



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Idaho 2021



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2020 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$465,753
Forest Legacy	\$4,560,000
Forest Stewardship	\$176,200
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$600,000
State Fire Assistance	\$3,061,871
Urban and Community Forestry	\$272,378
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$321,199
Total	\$9,457,401

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 project investments in our forests, IDL incorporates strategies and objectives from 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 2020 Accomplishments	Value
Population	1,567,582	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	2,567
Acres of Forest Land	21,736,262	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	5,890
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	1,427,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	5,007
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	13
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	3,289,303	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	400
Number of Rural Fire Departments	254	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	823
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	975,913
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	3	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	49,954
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:

Shared Stewardship: Since the signing of the Shared Stewardship Agreement at the end of 2018, multiple Shared Stewardship "focal areas" have been jointly defined across the state. Cross-boundary work, collaboratively planned by three National Forests, IDL, NRCS and private landowners, has been carried out on private lands adjacent to NEPA-ready National Forest projects across the state--with landowner financial assistance primarily supplied by WSFM grants, HFR grants and NRCS EQIP funds. Localized meetings with affected landowners, forest managers, and multiple agencies have resulted in the development of two CFLRP and two Joint Chiefs project applications. GNA-administered salvage sales and vegetative-management treatments have also been initiated on National Forests within our Shared Stewardship focal areas.

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. 2020 efforts include:

- Twenty (23) Idaho organizations received planning, educational and hazard fuel reduction assistance.
- Eight (8) entities (Boundary County, Bonner County, Nez Perce County, Shoshone County and Valley County, Island Park Sustainable Fire Community, Portneuf SWCD, Teton FPD) 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 administrative support to plan the annual Idaho State Forestry Contest. Due to COVID-19, the contest which brings over 600 youth from across the state to compete in basic forestry skills such as tree identification, cruising, silviculture, surveying, and scaling logs, was canceled this year. IDL partnered with organizations to plan the 32nd Family Forest Landowners and Managers Conference in Moscow, Idaho. This three day-event was also canceled due to COVID-19.

The Idaho Forest Owners Field Day was supported by IDL in partnership with the Idaho Forest Owners Association, Idaho Tree Farm, and UI Extension Forestry. This event was postponed and modified due to COVID-19 concerns, but welcomed 75 attendees for educational demonstrations on thinning, pruning,

forest insects and disease, logging history, use and maintenance of equipment and tools and safe application of herbicides.

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 (RFC) funding helps train and equip volunteer departments in rural communities.

Forest Health Protection

IDL staff conducted comprehensive evaluation surveys on approximately 1.1 million acres of state, private, and other lands to detect, map and assess forest health issues. Field surveys were conducted to monitor for gypsy moth, an invasive defoliator, on 959,465 acres in northern Idaho, and to track populations of Douglas-fir tussock moth, a native defoliator, on 153,442 acres. Smaller surveys were conducted with Forest Health Protection personnel for western hemlock looper on 4,106 acres and a *Cydia* borer of western larch on 104 acres. A total of 27 forest health training sessions were held, educating 926 state and private landowners and managers. Staff also provided 201 technical assists to landowners and managers. IDL aerial observer did not participate in the abbreviated Aerial Detection Survey in 2020 due to COVID-19.

Forest Health Special Surveys

Douglas-fir tussock moth (*Orgyia pseudotsugata*) defoliated over 200,000 acres on and near the Boise and Payette National Forests in 2019. 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 caused the outbreak to collapse in this area. Defoliation also occurred further west on the Payette National Forest in 2019 and 2020 and IDL personnel assisted USFS entomologists with larval surveys. Little defoliation is expected in this area in 2021.

Tussock moth defoliation occurred in northern Idaho for the first time since 2012, in the Silver Valley near Mullan and east of Clarkia adjacent to the St. Joe National Forest. IDL and USFS entomologists conducted egg mass surveys to determine population levels, and defoliation is expected to expand on the St. Joe National Forest in 2021. The outbreak in the Silver Valley is expected to collapse in 2021.

Forest Legacy

IDL purchased five Forest Legacy conservation easements to protect 740 acres on private land in Boundary County that might otherwise be developed or lost as a productive working forest. IDL worked with The Nature Conservancy and private landowners to secure these easements. Forest Legacy conservation easements 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. Existing plans were inspected, modified and reported as required. 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

Clearwater Basin Critical Need Seed Orchard: This project will establish a seed orchard on state land to provide low elevation seed for use by the Inland Empire Tree Improvement Cooperative. The Clearwater Valley fires of 2015 highlighted the need for seed sources that match the lower elevations of this part of

Idaho. The Inland Empire Tree Improvement Cooperative is a partnership of three states, federal land management agencies and industrial timber producers. The project is still in its early stages, having established water rights and is currently involved in installing infrastructure.

The Wood River Valley Collaborative Forest Enhancements: This project will develop tree canopy assessments and community forestry management plans for several Wood River Valley communities to document the status of the tree canopy, identify priority planting areas and develop resource management strategies that improve forest health through community forest management activities. The project will also provide ESRI StoryMaps and public workshops to increase educational opportunities for Wood River Valley stakeholders and citizens. The project has some additional funding for strategic urban and riparian tree plantings to address strategic areas identified within the tree canopy assessments and community forestry management plans.

Urban and Community Forestry

Idaho's Community Forestry Program assists communities in the management of public trees within cities to address critical issues, such as energy conservation, stormwater management, invasive pests, air quality, human health and environmental equity.

The Community Forestry Program expanded our outreach to underserved and rural communities by offering ISA Certified Arborist preparatory seminars in the Treasure Valley. These seminars provided training opportunities for current Idaho arborists to receive CEU credits and prepared potential arborists for the ten domains on the ISA exam. These seminars served as a pilot program that will be expanded to Eastern and Northern Idaho.

Contact Information



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