



# State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet California 2017



## Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2016 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$400,000
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$913,052
Forest Legacy	\$30,000
Forest Stewardship	\$282,969
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$0
State Fire Assistance	\$5,947,102
Urban and Community Forestry	\$1,473,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$1,016,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,062,123</b>

NOTE: 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. These programs emphasize an overarching goal of integrated landscape scale management.

## Program Goals

- 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 and increase effectiveness through the use of broad scale partnerships, (2) increase values through sustained productivity of forests, and (3) are voluntary, and use non-regulatory approaches.

## Key Issues

- Wildland/Urban Interface fire hazard and fuel reduction issues. - Forest health concerns related to increased tree mortality. -Rapid urbanization and development in wildland areas. -Water quality and riparian habitat rehabilitation. -The effects of climate change on forests, and the role that reforestation will play in climate change mitigation and adaptation. -Organizational staffing capacity and operational challenges associated with increased demand.

## Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2016 Accomplishments	Value
Population	37,253,956	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	13,397
Acres of Forest Land	32,101,515	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	14,037
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	10,101,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	14,037
Number of NIPF Landowners	202,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	676
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	3,415,464	State Fire Communities Assisted	341
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	21,576,307	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	250
Number of Rural Fire Departments	750	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	15,620
Cities and Towns	480		
Forest Based Employment	101,351		

<b>Selected Facts</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>FY 2016 Accomplishments</b>	<b>Value</b>
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	0	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	728
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	770,581,815	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	33,408,913
		Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	225,000

## Program Highlights

### **Cooperative Fire Protection**

The State Fire Assistance funding has assisted in training approximately 1,200 firefighters, funding fire prevention/education/detection programs and both communications and safety equipment upgrades. The Volunteer Fire Assistance program serves approximately 138 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.

### **Forest Health Protection**

Forest Health Protection Exotic pests remain the most significant threat to California's forests. Sudden oak death (SOD) is found in 15 counties infecting over 100 species. SOD was largely stagnant in 2016 due to drought conditions, but sites at the northern end of the range continued to expand. Aerial surveys mapped 29.1 million dead and dying trees due to the ongoing drought and the bark beetle epidemic with the worst area being the southern Sierra Nevada. Goldspotted oak borer continues to expand in Southern CA with a recent find in Los Angeles County. The Zone of Infestation for GSOB has been extended to cover these new infestations. The polyphagous shot hole borer complex in southern CA has rapidly spread to 6 counties, attacking native and exotic hardwood trees. The Kuroshio Shot Hole Borer Complex is in San Diego and Orange Co. and causing extensive damage in riparian areas. Foamy bark canker is killing oaks in southern CA. CAL FIRE staff assist in early detection/rapid response trapping for exotic bark beetles, emerald ash borer, sudden oak death and the shot hole borers. Native bark beetle activity reached epidemic levels due to drought conditions, resulting in an increase in requests for field evaluations. Staff serve on the CA Forest Pest Council, GSOB Task Force, Oak Mortality Task Force, Invasive Species Advisory Committee, Firewood Task Force, National FH Monitoring Mgmt Team and Tree Mortality Task Force. Staff reviews timber harvest plans and respond to pest requests from the public. Trainings were held for government personnel, forest industry and private citizens (>2000 trained). Forest Health surveys included 17,500 ac for Douglas fir tussock moth, 1,500,000 ac for SOD (aerial and stream), 800,000 ac for GSOB, 1000 ac for shot hole borers and 5000 ac for general pest evaluations. FHP funds are also used by CA Food and Ag Agency to manage invasive plants throughout the state in cooperation with county-level weed management areas.

### **Forest Legacy**

In fiscal year 2014-15, The State allocated \$4,200,000 toward working forest conservation easements through the Forest Legacy Program (FLP). Source for the funding came from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) so all landowners who wished to utilize these funds were required to show the benefits of their project as to greenhouse gas reduction and carbon sequestration. After scoring and approval by the California Air Resources Board staff, four FLP projects were allocated funds. These funds were only part of total funding sources for each project, and as such, none have closed escrow as of early 2017. There was no funding made available for fiscal year 2015-2016 for Legacy through GGRF, although funding is anticipated to be available for fiscal year 2016-2017. Currently CA has conserved over 111,000 acres through the FLP. In 2017 they will be closing a minimum of two, and as many as 5 additional working forest conservation easement projects that will put it over the 120,000 acre mark.

### **Forest Stewardship**

CAL FIRE is utilizing the California Cooperative Forest Management Plan template which will satisfy multiple program requirements and allow a landowner(s) to produce one plan that qualifies for a variety of State and Federal cost-share funding. 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, reforestation and fuels reduction. The funding allows many landowners to work with California Registered Professional Foresters to develop Stewardship plans to help them achieve their management goals. These plans will also assist landowners to participate in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) to address climate change. The GGRF provides significant funding for incentives to reforest and or reduce fuels on forestlands. In addition, the USDA-CAL FIRE 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. In 2016 the program provided substantial subgrants to landowners for management plans, fuel hazard reduction projects, and forest thinning projects. For 2016 substantial state funding continued from the GGRF to address climate change using reforestation and vegetation management cost-share practices. 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.

### **Landscape Scale Restoration**

Landscape Scale Restoration Through the State's Greenhouse Gas Reduction fund, five projects were allocated approximately \$5 million in funding to accomplish landscape scale restoration activities. Projects are on lands that were subject to large conflagrations involving multiple private landowners and public lands. These projects are focused on multiple resource goals across large multi-ownership areas where project managers are seeking to align management objectives across administrative boundaries. These projects are reducing overall costs by focusing on partnerships that share planning and expenditures. .

### **Urban and Community Forestry**

The CAL FIRE U&CF Program has forged strong partnerships with local governments and non-profits to advance its objectives. At 95% of the population considered urban, and 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 City Plants project in Los Angeles, the Greenprint for 28 local governments in the Sacramento region to double the canopy, and numerous other projects. CAL FIRE helped develop materials for the Urban Forestry, Green Infrastructure, and Climate Change portions of the Forest Action Plan and are implementing the program based on the plan and in alignment with the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan developed by the California Urban Forestry Advisory Committee. CAL FIRE Urban and Community Forestry is still actively reviewing grants related to urban forestry and urban greening for other state agencies as well. This gives CAL FIRE a say in nearly all urban greening dollars spent from the state level in California. CAL FIRE is 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 as well. CAL FIRE has received a significant new funding source for both personnel and grants related to urban forestry. The California Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) provided \$17.8 million for urban forestry in California for fiscal year 14/15. This is more than double what was received in any previous year from any funding source. The GGRF is the fund created from cap and trade auction proceeds. This resulted in the funding of 29 grants throughout the state. The grants are for tree planting, green infrastructure projects, management plans and inventories, and urban wood utilization and will assist in reducing GHG emissions.

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## Contact Information



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