Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>FY 2019 Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Forestry and Open Space</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management</td>
<td>$1,084,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Legacy</td>
<td>$3,760,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Stewardship</td>
<td>$77,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Scale Restoration</td>
<td>$265,687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fire Assistance</td>
<td>$149,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban and Community Forestry</td>
<td>$241,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Fire Assistance</td>
<td>$87,116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,666,904</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

State, private, and other non-Federal forests make up 92 percent of the 176 million acres of forests across the 20 states of the Northeast and Midwest. The U.S. Forest Service and state forestry agencies collaborate with other partners on shared stewardship goals, which also support each State Forest Action Plan. The State and Private Forestry programs promote the health, resilience, and productivity of trees and forests across all ownerships for the benefit of people and wildlife; establish and manage urban and community forests; empower private landowners with information and technical assistance to sustainably manage their forests; and protect critically important rural forests and watersheds.

Program Goals

- Conserve and manage working forest landscapes for multiple values and uses.
- Protect forests from threats.
- Enhance public benefits from trees and forests.

Key Issues

- Conserve native biological diversity across all landscapes.
- Maintain and enhance forest ecosystem health and ecological productivity.
- Maintain and enhance forest contribution to ecosystem services.
- Maintain and enhance an ethic of respect for the land, sustainable use, and exemplary management.
- Legal, institutional, and economic framework in place for forest conservation and sustainability.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments
Program Highlights

Forest Health Protection
Emerald ash borer has now been confirmed in ten Vermont towns in eight counties. Officials are encouraging Slow the Spread Recommendations to the mapped Infested Area reduces the risk of spreading of the invasive beetle. Like New Hampshire, forest tent caterpillar defoliation plummeted. White pine needle damage and red pine decline continued as also reported in neighboring states.

Forest Legacy
The Vermont Forest Legacy Program continued with forest land protection on two multi-tract projects in the state. The Groton Forest Legacy Initiative project added a 930-acre conservation easement to the multi-tract project that has already protected 1,598 acres around the Groton State Forest. The state also acquired a 575-acre conservation easement as part of the multi-tract Windham Region Working Forest project. In addition to the completed acquisitions, the state was actively working on other tracts in order to complete both projects in 2020.

Forest Stewardship
The Vermont Forest Stewardship Program reported 204 new or revised stewardship plans for 14,237 acres, of which 11,772 acres were in Important Forest Areas per the state's Strategic Forest Action Plan. In addition, 2,722 landowners participated in education programs as well as several landscape scale restoration projects, including Vermont Natural Resources Council's "Training Real Estate and Resource Professionals to Keep Forests as Forests," which targets professionals who work with private landowners making decisions about their woodlands.

Landscape Scale Restoration
The Resilient Right-of-Ways Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) grant project enabled Vermont’s UCF to help eight communities (for a total of 20 for the multi-year project) assess the public trees along 178 miles of roadside, resulting in better management of this resource. Program staff continued to support thoughtful planning in town forests by releasing the Town Forest Recreation Planning Toolkit, funded through an LSR grant.

Urban and Community Forestry
Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) staff led 26 workshops, assisted in 25 rural roadside ash inventories, and awarded $38,660 through 20 grants to help municipalities prepare for the impact of the emerald ash borer.
## Contact Information

| Vermont Agency of Natural Resources | US Forest Service  
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Michael Snyder  
*State Forester*  
Dept. of Forest, Parks and Recreation  
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3801  
802-828-1531  
michael.snyder@vermont.gov | Mark Buccowich  
*Acting Deputy Regional Forester*  
USDA Forest Service  
626 E Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53202-4616  
414-297-3600  
mark.buccowich@usda.gov |