



STATE FORESTER PRIORITIES

for President Trump's first 100 days

BACKGROUND

Trees and forests form a major portion of the green infrastructure of the United States. **The forest industry sector is larger than the automobile industry** and is the economic backbone of much of rural America.

Actively and sustainably managed forests bolster local economies, improve human health, and bring communities closer together. Trees and forests filter our air and water, serve as places for recreation, provide habitat for wildlife, and produce wood products and job opportunities. **Healthy forests do not happen by chance and require investments of dollars, time and expertise.**

State forestry agencies and their partners including the USDA Forest Service are dedicated to working together to achieve national-level conservation and economic goals that are outlined in the state strategies and assessments, collectively referred to as the state Forest Action Plans.

TREES AND FORESTS: AMERICA'S NATURAL CAPITAL

- 750 million acres of forests in the United States including 136 million acres of urban and community forests.
- Nearly 60 percent of forests are privately owned.
- 90 percent of the nation's wood supply comes from privately owned land.

PRIORITIES FOR THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S FIRST 100 DAYS

State Foresters have identified **specific priorities for President Donald Trump's first 100 days** in office which, once implemented, will help conserve, protect and enhance America's natural capital. In addition to the following legislative priorities, we ask that the President **selects an Undersecretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment** as well as **staff who have knowledge, appreciation and support for private working forests and trees** in our communities.



TAKE ACTION:
STATE FORESTERS ENCOURAGE THE TRUMP
ADMINISTRATION TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING
LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES:

ISSUE: WILDFIRE FUNDING

America needs a comprehensive wildfire suppression funding fix which addresses fire borrowing and solves the long-term erosion of agency budgets that results from wildfire suppression consuming an ever-increasing share of the USDA Forest Service budget.

*ISSUE: FEDERAL FOREST
MANAGEMENT*

Rural communities will benefit from more active management of federal forests including the expansion of Good Neighbor Authority which allows State Foresters to implement approved projects on federal forestland.

*ISSUE: LANDSCAPE SCALE
RESTORATION*

Forest health will improve through codification of the Landscape Scale Restoration program which allows the State Foresters to focus a portion of federal funding on the highest national priorities outlined in the Forest Action Plans.

ISSUE: APPROPRIATIONS

Protect America's green infrastructure and grow its economy through support for U.S. Department of Agriculture programs that support state and private forests.

