



California



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

Program	FY 2011 Final
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	878,302
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management - National Fire Plan	594,000
Forest Legacy	25,000
Forest Stewardship	649,500
State Fire Assistance	520,357
State Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	7,949,953
Urban and Community Forestry	1,545,273
Volunteer Fire Assistance	327,250
Volunteer Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	1,054,475
Total	13,544,110

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

The cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the State of California, the USDA Forest Service and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of California's forest lands, rural economies, and urban forests. Emphasis focuses on timber and other forest products, fuels management, wildlife, water resources, rural economies, conservation practices, and the multiple benefits of urban forests.

- The goals of the programs are to maintain and improve the health of California's urban and rural forests and related economies. These programs: (1) reduce costs through the use of partnerships, (2) increase values through sustained productivity of forests, and (3) are voluntary, and use non-regulatory approaches.

Key Issues:

- o Wildland/Urban Interface fire hazard and fuel reduction issues. o Forest health concerns related to increased age and density, decreased diversity, invasive weeds, and new pests. o Rapid urbanization and development in wildland areas. o Water quality and riparian habitat rehabilitation. o The effects of climate change on forests, and the role that forests can play in climate change mitigation and adaptation. o Organizational staffing capacity and reductions in state funding sources.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments:

Selected Facts		FY2011 Accomplishments	
Population	37,253,956	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	1,490
Acres of Forest Land	32,945,894	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	11,416
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	10,101,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	11,416
Number of NIPF Landowners	202,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	728
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	3,415,464	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	644
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	21,576,307	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	1,121
Number of Rural Fire Departments	750	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	11,447
Cities and Towns	480	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	295
Forest Based Employment	101,351	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	27,422,179
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	0	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	450,000
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	770,581,815		

Program Highlights:

Conservation Education

The California Project Learning Tree (PLT) program continues to provide professional development trainings for California educators. During 2011, over 2300 educators working in formal and non-formal settings participated in one of the 128 workshops that provided training, materials and networking opportunities. A large number (900) of these were teachers-in-training at California universities in urban areas. The early childhood program continues to be very popular and well received. A special focus of the year, in anticipation of a state level leadership transition, was to strengthen the network of workshop leaders and partners by providing them with incentives and recognition. California PLT continues to

work closely with several Forest Service partners in the Lassen, Eldorado, Modoc, Tuolumne, and Plumas National Forests.

Cooperative Fire Protection

The State Fire Assistance funding has assisted in training approximately 500 firefighters, funding fire prevention/education/detection programs and both communications and safety equipment upgrades. The Volunteer Fire Assistance program serves approximately 168 rural departments and helps to purchase much-needed equipment and supplies. Funding is getting harder for small fire departments to come by and this program assists those rural departments in keeping pace with safety, training and equipment updates. Cooperative Fire protection also awarded CAL FIRE three new Western States Competitive Grants for Wildland Urban Interface projects totaling near the \$1 million.

Forest Health Protection

Sudden Oak Death (SOD) continues to be found in 14 counties infecting over 100 plant species. No new counties were added but new sites for SOD were found in Humboldt County constituting a northern spread of the disease in CA. Aerial surveys in 2011 covered millions of acres in CA including general forest mortality and oak woodlands. Gold spotted oak borer (GSOB) remains a major focus of the department with over 500,000 acres infested in San Diego Co and the potential for spread of the pest via fire wood movement to new locations in CA. CAL FIRE assisted in trapping for exotic bark beetles and emerald ash borer. Staff also participated in the National SOD wildland survey and SOD Stream Monitoring programs. Pitch canker (PC) management continues to be an important issue in the Central Coast and Port Orford Cedar root disease in Northern CA. Bark beetle activity decreased in 2011 with higher than normal rainfall conditions. CAL FIRE staff continues to hold positions on CA Forest Pest Council, GSOB Steering Committee, PC Task Force, California Oak Mortality Task Force, and the Firewood Task Force. Staff has also served on the Western States Competitive Grants Review Team and the National Forest Health Monitoring Management Team. Staff regularly reviewed timber harvest plans for insect and disease issues and conducted training sessions for state and federal personnel and private citizens (>1000 trained). Acres Surveyed for Forest Health comprises 13,000 ac for Douglas fir Tussock Moth, 1,600,000 ac for SOD, 1,200,000 ac for GSOB, 1000 ac for emerald ash borer, 4000 ac for exotic bark beetles and 24,000 ac for general pest evaluations and surveys. Acres Protected from Insect and Disease Damage comprises the forested acreage of Humboldt and Del Norte Counties that are anticipated to be protected from SOD infestations as a result suppression efforts.

Forest Legacy

This past year has been one of great successes and accomplishments for the FLP in CA. ? Eel River Peninsula, Phase 1 closed in September, including the 640-acre Lawrence Ranch and the 7,904-acre Preston Ranch. Although no federal FLP acquisition funds were used in the acquisition, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) did receive a federal FLP administrative grant of \$150,000 for due diligence on the overall project. ? Baxter Ranch, the California Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) approved a grant to CAL FIRE of \$2,350,242 of Proposition 12 FLP funding towards the purchase of working forest conservation easements on both the Upper White Oak and Moffitt portions of the Baxter Ranch. The 4,036-acre acquisition closed on October 7, 2011. ? Usal Redwood Forest, closed in October thanks to a WCB grant of \$19,500,000. Although, California was included in the President's 2011 FLP budget to receive \$1,000,000 toward the purchase of a working forest conservation easement in the final budget this project failed to garner any funding. Although there is no federal FLP involved in this project, the landowners wish to have CAL FIRE hold the working forest conservation easement. Through mutual verbal agreement CAL FIRE, WCB, The Conservation Fund and the landowner, Redwood Forest Foundation Inc. (RFFI), agreed

to transfer title of the conservation easement on Usal Redwood Forest to the Department soon after it closed and donate \$200,000 into a Special Account to CAL FIRE for monitoring purposes. ? New Regulations were adopted in early April. The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection in early April establishing the CA FLP regulations. They were chaptered by Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on April 29, at Title 14, California Code of Regulations; Chapter 9.9; Sections 1570-1576. These regulations provide guidance to administering the program including the content of working forest conservation easements, application criteria and monitoring requirements.

Forest Stewardship

The federal Forest Stewardship Program and Forest Health Management Program in combination with California's Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) provided valuable technical assistance and funds for Stewardship Planning, timber stand improvement, forest rehabilitation and fuels reduction. The funding allows many landowners to work with California Registered Professional Foresters to develop Stewardship plans that they might not get without the program. A committee of NRCS state forester, USDA FS Forest Stewardship Forester and CAL FIRE forestry staff worked to develop a new stewardship plan titled the Caiofrina Cooperative Forest Management Plan. The template will satisfy multiple program requirements and allow a landowner to produce one plan that qualifies for a variety of cost-share funding. The programs have provided a broad scope of educational forums including the Forest Landowner Stewardship Curriculum, the quarterly Forestland Steward Newsletter that reaches over 7000 readers via hard and electronic copies, and the toll-free HELPLINE. The HELPLINE provides valuable assistance over the phone to anyone who calls. There is always a Registered Professional Forester to answer questions regarding forest health, harvesting, insects and diseases, fire, reforestation., etc. as well as information on where the caller can receive more information on State Forest Practice Regulation or Federal Policy. Additionally, the service mails out brochures and pamphlets as available.

Landowner Assistance

The California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) is the State's primary landowner assistance program providing eligible landowners with technical and financial assistance for planning, reforestation and resource management investments that improve the quality and value of forestland. This past year the program experienced historically low funding so accomplishments were not as high as past years. However, the program has been well funded for 2011/2012 and will concentrate primarily on fuels reduction projects. CFIP is a forestry cost-share program that provides funds to non-industrial private forest landowners with ownerships of less than 5000 acres of timberland for a variety of practices including: management plans, supervision, site preparation, planting, thinning, pruning, release, land conservation, and improvement of fish and wildlife habitat and fuels reduction. CFIP's purpose is to encourage private and public investments in forestlands and resources within the state to ensure adequate future high quality timber supplies, related employment and other economic benefits, and to protect, maintain, and enhance the forest resource for the benefit of present and future generations. Since its establishment CFIP has helped landowners with forest improvement activities on over 1,000,000 acres.

Urban and Community Forestry

The CAL FIRE U&CF Program has forged strong partnerships with local governments and non-profits to advance it's objectives. With some of the largest population centers in the U.S., CA has a great need for urban forestry. Projects involving CAL FIRE and partners include the Million Tree initiative in Los Angeles, the Greenprint for 26 local governments in the Sacramento region to double the canopy, Urban Tree Foundation's Tree Quality Guidelines, Friends of the Urban Forest's Urban Forest Map, California Urban Forest Council's Online Urban Forest Management Plan Toolkit and United Voices For Healthier Communities

campaign, and numerous other projects. CAL FIRE helped develop materials for the Urban Forestry, Green Infrastructure, and Climate Change portions of SWARS. \$3.2 million in state funded grants were awarded in 2011. There are 185 urban forestry grants currently. These are, with very few exceptions, state funded grants. In addition, CAL FIRE is once again loaning out portable sawmilling equipment to foster urban wood utilization. CAL FIRE is actively engaged with the California Strategic Growth Council in developing Urban Greening Grants and helping to integrate state activities along those lines. The same is true of the Natural Resources Agency Environmental Enhancement & Mitigation grants. This gives CAL FIRE some say in nearly all urban greening dollars spent by California. CAL FIRE is also represented in the state's climate change strategies and will be assisting with implementation of these strategies. CAL FIRE is leading the Urban Greening Health In All Policies Implementation for California. Numerous state level policy advancements were made in the realms of public health, climate change, complete streets, regional planning, and other policy areas.

Prop 40 Fuel Management Grants, WSCGs, Biomass Utilization Grants

Proposition 40 Fuels Management Program and Community Assistance grants: A special initiative is the restarting of the Proposition 40 Fuels Management Program and Community Assistance Grants (CAG). These programs offer grants to landowners or non-profit organization to address fire hazard reduction through vegetation management. Funding is provided by Proposition 40, the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002. The goal Prop 40 Program and CAG is to implement mutually beneficial forest improvement and wildfire hazard reduction projects designed to reduce fuel loadings that pose a threat to watershed resources and water quality. Grant opportunities for the Prop 40 Program and CAG are for projects in 15 Sierra Nevada counties. The Prop 40 Program and CAG have allocated over \$5 million for projects. Awarding of grants and implementation of grants began in November 2011. Western States Competitive Grants for State and Private Forestry: CAL FIRE, in cooperation with its partners, received three WSCGs in 2011 totaling over \$1 million. Grants will address urban forest tree contribution to carbon sequestration, forestry education, the emerging Golden Oak Spotted Borer pest. Biomass Utilization grants: CAL FIRE is beginning implementation of biomass utilization grants received from the federal Cooperative Fire Assistance Act for utilization of vegetative material removed for wildfire hazard reduction. The grants are intended to provide harvesting and chip transportation subsidies for utilization of biomass for green energy. Grants are assigned to projects that would otherwise be uneconomical for biomass utilization. The projects focus on reducing wildfire hazards in wildland urban interface area. Three project will be awarded for grants totaling over \$360,000. These projects are partnering with NRCS funding to fully implement the goals of the biomass utilization grant.

For more information contact:



California Dept. of Forestry & Fire Protection

Ken Pimlott
P.O. Box 944246
1416 9th Street, Rm. 1505
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460
Ph: (916) 653-7772
Fax: 916-653-4171
Email: Ken.Pimlott@fire.ca.gov

Pacific Southwest Region

Laurie A. Tippin
USDA Forest Service
1323 Club Drive
Vallejo, CA 94592
Ph: 707-562-8920
Fax: 707-562-9054
Email: ltippin@fs.fed.us

United States
Department of
Agriculture