

## Fiscal Year 2026 USDA Forest Service Budget Highlights

### Compiled By the Council of Western State Foresters/Western Forestry Leadership Coalition

This is not meant to be a comprehensive list of all the USDA Forest Service programs  
Updated July 25, 2025 with information from the House and Senate Appropriations Committee Reports

| USDA Forest Service Budget Highlights [in Millions] |                    |                   |                                 |                                                     |                                     |                                                    |                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Program                                             | FY 23 Enacted      | FY 24 Enacted     | FY 25 House Report <sup>^</sup> | FY 26 NASF Recommended Level.<br>(where applicable) | FY 26 USDA Budget Justification*    | FY 26 House Report<br>(red denotes less than FY24) | FY 26 Senate Report<br>(red denotes less than FY24) |
| <b>TOTAL FOREST SERVICE BUDGET</b>                  | <b>\$10,075.00</b> | <b>\$8,373.32</b> | <b>\$8,426.60</b>               |                                                     | <b>\$ 2,137.00</b>                  | <b>\$ 8,535.07</b>                                 | <b>\$ 8,645.27</b>                                  |
| <b>Forest Service Operations</b>                    | <b>\$1,152.74</b>  | <b>\$1,150.00</b> | <b>\$1,035.00</b>               |                                                     | <b>\$759.00</b>                     | <b>\$1,035.00</b>                                  | <b>\$1,106.00</b>                                   |
| Salaries & Expenses+                                | \$389.41           | \$389.00          | \$0.00                          |                                                     |                                     |                                                    |                                                     |
| <b>Forest and Rangeland Research</b>                | <b>\$307.27</b>    | <b>\$300.00</b>   | <b>\$299.76</b>                 |                                                     | <b>\$0.00</b>                       | <b>\$301.76</b>                                    | \$308.50                                            |
| Salaries & Expenses                                 | \$215.58           | \$212.00          | \$207.76                        |                                                     | \$0.00                              | \$207.76                                           | \$212.00                                            |
| Forest Inventory & Analysis^^                       | \$32.20            | \$31.50           | \$32.00                         | \$39.70                                             | Moves to NFS                        | \$34.00                                            | \$32.20                                             |
| <b>State, Private, and Tribal Forestry</b>          | <b>\$337.76</b>    | <b>\$303.31</b>   | <b>\$282.96</b>                 |                                                     | <b>\$0.00</b>                       | <b>\$280.96</b>                                    | \$319.59                                            |
| Salaries & Expenses                                 | \$65.09            | \$52.00           | \$50.96                         |                                                     | \$0.00                              | \$50.96                                            | \$47.00                                             |
| Landscape Scale Restoration                         | \$17.00            | \$14.00           | \$15.00                         | \$14.00                                             | \$0.00                              | \$15.00                                            | \$14.00                                             |
| Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands        | \$33.00            | \$32.00           | \$30.00                         | \$32.00                                             | \$0.00                              | \$30.00                                            | \$42.00                                             |
| State Fire Assistance                               | \$76.00            | \$76.00           | \$78.00                         | \$85.00                                             | \$0.00                              | \$78.00                                            | \$82.00                                             |
| Volunteer Fire Assistance                           | \$21.00            | \$21.00           | \$23.00                         | \$25.00                                             | \$0.00                              | \$23.00                                            | \$23.00                                             |
| Forest Stewardship                                  | \$12.50            | \$12.00           | \$12.00                         | \$22.00                                             | \$0.00                              | \$12.00                                            | \$12.00                                             |
| Forest Legacy Program**                             | \$77.94            | \$92.25           | \$94.25                         | \$92.25                                             | \$0.00                              | \$92.26                                            | \$92.26                                             |
| Urban and Community Forestry                        | \$40.00            | \$36.00           | \$33.00                         | \$36.00                                             | \$0.00                              | \$33.00                                            | \$38.00                                             |
| <b>National Forest System</b>                       | <b>\$1,974.39</b>  | <b>\$1,863.56</b> | <b>\$1,866.47</b>               |                                                     | <b>\$ 1,297.00</b>                  | <b>\$1,866.47</b>                                  | <b>\$1,866.14</b>                                   |
| Salaries & Expenses                                 | \$1,519.08         | \$1,459.35        | \$1,459.35                      |                                                     | \$1,117.00                          | \$1,430.17                                         | \$1,459.35                                          |
| Hazardous Fuels++                                   | \$207.00           | \$175.45          | \$202.00                        |                                                     | \$0.00                              | \$202.00                                           | \$175.45                                            |
| Forest Products                                     | \$40.00            | \$39.00           | \$43.00                         |                                                     | \$39.00                             | \$43.00                                            | \$39.00                                             |
| Forest Inventory and Analysis^^                     | n/a                | n/a               | n/a                             |                                                     | \$21.50                             | n/a                                                | n/a                                                 |
| <b>Wildland Fire Management^^^</b>                  | <b>\$2,116.96</b>  | <b>\$2,312.65</b> | <b>\$2,407.74</b>               |                                                     | Transfers FS Fire Management to DOI | <b>\$2,426.21</b>                                  | <b>\$2,426.11</b>                                   |
| Salaries & Expenses                                 | \$913.96           | \$1,109.65        | \$1,204.74                      |                                                     |                                     | \$1,223.21                                         | \$1,223.11                                          |
| Preparedness                                        | \$192.00           | \$192.00          | \$192.00                        |                                                     |                                     | \$192.00                                           | \$192.00                                            |
| Suppression                                         | \$1,386.00         | \$1,011.00        | \$1,011.00                      |                                                     |                                     | \$1,011.00                                         | \$1,011.00                                          |

<sup>^</sup>The FY 25 House Report was not enacted. The FY 25 continuing resolution specifies \$283.5 million for SPTF, but lacks program level detail.

\* USDA FY 26 Budget Justification lacks budget line item (BLI) detail for NFS, data is from the the White House Appendix to the FY 26 Skinny Budget

+FY 25 House bill did not allocate specific amounts to BLIs within Forest Service operations

<sup>^^</sup>The Budget Justification does not request funding for research and development and proposes to move FIA to NFS. The Congressional Reports do not move FIA to NFS.

<sup>\*\*</sup>The Forest Legacy Program is funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

<sup>++</sup>Hazardous Fuels - The FS Budget Justification proposes to transfer \$175 million from the NFS account to DOI as part of the U.S. Wildland Fire Service. The Congressional Reports do not.

<sup>^^^</sup> The FS Budget Justification asks Congress to create one Federal Wildland Fire Service housed within DOI and requests all wildland fire funding to the new agency. The Congressional Reports retain Wildland Fire Management in the Forest Service.