Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>FY 2020 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>$198,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Legacy</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Stewardship</td>
<td>$185,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Scale Restoration</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fire Assistance</td>
<td>$868,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban and Community Forestry</td>
<td>$274,942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Fire Assistance</td>
<td>$296,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,874,803</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Oklahoma Forestry Services mission is to protect, enhance and conserve the state's forests ad natural resources for present and future generations. Oklahoma's cooperative forestry programs are administered by and implemented through a partnership between the State Forester, the USDA Forest Service, and many private, non-profit, and governmental entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of the state's forestlands and other natural resources to improved rural economies.

Program Goals

- Reduce the risk and impact from wildfire to Oklahoma through prevention, improved detection and suppression, hazard mitigation, and increased capacity.
- Increase Oklahoma lands under active conservation management.
- Improve the overall health and diversity of urban forest resources through improved public education and collaboration with Oklahoma's communities.

Key Issues

- Wildfire prevention and hazard mitigation is an increased priority for Oklahoma Forestry Services. The last several years have shown large increases in both wildfire occurrence and acres burned. Extreme risk from wildfire is ever present due to the severe droughts over the last decade that increased tree mortality while periodic wet spring seasons have added to the tremendous wildland fuel loading already present.
- Oklahoma landowners utilize active land management to promote long term protection, conservation, and utilization of forest land and resources. Current estimates reveal that Oklahoma has approximately 2.35 million forested acres under active management. By 2022, the goal is to increase lands under active management to 2.65 million acres.
- Prescribed burning is one of the management tools used to increase health and resilience of Oklahoma's landscape. Careful application of prescribed fire where practicable is used for hazardous fuels mitigation, increased resource benefits, and reduced wildfire impacts to natural resources and values-at-risk. Oklahoma Forestry Services conducts prescribed burns on public lands and provides technical expertise and training to promote prescribed burning in Oklahoma.
- Tree City USA is a community forest program designed to encourage healthy trees and forests within the boundaries of communities across Oklahoma. Currently, Oklahoma's Tree City USA communities serve 42% of Oklahoma's population. OFS will continue to invest in this program in order to increase the percent of population living in a Tree City USA.
- Eastern redcedar is encroaching on plant communities, degrading forest ecosystems (especially in the Cross Timbers region) and increasing wildfire risk. Reduced land management and increased cost for redcedar removal are primary reasons for this encroachment. Solutions to this problem...
includes promoting active conservation management and developing markets to increase redcedar utilization.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Facts</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>3,751,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Forest Land</td>
<td>11,839,462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land</td>
<td>5,952,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of NIPF Landowners</td>
<td>71,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire</td>
<td>926,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Private Land Under State Fire</td>
<td>5,340,376</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Rural Fire Departments</td>
<td>859</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cities and Towns</td>
<td>597</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forest Based Employment</td>
<td>6,770</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Forestry Budget (All Sources)</td>
<td>15,782,614</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 2020 Accomplishments</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance</td>
<td>763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans</td>
<td>10,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans</td>
<td>8,376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fire Communities Assisted</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coop Forest Health Acres Protected</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance</td>
<td>1,805,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance</td>
<td>10,403</td>
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</tbody>
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Program Highlights

**Conservation Education**

Oklahoma Forestry Services continues to offer outdoor classrooms and PLT training for teachers in schools. These programs educate children of all ages about conservation and the important role trees play to protect our natural resources.

**Cooperative Fire Protection**

Oklahoma Forestry Services (OFS) continues to offer wildfire response to protect people, property and resources. We also work with landowners, communities and State and Federal agencies with Wildfire Protection Plans as well as any mitigation efforts needed to protect resources. Throughout the year, OFS hosts wildfire training classes to State and Federal employees as well as other community fire fighters.

**Economic Action**

Oklahoma Forestry Services has been working with and will continue to assist companies and groups to promote economic growth and benefits of wood products for Oklahoma. We provide information from Forest Inventory and Analysis data and technical assistance for economic development.

**Forest Health Protection**

Each year, Oklahoma forestry Services flies over areas of concentrated pine and checks for signs of damage caused by southern pine beetles. OFS also watches for other diseases and insect problems throughout the State and when we identify a potential problem we take appropriate steps to control the problem.

**Forest Stewardship**

Oklahoma Forestry Services continues to promote good Forest Stewardship to all land managers. We feel, these landowners can achieve their management goals while protecting all their natural resources.

**Landowner Assistance**

Oklahoma Forestry Services primary task is to offer landowner assistance to help with any forest management need they may have.
Urban and Community Forestry

Urban and Community Forestry has several programs on going. All of these programs promote trees and forests in communities. We initiated a "healthy trees, healthy lives" program, a program to plant trees on playgrounds, and another project to show how we can use Urban wood to reduce costs to manage trees within our communities.

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