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COUNCIL OF WESTERN
STATE FORESTERS

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

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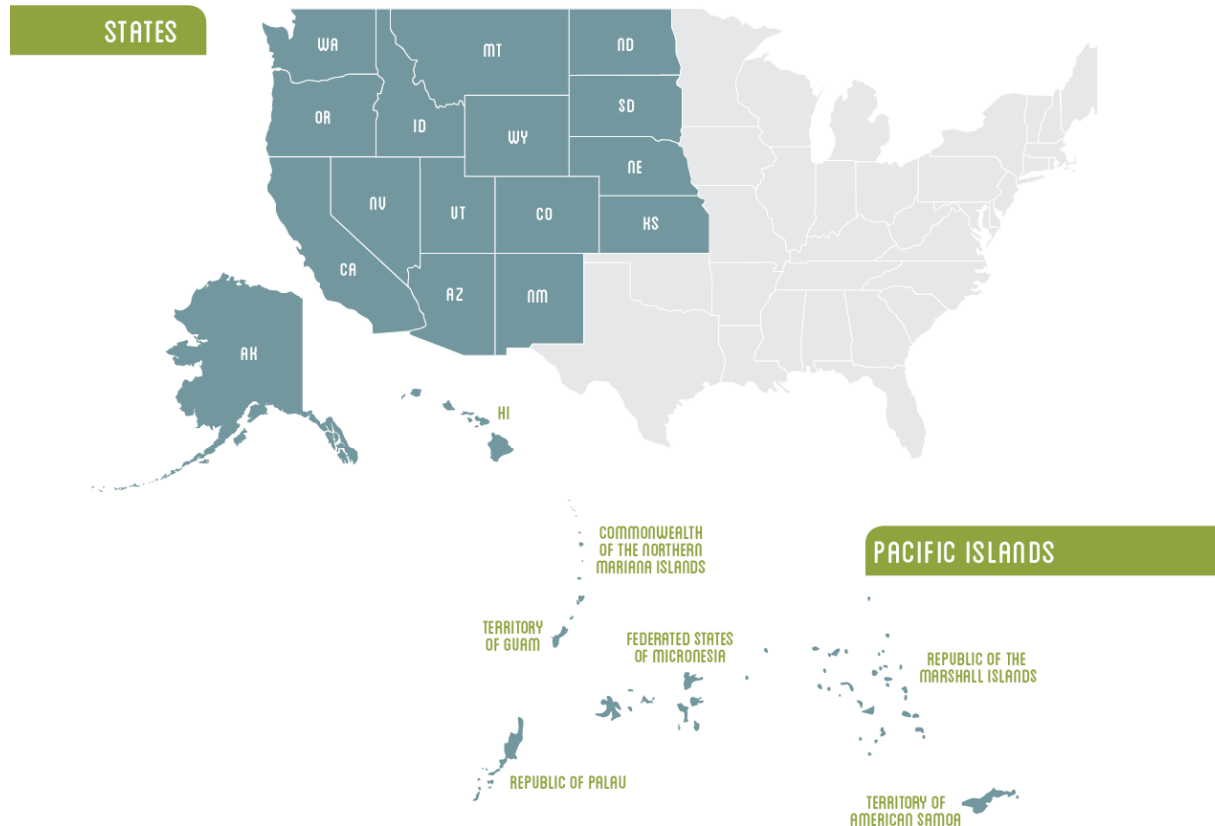
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I. CWSF Overview

Photo: Joel Prince, NASF



Council of Western State Foresters





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II. Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act



Infrastructure Law

- H.R. 3684 (Now Public Law No: 117-58)
- Signed into law November 15
- \$1.2 Trillion
- Funding over 5 FY (FY22-FY26)
- USFS Confronting the Wildfire Crisis: A Strategy for Protecting Communities and Improving Resilience in America's Forests
 - Announcement on initial investment in 10 landscapes
- DOI Wildfire Risk Five-Year Monitoring, Maintenance, and Treatment Plan



USFS: National Forest System

- \$2.85B total for FY22-FY26 (\$529.8M per FY)
- \$2.12B total to carry out activities in sections 40803 and 40804 (\$423M per FY)
- \$514M for hazardous fuels management activities (\$102.8M per FY)
 - Up to \$12M a year to use State & Private Forestry authorities to create incentives for increased use of biomass on NFS lands, including the Community Wood Energy Program and the Wood Innovation Grants Program
 - Of this \$12M up to \$8M each year for implementation of the Tribal Forest Protection Act
- \$225M for burned area recovery (\$45M per FY)



USFS: State & Private Forestry

- \$1.53B total over 5 years (\$305.4M per FY)
- \$718M to carry out activities in sections 40803 and 40804 (\$143.6M per FY)
- \$500M for grants to at-risk communities for wildfire mitigation activities (\$100M per FY)
- \$88M for State Fire Assistance (\$17.6M per FY)
- \$20M for Volunteer Fire Assistance (\$4M per FY)
- \$200.8M for state Forest Action Plan implementation (\$40.16M per FY)



Department of the Interior

- \$1.46B for DOI Wildland Fire Management
 - \$1.055B to carry out activities in 40803 (\$327M for FY22; \$182M for FY23-26)
 - \$178M for fuels management activities (\$35.6M each FY)
 - \$225M for burned area rehabilitation (\$45M each FY)
- \$455M for US Fish and Wildlife Service (\$91M per FY)
- \$11.3B for the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund



Section 40803: Wildfire Risk Reduction

- \$3.37B total for FY22-FY26
- \$20M to work with NOAA to operate a program to detect starts in areas DOI and USDA has wildland fire financial responsibility
- \$600M for salaries and expenses of federal wildland firefighters
- \$10M for DOI for interoperability of radio frequencies for Type I and II IMTs
- \$30M for financial assistance to states, Tribes, and local government to establish and operate reverse 911 telecommunications
- \$50M for DOI slip-on tanker pilot program for local governments
- \$1.2M for at-risk community map
- \$100M for pre-planning fire response workshops



Section 40803: Wildfire Risk Reduction Continued

- \$20M for USDA and the Southwest Ecological Restoration Institute mapping
- \$20M Joint Fire Science Program
- \$100M for Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program
- \$500M for mechanical thinning and timber harvesting and precommercial thinning in young growth stands
- \$500M for prescribed fire related activities
- \$500M for developing or improving potential control locations
- \$200M for contracting or employing crews of laborers for flammable vegetation removal on federal lands
- \$200M for post-fire restoration
- \$8M for firewood banks
- \$10M for wildfire detection and real-time monitoring equipment



Community Wildfire Defense Grants

- \$1B over 5 FY (\$200M over 5FY)
- Grants to develop or revise a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and to carry out activities in a CWPP that is not more than 10 years old
- Priority given to at-risk community that is:
 - In an area identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential;
 - Low income; or
 - A community impacted by a severe disaster.
- Waiver for cost-share for projects serving underserved communities



Section 40804: Ecosystem Restoration

- \$2.13B total for FY22-FY26
- \$300M for entering into contracts, including stewardship contracts or agreements, to restore ecological health on federal lands
- \$200M for states and Tribes to implement GNA on federal lands
- \$400M financial assistance to byproduct processing facilities
- \$400M to states, territories, and Tribes to implement voluntary ecosystem restoration projects in private or public land
- \$50M in grants to establish rental programs for portable skidder bridges



Section 40804: Ecosystem Restoration Continued

- \$200M for invasive species detection, prevention, and eradication
- \$100M restore, prepare, or adapt recreation sites on Federal land
- \$200M to restore native vegetation and mitigate environmental hazards on federal and non-federal mined land
- \$200M for national revegetation efforts on federal and non-federal land, including to implement the National Seed Strategy for Rehabilitation and Restoration
- \$80M collaborative-based, landscape scale restoration program to restore water quality or fish passage on Federal land



Federal Emergency Management Agency

- \$1B for Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) (\$200M per FY)
 - Post-Fire Mitigation Projects
 - Wildfire Mitigation Projects
 - Non-Construction Activities
- \$500M to implement the Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation (STORM) Act (\$100M per FY)
 - Opportunity for FEMA to provide funds to states and tribal governments to administer Revolving Loan Funds through the state's emergency management agency for mitigation
- FEMA Wildfire Mitigation Grant Opportunities



Natural Resources Conservation Service

- \$500M for Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations
- \$118M for Watershed Rehabilitation Program
- \$300M for Emergency Watershed Protection Program



Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission Act

- To study and make recommendations to improve federal policies related to the prevention, mitigation, suppression, and management of wildland fires and the rehabilitation of land devastated by wildland fires
- Composition:
 - Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture
 - Administrator of FEMA
 - 9 federal department or agency representatives
 - FEMA Mitigation Framework Leadership Group
 - National Interagency Coordination Center
 - Recovery Support Function Leadership Group
 - 18 non-federal stakeholders
- Establishment of Commission
- Call for non-federal members



Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission Act Continued

- Policy recommendations:
 - To facilitate efficient short- and long-term forest management in residential and nonresidential at-risk areas;
 - To manage the wildland-urban interface and utility corridors;
 - To improve the capacity of the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to conduct hazardous fuels reduction projects;
 - For additional staffing or resources that may be necessary to more expeditiously prepare an environmental impact statement or analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act; and
 - For modernizing and expanding the use of technology.
- Provide:
 - an assessment of Federal spending on wildland fire-related disaster management; and
 - a review of the national strategy described in the report entitled “The National Strategy: The Final Phase in the Development of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy.”



Repairing Existing Public Land by Adding Necessary Trees (REPLANT) Act

- Quadruples investment to support reforestation on national forests by removing the current \$30M per year funding cap on the Reforestation Trust Fund
- Uses funds already collected through tariffs on foreign wood products
- Focus on reforestation following wildfires and other disasters



Other Provisions

- Extension of Secure Rural Schools
- Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership Program
 - To improve the health and resilience of forest landscapes across NFS land and state, Tribal, and private land
 - \$90M each for FY22 and FY23 authorized to be appropriated



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III. Questions?

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IIJA Documents:
<https://www.westernforesters.org/publications>