



WESTERN FORESTRY LEADERSHIP COALITION

RESOURCES, PARTNERSHIPS AND SOLUTIONS FOR WESTERN FORESTRY CHALLENGES

MISSION

To promote science-based forest management that serves the values of society and ensures the health and sustainability of western forests.

GOALS

- Launch initiatives to **strengthen the western voice.**
- Advocate for **active, sustainable forest management.**
- Forge **productive partnerships.**
- Maximize federal and state **financial investments.**
- Provide research, recommend policies, and **coordinate efforts across agencies.**
- Facilitate the development, integration and implementation of **western State and Private Forestry programs.**
- **Provide credible information** for forest landowners, policymakers, media and the public.

ABOUT THE WESTERN FORESTRY LEADERSHIP COALITION

The Western Forestry Leadership Coalition represents a unique partnership between state and federal government forestry leaders. The Coalition membership includes the Council of Western State Foresters, representing the State, Territorial, and Commonwealth Foresters of the west and American-affiliated islands of the Pacific, and the USDA Forest Service including the western Regional Foresters, western Research Station Directors, and Forest Products Lab Director.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. **Climate Change.** The science behind climate change is more compelling than ever and the impacts to forests have huge implications for all the other forestry issues. Healthy forests can be part of the carbon sequestration and offset solution, from wood products to feedstock for biofuels and bioenergy. **Our goal is to apply science-based forest management to improve forest ecosystem resilience in the face of a changing climate and to ensure that forests are recognized contributors to climate change solutions.**
2. **Wildfire.** The condition of our nation's forestlands, both federal and non-federal, is a significant contributor to the risks of catastrophic wildfire. Efforts to reduce risk need to be long-term, across boundaries, and include agencies and communities in a collaborative process. **Our goal is to reduce wildfire risk to communities and mitigate wildfire impacts across the landscape being mindful of firefighter and public safety.**
3. **Water.** Clean and abundant water is a direct result of healthy, well-managed forests; a healthy forest is a direct result of sound policies and management actions. Increasing population growth and demands on our water supplies exerts greater pressure on forested watersheds. **Our goal is to secure clean and sustainable flows of water through sound and sustainable forest management.**
4. **Forest Health & Invasive Species.** Western forests must be managed to assure ecological, economic and social sustainability. Overly-dense forests are susceptible to insects and diseases, weather events and catastrophic fire. These ecological system stressors threaten communities, watersheds, wildlife habitats, old-growth forests and recreation areas in the West. **Our goal is to reduce impacts to forest health from insect, disease, and invasive species threats.**
5. **Communities.** The economic and social well-being of rural and urban communities is dependent upon the long-term health of their forests. Conversely the health of forests is dependent upon the vitality communities. **Our goal is to support new and existing forest-based industries and programs in both rural and urban environments that provide for the economic, social and environmental needs of our society.**





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ARIZONA

State Forester
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CALIFORNIA

State Forester
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HAWAII

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IDAHO

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954 West Jefferson Street
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www.idl.idaho.gov/index.htm

KANSAS

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NEBRASKA

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NEVADA

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SOUTH DAKOTA

State Forester
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www.state.sd.us/doa/Forestry/

UTAH

State Forester
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PACIFIC ISLANDS

www.islandforestry.org

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TERRITORY OF GUAM

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USDA FOREST SERVICE REGIONS

NORTHERN REGION

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

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SOUTHWESTERN REGION

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INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

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