards.
- Minimize damage from native insects, such as bark beetles and other defoliators, and diseases, both foliage and root pathogens, which often results from overly dense stands, management history, or low species diversity.
- Respond to introductions of non-native insects, pathogens, and invasive plants on state and private lands using early detection/rapid response practices for new introductions and management & suppression practices for established populations.
- Slow the spread of Phytophthora ramorum, the cause of sudden oak death, through early detection, local eradication of the more aggressive EU1 strain, and containment. Funding remains a limiting factor in the state's ability to mitigate the spread and damage of the disease.
- Maintain large blocks of private industrial forestlands as working forests despite the loss of forest product markets and increasing development.
- Encourage long-term sustainable management of family forestlands by assisting the owners to develop and implement a plan to actively manage their forest and related resources according to their objectives.
- Improve infrastructure for better access for fire protection while enhancing fish habitat.
• Educate cities about the public safety, economic development, environmental quality, and community livability benefits that result from the proper planting and management of their urban trees.
• Help strengthen, or pass new, tree ordinances, develop tree inventories and management plans, train local staff, support tree advisory committees, and develop comprehensive municipal urban forestry programs.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Facts</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>3,831,074</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acres of Forest Land</td>
<td>29,569,316</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land</td>
<td>6,970,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of NIPF Landowners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection</td>
<td>2,411,706</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection</td>
<td>13,493,620</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Rural Fire Departments</td>
<td>168</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cities and Towns</td>
<td>242</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forest Based Employment</td>
<td>41,161</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Forestry Budget (All Sources)</td>
<td>147,429,143</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 2019 Accomplishments</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance</td>
<td>1,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans</td>
<td>19,922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans</td>
<td>12,578</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fire Communities Assisted</td>
<td>74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coop Forest Health Acres Protected</td>
<td>7,634</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance</td>
<td>2,849,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance</td>
<td>15,985</td>
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Program Highlights

Cooperative Fire Protection

Cooperative Fire funds are a key component of Oregon Department of Forestry's (ODF's) fire budget and strategy to improve protection efficiency and effectiveness on non-Federal lands. These funds allow the ODF to address critical preparedness needs for safety, increased initial attack capability, new and improved fire control technologies and intelligence, organizational improvement, and strategic planning. ODF foresters statewide worked closely with Wildland Urban Interface landowners and homeowners to limit wildfire damage and conserve forestland by reducing hazardous fuel loading. 68 fire departments and rangeland associations were funded through the VFA program in 2019. These dollars allowed for the growth and expansion of 24 rangeland protection associations engaged in suppression efforts. Often the first resource to attack a fire, these organizations saved the public potentially millions of dollars in suppression costs in 2019. The number of Firewise Communities increased to 181 statewide, with the addition of 25 new communities in 2019. The 2019 Western State Fire Managers (WSFM) grant projects will mitigate fire hazards in twenty eight communities with a goal of treating 1,765 acres in the wildland urban interface. The Community Assistance grant has projects that treat hazardous fuels in ten communities and are forecasted to treat 850 acres.

Federal Forest Restoration & Good Neighbor Authority

Oregon established the Federal Forest Restoration (FFR) Program in 2013 “to accelerate the pace, scale and quality of forest restoration to increase the resilience of Oregon’s federal forests, in a manner that leverages collaborative efforts and contributes to the long-term vitality of regional economies and rural communities.” The FFR Program supports forest collaboratives through competitive grants and technical assistance contract awards. With FFR Program support and before, local collaborative groups have demonstrated success in building trust across stakeholder groups and have enabled a base of active forest restoration work on Oregon’s national forests. FFR District Coordinators work with USDA FS Region 6 staff and local collaboratives to develop local projects. The FFR Program is a direct avenue for the state to respond to the urgent need to restore our federal forests and revitalize our rural economies. Since enacting FFR the State of Oregon has invested over $1 million per year to increase capacity and build collaborative agreement to accelerate restoration work in Oregon’s 11 National Forests and 8 BLM
In 2014 Congress authorized partnerships between the State and the federal forest agencies to accomplish restoration on federal land under the Good Neighbor Authority (GNA). GNA projects allow the Forest Service and BLM to provide funds and timber value to the State so that ODF personnel and contractors can implement management actions authorized by federal land managers, accomplishing more restoration on federal forest lands by adding capacity from the state. ODF has used FFR funds to jump-start GNA projects in 10 of Oregon's National Forests and a few BLM Districts. As of August 2019 the Federal Forest Restoration Program has GNA projects with signed supplemental agreements for services in the amount of $3,409,076 and product removal in the amount of $5,535,000.

**Forest Health Protection**

The ODF Forest Health Protection team continued efforts to protect forests from harm in alignment with the 2015 Forest Action Plan. The USFS Digital Mobile Sketch Mapping (DMSM) system has been fully integrated into the annual statewide aerial survey (30 million acres) and improves the quality and quantity of forest health data. Sudden Oak Death (SOD) remains a priority issue in Oregon. New infestations (450 ac of treatment needed) have been found within quarantine treatment boundaries. The virulent EU1 strain of the pathogen comprises 135 acres and is prioritized for treatment. Treatments in 2019 total 118 acres. A contract for an economic assessment of the SOD program, a need identified by the Sudden Oak Death Task Force was issued. SOD treatments for $30 million over the next 20 years could offset a loss of 1,200 jobs by 2028 and $580 million in wages from 2028 to 2038. Current SOD funding includes dollars from NRCS, $1.2 million for OSU research secured by Sen. Merkley, research funding in the Farm Bill, $1.7 million state legislative dollars, and continued USFS funding. Other invasive species issues include four new species detected due to insect trapping research. Over 400 invasive species "first detectors" have been trained through the Oregon Forest Pest Detector Program. In support of the "Emerald Ash Borer Readiness and Response Plan", Oregon ash seeds are being collected to ensure species preservation and aid resistance research. ODA continued the weed-free gravel/rock pilot program, certifying over 235,000 tons of material as weed-free; and identified and treated the only known populations of Welted Thistle in the US. The Invasive Noxious Weed Control Program showed a 1:34 cost-benefit for EDRR efforts and a 1:15 cost-benefit for biological control programs. ODF joined forces with the Oregon Bee Project in pollinator research. Baseline knowledge about pollinator populations and habitat needs will improve voluntary conservation program actions.

**Forest Legacy**

ODF and project partners continued acquisition activities for the 1,539 East Moraine Wallowa Lake tract, a fee-title acquisition which will be held by Wallowa County. This acquisition is supported by grants awarded in FY2016 and FY2017. Key partners include Wallowa Lake Land Trust and Wallowa Resources, who have been integral in assisting Wallowa County with their eventual transfer of title. The appraisal and review appraisal have been completed and determined the appraised value meets USFLA standards. All due diligence is completed and Wallowa County is anticipated to accept title mid-January 2020. FY2018 and FY2019 funding for Hood River Fish and Forest Conservation has initiated ODF’s due diligence for the first phase of this project. Conservation easement negotiations have begun with landowner Weyerhaeuser Company, aided by project partner Western Rivers Conservancy. Appraisal work for this project is anticipated to begin in 2020. Funding requests have been submitted for the final phases of this project. ODF is awaiting final budgets for FY2020 regarding Phase 1 of Arch Cape Watershed FLP Project and anticipates initial discussions and due diligence to begin in early 2020.

**Forest Stewardship**

The Forest Stewardship Program assists governments and private landowners to improve resource conditions on forestlands. Stewardship Foresters provided 905 on-site, one-on-one technical assists to individual landowners, operators, forestry, and other natural resource professionals on improving resource conditions on private (primarily family forest) owned forestlands. Assistance was provided to: 223 family forest owners on general forestry and forestland management affecting 56,606 forestland acres; 8 forest operators on marketing and forest product utilization affecting 1,193 acres; 21 landowners on watershed improvement activities affecting 758 acres; 67 landowners on afforestation or reforestation projects covering 4,605 acres; 162 landowners on timber stand improvement projects on 13,878 acres; 62 landowners on wildfire fuel treatment and slash reduction projects on 7,508 acres; 7 landowners on wildlife habitat enhancements covering 4,802 acres; 12 landowners on invasive species topics covering 1,625 acres; and 103 landowners with forest health concerns covering 11,505 acres. ODF supports the
USDA Farm Service Agency's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program in partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Watershed Councils, and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. ODF also provided assistance to 41 family forest owners so they could find and hire a professional forester or other qualified natural resource professional to write an Oregon multiple resource, long-term management plan meeting national Forest Stewardship Program standards on their property. Total stewardship plan accomplishments in 2019 covered 19,922 acres. ODF Stewardship foresters spent 2,450 hours responding to walk-in and phone technical assistance inquiries and assisted an additional 424 participants in training sessions, watershed council meetings, local advisory groups and other education/outreach forums.

Forestry Education
The Forestry Education program uses an innovative strategy to address communities at risk of wildfire and introduce high school aged youth to career pathways in forestry. The project will develop and implement Natural Resource Career Pathways curriculum into 5 Career & Technical Education (CTE) high schools established by the Oregon Dept. of Education, within high-risk rural areas around Southwest Oregon. These programs will expand upon and support existing natural science programs, while promoting the concepts of landscape resiliency, and long-term stewardship of lands. Local fire, natural resource professionals, and other core partner's work with school staff to develop the program's curriculum designed to engage students, and community members in urban forestry, Firewise, and other natural resource concerns of the area. The project addresses two key issues from Oregon's Forest Action Plan: Communities at Risk of Wildfire and Maintaining the Forestland Base. This project advances the communities at risk of wildfire strategy to expand outreach and education in the WUI to reduce wildfire risks to homes and private property, while encouraging farm, ranch, and family forest landowners to manage their wildfire risks.

Landowner Assistance
The Oregon Department of Forestry has no dedicated state funding for landowner assistance. The Forest Stewardship Program provides base funding that we leverage to help landowners access cost share and other resources through a host of partners. These partners, which include the Oregon State University Forestry and Natural Resources Extension Program and Oregon Forest Resources Institute, formally meet at least once each year as the Partnership for Forestry Education to coordinate statewide assistance efforts. Of note, ODF has a statewide agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to assist forest landowners with the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Through this agreement, ODF is able to hire additional capacity to provide technical assistance to landowners receiving cost share through NRCS. The Department also partners with the American Forest Foundation (AFF) on innovative landowner engagement strategies and has recently begun work on a joint pilot project designed to bring additional capacity for forest management planning to targeted watersheds in Eastern and Southwest Oregon.

Landscape Scale Restoration
The Oregon Department of Forestry is a partner in the Klamath-Lake Forest Health Partnership (KLFHP), located in South Central Oregon. KLFHP, which is a broad collaborative group that includes federal, state, and local partners, has come together to build cross-boundary, landscape scale projects that serve both landowner and resource needs. Their efforts are a model for Forest Stewardship at scale. Their efforts have successfully built two Joint Chiefs projects in Klamath and Lake Counties – North Warner and Chiloquin. In areas where Joint Chiefs funds have not been available, they have leveraged other resources. ODF’s Federal Forest Restoration Program takes advantage of the Good Neighbor Authority to complete restoration work on federal lands. ODF also has a statewide agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to assist forest landowners with the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). The group has paired these programs to treat thousands of acres of adjacent public and private lands. Recognizing that not all programs are the right fit for some landowners, KLFHP has also secured supplemental funds through the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) and other federal opportunities, such as the Western States Fire Managers program. Members of KLFHP have captured their success in an OSU Extension publication: https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/pnw707.

Tree Improvement
Funded by a cooperative effort between federal, state and private landowners. ODF’s Tree Improvement efforts to produce seedlings and educate the public about tree improvement and reforestation continue to
produce results. In 2019, the harvest came to almost 2,800 bushels, which is expected to result in about 1,100 pounds of seed, enough to produce about 16.5 million seedlings. The western hemlock harvest produced a little over 400 bushels or enough seed to produce about 34 million seedlings. Public education and outreach remains an important part of ODF's mission. Tour events were held at the Schroeder Seed Orchard to educate the public on the process of tree improvement and the importance of proper genetic selections for reforestation. We invited the local Senator and State Representative out for a tour of the facility. They were shown the compound and orchards to discuss the production capacity of Schroeder in helping Family Forest Landowners gain access to improved seed. An updated 2019/2020 Seedling catalog was developed, written, and will be posted on ODF's website. The catalog will assist Family Forest Landowners in their reforestation needs. Tree Improvement efforts continue to support Family Forest Landowner reforestation by facilitating availability of the best seed. In 2019 seed sources were purchased for the Oregon Seed Bank to fill critical need areas with existing seed deficiencies, and to replace seed lots purchased for sowing. Meeting these needs is a continual process, and reliance on natural seed collections with often erratic crop cycles means that substantial work remains to build seed inventories to desired levels.

**Urban and Community Forestry**

The UCF program is a catalyst for Oregonians to improve their quality of life by promoting community investment in urban forests. ODF provided assistance to approximately 60% of Oregon's cities, representing over 95% of Oregon's urban population. Staff assists communities with a wide range of technical, educational, and organizational services through onsite visits and training, webinars, newsletters, email, and video conferencing.

To provide statewide leadership and develop a stronger sense of the viability of community forests throughout the state, the ODF-UCF assistance program has been working to procure and implement a statewide tree-mapping platform for most of 2019; this work will increase significantly in 2020 as they bring more cities onto the platform. Funding for this project was provided by a LSR grant. The UCF program provided scholarships for Oregon Community Trees Directors to attend the Partners in Community Forestry conference in Irvine, CA, in 2018, and Cleveland, OH, in 2019. Additionally, in 2019, the UCF program was able to provide scholarships for two urban foresters to attend the Municipal Forestry Institute in Silverton, Oregon. By encouraging high-level learning and networking opportunities, these scholarships are important for building the future urban forestry leaders in Oregon. ODF staff also produced the 2019 Annual Urban Forestry conference in partnership with Oregon Community Trees. The conference was attended by 160 people and the theme was, Making Space for Trees- designing tree friendly infrastructure for Oregon communities.

Through the last half of 2019, the UCF program director was selected to participate with a multi-state group, led by the Forest Service, to clarify the Community Accomplishment Reporting System (CARS). Staff also provided over 360 statewide assists, including technical assistance to over 35 private citizens and 25 schools, colleges, and public entities.