



Forest Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

March 2024



FISCAL YEAR 2025

# BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

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**COVER PHOTOS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM.**

Employees of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest work fires on Mt. Hood National Forest in Oregon, July 22, 2023. USDA Forest Service photo by Preston Keres.

Ashley Rutland, a training technician with the National Advanced Fire and Resource Institute, operates a virtual reality (VR) headset at the USDA Forest Service CIO display during the Department of Labor Federal Tech Day 2023 event, which brought together federal agencies to display innovative technology, build interagency partnerships and collaboration, and improve staff technology readiness. Interagency wildland firefighters use the VR system for wildland fire training immersion. USDA Forest Service photo by Marc Barnes.

Montana State University entomologists and youth employment program partners, from left to right: Abiya Saeed (Montana State University), Benny Bevil (Youth Employment Program), Casey Delphia (Montana State University), Kaitlyn Bragg (Youth Employment Program), and Bella Glossa (Youth Employment Program). USDA Forest Service photo by Jessie Salix.

Akilah Jaramogi, Merikin descendant and CEO of the Merikin Heritage Foundation in Trinidad, honors her ancestors and those who lost their lives by intoning their names and acknowledging their struggles while throwing cowrie shells into the water at the Prospect Bluff archaeological site. USDA Forest Service photo.

2023 Smokey and Woodsy poster contest national winner: Esther Zhang, 4th grade. USDA Forest Service photo.

Sierra Hotshot crew member lighting a test burn on the "Pit" prescribed fire (RX) unit on Inyo National Forest, approximately 1 mile east of the Town of Mammoth Lakes, CA on October 3, 2023. USDA Forest Service photo by Lisa Cox.

Hopi youth dancers at Archaeology Discovery Days at V Bar V Heritage Site, Coconino National Forest, AZ, March 25, 2017. This annual, outdoor event features demonstrations, hands-on activities, displays, and other family fun. The V Bar V Heritage Site has over 1,000 petroglyphs and educational information to learn more about the Indigenous people who made the markings. Forest Service photo by Deborah Lee Soltesz.

Biologist Melinda Bennion, left, and technicians from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources count and measure fish to collect data on species and habitat on the Virgin River. USDA Forest Service photo by Lindsey Winkel.

Paul Wade, a Forest Service employee with the Pacific Southwest regional office, stands on top of Mokelumne Peak on May 13, 2023. Snowshoeing a total of 21.8 miles with 5,100-feet of elevation gain/loss to reach the 9,334-foot summit, the peak bagging group started at 6 a.m. and returned to their vehicles at 11 p.m. The peak trail is in the Eldorado National Forest, CA. USDA Forest Service photo by Paul Wade.

Children learn how to use a saw at the Blackrock Ranger District on the Bridger-Teton National Forest, which hosted Eastern Shoshone, Northern Arapaho, and local Moran schools from the Wind River Reservation. Participants rotated through field stations and included hands-on learning activities focused on outdoor education. USDA Forest Service photo.

Group photo of Forest Service employees who participated in the 2023 Capitol Christmas tree's journey to Washington, D.C. The 63-foot Norway Spruce tree was harvested November 1st and arrived at the Capitol November 17th, from Monongahela National Forest, WV. USDA Forest Service photo by Tanya E Flores.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

PREFACE..... 9

AGENCY-WIDE..... 11

    BUDGET OVERVIEW..... 11

    PURPOSE STATEMENT..... 13

    OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORTS..... 15

    LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENTS..... 18

    SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS REVENUE, RECEIPTS AND TRANSFERS..... 20

    ORGANIZATION CHART..... 21

    AVAILABLE FUNDS AND FTES..... 22

    PERMANENT POSITIONS BY GRADE AND FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS (FTE’S)..... 24

    MOTOR VEHICLE FLEET..... 25

    SHARED FUNDING PROJECTS..... 27

FOREST SERVICE OPERATIONS..... 29

    LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT..... 29

    APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE..... 29

    PROJECT STATEMENTS..... 30

    FACILITIES MAINTENANCE AND LEASES..... 31

    INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CENTRALIZED PROCESSING..... 34

    ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES..... 36

    SALARIES AND EXPENSES..... 37

    OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING..... 38

    CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS..... 39

FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH..... 43

    LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT..... 43

    APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE..... 43

    PROJECT STATEMENTS..... 44

    FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS..... 45

    FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH..... 47

    JOINT FIRE SCIENCE..... 51

    SALARIES AND EXPENSES..... 52

    OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING..... 53

    CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS..... 54

STATE, PRIVATE, AND TRIBAL FORESTRY..... 55

LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT .....	55
APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE.....	55
PROJECT STATEMENTS .....	56
LANDSCAPE SCALE RESTORATION.....	57
FEDERAL LANDS FOREST HEALTH MANAGEMENT .....	58
COOPERATIVE LANDS FOREST HEALTH MANAGEMENT .....	60
STATE FIRE CAPACITY GRANTS (STATE FIRE ASSISTANCE) .....	62
VOLUNTEER FIRE CAPACITY GRANTS (FORMERLY VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSISTANCE) .....	64
FOREST LEGACY.....	66
FOREST STEWARDSHIP (WORKING FOREST LANDS).....	68
COMMUNITY FOREST AND OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION.....	70
URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY .....	72
FOREST RESOURCE INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS.....	74
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND TRADE COMPLIANCE.....	75
SALARIES AND EXPENSES.....	77
OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING .....	78
CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS.....	80
NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.....	81
LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT .....	81
APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE.....	81
PROJECT STATEMENTS .....	83
LAND MANAGEMENT PLANNING, ASSESSMENT, AND MONITORING.....	84
RECREATION, HERITAGE, AND WILDERNESS.....	86
GRAZING MANAGEMENT .....	88
HAZARDOUS FUELS .....	90
FOREST PRODUCTS.....	94
VEGETATION AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT .....	97
WILDLIFE AND FISH HABITAT MANAGEMENT .....	99
COLLABORATIVE FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION.....	101
MINERALS AND GEOLOGY MANAGEMENT .....	105
LAND USE AUTHORIZATION AND ACCESS .....	107
LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS.....	108
SALARIES AND EXPENSES.....	110
OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING .....	111

CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS.....	113
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE.....	115
LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT .....	115
APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE.....	115
PROJECT STATEMENTS .....	116
FACILITIES.....	117
ROADS.....	119
TRAILS .....	121
LEGACY ROAD REMEDIATION .....	123
CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.....	124
OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING .....	125
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PROJECTS OVER \$1 MILLION SELECTED IN 2025.....	126
CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS.....	130
LAND ACQUISITION .....	131
LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT .....	131
APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE.....	131
PROJECT STATEMENTS .....	132
LAND ACQUISITION .....	133
ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS SPECIAL ACTS .....	135
ACQUISITION OF LANDS TO COMPLETE LAND EXCHANGES .....	136
CONVEYANCE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SITES .....	137
SITE SPECIFIC LANDS ACT.....	138
CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS .....	139
OTHER APPROPRIATIONS.....	141
LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT .....	141
APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE.....	141
PROJECT STATEMENTS .....	143
RANGE BETTERMENT FUND.....	144
GIFTS, DONATIONS, AND BEQUESTS FOR FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH .....	145
MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL FOREST LANDS FOR SUBSISTENCE USE.....	146
COMMUNICATION SITE ADMINISTRATION .....	148
CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS .....	150
WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT.....	151
LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT .....	151

APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE.....	151
PROJECT STATEMENTS .....	153
PREPAREDNESS .....	154
SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS .....	158
SALARIES AND EXPENSES.....	161
OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING .....	163
CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS .....	164
WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS RESERVE FUND.....	165
LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT .....	165
APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE.....	165
PROJECT STATEMENTS .....	166
WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS RESERVE FUND .....	167
PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS .....	169
LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT .....	169
PROJECT STATEMENTS .....	170
NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LAND LEGACY RESTORATION FUND .....	172
BRUSH DISPOSAL.....	174
TIMBER SALVAGE SALES .....	176
TIMBER SALES PIPELINE RESTORATION .....	177
FOREST BOTANICAL PRODUCTS .....	178
STEWARDSHIP CONTRACTING.....	179
RECREATION FEES, FOREST SERVICE (ALSO REFERRED TO AS THE FEDERAL LANDS RECREATION ENHANCEMENT FUND) .....	180
TIMBER PURCHASER ELECTION ROAD CONSTRUCTION.....	182
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF FOREST SERVICE QUARTERS.....	183
ROADS AND TRAILS FOR STATES.....	184
LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES MANAGEMENT .....	185
MIDWIN NATIONAL TALLGRASS PRAIRIE RESTORATION .....	186
QUINULT SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA.....	187
RESTORATION OF FOREST LANDS AND IMPROVEMENTS.....	188
COMMERCIAL FILMING AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHY LAND USE FEE RETENTION.....	189
ORGANIZATIONAL CAMP PROGRAM .....	190
COST RECOVERY (LAND USES).....	191
SMOKEY BEAR OFFICIAL LICENSING PROGRAM .....	192

LICENSEE PROGRAM WOODESY OWL .....	193
FOREST SERVICE GO GREEN PROGRAM (CONSERVATION) .....	194
PAYMENTS TO STATES.....	195
CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS .....	198
TRUST FUNDS .....	199
LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT .....	199
PROJECT STATEMENTS .....	200
COOPERATIVE WORK – KNUTSON-VANDENBERG .....	201
COOPERATIVE WORK.....	203
REFORESTATION TRUST FUND .....	205
LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES TRUST FUND .....	207
CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS .....	208
ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS .....	210
TITLE IV GENERAL PROVISIONS.....	214
AGENCY-WIDE PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION .....	226
INTRODUCTION .....	226
ALIGNMENT TO USDA 2022 – 2026 STRATEGIC PLAN .....	226
SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE .....	227
SPECIAL EXHIBITS.....	232
CARBON ACCOUNTING.....	232
CRITERIA FOR ALLOCATING FUNDING FOR RECREATION ACCESS .....	236
EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT (EAJA) .....	237
NATIONAL SCENIC AND HISTORIC TRAILS.....	240
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL REIMBURSEMENT .....	247
PRESCRIBED FIRE .....	248
STEWARDSHIP CONTRACTING.....	250
UNLIQUIDATED OBLIGATIONS .....	253
USDA WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DEPARTMENTAL SHARED COST PROGRAMS, AND E-GOVERNMENT .....	256
SPEND PLAN FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT, 2022 (P.L. 117-58).....	262
TRANSFERS WITHIN APPROPRIATIONS.....	268
APPENDICES .....	270
NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LAND LEGACY RESTORATION FUND .....	270
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND .....	290



**PREFACE**

The budgetary tables throughout this document show actual amounts for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 and FY 2023, estimated levels for FY 2024, and the President’s Budget request for FY 2025. Amounts for FY 2024 estimated levels include non-estimated amounts such as Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) levels, fleet levels, information technology investment levels, recovery levels, transfers in and out, balances available end of year, and obligation levels.

Throughout this publication, the “2018 Farm Bill” is used to refer to the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018. Most programs funded by the 2018 Farm Bill are funded through FY 2024, as extended by the Further Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024 (P.L. 118-22). Amounts shown in FY 2024 and FY 2025 for most 2018 Farm Bill programs reflect those confirmed in the baseline.

Pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, sequestration is included in the numbers for mandatory programs in 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025.

In tables throughout this document, amounts equal to zero (0) are displayed as dashes (-). Amounts less than 0.5 and greater than zero are rounded and shown as a zero (0). This display treatment is used to prevent the masking of non-zero amounts that do not round up to one (1).

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## AGENCY-WIDE

### **BUDGET OVERVIEW**

#### **Mission**

The USDA Forest Service’s mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

#### **Budget Overview**

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Forest Service Budget request for discretionary appropriations is \$8.9 billion. This is an increase of \$658.5 million in comparison to the FY 2024 annualized continuing resolution. The FY 2025 Budget request includes \$2.6 billion for Wildland Fire Management, an increase of \$433.5 million<sup>1</sup> from the comparable funding level in FY 2024; \$2 billion for the management of National Forest System lands, an increase of \$32.8 million from FY 2024; \$158 million for Capital Improvement and Maintenance, a decrease of \$48 thousand<sup>2</sup> from FY 2024; \$316 million for Forest and Rangeland Research, an increase of \$8.4 million from FY 2024; \$305 million for State, Private, and Tribal Forestry, a decrease of \$32.4 million<sup>3</sup> from FY 2024; and \$1.1 billion for Forest Service Operations, an increase of \$34.3 million from FY 2024. The Forest Service funding from the Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund (“fire funding fix”) is \$2.3 billion in FY 2025, an increase of \$180 million from FY 2024.

#### **Forest Service Policy Priorities**

The FY 2025 Budget request prioritizes critical investments to address threats from wildfire, tackle climate change, protect communities, provide economic relief through job creation, reduce deferred maintenance backlog, advance racial equity, address environmental injustice, and further improve the Forest Service work environment. To respond to these challenges, the Forest Service requests investments for wildfire risk management to implement the Administration’s climate innovation agenda and significant investment in our wildland firefighting workforce. These investments support permanent firefighter pay reform, firefighter health and wellbeing services, expanded firefighter workforce capacity, and facilities maintenance funds to improve conditions of government housing for firefighters. In addition, the FY 2025 Budget prioritizes Research and Development efforts to accelerate technology transfer that is critical to the success of Wildland Fire Management programs. Wildfire risk management actions strengthen the Forest Services’ ability to improve the resilience of forest and rangeland ecosystems from multiyear drought conditions and protect watersheds, critical habitats, and communities from the negative impacts of wildfires.

Along with the ongoing investments provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58)<sup>4</sup> and the Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169), the Forest Service will use the FY 2025 Budget to work with States, Tribes, and partners to improve the resiliency of landscapes and watersheds across jurisdictional boundaries, reduce wildfire risk, restore infrastructure, support outdoor recreation, and invest in reforestation of America’s impacted landscapes.

#### **Wildland Fire Risk Management**

The increasing complexity and duration of wildfires, complicated by a changing climate and other factors, are expected to continue to challenge Forest Service administrators and fire managers in FY 2025. Each FY the Forest Service responds to around 5,000 to 7,000 fires on National Forest System lands. In addition to the responsibility to

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<sup>1</sup> The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328), Division N, provided disaster relief funding that included funding previously included in Division G: \$160 million for pre-suppression and \$1.011 billion for suppression operations. Additionally, Division N also provided emergency disaster appropriations of \$375 million for suppression activities.

<sup>2</sup> Decrease in Capital Improvement and Maintenance is associated with the previous year’s Congressionally Directed Spending projects which are not requested by the Forest Service.

<sup>3</sup> Decrease in State, Private, and Tribal Forestry is associated with the previous year’s Congressionally Directed Spending projects which are not requested by the Forest Service.

<sup>4</sup> The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is titled the “Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act” (P.L. 117-58) and will be referenced as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) for the remainder of the document.

protect life, property, infrastructure, and natural resources on National Forest System lands, the Forest Service responds to wildland fire incidents on other Federal lands and on an additional 20 million acres of non-Federal lands under interagency and intergovernmental protection agreements. Wildland fire risk management is an urgent priority for the Forest Service and aligns with USDA's Strategic Goal to mitigate wildfire risk. The FY 2025 Budget dedicates \$207 million towards management for hazardous fuels reduction, equal to FY 2024. This will facilitate the Forest Service's goal to mitigate wildfire risk on 4.0 million acres in high-priority and high-risk areas in FY 2025 in continued alignment with the Forest Service Wildfire Crisis Strategy<sup>5</sup>.

#### **Compensation for Wildland Firefighters**

The FY 2025 Budget request proposes \$2.6 billion for Wildland Fire Management activities which is an increase of \$433 million above the FY 2024 annualized continuing resolution. The FY 2025 Budget includes an increase of \$216 million to further build on the base pay increases in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) and a \$10 million investment in health and wellbeing services for wildland firefighters. The budget includes an increase of \$69 million to support the anticipated 2024 and 2025 cost of living adjustments and an increase of \$136 million for additional Federal firefighting capacity. This increase will help ensure that the Forest Service can effectively meet the demands of wildland fire activity year-round, while also improving the work-life balance of firefighters. This level of funding reflects the Administration's ongoing commitment to building and sustaining a robust and resilient Federal wildland fire management workforce.

The FY 2025 Budget also includes \$25 million to perform critical facility maintenance work to improve the conditions of government housing for Forest Service wildland firefighters and other essential employees. This critical investment aligns with the finding in the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission September 2023 report<sup>6</sup> that a lack of affordable housing is a significant barrier to the recruitment, hiring, and retention of employees.

#### **Tackling the Climate Crisis**

The FY 2025 Budget complements the investments made in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) to implement the Administration's climate plan and to support Executive Order 14008, "Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad" and Executive Order 13990, "Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis." The FY 2025 Budget incorporates investments that allow the Forest Service to build unfragmented, climate-resilient landscapes while building the framework for economic growth, supporting good-paying jobs, and prioritizing the extension of benefits from climate investments to disadvantaged and underserved communities.

The FY 2025 Budget request supports capacity for carbon sequestration through reforestation, mitigation of forest pests, and production of sustainable woody biomass for forest products on both public and private lands. The Forest Service will focus investments on planting the right species, in the right place, under the right conditions to create resilient and sustainable forests. The Forest Service will leverage partner resources through Shared Stewardship while making integrated decisions on mutually beneficial projects across all land ownerships.

The FY 2025 Budget supports the success of post-disturbance restoration and nursery capacity to ensure the availability of genetic resources that optimize existing and future landscape configurations to improve reforestation outcomes. Benefits of reforestation include the regeneration of forest vegetation in areas impacted by wildfire, floods, and hurricanes; increased carbon sequestration capacity; establishment of resilient forest vegetation; and improved habitat diversity for many wildlife species.

#### **Improving Infrastructure, Providing Economic Relief, and Supporting Jobs**

The results of the Forest Service's recent FY 2022 economic analysis show Forest Service programs and work contributed 410,400 jobs (average of annual full-time, part-time, temporary, and seasonal) and \$44.3 billion in

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<sup>5</sup> [Confronting the Wildfire Crisis](#)

<sup>6</sup> [ON FIRE: The Report of the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission.](#)

Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Recreational visitor use, hunting and fishing, energy and minerals development, forest products, and livestock grazing generated 69 percent of the economic activity.

The Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA), 2020 (P.L. 116-152), is allowing the Forest Service to repair and upgrade vital infrastructure and facilities in national forests and grasslands through the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF). GAOA also permanently funded the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), investing in conservation and recreation opportunities on both Federal and non-Federal forests and grasslands. Projects funded through LWCF programs enrich the lives of current and future generations by improving landscape resiliency and increasing access. The FY 2025 estimates are 3,200 jobs and \$360 million in GDP. The FY 2025 LWCF and LRF project lists are included in appendices to the Budget request. The Forest Service has developed these projects in accordance with GAOA LRF requirements and LWCF, Forest Service, and Administration priorities. These include creating new and enhanced recreation access, funding projects with substantial local community support, conserving critical watersheds, and benefiting disadvantaged or underserved communities.

### **Advancing Racial Equity and Improving the Workplace Environment**

The Forest Service remains unwavering in its commitment to the values of equity, inclusion, and equal opportunities for its employees and the public it serves. The Forest Service maintains the intent to focus on prioritizing activities that will provide benefits to disadvantaged or underserved communities. The Forest Service vows to proactively engage in actions that ensure a safe, resilient, and harassment-free work culture where employees are treated with respect and dignity. The USDA is committed to providing equity across its agencies, removing barriers to access, and building a workforce more representative of America. Lastly, the Forest Service seeks to diagnose and address the root causes and cultural barriers to safety (physical, psychological, and social), diversity, equity, and inclusion in the work environment.

### **PURPOSE STATEMENT**

The United States Forest Service is an agency of the Department of Agriculture formed in 1905, pursuant to the Transfer Act of 1905 (33 Stat. 628) and the Agricultural Appropriation Act of 1906 (33 Stat. 872). The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), (43 U.S.C. 1701), directs the Forest Service to manage National Forest System (NFS) lands on the basis of multiple use, in a manner that “recognizes the Nation’s need for domestic sources of minerals, food, timber, and fiber from the public lands” and that will “protect the quality of historical resources, and archeological values.”

The Forest Service is a steward for National Forests and public lands owned by the American people. The Forest Service administers 154 national forests and 20 national grasslands that cover more than 193 million acres of public land, 84 long-term experimental areas,<sup>7</sup> seven research and development laboratories,<sup>8</sup> and 24 Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers.<sup>9</sup> The Forest Service also reaches across the boundaries of the national forests through collaboration and cooperation to States, Tribes, communities, and non-industrial private landowners.

The mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The Forest Service is committed to fulfilling its responsibilities to the American people by maintaining public trust and safety with an emphasis on the

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<sup>7</sup> The Forest Service’s long-term experimental areas consist of 76 experimental forests, 4 experimental ranges, and 4 experimental watersheds and are the largest and longest-lived ecological research areas in the United States. Additional information on these experimental areas can be found at: [Experimental Forests and Ranges](#).

<sup>8</sup> Forest Service Research and Development manages nearly 80 facilities, organized around five research stations and two research centers. Research stations include Rocky Mountain Research Station, Pacific Southwest Research Station, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Southern Research Station, and Northern Research Station. The two research centers are the Forest Products Laboratory and International Institute of Tropical Forestry. Additional information on these laboratories can be found at [Research Station](#).

<sup>9</sup> While the Forest Service provides oversight for the Job Corps program, Job Corps is funded through the Department of Labor.

interconnection between people and nature. The Forest Service fulfills its commitment by improving the current and future needs of people and nature by:

- Working in collaboration with communities and agency partners.
- Delivering world-class science, technology, and land management.
- Providing access to resources and experiences that promote economic, ecological, and social vitality.
- Connecting people to the land and one another.

The Forest Service is composed of four Deputy Areas: 1) Business Operations; 2) Forest and Rangeland Research; 3) National Forest System; and 4) State, Private, and Tribal Forestry.

### **Statutory Program Authorization**

#### **Forest Service Operations**

Forest Service Operations was authorized in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94), Division D, Title IV, Section 435(a) (16 U.S.C. 579e(a)). The account includes base salary and expenses of employees in the Chief's Office, the Work Environment and Performance Office, the Business Operations Deputy Area, and the Chief Financial Officer's Office. Forest Service Operations also funds the costs of facility maintenance, repairs, and leases for buildings and sites where these administrative, general management and other Forest Service support functions take place; the costs of all utility and telecommunication expenses, business services, and information technology, including cybersecurity requirements; and other administrative support function expenses necessary for the operation of the Forest Service.

#### **Forest and Rangeland Research**

Forest and Rangeland Research was authorized in the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-378), (16 U.S.C. 1601-1608) and the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-307), (16 U.S.C. 1641-1647). Forest and Rangeland Research conducts ecological, material, and social science research to understand ecosystems, including human interactions and influences, and improve the health and use of our Nation's forests and grasslands. The Joint Fire Science Program provides funding for the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior to address issues associated with managing wildland fuels, fires, and fire-impacted ecosystems.

#### **State, Private, and Tribal Private Forestry**

State and Private Forestry was authorized in part by the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-313), (16 U.S.C. 2101 *et seq.*). State, Private, and Tribal Forestry provides financial and technical assistance to non-Federal landowners and resource managers to sustain the nation's forests and grasslands, protect communities from wildland fire, and restore fire-adapted ecosystems. These efforts focus on management, protection, conservation education, and resource use to help facilitate sound stewardship of lands across multiple jurisdictions to produce ecological, social, and economic benefits for the American people.

#### **National Forest System**

National Forest System was authorized in part by the Organic Administration Act of 1897 (16 U.S.C. 551), the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 472a), and the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act (16 U.S.C. 528-531). National Forest System administers more than 193 million acres of national forests and grasslands. National Forest System programs support planning, coordination, implementation, and monitoring of programs, projects, and activities that provide a variety of ecosystem services, including water-quality protection, public recreation opportunities, energy for the Nation, timber and non-convertible forest products, maintenance of open space, and wildlife habitat and habitat connectivity. The National Forest System also supports robust heritage, minerals, geology, and law enforcement programs that support ecological programs in their ability to do projects and activities.

#### **Capital Improvement and Maintenance**

Capital Improvement and Maintenance was authorized in part by the Forest Roads and Trails Act (16 U.S.C. 532-538) and 23 U.S.C. 101 *et seq.* Capital Improvement and Maintenance constructs, maintains, and improves fire and

administrative facilities, and sites, roads, and trails on National Forest System lands, and enables the Forest Service to meet critical natural resource needs while providing safe access to public lands.

#### **Land Acquisition**

Land Acquisition was authorized in part by the Weeks Act (16 U.S.C. 515) and the General Exchange Act of 1922 (16 U.S.C. 485, 486). Land Acquisition purchases, exchanges, and accepts donations of lands to achieve a desired national forest landownership pattern, protect critical resource areas, and provide increased public recreation opportunities on National Forest System lands.

#### **Other Appropriations**

Other Appropriations includes Range Betterment Fund; Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Forest and Rangeland Research; Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses; and Communications Site Administration.

Range Betterment Fund is authorized by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1751). Range Betterment Fund provides for the rehabilitation, protection, and improvements of rangelands on National Forest System lands maintain healthy, resilient rangeland ecosystems.

Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Forest and Rangeland Research was authorized by the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1641 *et seq.*). This account accepts gifts, donations, and bequests for the establishment or operation of any forest and rangeland research facility.

Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses is authorized by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-487), Title VIII (16 U.S.C. 3111-3126). This account provides funding for habitat management projects that support subsistence harvesting activities on National Forest System lands in Alaska.

Communications Site Administration was authorized by the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, section 8705. This account allows for the collection and retention of administrative fees for communications site use authorizations, which are used to cover program administrative costs.

#### **Wildland Fire Management**

Wildland Fire Management is authorized in part by the Organic Administration Act of 1897 (16 U.S.C. 551). Wildland Fire Management utilizes resources for the protection of life, property, and natural resources in the National Forest System and adjacent lands from wildfires.

#### **Geographic Dispersion of Offices and Employees**

The Forest Service Headquarters is located in Washington, DC. The Forest Service is organized under nine Regions, and field activities are managed through 154 administrative units<sup>10</sup>. Northern Region (01) is in Missoula, Montana. Rocky Mountain Region (02) is in Lakewood, Colorado. Southwestern Region (03) is in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Intermountain Region (04) is in Ogden, Utah. Pacific Southwest Region (05) is in Vallejo, California. Pacific Northwest Region (06) is in Portland, Oregon. Southern Region (08) is in Atlanta, Georgia. Eastern Region (09) is in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Alaska Region (10) is in Juneau, Alaska.

As of September 30, 2023, there were 32,450 permanent full-time employees, 521 in the Headquarters office and 31,929 in regional and field offices.

#### **OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORTS**

The tables below provide a list of Office of Inspector General (OIG) and Government Accountability Office (GAO) reports that were completed during fiscal year 2023 and not previously reported.

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<sup>10</sup> An administrative unit may include more than one proclaimed forest or grassland. Other non-forest or grassland units include national recreation areas, the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, and the Savannah River Site.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

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Table FS-1. OIG Reports Completed in FY 2023

ID	Date <sup>a</sup>	Title	Results
08801-0001-22	5/2/2023	Forest Service's Response to the Coronavirus Pandemic at Recreation Sites	No recommendations for Forest Service
50503-0011-12	7/28/2023	2023 FISMA	No recommendations for Forest Service
50801-0006-12	9/29/2023	Security Over USDA Mobile Applications	No recommendations for Forest Service

<sup>a</sup> All dates are the audit report issuance date.

Table FS-2. GAO Reports Completed in FY 2023

ID	Date <sup>a</sup>	Title	Results
GAO-23-106149	06/06/2023	Veterans Employment: GI Bill Benefits Can Help Lead to Outdoor Recreation Careers	No recommendations for Forest Service
GAO-23-105408	02/13/2023	Abandoned Hardrock Mines: Land Management Agencies Should Improve Reporting of Total Cleanup Costs	Closed – Implemented

<sup>a</sup> All dates are the audit report issuance date.



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**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENTS**

Table FS-3. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In Dollars)

**Forest Service Operations**

Estimate, 2024.....	\$1,152,744,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+ 34,322,000
Request, 2025.....	<u>1,187,066,000</u>

**Forest and Rangeland Research**

Estimate, 2024.....	\$307,273,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+ 8,351,000
Request, 2025.....	<u>315,624,000</u>

**State, Private, and Tribal Forestry**

Estimate, 2024.....	\$337,758,000
Change in Appropriation.....	-32,350,000
Request, 2025.....	<u>305,408,000</u>

**National Forest System**

Estimate, 2024.....	\$1,974,388,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+ 32,761,000
Request, 2025.....	<u>2,007,149,000</u>

**Capital Improvement and Maintenance**

Estimate, 2024.....	\$158,048,000
Change in Appropriation.....	-48,000
Request, 2025.....	<u>158,000,000</u>

**Land Acquisition**

Estimate, 2024.....	\$814,000
Change in Appropriation.....	-
Request, 2025.....	<u>814,000</u>

**Other Appropriations**

Estimate, 2024.....	\$2,863,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+2,000,000
Request, 2025.....	<u>4,863,000</u>

**Wildland Fire Management**

Estimate, 2024.....	\$2,116,956,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+ 433,486,000
Request, 2025 <sup>a</sup> .....	<u>2,550,442,000</u>

**Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund**

Estimate, 2024.....	\$2,210,000,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+ 180,000,000
Request, 2025.....	<u>2,390,000,000</u>

**Permanent Appropriations**

Estimate, 2024.....	\$643,530,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+2,750,000
Request, 2025.....	<u>646,280,000</u>

**Trust Funds**

Estimate, 2024.....	\$236,578,000
Change in Appropriation.....	-10,000
Request, 2025.....	<u>226,578,000</u>

<sup>a</sup> Wildland Fire Management discretionary appropriations include base recurring discretionary funding designated as emergency (i.e., shifted base).

**SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS REVENUE, RECEIPTS AND TRANSFERS**

Table FS-4. 2022 - 2025 National Forest Fund (NFF) Receipts Availability (thousands of dollars)

Receipt Type	2022 Actual	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate <sup>d</sup>	2025 Estimate
National Forest Fund Receipts:				
Class 1 – Timber.....	\$5,555	\$10,143	\$8,374	\$8,024
Class 2 - Grazing East.....	183	148	158	163
Class 3 - Land Use.....	25,492	24,944	25,353	25,263
Class 4 - Recreation Special Uses.....	105,740	90,965	102,857	99,854
Class 5 – Power.....	19,251	14,314	15,433	16,333
Class 6 – Minerals.....	860	850	919	876
Class 8 - Grazing West.....	5,092	5,167	5,062	5,107
Class 9 – Quartz Crystals.....	-	1	1	1
Subtotal, NFF Receipts.....	162,173	146,532	158,157	155,621
Additions and Reductions other than Payments to States:				
DOI:ONRR/MMS Minerals Revenue NFF <sup>a</sup> .....	25,766	17,808	19,449	21,008
Minnesota Boundary Water Canoe Area.....	-6,150	-6,150	-6,150	-6,150
Timber Roads - Purchaser Election Program.....	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000
Acquisition of Lands for National Forest Special Acts.....	-664	-664	-664	-664
50% Grazing (Range Betterment Fund).....	-2,546	-2,556	-1,719	-1,719
10% Roads & Trails.....	-20,171	-20,170	-20,700	-20,000
Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Expansion.....	-937	-794	-1,000	1,050
Other Special Act Payments (Arkansas Quartz and Quinault Special Management Area) <sup>b</sup> .....	-49	-18	-23	-30
Subtotal, Additions and Reductions other than Payments to States.....	-6,751	-14,544	-12,807	-8,505
Payments to States Reductions:				
PTS - 25% 7-year Rolling Average of Receipts Payment <sup>b, c</sup> .....	-13,984	-13,282	-13,559	-13,608
SRS - Title II Allocation - SRS2.....	-23,568	-23,783	-24,370	-23,907
SRS - Failure to Elect Allocation – SRSA.....	-220	-202	-210	-211
SRS - Allocation to Treasury.....	-132	-121	-126	-126
Subtotal, Payments to States Reductions.....	-37,904	-37,388	-38,264	-37,852
<b>Total, Receipts Available for SRS - Title I and III.....</b>	<b>117,518</b>	<b>94,600</b>	<b>107,085</b>	<b>109,263</b>

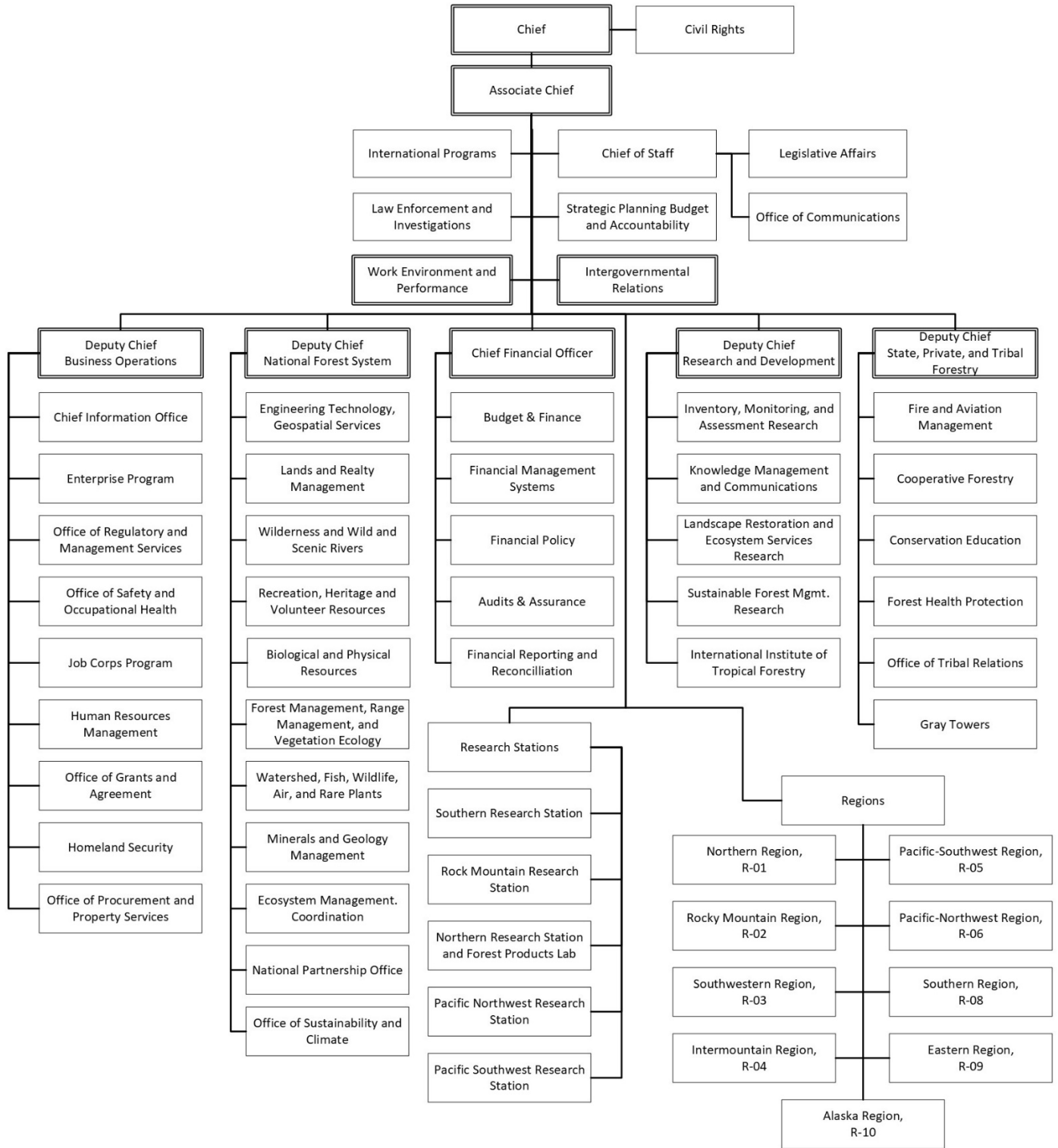
<sup>a</sup> Compensation programs related to energy and mineral development on National Forest System lands are administered by the Department of the Interior.

<sup>b</sup> Revenue-sharing and Secure Rural Schools payments are nonexempt, nondefense mandatory spending; therefore, are subject to annual sequestration, if applicable, through 2029 (P.L. 112-25).

<sup>c</sup> The reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Secure Rural Schools Act) was included in Section 41202 of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Public Law 117-58), which was signed into law on November 15, 2021. The reauthorization not only extended payments through 2023, but also reset the full funding amount used to calculate the Secure Rural Schools Act formula payments to the 2017 level of funding. S.3706 provided for the application of certain provisions.

<sup>d</sup> Actual 2023 receipts and payments will not be available until early April 2024. Values shown are estimates.

**ORGANIZATION CHART**



2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

**AVAILABLE FUNDS AND FTEs**

Table FS-5. Available Funds and FTEs (thousands of dollars)

Item	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs
Forest Service Operations:								
Discretionary Appropriations .....	\$1,069,086	2,547	\$1,152,744	2,733	\$1,152,744	2,678	\$1,187,066	2,670
Mandatory Appropriations .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplemental Appropriations <sup>a</sup> .....	105,000	100	-	368	-	423	-	431
Offsetting Collections .....	374	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forest and Rangeland Research:								
Discretionary Appropriations .....	296,616	1,467	307,273	1,550	307,273	1,433	315,624	1,432
Supplemental Appropriations .....	27,000	3	4,000	12	2,000	129	2,000	130
State, Private, and Tribal Forestry:								
Discretionary Appropriations .....	315,198	386	337,758	404	337,758	373	305,408	350
Mandatory Appropriations .....	83,862	18	77,940	21	94,225	37	94,225	21
Supplemental Appropriations .....	3,105,360	4	453,360	43	305,360	58	305,360	97
National Forest System:								
Discretionary Appropriations .....	1,866,545	13,298	1,974,388	13,690	1,974,388	12,598	2,007,149	12,434
Supplemental Appropriations .....	1,794,800	303	739,800	947	529,800	2,039	529,800	2,203
Capital Improvement and Maintenance:								
Discretionary Appropriations .....	159,049	-	158,048	-	158,048	-	158,000	-
Supplemental Appropriations .....	542,000	11	222,000	17	72,000	5	72,000	-
Land Acquisition:								
Discretionary Appropriations .....	814	2	814	2	814	-	814	2
Mandatory Appropriations .....	126,694	44	128,964	41	127,711	38	127,711	38
Other Appropriations:								
Discretionary Appropriations .....	3,573	-	3,645	-	2,863	-	4,863	-
Wildland Fire Management:								
Discretionary Appropriations <sup>b</sup> .....	2,005,106	9,716	2,116,956	9,631	2,116,956	9,974	2,550,442	10,544
Supplemental Appropriations .....	2,352,200	63	411,000	853	36,000	431	36,000	431
Offsetting Collections .....	-	-	17,492	-	-	-	-	-
Wildfire Suppression Operations:								
Discretionary Appropriations .....	2,120,000	-	2,210,000	-	2,210,000	-	2,390,000	-
Permanent Appropriations:								
Mandatory Appropriations .....	575,101	890	731,419	872	643,530	872	646,280	872
Offsetting Collections .....	113	3	6,239	-	-	-	-	-
Trust Funds:								
Mandatory Appropriations .....	332,899	248	246,460	237	236,578	237	226,578	237
Offsetting Collections .....	25,439	91	35,650	72	36,000	72	36,000	72
Total Discretionary Appropriations .	7,835,987	27,416	8,261,626	28,010	8,260,844	27,056	8,919,366	27,432
Total Mandatory Appropriations.....	1,118,556	1,200	1,184,783	1,171	1,102,044	1,184	1,174,794	1,168
Total Supplemental Appropriations.	7,926,360	484	1,830,160	2,240	945,160	3,085	945,160	3,292
Deferral for Roads and Trails for States.....								
	-18,888	-	-20,171	-	-19,000	-	-	-
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>16,862,015</b>	<b>29,100</b>	<b>11,256,398</b>	<b>31,421</b>	<b>10,289,048</b>	<b>31,325</b>	<b>10,959,320</b>	<b>31,892</b>
Total Offsetting Collections.....	25,926	94	59,381	72	36,000	72	36,000	72
Recoveries .....	342,551	-	284,913	-	301,701	-	279,193	-

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs
Total Transfers In .....	1,193,100	-	1,565,483	-	476,571	-	340,000	-
Total Transfers Out.....	-922,230	-	-1,295,597	-	-121,361	-	-20,000	-
Total Balance Transfers .....	591	-	16,309	-	1	-	-	-
Balance Available, SOY.....	3,228,652	-	11,029,762	-	10,708,441	-	8,711,853	-
Total Sequestrations.....	-17,057	-	-27,713	-	-18,959	-	-24,678	-
Lapsing Balances .....	-2,852	-	-1,369	-	-60	-	-60	-
<b>Total Available.....</b>	<b>20,710,273</b>	<b>29,194</b>	<b>22,887,567</b>	<b>31,493</b>	<b>21,671,382</b>	<b>31,397</b>	<b>20,281,628</b>	<b>31,964</b>
Balance Available, EOY .....	-11,029,763	-	-10,708,441	-	-8,711,853	-	-8,079,064	-
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>9,680,510</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,179,127</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,959,529</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,202,564</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Other FTEs <sup>b</sup> .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,953</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,887</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,887</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,887</b>
<b>Total FTEs .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,147</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,380</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,284</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,851</b>

<sup>a</sup> Supplemental appropriations include The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58), The Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-168), disaster relief (P.L. 117-43), and emergency supplemental (P.L. 117-43, Division N). The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provided \$1,666,360,000 appropriations in FY 2022 and provided \$945,160,000 advance appropriations in FY 2023 and FY 2024. The Inflation Reduction Act provided \$4.9 billion appropriations in FY 2022. FY 2022 disaster relief provisions provided \$1,360,000,000 for necessary expenses related to wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters that occurred between calendar years 2019 through 2021. FY 2023 emergency supplemental provided \$885 million for necessary expenses related to the consequences of calendar year 2020, 2021, and 2022 wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters. Division N also provided \$1.171 billion in base recurring funds (i.e., shifted base) for Wildland Fire Suppression and Preparedness.

<sup>b</sup> Wildland Fire Management discretionary appropriations include base recurring discretionary funding designated as emergency (i.e., shifted base).

<sup>c</sup> Funding for Other FTEs is provided through reimbursable funds and the allocation of funds from other agencies.

The discrepancy between the project statement and Max schedule X is reimbursable funds.

**PERMANENT POSITIONS BY GRADE AND FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS (FTE's)**

Table FS-6. Permanent Positions by Grade and FTE's

Item	2022			2023			2024			2025		
	D.C.	Field	Actual Total	D.C.	Field	Actual Total	D.C.	Field	Estimated Total	D.C.	Field	Estimated Total
SES <sup>a</sup> .....	29	36	65	33	34	67	33	34	67	33	34	67
GS-15.....	87	336	423	83	370	453	83	369	452	83	369	452
GS-14 <sup>b</sup> .....	159	580	739	136	713	849	135	710	845	136	709	845
GS-13 <sup>b</sup> .....	145	2237	2382	108	2,820	2,928	108	2,811	2,919	108	2,811	2,919
GS-12.....	67	3213	3280	57	3,915	3,972	55	3,909	3,964	57	3,907	3,964
GS-11.....	73	4154	4581	44	5,131	5,175	44	5,116	5,160	44	5,116	5,160
GS-10.....	-	427	427	-	293	293	-	292	292	-	292	292
GS-9 <sup>b</sup> .....	65	4291	4356	34	4,678	4,712	32	4,664	4,696	34	4,802	4,836
GS-8.....	3	1660	1663	2	1,640	1,642	2	1,635	1,637	2	1,635	1,637
GS-7 <sup>b</sup> .....	22	3540	3562	14	4,369	4,383	14	4,356	4,370	14	4,481	4,495
GS-6.....	2	1854	1856	1	2,278	2,279	1	2,271	2,272	1	2,271	2,272
GS-5 <sup>b</sup> .....	2	2915	2917	4	3,060	3,064	4	3,051	3,055	4	3,257	3,261
GS-4.....	-	847	847	1	1,384	1,385	1	1,380	1,381	1	1,380	1,381
GS-3.....	-	130	130	3	264	267	3	263	266	3	263	266
GS-2.....	2	11	13	1	21	22	1	21	22	1	21	22
GS-1.....	-	2	2	-	2	2	-	2	2	-	2	2
Other												
Graded <sup>c</sup> ....	-	-	-	-	957	957	-	954	954	-	954	954
Total												
Permanent	979	26,264	27,243	521	31,929	32,450	516	31,838	32,354	521	32,304	32,825
Unfilled, EOY	-	-	2,167	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Perm.												
FT EOY .....	979	26,264	29,410	521	31,929	32,450	516	31,838	32,354	521	32,304	32,825
FTE.....						33,380			33,284			33,851

<sup>a</sup> Includes pay plans ES, SL, and ST.

<sup>b</sup> Includes pay plan GL.

<sup>c</sup> Includes pay plans WG, WL, and WS

Note: In addition to the numbers above, there are temporary positions as well.



### **MOTOR VEHICLE FLEET**

The Forest Service uses a revolving Working Capital Fund (WCF) to finance its fleet operations. A monthly Fixed Ownership Rate and a per-mile use rate are assessed for each owned and General Services Administration's (GSA)-leased vehicle. These expenses are funded from discretionary programs that are deposited into specific WCF accounts that make up the revolving fund. Funds are used to finance fleet operations that include repairs, fuel, maintenance, infrastructure support, program management costs, vehicle depreciation, and vehicle replacements.

The Forest Service vehicle fleet supports approximately 33,380 permanent full-time and seasonal employees. There are approximately 15,600 fleet vehicles that support year-round missions. An additional 2,400 vehicles are retained beyond their minimum replacement standard to support the seasonal workforce. Although these vehicles receive lower utilization, they provide a cost-effective alternative to commercial leases or rental options. At any given time, there are roughly 1,000 vehicles in the process of being prepared for service or prepared for disposal<sup>1</sup>. All vehicles are reported annually through the GSA Federal Automotive Statistical Tool (FAST).

The Forest Service is structured into regions, forests, grasslands, stations, and districts. Line officers at different levels of the organization are responsible for determining the composition and quantity of vehicles required to meet their mission goals. Fleet composition is facilitated using a Vehicle allocation methodology (VAM) that considers how often a vehicle is used, the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) lifecycle analysis, budgetary constraints, operating environment, and personnel supported. Line officers are responsible for assigning vehicles to drivers per specific mission requirements. Fleet program managers coordinate the certification and authorization of drivers with supervisors, monitor fleet composition and utilization rates through the TCO and VAM process, and recommend how to optimize fleet size.

The Forest Service aims to manage its fleet program in the most cost-effective way possible, including alternative-fueled vehicles to fulfill mission goals. The Forest Service also works to meet or exceed the required annual utilization rate benchmarks for vehicles, which can be challenging given the seasonality of work and limited access to remote sites or work areas within National Forest System lands. The Forest Service continues to share vehicles and explore other opportunities to increase utilization rates. Finally, as oversight of fleet programs increases, the Forest Service is aligning and automating data to better respond to oversight and audit requirements efficiently and cost-effectively.

### **Replacement Criteria**

Minimum vehicle replacement standards are three years or 60,000 miles. The Forest Service will retain Government-owned motor vehicles that exceed minimum vehicle replacement standards if the motor vehicle can be operated safely without excessive maintenance costs or substantial reduction in resale value.

### **Fleet Size**

At the end of FY 2023, the Forest Service's motor vehicle fleet totaled 18,516 of these motor vehicles 17,695 were in active inventory and 819 were in the process of being sold. The remaining two are in the process of being upfitted for service. The on-hand fleet inventory was higher than anticipated at the end of the FY due to an increase in the Forest Service's mission associated with the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. This legislation is increasing the pace and scale of efforts to mitigate wildfire risk and invest in renewal of infrastructure within National Forest System lands. The Forest Service will continue to implement fleet telematics in FY 2024 to monitor and manage fleet utilization more effectively.

### **Price and Cost Increases**

For FY 2024 and FY 2025, the Forest Service anticipates that annual operating costs will continue to increase at four percent per year. The Forest Service doesn't anticipate any major changes to fleet size

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Table FS-7. Size, Composition, and Annual Costs of Motor Vehicle Fleet

Item	Sedans and Station Wagons		Vans	SUVs	Light Trucks 4X2	Light Trucks 4X4	Medium Duty Vehicles	Buses	Heavy Duty Vehicles	Total Vehicles	Annual Operating Costs
<b>2018 End of Year</b>											
Operating Inventory .....	328	94	2,620	563	6,265	6,867	84	2,073	18,894	\$94,303,490	
<b>2022 End of Year</b>											
Operating Inventory .....	198	92	2,474	328	5,811	7,083	81	2,217	18,284	101,696,978	
2023 Planned Acquisitions	9	1	241	3	548	578	3	187	1,570		
2023 Planned Disposals ....	24	5	199	28	402	486	3	191	1,338		
<b>2023 End of Year</b>											
Operating Inventory .....	183	88	2,516	303	5,957	7,175	81	2,213	18,516	106,297,473	
2024 Planned Acquisitions	26	16	244	35	666	751	7	32	1,777		
2024 Planned Disposals ....	26	16	244	35	666	751	7	32	1,777		
<b>2024 End of Year</b>											
Operating Inventory .....	183	88	2,516	303	5,957	7,175	81	2,213	18,516	110,549,371	
2025 Planned Acquisitions	21	13	196	43	688	748	13	31	1,753		
2025 Planned Disposals ....	21	13	196	43	688	748	13	31	1,753		
<b>2025 End of Year</b>											
Operating Inventory .....	183	88	2,516	303	5,957	7,175	81	2,213	18,516	114,971,345	

Notes: The number of vehicles by type include agency-owned and leased from commercial sources or GSA. Annual Operating Costs excludes acquisition costs and gains from sale of vehicles as shown in FAST.

**SHARED FUNDING PROJECTS**

Table FS-8. Shared Funding Projects (thousands of dollars)

Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Working Capital Fund:				
Administrative Services:				
AskUSDA Contact Center .....	-	\$1,102	\$1,904	\$1,995
Fleet Charge Card Services.....	-	-	-	1,126
Materiel Management Service.....	\$899	697	1,125	1,050
Mail and Reproduction Services.....	453	562	529	526
Integrated Procurement Systems.....	8,637	8,543	9,643	-
Procurement Operations Services.....	73	91	92	8,092
Human Resources Enterprise Management Systems.....	1,064	997	1,009	1,035
Subtotal, Administrative Services.....	11,126	11,992	14,302	13,824
Communications:				
Creative Media and Broadcast Center.....	474	462	559	391
Finance and Management:				
National Finance Center .....	8,716	8,874	8,394	8,566
Internal Control Support Services .....	382	299	415	397
Financial Management Systems.....	45,733	45,970	47,683	44,781
Personnel and Document Security Program .....	-	1,547	1,781	1,795
Subtotal, Finance and Management.....	54,831	56,690	58,273	55,539
Information Technology:				
Client Experience Center .....	56,023	58,096	48,756	50,166
Department Administration Information Technology Office....	1,111	-	-	-
Digital Infrastructure Services Center.....	51,472	52,928	41,038	38,751
Enterprise Network Services.....	14,960	14,443	19,609	20,632
Enterprise Cybersecurity Services .....	-	8,718	16,991	18,780
Enterprise Data and Analytics Services.....	-	1,445	1,376	1,306
Subtotal, Information Technology.....	123,566	135,630	127,770	129,635
Correspondence Management Services:				
Office of the Executive Secretariat.....	401	490	512	510
<b>Total, Working Capital Fund .....</b>	<b>190,398</b>	<b>205,264</b>	<b>201,416</b>	<b>199,899</b>
Department-Wide Shared Cost Programs:				
Advisory Committee Liaison Services.....	285	261	319	319
Agency Partnership Outreach.....	1,962	2,313	2,351	2,351
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility .....	-	626	840	840
Intertribal Technical Assistance Network.....	1,079	1,123	1,123	1,123
Medical Services .....	144	202	329	329
National Capital Region Interpreting Services .....	31	64	133	133
Office of Customer Experience .....	2,708	1,009	1,012	1,012
Personnel and Document Security Program.....	667	-	-	-
Physical Security .....	1,322	1,423	1,478	1,478
Security Detail.....	1,400	1,581	1,689	1,689

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Security Operations.....	1,927	2,190	2,394	2,394
Talent Group.....	-	1,138	1,041	1,041
TARGET Center.....	398	521	560	560
USDA Enterprise Data Analytics Services.....	1,366	-	-	-
Employee Experience.....	-	1,079	1,176	1,176
<b>Total, Department-Wide Shared Cost Programs.....</b>	<b>13,289</b>	<b>13,530</b>	<b>14,445</b>	<b>14,445</b>
E-Gov:				
Budget Formulation and Execution Line of Business .....	37	34	39	41
Disaster Assistance Improvement Plan .....	-	-	-	-
Enterprise Human Resources Integration.....	72	-	-	-
E-Rulemaking.....	51	45	36	48
E-Training.....	-	-	-	-
Financial Management Line of Business.....	85	85	81	81
Geospatial Line of Business .....	13	13	13	13
Benefits.gov .....	-	-	-	-
Grants.gov .....	11	9	5	5
Human Resources Line of Business.....	90	93	92	92
Integrated Acquisition Environment .....	193	239	323	315
<b>Total, E-Gov.....</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>595</b>
<b>Total, Forest Service.....</b>	<b>204,239</b>	<b>219,312</b>	<b>216,450</b>	<b>214,939</b>

**FOREST SERVICE OPERATIONS**

**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**

Table FS-9. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)

Item	Amount
2024 Estimated Budget.....	\$1,152,744,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+34,322,000
2025 Request.....	<u>1,187,066,000</u>

**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored; deleted matter enclosed in brackets):

1 FOREST SERVICE OPERATIONS

2 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

3 For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, [~~\$1,316,499,000~~]\$1,187,066,000, to  
 4 remain available through September 30, [2027]2028: *Provided*, That a portion of the funds made available under  
 5 this heading shall be for the base salary and expenses of employees in the Chief's Office, the Work Environment  
 6 and Performance Office, the Business Operations Deputy Area, and the Chief Financial Officer's Office to carry out  
 7 administrative and general management support functions[: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under  
 8 this heading for organizational services, \$1,200,000 shall be available for the hire and purchase of zero emission  
 9 passenger motor vehicles and supporting charging or fueling infrastructure]: *Provided further*, That funds provided  
 10 under this heading shall be available for the costs of facility maintenance, repairs, and leases for buildings and sites  
 11 where these administrative, general management and other Forest Service support functions take place; the costs  
 12 of all utility and telecommunication expenses of the Forest Service, as well as business services; and, for  
 13 information technology, including cyber security requirements: *Provided further*, That funds provided under this  
 14 heading may be used for necessary expenses to carry out administrative and general management support  
 15 functions of the Forest Service not otherwise provided for and necessary for its operation.

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**Change Description**

The first change (lines 7 through 9 of paragraph 1) removes language for funding provided for zero emission vehicles and supporting charging or fueling infrastructure. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 budget does not request dedicated funding for zero emission vehicles. The Forest Service will continue to acquire zero emission vehicles as appropriate through its regular fleet management program.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

**PROJECT STATEMENTS**

Table FS-10. Appropriations Project Statement (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Project Statement	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
Forest Service Operations:										
Discretionary Appropriations.....	\$1,069,086	2,547	\$1,152,744	2,733	\$1,152,744	2,678	\$1,187,066	2,670	+\$34,322	-8
Supplemental Appropriations.....	105,000	100	-	368	-	423	-	431	-	+8
<b>Total Appropriations ....</b>	<b>1,174,086</b>	<b>2,647</b>	<b>1,152,744</b>	<b>3,101</b>	<b>1,152,744</b>	<b>3,101</b>	<b>1,187,066</b>	<b>3,101</b>	<b>+34,322</b>	<b>-</b>

Table FS-11. Appropriations Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Detail Table	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Forest Service Operations:					
Facilities Maintenance and Leases.....	\$159,900	\$169,900	\$169,900	\$194,900	+\$25,000
Information Technology and Centralized Processing .....	399,228	452,000	450,000	470,000	+20,000
Organizational Services.....	146,958	143,438	143,438	122,938	-20,500
Salaries and Expenses .....	363,000	387,406	389,406	399,228	+9,822
Disaster Supplemental <sup>a</sup> .....	105,000	-	-	-	-
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law <sup>b</sup> .....	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total, Forest Service Operations.....</b>	<b>1,174,086</b>	<b>1,152,744</b>	<b>1,152,744</b>	<b>1,187,066</b>	<b>+34,322</b>

<sup>a</sup> Disaster Supplemental Funding includes remaining, unobligated funds from P.L. 115-123, P.L. 116-20, P.L. 117-43 and P.L.117-328 for necessary expenses related to wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters that occurred between calendar years 2017 through 2022.

<sup>b</sup> The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) are advance appropriations each year from 2022 through 2026.

Note: The discrepancy between the project statement and Max schedule X is reimbursable funds.

**FACILITIES MAINTENANCE AND LEASES**

Table FS-12. Facilities Maintenance and Leases Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Facilities Maintenance and Leases</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$159,900	\$169,900	\$169,900	\$194,900	+\$25,000
Recoveries .....	775	1,066	1,000	750	
Balance Available, SOY .....	9,356	13,534	7,259	8,578	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>170,031</b>	<b>184,500</b>	<b>178,159</b>	<b>204,228</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-13,534	-7,259	-8,578	-6,142	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>156,497</b>	<b>177,241</b>	<b>169,581</b>	<b>198,086</b>	

**Facilities Maintenance and Leases – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$25,000,000 in Facilities Maintenance and Leases (\$169,900,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024). An increase of \$25,000,000 to perform critical facility maintenance work to improve condition and availability of government housing for Forest Service wildland firefighters and other essential employees will allow for maintenance on approximately 100 housing units, benefit over 400 employees, and address \$13,000,000 in deferred maintenance.

This funding supports the program’s objectives to address facility maintenance backlogs, invest in additional maintenance for firefighter housing, and fund Forest Service facility leases. Furthermore, it sustains national forests and grasslands and delivers benefits to the public which are aligned with two of USDA’s priorities; combatting climate change to support America’s working lands, natural resources, and communities and attracting, inspiring, and retaining an engaged and motivated workforce proud to represent USDA. The September 2023 final report from the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission<sup>11</sup> identified the lack of affordable and available housing as a significant barrier to recruitment, hiring, and retention of firefighters.

**Facilities Maintenance and Leases – Status of Programs**

Table FS-13. Facilities Maintenance and Leases Appropriation Details Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Item</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>
Appropriation .....	\$169,900	\$169,900	\$194,900
Annual Leases .....	120,553	120,500	126,000
Tenant Improvements .....	2,097	21,000 <sup>a</sup>	20,000 <sup>a</sup>
Fire, Aviation, and Other (FA&O) Facility Maintenance .....	39,018	23,400	40,800 <sup>b</sup>
National Asset Management Program (NAMP) .....	3,586 <sup>c</sup>	5,000	8,100

<sup>a</sup> Increase due to renewal of leases that incur a mandated GSA Tenant Improvement cost.

<sup>b</sup> Includes \$25,000,000 dedicated for Forest Service Housing and \$15,800,000 for other owned FA&O Facility Maintenance.

<sup>c</sup> \$4,800,000 approved for NAMP projects, but not all approved projects could be awarded prior to the fiscal year end.

**Current Activities**

Facilities Maintenance and Leases provides funding for costs associated with facility maintenance and repair for more than 16,000 Fire, Administrative, and Other (FA&O) Forest Service-owned facilities. Facility maintenance includes preventative, annual, and deferred maintenance activities required to retain fixed assets, but it does not include activities meant to upgrade or expand a facility’s capacity. Facility maintenance includes decommissioning facilities when warranted. Security equipment and its installation, when associated with a fixed asset, is funded through this program.

<sup>11</sup> [ON FIRE: The Report of the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission.](#)

This program funds more than 550 long-term Forest Service and General Services Administration leases, security costs paid through Federal Protection Services, leases paid to partners through agreements, and the Washington Office Headquarters lease and security costs paid through the USDA (referred to as Greenbook charges). Short-term, emergency, or fire-related incident leases continue to be funded through program funds, including Wildland Fire Management Suppression, as appropriate for the lease.

The Forest Service annual lease costs consumed 72 percent of the Facilities Maintenance and Leases of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 enacted appropriation. Strategic investments to right-size space needs are critical to ensure the maintenance program is not fully consumed by fixed lease costs and investments in owned facilities can continue. To address this issue, the Forest Service implemented a National Facility and Lease Strategy (NFLS) which established Facility Investment Boards to right-size the facility portfolio to meet Forest Service objectives and goals. As part of the NFLS allocation methodology, the Forest Service implemented projects that yield a large return on investment and an economically sustainable leased-to-owned facility portfolio.

### **Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

#### **National Facility and Lease Strategy**

Strategic decisions made in FY 2023 will have out-year impacts of reducing leased space by 200,000 square feet, saving an estimated \$5.6 million by FY 2024. This cost saving will help offset the inflationary costs associated with facility maintenance and shift nearly \$2 million to investments in owned facilities and align funding to support critical employee housing needs. NFLS supports USDA's co-location and consolidation efforts and prioritizes leasing and maintenance activities to meet cost goals.

#### **National Asset Management Program (NAMP)**

The Forest Service invested \$4.8 million in owned FA&O facility maintenance and decommissioning projects through the nationally competitive NAMP process. This included 12 decommissioning projects and seven facility maintenance projects across the Forest Service. These projects reduced Forest Service deferred maintenance and helped right-size the owned facility portfolio.

#### **Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The NFLS will focus on investments to right-size the Forest Service facilities portfolio, support the USDA's co-location and consolidation efforts, and identify a five-year program of work for owned and leased facilities. Funding to support both lease tenant improvements and owned facility improvements is critical to advance the Forest Service's space management efforts and safely maintain owned infrastructure.

In FY 2025, with the expiration of nine General Services Administration (GSA), administered leases, the Forest Service is projected to incur tenant improvement costs exceeding \$40 million as these units move to newly leased facilities; this sum is equivalent to the Forest Service's annual facilities maintenance program needs. These mandatory fees required as part of the new GSA leases will require further deferment of maintenance on Forest Service-owned facilities. While significant, the upfront costs associated with lease tenant improvements allow leased space to be used more efficiently and will ultimately reduce the Forest Service's leased footprint.

The lease strategy goal is to generate \$24 million in lease savings over five years (FY 2022 to FY 2026). As part of the NFLS, in FY 2025 the Forest Service is projected to realize additional space reductions in owned and leased footprint of 100,000 square feet. In FY 2025, savings are projected to be \$3 million; however, with the overall cost of leases rising each year, these reductions are quickly consumed by inflation. At FY 2025 funding levels, lease cost projections are expected to consume 74 percent of program funds.

Investments in owned FA&O facility maintenance, including decommissioning, are estimated at \$40.9 million. Of this amount, \$8.1 million will be allocated through the competitive NAMP process for national priorities and \$15.8 million will be for regional priorities. \$25 million will be invested in the maintenance of Forest Service-owned employee housing. Improving the condition and availability of government housing strengthens the Forest Service's ability to recruit and retain qualified personnel. The program aims to provide adequate housing and primarily serves Forest Service employees supporting hazardous fuels mitigation and fire suppression efforts.



Many Forest Service duty stations are in areas where housing costs and availability are beyond the economic means of many Forest Service employees, leading to higher declination and attrition rates as employees seek other employment and housing options. Additionally, in FY 2025 the Forest Service will analyze if adding leased Government housing would meet program objectives. Providing well-maintained employee housing mitigates significant challenges for the Forest Service in recruiting, hiring, and retaining employees. Insufficient or poor-quality housing diminishes the Forest Service's ability to retain employees needed to suppress fire, provide public services, and perform critical restoration work.

**Program Evaluations**

The Forest Service utilizes the following tools to assess program effectiveness, address performance shortfalls, and drive the NFLS:

**Owned Facilities:**

- Utilizing building condition assessments to identify and record maintenance needs. Building assessments are conducted on a 5-year cycle and recorded in the Forest Service's corporate database.

**Leased Facilities:**

- Use the annual leased facilities budget data call to inform out-year planning and identify budget shortfalls for the Forest Service's leased space.
- Prioritize funding tenant improvements and ancillary project costs that result in future cost savings.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CENTRALIZED PROCESSING**

Table FS-14. Information Technology and Centralized Processing Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Information Technology and Centralized Processing	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$399,228	\$452,000	\$450,000	\$470,000	+\$20,000
Recoveries .....	7,472	11,381	5,100	4,800	
Transfers In .....	10,638	4,200	-	-	
Transfers Out.....	-2,175	-2,347	-	-	
Balance Transfers.....	16,236	13,325	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	1,029	4,765	30,037	41,520	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>432,428</b>	<b>483,324</b>	<b>485,137</b>	<b>516,320</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-4,765	-30,037	-41,520	-32,520	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>427,663</b>	<b>453,287</b>	<b>443,617</b>	<b>483,800</b>	

**Information Technology and Centralized Processing – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$20,000,000 in Information Technology and Centralized Processing (\$450,000,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024). An increase of \$20,000,000 brings the Forest Service Information Technology and Centralized Processing program will reduce the reliance on prior year, supplemental, and transfers from other programs’ funds to meet Information Technology (IT) requirements. The program provides IT services including telecommunications, hardware and software acquisitions, and support for every program and employee of the Forest Service. The program works with USDA on Shared IT Services, IT Security, centralized data centers, consolidated HR and financial systems, and shared networks. A partnership with the Department of the Interior (DOI) allows for the interconnection of computing services for communication, collaboration, and operations among the Wildland Fire Community. This partnership supports the goals of the Service First initiative to provide seamless services and improve operational efficiency between DOI and USDA to attain a common national mission of protecting resources against wildland fires.

Funding will be used to support the program’s objectives to prioritize investments in IT modernization and support the rising costs of IT services with the following outcomes: close the technology gap by meeting the need for new technologies, support shared IT services including Working Capital Fund (WCF) and Greenbook expenses, and support costs of basic IT services due to new hires and hybrid work environments. Funding allows the program to negate significant challenges and risks such as limited foundational services for employees as well as those in rural locations and the inability to close the technology gap due to increased IT costs and the need for new technology.

**Information Technology and Centralized Processing – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

Information Technology (IT) and Centralized Processing provide funding for costs associated with information technology, including cybersecurity requirements and telecommunications within the Forest Service portfolio. The portfolio includes 17 Enterprise Standard, Major and Non-Major IT investments including a new Human Resource Management (HRM) requirement.

The Forest Service’s IT portfolio is centrally managed by the Chief Information Officer (CIO) office. Any information technology costs resulting from fire-related incidents are funded by Wildland Fire Management Suppression.

The Forest Service Information Technology investment strategy is driven by USDA’s direction to mitigate wildland fires and improve the conditions of national forests and grasslands by using innovative technology modernization. The CIO continues to focus on risk mitigation and service delivery by implementing projects to improve cyber security, enterprise network infrastructure, modernization of business applications, and migration to approved hosting environments. Working with IT governance boards and business stakeholders, the CIO prioritizes

sustainment and identifying cost savings and efficiencies to meet OMB and USDA cost reduction strategies while minimizing impact on mission objectives and outcomes.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

The Forest Service migrated over 30 crucial fire applications to Amazon Government Cloud Services to date, resulting in over \$2 million in cost savings and improved dependability. Migration occurred with no downtime experienced supporting uninterrupted fire operations.

CIO improved last mile connectivity at 130 rural and remote sites with previously insufficient bandwidth using \$3.5 million of funding from the Inflation Reduction Act for 38 of these sites to additionally support Land Mobile Radios and managed enterprise services. Overall, 256 out of 491 identified sites have received infrastructure and connectivity improvements.

CIO achieved a 100 percent OMB Circular A-123 testing success rate and is on schedule with the Assessment and Authorization plan and no late Authorities To Operate, maintaining a 100 percent on-time completion rate for the Forest Service.

CIO led the development of wildfire.org, a new Fire and Aviation Management website for inter-agency, state, and international partner collaboration that consolidates hundreds of data sources into a single portal for firefighters, including fire location, wind direction, gear location, incident reporting (InciWeb), and lessons learned.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The CIO will work through established IT governance boards to prioritize funding in support of the Wildfire Crisis Strategy, USDA IT Strategic Plan goals and objectives, and leverage opportunities to implement cost saving and avoidance using new technologies and business governance processes.

CIO will continue modernization, consolidation, and application migration efforts to approved hosting platforms. CIO will also continue prototyping, piloting, and implementing electronic forms, robotic process automation (RPA), and artificial intelligence. Lastly, the CIO will continue infrastructure modernization, to include connectivity and increased bandwidth projects in rural and geographically isolated locations.

**ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES**

Table FS-15. Organizational Services Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Organizational Services</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations.....	\$146,958	\$143,438	\$143,438	\$122,938	-\$20,500
Recoveries.....	1,621	3,006	10,000	6,000	
Balance Transfers.....	-	725	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	9,072	7,787	11,936	19,914	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>157,651</b>	<b>154,956</b>	<b>165,374</b>	<b>148,852</b>	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-7,787	-11,936	-19,914	-10,151	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>149,864</b>	<b>143,020</b>	<b>145,460</b>	<b>138,701</b>	

**Organizational Services – Justification of Changes**

A decrease of \$20,500,000 in Organizational Services (\$143,438,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024). A decrease of \$20,500,000 will reduce funding available for administrative fleet. Additionally, it narrows funding available for contract support services, including janitorial and groundskeeping services, across all organizations. However, this funding level maintains full funding for all ongoing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility work and the Forest Service’s anti-harassment hotline.

**Organizational Services – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Forest Service Organizational Services program is a catalyst for mission delivery across the Forest Service. The program funds general and administrative support agreements and contracts for much of the Forest Service. This program funds work within many offices in USDA; other Federal agencies including DOD, DOI, and the Department of Homeland Security; universities and non-governmental organizations that serve tribes, indigenous communities, and historically underserved communities; and private sector service providers. Organizational Services addresses Forest Service operational needs including janitorial services, utility costs, surge hiring and acquisition support, fleet costs, and other miscellaneous expenses that affect the entire Forest Service. The program funds the Forest Service-wide anti-harassment hotline, employee assistance program, public communications, human resources services, contracting services, and other critical services and acquisitions that benefit every Forest Service employee.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

Forest Service Organizational Services provides program funding for functions such as HRM. The Forest Service established ambitious hiring goals for FY 2022-2026 due to expanding mission requirements around enhanced national forest management to increase the permanent workforce by approximately 2,500 positions to include critical fire and non-fire positions. HRM has utilized contract support funded by Organizational Services to meet the evolving and expanding hiring needs of the Forest Service. Contractor’s support capacity at critical steps of the hiring process, reducing choke points, specifically around applicant qualifications reviews and pre-employment onboarding handling.

Procurement and Property Services engaged the USDA Intelligent Automation (IA) Center of Excellence (CoE)<sup>12</sup> to support operations, maintenance, and enhancements for six RPAs vital to the incident contract payment process, transacting 44,338 invoices totaling \$1.84 billion, with an estimated cost savings of \$1.9 million. The CoE assisted with Forest Service Procurement Forecast requirements and E-Gov Travel Service 2 Profile Creation. The CoE identified several high-impact automations for design and has initiated the transition to a hybrid Federated IA

<sup>12</sup> [Intelligent Automation Center of Excellence.](#)

program, awarding a \$1 million contract for IA development support to improve IA development efforts for the Forest Service.

In addition, the Forest Service’s Chief Financial Officer initiated the IA CoE to leverage automation technology to achieve improved financial operations efficiency and enhance accountability. The IA CoE supported operations, maintenance, and enhancements for six robots (bots) that processed over \$1.5 million in invoices, saving the Forest Service \$1.9 million in transaction costs. The IA CoE additionally supported the design of two bots for procurement forecast requirements and travel system profile creation, providing an approximate annual savings of \$140,000.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the USDA IA CoE of Excellence will continue to expand automation initiatives, to include Intelligent Automation and other emerging technologies. The goal of the IA CoE is to be a leader in the Federal Government for innovation and process improvement, empowering our employees to focus on other value-added tasks, while robotic automation executes repetitive tasks.

Future bot creation will include inter- and intra-agency collaboration, including automating payroll processing with the Department of the Interior for our wildland firefighters as well as assisting the Department’s Office of Human Resources Management with automating the position description process. Automation will yield both cost savings and increased capacity, enabling Forest Service employees to focus on other value-added tasks critical to the Forest Service’s ability to support sustainable management of the Nation's diverse forests and rangelands. The Forest Service will implement a framework for the use of artificial intelligence following OMB and Executive Order guidance, prepare key datasets for use in artificial intelligence, and continue developing analytics products that advance evidence-based decision making across the Forest Service. Lastly, the Forest Service seeks to diagnose and address the root causes and cultural barriers to safety (physical, psychological, social), diversity, equity, and inclusion in the work environment.

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Table FS-16. Salaries and Expenses Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Salaries and Expenses</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations.....	\$363,000	\$387,406	\$389,406	\$399,228	+\$9,822
Recoveries.....	67	413	950	800	
Offsetting Collections.....	374	-	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	10,463	3,709	11,532	1,988	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>373,904</b>	<b>391,528</b>	<b>401,888</b>	<b>402,016</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-3,709	-11,532	-1,988	-1,884	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>370,195</b>	<b>379,996</b>	<b>399,900</b>	<b>400,132</b>	

**Salaries and Expenses – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$9,822,000 in Salaries and Expenses and a decrease of 8 FTEs (\$389,406,000 and 2,678 FTEs in FY 2024). This increase of \$9,822,000 funds part of the anticipated Calendar Year (CY) 2024 and anticipated CY 2025 employee pay cost increases. The Forest Service will need to rely on other funding sources for Salaries and Expenses and balance hiring actions and attrition rates to stay within appropriations in the operational year.

**OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING**

Table FS-17. Disaster Supplemental Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Disaster Supplemental</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$105,000	-	-	-	-
Recoveries .....	-	\$3,197	-	-	-
Balance Available, SOY .....	-	56,309	\$23,450	\$3,450	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>105,000</b>	<b>59,506</b>	<b>23,450</b>	<b>3,450</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-56,309	-23,450	-3,450	-	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>48,691</b>	<b>36,056</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>3,450</b>	

**Disaster Supplemental**

Disaster Supplemental funding supports Forest Service actions, activities, and responses to wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters having a direct impact to Forest Service managed lands and assets and the communities contiguous to or embedded within those managed lands.

Table FS-18. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Recoveries .....	-	\$3,379	-	-	-
Transfers in .....	\$210,369	71,562	\$104,165	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	-	125,248	29,451	\$2,616	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>210,369</b>	<b>200,189</b>	<b>133,616</b>	<b>2,616</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-125,248	-29,451	-2,616	-	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>85,121</b>	<b>170,738</b>	<b>131,000</b>	<b>2,616</b>	

**Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

In addition to other provisions with the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 115-78), also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, funds may be transferred and utilized for the administrative purposes necessary to carry out the activities authorized within the Act. Forest Service Operations coordinates and houses many of these necessary administrative functions and all Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funds are transferred from other Forest Service accounts.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

**CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**

Table FS-19. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Personnel Compensation:					
	Washington D.C. ....	\$25,291	\$29,589	\$31,317	\$32,198
	Personnel compensation, field .....	216,135	252,862	267,625	275,157
11.0	Total personnel compensation .....	241,426	282,451	298,942	307,355
12.0	Personal benefits .....	90,033	107,893	114,192	117,406
13.0	Benefits for former personnel .....	38,475	34,354	36,360	34,277
	Total, personnel compensation and benefits ..	369,934	424,698	449,494	459,038
Other Objects:					
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	1,984	8,470	4,985	4,450
22.0	Transportation of things.....	1,781	698	1,182	1,055
23.1	Rental payments to GSA.....	38,680	41,944	38,443	34,317
23.2	Rental payments to others .....	62,233	66,312	61,293	54,714
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges .....	98,752	113,434	101,175	90,315
24.0	Printing and reproduction .....	394	482	418	373
25.1	Advisory and assistance services .....	5,871	565	3,069	2,739
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources.....	121,374	150,574	129,671	115,753
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources ..	445,198	455,856	429,644	383,527
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities .....	2,675	3,071	2,740	2,446
25.5	Research and development contracts.....	2,081	2,298	2,088	1,864
25.6	Medical care.....	27	27	26	23
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment .....	3,737	2,815	3,124	2,789
26.0	Supplies and materials .....	21,404	23,545	21,433	19,132
31.0	Equipment.....	46,729	48,885	45,591	40,697
32.0	Land and structures .....	7,896	8,837	7,979	7,122
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	6,596	7,707	6,820	6,080
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities.....	677	115	363	333
43.0	Interest and dividends .....	4	4	4	3
44.0	Refunds .....	-21	-9	-	-
91.0	Unvouchered.....	-1	-	-	-
92.0	Undistributed .....	26	9	17	14
	Total, other objects.....	868,097	935,639	860,064	767,747
99.9	Total, new obligations.....	1,238,031	1,360,338	1,309,558	1,226,785
Information Technology Investments:					
Interagency Resource Ordering Capability (IROC):					
	External Labor (Contractors) .....	-	-	2,768	2,630
25.2	Outside Services (Consulting) .....	3,006	4,200	-	-
	Software.....	-	-	2,000	1,900
	Total, Interagency Resource Ordering Capability (IROC).....	3,006	4,200	4,768	4,530
Mission Support Services:					
	External Labor (Contractors) .....	6,275	10,351	9,497	4,875
25.2	Outside Services (Consulting) .....	15,554	21,696	7,368	5,874
	Hardware .....	265	1,095	1,095	1,040

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
	Software.....	2,475	6,089	6,250	5,938
	Total, Mission Support Services.....	24,569	39,231	24,210	17,727
	Natural Resource Manager (NRM):				
11	Internal Labor.....	5,654	4,851	5,393	5,124
	External Labor (Contractors).....	18,872	23,265	20,514	23,192
	Software.....	507	1,007	2,942	1,155
	Other IT.....	5	-	-	314
	Total, Natural Resource Manager (NRM) .....	25,038	29,123	28,849	29,785
	Human Resource Management (HRM):				
	External Labor (Contractors).....	-	-	856	813
25.2	Outside Services (Consulting).....	-	-	11,962	11,398
	Software.....	-	-	5,653	5,370
	Total, Human Resource Management (HRM) ..	-	-	18,471	17,581
	Recreation.gov:				
25.2	Outside Services (Consulting).....	17,569	18,200	18,837	18,837
	Total, Recreation.gov.....	17,569	18,200	18,837	18,837
	USDA Public Safety Land Mobile Radio System:				
11	Internal Labor.....	21,277	22,352	23,529	22,352
	External Labor (Contractors).....	1,450	1,671	2,005	1,904
25.2	Outside Services (Consulting).....	225	-	677	825
	Hardware.....	36,613	36,051	32,804	30,982
	Software.....	20	22	24	23
	Other IT.....	1,359	5,940	9,551	9,074
	Total, USDA Public Safety Land Mobile Radio System .....	60,944	66,036	68,590	65,160
	Wildland Fire and Aviation Management:				
	External Labor (Contractors).....	-	41,746	58,179	55,272
25.2	Outside Services (Consulting).....	25,949	8,847	168	160
	Hardware.....	139	6,143	6,018	5,717
	Software.....	1,879	1,753	3,465	3,292
	Other IT.....	-	-	-	106
	Total, Wildland Fire and Aviation Management .....	27,967	58,489	67,830	64,547
	Mission Area Non-Major Investment Totals.....	17,007	31,311	30,168	28,659
	Mission Area Standard Investment Totals.....	147,841	179,209	190,209	182,780
25.3	Mission Area WCF/Type 04 Transfers .....	240,176	287,672	311,130	314,494
	Total Non-Major Investment .....	405,024	498,192	531,507	525,933
	<b>Total IT Investments.....</b>	<b>564,117</b>	<b>713,471</b>	<b>763,062</b>	<b>744,100</b>
	Cybersecurity				
	Identify.....	N/A	\$18,000	\$17,015	\$14,700
	Protect.....	N/A	3,609	3,763	2,765
	<b>Total Cybersecurity .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,609</b>	<b>20,778</b>	<b>17,465</b>
	Position Data:				
	Average Salary (dollars), ES Position.....	\$183,027	\$195,000	\$204,000	\$208,080
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position.....	89,917	89,982	95,300	98,013



2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
	Average Grade, GS Position.....	11.7	11.8	11.8	11.9

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**FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH**

**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**

Table FS-20. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)

Item	Amount
2024 Estimated Budget.....	\$307,273,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+8,351,000
2025 Request.....	<u>315,624,000</u>

**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored; deleted matter enclosed in brackets):

- 1 FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH
- 2 For necessary expenses of forest and rangeland research as authorized by law, [~~\$349,082,000~~]\$315,624,000, to
- 3 remain available through September 30, [2027]2028: *Provided*, That of the funds provided,
- 4 [~~\$30,197,000~~]\$33,697,000 is for the forest inventory and analysis program: *Provided further*, That of the funds
- 5 provided, \$4,000,000 is for the Joint Fire Science Program: *Provided further*, That all authorities for the use of
- 6 funds, including the use of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements, available to execute the Forest and
- 7 Rangeland Research appropriation, are also available in the utilization of these funds for Fire Science Research.

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**Change Description**

Change in amount and years only.

**PROJECT STATEMENTS**

Table FS-21. Appropriations Project Statement (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Project Statement	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
Forest and Rangeland Research:										
Discretionary Appropriations...	\$296,616	1,467	\$307,273	1,550	\$307,273	1,433	\$315,624	1,432	+\$8,351	-1
Supplemental Appropriations...	27,000	3	4,000	12	2,000	129	2,000	130	-	+1
<b>Total</b>										
<b>Appropriations ..</b>	<b>323,616</b>	<b>1,470</b>	<b>311,273</b>	<b>1,562</b>	<b>309,273</b>	<b>1,562</b>	<b>317,624</b>	<b>1,562</b>	<b>+8,351</b>	<b>-</b>

Table FS-22. Appropriations Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Detail Table	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Forest and Rangeland Research:					
Forest Inventory and Analysis .....	\$22,648	\$32,197	\$32,197	\$33,697	+\$1,500
Forest and Rangeland Research .....	59,888	55,000	55,000	56,500	+1,500
Joint Fire Science .....	4,000	4,500	4,500	4,000	-500
Salaries and Expenses .....	210,080	215,576	215,576	221,427	+5,851
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law <sup>a</sup> .....	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	-
Disaster Supplemental <sup>b</sup> .....	25,000	2,000	-	-	-
<b>Total, Forest and Rangeland Research.....</b>	<b>323,616</b>	<b>311,273</b>	<b>309,273</b>	<b>317,624</b>	<b>+8,351</b>

<sup>a</sup> The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) are advance appropriations each year from 2022 through 2026.

<sup>b</sup> Disaster Supplemental Funding includes remaining, unobligated funds from P.L. 115-123, P.L. 116-20, P.L. 117-43 and P.L.117-328 for necessary expenses related to wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters that occurred between calendar years 2017 through 2022.

The discrepancy between the project statement and Max schedule X is reimbursable funds.

**FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS**

Table FS-23. Forest Inventory and Analysis Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Forest Inventory and Analysis</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$22,648	\$32,197	\$32,197	\$33,697	+\$1,500
Recoveries .....	250	822	430	290	
Transfers Out.....	-800	-	-	-	
Balance Transfers.....	-	-96	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	604	373	646	665	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>22,702</b>	<b>33,296</b>	<b>33,273</b>	<b>34,652</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-6	-7	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-374	-646	-665	-693	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>22,322</b>	<b>32,643</b>	<b>32,608</b>	<b>33,959</b>	

**Forest Inventory and Analysis – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$1,500,000 in Forest Inventory and Analysis, (\$32,197,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024). An increase of \$1,500,000 will accelerate efforts related to integrating remote sensing data, in-situ observations, science, and advanced modeling to improve characterization of Green House Gas (GHG) fluxes from forest ecosystems, consistent with the goals of the *National Strategy to Advance an Integrated U.S. GHG Measurement, Monitoring, and Information System*.

**Forest Inventory and Analysis – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

Forest Service Research and Development’s (R&D) Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program is the Nation’s foremost continuous forest census covering all 50 states, and territories. As directed in legislation, the FIA program uses nationwide statistically robust surveys and collects original data that is used to document past and current extent of forest area, including increases or decreases in forest land; tree numbers by species; the size and health of trees; tree growth, mortality, harvests and removals; the effects of disturbances such as hurricanes and wildland fires; wood production and tree utilization; urban forests; and the demographics and management objectives of private forest owners.

The FIA program calculates authoritative estimates of carbon stocks and changes on forest land, forest land conversions, trees outside of forests (such as urban forests and agroecosystems) and harvested wood products in the U.S. annually. FIA and the Forest Service R&D’s Resources Planning Act Assessment work collaboratively to provide carbon stock assessments for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) U.S. Biennial Report. Current research includes advances in carbon estimates in old growth and mature forests and incorporating new tree biomass models into authoritative reporting.

Through partnerships and other national and regional efforts, FIA supports Federal, State, local, and private land managers with authoritative information to aid in the implementation of the Wildfire Crisis Strategy and support management decisions to reduce fire risk, sequester carbon, and mitigate the impacts of climate change. Current research includes the use of pre and post fire information to understand how initial forest conditions may affect burn severity or to estimate biomass loss due to fire.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Estimating mature and old-growth forests on National Forest Systems (NFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands**

FIA continued collaboration with the NFS deputy area of the Forest Service and finalized estimates of “Old Forests” on NFS and BLM lands, as defined by NFS Land Management Plans, by compiling region-specific NFS old growth

definitions and having FIA analysts apply the definitions to FIA data. R&D and FIA scientists developed and published a methodology for classifying mature forests. FIA is working with NFS to map old forests on public lands across the U.S.

**Enhancing consistency and accuracy of forest estimates**

FIA released a new modeling system for predicting tree cubic-foot volume, biomass, and carbon attributes, as well as updated estimates in the national database, Forest Inventory and Analysis Database (FIADB), and related tools. This modeling system, termed ‘National Scale Volume and Biomass Estimators’, provides a more consistent and accurate accounting of structural components of trees across the U.S.

**Advancing remote sensing in carbon monitoring systems**

In partnership with National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), FIA expertise and data were key to a new era of biomass inference from space. The Global Ecosystem Dynamics Investigation was a lidar mission launched by NASA to the International Space Station, and FIA expertise was needed for the sample design, FIA data was used to fill in areas not sampled by the instrument, and biomass models from FIA were used for biomass estimates. The forest industry is interested in this approach, and the mission’s integrated use of formal statistical inference points towards the possibility of a new generation of powerful monitoring tools from space.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program will support the completion of national surveys, posting of data, and completion of state reports. The FIA program will survey additional urban areas with the increase of urban partners. To expand ecosystem services benefits from urban areas, the i-Tree suite of tools will be updated. Remote sensing and small area estimation techniques will be advanced to investigate efficiencies and increase the production of geospatial products with delivery via online platforms (e.g., ESRI Bigmap Partnership). Following the forest carbon monitoring/market standards of transparency and verification, vital data streams, improved models, and accounting systems will be relayed to the public and partners via improved delivery of field carbon data/estimates (e.g., FIA Datamart and Evalidator), refined carbon dynamics projections (e.g., Forest Vegetation Simulator), and carbon project accounting standards (e.g., USDA Greenhouse Gas Entity-Scale for forests workbook tool). These tools will help forest owners and managers better understand carbon sequestration, forest health, and strategic sustainable timber harvesting, with the overarching goal of making well-informed decisions about forest management.

**Program Evaluations**

The FIA program publishes an annual national business report. The report presents program results accomplished with the available financial resources, along with plans for the coming year based on budgeted financial resources. FIA plans to evaluate and report on progress in implementing its current FIA Strategic Plan. The program works with professional societies and non-profits to co-sponsor an annual national user group meeting, during which users of FIA data and products provide feedback and recommendations.

**FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH**

Table FS-24. Forest and Rangeland Research Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Forest and Rangeland Research	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$59,888	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$56,500	+\$1,500
Recoveries .....	1,792	977	4,500	2,000	
Transfers Out.....	-790	-	-	-	
Balance Transfers.....	-	-1,114	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	3,653	7,283	1,607	6,607	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>64,531</b>	<b>66,146</b>	<b>61,107</b>	<b>65,107</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-16	-36	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-7,282	-1,607	-6,607	-4,591	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>57,233</b>	<b>60,503</b>	<b>54,500</b>	<b>60,516</b>	

**Research and Development Programs – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$1,500,000 in Research and Development Programs, (\$59,500,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024). An increase of \$1,500,000 will accelerate efforts related to the development of the Phase I Land natural capital account and the Phase II Forest natural capital account, consistent with the goals of the *2023 National Strategy to Develop Statistics for Environmental-Economic Decisions*.

**Research and Development Programs – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

Forest Service Research and Development (R&D) works at the forefront of science to improve the health and use of our Nation's forests and grasslands. Through producing and delivering innovative science and technology, R&D creates insight into the ecological, social, and economic values of the nation. R&D explores diverse landscapes, seeking ways to enhance these values for the American people; and devises strategies to mitigate threats such as catastrophic wildfires and climate change, that diminish the benefit derived from the nation's lands and waters. The knowledge developed and disseminated by R&D shapes the Forest Service policy and management in sound, unbiased science, and guides actions taken by the Forest Service, States, Tribes, and other land managers to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands.

R&D focuses its work on the highest priorities of the Forest Service: understanding and mitigating the wildfire threat to the Nation's communities and ecosystems; understanding, mitigating, and adapting to climate change; sustaining and improving water quality and quantity through watershed resilience, risk assessment, and restoration; tracking the extent and composition of the Nation's public and private forests through forest inventory and trend analysis; and supporting innovation in wood products and emerging markets.

**Wildland Fire**

Forest Service R&D conducts extensive research analysis and develops decision support tools critical to protecting communities and human health. This work enhances the Forest Service's understanding of how wildfire moves across the landscape and through communities. It informs decisions about where and how to deploy fuel reduction treatments to reduce fire risk and improve predictions of the impacts of wildfire smoke. This research is critical to the implementation and success of the Forest Service's Wildfire Crisis Strategy. R&D is actively engaged with the land managers and communities to deliver actionable knowledge that significantly reduces risk and improves outcomes. R&D scientists study wildfire to understand its effects on ecosystems, including impacts on wildlife, soils, water, and forest regeneration.

### **Climate Change**

Forest Service scientists study the effects of changing climate across the U.S. and investigate potential solutions for adapting. R&D scientists optimize the success of post-wildfire restoration through the examination of plant species ranges, genetic resources, nursery capacity, landscape configurations, and management techniques that improve reforestation outcomes. Through the Forest Service led USDA Climate Hubs and National Agroforestry Center, R&D leads the development and sharing of information and decision support tools, including planning tools that provide climate mitigation and adaptation guidance to forest managers, tribes, urban foresters, and private landowners, especially for underserved and socially vulnerable populations. The Forest Service's R&D is the Nation's authoritative source of data, models, assessments, and trend information about forestland carbon stocks across carbon pools, including increases and decreases in carbon storage over time.

### **Watershed Resilience and Restoration**

R&D's watershed resilience and restoration program preserves water quality, water quantity, and aquatic ecosystems by researching to understand natural processes and provide management decision tools and support. Forest Service scientists investigate how hydrologic patterns and processes are shifting across the nation's forests and grasslands in response to increasing water use and a changing climate. R&D is leading soil moisture monitoring and modeling efforts across forests to enhance the understanding and prediction of drought and its impacts. R&D has developed methods to improve aquatic species detection and monitoring, so restoration can be targeted to locations where it will have the greatest benefits over the long term. Forest Service scientists study how resource management decisions affecting watershed structure and function intersect with environmental justice and equity.

### **Wood Product Innovations/Markets**

Forest Service scientists and engineers develop new, sustainable processes for using wood and wood components to make products ranging from mass timber buildings to nanocellulose coatings. Researchers are developing new technologies and processes to enhance the performance and durability of existing wood products while creating innovative wood products and markets to utilize residual biomass from hazardous fuel reduction projects profitably. Forest Service research on wood product innovations helps create new jobs, boost the economy, promote the use of sustainable materials, and capture carbon long-term in various wood products.

### **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

R&D provides not only financial support for The Global Forest AI Project, but also forest inventory data, model validation, and development of user interfaces with the expertise of R&D scientists. The Global Forest AI project has the potential to revolutionize the effectiveness and efficiency of land management. Working with various partners, the project will combine AI with satellite and other geospatial data to provide accurate and up-to-date information on carbon stock and accumulation rates, leading to better management in hazardous fuels reductions, wildfire management, climate change, invasive species, and watersheds. The AI the Forest Service is leveraging will facilitate the gathering and analyzing of strategic information without significantly increasing field sampling as traditional approaches of gathering and analyzing data are time-consuming and labor-intensive. The work Forest Service R&D does with AI will be advantageous to not only Forest Inventory and Analysis within R&D, but other Forest Service program areas and other Federal, State, Tribal Nation, and private sector partners.

### **Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

#### **Analytics for 21 Wildfire Crisis Landscapes**

R&D developed the initial fireshed registry, associated datasets, and tools that are foundational to the Forest Service's Wildfire Crisis Strategy fuels reduction work. Forest Service scientists continue to provide invaluable analytics for all 21 Wildfire Crisis Strategy landscapes; identifying which landscapes to treat to ensure the Forest Service can safeguard our communities and protect human life and property both effectively and efficiently. Through these efforts, land managers reduce risk to housing, critical infrastructure, and drinking water, and mitigate social and economic impacts.

#### **Fifth National Climate Assessment**

R&D authored the Forests chapter of this scientific assessment prepared for the President and Congress every four years that summarizes the impacts of climate change on the United States, by distilling decades of research on



climate change and forestry into a clear and concise overview of the current state of knowledge. The National Climate Assessment is widely used and informs the public, scientists, policymakers, and managers at all levels giving them the tools to make informed decisions to promote our natural resources and sustainability.

#### **Interactive Website Showing the Role of Forests in Drinking Water**

R&D released a Forests to Faucets 2.0 Story Map to help land managers and the public understand the role of forests in the Nation's drinking water supply. This interactive website provides an overview of over 170 national forests and grasslands in meeting drinking water needs for our Nation.

#### **Advancing Biorefineries to Make Jet Fuel from Woody Biomass**

R&D Forest Products Lab has worked with private industry and other Federal agencies, including the Department of Energy, to develop new ways to convert waste wood into sustainable aviation fuels and nanocellulose that can replace carbon black in tire production, or plastics in packaging. R&D partnered to develop a biorefinery process that will produce up to 1.2 million gallons of sustainable aviation fuel and become the largest producer of cellulose nanocrystals in the world when it begins operation in 2026.

#### **Lignin Foam as Structural Insulated Panel Core Material**

R&D has developed innovative technologies to produce high strength insulating foam from lignin. Lignin is a natural polymer that makes up about one-third of wood and is a byproduct of pulp and paper production which is usually burned for power generation. Lignin-based foams are stronger than normal plastic-based foams and could make ideal building materials providing both strength and insulation while sequestering carbon. R&D is working with private industry to commercialize this innovative material to provide a new and profitable outlet for this waste biomass.

#### **Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with Google Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

The Forest Service has a CRADA with Google AI to collaborate on the research and development of artificial AI technologies for forestry applications. The CRADA is the first of its kind between the Forest Service and a major technology company. With the help of Google AI, the US Forest Service is making the biggest update to our current fire spread model in 50 years. The CRADA focuses on three main areas of research: (1) Developing AI tools to improve forest management: Which includes using AI to develop new methods for mapping and monitoring forests, assessing forest health, and predicting forest disturbances. (2) Using AI to enhance forest resilience: This includes developing AI tools to help forest managers mitigate the impacts of climate change, pests, and diseases. (3) Improving public access to forest information: This includes developing AI tools to make forest data more accessible and understandable to the public.

#### **Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the Forest and Rangeland Research program will continue to align its focus to meet the highest priority needs of the Forest Service by focusing on R&D information and products critical to the Forest Service's ability to support sustainable management of the Nation's diverse forests and rangelands that are under a wide range of threats including wildfire, invasive species, extreme weather, floods, drought, and insects and disease outbreaks.

#### **Wildfire**

In FY 2025, R&D will investigate the economic, social, and cultural drivers and impacts of forest management tools that are essential to reducing community exposure to wildfire and improving forest health. Improved understanding of these factors will enable forest managers to scale up hazardous fuels reduction projects and increase the effectiveness of post-fire restoration activities.

#### **Climate Change**

R&D will continue to provide critical information regarding the measurement, monitoring, verification, and reporting of carbon fluxes and pools. This includes improving predictions and evaluating the consequences of climate change on clean water supply, riparian and aquatic habitats, and biota. R&D will deliver a suite of research and tools to support tactical and strategic decision making on drought, carbon, and fire and smoke. These tools will

enable forest managers to better target prescribed burning, anticipate and manage drought mortality, and inform US climate negotiations and climate policies through carbon projections and policy analysis.

**Climate Change Mitigation**

R&D has invested in long-term research with university and state partners to advance the science and application of assisted migration to adapt to climate change. In FY 2025, R&D will finalize and release the findings of the first round of assisted migration field projects. Assisted population migration moves seed sources from populations to a new location that represents a different seed zone within the species range.

**Watershed Restoration**

R&D will continue to advance watershed research to sustain and improve water security in the face of increasingly frequent and extreme hydrological events from droughts to floods. This will include strengthening and expanding partnerships with Tribes, States, and urban and rural communities to promote ecosystem services, the persistence of biological diversity, and aquatic ecosystem function. In FY 2025, R&D will develop new methods for protecting water resources from the impacts of climate change, and other stressors, and quantify the economic value of water benefits from forests.

**Wood Product Innovation and Markets**

R&D expects to continue significant effort and resources to invest and improve the use of residual biomass from hazardous fuels mitigation projects, including in the production of biochar, cross laminated lumber, and alternate fuels. Additionally, R&D collaborates with various partners to find alternative wood products. For example, R&D is working with the Department of Defense to develop preliminary design specifications for replacing tropical hardwood decking material with hardwoods grown in sustainably managed U.S. forests. These specifications will be based on laboratory studies that will be validated through long-term exposure studies.

**Artificial Intelligence**

In FY 2025, the focus will be dedicated to delivering and enhancing the data required to meet the high expectations of the American public. This means refining our data and collaborating with partners to optimize technology and data to adapt to the dynamic technological environment. The Forest Service research serves a clear purpose, empowering advanced AI and Machine Learning technologies.

**JOINT FIRE SCIENCE**

Table FS-25. Joint Fire Science Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Joint Fire Science</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations.....	\$4,000	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$4,000	-\$500
Recoveries .....	12	-	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	9	21	19	19	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>4,021</b>	<b>4,521</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>4,019</b>	
Lapsing Balance .....	-	-2	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-21	-19	-19	-19	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>4,000</b>	

**Joint Fire Science – Justification of Changes**

A decrease of \$500,000 in Joint Fire Science, (\$4,500,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024). A decrease of \$500,000 in the Forest Service’s contribution to Joint Fire Science eliminates a congressional adjustment, which will moderately reduce the program’s capacity.

**Joint Fire Science – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) provides funding and science delivery for scientific studies associated with managing wildland fire, fuels, and fire-impacted ecosystems to respond to emerging needs of wildland fire and land managers, practitioners, and policymakers from local to national levels. Forest Service Research and Development (R&D) partners with the Department of the Interior to deliver the JFSP. Science delivery is accomplished primarily through the JFSP Fire Science Exchange Network (FSEN), which is a national collaboration of 15 regional fire science exchanges. The FSEN provides the most relevant, current wildland fire science information to Federal, state, local, Tribal Nation, and private stakeholders within ecologically similar regions.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

JFSP initiated 28 primary and FSEN projects, funded 21 Graduate Research Innovation projects, completed 20 research projects, and supported eight refereed publications. These efforts were concentrated on critical research areas including the longevity of treatment effectiveness under climate change, fuel management strategies, and social factors influencing fire management. GRIN Projects enhanced graduate student research by giving it a component that addresses the management and policy relevance, covering areas such as fire behavior and air quality. JFSP’s commitment to advancing fire science and management was evident in its multifaceted approach with a clear emphasis on the projection of people and our Natural resources.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

JFSP will continue to provide and improve high-quality scientific information that is current and credible. The United States has a Diverse fire-science need, and the JFSP plays a critical role in delivering practical, science-based solutions and knowledge exchange by funding and managing the FSEN. The JFSP is a partnership of six Federal agencies, including the Forest Service, which plays a pivotal role in benefiting land managers, wildland fire managers, the scientific community, and the American people. With essential funding, the JFSP will serve as a primary clearinghouse for fire science information and activities throughout the nation. It will synthesize new research, webpages, tools, policy briefs, and science demonstrations; provide opportunities for science transfer and communication through partner and GRIN; and collect and analyze multiple web and end-user metrics to measure program effectiveness and outcomes, assess relevance, and improve science delivery mechanisms. The JFSP and FSEN facilitate and enhance the adoption of new research and technology. The exchange of scientific knowledge provides access to the latest publications, webinars, workshops, field tours, and the promotion of one of the largest scientific knowledge transfers between managers and researchers.

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Table FS-26. Forest and Rangeland Salaries and Expense Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Salaries and Expenses	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations.....	\$210,080	\$215,576	\$215,576	\$221,427	+\$5,851
Recoveries .....	118	401	750	550	
Balance Transfers.....	-3,200	-3,000	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	5,777	10,982	7,642	4,479	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>212,775</b>	<b>223,959</b>	<b>223,968</b>	<b>226,456</b>	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-10,982	-7,642	-4,479	-2,282	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>201,793</b>	<b>216,317</b>	<b>219,489</b>	<b>224,174</b>	

**Salaries and Expenses – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$5,851,000 in Salaries and Expenses and a decrease of 1 FTEs (\$215,576,000 and 1,433 FTEs in FY 2024). This increase of \$5,851,000 funds part of the CY 2024 and anticipated CY 2025 employee pay cost increases. The Forest Service will need to rely on other funding sources for Salaries and Expenses and balance hiring actions and attrition rates to stay within appropriations in the operational year.

**OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING**

Table FS-27. Disaster Supplemental Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Disaster Supplemental</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$25,000	\$2,000	-	-	-
Recoveries .....	-	2	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	-	17,623	\$9,834	\$2,057	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>25,000</b>	<b>19,625</b>	<b>9,834</b>	<b>2,057</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-17,623	-9,834	-2,057	-	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>7,377</b>	<b>9,791</b>	<b>7,777</b>	<b>2,057</b>	

**Disaster Supplemental**

Disaster Supplemental funding supports Forest Service actions, activities, and responses to wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters having a direct impact to Forest Service managed lands and assets and the communities contiguous to or embedded within those managed lands.

Table FS-28. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	-
Transfers In .....	66,000	38,450	7,800	-	
Transfers Out.....	-1,500	-	-	-	
Balance Transfer .....	-	-	-54,214	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	-	61,217	77,496	4,000	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>66,500</b>	<b>101,667</b>	<b>33,082</b>	<b>6,000</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-61,217	-77,496	-4,000	-1,135	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>5,283</b>	<b>24,171</b>	<b>29,082</b>	<b>4,865</b>	

**Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 115-78), also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, broadly supports ecosystem restoration, wildfire risk reduction, wildfire mitigation grants, and other community support activities.

**CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**

Table FS-29. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
	Personnel Compensation:				
	Washington D.C. ....	\$5,231	\$6,045	\$6,448	\$6,599
	Personnel compensation, field .....	136,784	145,081	154,744	158,381
11.0	Total personnel compensation .....	142,015	151,126	161,191	164,980
12.0	Personal benefits .....	55,437	59,217	63,161	64,646
13.0	Benefits for former personnel .....	-	24	26	26
	Total, personnel compensation and benefits .....	197,452	210,367	224,378	229,652
	Other Objects:				
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	5,192	8,261	6,982	5,645
22.0	Transportation of things.....	1,158	179	694	561
23.1	Rental payments to GSA.....	1	-	1	0
23.2	Rental payments to others.....	12	8	10	8
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges.....	248	227	247	199
24.0	Printing and reproduction .....	68	167	122	99
25.1	Advisory and assistance services .....	10	11	11	9
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources .....	8,487	11,743	10,499	8,489
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources.....	20,906	23,568	23,082	18,662
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities .....	115	23	72	58
25.5	Research and development contracts.....	34,551	47,928	42,806	34,610
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment.....	290	343	329	266
26.0	Supplies and materials .....	3,248	4,570	4,057	3,281
31.0	Equipment.....	3,285	4,087	3,826	3,093
32.0	Land and structures .....	495	192	357	288
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	22,213	36,250	30,342	24,533
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities.....	255	-	132	107
43.0	Interest and dividends.....	-	1	1	-
44.0	Refunds .....	-	-1	-	-
91.0	Unvouchered .....	-	-	-	-
92.0	Undistributed.....	21	1	11	9
	Total, other objects.....	100,555	137,558	123,578	99,919
99.9	Total, new obligations.....	298,008	347,925	347,956	329,571
	Position Data:				
	Average Salary (dollars), ES Position.....	\$183,027	\$195,000	\$204,000	\$208,080
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position .....	91,378	94,564	101,008	103,343
	Average Grade, GS Position.....	10.8	11.9	12.4	12.5

**STATE, Private, and Tribal Forestry**

**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**

Table FS-30. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)

Item	Amount
2024 Estimated Budget.....	\$337,758,000
Change in Appropriation.....	-32,350,000
2025 Request.....	<u>305,408,000</u>

**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored; deleted matter enclosed in brackets):

- 1 *STATE[AND], PRIVATE,AND TRIBAL FORESTRY*
- 2 For necessary expenses of cooperating with and providing technical and financial assistance to Tribes, States,
- 3 territories, possessions, and others, and for forest health management, including for invasive plants, and
- 4 conducting an international program and trade compliance activities as authorized,[\$327,669,000]\$305,408,000,
- 5 to remain available through September 30, [2027]2028, as authorized by law.

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**Change Description**

The first change (lines 1, title) changes title to include Tribal.

The second change (lines 2) changes language to include Tribes.

**PROJECT STATEMENTS**

Table FS-31. Appropriations Project Statement (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Project Statement	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
State, Private, and Tribal Forestry:										
Discretionary										
Appropriations .....	\$315,198	386	\$337,758	404	\$337,758	373	\$305,408	350	-\$32,350	-23
Mandatory										
Appropriations .....	83,862	18	77,940	21	94,225	37	94,225	21	-	-16
Supplemental										
Appropriations .....	3,105,360	4	453,360	43	305,360	58	305,360	97	-	+39
<b>Total Appropriations.....</b>	<b>3,504,420</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>869,058</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>737,343</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>704,993</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>-\$32,350</b>	<b>-</b>

Table FS-32. Appropriations Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Detail Table	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
State, Private, and Tribal Forestry:					
Landscape Scale Restoration.....	\$14,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	-
Federal Lands Forest Health Management.....	16,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	-
Cooperative Lands Forest Health Management.....	32,000	33,000	33,000	33,000	-
State Fire Capacity Grants (State Fire Assistance).....	75,000	76,000	76,000	76,000	-
Volunteer Fire Capacity Grants (Volunteer Fire Assistance)	20,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	-
Forest Stewardship (Working Forest Lands) .....	12,000	12,500	12,500	12,500	-
Community Forest and Open Space Conservation .....	5,500	6,000	6,000	6,000	-
Urban and Community Forestry.....	36,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	-
Forest Resource Information and Analysis.....	29,956	30,167	30,167	-	-\$30,167
International Programs and Trade Compliance.....	17,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	-
Forest Legacy (Great American Outdoors Act).....	83,862	77,940	94,225	94,225	-
Salaries and Expenses.....	57,742	65,091	65,091	62,908	-2,183
Disaster Supplemental <sup>a</sup> .....	50,000	148,000	-	-	-
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law <sup>b</sup> .....	305,360	305,360	305,360	305,360	-
Inflation Reduction Act Programs <sup>c</sup> .....	2,750,000	-	-	-	-
<b>Total, State, Private, and Tribal Forestry.....</b>	<b>3,504,420</b>	<b>869,058</b>	<b>737,343</b>	<b>704,993</b>	<b>-32,350</b>

<sup>a</sup> Disaster Supplemental Funding includes remaining, unobligated funds from P.L. 115-123, P.L. 116-20, P.L. 117-43 and P.L.117-328 for necessary expenses related to wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters that occurred between calendar years 2017 through 2022.

<sup>b</sup> The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) are advance appropriations each year from 2022 through 2026.

<sup>c</sup> The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)(P.L. 117-169) provided \$4.9 billion appropriations in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. All funds shown for IRA are carryover from the original appropriation.

Note: The discrepancy between the project statement and Max schedule X is reimbursable funds.



**LANDSCAPE SCALE RESTORATION**

Table FS-33. Landscape Scale Restoration Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Landscape Scale Restoration	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations.....	\$14,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	-
Recoveries .....	147	109	75	75	
Transfers Out.....	-423	-	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	1,013	2,314	2,338	1,553	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>14,737</b>	<b>19,423</b>	<b>19,413</b>	<b>18,628</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-	-2	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-2,314	-2,338	-1,553	-931	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>12,423</b>	<b>17,083</b>	<b>17,860</b>	<b>17,697</b>	

**Landscape Scale Restoration – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) program funds competitive cross-boundary projects in high-priority rural landscapes by leveraging Tribal Nation, State, and partner capacity with strategic Federal investments. The program helps ensure the Nation’s non-Federal forested lands continue to provide public benefits by supporting high-impact landscape-scale projects that focus on priorities identified in State Forest Action Plans and equivalent restoration strategies and deliver on-the-ground results.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Landscape Scale Restoration in Priority Areas**

The LSR program restored healthy, resilient landscapes and communities within Tribal Nation and State priority areas using \$16.2 million in competitive grants to fund 65 projects in 30 states and territories. Many of these projects include assistance for underserved landowners and forestry practices that support climate resilience. Eleven of the 65 projects have been awarded directly to Tribes to restore priority forest landscapes on both Tribal Nation trust land and land held in fee by Tribes and Alaska Native Corporations. In FY 2023, the program received a budget increase of \$3 million, which resulted in a broader geographic reach than in FY 2022 and is helping to advance the Forest Service’s financial commitment to Tribes and underserved communities.

**Equity Considerations for Regional Request for Proposals**

The LSR program integrated equity considerations into the regional request for proposals and scoring criteria in response to the Forest Service Equity Action Plan<sup>13</sup>. Projects that showed a direct benefit to or intentional engagement of underserved communities received priority consideration. The Forest Service launched the first competitive request for proposals for Federally recognized Tribes and Alaska Native Corporations and Villages to expand Tribal Nation participation in the LSR program and to restore priority forest landscapes on Tribal Nation land, including trust lands.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the program will continue to prioritize and fund projects that engage, and benefit underserved communities by applying the National Equity Guidance and enhance outreach and technical assistance to newly eligible Tribal Nation and other applicants to attract proposals from rural communities.

<sup>13</sup> [Forest Service Equity Action Plan 2022-2024.](#)

**FEDERAL LANDS FOREST HEALTH MANAGEMENT**

Table FS-34. Federal Lands Forest Health Management Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Federal Lands Forest Health Management</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$16,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	-
Recoveries .....	607	842	435	175	
Transfers Out.....	-85	-478	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	2,013	3,362	4,057	3,869	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>18,535</b>	<b>20,726</b>	<b>21,492</b>	<b>21,044</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-30	-	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-3,362	-4,057	-3,869	-3,157	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>15,143</b>	<b>16,669</b>	<b>17,623</b>	<b>17,887</b>	

**Federal Lands Forest Health Management – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Federal Lands Forest Health Management (FHM-Federal Lands) program helps the National Forest System and other actively managed Federal lands to suppress forest insects, diseases, and invasive plants; and provides technical assistance, suppression, and prevention efforts, as well as long-term management strategies to reduce impacts of forest insects, diseases, and invasive plants. This program provides funds that support forest insect and disease detection surveys, and long-term monitoring activities that gather data on forest health conditions to inform management activities across Federal forested lands in the United States.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Reducing Fire Risk on Western Landscapes**

FHM-Federal Lands supported the Forest Service’s Wildfire Crisis Strategy by dedicating the \$3.7 million of FY 2023 Western Bark Beetle treatment funds to forest health work in western landscapes associated with the Strategy’s Priority Landscapes. The program worked in an integrated approach with National Forest System partners to target technical assistance, surveys, and forest health treatments to reduce forest susceptibility to insects and disease pests on National Forest lands and across boundaries. On the Enchanted Circle Priority Landscape, 1.5 million acres on the Carson National Forest in northern New Mexico, FHM-Federal Lands contributed treatment funds which supported the National Forest’s work with partners to address the recovery of wildfire impacted areas, reduced wildfire risk, promoted healthy forests, addressed invasive plants, and protected important cultural landscapes and watersheds by bringing a legacy of shared stewardship to this high-profile landscape.

Table FS-35. List of FY 2023 Forest Health Management Activities on Federal lands and acres treated.

<b>Forest Health Management Activity</b>	<b>Acres treated</b>
Native species on Federal lands.....	242,109
Invasive species on Federal lands .....	280,042
<b>Total, Acres Treated</b> .....	<b>522,151</b>

Table FS-35 reflects recent progress by illustrating acres treated on Federally owned land for both native and invasive species. Federal lands include National Forest System, as well as forested land owned by the Department of the Interior, tribal trust lands, the Department of Defense, and other Federal agencies. Treated acres are identified by science-based risk maps, risk assessments, forest plans, and other scientific information. Treatments include vegetation management, thinning, preventative spraying or applying chemicals, biological control agents, and other best management practices.

**Tribe Determined Forest Health Projects**

FHM-Federal Lands worked with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Tribes to directly support access and engagement in Forest Health Programs (FHP). FHP provided funding in support of Tribe identified forest health needs, co-stewardship of cross-boundary forest resources, and supported Tribes' Forest health specialist capacity. An investment in the Santa Catalina Forest Restoration Thinning project in Coronado National Forest supported treatments that helped the ecosystem become more resilient to climate change, reduced wildfire threats to communities and landowners, and restored watershed conditions, and native plant communities. This partnership provided opportunities for the Tribe to participate in fuels treatment on Forest Service land. The project enhanced the economic sustainability of reaching operations and introduced youth to public lands and promoted USDA careers through education and outreach provided to local tribes. In the last four years, FHP has provided over \$5 million in funding in support of nearly 100 projects, with 26 Tribes in 13 States.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The program will continue to support activities that build ecological resilience, reduce wildfire risk, and sustain Federal forests to provide timber resources, recreation opportunities, clean water, clean air, and robust economies. Threats from insects, diseases, invasive plants, hazard trees, and wildland fires will continue to be mitigated through efficient, effective forest health management.

**COOPERATIVE LANDS FOREST HEALTH MANAGEMENT**

Table FS-36. Cooperative Lands Forest Health Management Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Cooperative Lands Forest Health Management	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations.....	\$32,000	\$33,000	\$33,000	\$33,000	-
Recoveries .....	273	257	290	255	
Transfers Out.....	-250	-	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	247	4,273	2,387	2,141	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>32,270</b>	<b>37,530</b>	<b>35,677</b>	<b>35,396</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-39	-	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-4,272	-2,387	-2,141	-708	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>27,959</b>	<b>35,143</b>	<b>33,536</b>	<b>34,688</b>	

**Cooperative Lands Forest Health Management – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Cooperative Lands Forest Health Management (FHM-Cooperative Lands) program works with states, the District of Columbia, United States territories, Freely Associated States, and other partners to provide technical and financial assistance to monitor, assess, and mitigate forest health threats on non-Federal lands. Investments in this program are typically matched dollar for dollar by partners. The FHM-Cooperative Lands program works across land ownership boundaries to reduce risk and improve forest conditions on landscape and watershed scales. Integrated Pest Management is most effective in an all-lands approach. The program produces data, analysis, and forest health condition reports to assist active forest management decisions and cross-boundary treatment plans with partners. The program fosters collaboration between Tribes, national forests, States, and private interests that embody the concepts of shared stewardship and supports its implementation activities, in addition to setting priorities and co-managing risk, using science-based tools to target treatment investments, and focusing on landscape-scale outcomes using active management tools. In addition, program work includes active coordination with USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service on forest pest activities in the form of monthly agency-to-agency coordination calls, peer-to-peer cooperation, and thorough collaboration on survey and monitoring efforts across the country.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Reaching Equity through Partnerships**

FHM-Cooperative Lands is advancing racial equity and outreach to underserved communities through several initiatives including the Healthy Forest Healthy People project with Corazon Latino. This initiative engages underserved communities to connect the public with the effects forest health has on human health. The protection and conservation of our nation’s forests and green spaces are critical to improving human health, particularly in communities that suffer from health and socio-economic disparities. The partnership expanded efforts to reach Latino communities, providing timely, relevant information on topics including human health and nature, conservation, environmental education, and citizen science. Since its inception in 2018, the program has organized more than 300 grassroots activities and approximately 50 online activities (town halls, online concerts, and webinars) that have engaged more than 40,000 members of the public in person and over five million participants online in 20 states, Puerto Rico, and in 5 countries.

Moreover, the program provides financial support for the Nature for All Leadership Academy<sup>14</sup> for Tribal Nation and Hispanic youth. Nature for All’s mission is to educate, develop, and encourage stewardship of public lands. The Leadership Academy engages in long-term training programs that teach advocacy skills, civic engagement, and

<sup>14</sup> [Nature For All Leadership Academy](#)

local community action to students in southern California. The initial Academy will sponsor 25 students through the program.

Table FS-37. List of FY 2023 Forest Health Management Activities on cooperative lands and acres treated.

Forest Health Management Activity	Acres treated
Native species on cooperative lands.....	38,189
Invasive species on cooperative lands .....	589,971
<b>Total, Acres Treated .....</b>	<b>628,160</b>

Table FS-37 reflects recent progress and denotes acres treated on non-Federal lands for both native and invasive species. Cooperative lands are defined as State, Tribal or privately owned forested areas. Treated acres are identified by science-based risk maps, risk assessments, forest plans, and other scientific information. Treatments include vegetation management, thinning, preventative spraying or applying chemicals, biological control agents, and other best management practices.

**Addressing Emerald Ash Borer in Oregon**

This program supported the response efforts to the recent discovery of the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) in Oregon. The expansion of the emerald ash borer into western forests can lead to devastating community impacts. Allocated funding supported an emerald ash borer task force, staff training, field surveys, seed collection, preservation, and resistance screening of Oregon ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*), an important riparian species native to the Western United States.

**Invasive Species and Biocontrol**

The program invested in the development of indigenous cultural and prescribed burning treatments for Goldspotted Oak Borer (*Agrilus auroguttatus*) management to protect and improve California’s native oak woodlands under threat from this insect pest, which is responsible for the death of more than 100,000 native oak trees in southern California. This project is in partnership with the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians which considers native California oaks as culturally significant species.

The program supported efforts to protect important tree species in Guam by funding surveys of potential predators and parasitoids that may be present within the Guam National Wildlife Refuge for use in a biological control program. The project partnered with approximately 35 stakeholders, including local government, land managers, academic and botanical garden researchers, foresters, and entomologists to collaborate on how to collectively control pests with integrated pest management using biological control.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the program will continue to provide resources and technical assistance to prevent and control invasive species across the United States using economically and environmentally sound integrated pest management strategies. The program will provide funds to State agencies and expand assistance to Tribes to conduct monitoring and treatments on Tribal Nation, State, and private lands in cooperation with national forests across boundaries, with focus on building ecological resilience and prioritizing work in underserved communities.

**STATE FIRE CAPACITY GRANTS (STATE FIRE ASSISTANCE)**

Table FS-38. State Fire Capacity Grants Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>State Fire Capacity Grants (State Fire Assistance)</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$75,000	\$76,000	\$76,000	\$76,000	-
Recoveries .....	615	59	27	30	
Balance Available, SOY .....	3,196	13,832	7,189	5,825	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>78,811</b>	<b>89,891</b>	<b>83,216</b>	<b>81,855</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-1	-5	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-13,832	-7,189	-5,825	-4,093	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>64,978</b>	<b>82,697</b>	<b>77,391</b>	<b>77,762</b>	

**State Fire Capacity Grants (State Fire Assistance) – Status of Programs****Current Activities**

The State Fire Capacity Grants program provides critical financial assistance to states for wildfire preparedness activities, including promoting firefighter safety, capability, and capacity, as well as community mitigation and fuels reduction activities to reduce risk to communities. States use this funding for myriad purposes to support and enhance their ability to respond and to safely suppress wildfires on non-Federal lands. State Fire Capacity Grants funding is frequently used for purchasing and maintaining equipment, providing firefighter training, developing fire readiness plans, dispatch support, wildfire prevention and detection, community mitigation projects, and the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Program funds are distributed in two ways, with 65 percent provided to State Foresters or their equivalent by using a formula, and the remaining 35 percent awarded using regional competitive grants. The formula used is based on each state's number of acres of non-Federal lands, the number of wildfires reported annually, the average fuel treatment cost per acre, and the percentage of housing units and square miles of wildland-urban interface.

While the focus of these funds is on non-Federal lands, the investments benefit all wildland fire management partners by enabling states to increase and maintain wildfire suppression capacity, which in turn increases national capacity for both fire and non-fire emergencies. Many state and local agencies make their resources available to the national response system through regional coordination centers. Each year the funding provides for training and workshops to meet national training and safety standards. State Fire Capacity Grant funding has augmented state funding to train over 5,000 people in classes ranging from Basic Firefighter to Advanced Incident Management.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress****Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC)**

Founded through the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999 (P.L. 105-277) Sec. 343(c), WERC programs maintain and improve wood industry productivity and competitiveness sustainably across 35 states located in eastern hardwood regions (09). Viable wood products markets enable sustainable forest management on Tribal Nation, Federal, State, and private lands. The WERC supports the Forest Service's National Wood Energy Technical Assistance Team,<sup>15</sup> a highly effective program that collaborates with local communities and public and private sector entities to help them generate renewable energy from forests.

Fifty percent of the current funding for WERC programs was allocated from the State Fire Capacity Grants program, with 25 percent each from Forest Health Management and Urban and Community Forestry. WERC supported the analysis and feasibility study for 51 projects that considered the conversion from natural gas, fuel

<sup>15</sup> [Forest Markets - Wood Energy Technical Assistance Team](#)

oil, or propane systems to wood energy. This work was done to support thermal wood energy and combined heat and power systems in every Forest Service region. WERC funded six wood markets and wood energy projects that will support wood utilization in the Forest Service’s Eastern Region (09).

**Alaska Division of Forestry and Fire Protection**

The State Fire Capacity Grants program provided funding assistance to the Alaska Division of Forestry and Fire Protection for delivering coordinated wildfire response compliance with national wildland fire safety and training standards. This financial support allowed State, local, and rural emergency firefighting forces to be deployed not only on State and Federal fires in Alaska but also provided mutual aid for fires in the lower 48 states.

**Fire in the Root Council, Montana**

State Fire Capacity Grants provided funding to support the fire-adapted community’s coordinator who has been instrumental in collaborative efforts to convene and facilitate the accomplishments of the Fire in the Root Council located in Ravalli County, Montana. The group, composed of representatives from not only local, State, and Federal fire protection agencies, concerned residents, realtors, builders, insurance agents, homeowner associations, wood products industries, local businesses, and public health, have all been working together to create innovative, cross-boundary solutions to reduce wildfire risk throughout the county. The council hosted outreach events, home risk assessments, and community workdays, and Ravalli County began updating its Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the Forest Service will continue to work closely with states and other partners to ensure State Fire Capacity grant funding is aligned to meet the highest priority needs and areas across the country. This program is designed to support each state’s wildfire preparedness and protection programs, so while the Forest Service provides program oversight and direction, the specific priorities to be funded are determined on a state-by-state level. Ensuring funding is distributed across the Nation in a fair and science-based manner is an ongoing objective.

**VOLUNTEER FIRE CAPACITY GRANTS (FORMERLY VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSISTANCE)**

Table FS-39. Volunteer Fire Capacity Grants Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Volunteer Fire Capacity Grants (Volunteer Fire Assistance)</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$20,000	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,000	-
Recoveries .....	920	8	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	78	1,994	1,513	901	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>20,998</b>	<b>23,002</b>	<b>22,513</b>	<b>21,901</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-62	-6	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-1,994	-1,513	-901	-657	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>18,942</b>	<b>21,483</b>	<b>21,612</b>	<b>21,244</b>	

**Volunteer Fire Capacity Grants (formerly Volunteer Fire Assistance) – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Volunteer Fire Capacity (VFC) grant program helps with state efforts to support the many thousands of rural, volunteer fire departments across the Nation by improving their wildfire protection capabilities and effectiveness. In many rural areas, local volunteer fire departments are the first responders to protect local communities from wildfire and actively support community wildfire risk mitigation efforts. This program provides cost-share grants to volunteer fire departments for education, planning, training, and the purchase of equipment. Funding can be used for the organization of new volunteer fire departments. States may use the funding to support any organized, non-profit fire protection organization that provides services to a community with a population under 10,000, and whose firefighting personnel are at least 80 percent volunteer. Funding is allocated to the states based on a formula consisting of the state’s number of communities smaller than 10,000 residents, the number of volunteer or mostly volunteer fire departments, and the average number of wildfires each year.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Increased Tribal Involvement**

The Oregon Department of Forestry observed heightened participation of Tribal Nation firefighting agencies in the Volunteer Fire Capacity grant program. The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Department of Emergency Services, Umatilla Tribal Fire Government, Warm Springs Fire and Safety, and others were awarded Volunteer Fire Capacity grant funding for the purchase of fire shelters, training needs, and a variety of other firefighting supplies and capacity needs. Support through the Volunteer Fire Capacity grant program is crucial to rural fire fighting capacity and is important to Tribal Nation communities’ ability to protect people and infrastructure from fire. A focus on Tribal Nation outreach, communication, and relationship building throughout the Oregon Department of Forestry staff helped pave the way for better coordination and support. Tribal Nation fire agencies saw some of the same challenges in volunteer involvement and administration capacity as their rural counterparts, and the financial and technical assistance provided by the Volunteer Fire Capacity grant program helped improve coordinated fire response systems in these Tribal communities.

**Personal Protective Equipment for Rural Fire Departments in Nebraska**

Recently, the state of Nebraska has experienced increased wildfire activity with uncharacteristic fire behavior. In Nebraska, rural fire departments are often the first to respond to these fires; however, many of these departments lack appropriate wildland fire personal protective equipment to be able to respond safely. Funding was allocated to Nebraska’s volunteer fire capacity to purchase wildland firefighting personal protective equipment for those departments in need.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the Forest Service will continue to work closely with states and other partners, such as the National Volunteer Fire Council, to ensure Volunteer Fire Capacity grant funding is aligned to meet the highest priority needs of the volunteer fire departments across the country. The program plans to update its VFC desk guide, which



was last revised in 1998. This desk guide is a reference document for state and Forest Service VFC Program Managers which covers how to administer the program. The desk guide covers topics such as program purpose, objectives, legislative authorities, eligibility, uses of funding, granting recommendations, reporting requirements, etc.

**FOREST LEGACY**

Table FS-40. Forest Legacy Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Forest Legacy	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations.....	\$83,862	\$77,940	\$94,225	\$94,225	-
Recoveries.....	7,578	16,357	14,000	7,600	
Sequestrations.....	-49	624	654	-	
Balance Available, SOY.....	52,052	31,714	32,149	47,950	
<b>Total Available.....</b>	<b>143,443</b>	<b>126,635</b>	<b>141,028</b>	<b>149,775</b>	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-31,715	-32,149	-47,950	-50,923	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>111,728</b>	<b>94,486</b>	<b>93,078</b>	<b>98,852</b>	

**Forest Legacy – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Forest Legacy Program (FLP) protects critical forest landscapes threatened by land conversion through conservation easements and fee-simple purchases in partnership with State agencies and private landowners. The program does not add to the Federal estate, rather purchase of conservation easements assist landowners to conserve and actively manage private working forests. Fee acquisitions by states create or add to state forests, state parks, and state wildlife management areas securing public benefits, including recreational access. To select projects for funding, FLP uses a two-tiered competitive process at both the state and national levels. This locally driven, nationally scaled program is a key contributor to the Administration’s goal to conserve 30 percent of America’s lands and waters by 2030.

Conservation across landscapes and ownerships is essential to addressing large-scale conservation issues, including watershed protection, wildfire risk mitigation, and protection of at-risk species. The FLP tracts share more than 5,000 miles of boundaries with Tribal Nation, Federal, State, local, and non-profit held conserved lands. More than 1,000 of those miles are adjacent to National Forest System lands. Intact working forests provide clean drinking water, sequester carbon, protect wildlife habitat and biodiversity, and offer recreation access. The FLP legacy tracts conserve more than 3,000 miles of streams and rivers and more than 40 square miles of open water. Twenty-eight projects totaling more than 440,000 acres are adjacent to or within 1,000 feet of 13 National Scenic and Historic Trails. Conserving working lands supports local, regional, and national economies.

The Forest Service is using new data sets to analyze the benefits Forest Legacy projects provide to underserved communities and contribute to climate resilience when reviewing projects. The project review panel considered the climate resiliency score, using The Nature Conservancy’s Resilient Land Mapping Tool,<sup>16</sup> and the benefits to underserved communities using the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool<sup>17</sup> for the location of each proposed project when reviewing projects. Sixty-three percent of total acres and 46 percent of total project funds have benefitted underserved communities, and more than 65 percent of acres were identified as highly resilient to climate change. The FLP received \$700 million to be obligated over ten years from the Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169). Currently, the Forest Service has used \$100 million of these funds to support 19 additional projects in 15 states. The Forest Service will continue adding additional capacity to meet these additional needs and is working with state partners to build capacity to pursue and acquire interests in lands.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

The FLP received \$88.8 million of new funding to support 14 projects in 13 states and completed the Congressional reprogramming process for \$18 million of recovered prior year funding to fund five additional projects in five

<sup>16</sup> [Resilient Land Mapping Tool](#)

<sup>17</sup> [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#)

states. The FLP passed an important milestone, conserving more than three million acres since 1990, including 46,772 acres in FY 2023. Historically, the FLP leverages more than one dollar in non-Federal funds for every Federal dollar spent.

#### **Spence Mountain, Oregon**

Through fee-simple acquisition, the Spence Mountain project conserved 7,589 acres of forested lands that provide important wildlife habitat and include a renowned trail network within the Klamath Basin. The property includes eight miles of Upper Klamath Lake shoreline and 35 miles of publicly accessible hiking and biking trails adjacent to a National Scenic Byway and birding trail. Designed to be a hiking and biking destination, the project will offer economic benefits from tourism. In Klamath County, the outdoor recreation economy generates \$1.65 billion annually and tourism comprises 18 percent of jobs. Spence Mountain contains habitats that support the Federally endangered Lost River sucker (*Deltistes luxatus*) and shortnose sucker (*Chasmistes brevirostris*), as well as nine species of birds listed by the Fish and Wildlife Service as birds of conservation concern. Sustainable management of this property will complement adjacent public lands, including the Fremont-Winema National Forest, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, Crater Lake National Park, and Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuge. The project is supported by The Klamath Tribes<sup>18</sup> because it will enhance the habitat for spiritually and culturally significant wildlife species. The Tribes use Spence Mountain for hunting and gathering, making conservation of this area important for exercising their treaty rights.

#### **Sonoita Creek Wildlife Corridor, Arizona**

Through a conservation easement, Phase 3 of the Sonoita Creek Wildlife Corridor project conserved 756 acres, including significant tracts of riparian habitat and Madrean pine-oak woodlands. Madrean pine-oak woodlands are geographically limited and an internationally recognized hotspot for biodiversity. The project builds on prior Forest Legacy funded projects (Phases 1 and 2) to conserve land within and buffering a wildlife corridor identified by the Arizona Game and Fish Department as vital for the movement of the Federally endangered jaguar (*Panthera onca*) plus 40 additional at-risk wildlife who reside in the isolated mountain ranges throughout southeast Arizona and northern Mexico, known as sky islands. The corridor serves as an anchor and catalyst for local conservation efforts to restore riparian forests and permanent stream flow in Sonoita Creek, a tributary to the Santa Cruz River, and the main water supply to four underserved communities.

#### **Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The Forest Legacy Program will continue to consider the benefits to underserved communities and environmental justice initiatives during project selection.

#### **Program Evaluations**

The Forest Service is actively working with partners to evaluate the impacts of the program on carbon sequestration and climate change resilience. These evaluations involve collaborations with partners using data, modeling, and research to evaluate the program's effectiveness in preserving forests and their carbon sequestration capacity.

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<sup>18</sup> The Klamath Tribes include the Klamath, Modoc, and Yahooskin.

**FOREST STEWARDSHIP (WORKING FOREST LANDS)**

Table FS-41. Forest Stewardship Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Forest Stewardship (Working Forest Lands)	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations.....	\$12,000	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	-
Recoveries.....	114	113	489	239	
Balance Available, SOY.....	-39	2,055	1,445	1,155	
Total Available.....	12,075	14,668	14,434	13,894	
Lapsing Balances.....	-1	-10	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-2,055	-1,445	-1,155	-417	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>10,019</b>	<b>13,213</b>	<b>13,279</b>	<b>13,477</b>	

**Forest Stewardship (Working Forest Lands) – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) is a partnership between the Forest Service and state forestry agencies to help non-industrial private forest landowners care for their nearly 300 million acres (nearly 40 percent of the Nation’s forests) and ensure the public continues to receive these benefits from privately owned forests. These benefits include providing healthy, resilient forests, timber, wildlife habitat, watershed protection, recreational opportunities, carbon sequestration, and many other ecosystem benefits for communities and the nation.

The FSP and ongoing relationships with landowners enable Foresters to continuously provide support contributing to the foundation that allows landowners to access many different programs. These programs include USDA financial assistance conservation, forest certification, forest product and ecosystem service markets, and tax incentives that assist landowners in maintaining their forests and the benefits the Nation receives from them.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

Through working with state forestry agency partners, the FSP continued connecting landowners to their lands and providing benefits to all by developing 12,203 forest stewardship plans, sustainably managing 13,266,796 acres using forest stewardship plans, monitoring 385,015 acres, aiding 204,608 landowners, and providing educational opportunities for 381,112 landowners.

**Partnerships to Ensure Equity and Inclusion**

The FSP continued to make investments in building cultural competency and ensuring equity and inclusion with program implementation. These partnerships included the following:

- Virginia Tech shared learnings from a meta-analysis of participation in private lands conservation by historically underrepresented groups to FSP state partners. This research highlighted the motivation and barriers that landowners experience including barriers around access to information.
- An investment of \$300,000 was allocated to develop resources from experts in outreach with underserved communities including the United States Endowment for Forestry and Communities, Inc., the Center for Heirs’ Property, and mano-Y-ola, LLC.
- An investment of \$75,000 was allocated to form a partnership with the Forest Stewards Guild and Women Owning Woodlands to host an in-person meeting that helped build connections among practitioners and other learning opportunities.

**Forest Stewardship Prioritization**

Forest Service partners continues to implement their prioritization of Federal FSP funding, for instance Colorado focuses on private lands with the highest wildfire risk, and the plains states of Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota, where they prioritize riparian forests to improve water quality.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the Forest Stewardship Program will continue to partner with state forestry agencies to provide technical and planning assistance to landowners, helping them access programs, including traditional and emerging markets, so they can continue to sustainably manage their land and provide environmental benefits to the public.

**COMMUNITY FOREST AND OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION**

Table FS-42. Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Community Forest and Open Space Conservation</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations.....	\$5,500	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	-
Recoveries.....	61	326	5	5	
Balance Transfers.....	-	-7	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY.....	65	2,515	4,257	3,079	
<b>Total Available.....</b>	<b>5,626</b>	<b>8,834</b>	<b>10,262</b>	<b>9,084</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-10	-21	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-2,515	-4,257	-3,079	-1,817	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>3,101</b>	<b>4,556</b>	<b>7,183</b>	<b>7,267</b>	

**Community Forest and Open Space Conservation – Status of Programs****Current Activities**

The Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program (CFP) provides financial assistance grants for acquiring and establishing working community forests that provide public benefits. Projects are selected through a competitive process that evaluates community benefits, community engagement, contribution to landscape conservation initiatives, and likelihood of land conversion. The CFP works directly with Tribes, local governments, and qualified nonprofit organizations to acquire and establish working community forests. These areas provide public benefits such as clean drinking water, wildlife habitat, public access and recreation opportunities, economic benefits from timber and non-timber products, and educational opportunities to local communities. The CFP has conserved over 33,000 acres and supported 113 community-driven projects across 29 states and territories.

The Forest Service is using new data sets to analyze the benefits Community Forest Projects provide to underserved communities and contribute to climate resilience when reviewing projects. The project review panel considers the climate resiliency score, using The Nature Conservancy’s Resilient Land Mapping Tools,<sup>19</sup> and the benefits to underserved communities using the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool<sup>20</sup> for the location of each proposed project when reviewing projects. Four of the selected projects benefit underserved communities and five of the selected projects have been identified as highly resilient to climate change. The Forest Service has active agreements in place with the First Nations Development Institute<sup>21</sup> and The Trust for Public Land<sup>22</sup> which increases outreach to Tribes and provides technical assistance in helping Tribes in successfully applying to the program.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

To date, CFP has awarded nearly \$6 million in 13 new grants to communities in nine states, totaling over 5,855 acres.<sup>23</sup> In addition to the two showcase projects below, two more notable projects included a 446-acre community forest in Rumford, Maine, a reviving mill town, that lacks access to parks and open space; and a 44-acre community forest located in a heavily fragmented landscape in Ohio that will serve as an outdoor classroom for students and community groups. These projects provide recreation and revenue to communities, protect local

<sup>19</sup> [Resilient Land Mapping Tool](#)

<sup>20</sup> [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#)

<sup>21</sup> [First Nations Development Institute](#)

<sup>22</sup> [The Trust for Public Land](#)

<sup>23</sup> The list of FY 2023 CFP funded projects can be viewed at [Fiscal Year 2023 Community Forest Program Funded Projects](#).

water supplies and water quality, protect habitats used by a diversity of fish and wildlife, conserve native plant areas, and provide forest-based learning.

**Little Bluestone Community Forest Project, West Virginia**

The Little Bluestone Community Forest Project in Summers County, West Virginia permanently conserved 185 acres along the Bluestone National Scenic River and surrounding the Cooper’s Mill historical site, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The community-led development of recreational trails and access enhances the visitor’s experience to the historic site. A new trail along the Little Bluestone River, developed in collaboration with the National Park Service, provides a new point of access from the community forest to the Bluestone Turnpike Trail, connecting it with the regional trail network. Momentum is growing across the region for investment in strategic trail development that promotes regional connectivity and the growth of the outdoor recreation economy. The benefiting community, Summers County, is designated as underserved across four categories, with 21.6 percent of the population living below the poverty line. The Little Bluestone Community Forest is the first project awarded in West Virginia through the CFP.

**Bear Ridge Community Forest, Washington**

The Bear Ridge Community Forest conserved 388 acres of working forest in southwestern Washington to protect the City of Ilwaco’s drinking water supply, boost the local economy, and provide new recreation opportunities. The community forest encompasses the watershed and reservoir that supplies the drinking water for the City of Ilwaco and includes habitat for wildlife including the Federally threatened Northern Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) and the Federally endangered Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) and Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*). The new community forest provides opportunity for the city to boost the ecotourism sector by capitalizing on Ilwaco’s coastal beauty and proximity to recreational hot spots and population centers. The property provides residents and visitors with a new network of multi-use trails, as well as additional trails that will be developed through a partnership with local and regional trail groups.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The Community Forest Program is unique in providing the Forest Service with the authority to directly award grants to Tribes to acquire private land. In FY 2025, the program will continue to prioritize and fund projects that engage, and benefit underserved communities and provide outreach and technical assistance to Tribal Nation applicants to facilitate Tribal participation in the program.

**Program Evaluations**

The program updated the panel scoring guidance for awarding grants to place more emphasis on community engagement. The panel scoring guidance provides the framework for the evaluation process to ensure fair and consistent scoring of grant applications. Projects that show meaningful and inclusive engagement, including underrepresented groups, in the planning and long-term management of the project, can receive up to ten points (formerly five points).

**URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY**

Table FS-43. Urban and Community Forestry Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Urban and Community Forestry	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations.....	\$36,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	-
Recoveries.....	380	25	17	12	
Balance Available, SOY.....	313	5,833	3,795	2,629	
Total Available.....	36,693	45,858	43,812	42,641	
Lapsing Balances.....	-35	-	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-5,832	-3,795	-2,629	-2,132	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>30,826</b>	<b>42,063</b>	<b>41,183</b>	<b>40,509</b>	

**Urban and Community Forestry – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) program is optimizing the Nation’s urban forests to provide community benefits such as green jobs, clean air, relief from extreme heat, natural disasters, high energy costs, and flooding. UCF directly engages with historically underrepresented and disadvantaged communities that stand to benefit most from improved tree planting and maintenance efforts. UCF supports urban forest health, creates jobs, enhances community resilience, and preserves the unique sense of place in cities and towns of all sizes.

UCF provides funding and technical support to state forestry agencies and non-profit partners to help communities maintain and protect approximately 12 billion trees. The program works along with cooperators to leverage private funding for maintaining tree canopy, resulting in about one million trees planted annually in communities across the nation. UCF authorities enable states to deliver technical and financial assistance to nearly 7,500 communities nationwide to better manage and benefit from urban trees. City and community trees help to reach national and local climate mitigation goals, which are a major source of green jobs and are an effective way to increase energy efficiency.

Urban forests account for 20 percent of the carbon emissions that forests in the United States capture and store, mitigating effects of climate change such as extreme heat. In addition, urban trees provide tremendous social, public health, economic, and environmental benefits to the public.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Partnerships to Ensure Equity and Inclusion**

The program advanced the goals of the Forest Service’s Equity Action Plan<sup>24</sup>, the Administration’s Justice40 Initiative<sup>25</sup>, and the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council’s Ten-Year Urban Forestry Action Plan<sup>26</sup>. These investments included:

- \$100,000 to the African American Mayors Association to expand the nation’s delegation of African American Mayors with access to communications and programming platforms. Urban and Community Forestry messaging, outreach, and funding opportunities are shared regularly through the partnership.
- \$100,000 supported a faith-based partnership with Stillmeadow Community Fellowship in Baltimore, Maryland, for Summer and Spring 2023 nature-based environmental education programming using college interns as instructors to work with community youth in the Stillmeadow Peace Park.

<sup>24</sup> [Forest Service’s Equity Action Plan 2023-2024](#)

<sup>25</sup> [Administration’s Justice40 Initiative](#)

<sup>26</sup> [Ten-Year Urban Forestry Action Plan 2016-2026](#)



- The 2023 National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council Challenge Cost-Share Grant Program was announced, and two awards were generated. They totaled \$500,000 for projects that address strategies under Goal 5 of the Ten-Year Urban Forestry Action Plan<sup>26</sup> to improve urban and community forest management, maintenance, and stewardship.
- State Urban Forest Resilience Grant awards totaling \$4 million were allocated to address the ongoing catastrophic losses of urban forests due to emerald ash borer. Through tree planting, tree removal, and the protection of existing trees, these projects benefit human health outcomes and mitigate the negative effects of climate change.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the UCF will continue to provide funding and technical support to state forestry agencies and non-profit partners and will collaborate with cooperators to leverage private funding to maintain tree canopies in urban and community forests nationwide.

**FOREST RESOURCE INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS**

Table FS-44. Forest Resource Information and Analysis Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Forest Resource Information and Analysis	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$29,956	\$30,167	\$30,167	-	-\$30,167
Balance Available, SOY .....	3	12,113	5,004	\$1,759	
Total Available .....	29,959	42,280	35,171	1,759	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-12,113	-5,004	-1,759	-	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>17,846</b>	<b>37,276</b>	<b>33,412</b>	<b>1,759</b>	

**Forest Resource Information and Analysis – Justification of Changes**

A decrease of \$30,167,000 in Forest Resource Information and Analysis, (\$30,167,000 in FY 2024). This program funds Congressionally Directed Spending projects which are not requested by the Forest Service.

**Forest Resource Information and Analysis – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328) provided \$30,167,000 for congressionally directed spending in this program. The congressionally directed spending, also known as community project funding, included 26 projects in 16 States. These projects are administered under the various State, Private, and Tribal Nation Forestry authorities.

**INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND TRADE COMPLIANCE**

Table FS-45. International Programs and Trade Compliance Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>International Programs and Trade Compliance</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$17,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	-
Recoveries .....	534	373	392	359	
Balance Available, SOY .....	2,294	649	776	847	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>19,828</b>	<b>21,022</b>	<b>21,168</b>	<b>21,206</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-8	-	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-649	-776	-847	-424	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>19,171</b>	<b>20,246</b>	<b>20,321</b>	<b>20,782</b>	

**International Programs and Trade Compliance – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

Forest Service International Programs and Trade Compliance, hereafter referred to as International Programs, promotes sustainable forest management globally and brings important technologies and innovations back to the United States. The program represents the interests of the entire United States forestry community and its stakeholders through international engagement. Effective forest management at the global level is necessary to protect United States trade interests, such as the ability of domestic timber producers to compete in domestic and global markets, ensure the sustainability of critical domestic and global natural resources, and support climate change mitigation and climate resilience.

International Programs provides policies and technical support on a global scale which benefits American forestry interests, expands Administration priorities, and furthers USDA goals. These activities include combatting illegal logging, supporting migratory species habitat conservation, collaborating to control and prevent new invasive species in American forests, and supporting the U.S. Special Envoy for Climate priorities through technical assistance for international governmental and grassroots community organizations which focus on climate resilience, while ensuring community livelihoods are equitably sustainable. International Programs provides scientific, policy, and coordination support to USDA’s Foreign Agriculture Service, the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), and the United States Department of State ensuring that American forestry interests are well-represented in policy and trade discussions and decisions.

International Programs are primarily implemented by competitively awarded contracts. Grants and cooperative agreements support universities conducting specific research or related activities focused on invasive species, illegal logging, and migratory species, and with international community-based nongovernmental organization partners who implement activities. This approach allows for a sustainable and sustained approach to capacity building and technical assistance. Investing at the local level internationally further insulates programs against shifts in the political landscape at the country level which often limits the effectiveness of technical assistance. By focusing on community-level organizations funds better reach the intended populations and landscapes.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Wood Identification and Screening Center**

The International Programs and Trade Compliance Wood Identification and Screening Center analyzed 20 forensic cases and ten regulatory cases for United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Department of Justice, the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services, and other interagency partners to promote the enforcement of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531-1544), Lacey Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 3371-3378), and other relevant statutes critical to international conservation and the United States wood products industry.

### **Research Partnerships Related to Beech Leaf Disease**

The International Programs initiated partnerships with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, USDA's Agricultural Research Service, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, and Pennsylvania State University to learn more about beech leaf disease, a novel disease that affects American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*); and has been observed on multiple taxa of Asian and European beech occasionally planted as ornamentals. Beech leaf disease causes parts of leaves to turn leathery and branches to wither and can kill both saplings and mature trees. Beech leaf disease has been reported in twelve states<sup>27</sup> and Canada. At this time, no treatments are available for trees affected by the beech leaf disease. Continued research by these partnerships is aimed at understanding the origins of beech leaf disease, what vectors facilitate their spread, and possible treatment and mitigation strategies.

### **Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, International Programs will continue providing wood identification services to interagency law enforcement on import inspection, including United States Customs and Border Protection, and Homeland Security Investigations. In addition to determining the species of wood products to assess compliance with the Endangered Species Act, International Programs will implement origin verification for wood products as directed in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-246)<sup>28</sup> Title VIII Subtitle C Sec. 8204. These services will be available for export market access requirements to comply with the European Union Deforestation Regulation<sup>29</sup> and other sustainability laws required by the importing countries. To enable these determinations, International Programs will support geolocated field collection campaigns to sample the chemical profiles of trees and associated landscapes.

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<sup>27</sup> Beech leaf disease has been reported in Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Virginia.

<sup>28</sup> [Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008](#)

<sup>29</sup> Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 May 2023 ([European Union Deforestation Regulation](#))

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Table FS-46. Salaries and Expenses Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Salaries and Expenses	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations.....	\$57,742	\$65,091	\$65,091	\$62,908	-\$2,183
Recoveries.....	8,171	6,470	6,405	3,762	
Balance Transfers.....	-2,500	-2,993	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY.....	13,302	17,214	25,281	29,517	
Total Available.....	76,715	85,782	96,777	96,187	
Lapsing Balances.....	-30	-1	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-17,215	-25,281	-29,517	-25,009	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>59,470</b>	<b>60,500</b>	<b>67,260</b>	<b>71,178</b>	

**Salaries and Expenses – Justification of Changes**

A decrease of \$2,183,000 in Salaries and Expenses and a decrease of 23 FTEs (\$65,091,000 and 373 FTEs in FY 2024). This decrease of \$2,183,000 does not fund any of the calendar year (CY) 2024 and anticipated CY 2025 employee pay cost increases. The Forest Service will need to further rely on other funding sources for Salaries and Expenses and balance hiring actions and attrition rates to stay within appropriations in the operational year.

**OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING**

Table FS-47. Disaster Supplemental Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Disaster Supplemental</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations.....	\$50,000	\$148,000	-	-	-
Recoveries.....	426	40	-	-	-
Balance Available, SOY.....	815	17,235	\$80,084	\$15,084	
<b>Total Available.....</b>	<b>51,241</b>	<b>165,275</b>	<b>80,084</b>	<b>15,084</b>	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-17,235	-80,084	-15,084	-	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>34,006</b>	<b>85,191</b>	<b>65,000</b>	<b>15,084</b>	

**Disaster Supplemental**

Disaster Supplemental funding related to State, Private, and Tribal Forestry supports Forest Service actions, activities, and responses to support communities affected by wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters through technical assistance, education and training, and cooperation.

Table FS-48. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations.....	\$305,360	\$305,360	\$305,360	\$305,360	-
Transfers In.....	21,153	22,081	1,923	-	
Transfers Out.....	-53,317	-32,749	-28,184	-	
Balance Transfers.....	-	-	1,537	-	
Balance Available, SOY.....	-	239,459	301,087	283,289	
<b>Total Available.....</b>	<b>273,196</b>	<b>534,151</b>	<b>581,723</b>	<b>588,649</b>	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-239,459	-301,087	-283,289	-233,773	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>33,737</b>	<b>233,064</b>	<b>298,434</b>	<b>354,876</b>	

**Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

In addition to other provisions within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 115-78), also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, State, Private, and Tribal Forestry-related funds shall be utilized for ecosystem restoration, wildfire risk reduction, wildfire mitigation grants, State Fire Assistance, and Volunteer Fire Assistance.

Table FS-49. Inflation Reduction Act Program Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Inflation Reduction Act</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations.....	\$2,750,000	-	-	-	-
Recoveries.....	-	-	\$100	\$500	
Balance Available, SOY.....	-	\$2,750,000	2,436,838	2,093,330	
<b>Total Available.....</b>	<b>2,750,000</b>	<b>2,750,000</b>	<b>2,436,938</b>	<b>2,093,830</b>	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-2,750,000	-2,436,838	-2,093,330	-1,686,164	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>313,162</b>	<b>343,608</b>	<b>407,666</b>	

**Inflation Reduction Act**

In addition to other provisions within the Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169), State, Private, and Tribal Forestry-related funds shall be utilized to provide competitive grants to States through the Forest Legacy Program; and grants to governmental, tribal, and nonprofit organizations through the Urban and Community Forestry Assistance program for tree planting and related activities.

**CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**

Table FS-50. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
	Personnel Compensation:				
	Washington D.C. ....	\$13,990	\$15,819	\$16,827	\$17,270
	Personnel compensation, field .....	29,670	36,911	39,264	40,296
11.0	Total personnel compensation .....	43,660	52,730	56,091	57,566
12.0	Personal benefits .....	16,677	20,555	21,865	22,440
	Total, personnel compensation and benefits .....	60,337	73,285	77,957	80,006
	Other Objects:				
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	1,564	4,205	4,413	4,610
22.0	Transportation of things.....	272	124	303	316
23.1	Rental payments to GSA.....	667	448	853	891
23.2	Rental payments to others.....	3	10	10	10
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges.....	6	59	50	52
24.0	Printing and reproduction .....	86	44	99	104
25.0	Other contractual services .....	-	10,615	8,119	8,482
25.1	Advisory and assistance services .....	2	-	2	2
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources .....	9,907	5,688	11,929	12,461
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources.....	5,345	23,448	22,024	23,007
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities .....	7,700	3	5,892	6,155
25.5	Research and development contracts.....	23	471	378	395
25.6	Medical care .....	4	1	4	4
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment.....	13	80	71	74
26.0	Supplies and materials .....	1,556	2,021	2,736	2,858
31.0	Equipment.....	554	474	786	821
32.0	Land and structures .....	104	-	80	83
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	371,194	955,963	1,015,051	1,060,370
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities.....	10	20	23	24
43.0	Interest and dividends.....	1	-	1	1
44.0	Refunds .....	-	-128	-	-
	Total, other objects.....	399,011	1,003,546	1,072,823	1,120,722
99.9	Total, new obligations.....	459,349	1,076,832	1,150,780	1,200,728
	Position Data:				
	Average Salary (dollars), ES Position .....	\$183,027	\$195,000	\$204,000	\$208,080
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position .....	98,635	105,370	112,180	114,941
	Average Grade, GS Position.....	12.4	12.7	12.7	12.8



**NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM**

**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**

Table FS-51. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)

Item	Amount
2024 Estimated Budget.....	\$1,974,388,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+32,761,000
2025 Request.....	<u>2,007,149,000</u>

**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored; deleted matter enclosed in brackets):

1 NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

2 For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, for management, protection,  
 3 improvement, and utilization of the National Forest System, and for hazardous fuels management on or adjacent to  
 4 such lands, [\$2,226,280,000]~~\$2,007,149,000~~, to remain available through September 30, [2027]2028: *Provided*,  
 5 That of the funds provided, [\$80,000,000]~~\$34,000,000~~ shall be deposited in the Collaborative Forest Landscape  
 6 Restoration Fund for ecological restoration treatments as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 7303(f): *Provided further*, That of  
 7 the funds provided, [\$41,600,000]~~\$41,000,000~~ shall be for forest products[, of which \$1,600,000 shall be available  
 8 for the hire and purchase of zero emission passenger motor vehicles and supporting charging or fueling  
 9 infrastructure: *Provided further*, That any unobligated balances for hazardous fuels management may be  
 10 transferred to the "Wildland Fire Management" account: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided for  
 11 recreation, heritage, and wilderness, \$1,600,000 shall be available for the hire and purchase of zero emission  
 12 passenger motor vehicles and supporting charging or fueling infrastructure]: *Provided further*, That of the funds  
 13 provided under this heading, \$207,000,000 shall be for hazardous fuels management activities, of which not to  
 14 exceed \$20,000,000 may be used to make grants, using any authorities available to the Forest Service under the  
 15 "State, Private, and Tribal Forestry" appropriation, for the purpose of creating incentives for increased use of  
 16 biomass from National Forest System lands: *Provided further*, That funds provided in the previous proviso that are  
 17 used to implement the Community Forest Restoration Act shall be available for use on non-Federal lands in  
 18 accordance with authorities made available to the Forest Service under the "State, Private, and Tribal Forestry"  
 19 appropriation: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided for hazardous fuels management activities, no more  
 20 than fifteen percent of such funds may be used by the Secretary of Agriculture to, with respect to Federal land, or  
 21 on non-Federal land if the Secretary determines such activities benefit resources on Federal land, enter into  
 22 procurement contracts or cooperative agreements for hazardous fuels management activities, issue grants for  
 23 hazardous fuels management activities, or pay for training or monitoring associated with such fuels management  
 24 activities: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 33 of the Bankhead Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C.  
 25 1012), the Secretary of Agriculture, in calculating a fee for grazing on a National Grassland, may provide a credit of  
 26 up to 50 percent of the calculated fee to a Grazing Association or direct permittee for a conservation practice  
 27 approved by the Secretary in advance of the fiscal year in which the cost of the conservation practice is incurred,  
 28 and that the amount credited shall remain available to the Grazing Association or the direct permittee, as  
 29 appropriate, in the fiscal year in which the credit is made and each fiscal year thereafter for use on the project for  
 30 conservation practices approved by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated to this account shall  
 31 be available for the base salary and expenses of employees that carry out the functions funded by the "Capital  
 32 Improvement and Maintenance" account, the "Range Bet erment Fund" account, and the "Management of  
 33 National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses" account.

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**Change Description**

The first change (line 3 and 4) adds language for hazardous fuels management.

The second change (line 12 through 24) adds language associated with State and Private Forestry authorities associated with hazardous fuels funds.

**PROJECT STATEMENTS**

Table FS-52. Appropriations Project Statement (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Project Statement	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
National Forest System:										
Discretionary										
Appropriations ...	\$1,866,545	13,298	\$1,974,388	13,690	\$1,974,388	12,598	\$2,007,149	12,434	+\$32,761	-164
Supplemental										
Appropriations ...	1,794,800	303	739,800	947	529,800	2,039	529,800	2,203	-	+164
<b>Total Appropriations...</b>	<b>3,661,345</b>	<b>13,601</b>	<b>2,714,188</b>	<b>14,637</b>	<b>2,504,188</b>	<b>14,637</b>	<b>2,536,949</b>	<b>14,637</b>	<b>+\$32,761</b>	<b>-</b>

Table FS-53. Appropriations Details Table (thousands of dollars)

Detail Table	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
National Forest System:					
Land Management Planning, Assessment and Monitoring .....	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$18,000	+\$1,000
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness .....	47,300	55,000	55,000	58,000	+3,000
Grazing Management .....	5,800	6,300	6,300	6,300	-
Hazardous Fuels .....	187,388	207,000	207,000	207,000	-
Forest Products .....	38,000	40,000	40,000	41,000	+1,000
Vegetation and Watershed Management .....	32,986	32,000	32,000	33,000	+1,000
Wildlife and Fish Habitat Management .....	22,000	24,000	24,000	25,000	+1,000
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration.....	28,000	32,000	32,000	34,000	+2,000
Minerals and Geology Management .....	12,450	14,500	14,500	14,500	-
Land Use Authorization and Access.....	6,064	8,000	8,000	8,000	-
Law Enforcement Operations.....	19,505	19,505	19,505	21,005	+1,500
Salaries and Expenses.....	1,450,052	1,519,083	1,519,083	1,541,344	+22,261
Disaster Supplemental <sup>a</sup> .....	710,000	210,000	-	-	-
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law <sup>b</sup> .....	734,800	529,800	529,800	529,800	-
Inflation Reduction Act <sup>c</sup> .....	350,000	-	-	-	-
<b>Total, National Forest System .....</b>	<b>3,661,345</b>	<b>2,714,188</b>	<b>2,504,188</b>	<b>2,536,949</b>	<b>+32,761</b>

<sup>a</sup> Disaster Supplemental Funding includes remaining, unobligated funds from P.L. 115-123, P.L. 116-20, P.L. 117-43 and P.L.117-328 for necessary expenses related to wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters that occurred between calendar years 2017 through 2022.

<sup>b</sup> The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) are advance appropriations each year from 2022 through 2026.

<sup>c</sup> The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)(P.L. 117-169) provided \$4.9 billion appropriations in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. All funds shown for IRA are carryover from the original appropriation.

Note: The discrepancy between the project statement and Max schedule X is reimbursable funds.

**LAND MANAGEMENT PLANNING, ASSESSMENT, AND MONITORING**

Table FS-54. Land Management Planning, Assessment, and Monitoring Details Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Land Management Planning, Assessment and Monitoring</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$18,000	+\$1,000
Recoveries .....	2,075	1,352	494	382	
Balance Transfers.....	-587	-400	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY.....	4,432	3,628	3,253	2,075	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>22,920</b>	<b>21,580</b>	<b>20,747</b>	<b>20,457</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-346	-3	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-3,628	-3,253	-2,075	-1,023	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>18,946</b>	<b>18,324</b>	<b>18,672</b>	<b>19,434</b>	

**Land Management Planning, Assessment, and Monitoring – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$1,000,000 in Land Management Planning, Assessment and Monitoring, (\$17,000,000 in FY 2024). An increase of \$1,000,000 will support the Forest Service’s ongoing efforts to amend or revise land management plans that are over 15 years old. Managing lands requires a continuous cycle of assessing, planning, implementing, monitoring, and adjusting programs and projects based on the latest scientific information.

**Land Management Planning, Assessment, and Monitoring – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

Land Management Planning, Assessment, and Monitoring support collaboration with Tribes and underserved communities in the assessing, planning, implementing, monitoring, and adjusting of programs and projects in ways that are responsive to communities and align with the USDA Forest Service Tribal Relations Action Plan on Tribal Nation Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships<sup>30</sup> and the Equity Action Plan<sup>31</sup>. The Forest Service is revising 11 land management plan revisions and initiating one new land management plan revision on the Tongass National Forest, plus considering broad-scale amendments to 19 land management plans in the Northwest Forest Plan area.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Planning Service Organization**

The Forest Service recently shifted to a new business model for land management plan revision, called the Planning Service Organization (PSO). This new model centralizes revision resources, staffing, and expertise in a multi-region zone approach to manage the planning process and complete the bulk of plan development and analysis work. The national forest or grassland associated with the plan revision retains decision-making authority, leads public engagement, and provides direction, local expertise, and technical review during plan revision. The PSO has begun the transitioning and hiring of staff to build capacity to address backlogged outdated plans and create a regular plan revision schedule.

**Release of Land Management Plans**

The land management plans for the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests in the Southern Region (08) and the Sierra and Sequoia National Forests in the Pacific Southwest Region (05) were recently revised.

**Biennial Monitoring Evaluation Report (BMER) Template**

Eleven national forests and grasslands published their BMERs and five other groups are working to update their BMERs using the national template. The template and regular engagement with regions and units help promote

<sup>30</sup> [USDA Forest Service Tribal Relations Action Plan.](#)

<sup>31</sup> [Equity Action Plan 2023-2024.](#)

the development of clear and concise monitoring reports which provide information needed by decision makers to adaptively manage and enhance transparency on Forest Service monitoring results with the public.

**Development of a Menu of Monitoring Questions, Indicators, and Data Evaluations**

Land management plan monitoring programs consist of monitoring questions designed to track progress towards desired conditions on a national forest or grassland such as species viability, climate resilient watersheds, and improved carbon sequestration. To improve management relevance and consistency in monitoring across the National Forest System, the Forest Service has compiled, evaluated, and developed a menu of questions and indicators to align with the 2012 Planning Rule monitoring requirements. Automated and reproducible analyses that can be run across all units with consistent and national-scale data have been developed for four of the indicators in the draft menu of monitoring questions. In addition, four NFS units prototyping these reports and analyses for BMERs. Multiple NFS Regions and Deputy Areas are being consulted on similar analytical techniques and reports for the development of nationally consistent Broader-scale Monitoring Reports. This work provides information needed by land and resource managers and the public while lessening the burden placed on national forests and grasslands to compile required monitoring reports for common questions. Doing so allows staff to focus on addressing unique localized information needs.

**Monitoring Program Review and Evaluation**

The Forest Service has established a monitoring review and evaluation process within the proposed National Forest System Monitoring Policy (Forest Service Manual Chapter 2040). The Forest Service created a tool that can be used across all organizational levels of the National Forest System to track what monitoring information is needed, the frequency it is needed, the associated funding requirements, and ways in which monitoring activities can be streamlined to address multiple information needs. The use of this tool supports the strategic and efficient completion of monitoring commitments which will provide the Forest Service with the data needed to make informed land and resource management decisions.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The land management planning process, which includes assessments and monitoring programs, will continue to provide foundational direction about the Forest Service’s stewardship responsibilities to manage healthy National Forests and Grasslands that are resilient to changing climates and external factors. In FY 2025, land management planning, assessment, monitoring, and adaptive management will aim to provide a collaborative vision that ensures each NFS unit delivers sustainable ecosystem services to the public and Tribes, including benefits from old growth, timber, grazing, outdoor recreation, and many other values and services.

**RECREATION, HERITAGE, AND WILDERNESS**

Table FS-55. Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness Details Table (thousands of dollars)

Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness	2022 Actual	2022 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$47,300	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000	+\$3,000
Recoveries .....	1,933	1,549	1,065	1,294	
Balance Available, SOY .....	2,150	2,937	3,111	2,959	
Total Available .....	51,383	59,486	59,176	62,253	
Lapsing Balances.....	-107	-22	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-2,937	-3,111	-2,959	-2,490	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>48,339</b>	<b>56,353</b>	<b>56,217</b>	<b>59,763</b>	

**Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$3,000,000 in Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness, (\$55,000,000 in FY 2024). An increase allows the Forest Service to continue to offer diverse recreational opportunities on National Forest System Lands. Specifically, the increase enables the Forest Service to maintain or increase services at managed recreation sites, which include 31,000 campgrounds, picnic areas, trailheads, and day-use areas, which all contribute to high levels of visitor satisfaction.

**Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness continues to use the National Visitor Use Monitoring (NVUM) data to measure the economic impact and satisfaction of visitors to its lands. The NVUM data shows visiting demographics, spending patterns, preferences, and activities of the visitors. The Forest Service uses this information to allocate funds, develop Forest Service-wide policies, plan tourism, manage recreation, and report to various stakeholders, like the public. This program will initiate, assess, and continue to monitor several wilderness character monitoring projects.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**National Economic Contributions of Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness Visitation**

In FY 2022, the National Forests and Grasslands received an estimated total of 159 million visitors. These visitors spent more than \$12 billion in the vicinity of the National Forest System lands. This spending contributed approximately \$15.2 billion to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the U.S. economy. Furthermore, it supported about 177,800 jobs, both full-time and part-time.

**Wilderness Character Monitoring/Wilderness Stewardship Performance**

The Forest Service used an innovative approach to leverage \$1.5 million in Inflation Reduction Act funding with stewardship partners in every region to complete work in support of wilderness character monitoring (WCM) and wilderness stewardship performance. Nine local, regional, and national-level partners, including wilderness stewardship groups, Tribes, States, Civilian Conservation Corps (CCCs), and Agriculture Conservation Experienced Services, were funded to complete wilderness character narratives, WCM measure selection, and baseline assessments for more than 90 wilderness areas. Furthermore, the Forest Service completed almost forty new WCM baseline assessments.

**Wilderness Program Efforts to Address the Wildfire Crisis**

The Wilderness and Wild & Scenic River (WWSR) program organized three task teams to assist with the implementation of the Chief’s Wildfire Crisis Strategy (WCS) and assist with regions designing projects to address forest health for high-risk firesheds and WCS Landscapes. Composed of Washington Office staff, Regional WWSR Program Managers, and Fire Program staff, these task teams focused on specific issues or perceptions related to taking action in wilderness areas or in wild and scenic river corridors. Issues and perceptions were identified

through research by the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute and input from the Wildfire Risk Reduction Infrastructure Team. Products included: a document to assist in writing a successful Minimum Requirements Analysis Framework proposing to use prescribed fire in the wilderness; a “myth-busting” document to assist regional Prescribed Fire Implementation Teams; and review of manual direction to determine whether updates are needed to respond to the WCS.

**Administering Modernizing Access to Our Public Land Act (MAPLand) and Investing in Partnerships**

The Forest Service is committed to the MAPLand project, which aims to improve public access to outdoor recreation opportunities on Federal lands. These maps will further clarify where access does and doesn’t exist for the public, and they will likely point out some easements that were previously unknown. The information will serve as a guide for future access projects and potential acquisitions that may create more access. The program works with the Equity and Diversity staff, the Tribal Nation Relations staff, and the Stewart Udall Foundation to ensure that the project is inclusive and respectful of diverse perspectives and interests. The Forest Service has contracted assistance for the MAPLand teams to create and share metadata, which is data that describe the characteristics and quality of other data. The Forest Service has evaluated different platforms for sharing metadata, such as Geoplatform, which is a website that provides geospatial data and services.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness will continue to offer diverse recreation opportunities on National Forest System Lands, which span 193 million acres and feature various facilities, streams, trails, and ski areas. These opportunities boost the economy of underserved, Tribal Nations, rural, and local communities. To measure visitor satisfaction and economic impact, as well as to plan tourism, manage recreation, allocate funds, and report to stakeholders, the Forest Service will keep using the NVUM data system. This program will continue to protect over 450,000 heritage sites, manage 448 wilderness areas and 130 Wild and Scenic Rivers, and mobilize more than 86,000 volunteers to connect communities to their public lands.

**GRAZING MANAGEMENT**

Table FS-56. Grazing Management Details Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Grazing Management</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$5,800	\$6,300	\$6,300	\$6,300	-
Recoveries .....	398	287	211	301	
Balance Transfers.....	-84	-333	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	1,451	1,908	1,871	1,257	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>7,565</b>	<b>8,162</b>	<b>8,382</b>	<b>7,858</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-15	-4	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-1,908	-1,871	-1,257	-550	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>5,642</b>	<b>6,287</b>	<b>7,125</b>	<b>7,308</b>	

**Grazing Management – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Grazing Management program continues to implement a suite of activities to manage the 95 million acres of rangeland resources on National Forest System lands to maintain a sustainable supply of forage for livestock, sustain water resources, and provide suitable wildlife habitat and ecosystem services. This includes environmental impact analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act, the creation of sustainable range allotment management plans, and proper administration and monitoring of grazing permits and activities. Specific activities include issuance of grazing permits, processing permit waivers, preparation and processing of bills for fee collection, and developing annual operating instructions. The program supports compliance and effectiveness monitoring to ensure proper administration of grazing activities. Compliance monitoring determines if the terms and conditions of the grazing authorization are being properly implemented by the grazing permittee, with a focus on necessary actions to move toward or maintain healthy rangelands. Effectiveness monitoring determines whether the evaluated acres meet, are moving toward, or do not meet, resource objectives identified in the land management plan or other appropriate decision documents. Effectiveness monitoring allows managers to determine whether additional monitoring or adjustments in management are needed.

The Forest Service is continuing to plan for the challenges and opportunities associated with the future of rangeland management. This work includes evaluating current management practices, exploring new technologies and approaches, and consulting with internal and external stakeholders and Tribal Nations to better understand how the program can improve and adapt. It is expected that through this work, the Grazing Management program will be positioned to provide recommendations to Forest Service and USDA leadership on the future of the program.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**National Economic Contributions of Grazing Management**

In FY 2022, the total authorized Animal Unit Months on lands of the National Forest System were projected to be 6.5 million. The forage utilized by the permitted livestock contributed \$598,000 to the U.S. economy’s GDP. Additionally, it maintained approximately 13,700 jobs, encompassing both full-time and part-time positions.

**Targeted Grazing for Hazardous Fuels Reduction**

The Grazing Management program worked with other Forest Service program areas to fund projects that use grazing animals such as cows, goats, and sheep to graze and trample the dry vegetation that can start or spread wildfires on National Forest System lands. These projects are one aspect of the Forest Service’s Wildfire Crisis Strategy by using animals instead of prescribed burns. The cattle grazing stopped or slowed down the growth of brush and trees on grasslands, and smaller grazing animals ate and broke down the small plants and shrubs that could catch fire easily.



**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The management of 95 million acres of rangeland resources to maintain a sustainable supply of forage for livestock, sustain water resources, and provide suitable wildlife habitat and ecosystem services will remain Grazing Management's top priority. Program funds will focus on administering the nearly 6,000 permits for cattle, sheep, horses, and goats. In FY 2025, the Forest Service will implement key recommendations to incorporate emerging technology, science, and administrative flexibilities where possible to ensure proactive improvements in the Grazing Management program. Program goals will continue to be met with the support of partners, which include the Society for Range Management, Public Lands Council, Sustainable Rangeland Roundtable, and numerous local livestock producer organizations.

**HAZARDOUS FUELS**

Table FS-57. Hazardous Fuels Details Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Hazardous Fuels</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$187,388	\$207,000	\$207,000	\$207,000	-
Recoveries .....	5,234	4,582	5,000	5,000	
Balance Transfers.....	-91	-	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	7,186	15,103	14,264	13,576	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>199,717</b>	<b>226,685</b>	<b>226,264</b>	<b>225,576</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-158	-3	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-15,103	-14,264	-13,576	-4,512	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>184,456</b>	<b>212,418</b>	<b>212,688</b>	<b>221,064</b>	

**Hazardous Fuels – Status of Programs****Current Activities**

Hazardous fuels can be any vegetation type, including dead and down woody debris, on the ground, in the forest understory, or canopy that has the potential to increase the severity of fire or rate of fire spread. Hazardous fuels treatments include any removal or modification of vegetation, and dead or down fuels, that reduce the likelihood of ignition; reduce fire intensity, severity, and rate of spread; reduce potential damage; improve forest resilience for a changing climate; and limit the spread of invasive species and diseases. The Forest Service Hazardous Fuels program is working internally, and with partners, to treat landscapes on Tribal Nation, Federal, State, and private lands to reduce the risk for uncharacteristic wildfire by prioritizing treatments in the vicinity of communities, recreation sites, timber resources, water resources, critical habitat, and traditional homelands. The program is conducting trade-off analysis using scenario investment planning to distribute resources more efficiently to the highest priority areas. Working with community partners across boundaries allows the Forest Service to leverage resources and work efficiently to reduce wildfire risk while creating resilient landscapes and encouraging fire-adapted communities.

**Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership**

The Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership, or Joint Chiefs, authorized under 16 U.S.C. § 6592d, is a collaborative program between the Forest Service and USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) that provides resources to improve the health and resilience of forested landscapes across National Forest System lands and Tribal Nation, State, and private lands. The objective of the program is to reduce wildfire threats to producers and landowners, protect water quality and water supplies, and improve habitats for at-risk wildlife and fish species. Hazardous Fuels funding is allocated for Joint Chiefs' projects and activities, along with additional funding from other Forest Service programs. USDA invested \$17.7 million (\$12.7 million USFS and \$5 million NRCS) to implement 14 new projects across 13 States and Guam; and since FY 2014, USDA has invested over \$385 million on 124 projects across 42 States and 2 territories. Joint Chiefs projects treated more than 72,000 acres to reduce wildfire risk, including 35 high-priority firesheds in FY 2023. Since FY 2014, Joint Chief's projects have treated more than 1.1 million acres to reduce wildfire risk, including in 66 high-priority firesheds.

**Wood Innovations**

The Forest Service continues to expand the use of wood in the commercial, institutional, and multi-family building sector. Engineered wood products such as cross-laminated timber for these mid- to high-rise buildings are opening extensive new markets that are offsetting forest restoration and hazardous fuels removal costs. In addition to Wood Innovation Grants supporting the development of this sector, the Forest Service provides funding to WoodWorks, an organization that has been instrumental and highly effective in helping architects, engineers, and developers understand how to take advantage of this significant opportunity. Mass timber construction accelerator projects commenced in New York City and Atlanta, Georgia to expand mass timber design in key U.S.

markets. Recent data indicates that 1,860 mass timber buildings have been built or are under construction in the United States.<sup>32</sup> The opportunity to use mass timber to meet net zero carbon goals is substantial if the use of this material can be accelerated.

The Forest Service assists and collaborates with key cellulosic biofuels stakeholders in government and the private sector. The cellulosic biofuels sector has potential to expand significantly over the next five years, which would generate long-term demand for low value forest residues, small trees, and excess industrial wood residues from forest products manufacturing. Multiple companies are focusing on using wood waste and hazardous fuel removals as feedstock for biofuels.

Annual Wood Innovation Grants, as codified in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-334), known as the 2018 Farm Bill, fund diverse projects for public and private entities across the country. A second competitive funding program, the Community Wood Energy and Wood Innovation funding opportunity, referred to as Community Wood, was initiated in FY 2019 and is annually available. The intent of this program is to install thermally led community wood energy systems or to build new or expand existing innovative wood products facilities.

### **Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

#### **Hazardous Fuels Reduction**

The Forest Service treats an average of 1.3 million acres with an average of 4,500 prescribed fires across the entire National Forest System, each year. In addition to the foundational investments from the annually appropriated Hazardous Fuels funding, the Forest Service leveraged funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) and the Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169) to invest significantly into the Hazardous Fuels program within the 21 Wildfire Crisis Strategy<sup>33</sup> landscapes and broader to the overall hazardous fuels reduction effort. This investment led to an historic year for prescribed fire accomplishments and overall hazardous fuels acres treated, with six regions<sup>34</sup> exceeding their ten-year average for total hazardous fuels treated. Collectively, the Forest Service exceeded the ten-year average for hazardous fuels accomplishments by more than 500,000 acres. For more information on prescribed fire accomplishments, please see the Prescribed Fire special exhibit (Table 167).

The Forest Service provided funding to develop multiple national-level, or Keystone, agreements for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act implementation. These agreements, in addition to existing agreements with Forest Service partners, allow the Forest Service to execute priority projects more quickly and efficiently. Table FS-58 includes each Keystone agreement executed in FY 2023.

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<sup>32</sup> [Wood Worked Mapping Mass Timber.](#)

<sup>33</sup> [Confronting the Wildfire Crisis: A Strategy for Protecting Communities and Improving Resilience in America's Forests \(Wildfire Crisis Strategy\).](#)

<sup>34</sup> These six regions include Northern Region (01), Southwest Region (03), Intermountain Region (04), Pacific Northwest Region (06), Southern Region (08), and Eastern Region (09).

Table FS-58. Forest Service keystone agreements executed in FY 2023.

Partner	Agreement Summary
National Forest Foundation	Master stewardship agreement to aid in executing the Wildfire Crisis Strategy.
Mule Deer Foundation	Master stewardship agreement for habitat improvement and restoration while supporting the Wildfire Crisis Strategy.
National Wild Turkey Federation	Master stewardship agreement for habitat improvement and restoration while supporting the Wildfire Crisis Strategy.
Trout Unlimited	Participating agreement to support watershed restoration and resiliency.
The Nature Conservancy	Existing participating agreement for various activities; new agreement for prescribed fire cooperative burning.
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Participating agreement to support ecosystem restoration through the America the Beautiful Challenge.
The Student Conservation Association	Wildfire academy and prescribed fire workforce development program.

### Wood Innovations

Wood Innovations grants were used to fund 104 projects totaling \$48 million using a combination of annual appropriations, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58), and Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169) funding. These projects helped expand wood products and wood energy markets, supported traditional wood utilization projects, and promoted using wood as a construction material that supports the management of National Forest System lands and other lands with significant forest restoration needs, particularly those landscapes in need of hazardous fuels reduction. These investments included matching partner funding at more than \$54 million. Thirty-eight of the 104 projects will directly support the Wildfire Crisis Strategy's landscape investments and high-risk fireheds for both National Forest System lands and partners' landscapes. These investments strengthened markets for mass timber, softwood and hardwood lumber, renewable wood energy, biofuels, biochar, and other innovative wood products while expanding processing capacity for biomass and other wood products through this program.

Through the Forest Service's Community Wood competitive funding program, grants were provided for 19 projects in 14 states totaling \$18.0 million, while leveraging \$82 million of non-Federal investments. These projects helped support municipal governments, sawmills, paper manufacturing, and furniture manufacturing facilities that use locally sourced biomass or wood residues to generate renewable energy or manufacture innovative wood products, support forest management, and have a significant impact on the local economy; and create demand for low value woody biomass.

These grant programs have created momentum for mass timber construction. Today, we have twelve new mass timber plants and over 1,860 mass timber projects that are in design or have been completed in all 50 states. This movement towards mass timber construction is creating new opportunities for using wood from forest restoration and supporting rural economies while embracing a construction material that is a superior carbon storing material. Since the 2018 Farm Bill catalyzed these grant programs, the Wood Innovation and Community Wood Energy grants have supported 45 wood energy projects that use hundreds of thousands of green tons of residues or chips annually.

### Program Objectives for FY 2025

The Forest Service Washington Office staff will continue to work with each region to achieve the right level of support to maintain fire-adapted ecosystems, continue investments, and maximize opportunities to reduce wildfire risk in those key fireheds identified in the Wildfire Crisis Strategy. Specifically, the agency has set its FY 2025 national hazardous fuels goal at 4.0 million acres on National Forest System lands and adjacent lands. Achieving these goals is dependent on a broad range of enabling conditions related to litigation, timber markets, increased costs due to inflation, unpredictable situations such as wildfire conditions and other natural disasters,

and final budget appropriations from Congress. Any of these could impact our ability to achieve these accomplishment goals. Further, the agency expects increased treatment costs as the focus work is in areas that are more impactful in reducing wildfire risk, but that take longer to complete and are more complex.

Although the agency was able to achieve 4.4 million acres in FY 2023 with historic investments from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) and Inflation Reduction Act, treatments continue to be focused in the right places, and at the right time, to mitigate wildfire risk to communities, infrastructure, and natural resources. This focus does not always result in more acres treated. The agency will continue to focus on outcomes, rather than acres treated, and is working on more effective ways to communicate this internally and externally.

In FY 2025, the Wood Innovations program will continue to invest in the future of America's wood products and wood energy economies through wood innovation and will support the successful wood innovations, community wood and wood products infrastructure assistance grant programs. These programs deliver on the Forest Service's emphasis on innovative uses for wood and wood fiber materials and developing new products and markets for small and medium-sized trees, underutilized and low-value forestry residuals, and industrial wood residues. The programs will support expanded processing capacity for wood products manufacturing and renewable wood energy. Focus work will include mass timber, renewable wood energy, biofuels, biochar, and other innovative wood products.

**FOREST PRODUCTS**

Table FS-59. Forest Products Details Table (thousands of dollars)

Forest Products	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations.....	\$38,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$41,000	+\$1,000
Recoveries .....	2,366	1,961	2,220	2,345	
Balance Transfers.....	-3,629	-591	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	5,639	2,502	2,809	3,602	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>42,376</b>	<b>43,872</b>	<b>45,029</b>	<b>46,947</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-23	-3	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-2,502	-2,809	-3,602	-3,521	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>39,851</b>	<b>41,060</b>	<b>41,427</b>	<b>43,426</b>	

**Forest Products – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$1,000,000 in Forest Products, (\$40,000,000 in FY 2024). An increase of \$1,000,000 supports additional investment in partnership agreements or contracts to fund the activities needed to plan and prepare timber sales such as timber sale layout and design, boundary marking, and natural resources and archaeological surveys. The Forest Products program is the foundational funding source that maintains the Forest Service’s ability to sell timber, which can be a critical component to sustaining local rural communities.

**Forest Products – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Forest Products program promotes productive and sustainable use of National Forest System lands by supporting healthy and resilient forests and communities. This program benefits local rural communities through the sale of billions of board feet of timber annually, in particularly those communities that have a timber industry presence. The Forest Products program fosters local and national level partnerships with organizations such as the National Wild Turkey Federation, Trout Unlimited, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, National Forest Foundation, American Forests, American Forest Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, and other leading national partners through its stewardship program, and through its coordination with county, State, Tribal Nation, and community partners to meet reductions in wildfire risk and improved forest health conditions.

The program plans, prepares and executes timber sales and stewardship contracts and agreements to accomplish natural resource goals. This involves the development of proposed sales and harvest actions across thousands of acres within large scale projects, identifying alternative areas for consideration, and the National Environmental Policy Act environmental impact analysis in determining how best to meet long-term forest health and desired condition objectives. In addition, this work includes determining the volume and value of the trees to be removed; timber sale layout and design, temporary and permanent road construction, and timber sale contract and permit preparation that typically takes from two to three years to complete.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**National Economic Contributions of Forest Products**

In FY 2022, the total volume of timber harvested amounted to approximately 425 million cubic feet. This volume included a variety of products such as sawtimber, posts and poles, fuelwood, and others. The harvested material was processed in facilities like sawmills. This activity supported around 47,200 jobs, both full-time and part-time, and contributed \$5.2 billion to the GDP of the U.S. economy.

**Timber Volume Sold**

Current reporting shows that the Forest Service most recently offered and sold approximately 3.143 billion board feet through the treatment of 551,144 acres. This was an increase from the 2.93 billion board feet sold in 2022, for a total FY 2023 value of nearly \$155 million. Sales included more than 700 contracts greater than \$10,000, nearly

120,000 small timber contracts and permits, and over 23,000 special forest product permits. Various special forest management program funding sources contributed to the 3.143 billion board feet, which included salvage sale funds, and other permanent and trust funds. Of particular note, timber volume using Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program funding was over 87 million board feet (MMBF); the Good Neighbor Authority was 230 MMBF; and stewardship contracting and agreements were 991 MMBF.

### **Tribal Nation Partnerships**

The Forest Service has been working with Tribes to give them more control over their lands and resources, as authorized by the 2018 Farm Bill, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (P.L. 93-638) and the Tribal Nation Forest Protection Act (P.L. 108-278). These laws allow Tribes to enter into self-governance agreements with the Forest Service and to propose and implement projects to protect and restore Tribal Nation forests and grasslands. The Forest Service received more than \$12 million from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to fund 21 Tribal Nation projects that involved 56 Tribal Nations. These projects included activities such as managing vegetation, reducing fire risk, and conducting surveys of cultural and plant resources on indigenous landscapes. The Forest Service allocated \$33.4 million to work with the States and Tribes on Wildfire Crisis Strategy landscapes, which are areas that need urgent attention to prevent or mitigate wildfires.

### **Collaboration and Restoration through Stewardship**

The Forest Service has been using the stewardship authority to work with partners, like the National Forest Foundation, on long-term projects that improve forest and grassland conditions and provide economic and social benefits. The stewardship authority allows the Forest Service to enter into agreements and contracts with partners for up to 20 years, depending on the location and the needs of the project. Through this authority, the Forest Service can spread the cost of cancellation over multiple years, making it easier to budget and plan.

The table in the special exhibit section shows some of the achievements of the stewardship authority from FY 2019 to FY 2023. These achievements include different types of activities that address multiple land management objectives, such as reducing hazardous fuels, improving wildlife habitat, and restoring watersheds. These activities produce forest products for various uses and create jobs that support local communities. The Forest Service relies on partnerships to accomplish these goals, especially as it implements the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which provide additional funding and flexibility for forest and grassland management. The Forest Service has established several national-level agreements with partners to carry out the BIL and IRA projects, as well as other activities authorized by Congress. Many of these agreements are master agreements, which allow regions, landscapes, and units to tailor them to their specific needs and projects. The Forest Service has used the stewardship authority to work with three national partners, DOI, states, and Tribes on Wildfire Crisis Strategy landscapes, which are areas that have high fire risk and potential impacts on people and infrastructure. These national partners collaborate with local stakeholders to accelerate treatments in these areas.

The table in the special exhibit section shows the acres awarded, the number of contracts or agreements awarded, and the volume awarded from FY 2019 to FY 2023. The number of contracts or agreements awarded includes those where forest products are exchanged for service activities as well as those where excess stewardship contracting funds are used for activities without the exchange of forest products.

### **Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The Forest Products program aims to promote productive and sustainable use of National Forest System lands by offering and selling 3.2 billion board feet. To achieve this, the program will invest in ongoing partnerships, and continued innovation, use new authorities, and coordinate with the hazardous fuels program to ensure that the forests are safe and healthy. The Forest Service will leverage partnerships through National Keystone agreements, and other local and regional partners to add further capacity within the Wildfire Crisis Strategy Landscapes. In the western states, Forest Products will focus on reducing the risk of wildfires by removing hazardous trees along roadsides, repairing roads, and managing fuels. The Forest Service will collaborate with State, Tribal Nation, and County partners to improve the health and resilience of watersheds and forests on National Forest System lands. The program will use the Good Neighbor Authority, which allows States to perform restoration and management

activities on these lands. The program will further strengthen work with Tribes through the Tribal Forest Protection Act and the 2018 Farm Bill provisions related to self-governance agreements. Lastly, the Forest Service will expand the use of the Stewardship Program, which allows the Forest Service to contract with private entities for forest restoration and improvement projects, including long-term contracts of up to 20 years.



**VEGETATION AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT**

Table FS-60. Vegetation and Watershed Management Details Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Vegetation and Watershed Management</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$32,986	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$33,000	+\$1,000
Recoveries .....	1,558	1,050	1,585	2,047	
Balance Transfers.....	-	-445	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	5,947	3,780	4,322	5,686	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>40,491</b>	<b>36,385</b>	<b>37,907</b>	<b>40,733</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-26	-5	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-3,780	-4,322	-5,686	-5,703	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>36,685</b>	<b>32,058</b>	<b>32,221</b>	<b>35,030</b>	

**Vegetation and Watershed Management – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$1,000,000 in Vegetation and Watershed Management, (\$32,000,000 in FY 2024). An increase of \$1,000,000 assists with the implementation of the newly established Forest Service National Post-Disaster Recovery program which has been created to formulate innovative solutions through shared field learning experiences, best practices, protocols, training, policy recommendations, and other approaches. The expected outcome will be an integrated and enhanced ability to significantly advance post-disaster coordination, recovery, and resilience with communities, partners, and other agencies in a manner that mitigates and manages impacts before, during, and post disasters.

**Vegetation and Watershed Management – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Vegetation and Watershed Management program is focused on improving and maintaining landscape and watershed conditions through preventing and controlling invasive plants, maintaining, or improving soil quality, establishing non-tree native plants for pollinators and diverse native plant communities, developing partnerships that benefit youth, Justice40 communities and Tribes, installing aquatic organism passages, and improving the condition of watersheds. The Forest Service prioritizes work in the areas with the biggest impact, such as high-risk fireheds, areas contributing towards threatened and endangered species recovery, priority watersheds identified in the Watershed Condition Framework<sup>35</sup>, watersheds that serve as source watersheds for municipal water supply, and include key adaptations needed for climate-smart management. The program supports priority actions for Wild Horse and Burro management.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Watershed Condition Framework (WCF) Modernization**

The Biological & Physical Resources (BPR) staff led a modernization of WCF processes to be consistent with the 2018 Farm Bill and incorporate lessons learned from the first ten years of implementation. Tasks completed include: (1) a final draft of the modernized Watershed Condition Classification model and rulesets ready to be field tested. This new model includes an indicator for considering Groundwater-dependent ecosystems (GDE) as required by the 2018 Farm Bill; (2) an updated electronic Watershed Restoration Action Plan (WRAP) template to be incorporated into the Watershed Condition Assessment Tracking Tool (WCATT) database in. This electronic template will improve the efficiency of WRAP development by making it possible for the database to create a WRAP document based on information entered by the user rather than the user creating a separate WRAP document; (3) guidance for “Emergency Designation” of priority watersheds for those watersheds affected by wildfire or other natural disasters [direction for this task came from the 2018 Farm Bill]; (4) guidance for a pre-

<sup>35</sup> [Watershed Condition Framework](#).

approval “peer review” process for WRAPs to ensure the planned essential projects will maintain or improve watershed conditions once implemented.

#### **Invasive Species Ambassador Training**

The program expanded Citizen Science support and developed new technology and network ability for invasive species detection, prevention, and control. In addition, the program entered into partnerships with key stakeholders to expand work on and around National Forests and National Grasslands, and other landownerships. Further expansion of the program was undertaken to build local capacity for managing invasive species including the development of specialized community engagement and partnership development training to establish Wild Spotter Invasive Species Ambassadors through a collaborative partnership with university programs and industry. The inaugural training course targets participants in the Tribal Nation, non-governmental organizations, county, State, and Federal sectors. Trained “Ambassadors” will serve at a local level to improve collaborations to find and map invasive species (any invasive plants, pathogens, vertebrates, or invertebrates) across the National Forest System and the adjacent landscapes and landownerships. Data collected is transferred periodically into the Natural Resource Manager (NRM) Forest Activity Tracking System (FACTS) survey/inventory dataset for invasive species on National Forests

#### **Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The Vegetation and Watershed Management Program will continue to support the implementation of the Forest Service Wildfire Crisis Strategy and the Administration’s “America the Beautiful” initiative. Program activities will address priority revegetation needs, control the spread of invasive species, and advance climate-smart vegetation management. Program investments will focus on making improvements to the conditions of priority and source watersheds, as well as improve water quality and quantity, along with updates to the Terrestrial Assessment to enable continued reporting of ecological effects of ecological management activities. The program will continue co-investment with critical partners, such as Trout Unlimited, to reach the Forest Service’s goal of improving the condition of priority watersheds. These significant endeavors will be made possible by the continued commitment of Forest Service partners, as well as supplemental funding provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act.

In FY 2025, the Forest Service will continue to strengthen coordination with States, Tribes, local communities, private landowners, and partners in the public and private sector, working to advance the goals set in the Forest Service Tribal Action Plan and Equity Action Plan. The Forest Service will continue to implement the National Revegetation Effort, including implementation of the National Seed Strategy, of the Infrastructure and Jobs Act through this program area.

#### **Program Evaluations**

The Forest Service assessed Best Management Practices (BMP) implementation and effectiveness at more than 400 sites. This information is used for three primary outcomes: 1) improve protection of aquatic and riparian resources through adaptive management; 2) document the use and effectiveness of BMP for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analyses, supporting or strengthening environmental analyses for priority timber sale and fuels management projects, particularly landscape scale projects; and 3) to share data documenting compliance with the State Nonpoint Source Management Plan, as directed by the Clean Water Act. In addition, the development of a new BMP monitoring database application was completed. This new database improves the efficiency of data storage and analysis.

**WILDLIFE AND FISH HABITAT MANAGEMENT**

Table FS-61. Wildlife and Fish Habitat Management Details Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Wildlife and Fish Habitat Management</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$22,000	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$25,000	+\$1,000
Recoveries .....	1,065	279	221	552	
Balance Transfers.....	-210	-185	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	3,773	1,221	1,910	1,568	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>26,628</b>	<b>25,315</b>	<b>26,131</b>	<b>27,120</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-11	-4	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-1,221	-1,910	-1,568	-1,085	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>25,396</b>	<b>23,401</b>	<b>24,563</b>	<b>26,035</b>	

**Wildlife and Fish Habitat Management – Justifications of Changes**

An increase of \$1,000,000 in Wildlife and Fish Habitat Management, (\$24,000,000 in FY 2024). An increase of \$1,000,000 aids management, protection, and the ability to improve the habitats of various plants and animals on National Forest System lands. With this increase, the program will continue to restore and conserve habitats, especially for those species that are endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Additionally, this increase supports partnering with Tribes, States, other Federal agencies, and non-governmental organizations to coordinate and collaborate on habitat enhancement projects that improve ecological connectivity and movement for fish and wildlife across different jurisdictions.

**Wildlife and Fish Habitat Management – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program manages habitat for fish and wildlife and contributes to maintaining the ecological conditions needed to support the diversity, viability, and productivity of plant and animal communities in the Nation’s forests and grasslands. Wildlife and Fish Habitat Management is presently working with select key partners through national-level agreements to support the implementation of the Wildfire Crisis Strategy and activities that focus on landscapes that are at high risk for catastrophic wildfire, along with other priority areas. The partnership with the Mule Deer Foundation is an example of where Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funds and appropriated dollars are being leveraged to improve the resilience of national forest lands to potentially damaging wildfire while improving habitat and migration corridors for elk, deer, pronghorn antelope, and other wildlife. This agreement, as well as other similar agreements, allows the Forests and Grasslands to collaborate directly with primary partners to cooperatively develop prioritized projects with input from local conservation groups, state fish and wildlife agencies, and local communities that meet multiple restoration objectives and needs. Because of the resources available through this agreement, the Mule Deer Foundation is closely working with the two Colorado national forests – the Grand Mesa, Uncompaghre, and Gunnison Forest and the Pike San Isabel, Comanche, and Cimarron Forest to design, plan, and implement projects that will harvest timber and mechanically chop and shred densely overgrown areas to reduce hazardous fuels and enhance the quality of wildlife habitat.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Western Big Game Habitat**

Forest Service contributed \$350,000 towards the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation’s (NFWF) Western Big Game Seasonal Habitat and Migration Corridors Initiative. NFWF leveraged these monies with multiple corporate and Federal partners generating approximately \$3.9 million for on-the-ground conservation. Thirteen projects were awarded to 11 organizations to restore habitat and improve migration corridors across 11 western states. These projects generated an additional \$9.2 million in matching contributions (either in-kind services or cash) resulting in total conservation benefits valued at nearly \$13.1 million. The awarded projects help to conserve critical big game winter range and migration corridors in Tribal Nation and state-identified focal areas within Arizona, California,

Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming. Implemented projects benefit elk, deer, and pronghorn antelope which migrate and utilize seasonal ranges spanning Federal, Tribal Nation, State, and privately-owned lands. These projects removed or improved 890 miles of fencing to wildlife-friendly standards; improved management on 903,000 acres of rangelands; restored 218,614 acres of habitat on public, private, and Tribal Nation lands; put conservation easements in place affecting 175,410 acres; and treated 13,000 acres for non-desirable, invasive plants.

#### **Aquatic Organism Passage**

The program's focus included improving Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) on National Forest System lands and managing habitats to ensure aquatic and terrestrial species' persistence, sustainability, and habitat connectivity. Restoring unimpeded fish and aquatic organism passage is one of the Forest Service's key strategies for adapting to a changing climate. Allowing fish and other aquatic species to move and find colder water, healthy spawning habitats, and refuge from floods and drought provides ecological resilience while building more flood-resilient stream crossings to protect public access and transportation networks that communities need. The Forest Service and its partners upgraded or removed 31 road-stream crossings to reconnect over 35 miles of upstream aquatic habitat. Of the nearly \$2.6 million invested to achieve this conservation milestone, approximately \$1 million was leveraged by multiple Federal, State, Tribal Nation, and non-governmental organizations.

#### **Program Objectives for FY 2025**

Wildlife and Fish Habitat Management will continue to manage, protect, and improve the habitats of various plants and animals on the National Forest System lands. These habitats are essential for the survival and well-being of many species, as well as for the provision of ecological services and benefits to people, such as clean water and recreation. The program faces many challenges, such as habitat loss, climate change, and invasive species, that threaten the health and diversity of wildlife and fish populations. With FY 2025 appropriated dollars, this program will continue to restore and conserve habitats, especially for those species that are endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Additionally, this program will work with other Federal, Tribal Nation, and State agencies, and non-governmental organizations to coordinate and collaborate on habitat enhancement projects that improve ecological connectivity and movement for fish and wildlife across different jurisdictions.

**COLLABORATIVE FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION**

Table FS-62. Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Details Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$28,000	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$34,000	+\$2,000
Recoveries .....	270	1,941	2,000	1,700	
Balance Available, SOY .....	2,052	7,619	8,202	5,486	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>30,322</b>	<b>41,560</b>	<b>42,202</b>	<b>41,186</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-65	-143	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-7,619	-8,202	-5,486	-2,059	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>22,638</b>	<b>33,215</b>	<b>36,716</b>	<b>39,127</b>	

**Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$2,000,000 in Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund, (\$32,000,000 in FY 2024). An increase of \$2,000,000 allows the Forest Service to onboard the previously approved, but unfunded, West Central Idaho Initiative project. With continued leveraging from BIL, the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program will support 18 funded projects in 11 states in FY 2025.

**Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

Collaborative Forest Landscape Scale Restoration (CFLR) uses cooperative, science-based approaches to enhance forest and watershed health, reduce risk from uncharacteristic wildfires, and provide economic benefits to rural communities. Under the CFLR program, local partners collaborate to expand the scale of restoration and encourage community support and involvement. CFLR continues to invest in restoration to support local rural communities through the production of forest products, such as timber and biomass, and the creation and maintenance of jobs through the restoration economy.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**CFLR Projects Implementation**

Integrated restoration activities are planned, implemented, and monitored through a collaborative process between the Forest Service and local communities. There are currently 17 ongoing CFLR projects in ten states.

Table FS-63. Current Collaborative Forest Landscape Scale Restoration Projects Names and Descriptions.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>State(s)</b>	<b>Project Description</b>
Shortleaf-Bluestem Community Project	Arkansas; Oklahoma	Large-scale restoration of 569,000 acres of shortleaf pine- bluestem grass communities. Restoration activities will focus on thinning and prescribed burns to reduce stand density and improve habitat for threatened and endangered species such as the Red-cockaded Woodpecker.
Dinkey Collaborative	California	Project area is 154,000-acres that sits in the epicenter of unprecedented fuel loading due to the severity of Southern Sierra tree mortality.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Project Name	State(s)	Project Description
North Yuba River Watershed	California	The project area is 356,000 acres. The North Yuba River watershed provides clean water for homes, communities, businesses, and ecosystems. There is an urgent need to address high wildfire hazard potential and areas more susceptible to insects, disease, and drought. Treatments will promote forest conditions that are more resilient fire conditions while restoring watershed health and native biodiversity.
Western Klamath Mountains Fire and Fire Resiliency Project	California	The project area is 1.2 million acres. Treatments will include preparing the landscape for frequent, smaller, lower-intensity wildfires to protect communities and critical transportation routes. This work will increase watershed health and ecosystem resilience and includes areas traditionally managed by the Karuk Tribe.
Southwest Colorado Restoration Initiative	Colorado	The project area is 1.9 million acres that include private, municipal, state, and Federal lands. The project aims to promote resilience, enabling the area to adapt to future disturbance while retaining ecosystem function, productivity, and ecosystem services. The strategy is to enhance the resilience of critical watersheds, wildlife and aquatic habitats, community infrastructure, economic drivers, and forest conditions.
Rio Chama	Colorado; New Mexico	The project area is 3.8 million acres and includes lands managed by Tribes, states, the Bureau of Land Management, and private landowners. This collective vision to reduce wildfire risk has galvanized communities in this landscape. The project will increase resilience to catastrophic wildfire and other natural disturbance events, sustaining healthy forests and watersheds for future generations.
Missouri Pine Oak Woodlands	Missouri	The project area is 445,000 acres and includes Missouri’s largest contiguous forest and designated scenic riverways with important conservation implications for the long-term survival of birds and aquatic life.
Zuni Mountains	New Mexico	The project area is 253,000 acres. Activities will focus on increasing resilience to climate change, uncharacteristic crown fires, and support healthy communities and wildlife habitat. This project provides a long-term supply of wood for businesses and creates a suite of restoration-oriented businesses.
Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project	Oregon	The project area is 258,000 acres and includes high-value landscapes with a broad array of collaborative support. Efforts focus on reducing high-severity wildfire in the wildland-urban interface, protecting watersheds, preserving recreation areas, and providing jobs and wood products.
Lakeview Stewardship	Oregon	The project area is 859,000 acres that is important to rural communities for recreation and forestry sector jobs. The goal is to create a healthy, resilient, and functional forest landscape maintained with fire to mitigate the threat of high-severity wildfires to dry forests, habitat, water quality and communities.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Project Name	State(s)	Project Description
Northern Blues Forest Restoration	Oregon	The project area is 10.4 million acres and will reduce wildfire risk and prepare the landscape to safely manage fire. The area has a strong history of successful cross-boundary, all-lands restoration collaboration.
Rogue Basin Landscape Restoration Project	Oregon	The project area is 4.6 million acres. The proposed work will accelerate urgently needed restoration treatments to meet long-term, collaboratively developed strategic goals of wildfire risk reduction, landscape resiliency, improved wildlife habitat, watershed protection, adaptation, and social and economic resilience.
Southern Blues Restoration Coalition	Oregon	The project area is 1 million acres that suffer from departed fire regimes, species composition, and forest stand densities that threaten to destroy key habitat, old growth, important aquatic resources, and private property due to uncharacteristically severe wildfires and the effects of a changing climate. The overarching goal is restoration at a scale that will help native wildlife thrive, create forests that are resilient to climate change, and support the health, safety, and prosperity of local communities.
Northeast Washington Forest Vision 2020	Washington	The project area is 916,000 acres. Treatments will focus on aligning with Washington’s 20-year Forest Health Action Plan. The project will restore forested landscapes and watersheds to prepare for future wildfires and the effects of climate change. The overarching goals are to restore forests and habitats, reduce hazardous fuels, use woody biomass and small-diameter trees, and reduce the costs of treatments and wildfire management.
North Central Washington	Washington	The project area is 1.1 million acres. Treatments will focus on aligning with Washington’s 20-year Forest Health Action Plan. The approach strategically places treatment to reduce wildfire risk for some of the most vulnerable cities and communities in the Pacific Northwest so that multiple tools and tactics can be used to manage the fires safely and appropriately. Work will include fuels treatments, stream and fisheries improvements, and wildlife habitat restoration.
Pisgah Restoration Initiative	North Carolina	The landscape strategy will achieve four collaboratively developed priority outcomes: reducing wildfire risk, restoring fire-adapted forests, restoring rare ecosystems, and promoting healthy forests and watersheds.
Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration and Hazardous Fuels Reduction	Mississippi	The project goals are to maintain existing longleaf ecosystems, re-establish longleaf pine forests, return fire regimes and restore native understory plant communities, reduce hazardous fuels that could lead to catastrophic wildfire, and respond to climate change by re-establishing ecosystems resilient to climate extremes and suited for carbon storage. The desired outcome is a healthy and diverse collection of native plant and animal communities that support ecological, economic, and social sustainability.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

**CFLR Projects Implementation**

The Western Central Idaho Initiative that will be newly funded in FY 2025 is a statewide priority landscape. It provides opportunities for watershed and vegetation restoration projects and allows the forests to prioritize work, bolster social support, and efficiently use resources. Agreements are in place to support coordinated work to reduce wildfire risk to communities and wildfire habitats, improve watershed function, and benefit the local economy.

For some projects, the funding identified in Table FS-63 is a combination of annual appropriated and BIL (\$40803). In addition, six projects have been approved by the Secretary, but not yet funded (Table-63), and an additional four projects that have been recommended by the CFLR Federal Advisory Committee, but not yet approved by the Secretary.



**MINERALS AND GEOLOGY MANAGEMENT**

Table FS-64. Minerals and Geology Management Details Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Minerals and Geology Management</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$12,450	\$14,500	\$14,500	\$14,500	-
Recoveries .....	527	673	1,196	1,011	
Transfers In .....	5,683	-	-	-	
Balance Transfers.....	-751	21,017	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	4,953	8,576	28,973	13,401	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>22,862</b>	<b>44,766</b>	<b>44,669</b>	<b>28,912</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-34	-3	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-8,576	-28,973	-13,401	-1,446	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>14,252</b>	<b>15,790</b>	<b>31,268</b>	<b>27,466</b>	

**Minerals and Geology Management – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

Minerals and Geology Management’s Locatable Minerals program area is working with USDA to develop a path forward in meeting the Nation’s critical minerals needs on NFS lands using direct funding to process critical minerals proposals and provide certified mineral examiner expertise on those and other locatable minerals projects in the Forest Service. One designated Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act project on the Coronado National Forest will utilize current expertise to assist in the higher-level review of a complex plan of operations.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**National Economic Contributions of Minerals and Geology Management**

The production of leasable, locatable, and saleable mineral materials on National Forest System lands was valued at an estimated \$7.8 billion in FY 2022. The production of these mineral and energy resources contributed to the U.S. economy by supporting around 47,600 jobs, both full-time and part-time, and adding \$9.4 billion to the GDP.

**Regulatory Reform**

Minerals and Geology Management advanced several USDA priority regulatory reforms to align policy with new legislative authorities, reduced regulatory burdens, provided greater resource protection, and expanded early public involvement. These actions resulted in expedited permit processing for critical mineral projects, cost recovery, and enhanced environmental protection from added mitigation provisions.

**Leasable Minerals**

The Forest Service used \$19 million of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) (BIL) funding to plug and reclaim orphaned wells on NFS land. In support of this effort, LMG led efforts to execute Cost Share Agreements with Texas, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky to address orphan wells involving non-Federal minerals beneath NFS land. Orphan well remediation addressed Forest Service priorities to remediate and reduce legacy pollution, protect watersheds, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote safe access for recreationists and provide jobs and other economic benefits to underserved communities.

**Geologic Resources**

In partnership with the Geological Society of America (GSA), Geologic Resources managed the Forest Service GeoCorps America intern program which supported 21 projects and associated intern positions on Forest field units. These intern positions significantly leveraged the capacity of field units to accomplish geologic projects. The Geologic Resources program area collaborated with the Enterprise program in implementing an agreement through 2026 to conduct Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem (GDE) inventory surveys on selected National Forests and Grasslands. Eight GDE surveys have been completed on national forests, which have been projected to

document over 175 GDEs based on past inventories. This cooperative intra-agency inventory initiative will significantly leverage WO LMG and Enterprise program resources.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The National Forest System will continue to contribute to the adequate and sustainable supply of domestic mineral and advance the health, productivity, and overall well-being of all Americans. This program will continue to provide benefits to society originating from mineral extraction to produce metals, alloys, and plastics, and the energy used to make, transport, and power modern American life. The program anticipates securing and protecting unique geologic resources, such as fossils, caves, groundwater, wildlife, and vegetation habitats in groundwater dependent ecosystems, and places of scientific, cultural, and recreational interest. The program will continue to protect people and the environment by monitoring and mitigating geologic hazards, like landslides, and through the reclamation of surface resources for multiple recreational uses. Funding will be used for project support from LMG and growing the certified mineral examiner program to ensure availability on critical minerals projects.

**LAND USE AUTHORIZATION AND ACCESS**

Table FS-65. Land Use Authorization and Access Details Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Land Use Authorization and Access</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$6,064	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	-
Recoveries .....	422	396	410	410	
Transfers out .....	-495	-	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	1,620	759	1,384	1,763	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>7,611</b>	<b>9,155</b>	<b>9,794</b>	<b>10,173</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-	-6	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-759	-1,384	-1,763	-1,526	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>6,852</b>	<b>7,765</b>	<b>8,031</b>	<b>8,647</b>	

**Land Use Authorization and Access – Status of Programs****Current Activities**

The Land Use Authorization and Access program supports the economic wellbeing of rural and urban communities through improving and providing accurate landownership records and mapping products. The program permits critical infrastructure to remote areas that expands to metropolitan communities hundreds of miles away, by working across boundaries and working with stakeholders and partners to permit sustainable and reliable infrastructures to keep communities safe.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress****Mapping Powerlines for 10-Year Wildfire Crisis Strategy**

Forest Service lands, Geographic Information System (GIS), and energy program staff co-developed the Northern Region (01) Powerline Assessment and Resilient Energy Corridor Strategy, an innovative approach to meet the Forest Service's 10-Year Wildfire Crisis Strategy. The project mapped over 6,000 miles of transmission and distribution lines, managed by 60 utility companies providing power to half a million users in 50 communities. This mapping enabled industry and the Forest Service to proactively identify opportunities for treatments earlier in the planning process, facilitated better coordination between the Forest Service and utility companies and safeguarded reliable energy for surrounding communities.

**Partnerships in Land Conservation**

The Forest Service advanced the Administration's 30x30 Initiative by directly addressing land valuation and land conservation partnership consistency, efficiency, and timeliness, needs identified by Congress in Report language of the FY 2023 Omnibus bill. The Forest Service Lands staff convened dialogues with Forest Service appraisers and regional leadership, conservation partners, and DOI and DOJ counterparts, to better understand challenges and identify solutions. As a result, the Forest Service modified policy to redirect decision-making authority to line officers and directors; executed procurement changes reducing contracting times from months to days; established a Deputy Chief Appraiser to enhance appraisal oversight; and directed regions to initiate early due diligence for projects, reducing project completion by six months to a year.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, this program will continue to ensure the productive and sustainable use of National Forest System lands through various land and natural resource management activities in support of the social and economic wellbeing of rural and urban communities. The program's focus will be on securing and protecting National Forest System lands and land interests. The Forest Service will survey lands in advance of timber sales, acquire rights-of-way, and administer road agreements necessary for public and Forest Service access to complete activities, including timber production, transportation, recreation, and utility inspection.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS**

Table FS-66. Law Enforcement Operations Details Table (thousands of dollars)

Law Enforcement Operations	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$19,505	\$19,505	\$19,505	\$21,005	+\$1,500
Recoveries .....	1,813	895	878	1,195	
Balance Transfers.....	-2,179	-	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	5,189	2,023	1,204	216	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>24,328</b>	<b>22,423</b>	<b>21,587</b>	<b>22,416</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-41	-1	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-2,023	-1,204	-216	-224	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>22,264</b>	<b>21,218</b>	<b>21,371</b>	<b>22,192</b>	

**Law Enforcement Operations – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$1,500,000 in Law Enforcement and Investigations (LEI), (\$19,505,000 in FY 2024). A \$1,500,000 increase buffers inflationary fleet vehicle costs, including needed maintenance associated with wear and tear for law enforcement vehicles, and specialized modifications for Law Enforcement compliance. Providing and maintaining an appropriate law enforcement fleet is critical to the Forest Service’s ability to enforce regulations that protect natural resources and the public, and to support partnerships for detection, extraction, and destruction of illegal cannabis growth on Forest Service lands. Lastly, this increase further supports the ongoing plans to implement an International Operations Division for enforcement of the Lacey Act.

**Law Enforcement Operations – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Forest Service Law Enforcement and Investigations (LEI) program’s primary objective is to prevent, detect, and criminally investigate violations of federal laws and regulations pertaining to the protection of natural resources and federal property. Equally important is providing public and employee safety, resource protection, enforcement of U.S. Criminal Law, and enforcement expertise to managers of other Agencies. The LEI program works with local law enforcement and other State and Federal agencies providing prevention, detection, and criminal investigation of violations of Federal laws and regulations for the protection of visitors to National Forest System lands, Forest Service employees, and natural and cultural resources. Officers respond to common incidents such as resource damage, looting from cultural sites, theft, alcohol and drug use, unauthorized motor vehicle use, illegal occupancy or exceeding stay limits, trespassing, and destruction of natural and cultural resources. Law enforcement duties include civil and criminal investigations such as arson, drug possession, smuggling and manufacturing of illegal or illicit substances, thefts, and assaults. LEI officers patrol the Rainbow Family of Living Light annual gathering. Currently, one officer patrols on average 370,000 acres of NFS lands. This coverage area is larger than optimal due to vacancies.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Partnerships**

Law Enforcement Operations has 440 cooperative law enforcement agreements in place and outlaid \$4.9 million to reimburse cooperators for law enforcement services performed on NFS lands. Partners who receive these agreements include State and local law enforcement agencies. Partners are primarily local Sheriff Departments and those who perform law enforcement services on NFS lands.

**Detection of Trespass Cultivation**

LEI has continued testing the use of novel models to detect marijuana cultivation sites on NFS lands not broadly used in prior years. Application of these models is still undergoing vetting processes; however, LEI believes FY 2023 data demonstrates efficiency and accuracy of detection, which will increase in upcoming years if supported. One

detection model example being tested is the Hyperspectral Imagery Model. This model uses fixed-wing overflights and has successfully been used to identify unique signatures associated with trespass cultivation activities. Specific signatures from commonly used cultivation infrastructure, e.g., irrigation lines, and plastic tarps, normally found at cultivation sites are detected and georeferenced providing potential locations of cultivation sites. The Hyperspectral Imagery Model provides clusters of multiple target signatures, which have been ground-proven to be indicative of the magnitude and extensive landscape footprint of these cultivation sites.

Four percent of three National Forests underwent Hyperspectral Imagery Model overflight imagery collection, generating 136 unique spectral signatures. Of these 136 unique target hits, 77 locations were cultivation sites the Forest Service-LEI had no prior record of within 22 years of database collections (FY 2000 through FY 2022). Of these 77 new locations, seven resulted in active cultivation sites requiring enforcement and eradication activities. These flights resulted in a success rate of 57 percent of signatures resulting in a detection, along with the detection of sites that had a minimum of public land water diversion annual rate of 109 million gallons. Targeted reconnaissance to fly these 136 locations was less than 5.5 hours of rotary-wing flight. In comparison to typical reconnaissance flight patterns for these 136 points, it is estimated that over \$120,000 of personnel, and flight costs were saved. Safety costs for flight teams were not evaluated; however, the reduction of flight time to perform the same mission is a crucial success component of any flight safety program. The Hyperspectral Imagery Model demonstrates an increase in the following: detection rates, safety parameters and fiscal savings. It illustrated that the previous threat of cultivation measures using current and historical approaches is likely underestimating the threat of this activity on Federal public lands.

#### **Program Objectives for FY 2025**

Lacey Act Timber Interdiction Membership Board Enforcement Resource (TIMBER) Work Group

In FY 2025, LEI plans to implement an International Operations Division for enforcement of the Lacey Act. This division will include a Special Agent in Charge or Assistant Director who will provide oversight and report to the LEI's Deputy Director. The IOD will consist of four Senior Special Agents and an Investigative Analyst.

The Department of Justice's Environmental and Natural Resources Division met with Federal agencies to determine which agency would investigate violations of the Lacey Act involving timber and timber products and established the TIMBER Working Group. Because LEI staff are recognized as experts in timber theft investigations, TIMBER overseen by the Fish and Wildlife Service, requested the Forest Service LEI obtain the requisite authority to participate in enforcement and investigation of Lacey Act cases, whether the violations occurred on NFS lands or elsewhere.

Addedly, FY 2025 objectives support inflationary fleet costs including needed maintenance associated with wear and tear for law enforcement vehicles, and specialized modifications for Law Enforcement compliance. Fleet focus strengthens the Forest Service's ability to enforce regulations that protect natural resources and the public, and to support partnerships for detection, extraction, and destruction of illegal cannabis growth on Forest Service lands.

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Table FS-67. Salaries and Expenses Details Table (thousands of dollars)

Salaries and Expenses	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$1,450,052	\$1,519,083	\$1,519,083	\$1,541,344	+\$22,261
Recoveries .....	5,434	5,552	5,379	5,491	
Balance Transfers.....	-1,473	-4,500	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	10,484	16,116	24,661	15,491	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>1,464,497</b>	<b>1,536,251</b>	<b>1,549,123</b>	<b>1,562,326</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-240	-40	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-16,116	-24,661	-15,491	-15,623	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>1,448,141</b>	<b>1,511,550</b>	<b>1,533,632</b>	<b>1,546,703</b>	

**Salaries and Expenses – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$22,261,000 in Salaries and Expenses and a decrease of 164 FTEs (\$1,519,083,000 and 12,598 FTEs in FY 2024). This increase of \$22,261,000 funds part of the Calendar Year (CY) 2024 and anticipated CY 2025 employee pay cost increases. The Forest Service will need to further rely on other funding sources and balance hiring actions and attrition rates to stay within appropriations in the operational year.

**OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING**

Table FS-68. Disaster Supplemental Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Disaster Supplemental</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$710,000	\$210,000	-	-	-
Recoveries .....	535	481	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	75,614	574,229	\$323,786	-	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>786,149</b>	<b>784,710</b>	<b>323,786</b>	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-574,229	-323,786	-	-	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>211,920</b>	<b>460,924</b>	<b>323,786</b>	-	

**Disaster Supplemental**

Disaster Supplemental funding supports Forest Service actions, activities, and responses to wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters having a direct impact to Forest Service managed lands and assets and the communities contiguous to or embedded within those managed lands.

Table FS-69. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$734,800	\$529,800	\$529,800	\$529,800	-
Recoveries .....	-	3,104	-	-	
Transfers In .....	13,500	7,400	7,473	-	
Transfers Out.....	-260,997	-124,634	-72,643	-	
Balance Transfers.....	-	-	47,779	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	-	294,062	222,752	92,547	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>487,303</b>	<b>709,732</b>	<b>735,161</b>	<b>622,347</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-294,062	-222,752	-92,547	-13,333	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>193,241</b>	<b>486,980</b>	<b>642,614</b>	<b>609,014</b>	

**Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 115-78), also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, broadly supports ecosystem restoration, wildfire risk reduction, wildfire mitigation grants, and other community support activities.

Table FS-70. Inflation Reduction Act Program Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Inflation Reduction Act</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$350,000	-	-	-	-
Balance Available, SOY .....	-	\$350,000	\$189,351	\$50,643	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>350,000</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>189,351</b>	<b>50,643</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-350,000	-189,351	-50,643	-5,082	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>-</b>	<b>160,649</b>	<b>138,708</b>	<b>45,561</b>	

**Inflation Reduction Act**

The Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169), includes funds appropriated for hazardous fuels reduction, vegetation and watershed management, management of mature and old growth forests, and timely processing of National Environmental Policy Act-related reviews.



**CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**

Table FS-71. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
	Personnel Compensation:				
	Washington D.C.....	\$95,884	\$100,395	\$105,365	\$107,509
	Personnel compensation, field .....	936,871	1,015,351	1,065,612	1,087,296
11.0	Total personnel compensation .....	1,032,755	1,115,746	1,170,977	1,194,805
12.0	Personal benefits .....	432,196	474,743	498,243	508,382
13.0	Benefits for former personnel .....	-61	-	-	-
	Total, personnel compensation and benefits .....	1,464,890	1,590,489	1,669,221	1,703,187
	Other Objects:				
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	26,557	62,254	56,094	38,717
22.0	Transportation of things.....	5,721	3,356	5,733	3,957
23.1	Rental payments to GSA.....	14	-1	8	6
23.2	Rental payments to others .....	73	105	112	78
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges.....	406	1,982	1,508	1,041
24.0	Printing and reproduction .....	756	737	943	651
25.1	Advisory and assistance services .....	160	834	628	433
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources .....	202,783	373,953	364,277	251,437
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources.....	96,338	144,072	151,866	104,811
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities .....	513	1,082	1,007	695
25.5	Research and development contracts.....	465	926	879	606
25.6	Medical care .....	62	88	95	65
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment.....	2,829	3,945	4,279	2,953
26.0	Supplies and materials .....	52,477	58,441	70,058	48,355
31.0	Equipment.....	12,868	11,495	15,388	10,621
32.0	Land and structures .....	5,875	5,192	6,990	4,825
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	404,028	827,573	777,867	536,891
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities.....	1,676	1,168	1,796	1,240
43.0	Interest and dividends.....	65	17	52	36
44.0	Refunds .....	-	-23	-	-
91.0	Unvouchered .....	-1	-1	-	-
92.0	Undistributed.....	68	308	237	164
	Total, other objects.....	813,733	1,497,503	1,459,818	1,007,583
99.9	Total, new obligations.....	2,278,623	3,087,992	3,129,039	2,710,770
	Position Data:				
	Average Salary (dollars), ES Position.....	\$183,027	\$195,000	\$204,000	\$208,080
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position .....	75,681	78,255	83,204	85,776
	Average Grade, GS Position.....	9.8	10.6	10.6	10.7

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**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE**

**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**

Table FS-72. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2024 Estimated Budget.....	\$158,048,000
Change in Appropriation.....	-48,000
2025 Request.....	<u>158,000,000</u>

**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored; deleted matter enclosed in brackets):

- 1 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE
- 2 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)
- 3 For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, [~~\$235,000,000~~]\$158,000,000, to remain
- 4 available through September 30, [~~2027~~]2028, for construction, capital improvement, maintenance, and acquisition
- 5 of buildings and other facilities and infrastructure; for construction, reconstruction, and decommissioning of roads
- 6 that are no longer needed, including unauthorized roads that are not part of the transportation system; and for
- 7 maintenance of forest roads and trails by the Forest Service as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 532–538 and 23 U.S.C. 101
- 8 and 205: *Provided*, That [~~\$15,000,000~~]\$6,000,000 shall be for activities authorized by 16 U.S.C. 538(a): *Provided*
- 9 *further*, That of the funds provided for facilities maintenance and construction, \$60,000,000 shall be for installation
- 10 of charging stations and related infrastructure to make national forests more accessible to visitors operating zero
- 11 emission vehicles.]

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**Change Description**

The first change (lines 8 through 11) deletes language for installation of charging stations and related infrastructure to make national forests more accessible to visitors operating zero emission vehicles.

**PROJECT STATEMENTS**

Table FS-73. Appropriations Project Statement (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Project Statement	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
Capital Improvement and Maintenance:										
Discretionary Appropriations .....	\$159,049	-	\$158,048	-	\$158,048	-	\$158,000	-	-\$48	-
Supplemental Appropriations .....	542,000	11	222,000	17	72,000	5	72,000	-	-	-5
<b>Total Appropriations.....</b>	<b>701,049</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>380,048</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>230,048</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>230,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-48</b>	<b>-5</b>

Table FS-74. Appropriations Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Detail Table	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Capital Improvement and Maintenance:					
Facilities .....	\$54,983	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$56,500	+\$2,500
Roads .....	70,613	73,000	73,000	74,000	+1,000
Trails .....	17,586	20,000	20,000	21,500	+1,500
Legacy Roads and Trails .....	5,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	-
Construction Projects .....	10,867	5,048	5,048	-	-5,048
Disaster Supplemental <sup>a</sup> .....	470,000	150,000	-	-	-
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law <sup>b</sup> .....	72,000	72,000	72,000	72,000	-
<b>Total, Capital Improvement and Maintenance.....</b>	<b>701,049</b>	<b>380,048</b>	<b>230,048</b>	<b>230,000</b>	<b>-48</b>

<sup>a</sup> Disaster Supplemental Funding includes remaining, unobligated funds from P.L. 115-123, P.L. 116-20, P.L. 117-43 and P.L.117-328 for necessary expenses related to wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters that occurred between calendar years 2017 through 2022.

<sup>b</sup> The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) are advance appropriations each year from 2022 through 2026.

Note: The discrepancy between the project statement and Max schedule X is reimbursable funds.

**FACILITIES**

Table FS-75. Facilities Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Facilities</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$54,983	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$56,500	+\$2,500
Recoveries .....	10,441	858	1,056	1,417	
Transfers In .....	-	-	-	20,000	
Balance Available, SOY .....	18,723	33,655	24,658	16,740	
<b>Total Available.....</b>	<b>84,147</b>	<b>88,513</b>	<b>79,714</b>	<b>94,657</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-126	-270	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-33,655	-24,658	-16,740	-33,438	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>50,366</b>	<b>63,585</b>	<b>62,974</b>	<b>61,219</b>	

**Facilities – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$2,500,000 in Facilities (\$54,000,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024). An increase of \$2,500,000 supports recreation facility and site maintenance, maintenance/repair and management of Forest Service-owned dams, and facility Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). The increase supports the Forest Service’s continued use of the National Asset Management Program to select out-year projects that meet the Forest Service’s highest priority facility needs. These projects reinforce recreational opportunities, land management activities, fire suppression, and research.

**Facilities – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Facilities program funds the costs associated with recreation facility and site maintenance, maintenance/repair and management of Forest Service-owned dams, and all facility Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). The program helps provide a quality recreational experience to the public, ensure the safety of the Forest Service’s dams, and allows capital improvements to be made that improve the facilities needed to enhance the recreation opportunities, support the fire suppression and fuels management, administration of land management activities, and advance natural resource research.

The Facilities program supports the Forest Service’s more than 30,000 recreation sites, more than 6,000 recreation buildings, and over 17,000 toilet facilities. The Forest Service recreation program manages the largest number and widest range of accessible recreation facilities and sites in the country, including campgrounds, picnic areas, visitor centers, ski areas, trailheads, shooting ranges, and interpretive sites. Recreation facility maintenance funds are primarily being used to repair and replace infrastructure within recreation sites to provide a safe environment for the visiting public.

The program supports the Forest Service’s more than 3,000 dams on national forest lands of which over 1,500 are owned by the Forest Service. These dams serve many purposes, including recreation, wildlife, fire protection, irrigation, flood control, water supply, fisheries, tailings, debris control, and hydroelectric. Of the owned dams, 460 are part of the National Inventory of Dams, which lists the dams that are important for safety and security. Dams located on National Forest System lands provide the largest source of municipal water supply in the country, serving more than 60 million people in 3,400 communities across 33 States. The dam program expends \$3,000,000 annually with a focus on improving the dam safety practices for the Forest Service and working on meeting the regulatory compliance requirements. The Forest Service is the owner of the second-highest number of dams of any Federal agency in the United States, behind the U.S Army Corps of Engineers. The deferred maintenance for Forest Service-owned dams is presently estimated to be approximately \$136 million.

The program manages the CIP allowing capital improvements necessary to provide the visiting public and Forest Service employees with safe and operationally efficient facilities. CIP allows for investment in facilities that support the changing land management activities around fuels management, timber harvest, range management, recreation, fire suppression, and research activities. Facilities capital improvements make investments in fire suppression and fuels management, including aircraft maintenance and operations facilities, air-tanker bases, smokejumper bases, helicopter bases and helipads, fire engine bays, fire training facilities, retardant facilities, fire cache warehouses, fire lookouts, administrative offices, research facilities, communication sites, warehouses, bunkhouses, and employee housing.

Funds provided by the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) complement annually appropriated Facilities funds by helping the Forest Service address the more than \$7 billion backlog of deferred maintenance. Legacy Restoration Funding allows Capital Improvement and Maintenance Facilities funding to target mission critical assets and prioritize annual maintenance and operations needs that help arrest the growth of the maintenance backlog.

### **Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

#### **Dam Safety Program**

The dam safety program is working with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to test and update the emergency action plans for the Forest Service's dams. The program has successfully tested 30 emergency action plans in the past two years and plans to test 10 to 12 more in the next year. The program has improved its compliance with the dam inspection regulations. This improves the health and safety of the people and the environment downstream of the Forest Service's dams.

#### **Spirit Lake Project**

Also included within the Forest Service's Facilities portfolio is the Spirit Lake tunnel. The 1980 Mount St. Helens volcanic eruption created a volcanic debris field blocking the outflow of Spirit Lake and creating a natural disaster emergency. Under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's direction, the United States Army Corps of Engineers constructed a 1.6-mile tunnel through the volcanic debris field in 1985 to provide an outlet for lake-level management. In addition to annual operations and maintenance, planning is underway to ensure a resilient long-term Spirit Lake outflow for the protection of public safety, health, property, and the environment from a catastrophic breach of the Spirit Lake volcanic debris blockage. An inability to fund and complete projects in a timely manner increases the risk that a debris blockage failure could occur placing downstream communities (approximately 50,000 people) at risk of catastrophic flooding and mudflows, leading to the loss of billions of dollars of property and Columbia River and Interstate 5 transport.

#### **National Asset Management Plan**

The CIP program continues to utilize the National Asset Management Plan to select the highest-priority projects that will have the best return on investment while meeting the Forest Service's priorities. Recently the CIP program funded 44 projects benefiting administrative offices, research facilities, fire facilities, recreation, and dam compliance.

#### **Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The program will continue to support the recreation facility and site maintenance program to support the growing recreational use by the public so that folks have a positive and safe experience while protecting the ecological systems surrounding these facilities and sites.

The program will continue to manage the more than 1,500 owned dams including the 85 high hazard potential dams through the performance of critical maintenance/repair needs, while further developing the emergency action plans in FY 2025. This work will ensure that the dams are safe while providing for the recreational experience and management use including fire suppression.

In FY 2025, the program will continue to use the National Asset Management Plan to select outyear projects that meet the Forest Service's highest priority facility needs to support the recreational opportunities, land management activities, fire suppression, and natural resource research.

**ROADS**

Table FS-76. Roads Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Roads</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$70,613	\$73,000	\$73,000	\$74,000	+\$1,000
Recoveries .....	1,900	1,524	1,900	1,876	
Balance Available, SOY .....	7,294	10,056	6,740	4,490	
<b>Total Available.....</b>	<b>79,807</b>	<b>84,580</b>	<b>81,640</b>	<b>80,366</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-49	-21	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-10,056	-6,740	-4,490	-3,616	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>69,702</b>	<b>77,819</b>	<b>77,150</b>	<b>76,750</b>	

**Roads – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$1,000,000 in Roads (\$73,000,000 in FY 2024). An increase of \$1,000,000 will moderate the inflationary costs expected with three new capital improvement projects selected for FY 2025, two of which replace and repair bridges that are critical to support forest health initiatives, fire suppression, and fuels management, and provide access to campgrounds and other recreational areas. If not needed for these projects, the increase will aid in additional maintenance of Forest Service-owned roads and bridges, critical for access to National Forest System lands.

**Roads – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Roads program funds the costs associated with the maintenance/repair and management of Forest Service-owned roads and bridges and all transportation CIP. The Forest Service is directly responsible for approximately 360,000 miles of roads, of which 65,000 miles are for passenger vehicles, and 6,700 road bridges across National Forests. The primary objective of this program is to operate and maintain a transportation network that meets the priority access needs of the public and the Forest Service while minimizing adverse impacts on the environment. This program is essential for land management activities, emergency response, and visitor use and enjoyment of National Forest System lands. Forest roads are essential for active forest management, both for forest product removal and for hazardous fuels mitigation treatments.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Addressing National Bridge Inspection and Standard Updates**

The Forest Service continues to implement comprehensive bridge construction and inspection programs to maintain and improve asset condition. Every year the Forest Service conducts approximately 2,500 inspections to ensure safety of the Forest Service Bridge network. In response to the update to 23 CFR part 650 Subpart C, National Bridge Inspection Standards the Forest Service has been focusing on implementing transition to the new Specifications for the National Bridge Inventory qualifications, training, and inspection intervals.

**Capital Improvement Projects**

The Forest Service addressed rehabilitation and replacement of critical road and bridges needed to improve access to gateway communities, recreation opportunities, forest product removal, fuel treatments, and fire response by directing \$10 million of road appropriations per year towards competitively selected priority road and bridge capital improvement projects. The Forest Service initiated 17 road and bridge projects across eight of the nine regions. Among these projects, \$1 million was invested in roadway condition improvements throughout the Intermountain region; \$1.2 million was allocated to an aquatic organism passage project on a major stream in California that will improve water quality and stream flow; and \$1.1 million was invested in a road reconstruction project that provides access to Tribal Nation resources, public and private timber lands, and recreational access to hiking trails in Minnesota.

**Addressing Backlog of Deferred Maintenance**

At the present, there is an almost \$5 billion backlog in transportation related deferred maintenance. \$59.9 million of appropriated funds were allocated across nine Forest Service regions to address 1,610 miles of capital improvements and 14,211 miles of annual and deferred road maintenance that contributes to the total backlog of road and bridge work.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

This program funds capital improvement, maintenance, and the maintenance and rehabilitation of Forest Service-owned roads and bridges. The roads program will continue to maintain and repair transportation assets that are critical to access Nation Forest System Lands. In FY 2025, we have three new capital improvement projects selected, two of which will replace and repair bridges that are critical to support forest health initiatives, fire suppression and fuels management, and provide access to campgrounds and other recreational areas.



**TRAILS**

Table FS-77. Trails Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Trails	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$17,586	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$21,500	+\$1,500
Recoveries .....	1,077	417	350	350	
Balance Available, SOY .....	1,848	1,061	804	846	
Total Available.....	20,511	21,478	21,154	22,696	
Lapsing Balances.....	-74	-5	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-1,061	-804	-846	-794	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>19,376</b>	<b>20,669</b>	<b>20,308</b>	<b>21,902</b>	

**Trails – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$1,500,000 in Trails (\$20,000,000 in FY 2024). An increase of \$1,500,000 sustains the largest system of trails in the country by increasing trail maintenance projects through increased partnerships with organizations such as Youth Corps and veterans’ programs, specifically Indian Youth Service Corps. Such partnerships expand opportunities for economic development and improve quality of life in rural and Tribal communities that rely on recreation tourism. These opportunities attract, inspire, and retain an engaged and motivated workforce that’s proud to represent USDA, the Forest Service Equity Action Plan<sup>36</sup>, and the Tribal Action Plan<sup>37</sup>.

**Trails – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Forest Service’s Trails program works to increase trail sustainability and assessment capability by creating planning and assessment tools and simplifying Forest Service processes. The Forest Service manages nearly 163,000 miles of trails on National Forest System lands, of which 98,500 miles are non-motorized and 64,500 miles are motorized. The Forest Service is the administrating agency for six congressionally designated National Scenic and Historic Trails (NSHTs) totaling 10,000 miles and is the managing agency for 16 additional NSHTs (details about NSHTs are in the National Scenic and Historic Trails Special Exhibit). The Forest Service manages more than 370 National Recreation Trails on National Forest System lands. National Forest System trails provide connectivity with other trails managed by local, State, Federal, and Tribal Nation governments.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Trail Maintenance**

Forest Service staff, partners, and volunteers maintained approximately 30,400 miles of National Forest System trails through multiple funding sources including the GAOA Legacy Restoration Fund. Maintenance activities include clearing vegetation and downed trees from the trail corridor, cleaning out trail drainage features, such as culverts and water bars, replacing trail signs, and conducting minor tread repairs. During this same time, nearly 850 miles of trail were improved. This includes newly constructed trails as well as trails that were relocated to a more sustainable location.

**Workforce Capacity Initiative**

The Trails program is working to increase its workforce capacity by building internal and external partnerships. A mobile training program on the use of mechanized trail building equipment has been initiated. The program provided six in-

<sup>36</sup> [Forest Service Equity Action Plan 2023-2024.](#)

<sup>37</sup> [Tribal Action Plan.](#)

person week-long trail equipment trainings to 75 participants in four regions and included participants from Job Corps, Forest Service staff, local government, partners, and volunteers.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The trails program will continue to administer the largest system of trails in the Country by streamlining Forest Service processes, leveraging internal and external workforce, and deepening the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the Forest Service, partners, and volunteer trail community. The program will invest in actions and processes that lead to more sustainable trails and build current and future workforce capacity.

**LEGACY ROAD REMEDIATION**

Table FS-78. Legacy Road Remediation Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Legacy Road Remediation</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	-
Recoveries .....	80	109	318	209	
Balance Available, SOY .....	1,146	2,576	4,238	5,806	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>6,226</b>	<b>8,685</b>	<b>10,556</b>	<b>12,015</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-2,576	-4,238	-5,806	-5,767	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>3,650</b>	<b>4,447</b>	<b>4,750</b>	<b>6,248</b>	

**Legacy Road Remediation – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Forest Service administers a notably large transportation and trails infrastructure system including roads, trails, bridges, and other types of stream crossing features. The stream crossings pose a significant challenge to water quality and fish and aquatic species habitat health. Many roads, trails, and stream crossing structures are at risk due to increased storm intensities that exceed original infrastructure designs. Current activities planned as part of the Legacy Road and Trail Remediation Program are designed to address the challenges of reducing flood risk and improving route resilience to maintain access, improving stream crossings to accommodate fish and aquatic species passage to restore habitat connectivity, and mitigating erosion and sediment delivery to streams to improve water quality.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Aquatic Organism Passage Planning**

In FY 2023, approximately \$6 million in annual appropriated funding was invested in approximately 29 projects eligible for the Legacy Road and Trail Remediation program funding. Projects include ten aquatic organism passage planning, design, and construction projects to improve fish passage and National Forest System Road resilience, road decommissioning, and multiple road, bridge and trail projects that will improve resilience and ensure future access.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The Legacy Road and Trail Remediation program will provide for urgently needed road decommissioning where inaction can lead to water quality issues in streams and water bodies that support Threatened and Endangered Species (TES) or community water systems. Road decommissioning activities include restoring lands occupied by roads to a more natural state. Roads to be decommissioned include both system roads and unauthorized roads that exist on Forest Service lands that are adversely affecting TES or community water systems.

Future projects include removal or replacement of stream crossing structures that are barriers to aquatic organism passage; road and trail repair and improvements and associated activities in environmentally sensitive areas; and repair and improvements on roads and trails subject to recent storm damage.

**CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

Table FS-79. Construction Projects Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Construction Projects</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$10,867	\$5,048	\$5,048	-	-\$5,048
Balance Available, SOY .....	-	6,767	6,064	\$1,111	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>10,867</b>	<b>11,815</b>	<b>11,112</b>	<b>1,111</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-6,767	-6,064	-1,111	-	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>4,100</b>	<b>5,751</b>	<b>10,001</b>	<b>1,111</b>	

**Construction Projects – Justification of Changes**

A decrease of \$5,048,000 in Construction Projects (\$5,048,000 in FY 2024). This program funds Congressionally Directed Spending projects which are not requested by the Forest Service.

**OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING**

Table FS-80. Disaster Supplemental Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Disaster Supplemental</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$470,000	\$150,000	-	-	-
Recoveries .....	419	128	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	42,606	478,319	\$472,510	\$282,764	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>513,025</b>	<b>628,447</b>	<b>472,510</b>	<b>282,764</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-478,319	-472,510	-282,764	-32,695	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>34,706</b>	<b>155,937</b>	<b>189,746</b>	<b>250,069</b>	

**Disaster Supplemental**

Disaster Supplemental funding supports Forest Service actions, activities, and responses to wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters having a direct impact to Forest Service managed lands and assets and the communities contiguous to or embedded within those managed lands.

Table FS-81. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$72,000	\$72,000	\$72,000	\$72,000	-
Recoveries .....	-	269	-	-	
Transfers Out.....	-11,880	-16,489	-16,040	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	-	28,820	47,929	30,389	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>60,120</b>	<b>84,600</b>	<b>103,889</b>	<b>102,389</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-28,820	-47,929	-30,389	-27,889	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>31,300</b>	<b>36,671</b>	<b>73,500</b>	<b>74,500</b>	

**Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 115-78), also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, broadly supports ecosystem restoration, wildfire risk reduction, wildfire mitigation grants, and other community support activities.

### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PROJECTS OVER \$1 MILLION SELECTED IN 2025**

The Forest Service has a structured National Asset Management Program (NAMP) that incorporates the Comprehensive Capital Improvement Plan process. The NAMP prioritizes investments in capital improvement and maintenance projects and helps reduce the Forest Service's deferred maintenance backlog. These projects will address improvements, repairs and rehabilitation of mission critical buildings, recreation sites, transportation assets and the decommissioning of projects. All capital improvement and maintenance projects, whether they are funded through the Capital Improvement and Maintenance (CIM) appropriation or through GAOA (P.L. 116-152), are included in the NAMP.

Per Congressional directive in the 2018 Interior Appropriations report, the Forest Service is providing a list of planned national capital improvement and maintenance projects over \$1 million. This list represents a long-term multi-year plan that addresses needed investments in facilities, recreation, transportation, and decommissioning based on the 2025 Budget request and using the NAMP prioritization process. This list includes projects that would be funded with Forest Service appropriations under the following budget line items: Facilities, Forest Service Leases and Maintenance, and Roads; it does not include projects that would be funded by the National Parks and Public Lands Restoration Fund established by GAOA.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Table FS-82. 2025 - 2029 Capital Improvement and Maintenance Projects Over \$1 Million Selected in 2024

Project Type	Project Name	Forest	Region or Unit	State	Congressional District	2025 <sup>a</sup>	2026 <sup>a</sup>	2027 <sup>a</sup>	2028 <sup>a</sup>	2029 <sup>a</sup>	Total 2025-2029
Recreation Site	Georgetown Lake Boat Launch Paving Deerlodge County	Beaverhead Deerlodge National Forest	Northern (01)	MT	1	\$200,000	\$1,650,000	-	-	-	\$1,850,000
Recreation Site	Santa Rita Wells	Coronado National Forest	Southwestern (03)	AZ	1	140,000	997,699	-	-	-	1,137,699
Recreation Site	0907 Black River Waterfall Complex Platforms and Stair Replacement for Visitor Safety and Access DM	Ottawa National Forest	Eastern (09)	MI	3	505,623	-	-	-	-	505,623
Recreation Site	FC14 – Minersville Boat Launch Facility	Shasta Trinity National Forest	Pacific Southwest (05)	CA	1	265,225	583,495	-	-	-	848,720
Recreation Site	Twenty-mile Trailhead Construction for Improved Access to Portage Valley and the Iditarod National Historic Trail	Chugach National Forest	Alaska (10)	AK	1	-	1,981,252	-	-	-	1,981,252
<b>Total Recreation Site</b>						<b>1,110,848</b>	<b>5,194,446</b>				<b>6,323,294</b>
Facility	Northern Hills Parking Lot Reconstruction	Black Hills National Forest	Rocky Mountain (02)	SD	1	1,025,000	-	-	-	-	1,025,000
Facility	Guadalupe RD Office Building	Lincoln National Forest	Southwestern (03)	NM	2	40,000	100,000	\$700,000	-	-	840,000
Facility	Elko Office Colocation with BLM	Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest	Intermountain (04)	NV	2	3,300,000	-	-	-	-	3,300,000
Facility	North River and Lee District Office HVAC Replacement	George Washington and Jefferson National Forest	Southern (08)	VA	6	200,000	1,300,000	-	-	-	1,500,000
Facility	Glacier Ranger District Land Acquisition	Chugach National Forest	Alaska (10)	AK	1	1,600,000	-	-	-	-	1,600,000
Facility	Modoc South Fork Utility Shop	Modoc National Forest	Pacific Southwest (05)	CA	1	954,810	-	-	-	-	954,810

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Project Type	Project Name	Forest	Region or Unit	State	Congressional District	2025 <sup>a</sup>	2026 <sup>a</sup>	2027 <sup>a</sup>	2028 <sup>a</sup>	2029 <sup>a</sup>	Total 2025-2029
Facility	Ash Creek Guard Station	Modoc National Forest	Pacific Southwest (05)	CA	1	2,010,406	1,174,947	-	-	-	3,185,353
Facility	Sierra National Forest Supervisor's Office	Sierra National Forest	Pacific Southwest (05)	CA	1	6,695,000	-	-	-	-	6,695,000
Facility	Jackson Fire Engine Bay Replacement	Bridger-Teton National Forest	Intermountain (04)	WY	1 and 3	-	2,813,772	-	-	-	2,813,772
Facility	Missoula Aerial Fire Depot 60-Bed Dormitory Modernization	Lolo National Forest	Northern (01)	MT	3	116,699	1,166,990	-	-	-	1,283,689
Facility	Palouse Ranger Station Improvements	Nez Perce National Forest	Northern (01)	ID	3	111,395	992,983	-	-	-	1,104,378
Facility	North Fork Office Rehabilitation	Salmon-Challis National Forest	Intermountain (04)	ID	3	155,119	1,054,809	-	-	-	1,209,928
<b>Total Facilities</b>						<b>16,208,429</b>	<b>8,603,501</b>	<b>700,000</b>	-	-	<b>25,511,930</b>
Transportation	Boise National Forest Road Bridge Replacement	Boise National Forest	Intermountain (04)	ID	1	491,727	399,938	417,422	-	-	1,309,087
Transportation	Forest Service Road 172-C Jones Creek Bridge Replacement	Land Between the Lakes NRA	Southern (08)	KY	1	98,800	1,289,600	-	-	-	1,388,400
Transportation	0905 Mark Twain Multiple Administrative Site Road and Parking Resurfacing – DM	Mark Twain National Forest	Eastern (09)	MO	8	21,855	98,345	83,454	-	-	203,654
Transportation	Batson and Long Lake Road Bridge Replacements	Chippewa National Forest	Eastern (09)	MN	8	229,000	2,570,000	-	-	-	2,799,000
Transportation	Chequamegon-Nicolet FR 164 Reconstruction Vegetation Management	Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest	Eastern (09)	WI	7	1,273,080	-	-	-	-	1,273,080
Transportation	Bridge Replacements Group 2-Cisco Br Ontonagon River 6930-1.722 and M Br Ontonagon River 5250-4.46 for Safety Issues DM	Ottawa National Forest	Eastern (09)	MI	3	42,436	1,281,389	-	-	-	1,323,825
Transportation	Minarets Road (4581) Surface Treatment	Sierra National Forest	Pacific Southwest (05)	CA	1	954,810	954,810	-	-	-	1,909,620



2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Project Type	Project Name	Forest	Region or Unit	State	Congressional District	2025 <sup>a</sup>	2026 <sup>a</sup>	2027 <sup>a</sup>	2028 <sup>a</sup>	2029 <sup>a</sup>	Total 2025-2029
<b>Total Transportation</b>						<b>3,111,708</b>	<b>6,594,082</b>	<b>500,876</b>	-	-	<b>10,206,666</b>
Dam	Monongahela 2023 Lake Sherwood Dam Repairs	Monongahela National Forest	Eastern (09)	WV	3	477,405	1,273,080	-	-	-	1,750,485
<b>Total Dam</b>						<b>477,405</b>	<b>1,273,080</b>	-	-	-	<b>1,750,485</b>
Decommissioning	Wayne Recreation Lewis Lake and Smith Hollow Lake Decommissioning	Wayne National Forest	Eastern (09)	OH	6	1,273,080	-	-	-	-	1,273,080
Decommissioning	0915 Bunker Removal Group 63	Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie	Eastern (09)	IL	6	1,441,384	-	-	-	-	1,441,384
Decommissioning	0915-Bunker Demolition Group 66a2	Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie	Eastern (09)	IL	6	1,076,822	-	-	-	-	1,076,822
Decommissioning	Parsons Reservoir Dam Removal and Associated Stream Restoration	Monongahela National Forest	Eastern (09)	WV	2	2,060,000	-	-	-	-	2,060,000
Decommissioning	Allison Dam Removal	Nez Perce National Forest	Northern (01)	ID	3	2,060,000	-	-	-	-	2,060,000
<b>Total Decommissioning</b>						<b>9,352,670</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>9,352,670</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>						<b>30,261,060</b>	<b>21,665,109</b>	<b>1,200,876</b>	-	-	<b>53,307,045</b>

<sup>a</sup> Budget year funding represents needed for a unit to implement a specific portion of the project. This amount does not always equal the total project cost.

**CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**

Table FS-83. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Personnel Compensation:					
	Personnel compensation, field .....	\$836	\$1,942	\$648	\$197
11.0	Total personnel compensation .....	836	1,942	648	197
12.0	Personal benefits .....	451	389	130	39
	Total, personnel compensation and benefits .....	1,287	2,331	778	236
Other Objects:					
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	140	1,275	1,078	1,211
22.0	Transportation of things.....	1,142	307	1,104	1,240
23.1	Rental payments to GSA.....	12	-	9	10
23.2	Rental payments to others.....	19	9	21	24
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges.....	385	1,146	1,166	1,310
24.0	Printing and reproduction .....	184	148	253	284
25.1	Advisory and assistance services .....	6,135	157	4,794	5,384
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources .....	78,805	149,790	174,154	195,607
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources.....	48,602	65,861	87,203	97,945
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities .....	680	296	744	835
25.6	Medical care .....	10	13	18	20
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment.....	1,028	1,569	1,979	2,222
26.0	Supplies and materials .....	12,931	14,494	20,894	23,467
31.0	Equipment .....	3,632	1,883	4,202	4,719
32.0	Land and structures .....	13,084	33,686	35,632	40,021
33.0	Investments and loans .....	752	-	573	643
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	44,345	91,794	103,717	116,493
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities.....	27	117	105	118
43.0	Interest and dividends.....	2	1	2	3
44.0	Refunds .....	-4	-2	-	-
92.0	Undistributed.....	2	4	5	5
	Total, other objects.....	211,913	362,548	437,651	491,563
99.9	Total, new obligations.....	213,200	364,879	438,429	491,799
Position Data:					
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position .....	\$71,548	\$74,410	\$78,130	\$79,693
	Average Grade, GS Position.....	10.1	10.4	10.4	10.5

**LAND ACQUISITION**

**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**

Table FS-84. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2024 Estimated Budget.....	\$814,000
Change in Appropriation.....	-
2025 Request.....	<u>814,000</u>

**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored; deleted matter enclosed in brackets):

LAND ACQUISITION

ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS SPECIAL ACTS

For acquisition of lands within the exterior boundaries of the Cache, Uinta, and Wasatch National Forests, Utah; the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada; and the Angeles, San Bernardino, Sequoia, and Cleveland National Forests, California; and the Ozark-St. Francis and Ouachita National Forests, Arkansas; as authorized by law, \$664,000, to be derived from forest receipts.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS TO COMPLETE LAND EXCHANGES

For acquisition of lands, such sums, to be derived from funds deposited by State, county, or municipal governments, public school districts, or other public school authorities, and for authorized expenditures from funds deposited by non-Federal parties pursuant to Land Sale and Exchange Acts, pursuant to the Act of December 4, 1967 (16 U.S.C. 484a), to remain available through September 30, [2027]2028, (16 U.S.C. 516-617a, 555a; Public Law 96-586; Public Law 76-589, Public Law 76-591; and Public Law 78-310).

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**Change Description**

Change in years only.

**PROJECT STATEMENTS**

Table FS-85. Appropriations Project Statement (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Project Statement	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
Land Acquisition:										
Discretionary Appropriations .....	\$814	2	\$814	2	\$814	-	\$814	2	-	+2
Mandatory Appropriations .....	\$126,694	44	128,964	41	127,711	38	127,711	38	-	-
<b>Total Appropriations.....</b>	<b>127,508</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>129,778</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>128,525</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>128,525</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+2</b>

Table FS-86. Appropriations Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Detail Table	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Land Acquisition:					
Land Acquisition .....	-	-	-	-	-
Acquisition of Land for National Forest Special Acts .....	\$664	\$664	\$664	\$664	-
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges.....	150	150	150	150	-
Conveyance of Administrative Sites .....	3,624	4,500	3,800	3,800	-
Site-Specific Lands Act .....	801	26	26	26	-
Land Acquisition (Great American Outdoors Act) .....	122,269	124,438	123,885	123,885	-
<b>Total, Land Acquisition.....</b>	<b>127,508</b>	<b>129,778</b>	<b>128,525</b>	<b>128,525</b>	<b>-</b>

**LAND ACQUISITION**

Table FS-87. Land Acquisition Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Land Acquisition</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Recoveries .....	\$877	\$1,189	\$877	\$981	-
Balance Available, SOY .....	85,218	70,892	64,927	46,063	
Total Available .....	86,095	72,081	65,804	47,044	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-70,893	-64,927	-46,063	-18,818	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>15,202</b>	<b>7,154</b>	<b>19,741</b>	<b>28,226</b>	

**Land Acquisition – Status of Programs****Current Activities**

The Forest Service acquired 46,185 acres providing recreational access, watershed protection, and other benefits such as biodiversity conservation, sustainable resource management, and support for local economies. The Forest Service is actively working to address Congressional direction in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Joint Explanatory Statement to improve the appraisal process. This includes collaborative and effective use of partners, uniform service-wide appraisal policies, and third-party contracting. The Chief Appraiser has given instructions to Forest Service appraisers, enabling them to share Forest Service-approved appraisals with parties, including partners with a reciprocal business relationship with the Forest Service. The Forest Service reaffirmed that Regional Lands Directors may authorize third-party partners for appraisal contracting. The Forest Service is taking steps to enhance its Land Acquisition Program, including working with National Land Adjustment Team reviews, and collaborating with regional offices to ensure consistency and improve efficiencies in the process.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress****Acquisition of Land in Montana**

The Lolo National Forest acquired the Missoula Valley Front country Phase II property, equating to 5,948 deeded acres. This acquisition was essential to safeguard both existing and future recreation opportunities, providing access to activities such as hiking, hunting, skiing, and biking. Obtaining this property serves the purpose of mitigating the effects of increased public use and will enhance the overall user experience in this area. This property features a network of legacy mountain biking and hiking trails with a history spanning several decades. In addition, it contains at least four tributary streams that support sport fisheries with the Clark Fork River frontage offering excellent recreational fishing access. Moreover, this acquisition consolidates Federal ownership and Forest Service management within the proclaimed Forest Boundary of the Lolo National Forest. This property is strategically positioned adjacent to existing National Forest System lands, which has opened possibilities for improved landscape level resource and public access management opportunities.

**Acquisition of Land in New Mexico**

The Cibola National Forest acquired the Rio Nutria property, 2,939 deeded acres. The acquisition has significantly improved hunting opportunities for mule deer, elk, and other sought-after big game species. Moreover, it ensures ongoing public access to activities such as hiking, horseback riding, and wildlife viewing. The addition of the Rio Nutria property has effectively conserved and enhanced significant watershed, scenic, recreation, historical, and archaeological assets, along with safeguarding wildlife and plant resources. This property was previously slated for development which would have created a wildland-urban interface concern for over 100 new homes, a concern that has now been mitigated by this acquisition. Local communities continue to work cooperatively to support this acquisition, working in collaboration to protect the critical habitat for the Endangered Zuni Bluehead Sucker, reducing risk and contributing to the improvement of water quality and aquatic habitats.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the Forest Service will use Federal funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965 (P.L. 88-578) to acquire land within or adjacent to the boundaries of the National Forests, within wilderness areas, and inholdings. Land acquisitions will continue to focus on enhancing recreational opportunities, public access, and efficiencies for priority land management activities, such as hazardous fuels treatments and watershed protection. Funding from the LWCF will continue to support land exchanges by funding cash equalization payments and required staff.

The LWCF Act of 1965 was amended by GAOA (P.L. 116- 152) which provides up to \$900 million in mandatory funding annually for all Federal land acquisition and State assistance programs across the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior. Following LWCF requirements, the Forest Service has submitted the FY 2025 list of priority-ranked projects based on LWCF, Forest Service, and Administration priorities. These priorities include Justice40 initiatives, creating new and enhanced recreation access, funding projects with substantial local community support, and conserving critical watersheds. All LWCF Land Acquisition projects will continue to contribute to the America the Beautiful initiative to preserve 30 percent of America’s lands and waters by 2030.

**ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS SPECIAL ACTS**

Table FS-88. Acquisition of Land for National Forest Special Acts Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Acquisition of Land for National Forest Special Acts</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$664	\$664	\$664	\$664	-
Total Available .....	664	664	664	664	
Lapsing Balances .....	-	-664	-60	-60	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>604</b>	

**Acquisition of Lands for National Forests Special Acts – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Acquisition of Lands for National Forest Special Acts is a program that currently funds eight National Forests located in Arkansas, California, Idaho, Nevada, and Utah. This program is authorized under the seven Special Acts with annual appropriated funds from National Forest receipts generated by the occupancy of public land and the sale of natural resources, excluding minerals. The funds for this program are designated for land acquisition within the same state or National Forest where the receipts were generated, as specified in the relevant legislation. Annual appropriations are required to sustain this program.

**Selected Example of Recent Progress**

**Acquisition of land in Arkansas; Ozark National Forest**

Program funds have been used to acquire 35.54 acres of land in the Ozark National Forest, Arkansas, specifically in the Lamb Tract O-6786. Additionally, program funds continue to be used to reduce soil erosion and sediment flow, within this steep terrain, into the Left Fork Creek watershed. This acquisition will continue to enhance the National Forest by providing improved public access to this area, and adjacent public lands. Furthermore, it will continue to promote recreational use, support wildlife habitat, and protect Honey Creek, within the watershed.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, this program will continue to use annual appropriated funds and continue to fund land acquisition either in the same State or same National Forest, depending on the specific language in the legislation that generated the receipts.

**ACQUISITION OF LANDS TO COMPLETE LAND EXCHANGES**

Table FS-89. Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Acquisition of Land to Complete Land Exchanges</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	-
Balance Available, SOY .....	1,707	1,757	1,907	1,337	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>1,857</b>	<b>1,907</b>	<b>2,057</b>	<b>1,487</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-1757	-1907	-1337	-967	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>520</b>	

**Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program currently acquires land by using funds generated from the exchange or sale of National Forest System lands between various entities, such as states, county or municipal governments, public school districts, or other non-Federal entities to acquire similar non-Federal properties. The acquired land must be located in the same state as the land involved in the exchange.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, this program will continue to use funds for the exchange or sale National Forest System lands between states, county or municipal governments, public school districts, or other non-Federal entities to acquire similar non-Federal properties.



**CONVEYANCE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SITES**

Table FS-90. Conveyance of Administrative Sites Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Conveyance of Administrative Sites	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$3,624	\$4,500	\$3,800	\$3,800	-
Recoveries .....	3	18	6	6	
Sequestrations.....	-207	-262	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	20,171	20,128	19,218	14,966	
Total Available .....	23,591	24,384	23,024	18,772	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-20,128	-19,218	-14,966	-12,202	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>3,463</b>	<b>5,166</b>	<b>8,058</b>	<b>6,570</b>	

**Conveyance of Administrative Sites – Status of Programs****Current Activities**

The Forest Service currently utilizes conveyance authorities to shape its real property portfolio effectively, reducing management costs and improving operations. This program provides substantial economic and social advantages, including additional tax revenue for local communities and opportunities for redevelopment in line with community plans and economic stimulus strategies.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, this program will use funds generated from the conveyance of administrative sites to maintain, rehabilitate, and construct specific projects. These projects, if valued over \$500,000, will require notification of both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. The program will continue to realign the Forest Service's facility portfolio by encouraging local managers to sell obsolete or underutilized assets and invest in assets that align with the Forest Service's mission. This authority helps address current and future needs efficiently and reduces annual lease costs by transferring control of certain administration sites which will eliminate or lessen lease payments and reduce the backlog of deferred maintenance. Additionally, the program will continue to yield substantial economic and social benefits, including community development plans, and economic stimulus strategies, such as an additional tax base.

**SITE SPECIFIC LANDS ACT**

Table FS-91. Site Specific Lands Act Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Site Specific Lands Act	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$801	\$26	\$26	\$26	-
Balance Available, SOY .....	9,544	10,229	9,937	8,967	
Total Available .....	10,345	10,256	9,963	8,993	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-10,228	-9,937	-8,967	-8,094	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>899</b>	

**Site Specific Lands Act – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

Presently, projects are identified through the legislative process annually. Consequently, funds collected vary based on legislation. In addition, this program continues to use funds from the sale of National Forest System lands pursuant to special acts passed by Congress. These funds are used for specific improvements to lands and facilities within the same national forest or state.

**Selected Example of Recent Progress**

**Creation of the Lake Okhissa Lodge**

The Forest Service completed the conveyance of 150-acres of land previously part of the National Forests in Mississippi’s Homochitto National Forest at Okhissa Lake in Franklin County, Mississippi. The land was acquired for a rural economic development project including a lodge-style hotel, conference center, and other amenities. This development will continue to attract visitors to the area and bring increased economic benefits to a largely rural and underserved area.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, this program will continue to use funds from the sale of National Forest System lands pursuant to special Acts passed by Congress for specific improvements to lands and facilities within the same national forest or state. This program will follow legislated project guidelines which may include work functions such as notification, analysis, valuation, and realty case processing services; construction of new facilities; alteration of existing facilities to change their functions; and expansion of facilities to meet the needs of changing mission critical functions. This project will continue to be identified annually through the legislative process. As a result, benefits and funds collected will vary annually based on legislation.

**CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**

Table FS-92. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
	Personnel Compensation:				
	Washington D.C.....	\$3,796	\$3,734	\$3,900	\$3,958
	Personnel compensation, field .....	119	105	110	111
11.0	Total personnel compensation .....	3,915	3,839	4,010	4,069
12.0	Personal benefits .....	1,590	1,569	1,639	1,663
	Total, personnel compensation and benefits .....	5,505	5,408	5,649	5,732
	Other Objects:				
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	5	80	121	139
22.0	Transportation of things.....	105	-	149	171
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges.....	-1	4	4	5
25.1	Advisory and assistance services .....	30	4	48	56
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources .....	3,141	644	5,381	6,180
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources.....	334	2,132	3,506	4,026
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities .....	2	-	3	3
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment.....	4	7	16	18
26.0	Supplies and materials .....	91	195	407	467
31.0	Equipment.....	432	337	1,093	1,255
32.0	Land and structures .....	31,317	68,502	141,662	162,677
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	788	548	1,899	2,181
44.0	Refunds .....	-	-178	-	-
	Total, other objects.....	36,248	72,275	154,290	177,178
99.9	Total, new obligations.....	41,753	77,683	159,939	182,910
	Position Data:				
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position .....	\$84,035	\$87,396	\$91,766	\$93,602
	Average Grade, GS Position.....	11.4	11.6	11.7	11.7

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**OTHER APPROPRIATIONS**

**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**

Table FS-93. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)

Item	Amount
2024 Estimated Budget.....	\$2,863,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+2,000,000
2025 Request.....	<u>4,863,000</u>

**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored; deleted matter enclosed in brackets):

**RANGE BETTERMENT FUND**

For necessary expenses of range rehabilitation, protection, and improvement, 50 percent of all moneys received during the prior fiscal year, as fees for grazing domestic livestock on lands in National Forests in the 16 Western States, pursuant to section 401(b)(1) of Public Law 94-579, to remain available through September 30, ~~[2027]~~2028, of which not to exceed 6 percent shall be available for administrative expenses associated with on-the-ground range rehabilitation, protection, and improvements.

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**GIFTS, DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS FOR FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH**

For expenses authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1643(b), \$45,000, to remain available through September 30, ~~[2027]~~2028, to be derived from the fund established pursuant to the above Act.

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL FOREST LANDS FOR SUBSISTENCE USES**

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service to manage Federal lands in Alaska for subsistence uses under title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3111 et seq.), \$1,099,000, to remain available through September 30, ~~[ 2027]~~2028.

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**COMMUNICATIONS SITE ADMINISTRATION**

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

[ ]For necessary expenses of communications site administration, \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, to be deposited in the special account established by section 8705(f)(1) of such the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-334): Provided, That amounts collected in this fiscal year pursuant to section 8705(f)(2) of such Act shall be deposited in the special account established by section 8705(f)(1) of such Act, shall be available to

cover the costs described in subsection (c)(3) of such section of such Act, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading shall be transferred to the "National Forest System" account.

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**Change Description**

The first change (lines 1 of paragraph 7) removes space at start of paragraph.

**PROJECT STATEMENTS**

Table FS-94. Appropriations Project Statement (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Project Statement	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
Other Appropriations:										
Discretionary Appropriations .....	\$3,573	-	\$3,645	-	\$2,863	-	\$4,863	-	+\$2,000	-
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>3,573</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,645</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,863</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,863</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+\$2,000</b>	<b>-</b>

Table FS-95. Appropriations Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Detail Table	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Other Appropriations:					
Range Betterment Fund.....	\$2,474	\$2,546	\$1,719	\$1,719	-
Gifts, Donations, and Bequest for Forest and Rangeland Research.....	-	-	45	45	-
Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses .....	1,099	1,099	1,099	1,099	-
Communication Site Administration.....	-	-	-	2,000	+\$2,000
<b>Total, Other Appropriations.....</b>	<b>3,573</b>	<b>3,645</b>	<b>2,863</b>	<b>4,863</b>	<b>+2,000</b>

**RANGE BETTERMENT FUND**

Table FS-96. Range Betterment Fund Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Range Betterment Fund</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$2,474	\$2,546	\$1,719	\$1,719	-
Recoveries .....	-	3	100	52	
Balance Available, SOY .....	2,413	2,277	2,676	2,068	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>4,887</b>	<b>4,826</b>	<b>4,495</b>	<b>3,839</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-56	-77	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-2,278	-2,676	-2,068	-1,420	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>2,553</b>	<b>2,073</b>	<b>2,427</b>	<b>2,419</b>	

**Range Betterment Fund – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program collects grazing fees and uses them to improve rangelands on National Forest System (NFS) lands in the 16 contiguous western States. It allocates half of funds to the unit where grazing fees were collected and distributes the remaining half within the region where the collections were derived. The program continues to support rangeland improvement efforts, such as seeding and reseeding, fence construction, water development, weed and other plant control, and fish and wildlife habitat enhancements. These projects and activities help reduce range deterioration, improve forage conditions for wildlife, protect watersheds, and increase livestock production.

**Selected Example of Recent Progress**

**Improving Allotments**

The Rangeland Management Program has improved vegetation and forage conditions over 13,000 acres of NFS rangeland. The effort included projects such as constructing fences to protect resources and habitats on grazing allotments, removing dilapidated fences that are no longer needed, removing overgrown brush, and planting native seeds for plant and wildlife habitats. In addition, the program has accomplished invasive species control of nearly 3,000 acres. These control methods include both herbicide treatments and biocontrol, such as targeted grazing with livestock.

**Rocky Mountain Region**

Using Range Betterment funding, the Rocky Mountain Region purchased and installed two virtual fence towers to improve permitted livestock grazing distribution and riparian area management over four different grazing allotments. Virtual fences were incorporated to improve riparian areas within the four allotments and livestock management. Similar projects are incorporated across NFS lands for a variety of benefits including the management of fisheries, botanical resources, and targeted grazing for hazardous fuel reduction.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

Range Betterment funds will continue to improve the health and productivity of rangelands on NFS lands. The program will seek innovative opportunities such as incorporating virtual fencing to improve grazing and riparian area management, seeding and reseeding native plants for forage and wildlife, and finding opportunities for targeted grazing for hazardous fuel reduction.



**GIFTS, DONATIONS, AND BEQUESTS FOR FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH**

Table FS-97. Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Forest and Rangeland Research Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Forest and Rangeland Research</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	-	-	\$45	\$45	-
Balance Available, SOY .....	\$112	\$111	19	32	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>112</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>77</b>	
Lapsing Balances .....	-	-5	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-111	-19	-32	-38	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>1</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>39</b>	

**Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Forest and Rangeland Research – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program uses gifts, donations, bequests of money, real property, or personal property for the establishment or operation of Forest Service research facilities, or to perform activities related to rangeland renewable resource research. The Forest Service continues to receive donations from individuals and businesses for research work units and other organizational sub-units to further their research and development programs.

**MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL FOREST LANDS FOR SUBSISTENCE USE**

Table FS-98. Communication Site Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Use</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$1,099	\$1,099	\$1,099	\$1,099	-
Recoveries .....	4	1	3	3	
Balance Available, SOY .....	85	80	83	36	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>1,185</b>	<b>1,138</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-79	-83	-36	-11	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>1,109</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>1,149</b>	<b>1,127</b>	

**Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Use – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program manages National Forest lands for subsistence uses, which sustains the health of rural Alaskan communities by ensuring a reliable food supply from healthy fish and wildlife populations. The Federal Subsistence Management Program supports employment in rural Alaska areas where opportunities are limited. By supporting the subsistence way of life in rural communities, the Forest Service continues to implement critical monitoring and management activities within this program. The subsistence program funds regulatory, information-gathering, law enforcement, education, and employment activities.

Partnering with the Department of the Interior on the Alaska Federal Subsistence Management Program, the Federal Subsistence Management Program provides annual rulemaking decisions, fish and wildlife monitoring, law enforcement and education, employment, and capacity-building initiatives. The Forest Service continuously consults with Alaska Tribes and Native Corporations to comply with presidential and secretarial policies. Also, these meetings show respect to the current and historical roles of Native Alaskans and other Federally qualified rural subsistence users, while managing for customary and traditional subsistence uses.

The program monitors subsistence resources and helps build collaborative relationships with other Federal, State, and Tribal Nation partners. Its involvement in the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program (FRMP) has helped to build capacity in local Tribal governments involved in increasingly complicated and labor-intensive scientific research, inventory and monitoring projects, and Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge studies. This work continues to help Tribal Nation organizations effectively participate in regulatory decision-making procedures made by the State and Federal governments regarding wildlife and fisheries issues.

**Selected Example of Recent Progress**

**Southeast Alaska with Tribal Nation partners**

The Forest Service changed how it funded agreements for subsistence-related projects in 2022 using the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act authority (16 U.S.C. 3101 or P.L. 96-487). This authority funded FRMP projects and did not limit agreements to local individuals or groups. Researchers from universities, state and Federal agencies, or other organizations submit FRMP proposals to study subsistence harvest patterns, traditional ecological knowledge, and stock status and trends. The Forest Service continued to fund seven ongoing FRMP projects in Southeast Alaska with Tribal Nation partners and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Table FS-99. 2023 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program Projects on the Tongass National Forest in Southeast Alaska (in dollars).

Project	Cooperator	Project Cost
Hetta Lake Sockeye Salmon Stock Assessment	Hydaburg Cooperative Association	\$158,563
Neva Lake Sockeye Salmon Stock Assessment	Hoonah Indian Association	75,754
Sitkoh Lake Sockeye Salmon Stock Assessment	Angoon Community Association	24,410
Klag Lake Sockeye Salmon Stock Assessment	Sitka Tribe of Alaska	179,537
Southeast Alaska Eulachon Population Dynamics Monitoring	Chilkoot Indian Association	210,844
Icy Strait Community Household Subsistence Harvest Surveys and Documenting Subsistence Harvest Patterns	Alaska Department of Fish and Game	195,334
Estimating In-season Harvests of the Klawock River Salmon Subsistence Fishery	Alaska Department of Fish and Game	33,955
<b>Total, Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program Projects</b>		<b>878,397</b>

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, the Forest Service aims to increase the number and diversity of projects funded by FRMP. The Federal Subsistence Management Program will seek to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the subsistence-related activities supported by the program, such as law enforcement, education, and employment, and identify best practices and areas for improvement. The FRMP program will continue its rigorous review process utilizing the team of experts from State and Federal agencies called the Technical Review Committee to evaluate proposed projects for funding using five criteria: (1) strategic priorities; (2) technical-scientific merit; (3) investigator ability and resources; (4) partnership and capacity building; and (5) cost/benefit. This program provides funding for regulatory, information-gathering, law enforcement, education, and employment activities.

**COMMUNICATION SITE ADMINISTRATION**

Table FS-100. Communication Site Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Communication Site Administration</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	-	-	-	\$2,000	+\$2,000
Total Available .....	-	-	-	2,000	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-	-	-	-80	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,920</b>	

**Communication Site Administration – Justifications of Changes**

An increase of \$2,000,000 in Communication Site Administration (\$0 in FY 2024). An increase of \$2,000,000 to improve the management of the communications use program. The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-334) requires the Forest Service to charge an annual programmatic administrative fee for communications use authorizations to cover the costs of administering its communications use program. The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 also authorizes the Forest Service to retain and spend the revenues it collects for this fee. In 2024, the Forest Service expects to publish a final rule implementing the annual programmatic administrative fee. The final rule will include an exemption from the programmatic administrative fee for Federal, state, and local governmental entities, other than municipal utilities and cooperatives; noncommercial entities; and amateur radio operators.

## **Communication Site Administration – Status of Programs**

### **Current Activities**

The program continues to streamline the process for evaluation applications for communications facilities on National Forest System lands and charge programmatic administrative fees for communications use authorizations to cover the cost of the Forest Service’s communications use program. It supports the USDA Rural Development’s effort to increase broadband access to rural communities, the American Broadband Initiative to increase private-sector investment in broadband networks on Federal lands, and the deployment of the nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety (FirstNet). Rural and urban communities depend on National Forest System lands for critical communications services, including emergency services, internet service, cellular communications, television, and radio.

### **Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

#### **Special Use Authorizations**

The Forest Service administered over 3,800 special use authorizations for infrastructure that supports over 10,000 wireless communications uses at 1,367 communications sites and over 500 special use authorizations for fiber optic cable communications uses. To address its current workload and in preparation for increased permitting work associated with broadband projects, the Forest Service hired a national team of communications use specialists. The increased capacity allowed the Forest Service to provide expert advice and directed support to district, forest, and region personnel on a variety of tasks associated with the approval and long-term management of communications uses on NFS lands.

The Forest Service developed and delivered multiple in-person training sessions for communications users to over 130 employees, including joint training with the Department of Interior’s Bureau of Land Management. Additionally, the Forest Service continues to build upon its previous efforts to streamline the processes for evaluating applications for communications facilities on NFS lands and improve customer service.

#### **Program Objectives for FY 2025**

This program intends to deliver deployment of wireless and fiber optic cable communications services to all Americans by authorizing infrastructure on National Forest System lands. This funding would expand capabilities that would benefit unserved and underserved rural communities; enable greater coordination in emergency response situations; and increase overall safety for visitors, Forest Service staff, and first responders.

#### **Program Evaluations**

Consistent with Forest Service regulations and directives, the Forest Service will:

- Within 270 days of acceptance of a proposal as an application for a new communications facility or co-location of a new communications use in or on a facility managed by the Forest Service, or within 270 days of receipt of an application for modification of an existing communications facility or co-located communications use, the authorized officer shall grant or deny the application and notify the applicant in writing of the grant or denial.
- Track the number of communications use applications received, approved, and denied. For applications that are denied, the reasons for denial will be included, and the amount of time between receipt and grant or denial of the application.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

**CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**

Table FS-101. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
	Personnel Compensation:				
	Personnel compensation, field .....	-\$14	\$1	\$1	\$1
11.0	Total personnel compensation .....	-14	1	1	1
12.0	Personal benefits .....	2	-	1	2
	Total, personnel compensation and benefits .....	-12	1	2	3
	Other Objects:				
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	2	9	6	9
22.0	Transportation of things.....	5	1	3	5
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges.....	3	13	8	13
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources .....	288	366	341	520
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources.....	231	79	162	247
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities .....	1	4	3	4
25.6	Medical care .....	1	-1	-	-
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment.....	19	28	25	37
26.0	Supplies and materials .....	1,994	1,507	1,817	2,774
31.0	Equipment .....	138	102	125	191
32.0	Land and structures .....	-	20	10	16
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	993	1,128	1,106	1,687
	Total, other objects.....	3,675	3,256	3,606	5,503
99.9	Total, new obligations.....	3,663	3,257	3,608	5,505

**WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT**

**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**

Table FS-102. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)

Item	Amount
2024 Estimated Budget.....	\$2,116,956,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+433,486,000
2025 Request <sup>a</sup> .....	<u>2,550,442,000</u>

<sup>a</sup> Wildland Fire Management discretionary appropriations include base recurring discretionary funding designated as emergency (i.e., shifted base).

**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored; deleted matter enclosed in brackets):

1 WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

2 For necessary expenses for forest fire presuppression activities on National Forest System lands, for emergency

3 wildland fire suppression on or adjacent to such lands or other lands under fire protection agreement, and for

4 emergency rehabilitation of burned-over National Forest System lands and water,

5 ~~[\$2,970,620,000]~~\$2,550,442,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such funds, including

6 unobligated balances under this heading, are available for repayment of advances from other appropriations

7 accounts previously transferred for such purposes: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be available to

8 reimburse State and other cooperating entities for services provided in response to wildfire and other emergencies

9 or disasters to the extent such reimbursements by the Forest Service for non-fire emergencies are fully repaid by

10 the responsible emergency management agency: *Provided further*, That funds provided shall be available for

11 support to Federal emergency response: *Provided further*, That the costs of implementing any cooperative

12 agreement between the Federal Government and any non-Federal entity may be shared, as mutually agreed on by

13 the affected parties: *Provided further*, That of the funds[ provided under this heading, \$322,988,000 shall be for

14 hazardous fuels management activities, of which \$1,600,000 shall be available for the hire and purchase of zero

15 emission passenger motor vehicles and supporting charging or fueling infrastructure, and of which not to exceed

16 \$15,000,000 may be used to make grants, using any authorities available to the Forest Service under the "State

17 and Private Forestry" appropriation, for the purpose of creating incentives for increased use of biomass from

18 National Forest System lands: *Provided further*, That funds made available in the previous proviso to implement

19 the Community Forest Restoration Act, Public Law 106–393, title VI, shall be available for use on non-Federal lands

20 in accordance with authorities made available to the Forest Service under the "State and Private Forestry"

21 appropriation: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, \$20,000,000 may be used by the

22 Secretary of Agriculture to enter into procurement contracts or cooperative agreements; to issue grants for

23 hazardous fuels management activities, for training or monitoring associated with such hazardous fuels

24 management activities on Federal land, or for training or monitoring associated with such hazardous fuels

25 management activities on non-Federal land if the Secretary determines such activities benefit resources on Federal

26 land:] provided under this heading, \$1,363,184,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency

27 requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985:

28 *Provided further*, that such amount shall be available only if the President designates such amount as an

29 emergency requirement pursuant to such section 251(b)(2)(A)(i): *Provided further*, That of the funds provided

30 under this heading, \$1,011,000,000 shall be available for wildfire suppression operations, and is provided as the

31 average costs of wildfire suppression operations to the meet the terms of [a concurrent resolution on the

32 budget]section 251(b)(2)(F)(ii)(I) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other

Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**Change Description**

The first change (lines 13 through 26) removes language for zero emission passenger motor vehicles as well as hazardous fuels management and available authorities.

The second change (lines 26 through 29) adds language referencing 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 for Wildland Fire Management base recurring discretionary funding designated as emergency (i.e., shifted base).

The third change (lines 31 and 32) removes language referencing a concurrent resolution on the budget for meeting the terms of funds available for wildfire suppression operations.

The fourth change (line 32) adds language referencing section 251(b)(2)(F)(ii)(I) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended for meeting terms of funds available for wildfire suppression operations.



**PROJECT STATEMENTS**

Table FS-103. Appropriations Project Statement (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Project Statement	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
Wildland Fire Management:										
Discretionary Appropriations ....	\$2,005,106	9,716	\$2,116,956	9,631	\$2,116,956	9,974	\$2,550,442	10,544	+\$433,486	+570
Supplemental Appropriations ....	2,352,200	63	411,000	853	36,000	431	36,000	431	-	-
<b>Total Appropriations....</b>	<b>4,357,306</b>	<b>9,779</b>	<b>2,527,956</b>	<b>10,484</b>	<b>2,152,956</b>	<b>10,405</b>	<b>2,586,442</b>	<b>10,975</b>	<b>+\$433,486</b>	<b>+570</b>

Table FS-104. Appropriations Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Detail Table	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Wildland Fire Management:					
Preparedness .....	\$172,000	\$192,000	\$192,000	\$204,500	+\$12,500
Suppression.....	1,011,000	1,386,000	1,011,000	1,011,000	-
Salaries and Expenses.....	822,106	913,956	913,956	1,334,942	+420,986
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law <sup>a</sup> .....	552,200	36,000	36,000	36,000	-
Inflation Reduction Act (Haz Fuels) <sup>b</sup> .....	1,800,000	-	-	-	-
<b>Total, Wildland Fire Management.....</b>	<b>4,357,306</b>	<b>2,527,956</b>	<b>2,152,956</b>	<b>2,586,442</b>	<b>+433,486</b>

<sup>a</sup> The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) are advance appropriations each year from 2022 through 2026.

<sup>b</sup> The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)(P.L. 117-169) provided \$4.9 billion appropriations in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. All funds shown for IRA are carryover from the original appropriation.

Note: The discrepancy between the project statement and Max schedule X is reimbursable funds.

**PREPAREDNESS**

Table FS-105. Preparedness Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Preparedness	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$172,000	\$192,000	\$192,000	\$204,500	+\$12,500
Recoveries .....	31,576	22,781	23,974	23,974	
Transfers Out.....	-8,628	-3,900	-	-	
Balance Transfers.....	-268	-531	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	21,105	39,216	70,486	41,904	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>215,785</b>	<b>249,566</b>	<b>286,460</b>	<b>270,378</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-36	-	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-39,216	-70,486	-41,904	-20,130	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>176,533</b>	<b>179,080</b>	<b>244,556</b>	<b>250,248</b>	

**Preparedness – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$12,500,000 in Preparedness (\$192,000,000 in FY 2024).

- a. An increase of \$10,000,000 for health and wellbeing services for wildland firefighters. This increase will deliver funding to develop health and wellbeing tools and services to ensure wildland firefighters can successfully confront the mental and physical aspects of their mission. The increase better meets wildland firefighter’s needs and builds on the reform Congress provided with interim funding in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-169) to sustain the firefighting workforce in a demanding work environment.
- b. An increase of \$2,500,000 for the establishment of a Joint Office for Wildfire Science and Technology with the Department of Interior. This increase is half of the \$5,000,000 requested to be split evenly between the Forest Service and the Department of Interior to establish an office as recommended in multiple federally directed advisory reports to lead the development, deployment, and sustainment of the technology, science, and data to be used to improve safety, effectiveness, and cost efficiency across the full spectrum of wildland fire management operations.

**Preparedness – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Wildland Fire Preparedness program implements pre-suppression projects and activities that prevent wildfires and ensure appropriate, risk-informed, and effective response when wildfires do occur. The program supports fixed costs that ensure fire management assets (large airtankers, helicopters, hotshot crews, and smokejumpers) are available and ready to support initial attack response operations when needed. In addition, the program funds advancement of firefighting technology through Dingell Act Resource Tracking<sup>38</sup>, training development, organizational learning, fire or emergency-related equipment, and minimum contractual guarantees for exclusive-use aircraft.

<sup>38</sup> [Dingell Act Resource Tracking](#).

Table FS-106. Wildland Fire Management Preparedness actual and projected spending<sup>39</sup> (in millions)

Item	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Fixed ownership cost of equipment.....	\$77	\$80	\$83
Personal protective equipment.....	44	46	46
Interagency agreements <sup>a</sup> .....	18	19	19
Aviation Program.....	32	25	27
Training Development.....	15	16	16
Vital Health and wellbeing.....	5	5	10
Joint Office for Wildfire Science and Technology <sup>c</sup> .....	-	-	3
Other.....	1	1	1
<b>Total, Preparedness</b> .....	<b>192<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>192</b>	<b>205</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes agreements with the Department of Defense (DOD) for Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems, Fireguard, the Department of Interior (DOI) Office of Wildland Fire, National Interagency Coordination Center shared services and staffing, and the National Interagency Fire Center facility among others.

<sup>b</sup> 2023 total preparedness costs reflect regular appropriations and disaster supplemental funding. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328)<sup>40</sup> provided Wildland Fire Preparedness \$192 million, \$32 million in discretionary appropriations, and an additional \$160 million in supplemental funding.

<sup>c</sup> A total of \$5 million, split evenly between the Forest Service and Department of Interior to establish an office as recommended in multiple federally directed advisory reports to lead the development, deployment, and sustainment of the technology, science, and data to be used to improve safety, effectiveness, and cost efficiency across the full spectrum of wildland fire management operations.

Table FS-107. Summary of Wildland Fire Management personnel

Item	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Type I interagency hotshot personnel.....	1,665	1,665	1,690
Other firefighters.....	8,905	8,905	9,450
Smokejumpers.....	330	330	330
Prevention technicians.....	400	400	400
<b>Total, firefighters</b> .....	<b>11,300</b>	<b>11,300</b>	<b>11,870</b>

<sup>39</sup> This table is a Congressional directive included in the Joint Explanatory Statement Division G that accompanied the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (P.L. 113-76), which states, “In the FY 2015 and all future Budget submissions, the Committees direct the Forest Service to include a detailed table of actual and proposed spending on fire operations, which should include a breakout of spending on aviation resources, for both preparedness and suppression appropriations.”

<sup>40</sup> [The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023.](#)

Table FS-108. Summary of Wildland Fire Management equipment

Item	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Engines <sup>a</sup> .....	900	900	900
Heavy equipment (dozers, tractor plows, tenders) .....	210	210	210
Helicopters:			
Type 1 <sup>b</sup> .....	28	28	28
Type 2 <sup>c</sup> .....	34	34	34
Type 3 <sup>d</sup> .....	46	46	46
Total, helicopters.....	108	108	108
Next Generation Airtankers .....	18	18	18

<sup>a</sup> Engines refer to the suite of wheeled vehicles used to carry wildland firefighters and waters to the site of a fire.

<sup>b</sup> Type 1 helicopters are large aircraft used primarily for strategically dropping retardant or water on a target. Some Type 1 helicopters are equipped to transport personnel, supplies, and equipment.

<sup>c</sup> Type 2 helicopters are medium-sized aircraft used primarily for initial attack activities. Type 2 helicopters are equipped to carry water or transport personnel, supplies, and equipment.

<sup>d</sup> Type 3 helicopters are small aircraft equipped to carry water or transport personnel, supplies, and equipment.

### Selected Examples of Recent Progress

#### FireGuard

FireGuard is an interagency program led by the Forest Service, with partners at DOI, DOD, and State fire agencies. FireGuard can remotely detect and monitor wildfires across the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii. The interagency FireGuard team works to provide a system for near real-time incident awareness and assessment, including mobile applications featuring automated alerts of new fire starts and changes in fire behavior. In preparation to potentially transition the FireGuard program from DOD, the Forest Service began to document key programmatic components such as developing a program charter, writing a program transition strategic plan, and determining communication plan objectives. In addition, the interagency partners continue to identify key areas where artificial intelligence and automation can reduce the need for staffing and therefore reduce the risks to firefighters.

#### Firefighter Health Program Improvements

**Risk Management.** The Forest Service continued making improvements to critical communication processes in the event of serious firefighter incidents, including injuries, fatalities, and aviation-related incidents, both during international support missions and those that occur within the United States. The improvements focused on appropriate response and support, while ensuring timely and accurate reporting.

**Medical Clearance Process.** The Forest Service began implementing a new medical clearance process for all arduous duty wildland firefighter positions to further ensure the Forest Service is in alignment with the Federal Interagency Wildland Firefighter Medical Standards. The new process consists of a medical history questionnaire, a physical examination every three years that includes a blood pressure check, and a self-certification questionnaire in alternate years.

**Exposure.** The Forest Service hosted a two-day interagency Smoke and Respirator meeting with representatives from the DOI’s Office of Wildland Fire and Office of Occupational Safety and Health, and the Forest Service’s Fire and Aviation Management, Office of Safety and Occupational Health, and National Technology and Development Program to inform exposure assessments in accordance with the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) (BIL) and FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act and to begin developing a strategy for respirator use and program management in the wildland fire environment.

**Behavioral Health.** The Forest Service worked closely with the DOI to collectively host a Wildland Firefighter Health and Wellbeing Strategic Action Planning Summit. The Summit provided an intensive and inclusive opportunity for a large group of key stakeholders and subject matter experts to solidify their understanding of behavioral health

challenges, best practices, and resources, and advise the joint program core team on key areas of focus and considerations.

The Forest Service worked with the DOI and the Department of Health and Human Services to set up a Memorandum of Agreement to bring in clinical expertise to assist in the development and implementation of both behavioral and physical health programs. The Forest Service has provided \$1.3 million to the agreement to build capacity around the Joint Firefighter Behavioral Health Program.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The increased complexity and duration of wildfires are expected to continue to challenge Forest Service administrators and fire managers in FY 2025. The Forest Service will continue to support the development of Potential Operational Delineations<sup>41</sup> and to manage and improve the Risk Management Assistance Dashboard<sup>42</sup> with useful and timely analytical data to assist fire managers and wildfire response teams in the management of both operational and strategic-level risk. The Forest Service will continue to participate as a partner agency, with the National Wildfire Coordinating Group<sup>43</sup> to develop and refine processes within the interagency standards that focus on fire risk management.

In FY 2025, The Forest Service will continue to identify both short- and long-term needs for firefighter health program development, including working with the DOI on the organizational needs for their Joint Wildland Firefighter Behavioral Health Program<sup>44</sup> (currently under development) as well as firefighter health programs related to exposure, presumptive illnesses, and hazard mitigation.

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<sup>41</sup> [Potential Operational Delineations.](#)

<sup>42</sup> [Risk Management Assistance Dashboard.](#)

<sup>43</sup> [National Wildfire Coordinating Group.](#)

<sup>44</sup> [Joint Wildland Firefighter Behavioral Health Program.](#)

**SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS**

Table FS-109. Suppression Operations Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Suppression</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$1,011,000	\$1,386,000 <sup>a</sup>	\$1,011,000	\$1,011,000	-
Recoveries .....	223,004	154,774	171,663	163,720	
Offsetting Collections.....	-	17,492	-	-	
Transfers In .....	550,000	1,105,000	-	-	
Balance Transfers.....	1,220,000	-	1,882,000	1,882,000	
Balance Available, SOY .....	271,647	163,672	128,385	191,583	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>3,275,651</b>	<b>2,826,938</b>	<b>3,193,048</b>	<b>3,248,303</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-1,066	-	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-163,672	-128,385	-191,583	-64,966	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>3,110,913</b>	<b>2,698,553</b>	<b>3,001,465</b>	<b>3,183,337</b>	

<sup>a</sup> Includes \$375,000,000 of Supplemental Funds.

**Suppression Operations – Status of Programs****Current Activities**

The Forest Service is responsible for carrying out wildfire management and response across the 193 million acres of National Forest System lands. Wildland Fire Suppression Operations is the primary funding source for wildland fire extended attack and large fire support operations. The program maintains the Forest Service's key role of working with Tribal Nations, Federal, State, and local government partners to protect life and property against wildfires and other natural disasters. The program protects forests and watersheds from the impacts of catastrophic fire, helping to maintain clean water, wildlife and fish habitat, recreational opportunities, and forest products.

Each FY the Forest Service responds to around 5,000 to 7,000 fires that were either ignited on or spread to National Forest System lands. Over the past ten years, an average of more than 2.2 million acres of National Forest System land burns annually. Over the past ten years, wildfires originating on National Forest System lands had an initial attack success rate<sup>45</sup> of 97 percent. The number of fires and acreage burned are indicators of the annual level of wildfire activity, however, these numbers may not be indicative of fire's impact on human development or communities, since many fires occur in large, relatively undeveloped areas. Naturally ignited fire has the potential to increase landscape resilience when conditions permit. Risk-sharing dialogues with community members, stakeholders, and cooperators, help Forest Service leadership make informed decisions that balance resource objectives with safety and community protection. In FY 2023, over 48,000 wildfires burned approximately 2.5 million acres in the United States, including approximately 800,000 acres of National Forest System lands.

While the most recent fire season may seem mild in comparison to previous years, the increased wildfire response costs and inflation continue to be a significant factor for the Forest Service. In addition, the Forest Service carries the contractual and funding responsibility of flight time for all interagency wildland fire agencies, DOI, States, Tribes, and local entities. The potential reimbursement from state and local entities for use of Forest Service aviation resources is typically at least a year after the incident and there isn't an interagency billing process for expenses incurred between Federal entities. Furthermore, flight time is not a planned cost, and cannot be

<sup>45</sup> Initial attack success rate is the percent of fires suppressed before reaching 300 acres in size.

reasonably estimated or planned, and varies greatly from year to year depending on the complexity of the fire season including ground access to incidents.

Table FS-110. Wildland Fire Management Suppression actual and projected spending (in millions)

Item	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Firefighter response on Federal lands <sup>a</sup> .....	\$670	\$745	\$791
Firefighter response on state lands <sup>b</sup> .....	35	39	41
Aviation Program .....	946	1,052	1,116
Fire support contracts and other procurements <sup>c</sup> .....	925	1,029	1,091
Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) <sup>d</sup> .....	7	8	8
Administrative Support <sup>e</sup> .....	115	128	136
<b>Total, Suppression</b> .....	<b>2,698</b>	<b>3,001</b>	<b>3,183</b>

<sup>a</sup> Forest Service fire management assets used to support Suppression program activities on National Forest System and other Federal lands.

<sup>b</sup> Forest Service fire management assets used to support Suppression program activities on State lands.

<sup>c</sup> Execution of contracts and other procurements for activities associated with the national suppression response.

<sup>d</sup> Forest Service Burned Area Emergency Repair response across all lands.

<sup>e</sup> Administrative support includes all other costs to support Forest Service firefighters and staff during suppression activities.

The Forest Service continues to use science-based tools to make risk-informed decisions to manage fire on the landscape, including using naturally occurring wildfire in the right place, at the right time, and for the right reasons, to reduce wildfire risk and improve forest conditions. Additionally, the Forest Service continues to improve the use of analytical systems to determine the most efficient allocation of fire suppression resources, the effectiveness of suppression resources, and the efficiency of the current practices used by incident managers to contain large fires.

**Complex Incident Management Teams**

Over the past ten years, several interagency engagements have addressed critical challenges in rostering and managing incident management teams<sup>46</sup> nationally. These efforts have resulted in the development of the Complex Incident Management Team<sup>47</sup> as the new business model to stabilize team numbers, ensure the overall availability of team members, reduce fatigue, and increase the resiliency of our interagency incident management teams and their members while managing the nation’s most complex incidents. The Complex Incident Management Team has been gradually implemented over recent fire years, with full implementation planned in the upcoming season.

**Burned Area Emergency Response**

The Forest Service’s BAER program provides post-fire emergency activities on National Forest System lands that prevent or minimize unacceptable erosion and loss of soil productivity, deterioration of water quality and downstream damage, changes to ecosystem function, establishment of non-native taxa, and degradation of cultural and natural resources; and helps protect lives and property. In addition to the BAER program, the Forest Service is establishing a post-disaster recovery team that incorporates and builds upon the BAER and other post-fire programs to facilitate a more comprehensive approach to respond to all disasters.

**Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR)**

The BAR program aims to restore lands and facilities damaged by wildfires and prevent further disasters by repairing and improving impacted lands to a desired management condition. The program serves as a bridge to connect emergency response actions to long-term recovery goals. Currently, this program uses BIL funds for post-

<sup>46</sup> An incident management team is a cadre comprised of Tribal, Federal, state, local, and territorial entities that can be dispatched to provide a command-and-control infrastructure during emergency incidents.

<sup>47</sup> [Incident Workforce Development Group](#).

fire efforts within three years of wildfire containment to repair or improve lands unlikely to recover naturally or to repair/replace minor infrastructure and facilities damaged by fire. The Forest Service recognizes the need to work at a larger scale to restore landscapes from climate change-driven disasters, such as fires and post-fire flooding, and is now working on over 100 burned areas across the western United States.

**Selected Example of Recent Progress**

**Burned Area Emergency Response**

Post-fire emergency assessments and treatments were completed on approximately 100 wildfires covering more than 1.1 million acres of National Forest System lands at a cost of \$6.1 million. BAER implementation included inventory and treatment of more than 10,000 acres of non-native plants, improving drainage on over 340 miles of roads, emergency improvements to approximately 200 miles of trails, protecting 16 cultural sites, mitigating 55 hazardous sites, and installing numerous informational/warning signs.



**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Table FS-111. Salaries and Expenses Details Table (thousands of dollars)

Salaries and Expenses	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$822,106	\$913,956	\$913,956	\$1,334,942	+\$420,986
Recoveries .....	3,303	6,351	3,747	4,467	
Balance Available, SOY .....	9,776	12,015	19,342	4,685	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>835,185</b>	<b>932,322</b>	<b>937,045</b>	<b>1,344,094</b>	
Lapsing Balances.....	-141	-	-	-	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-12,015	-19,342	-4,685	-13,441	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>823,029</b>	<b>912,980</b>	<b>932,360</b>	<b>1,330,653</b>	

**Salaries and Expenses – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$420,986,000 and 570 FTEs in Salaries and Expenses (\$913,956,000 and 9,974 FTEs in FY 2024). The Forest Service has proposed an increase in its budget for FY 2025 to further enhance the investments in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) by providing continued support to Federal wildland firefighters. Wildland Fire Management salaries and expenses not only provides funding for wildland fire response, but also prescribed fire and manual thinning treatments for hazardous fuels mitigation. The Forest Service values the difficult and dangerous nature of wildland firefighting and aims to improve the quality of life for firefighters and support personnel. This includes reevaluating firefighter compensation, effectively managing their workload, and providing adequate rest periods to prevent physical and mental exhaustion.

- a. An increase of \$69,228,000 for pay and employee costs. This increase funds the anticipated Calendar Year (CY) 2024 and CY 2025 employee pay cost increases. If this funding is not provided, the Forest Service will need to reduce current firefighter capacity unless it is offset by the additional investment in firefighter capacity.
- b. An increase of \$135,818,000 for firefighter capacity. The objective of this increase is to hire 570 more permanent firefighters and transition to a more full-time workforce through the conversion of temporary employees to permanent. By making these investments, the Forest Service can effectively meet the demands of the year-round wildfire season while improving the work-life balance of firefighters and support personnel. The proposal bolsters the Forest Service's ability to address hazardous fuels and to help communities become more resilient to wildfires. The Forest Service 10-year Wildfire Crisis Strategy<sup>48</sup> and the National Prescribed Fire Resource Mobilization Strategy<sup>49</sup> articulate the need for an increase in the pace and scale of hazardous fuels treatments commensurate with the rising risk of wildfire. Increasing firefighting capacity will help ensure that the Forest Service can rise to the increasing demands of wildland fire activity and risk mitigation work year-round, while also improving the work-life balance of firefighters.
- c. An increase of \$215,940,000 for base pay increase. This increase is to further enhance its investments in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) by providing continued support to Federal wildland firefighters through the implementation of permanent, comprehensive pay reform, as initially proposed in the 2024 Budget and accompanying legislative proposal. The Forest Service is requesting an additional \$215,940,000 to augment the base pay of firefighters to provide a more livable wage

<sup>48</sup> [Wildfire Crisis Strategy](#).

<sup>49</sup> [National Prescribed Fire Resource Mobilization Strategy](#)

and address long-term competitiveness and equity issues to improve recruitment outcomes, stabilize retention, and improve work-life balance for firefighters.

**OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING**

Table FS-112. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations.....	\$552,200	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$36,000	-
Transfers In.....	30,663	30,663	59,210	-	
Transfers Out.....	-31,313	-10,000	-4,494	-	
Balance Transfers.....	-	-6,000	4,899	-	
Balance Available, SOY.....	-	348,866	149,844	7,959	
Total Available.....	551,550	399,529	245,459	43,959	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-348,866	-149,844	-7,959	-	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>202,684</b>	<b>249,685</b>	<b>237,500</b>	<b>43,959</b>	

**Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 115-78), also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, broadly supports ecosystem restoration, wildfire risk reduction, wildfire mitigation grants, and other community support activities.

Table FS-113. Inflation Reduction Act (Haz Fuels) Program Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Inflation Reduction Act (Haz Fuels)</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Estimated</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations.....	\$1,800,000	-	-	-	-
Recoveries.....	1,688	\$4,848	\$15,000	\$15,000	
Transfers In.....	-	470	-	-	
Balance Transfers.....	-1,263	-	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY.....	8,626	1,808,678	954,604	77,568	
Total Available.....	1,809,051	1,813,996	969,604	92,568	
Balance Available, EOY.....	-1,808,678	-954,604	-77,568	-	
<b>Total Obligations.....</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>859,392</b>	<b>892,036</b>	<b>92,568</b>	

**Inflation Reduction Act**

The Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169), includes funds appropriated for hazardous fuels reduction, vegetation and watershed management, management of mature and old growth forests, and timely processing of National Environmental Policy Act-related reviews.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

**CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**

Table FS-114. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Personnel Compensation:					
	Washington D.C.....	\$38,257	\$84,276	\$88,490	\$92,119
	Personnel compensation, field.....	1,035,796	969,183	1,017,642	1,088,877
11.0	Total personnel compensation.....	1,074,053	1,053,459	1,106,132	1,180,996
12.0	Personal benefits.....	413,686	587,175	616,534	659,691
13.0	Benefits for former personnel.....	23	1	14	13
	Total, personnel compensation and benefits.....	1,487,762	1,640,635	1,722,680	1,840,700
Other Objects:					
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	121,819	151,110	159,630	136,247
22.0	Transportation of things.....	11,477	10,558	12,888	11,000
23.1	Rental payments to GSA.....	21	-	12	10
23.2	Rental payments to others.....	4,483	-346	2,420	2,065
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges.....	7,044	6,366	7,843	6,694
24.0	Printing and reproduction.....	231	226	267	228
25.1	Advisory and assistance services.....	-776	1,318	317	271
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources.....	1,981,817	1,788,175	2,204,987	1,881,996
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources.....	59,748	251,684	182,150	155,468
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities.....	2,249	202	1,434	1,224
25.5	Research and development contracts.....	160	79	140	119
25.6	Medical care.....	247	333	339	290
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment.....	2,885	2,545	3,176	2,711
26.0	Supplies and materials.....	157,978	208,786	214,512	183,090
31.0	Equipment.....	9,233	26,467	20,880	17,822
32.0	Land and structures.....	954	16,002	9,917	8,465
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	496,882	807,281	762,777	651,044
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities.....	1,625	421	1,197	1,021
43.0	Interest and dividends.....	480	109	344	294
44.0	Refunds.....	-32,796	-12,266	-	-
92.0	Undistributed.....	8	5	8	7
	Total, other objects.....	2,825,769	3,259,055	3,585,238	3,060,065
99.9	Total, new obligations.....	4,313,532	4,899,690	5,307,917	4,900,765
Position Data:					
	Average Salary (dollars), ES Position.....	\$183,027	\$195,000	\$204,000	\$208,080
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position.....	53,391	57,800	62,359	65,301
	Average Grade, GS Position.....	7.1	7.5	7.7	7.8

**WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS RESERVE FUND**

**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**

Table FS-115. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)

Item	Amount
2024 Estimated Budget.....	\$2,210,000,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+180,000,000
2025 Request.....	<u>2,390,000,000</u>

**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored; deleted matter enclosed in brackets):

- 1 WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS RESERVE FUND
- 2 (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)
- 3 In addition to the amounts provided under the heading "Department of Agriculture --Forest Service--Wildland Fire
- 4 Management" for wildfire suppression operations, [~~\$2,300,000,000~~]\$2,390,000,000, to remain available until
- 5 transferred, is additional new budget authority in excess of the average costs for wildfire suppression operations
- 6 for purposes of [a concurrent resolution on the budget]section 251(b)(2)(F) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency
- 7 Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended: *Provided*, That such amounts may be transferred to and merged with
- 8 amounts made available under the headings "Department of the Interior—Department-Wide Programs—Wildland
- 9 Fire Management" and "Department of Agriculture—Forest Service—Wildland Fire Management" for wildfire
- 10 suppression operations in the fiscal year in which such amounts are transferred: *Provided further*, That amounts
- 11 may be transferred to the "Wildland Fire Management" accounts in the Department of the Interior or the
- 12 Department of Agriculture only upon the notification of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that
- 13 all wildfire suppression operations funds appropriated under that heading in this and prior appropriations Acts to
- 14 the agency to which the funds will be transferred will be obligated within 30 days: *Provided further*, That the
- 15 transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law:
- 16 *Provided further*, That, in determining whether all wildfire suppression operations funds appropriated under the
- 17 heading "Wildland Fire Management" in this and prior appropriations Acts to either the Department of Agriculture
- 18 or the Department of the Interior will be obligated within 30 days pursuant to the preceding proviso, any funds
- 19 transferred or permitted to be transferred pursuant to any other transfer authority provided by law shall be
- 20 excluded.

Note.--A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

**Change Description**

The first change (line 6) removes language referencing the concurrent resolution on the budget.

The second change (lines 6 and 7) adds language referencing the section 251(b)(2)(F) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

The third change (lines 16 through 20) adds language for obligation terms.

**PROJECT STATEMENTS**

Table FS-116. Appropriations Project Statement (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

<b>Project Statement</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>	<b>FTE Inc. or Dec.</b>
Suppression Reserve Fund:										
Discretionary Appropriations ....	\$2,120,000	-	\$2,210,000	-	\$2,210,000	-	\$2,390,000	-	+\$180,000	-
<b>Total Appropriations....</b>	<b>2,120,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,210,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,210,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,390,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+180,000</b>	<b>-</b>

Table FS-117. Appropriations Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Detail Table</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Suppression Reserve Fund:					
Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund...	\$2,120,000	\$2,210,000	\$2,210,000	\$2,390,000	+\$180,000
<b>Total, Suppression Reserve Fund .....</b>	<b>2,120,000</b>	<b>2,210,000</b>	<b>2,210,000</b>	<b>2,390,000</b>	<b>+\$180,000</b>

**WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS RESERVE FUND**

Table FS-118. Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$2,120,000	\$2,210,000	\$2,210,000	\$2,390,000	+\$180,000
Transfers Out.....	-550,000	-1,105,000	-	-	
Balance Transfers.....	-1,220,000	-	-1,882,000	-1,882,000	
Balance Available, SOY .....	1,220,000	1,570,000	2,675,000	3,003,000	
Total Available .....	1,570,000	2,675,000	3,003,000	3,511,000	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-1,570,000	-2,675,000	-3,003,000	-3,511,000	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	-	-	-	-	-

**Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund – Justification of Changes**

An increase of \$180,000,000 in Wildfire Operations Reserve Fund (\$2,210,000,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024). The Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund was established by the fire funding fix enacted in Division O of Public Law 115-141, the Stephen Sepp Wildfire Suppression Funding and Forest Management Activities Act. This fire funding fix also amended Section 102 of the Stephen Sepp of the Wildfire Suppression Funding and Forest Management Activities Act (division O of Public Law 115–141) to provide additional new budget authority for FY’s 2020 through 2027. The overall amount increases by \$100 million each year. The base level is defined as the average costs over ten years for wildfire suppression operations that was requested in the 2015 President’s Budget. This was determined to be \$1.011 billion for the Forest Service and was appropriated beginning in 2020 together with the first allocation of the new budget authority.

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**PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS**

**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**

Table FS-119. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2024 Estimated Budget.....	\$643,530,000
Change in Appropriation.....	+2,750,000
2025 Request.....	<u>646,280,000</u>

**PROJECT STATEMENTS**

Table FS-120. Appropriations Project Statement (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Project Statement	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
Permanent Funds:										
Mandatory										
Appropriations .....	\$575,101	890	\$731,419	872	\$643,530	872	\$646,280	872	+\$2,750	-
<b>Total</b>										
<b>Appropriations.....</b>	<b>575,101</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>731,419</b>	<b>872</b>	<b>643,530</b>	<b>872</b>	<b>646,280</b>	<b>872</b>	<b>+\$2,750</b>	<b>-</b>

Table FS-121. Appropriations Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Detail Table	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Permanent Funds:					
National Parks and Public Land Legacy					
Restoration Fund <sup>a</sup> .....	[\$285,048]	[\$285,543]	[\$296,000]	[\$320,000]	[\$24,000]
Brush Disposal.....	4,962	6,168	8,800	8,900	+100
Timber Salvage Sales .....	32,809	35,564	39,800	40,000	+200
Timber Sales Pipeline Restoration.....	5,233	5,422	5,500	5,600	+100
Forest Botanical Products .....	975	980	1,000	1,100	+100
Stewardship Contracting.....	28,586	24,890	30,700	31,000	+300
Recreation Fees, Forest Service.....	131,965	136,527	134,600	135,200	+600
Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction <sup>b</sup> ...	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	-
Operation and Maintenance of Forest Service					
Quarters.....	11,284	12,495	13,100	13,400	+300
Roads and Trails for States.....	18,888	20,171	19,000	20,000	+1,000
Land Between the Lakes Management.....	4,212	11,942	11,942	11,942	-
Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Rental Fees ...	794	937	1,000	1,050	+50
Quinault Special Management Area .....	-	-	-	-	-
Restoration of Forest Lands and Improvements..	3,656	110,771	14,500	14,500	-
Commercial Filming & Still Photography Land					
Use Fee Retention.....	604	564	610	610	-
Organizational Camps Program.....	448	633	630	630	-
Cost Recovery (Land Uses).....	786	657	750	750	-
Licensee Program Smokey Bear .....	1,134	1,306	1,134	1,134	-
Licensee Program Woodsy Owl.....	10	8	10	10	-
Forest Service Go Green Program (Conservation)	54	98	54	54	-
Payments to States Funds.....	326,701	360,286	358,400	358,400	-
<b>Total, Permanent Funds.....</b>	<b>575,101</b>	<b>731,419</b>	<b>643,530</b>	<b>646,280</b>	<b>+2,750</b>

<sup>a</sup> National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund are legislatively mandated transfers from another agency.

<sup>b</sup>At the time of publication, analysis is being done to determine a reduction for future deposits into the Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction fund. Therefore, it is likely the actual deposit amount in 2025 will be lower than is requested.

**NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LAND LEGACY RESTORATION FUND**

Table FS-122. National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (Great American Outdoor Act) Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (Great American Outdoors Act)</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Recoveries .....	\$2,167	\$2,607	\$3,502	\$3,512	
Transfers In .....	285,048	285,543	296,000	320,000	
Sequestrations.....	-16,248	3	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	169,734	287,935	364,871	402,596	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>440,701</b>	<b>576,088</b>	<b>664,373</b>	<b>726,108</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-287,936	-364,871	-402,596	-453,405	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>152,765</b>	<b>211,217</b>	<b>261,777</b>	<b>272,703</b>	

**National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Great American Outdoors Act established the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 through FY 2025, authorizing the Forest Service with up to \$285 million annually. Projects approved under LRF focuses on reducing the deferred maintenance backlog. The LRF Program continues to improve outdoor recreation opportunities across the country, bringing sites into compliance with accessibility standards and contributing to the Forest Service’s equity goals.

The Forest Service’s FY 2025 National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund project lists are included in the appendix of the FY 2025 Budget request. The Forest Service has developed these projects in accordance with GAOA requirements and Administration guidance.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Flagstaff Trail Initiative**

The program completed the Flagstaff Trail Initiative Collaboration and Mt. Elden Trail Reconstruction project, which was instrumental in identifying maintenance tasks such as trail reroutes and replacement of drainage structures of approximately 40 miles of trail in the Mount Elden Dry Lake area of the Coconino National Forest. The trail maintenance was completed in partnership with both the American Conservation Experience and Arizona Conservation Corps and was able to address \$327,700 of deferred maintenance.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

Projects proposed for FY 2025 will continue to improve public access and visitor experience on National Forest System lands. In addition, the FY 2025 project list includes many projects that help to address the employee housing shortage across much of the country, which is hampering the Forest Service’s ability to hire and retain employees in rural and high cost of living areas. These projects will support numerous Forest Service programs, with a particular focus on the Wildfire Crisis Strategy. While most of the funding will go to new projects, approximately a quarter of the list comprises existing projects that require additional funding either due to inflation or planned project phasing. As this is the final year of LRF, the Forest Service has ensured that the FY 2025 list will complete construction on all approved projects. Of new projects, approximately 41 percent of spending is in underserved counties, 60 percent is helping to address climate change mitigation or adaptation, and 23 percent of spending will aid the Wildfire Crisis Strategy by investing in priority landscapes<sup>50</sup>. Partnerships and addressing

<sup>50</sup> There is overlap between these benefit categories and other categories, the percentages should not be totaled.

deferred maintenance continue to be priorities, with 14 percent of projects having external funding to supplement the work and returning a 95 percent efficiency on investment for deferred maintenance.

**Program Evaluations**

The program management plan and acquisition strategy define key performance indicators related to deferred maintenance reduction, sustainability, access and visitor experience, equity and economic opportunity, and partnerships. The Forest Service tracks progress toward these goals through a series of publicly available dashboards to ensure accountability and transparency. This plan requires an annual evaluation and field truthing through site visits and local reviews. The reviews focus on identifying and mitigating risks for program delivery. Major themes centered around finding solutions for issues like contracting, resource capacity, contractor availability and pricing, environmental clearances, asset management, and communication strategies.

**BRUSH DISPOSAL**

Table FS-123. Brush Disposal Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Brush Disposal	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$4,962	\$6,168	\$8,800	\$8,900	+\$100
Recoveries .....	973	238	430	547	
Sequestrations.....	112	-69	-150	-6	
Balance Available, SOY .....	25,728	25,838	24,126	23,244	
Total Available .....	31,775	32,175	33,206	32,685	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-25,838	-24,126	-23,244	-22,879	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>5,937</b>	<b>8,049</b>	<b>9,962</b>	<b>9,806</b>	

**Brush Disposal – Status of Programs****Current Activities**

This program provides for the disposal of unmerchantable brush and other debris resulting from timber purchaser operations on timber sale contracts, stewardship contracts, and permits not removed by the purchaser. Timber harvest activities create slash and other debris that, if left untreated, can increase the risk of fire, impair reforestation, and contribute to the growth in undesirable insect populations. Brush disposal treatments can be mechanical (e.g., scattering, chipping, or crushing slash) or by prescribed burning. Timber sale operators can perform the required work, or they can request that the Forest Service complete this work by depositing funds to cover these costs. Brush Disposal receipts originate from deposits for the estimated cost of disposing of brush and other debris resulting from timber harvest operations, should the purchaser elect not to perform the disposal work-

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress****Fuel Breaks and Slash Work**

On the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, a purchaser accomplished slash work, which included the felling and piling of damaged trees as well as scattering slash (tree tops) on the first 300 feet of primary skid trails from each landing. The Brush Disposal funds that were collected for the timber harvest were used by the Forest Service for project materials (burn mix<sup>51</sup>, winter Personal Protective Equipment, etc.) needed to burn the piled material in November 2022 when there was over 12 inches of snow. With a combination of funds including Brush Disposal, the Evanston District was able to protect the Whitney Reservoir area by reducing standing dead and other fuel sources across 92 acres.

On the Gold Beach Ranger District, of the Rogue River Siskiyou National Forest, a combination of three timber sales over the last 20 years have implemented thinning prescriptions on the ridgetop of Wildhorse Ridge, which resulted in a shaded fuel break that is a prime example of quality fuel control. The Flat Fire, on the Rogue River – Siskiyou National Forest ignited from human causes on July 15, 2023, and went through rapid growth in the first 4 days. This growth pushed the fire to the south and to the west into large unroaded areas, in rugged and inaccessible terrain. This resulted in the Forest taking an indirect approach to hold the fire on ridgetops with roads to the west and south of the fire. At the end of day 4, the fire was pushing to the West towards one of these key ridges called Wildhorse Ridge.

<sup>51</sup> Burn Mix is a fuel mixture of typically 75 percent diesel fuel and 25 percent gasoline which is used to keep the drip torch (device that lights the unburned fuel) burning.

The Gold Beach Ranger District has often highlighted the work that has been done on Wildhorse ridge to internal teams and to the local forest collaborative. A combination of three timber sales over the last 20 years have implemented thinning prescriptions on this ridgetop, resulting in a shaded fuel break. Additionally, funds generated from these timber sales, have been used to implement post-harvest fuels treatments include prescribed fires, hand-piling and burning activity fuels, precommercial thinning, and pruning. The combination of these treatments has created Gold Beach Ranger District's most defensible ridgetop for fire suppression efforts. These treatments were tested by the Flat Fire (a human caused fire that was ignited on July 15, 2023). The existing fuels conditions from the treatments allowed the firefighters to start progress with backburns much more quickly and safely, which allowed them to flank the fire to the West before it made a run upslope to the ridgetop. The burnout operations were successful, which caused the Flat fire to burn with low fire intensity and reduce overstory canopy loss along Wildhorse Ridge. This was a successful fire suppression effort, in part because of the previous hazardous fuels mitigation and forest resiliency work through timber sales and the resulting trust funds.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

During FY 2025, Brush Disposal funds will continue to be utilized to treat activity fuels generated during timber sales. There are \$9.5 million in treatments planned on 150,000 acres to reduce impacts of fuels generated from timber sales. The continued goal of implementing treatments is to make the landscapes more defensible and to support future fire suppression efforts.

**TIMBER SALVAGE SALES**

Table FS-124. Timber Salvage Sales Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Timber Salvage Sales	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$32,809	\$35,564	\$39,800	\$40,000	+\$200
Recoveries .....	916	425	751	697	
Sequestrations.....	83	-166	-241	-11	
Balance Available, SOY .....	76,965	85,185	88,062	83,442	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>110,773</b>	<b>121,008</b>	<b>128,372</b>	<b>124,128</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-85,185	-88,062	-83,442	-74,477	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>25,588</b>	<b>32,946</b>	<b>44,930</b>	<b>49,651</b>	

**Timber Salvage Sales – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program facilitates the timely removal of timber damaged by fire, wind, insects, diseases, or other events to aid in maintaining healthy and resilient forests and ensuring community safety. Revenues collected from the sale of timber from dead and dying trees are used to prepare and administer future timber salvage sales, including obtaining Forest Service engineering support. These funds are immediately available to respond to timber salvage opportunities. The removal of dead or dying timber through timber sale contracts is a valuable tool to reduce the potential for catastrophic wildland fire and other hazards.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

The Ozark St. Francis Forest collaborated with the Geospatial Technology and Applications Center (GTAC) to use salvage sale funds in combination with other appropriated program funds to support an Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) post-storm assessment project in which GTAC used the UAS platform to produce an end-product that includes the accurate mapping of the extent of damage, estimation of timber product classes for salvaging, and identification of access routes. Utilizing UAS technology allowed management staff to access areas sooner, assess the damage, identify resource concerns, and eliminate the need to rely on helicopter access for post-storm planning efforts.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

During FY 2025, the objective is to continue to maintain a sustainable funding stream for preparing and administering salvage sales as the need arises. It is critical that current timber sales with a salvage component are distributing timber sale receipts to the Salvage Sale Fund commensurate with the amount of funds being spent. It is anticipated that approximately five to seven percent of all timber volume sold will be funded using Salvage Sale Funds.



**TIMBER SALES PIPELINE RESTORATION**

Table FS-125. Timber Sales Pipeline Restoration Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Timber Sales Pipeline Restoration</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$5,233	\$5,422	\$5,500	\$5,600	+\$100
Recoveries .....	199	267	152	155	
Sequestrations.....	-21	3	-4	-6	
Balance Available, SOY .....	6,694	8,694	8,878	8,716	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>12,105</b>	<b>14,386</b>	<b>14,526</b>	<b>14,465</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-8,694	-8,878	-8,716	-8,390	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>3,411</b>	<b>5,508</b>	<b>5,810</b>	<b>6,075</b>	

**Timber Sales Pipeline Restoration – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program provides an additional source of funds for restoring the timber sale pipeline and to address the backlog of recreation projects. This program contributes to several land and resource management objectives, including improving forest health, restoring wildlife habitat, and providing forest products to meet local and national needs. A portion of the funding collected under the Timber Sales Pipeline Restoration Funding must be directed to addressing health and safety issues related to recreation facilities and system trails, benefiting the public by addressing maintenance issues that may cause harm or detract from their outdoor experience. This activity provides for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis. Expenditures may include the necessary planning and design for the associated timber roads.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Timber Production and Vegetation Management**

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNF) has sustained a large vegetation management program to ensure the health and restoration of Wisconsin’s Northwoods. The forest is one of the top timber-producing forests in the National Forest System. The CNNF has been utilizing the Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund to implement multiple projects since 2004. Approximately 111,770 million board feet of timber was sold in FY 2023. The harvest, transportation, and processing of CNNF timber directly supports the more than 61,000 full- and part-time jobs within the forest products industry in the State of Wisconsin. Recently, approximately \$225,000 was expended by the forest to prepare timber sales, and 39,000 CCF was awarded to timber sale purchasers directly related to the pipeline of sales created using the Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund. These funds allow the Forest to increase timber sale volume beyond what can be achieved with annual appropriations. This allows the Forest to increase the pace and scale of acres treated to achieve desired landscape conditions, maintain healthy ecosystems, and reduce the threat of wildfire while contributing proceeds for future projects within the Eastern Region.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The National Program Support rates will continue to be evaluated to maximize the availability of salvage sale funds for the field units to prepare salvage sales. It will be important to continue to balance expenditures with collections to maintain viability of the salvage sale program on each forest.

**FOREST BOTANICAL PRODUCTS**

Table FS-126. Forest Botanical Products Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Forest Botanical Products	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$975	\$980	\$1,000	\$1,100	+\$100
Recoveries .....	30	8	-	-	
Sequestrations.....	-3	-	-1	-6	
Balance Available, SOY .....	2,032	2,260	2,397	2,207	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>3,034</b>	<b>3,248</b>	<b>3,396</b>	<b>3,301</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-2,261	-2,397	-2,207	-2,080	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>1,221</b>	

**Forest Botanical Products – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program collects fees from individuals who obtain a permit to harvest forest botanical products<sup>52</sup> on National Forest System lands, and are used to cover costs associated with granting, modifying, or administering authorizations for harvesting, including environmental analyses. Forest Service activities associated with the Forest Botanical Products program include inventory, analysis, sustainability determination for harvest levels, permit issuance and administration, and monitoring to facilitate the sale and harvest of forest botanical products.

**Selected Example of Recent Progress**

**Forest Botanical Program Ranking**

The National Forests in North Carolina in Southern Region (08) continued to monitor forest botanical products such as Galax, Ginseng, and Frasier Fir. They utilized funding for propagating Ginseng for seed production as well as monitoring for illegal harvesting activities.

The Pacific Northwest Region (06) has the most active Forest Botanical Products program and collected \$829,000 during FY 2023, compared to the Southern Region (08) with the second most active program, which collected \$40,000. Activities associated with this program helped maintain, enhance, and restore forest ecosystems to the desired conditions. It provided for the sale and harvest of forest botanical products in a sustainable manner that contributes to meeting the Nation’s demand for these goods and services while contributing products to the local economy.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

Continue to sell forest botanical products in a manner that promotes sustainability while meeting the needs of the industry that uses them and the communities where they are collected. Harvest levels on each unit will be monitored in accordance with the plan set forth by the local Forest Supervisor. Forest botanical product harvest programs should be managed in such a manner as to not impair productivity of the land, and to maintain diversity and viability of the ecosystem.

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<sup>52</sup> Forest botanical products are defined as “naturally occurring special forest products, including, but not limited to, bark, berries, boughs, bryophytes, bulbs, burls, cones, ferns, fungi (including mushrooms and truffles), forbs, grasses, mosses, nuts, pine straw, roots, sedges, seeds, shrubs, transplants, tree sap, and wildflowers” (36 C.F.R. §223.277).

**STEWARDSHIP CONTRACTING**

Table FS-127. Stewardship Contracting Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Stewardship Contracting</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$28,586	\$24,890	\$30,700	\$31,000	+\$300
Recoveries .....	1,054	431	490	480	
Sequestrations.....	41	6,455	-331	-17	
Balance Available, SOY .....	53,246	59,788	64,697	69,278	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>82,927</b>	<b>91,564</b>	<b>95,556</b>	<b>100,741</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-59,788	-64,697	-69,278	-74,548	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>23,139</b>	<b>26,867</b>	<b>26,278</b>	<b>26,193</b>	

**Stewardship Contracting – Status of Programs****Current Activities**

This program allows the Forest Service to apply the value of timber or other forest products from stewardship contracts as an offset against the costs to accomplish additional land and resource management objectives. If the offset value exceeds the value of the resource improvement treatments, those receipts are retained and deposited in the Stewardship Contracting fund and are available until expended for other authorized stewardship projects. Detailed information about the program's recent accomplishments can be found in the Stewardship Contracting special exhibit.

**Selected Example of Recent Progress****Hiawatha National Forest**

The forest decommissioned or closed approximately 3 miles of roads as part of an integrated resource contract. The roads that were included as service items in exchange for the forest products were those with resource damage, and/or located within riparian areas or wetlands. The decrease in road density improved watershed conditions, reduced sediment delivery to streams, and restored riparian function.

**Jena Band of Choctaw Indians**

The National Forests and Grasslands in Texas executed a Stewardship Agreement with the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians in FY 2019 to increase capacity to prepare timber sales that will improve habitat for the endangered Red-cockaded woodpecker, reduce hazardous fuels, decrease risks of southern pine beetle infestation, and restore longleaf and shortleaf pine. From FY 2019 to FY 2023 over \$1.4 million of Stewardship retained receipts have been obligated towards the Jena Band's timber marking crew. The Jena crew has Global Positioned System sale boundaries and marked and cruised thousands of acres with a volume of over 65,000 CCF.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The program will continue to apply the value of timber or other forest products from stewardship contracts or agreements as an offset against the costs to accomplish additional land and resource management objectives focused on national priority work objectives.

**Program Evaluations**

Stewardship end-result contracting was permanently granted to the Forest Service in FY 2014 after nearly two decades of pilot projects and provisional authority. This authority was expanded in the FY 2018 Omnibus legislation, allowing the Forest Service to extend the length of agreements and contracts to 20 years. This program is undergoing review from an agreement with Oregon State University and the University of Oregon to assess contractors, Forest Service program managers, and Partners to provide a 360-degree assessment of the use of the authority and to provide monitoring information of accomplishments and economic impacts to communities. This assessment will provide feedback and recommendations in a final report to be completed in FY 2025.

**RECREATION FEES, FOREST SERVICE (ALSO REFERRED TO AS THE FEDERAL LANDS RECREATION ENHANCEMENT FUND)**

Table FS-128. Forest Service Recreation Fees Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Recreation Fees, Forest Service	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$131,965	\$136,527	\$134,600	\$135,200	+\$600
Recoveries .....	1,149	1,432	1,148	1,243	
Sequestrations.....	-847	-205	110	-34	
Balance Available, SOY .....	130,803	155,906	166,324	166,200	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>263,070</b>	<b>293,660</b>	<b>302,182</b>	<b>302,609</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-155,905	-166,324	-166,200	-166,435	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>107,165</b>	<b>127,336</b>	<b>135,982</b>	<b>136,174</b>	

**Recreation Fees, Forest Service (also referred to as the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Fund) – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program uses fees collected from recreation sites to complete programs, projects, and activities that improve visitors’ experience on National Forest System lands. Programs, projects, and activities include maintenance backlog repairs, annual operation and maintenance, interpretive services, signage, habitat restoration, permitting of outfitter and guide services, resource protection, and law enforcement.

**Recreation Fees, Forest Service Site Specific**

This fund collects approximately \$80 million annually. Ninety-five percent of funds retained by the local unit-are used to administer, operate, repair, and upgrade recreation facilities and provide public use services. The remaining five percent is allocated to the regional offices to support strategic program oversight, financial management, and training related to the recreation fee program; and to provide grants to forests for improvements and special projects. Current projects include the installation of bear-proof food storage lockers in developed recreation areas. Situated in the heart of black bear country, the Mogollon Rim Ranger District, Coconino National Forest is installing bear-proof food storage lockers at many of their developed campgrounds. These improvements are planned to continue well into the future.

**Recreation Fees, Forest Service Agency Specific**

This program provides funding, in part, for the National Recreation Reservation Service – or [Recreation Planning](#)– an interagency e-government initiative providing a reservation system for all recreation facilities on public lands that allow reservations.

**Recreation Fees, Forest Service Grey Towers National Historic Site Fees**

This program collects fees for admission and use of facilities on Grey Towers. Collections are used to administer Grey Towers; provide interpretive and education programs and projects that perpetuate the legacy of Gifford Pinchot for the public and youth; offer public programs that foster stewardship of natural resources; and provide conservation leadership development programs to enhance the dialogues occurring within the natural resource community.

**Shasta-Trinity National Forest Marina Fees.**

This program collects fees received from the marina project to fund the Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area. Funds are used to meet critical health and safety standards, address portions of the maintenance backlog, provide for innovative projects (including high quality interpretive and environmental education programs), installation and maintenance of over 300 underwater obstacle markers and 100 safety-related floating directional signs, establishment and maintenance of the National Recreation Area Boating Safety Program, implementation and administration of the program’s Marina Standards, maintenance of a floating toilet program, and the construction

of accessible facilities to provide greater access for persons with disabilities. The goal of these projects is to meet the National Recreation Area’s intent to showcase recreation opportunities in the Forest Service.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Equestrian Campground Improvements in the Modoc National Forest, California**

The forest used approximately \$20,000 in recreation fees to improve the Pepperdine, Soup Springs, and East Creek Equestrian Campgrounds. Staff purchased new corrals, water troughs, and equestrian site signs for the campgrounds. The forest purchased hitching posts for the campgrounds and equestrian trailheads across the forest. Equestrian users will now have a safe place to tie their animals prior to leaving on their backcountry adventures.

**Campground Expansion in the Kaibab National Forest, Arizona**

The Forest began the first phase of construction to expand the popular Ten-X Campground. This project will increase overnight camping opportunities for visitors and improve the overall experience by upgrading aging facilities and adding amenities. Phase one of the expansion project will add three new camping loops, increasing capacity from the current 70 campsites to a total of 165. The new loops include a mix of RV-friendly, individual tent, and small group sites. Additional developments include the installation of a welcome station with electronic payment options and a centralized location to access visitor services including a bus stop that will provide access to Grand Canyon National Park and the nearby community of Tusayan. Fee dollars contributed over \$158,500 to this multimillion-dollar project.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The Recreation Fee Program will provide critical funding to adapt facilities to the changing demands of the public. The Stanislaus National Forest is planning to expand the Rocky Point Campground in the Utica/Union Reservoirs area and add four double and three triple sites to accommodate the larger groups that come camping together to recreation at the Utica Reservoir. In addition to expanding the campground, the forest plans to purchase fire rings, picnic tables, site posts and food lockers for these sites.

**TIMBER PURCHASER ELECTION ROAD CONSTRUCTION**

Table FS-129. Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	-
Recoveries .....	16	-	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	34,619	35,097	36,524	35,057	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>36,635</b>	<b>37,097</b>	<b>38,524</b>	<b>37,057</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-35,098	-36,524	-35,057	-32,610	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>1,537</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>3,467</b>	<b>4,447</b>	

**Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction – Status of Programs****Current Activities**

This program supports the construction and reconstruction of any permanent road or bridge as required under the terms and conditions of a timber sale contract. When a small business timber purchaser is awarded a contract, the purchaser may elect to pay the Forest Service to construct or reconstruct specified roads in the timber sale contract area to a standard necessary to harvest and remove timber and other forest products. The Forest Service then uses the funds to contract for the required roadwork and administer the contract. This program benefits small timber contractors who might otherwise be unable to bid on Forest Service timber sales and provides for appropriate road improvements to prevent soil degradation, stream sedimentation, or other damages.

**Selected Example of Recent Progress**

Gifford Pinchot National Forest. \$500,000 of Purchaser Elect funds spent in the Pacific Northwest Region (06) to support timber sales purchased by qualifying small business purchasers who elected to have the Forest Service construct the roads to facilitate implementation of the timber sales. On the Gifford Pinchot NF in Pacific Northwest Region (06), PEPE funds financed the construction of roads on the Drift Thin and Ursa Reoffer timber sales.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The Forest Service will continue to evaluate future deposit needs into the Purchaser Election fund. The Forest Service may temporarily reduce future deposits into the Purchaser Election fund while large unobligated balances remain.

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF FOREST SERVICE QUARTERS**

Table FS-130. Operation and Maintenance of Forest Service Quarters Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Operation and Maintenance of Forest Service Quarters</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$11,284	\$12,495	\$13,100	\$13,400	+\$300
Recoveries .....	57	266	500	274	
Balance Available, SOY .....	29,442	32,213	33,416	32,911	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>40,783</b>	<b>44,974</b>	<b>47,016</b>	<b>46,585</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-32,213	-33,416	-32,911	-30,280	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>8,570</b>	<b>11,558</b>	<b>14,105</b>	<b>16,305</b>	

**Operation and Maintenance of Forest Service Quarters – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

Funds collected are used for the cost of maintenance, operation, and management of employee housing facilities, including associated utility systems. Funds are directed toward addressing health and safety issues such as lead-based paint, asbestos, and radon, as well as addressing accessibility for the disabled, gender equality, energy efficiency, water conservation, and annual maintenance needs. Funding levels are based on estimated receipts and collections, primarily rents from employee-tenants.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Quarters Collections**

The Forest Service recently expended over \$10 million from current and prior year quarters collections. The Quarters funds include expenditures not only on direct expenditures on maintenance and repair of housing but include costs associated with utility bills, salary, and fleet costs related to housing operations.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the program will continue to collect and use funds to support the maintenance, operation, and management of employee housing facilities including associated utility systems.

**ROADS AND TRAILS FOR STATES**

Table FS-131. Roads and Trails for States Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Roads and Trails for States</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$18,888	\$20,171	\$19,000	\$20,000	+\$1,000
Recoveries .....	1	1	-	-	
Transfers Out.....	-	-	-	-20,000	
Deferrals.....	-18,888	-20,171	-19,000	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	1	2	3	3	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-2	-3	-3	-3	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	

**Roads and Trails for States – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program collects ten percent of all National Forest Fund receipts, which is inclusive of both fees and other types of revenue and can be used by the Forest Service without regard to the State in which the amounts were derived. Fees collected are used to repair or reconstruct roads, bridges, and trails on National Forest System lands. Funds are utilized to correct road and trail deficiencies that adversely affect ecosystems. Beginning in FY 1999, and continuing in subsequent appropriation acts, the authority was expanded to allow the use of funds for improving forest health conditions and repairing or reconstructing roads and bridges on National Forest System lands in the wildland-urban interface, where there is an abnormally high risk of fire. This program reduces risk to human safety, public health, and property, and enhances ecological functions, long-term forest productivity, and biological integrity. Since FY 2008, appropriations acts have directed collections to be transferred to Treasury.



**LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES MANAGEMENT**

Table FS-132. Land Between the Lakes Management Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Land Between the Lakes Management	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$4,212	\$11,942	\$11,942	\$11,942	-
Recoveries .....	18	19	17	15	
Balance Available, SOY .....	5,002	2,442	8,125	10,042	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>9,232</b>	<b>14,403</b>	<b>20,084</b>	<b>21,999</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-2,442	-8,125	-10,042	-9,900	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>6,790</b>	<b>6,278</b>	<b>10,042</b>	<b>12,099</b>	

**Land Between the Lakes Management – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program uses funds from user fees and natural resources, including timber and agricultural receipts, to manage projects and activities on the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. These projects and activities provide recreational opportunities to the public, conserve species and habitats, increase species diversity, and offer environmental education.

**Selected Example of Recent Progress**

**Fall Adventure**

The Land Between the Lakes Recreation Area hosted an off-roading enthusiast “Fall Adventure” event. This event included activities such as scavenger hunts, visiting the bison and elk prairie, touring the Casey Jones Distillery, visiting old homesteads and landmarks, visiting Civil War era Fort Donelson, and off-roading at Turkey Bay Off Highway Vehicle area.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the program will continue to collect fees to support recreational opportunities to the public, conserve species and habitats, increase species diversity, and offer environmental education.

**MIDWIN NATIONAL TALLGRASS PRAIRIE RESTORATION**

Table FS-133. Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Rental Fees	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$794	\$937	\$1,000	\$1,050	+\$50
Recoveries .....	1	-	17	12	
Balance Available, SOY .....	3,681	3,006	3,154	3,087	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>4,476</b>	<b>3,943</b>	<b>4,171</b>	<b>4,149</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-3,006	-3,154	-3,087	-3,029	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>1,470</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>1,084</b>	<b>1,120</b>	

**Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Restoration – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Illinois Land Conservation Act of 1995 established the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (MNTP) to be managed as part of the National Forest System. There are two separate funds: the agricultural rental fund used for prairie restoration, and the salvage fund used for all other activities. Receipts from grazing fees, agricultural leases for row crops, sales of surplus equipment, and the salvage value proceeds from the sale of any facilities and improvements can be used to cover the cost of ecosystem restoration; construction of a visitor center, recreational facilities, trails, and administrative office; prairie improvement; and operation and maintenance.

**Selected Example of Recent Progress**

**Grazing Projects**

The Forest Service awarded \$170,000 to fund two targeted grazing projects on MNTP. The first project uses geofencing technology to restore ecological health of grassland habitats and the second will use goats in the bunker areas to improve grassland bird habitat.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The program will continue to collect receipts from user fees and salvage receipts to assist with restoring Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie.

**QUINALT SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA**

Table FS-134. Quinault Special Management Area Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Quinault Special Management Area	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Balance Available, SOY .....	\$18	\$15	\$12	\$1	
Total Available .....	18	15	12	1	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-15	-12	-1	-	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	

**Quinault Special Management Area – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program retains ten percent of the gross proceeds from the sale of forest products on the Quinault Special Management Area to be used for administration of future timber sales. The remaining 90 percent of gross proceeds are divided each quarter, with 45 percent going to the State of Washington and 45 percent to the Quinault Tribe. The QSMA is approximately 5,400 acres and is managed by the Olympic National Forest for the Quinault Indian Nation.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The last timber sale that occurred in the area was in 2016 and the Olympic National Forest will continue to work with the tribe to develop future opportunities for management.

**RESTORATION OF FOREST LANDS AND IMPROVEMENTS**

Table FS-135. Restoration of Forest Lands and Improvements Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Restoration of Forest Lands and Improvements	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$3,656	\$110,771	\$14,500	\$14,500	-
Recoveries .....	2,532	5,522	5,450	5,450	
Transfers In.....	46	114	-	-	
Balance Transfers.....	590	1,437	-	-	
Sequestrations.....	-130	-6,125	5,487	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	198,499	186,915	277,700	257,666	
Total Available .....	205,193	298,634	303,137	277,616	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-186,916	-277,700	-257,666	-235,974	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>18,277</b>	<b>20,934</b>	<b>45,471</b>	<b>41,642</b>	

**Restoration of Forest Lands and Improvements – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This authority protects the interests of the Forest Service in situations where work is to be done by a permittee or timber purchaser. This fund receives monies from forfeiture of a bond or deposit by a permittee or timber purchaser for failure to complete performance of improvement, protection, or rehabilitation work required under the permit or timber sale contract; or the result of a judgment, compromise, or settlement of any claim, involving present or potential damage to lands or improvements. Funds are available until expended to cover the costs of performing the required work. Any funds received in excess of the amount expended in performing the work shall be transferred to Treasury.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Restoring Post-Fire Landscapes**

Post-fire recovery and restoration work continued last FY in the Pacific Southwest Region (05), with over \$62 million spent the prior year on numerous post-fire landscapes. Funds were used to restore damages made by the following fires in California: the El Portal Fire, Canyon 2 Fire, Flat Fire, Powerhouse Fire, and the Moonlight Fire.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the program will continue to implement projects where a permittee or timber purchaser fails to complete required work under the permit or timber sale contract or where settlement funds for restoration activities on National Forest System lands have been received as part of a judicial settlement or jury decision.

**COMMERCIAL FILMING AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHY LAND USE FEE RETENTION**

Table FS-136. Commercial Filming & Still Photography Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Commercial Filming &amp; Still Photography Land Use Fee</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$604	\$564	\$610	\$610	-
Recoveries .....	4	8	8	8	
Sequestrations.....	4	-4	-3	-	
Balance Available, SOY.....	2,402	2,440	2,627	2,529	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>3,014</b>	<b>3,008</b>	<b>3,242</b>	<b>3,147</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-2,440	-2,627	-2,529	-2,392	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>755</b>	

**Commercial Filming and Still Photography Land Use Fee Retention – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

Fees retained by the Forest Service in this fund are used to manage and respond to film and photo use requests on National Forest System lands in an expedited manner. For example, forest units use these funds to assess popular film and photo locations in advance of requests, and to develop and post information on film and photo procedures specific to the unit. Regional and national units use these funds to provide management oversight, develop policy, and coordinate inter-regional or inter-forest film and photo requests prior to accepting a proposal as a formal application.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Permitting and Fee Implementation Training**

The Forest Service conducted commercial filming and still photography training in the Southwestern Region (03) and Eastern Region (09) covering permitting and fee implementation. The training included addressing fee waivers through nominal effects decisions by the authorized officer which would reduce fee impacts on small operators. The training was attended by 57 realty specialists and permit administrators.

**Bridger-Teton National Forest**

A commercial filming permit was issued to America Films LTD for the Disney/National Geographic *America the Beautiful* six-part television series. The goal is to inspire audiences to conserve the precious habitats and inhabitants found in our own backyards.

**El Yunque National Forest, Puerto Rico**

The forest issued authorization for a scene for *The Face of the Earth* feature film. It involved seven people, two vehicles, and handheld filming equipment.

**1890 Land Grant University**

The Forest Service used part of its fee retention funds from commercial filming and still photography to partner with 1890 land grant universities at Alabama AM, Southern, Tuskegee, Tennessee State, Arkansas Pine Bluff, and North Carolina A&T Universities to train 15 students in special uses permitting, including commercial filming and still photography. The goal of this training is to provide an educational foundation for future employment with the Forest Service.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025 the program will continue to use permit fees from commercial filming and still photography on National Forest System lands to manage and administer these activities and to develop and implement Forest Service policies related to commercial filming and still photography.

**ORGANIZATIONAL CAMP PROGRAM**

Table FS-137. Organization Camps Program Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Organizational Camps Program</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$448	\$633	\$630	\$630	-
Recoveries .....	15	2	5	5	
Sequestrations.....	-12	-13	-	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	1,276	1,457	1,802	1,462	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>1,727</b>	<b>2,079</b>	<b>2,437</b>	<b>2,097</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-1,457	-1,802	-1,462	-1,258	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>839</b>	

**Organizational Camp Program – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Forest Service supports approximately 300 Organizational Camps currently authorized under special use permit. Examples of current permit holders includes church groups, Lions Clubs, Rotary clubs, YMCA, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scout councils, 4-H, and local governments to conduct camp sessions for young people or people with disabilities.

This program collects land and facility use fees, and in some instances revenue fees, from organizations that use National Forest System lands to conduct camp sessions. These fees are available until expended for program administration; performing oversight, inspection, and monitoring of existing special use authorizations to ensure compliance with terms and conditions; interpretive programs; environmental analysis and restoration activities; and similar purposes. Some Organizational Camps are Federally owned but operated by a third party under a special use permit. Fees associated with this subset of organizational camps can be offset by conducting maintenance on the Federally owned facilities.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Environmental and Leadership Education**

The Cispus Learning Center, a 68-acre campus, located in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest continued operations under special use permit. It provides a unique northwest outdoor learning environment for K-12 students in schools of the State of Washington for environmental and leadership education and for at- risk students using a challenge ropes course.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the program continues to collect land and facility use fees, and in some instances revenue fees, from organizations that use National Forest System lands to conduct camp sessions. These fees will continue to be available until expended for program administration; performing oversight, inspection, and monitoring of existing special use authorizations to ensure compliance with terms and conditions; interpretive programs; environmental analysis and restoration activities; and similar purposes.

**COST RECOVERY (LAND USES)**

Table FS-138. Cost Recovery (Land Uses) Program Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Cost Recovery (Land Uses)</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$786	\$657	\$750	\$750	-
Recoveries .....	147	21	161	110	
Offsetting Collections.....	113	6,239	-	-	
Sequestrations.....	4	-8	-8	3	
Balance Available, SOY .....	21,492	17,622	20,280	16,735	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>22,542</b>	<b>24,531</b>	<b>21,183</b>	<b>17,598</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-17,622	-20,280	-16,735	-13,023	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>4,920</b>	<b>4,251</b>	<b>4,448</b>	<b>4,575</b>	

**Cost Recovery (Land Uses) – Status of Programs****Current Activities**

This program includes fees collected for processing special use applications and monitoring of activities and facilities on National Forest System lands to recover the Forest Service’s administrative costs. Special use applicants and holders benefiting from the use of NFS lands pay cost recovery fees, that are retained by the Forest Service to minimize the cost of doing business to the general public. Administrative processing activities include application review and processing; developing terms and conditions related to the safety of the public and protection of public health and resources; completing all applicable environmental, social, and economic analysis and decisions pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act; and monitoring activities associated with construction or reconstruction.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress****Special Use Regulations**

The Forest Service proposed a rule to amend its special use regulations to update the processing and monitoring fee schedules based on current Forest Service costs. This rule provided for recovery of costs associated with processing special use proposals, as well as applications, and removed the exemption for commercial recreation special use applications and authorizations that involve 50 hours or less to process or monitor.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the program continues to determine the administrative costs based on the number of hours associated with each application and authorization. The Forest Service is focused on improving business processes for applications and authorizations that require more than 50 hours of Forest Service time to process and monitor to ensure appropriate billing for all applicable administrative costs.

**SMOKEY BEAR OFFICIAL LICENSING PROGRAM**

Table FS-139. Smokey Bear Official Licensing Program Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Licensee Program Smokey Bear	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$1,134	\$1,306	\$1,134	\$1,134	-
Balance Available, SOY .....	2,052	2,138	2,223	2,182	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>3,186</b>	<b>3,444</b>	<b>3,357</b>	<b>3,316</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-2,138	-2,223	-2,182	-2,155	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>1,221</b>	<b>1,175</b>	<b>1,161</b>	

**Smokey Bear Official Licensing Program – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program uses royalties and fees from the licensed manufacture, reproduction, and other use of the name or character “Smokey Bear.” The licensee contractor manages the marketing and administration of the commercial license program. The National Fire Prevention program staff manages the licensing contract. Smokey Bear royalties support the National Smokey Bear Award program and the national fire prevention public service campaign. The Chief of the Forest Service has discretionary authority to use money from royalties in special projects that support the Smokey Bear wildfire prevention message. Smokey Bear will turn 80 this year!

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Smokey Bear Awards**

The National Association of State Foresters awarded the FY 2023 Smokey Bear Awards<sup>53</sup> to individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions to wildfire prevention.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

This program will continue to use royalties and fees from the licensed manufacture, reproduction, and other use of the name or character “Smokey Bear.”

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<sup>53</sup> [Smokey Bear Awards.](#)



**LICENSEE PROGRAM WOOSY OWL**

Table FS-140. Licensee Program Woodsy Owl Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Licensee Program Woodsy Owl	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$10	\$8	\$10	\$10	-
Balance Available, SOY .....	87	97	1	1	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>\$97</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-97	-1	-1	-1	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	

**Licensee Program Woodsy Owl – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Woodsy Owl program supports national initiatives, programs, and products to increase public awareness of activities and issues related to the improvement and maintenance of the environment. The Conservation Education program provides funding for developing Woodsy Owl activities, educational products, partnerships, and managing the licensing program. The program develops and distributes publications, distance learning programs, and mobile app-based conservation missions.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Woodsy Owl Appearance**

The San Geronio Wilderness Association (SGWA) organized a forest festival during which Woodsy Owl made appearances throughout the day while SGWA volunteers led nature walks around the visitor center.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The Woodsy Owl program will continue to support national initiatives, programs, and products to increase public awareness of activities and issues related to the improvement and maintenance of the environment.

**FOREST SERVICE GO GREEN PROGRAM (CONSERVATION)**

Table FS-141. Forest Service Go Green Program Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Forest Service Go Green Program (Conservation)	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$54	\$98	\$54	\$54	-
Recoveries .....	-	-	8	-	
Balance Available, SOY .....	472	497	551	539	
Total Available .....	526	595	613	593	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-496	-551	-539	-504	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>89</b>	

**Forest Service Go Green Program (Conservation) – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Forest Service continues to promote the Go Green program on national forests and grasslands to help meet the Forest Service’s recycling and waste reduction goals. Go Green funds are collected not only from recycling simple items such as cans from recycling abandoned vehicles and appliances, which makes this funding essential for land management. This funding enables field units to accomplish clean-up activities they otherwise might not be able to accomplish.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Recycling**

The Forest Service continues to emphasize the need for sustainable operations and prioritize recycling both in offices and at incidents. A nationwide on-site incident recycling Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) has recently been awarded and a website<sup>54</sup> has been developed to socialize how recycling can be ordered on an incident using this BPA.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

The Forest Service Sustainable Operations Program will continue its work of ensuring that recycling is a priority for the Forest Service.

<sup>54</sup> [Incident Recycling Greening Fire Sustainable Operations.](#)

**PAYMENTS TO STATES**

Table FS-142. Payment to States Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Payments to States Funds</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$326,701	\$360,286	\$358,400	\$358,400	-
Recoveries .....	461	892	740	698	
Sequestrations.....	-351	-23,194	-20,249	-20,249	
Balance Available, SOY .....	79,137	90,814	91,239	86,026	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>405,948</b>	<b>428,798</b>	<b>430,130</b>	<b>424,875</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-90,813	-91,239	-86,026	-63,731	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>315,135</b>	<b>337,559</b>	<b>344,104</b>	<b>361,144</b>	

**Payments to States – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Forest Service distributed \$228 million which supports roads, schools, Federal projects, and county projects. Among the many Resources Advisory Committees (RAC) across the country, the Forest Service’s RAC in Colorado (Greater Rocky Mountain RAC) approved 38 projects for \$4,283,091 utilizing Title II funding. Funds for Title I and III are sent from the Forest Service to the States to utilize in their counties. The two-year reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self- Determination Act of 2000 (Secure Rural Schools Act) was included in Section 41202 of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Public Law 117-58). The reauthorization not only extended payments through 2023, but also reset the full funding amount used to calculate the Secure Rural Schools Act formula payments to the 2017 level of funding. This reauthorization expired on September 30, 2023. Absent Congressional reauthorization, further Secure Rural Schools payments beyond calendar year 2024 will not be made.

The SRS and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 was enacted to provide for transitional assistance to States and rural counties affected by the decline in national forest receipts, largely from declining timber sale receipts. Upon reauthorization, the Forest Service will continue utilizing Title I, II & III funding to maintain rural communities. Additional information can be found on the Secure Rural Schools website<sup>55</sup>.

**Payments to Minnesota Counties**

The State of Minnesota is paid annually three-fourths of one percent of the appraised value of certain Superior National Forest lands which is distributed within the counties of St. Louis, Cook, and Lake. The land value is reappraised every ten years.

This authority derives from the Thye-Blatnick Act of June 22, 1948, as amended (16 U.S.C. 577g), payment for additional lands acquired in northern Minnesota. This Act directed the Secretary of Agriculture to acquire resorts, cabins, and private lands within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in which permanent residents were prohibited after 1974. Additionally, in lieu of tax payments, authorization was granted to Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Counties for Federal wilderness land from any national forest receipts not otherwise appropriated.

**Payments to Counties, Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act**

Annual payments are authorized to counties that contain Forest Service lands acquired under the Bankhead-Jones Act. Twenty-five percent of the revenues received during the year, excluding receipts from the sale of land, from each national grassland or land utilization project are paid to the counties in which such lands are located. The funds are restricted to uses that benefit public schools and roads.

<sup>55</sup> [Secure Rural Schools](#).

This authority derives from Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of July 22, 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1012), Payments to counties. This Act pertains primarily to national grasslands and land use projects.

**National Forest Fund Payments to States Available, Title I & III**

The National Forest Fund Payments to States is an account where all receipts are deposited and used for Title I and Title III payments, and Title II deposits, made under the SRS and Community Self Determination Act of 2000. These funds, combined with a Payments to States U.S. Treasury transfer, are the source of funding for Payments to States under the SRS Act, most recently reauthorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, (P.L. 117-58); these funds expired on September 30, 2023.

The SRS Act as amended (16 U.S.C. Ch. 90) directs that Title I funds be used to help fund county schools and roads.

Any SRS Title III project funds not obligated by September 30, 2026, will be returned to the U.S. Treasury. Title III may be used on county projects including activities under the Firewise Communities program, reimbursement for emergency services on national forests, preparation of a community wildfire protection plan and provide or expand access to broadband telecommunications services.

**Secure Payments for States, Title II**

The National Partnership Office had the opportunity to visit the Prince William Sound RAC in Alaska Region (10). During this visit, there was an opportunity to explore various completed Title II projects and observe the impact they had in the community. The SRS Act provides choices to counties for funding resource improvement projects recommended by SRS RACs on the national forest where the county is located. Title II funds are used by the Forest Service to carry out projects in eligible counties to further resource objectives consistent with the purposes of the SRS Act on Federal land and on non-Federal land where projects would benefit the resources on Federal land. Title II funds are used for projects such as active forest management, road maintenance, trail maintenance, invasive weed control, and restoration of wildlife habitat, streams, and watersheds. These projects provide local jobs and often provide opportunities to promote youth and volunteer engagement in national forests and grasslands.

Title II funds can only be obligated to new projects if there is an active RAC (15 members of specific categories). The Forest Service currently has 91 RAC's that support these rural communities. RAC's must initiate (recommend) Title II projects by September 30, 2025. Project funds must be obligated by Sept. 30, 2026.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

**Cordova Airport Display Project**

The small fishing town of Cordova, Alaska, bordered by mountains and the sea, can only be reached by air or water as there are no roads connecting Cordova to the rest of Alaska. For many visitors, their first impression of Cordova and the surrounding Chugach National Forest is the Cordova Airport. The previous Chugach National Forest display was worn and dated. An art display depicting the natural beauty and hum of life that the Chugach National Forest and Copper River Delta encompasses was completed. Travelers are greeted by the display as they enter the Cordova airport. The slogan "Land of a million heartbeats" is a precursor to the abundance of sea birds that soar through the town. This beautiful mural was erected and displayed with the use of SRS Title II funds and assistance from Alaska Airlines.

**Cordova Road Trail Safety Netting**

Using SRS Title II funding, trail safety netting (made from recycled fish netting) was placed on 4.1 miles of trail structures in the Cordova District Trail system reducing the potential of resource damage caused by trail braiding<sup>56</sup> by providing a desirable walking surface. In addition to making the trail system safer for trail users, it created many temporary jobs and built the technical skills of the temporary workforce which was composed of local workers and

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<sup>56</sup> Trail braiding is when users try to avoid an obstacle by going off the designated trail, overtime this causes trails to split into several smaller trails.

youth organizations through agreements with the Student Conservation Association (SCA). This trail safety project reduced trespass potential onto Native Lands by providing a clearly marked and easily negotiated trail.

**Shelter Cove/Fleming Spit Access to Chugach National Forest and Prince William Sound**

This project was implemented to create safe, public access to the Chugach National Forest and Prince William Sound for recreational users, anglers, and educational programs.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

For FY 2025, the Forest Service would like to increase approved nomination packages by 15 percent, decrease the process approval time from 123 days to 60 days, conduct four field engagements to increase visibility within the field, increase diversity among RAC members, and begin building trust with the community. If there are no active RACs in the Forest Service, no projects can be implemented, and funds cannot be obligated. Forest Service is focused on increasing active RACs to ensure we are making a positive impact in these rural communities. The language that is being proposed in the reauthorization will change the process of getting nomination packages approved from delegating the approval from the Secretary to Forest Service Regional Foresters. More guidance and information will come if the reauthorization is passed, and the Forest Service will determine how to incorporate those new requirements. In FY 2025, SRS, Title II, and III will continue to obligate project funds by FY 2026.

**CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**

Table FS-143. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Personnel Compensation:					
	Washington D.C.....	\$2,135	\$1,975	\$2,052	\$2,156
	Personnel compensation, field.....	50,856	63,864	66,351	69,719
11.0	Total personnel compensation.....	52,991	65,839	68,402	71,875
12.0	Personal benefits.....	18,686	24,017	24,952	26,219
	Total, personnel compensation and benefits.....	71,677	89,856	93,354	98,094
Other Objects:					
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	2,058	3,160	3,253	3,371
22.0	Transportation of things.....	773	329	687	712
23.1	Rental payments to GSA.....	2	-	1	1
23.2	Rental payments to others.....	66	137	127	131
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges.....	930	1,861	1,740	1,803
24.0	Printing and reproduction.....	683	528	755	782
25.1	Advisory and assistance services.....	43	18	38	39
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources.....	173,177	190,750	226,870	235,084
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources.....	44,639	52,178	60,355	62,540
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities.....	1,730	4,517	3,894	4,035
25.6	Medical care.....	10	22	20	21
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment.....	2,167	5,301	4,656	4,824
26.0	Supplies and materials.....	20,085	22,656	26,645	27,609
31.0	Equipment.....	2,076	2,651	2,947	3,053
32.0	Land and structures.....	13,582	33,716	29,485	30,553
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	343,675	389,064	456,786	473,324
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities.....	11	8	12	12
43.0	Interest and dividends.....	7	1	4	5
44.0	Refunds.....	-4	3	-	-
92.0	Undistributed.....	15	13	17	18
	Total, other objects.....	605,725	706,913	818,292	847,920
99.9	Total, new obligations.....	677,402	796,769	911,647	946,013
Position Data:					
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position.....	\$56,144	\$73,239	\$77,799	\$78,655
	Average Grade, GS Position.....	7.6	9.7	9.8	9.8

**TRUST FUNDS**

**LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT**

Table FS-144. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2024 Estimated Budget.....	\$236,578,000
Change in Appropriation.....	-10,000,000
2025 Request.....	<u>226,578,000</u>

**PROJECT STATEMENTS**

Table FS-145. Appropriations Project Statement (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Project Statement	2022 Actual	FTEs	2023 Actual	FTEs	2024 Estimated	FTEs	2025 Request	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
Trust Funds:										
Mandatory Appropriations .....	\$332,899	248	\$246,460	237	\$236,578	237	\$226,578	237	-\$10,000	-
<b>Total Appropriations.....</b>	<b>332,899</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>246,460</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>236,578</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>226,578</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>-10,000</b>	<b>-</b>

Table FS-146. Appropriations Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Detail Table	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Trust Funds:					
Cooperative Work - Knutson-Vandenberg.....	\$62,103	\$79,602	\$77,650	\$77,650	-
Cooperative Work – Other.....	8,887	8,711	8,800	8,800	-
Reforestation Trust Fund <sup>a</sup> .....	261,781	158,019	150,000	140,000	-\$10,000
Land Between the Lakes Trust Fund.....	128	128	128	128	-
<b>Total, Trust Funds .....</b>	<b>332,899</b>	<b>246,460</b>	<b>236,578</b>	<b>226,578</b>	<b>-\$10,000</b>

<sup>a</sup> The Repairing Existing Public Land by Adding Necessary Trees (REPLANT) Act, part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58), removed the \$30 million annual cap.



**COOPERATIVE WORK – KNUTSON-VANDEMBERG**

Table FS-147. Cooperative Work – Knutson-Vandenberg Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Cooperative Work - Knutson-Vandenberg</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$62,103	\$79,602	\$77,650	\$77,650	-
Recoveries .....	1,337	1,290	1,930	1,519	
Sequestrations.....	676	-4,537	-4,326	-4,326	
Balance Available, SOY .....	208,871	230,112	246,905	240,510	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>272,987</b>	<b>306,467</b>	<b>322,159</b>	<b>315,353</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-230,111	-246,905	-240,510	-234,324	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>42,876</b>	<b>59,562</b>	<b>81,649</b>	<b>81,029</b>	

**Cooperative Work – Knutson-Vandenberg – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This program uses funds derived from timber sale revenues to perform improvements within the timber sale area. Planned resource project work is documented in the sale area improvement plans as determined by the project environmental analysis. The program priority for Knutson- Vandenberg (K-V) funds is the reforestation of harvested areas; however, funds may be used to perform timber stand improvement and protection. These funds may be used for the improvement of other resource values, including wildlife, soil, watershed, range, and recreation.

**Knutson-Vandenberg Regional (06) Work**

The Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (P.L. 109-54) expanded the authority to allow for the expenditure of unused funds not needed to accomplish work on the timber sale area on another area “...within the Forest Service region in which the timber sale occurred.” Unused collections are generated when actual costs are less than planned costs. In 2018, full implementation of P.L. 109-54 began, and timber sales began to generate funds specifically to use outside of the sale area. This authority is used to accomplish watershed restoration; wildlife habitat improvement; control of insects, disease, and noxious weeds; community protection activities; and the maintenance of forest roads. The work can be performed by Forest Service employees or by using procurement contracts, forest product sales, or cooperative agreements. If forest product sales are used to accomplish these objectives, K-V Regional Work program funds may be utilized for timber sale planning, preparation, administration, engineering support, and landline location.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

K-V funded Forest Service district employees to implement the Sylamore mechanical site preparation project. These funds were used for the labor costs and supply expenses of running mechanized equipment to rip and prepare the site for shortleaf pine planting to restore the landscape back to a native and more appropriate species. While contract labor is critical for much of the K-V project implementation work, using these funds for Forest Service labor presented an option to manage timelines and treatment effectiveness, while maintaining and passing down skillsets to the internal workforce.

In the Oconee Ranger District, the Forest Service was able to fund site preparation and prescribed burning using K-V dollars generated via the Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) Check Redlands I Timber Sale. These burns reduced surface fuels and woody midstory competition across the landscape, and hardwood competition in shelterwood units. Funds were used to buy supplies, fuel, and equipment repairs that were needed for prescribed fire activities. This area included approximately 460 acres of mechanical and chemical midstory work, completed by the Georgia Forestry Commission and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Georgia DNR was able to fund and acquire herbicide, and then the Georgia Forestry Commission using GNA funds, contracted and completed this work to our NEPA and Forest Service pesticide specifications. This area is at the heart of the Redlands Wildlife

Management Area and as a result of the harvest, thinning treatments, prescribed fire, and midstory work it is quickly becoming a hunter's paradise. This is a success story of how K-V, GNA, and partner funds can be used to meet multiple goals.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, there is \$27 million in required reforestation activities planned and \$54 million in CWKV other activities planned. These funds will be utilized for activities that include 26,000 acres of precommercial thinning, 53,000 acres of prescribed burning, and 35,000 acres of wildlife monitoring.

**COOPERATIVE WORK**

Table FS-148. Cooperative Work - Other Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Cooperative Work - Other</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$8,887	\$8,711	\$8,800	\$8,800	-
Recoveries .....	779	1,932	676	1,129	
Offsetting Collections.....	25,439	35,650	36,000	36,000	
Sequestrations.....	201	-494	72	-26	
Balance Available, SOY .....	105,311	101,709	115,962	121,132	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>140,617</b>	<b>147,508</b>	<b>161,510</b>	<b>167,035</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-101,708	-115,962	-121,132	-125,276	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>38,909</b>	<b>31,546</b>	<b>40,378</b>	<b>41,759</b>	

**Cooperative Work – Other – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This fund collects deposits received from partners and cooperators for protecting and improving resources of the National Forest System as authorized by cooperative agreements. The deposits are for a wide variety of activities that benefit and support programs in Forest and Rangeland Research on National Forest System lands and for other Forest Service activities.

Cooperative deposits are received from a vast assortment of local, regional, and national organizations and individuals; State and other public agencies; industrial associations; and other private sources. The deposits are made under a variety of cooperative instruments that specify the mutual benefits of the work. Cooperative deposits leverage appropriated funds to increase effectiveness and complement the objectives of Forest Service appropriated resource management programs and cooperative research projects. These programs and projects may involve any aspect of forestry and vary widely in scope and duration.

Cooperative road maintenance deposits can be made by commercial users of the National Forest Road System in lieu of actually performing their commensurate share of road maintenance. These deposits are used in conjunction with the other road maintenance appropriations to provide maintenance of National Forest System roads by the Forest Service.

**Cooperative Work, Agreement Based**

This is a direct project-to-customer relationship, typically involving long-term liability on the part of the Forest Service to perform work for the contributor. An example of this work is a special use permit with collection provisions under the Granger-Thye Offset where the Forest Service has a liability to perform work for the permit holder specially tied to the permit. These agreements are typically accompanied by a collection agreement.

**Cooperative Work, Non-Agreement Based**

These deposits occur when the terms of the authorizing instrument, such as a permit or sale contract, allow for deposits from multiple contributors to be pooled and expended for the intended purpose. Most of these pooled collections are not subject to refunds in accordance with the provisions of the respective authorizing instrument.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

There was \$6.3 million collected from timber sales for Cooperative Work – Other. Cooperative Work, Non-Agreement Based collections were 68 percent of expenditures, compared to 122 percent during FY 2022.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

In FY 2025, the program will continue to collect deposits to support road maintenance, wildfire protection on State and private lands, and resource management programs.

**REFORESTATION TRUST FUND**

Table FS-149. Reforestation Trust Fund Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

Reforestation Trust Fund	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Request	Inc. or Dec.
Appropriations .....	\$261,781	\$158,019	\$150,000	\$140,000	-\$10,000
Recoveries .....	771	1,927	965	1,221	
Balance Available, SOY .....	10,461	197,849	285,151	357,615	
<b>Total Available</b> .....	<b>273,013</b>	<b>357,795</b>	<b>436,116</b>	<b>498,836</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-197,849	-285,151	-357,615	-414,034	
<b>Total Obligations</b> .....	<b>75,164</b>	<b>72,644</b>	<b>78,501</b>	<b>84,802</b>	

**Reforestation Trust Fund – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

This fund receives budgetary resources from transfers overseen by the U.S. Treasury of tariff collections on certain imported wood products and are used to reduce the backlog in reforestation and for stand improvement work. Historically, such transfers were capped in law at \$30 million in a FY. The Repairing Existing Public Land by Adding Necessary Trees (REPLANT) Act, as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58), removed the \$30 million annual cap. Collections vary annually and can be highly volatile due to factors such as the amount in tariffs that are levied on specific products export by different countries and the United States’ demand for those wood products. Collections decreased to \$158 million from \$261 million the previous year. Investments have focused on increasing organizational capacity in nursery, genetics, and reforestation program areas. Increased organizational capacity will support increased future reforestation accomplishments. The Forest Service plans for approximately 1.8 million acres of reforestation over the next ten years.

The Reforestation Trust Fund includes site preparation for planting or seeding of the appropriate tree species, site preparation to facilitate natural regeneration, and certification of acres naturally regenerated without the need for site preparation. In addition, as part of the reforestation activity, various treatments are applied to improve initial seedling survival rates. Benefits of reforestation include regeneration of forest vegetation on areas impacted by wildfire, floods, and hurricanes; increased carbon sequestration capacity; establishment of resilient forest vegetation; and improved habitat diversity for many wildlife species.

**Selected Example of Recent Progress**

**Southwestern Region (03) Seed Cone Collection**

Over the years, cone collection for nursery propagation have been impacted by the lack of availability of tree climbers and climatic variability that determines timing of cone collections. Multiple forests in the Southwestern Region (03) were able to collect a record 2,400 bushels<sup>57</sup> of cones in FY 2023, using the National Land Management Integrated Resources blanket purchase agreement for cone collection which was funded by the REPLANT Act. This blanket purchase agreement allowed for the timely procurement of cone collection services when needed. Tree climbers came from across the United States to support cone collection efforts and multiple tree climbing trainings provided the opportunity to increase the number of climbers for future collections. The cones collected were sent to Lucky Peak Nursery in Boise, Idaho for storage and propagation for future reforestation planting efforts.

<sup>57</sup> A bushel of cones is approximately a full container of cones holding 2,150 cubic inches. The amount of seeds per bushel will vary based on tree species.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

This program will continue to plan to manage reforestation on approximately 180,000 acres and invest in stand improvement work.

**LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES TRUST FUND**

Table FS-150. Land Between the Lake Trust Fund Detail Table (thousands of dollars)

<b>Land Between the Lakes Trust Fund</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Estimated</b>	<b>2025 Request</b>	<b>Inc. or Dec.</b>
Appropriations .....	\$128	\$128	\$128	\$128	-
Balance Available, SOY .....	6,033	6,161	6,279	6,279	
<b>Total Available .....</b>	<b>6,161</b>	<b>6,289</b>	<b>6,407</b>	<b>6,407</b>	
Balance Available, EOY .....	-6,161	-6,279	-6,279	-6,279	
<b>Total Obligations .....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>128</b>	

**Land Between the Lakes Trust Fund – Status of Programs**

**Current Activities**

The Land Between the Lakes Protection Act (Act) (P.L. 105-277) transferred administrative jurisdiction of the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area (LBLNRA) from the Tennessee Valley Authority to the Secretary of Agriculture to be managed as a unit of the National Forest System. Section 531 of the Act established a special interest-bearing fund known as the Land Between the Lakes Trust Fund to be available for public education, grants, and internships related to recreation, conservation, and multiple-use land management, as well as regional promotion in cooperation with development districts, chambers of commerce, and State and local governments.

In accordance with the terms described in the Act, beginning on September 30, 2000, the Tennessee Valley Authority began depositing \$1 million annually into the fund for five consecutive years for a total of \$5 million. The Forest Service has allowed the fund balance to grow, and the LBLNRA began using the accrued interest for activities outlined in the Act, which includes providing additional funding to further assist in the promotion and support of the successful school grant program for regional promotion and environmental education.

**Selected Examples of Recent Progress**

The Land Between the Lakes Trust Fund collects receipts from user fees (from sources such as the various campgrounds, trails, and the Elk and Bison Prairie) to provide for the future management of the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. Areas such as the Homeplace 1850s Working Farm and Living History Museum,<sup>58</sup> the Golden Pond Planetarium and Observatory<sup>59</sup>, and Woodlands Nature Station<sup>60</sup> received allocations of this money to make sure the facilities were kept at optimal performance.

**Program Objectives for FY 2025**

Forest Service will continue to support environmental education by funding school grant programs for environmental educational.

<sup>58</sup> [Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area.](#)

<sup>59</sup> [Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area Planetarium.](#)

<sup>60</sup> [Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area Nature Station.](#)

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

**CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**

Table FS-151. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Personnel Compensation:					
	Washington D.C.....	\$99	-	-	-
	Personnel compensation, field .....	20,814	\$24,001	\$40,544	\$43,614
11.0	Total personnel compensation .....	20,913	24,001	40,544	43,614
12.0	Personal benefits .....	7,333	8,861	14,969	16,102
	Total, personnel compensation and benefits .....	28,246	32,862	55,513	59,716
Other Objects:					
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons.....	468	880	754	769
22.0	Transportation of things.....	322	236	312	318
23.1	Rental payments to GSA.....	9	-7	1	1
23.2	Rental payments to others.....	46	-5	23	23
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges.....	481	292	432	441
24.0	Printing and reproduction .....	27	43	39	40
25.1	Advisory and assistance services .....	12	188	112	114
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources .....	58,418	72,046	72,942	74,379
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources.....	3,663	13,257	9,460	9,646
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities .....	41	8	27	28
25.5	Research and development contracts.....	-	1	1	1
25.6	Medical care .....	2	2	2	2
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment.....	307	323	352	359
26.0	Supplies and materials .....	46,826	17,097	35,739	36,443
31.0	Equipment.....	1,106	2,883	2,230	2,274
32.0	Land and structures .....	1,544	2,277	2,136	2,178
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions.....	15,428	21,376	20,577	20,981
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities.....	-	1	1	1
43.0	Interest and dividends.....	1	-	1	2
92.0	Undistributed.....	2	2	2	2
	Total, other objects.....	128,703	130,900	145,143	148,003
99.9	Total, new obligations .....	156,949	163,762	200,656	207,718
Position Data:					
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position .....	\$56,834	\$65,166	\$68,424	\$69,793
	Average Grade, GS Position.....	7.6	8.8	9.5	9.6



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**ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

Appropriations to the Forest Service for the current fiscal year shall be available for: (1) purchase of passenger motor vehicles; acquisition of passenger motor vehicles from excess sources, and hire of such vehicles; purchase, lease, operation, maintenance, and acquisition of aircraft to maintain the operable fleet for use in Forest Service wildland fire programs and other Forest Service programs; notwithstanding other provisions of law, existing aircraft being replaced may be sold, with proceeds derived or trade-in value used to offset the purchase price for the replacement aircraft; (2) services pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2225, and not to exceed \$100,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109; (3) purchase, erection, and alteration of buildings and other public improvements (7 U.S.C. 2250); (4) acquisition of land, waters, and interests therein pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 428a; (5) for expenses pursuant to the Volunteers in the National Forest Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 558a, 558d, and 558a note); (6) the cost of uniforms as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; and (7) for debt collection contracts in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3718(c).

Funds made available to the Forest Service in this Act may be transferred between accounts affected by the Forest Service budget restructure outlined in section 435 of division D of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116–94): *Provided*, That any transfer of funds pursuant to this paragraph shall not increase or decrease the funds appropriated to any account in this fiscal year by more than ten percent: *Provided further*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law.

Any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service may be transferred to the Wildland Fire Management appropriation for forest firefighting, emergency rehabilitation of burned-over or damaged lands or waters under its jurisdiction, and fire preparedness due to severe burning conditions upon the Secretary of Agriculture's notification of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that all fire suppression funds appropriated under the heading "Wildland Fire Management" will be obligated within 30 days: *Provided*, That all funds used pursuant to this paragraph must be replenished by a supplemental appropriation which must be requested as promptly as possible.

Not more than \$50,000,000 of funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for expenditure or transfer to the Department of the Interior for wildland fire management, hazardous fuels management, and State fire assistance when such transfers would facilitate and expedite wildland fire management programs and projects.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Forest Service may transfer unobligated balances of discretionary funds appropriated to the Forest Service by this Act to or within the [Wildland Fire Management] National Forest System Account, or reprogram funds to be used for the purposes of hazardous fuels management and urgent rehabilitation of burned-over National Forest System lands and water: *Provided*, That such transferred funds shall remain available through September 30, [2027] 2028: *Provided further*, That none of the funds transferred pursuant to this paragraph shall be available for obligation without written notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for assistance to or through the Agency for International Development in connection with forest and rangeland research, technical information, and assistance in foreign countries, and shall be available to support forestry and related natural resource activities outside the United States and its territories and possessions, including technical assistance, education and training, and cooperation with United States government, private sector, and international organizations: *Provided*, That the Forest Service, acting for the International Program, may sign direct funding agreements with foreign governments and institutions as well as other domestic agencies (including the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Department of State, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation), United States private sector firms, institutions and organizations to provide technical assistance and training programs on forestry and rangeland management: *Provided further*, That to maximize effectiveness of domestic and international research and cooperation, the International Program may utilize all authorities related to forestry, research, and cooperative assistance regardless of program designations.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Section 509(a)(3) Supporting Organization, "Forest Service International Foundation" to assist the Foundation in meeting administrative, project, and other expenses, and may provide for the Foundation's use of Forest Service personnel and facilities.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for expenditure or transfer to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, for removal, preparation, and adoption of excess wild horses and burros from National Forest System lands, and for the performance of cadastral surveys to designate the boundaries of such lands.

None of the funds made available to the Forest Service in this Act or any other Act with respect to any fiscal year shall be subject to transfer under the provisions of section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257), section 442 of Public Law 106–224 (7 U.S.C. 7772), or section 10417(b) of Public Law 107–171 (7 U.S.C. 8316(b)).

Not more than \$82,000,000 of funds available to the Forest Service shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture and not more than \$14,500,000 of funds available to the Forest Service shall be transferred to the Department of Agriculture for Department Reimbursable Programs, commonly referred to as Greenbook charges: *Provided*, That nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit or limit the use of reimbursable agreements requested by the Forest Service in order to obtain information technology services, including telecommunications and system modifications or enhancements, from the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture.

Of the funds available to the Forest Service, up to \$5,000,000 shall be available for priority projects within the scope of the approved budget, which shall be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps and shall be carried out under the authority of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.).

Of the funds available to the Forest Service, \$4,000 is available to the Chief of the Forest Service for official reception and representation expenses.

Pursuant to sections 405(b) and 410(b) of Public Law 101–593, of the funds available to the Forest Service, up to \$3,000,000 may be advanced in a lump sum to the National Forest Foundation to aid conservation partnership projects in support of the Forest Service mission, without regard to when the Foundation incurs expenses, for projects on or benefitting National Forest System lands or related to Forest Service programs: *Provided*, That of the Federal funds made available to the Foundation, no more than \$300,000 shall be available for administrative expenses: *Provided further*, That the Foundation shall obtain, by the end of the period of Federal financial assistance, private contributions to match funds made available by the Forest Service on at least a one-for-one basis: *Provided further*, That the Foundation may transfer Federal funds to a Federal or a non-Federal recipient for a project at the same rate that the recipient has obtained the non-Federal matching funds.

Pursuant to section 2(b)(2) of Public Law 98–244, up to \$3,000,000 of the funds available to the Forest Service may be advanced to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in a lump sum to aid cost-share conservation projects, without regard to when expenses are incurred, on or benefitting National Forest System lands or related to Forest Service programs: *Provided*, That such funds shall be matched on at least a one-for-one basis by the Foundation or its sub-recipients: *Provided further*, That the Foundation may transfer Federal funds to a Federal or non-Federal recipient for a project at the same rate that the recipient has obtained the non-Federal matching funds.

[Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available to enter into cooperative agreements with other Federal agencies, tribes, States, local governments, private and nonprofit entities, and educational institutions to support the work of forest or grassland collaboratives on activities benefitting Federal lands and adjacent non-Federal lands, including for technical assistance, administrative functions or costs, and other capacity support needs identified by the Forest Service.]Funds appropriated to or collected by the Forest Service during this fiscal year shall be available for the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, to enter into Federal financial assistance grants and cooperative agreements, and cooperative agreements notwithstanding

chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code, to support forest or grassland collaboratives in the accomplishment of activities benefitting both the public and the National Forest System, Federal lands and adjacent non-Federal lands. Such grants and agreements may not exceed five years. Eligible activities are those that will improve or enhance Federal investments, resources, or lands, including for collaborative and collaboration-based activities, including but not limited to facilitation, planning, and implementing projects, technical assistance, administrative functions, operational support, participant costs, and other capacity support needs, as identified by the Forest Service. Eligible recipients are Indian tribal entities (defined at 25 U.S.C. 5304(e)), state government, local governments, private and nonprofit entities, for-profit organizations, and educational institutions. The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, may enter into aforesaid cooperative agreements notwithstanding chapter 63 of title 31 when the Secretary determines that the public interest will be benefited and that there exists a mutual interest other than monetary considerations. Transactions subject to title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations shall be publicly advertised and require competition when required by title 2 of the Code of Federal regulations; for those transactions not subject to title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the agency may require public advertising and competition when deemed appropriate. The term forest and grassland collaboratives means groups of individuals or entities with diverse interests participating in a cooperative process to share knowledge, ideas, and resources about the protection, restoration, or enhancement of natural and other resources on Federal and adjacent non-Federal lands; the improvement or maintenance of public access to Federal lands; or the reduction of risk to such lands caused by natural disasters.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for interactions with and providing technical assistance to rural communities and natural resource-based businesses for sustainable rural development purposes.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for payments to counties within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, pursuant to section 14(c)(1) and (2), and section 16(a)(2) of Public Law 99–663.

Any funds appropriated to the Forest Service may be used to meet the non-Federal share requirement in section 502(c) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056(c)(2)).

The Forest Service shall not assess funds for the purpose of performing fire, administrative, and other facilities maintenance and decommissioning.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, of any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service, not to exceed \$500,000 may be used to reimburse the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), Department of Agriculture, for travel and related expenses incurred as a result of OGC assistance or participation requested by the Forest Service at meetings, training sessions, management reviews, land purchase negotiations, and similar matters unrelated to civil litigation: *Provided*, That future budget justifications for both the Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture should clearly display the sums previously transferred and the sums requested for transfer.

An eligible individual who is employed in any project funded under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) and administered by the Forest Service shall be considered to be a Federal employee for purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available to pay, from a single account, the base salary and expenses of employees who carry out functions funded by other accounts for Enterprise Program, Geospatial Technology and Applications Center, [remnant Natural Resource Manager]National Applications Liaison Office, Job Corps, and National Technology and Development Program.

### **Change Description**

The first change (lines 2 and 3 of paragraph 5) deletes reference to the Wildland Fire Management Account for transfer of unobligated balances.

The second change (line 3 of paragraph 5) adds reference to the National Forest System Account for transfer of unobligated balances.

The third change (line 1 through 5 of paragraph 15) deletes language constraints for funds available to enter into cooperative agreements.

The fourth change (line 5 through 25 of paragraph 15) adds language for funds available to enter into financial assistance grants and cooperative agreements.

The fifth change (line 3 of paragraph 22) deletes the previous name of the National Applications Liaison Office.

The sixth change (line 3 of paragraph 22) adds the correct name for the National Applications Liaison Office.

**TITLE IV GENERAL PROVISIONS  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

**RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS**

SEC. 401. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available for any activity or the publication or distribution of literature that in any way tends to promote public support or opposition to any legislative proposal on which Congressional action is not complete other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913.

**OBLIGATION OF APPROPRIATIONS**

SEC. 402. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

**DISCLOSURE OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES**

SEC. 403. The amount and basis of estimated overhead charges, deductions, reserves, or holdbacks, including working capital fund charges, from programs, projects, activities and subactivities to support government-wide, departmental, agency, or bureau administrative functions or headquarters, regional, or central operations shall be presented in annual budget justifications to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Changes to such estimates shall be presented to the Committees on Appropriations.

**MINING APPLICATIONS**

SEC. 404. (a) LIMITATION OF FUNDS.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to this Act shall be obligated or expended to accept or process applications for a patent for any mining or mill site claim located under the general mining laws.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply if the Secretary of the Interior determines that, for the claim concerned: (1) a patent application was filed with the Secretary on or before September 30, 1994; and (2) all requirements established under sections 2325 and 2326 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 29 and 30) for vein or lode claims, sections 2329, 2330, 2331, and 2333 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 35, 36, and 37) for placer claims, and section 2337 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 42) for mill site claims, as the case may be, were fully complied with by the applicant by that date.

(c) REPORT.—On September 30, [2025]2026, the Secretary of the Interior shall file with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on actions taken by the Department under the plan submitted pursuant to section 314(c) of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (Public Law 104– 208).

(d) MINERAL EXAMINATIONS.—In order to process patent applications in a timely and responsible manner, upon the request of a patent applicant, the Secretary of the Interior shall allow the applicant to fund a qualified third-party contractor to be selected by the Director of the Bureau of Land Management to conduct a mineral examination of the mining claims or mill sites contained in a patent application as set forth in subsection (b). The Bureau of Land Management shall have the sole responsibility to choose and pay the third-party contractor in accordance with the standard procedures employed by the Bureau of Land Management in the retention of third-party contractors.

**CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS, PRIOR YEAR LIMITATION**

SEC. 405. Sections 405 and 406 of division F of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 113– 235) shall continue in effect in fiscal year [2024]2025.

### **CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS, FISCAL YEAR 2025 LIMITATION**

SEC. 406. Amounts provided by this Act for fiscal year [2024]2025 under the headings “Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service, Contract Support Costs” and “Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, Contract Support Costs” are the only amounts available for contract support costs arising out of self-determination or self-governance contracts, grants, compacts, or annual funding agreements for fiscal year [2024]2025 with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Education, and the Indian Health Service: *Provided*, That such amounts provided by this Act are not available for payment of claims for contract support costs for prior years, or for repayments of payments for settlements or judgments awarding contract support costs for prior years.

### **FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS**

SEC. 407. The Secretary of Agriculture shall not be considered to be in violation of section 6(f)(5)(A) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1604(f)(5)(A)) solely because more than 15 years have passed without revision of the plan for a unit of the National Forest System. Nothing in this section exempts the Secretary from any other requirement of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.) or any other law: *Provided*, That if the Secretary is not acting expeditiously and in good faith, within the funding available, to revise a plan for a unit of the National Forest System, this section shall be void with respect to such plan and a court of proper jurisdiction may order completion of the plan on an accelerated basis.

### **PROHIBITION WITHIN NATIONAL MONUMENTS**

SEC. 408. No funds provided in this Act may be expended to conduct preleasing, leasing and related activities under either the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) or the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) within the boundaries of a National Monument established pursuant to the Act of June 8, 1906 (16 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) as such boundary existed on January 20, 2001, except where such activities are allowed under the Presidential proclamation establishing such monument.

### **LIMITATION ON TAKINGS**

SEC. 409. Unless otherwise provided herein, no funds appropriated in this Act for the acquisition of lands or interests in lands may be expended for the filing of declarations of taking or complaints in condemnation without notice to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That this provision shall not apply to funds appropriated to implement the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989, or to funds appropriated for Federal assistance to the State of Florida to acquire lands for Everglades restoration purposes.

### **PROHIBITION ON NO-BID CONTRACTS**

SEC. 410. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act to [executive branch]Executive Branch agencies may be used to enter into any Federal contract unless such contract is entered into in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 33 of title 41, United States Code, or Chapter 137 of title 10, United States Code, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation, unless—

- (1) Federal law specifically authorizes a contract to be entered into without regard for these requirements, including formula grants for States, or federally recognized Indian tribes;
- (2) such contract is authorized by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Public Law 93–638, 25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) or by any other Federal laws that specifically authorize a contract within an Indian tribe as defined in section 4(e) of that Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)); or
- (3) such contract was awarded prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

## **POSTING OF REPORTS**

SEC. 411. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public website of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

- (1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or
- (2) the report contains proprietary information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for no less than 45 days.

## **NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS GRANT GUIDELINES**

SEC. 412. Of the funds provided to the National Endowment for the Arts—

(1) The Chairperson shall only award a grant to an individual if such grant is awarded to such individual for a literature fellowship, National Heritage Fellowship, or American Jazz Masters Fellowship.

(2) The Chairperson shall establish procedures to ensure that no funding provided through a grant, except a grant made to a State or local arts agency, or regional group, may be used to make a grant to any other organization or individual to conduct activity independent of the direct grant recipient. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit payments made in exchange for goods and services.

(3) No grant shall be used for seasonal support to a group, unless the application is specific to the contents of the season, including identified programs or projects.

## **NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS PROGRAM PRIORITIES**

SEC. 413. (a) In providing services or awarding financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 from funds appropriated under this Act, the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts shall ensure that priority is given to providing services or awarding financial assistance for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that serve underserved populations.

(b) In this section:

(1) The term “underserved population” means a population of individuals, including urban minorities, who have historically been outside the purview of arts and humanities programs due to factors such as a high incidence of income below the poverty line or to geographic isolation.

(2) The term “poverty line” means the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, and revised annually in accordance with section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2))) applicable to a family of the size involved.

(c) In providing services and awarding financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 with funds appropriated by this Act, the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts shall ensure that priority is given to providing services or awarding financial assistance for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that will encourage public knowledge, education, understanding, and appreciation of the arts.

(d) With funds appropriated by this Act to carry out section 5 of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965—



(1) the Chairperson shall establish a grant category for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that are of national impact or availability or are able to tour several States;

(2) the Chairperson shall not make grants exceeding 15 percent, in the aggregate, of such funds to any single State, excluding grants made under the authority of paragraph (1);

(3) the Chairperson shall report to the Congress annually and by State, on grants awarded by the Chairperson in each grant category under section 5 of such Act; and

(4) the Chairperson shall encourage the use of grants to improve and support community-based music performance and education.

#### **STATUS OF BALANCES OF APPROPRIATIONS**

SEC. 414. The Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Forest Service, and the Indian Health Service shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations including all uncommitted, committed, and unobligated funds in each program and activity within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

#### **EXTENSION OF GRAZING PERMITS**

SEC. 415. The terms and conditions of section 325 of Public Law 108–108 (117 Stat. 1307), regarding grazing permits issued by the Forest Service on any lands not subject to administration under section 402 of the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act (43 U.S.C. 1752), shall remain in effect for fiscal year [2024]2025.

#### **FUNDING PROHIBITION**

SEC. 416. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network is designed to block access to pornography websites. (b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

#### **HUMANE TRANSFER AND TREATMENT OF ANIMALS**

SEC. 417. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to land administered by the Bureau of Land Management, or the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to land administered by the Forest Service (referred to in this section as the “Secretary concerned”), may transfer excess wild horses and burros that have been removed from land administered by the Secretary concerned to other Federal, State, and local government agencies for use as work animals.

(b) The Secretary concerned may make a transfer under subsection (a) immediately on the request of a Federal, State, or local government agency.

(c) An excess wild horse or burro transferred under subsection (a) shall lose status as a wild free-roaming horse or burro (as defined in section 2 of Public Law 92–195 (commonly known as the “Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act”) (16 U.S.C. 1332)).

(d) A Federal, State, or local government agency receiving an excess wild horse or burro pursuant to subsection (a) shall not—

(1) destroy the horse or burro in a manner that results in the destruction of the horse or burro into a commercial product;

(2) sell or otherwise transfer the horse or burro in a manner that results in the destruction of the horse or burro for processing into a commercial product; or

(3) euthanize the horse or burro, except on the recommendation of a licensed veterinarian in a case of severe injury, illness, or advanced age.

(e) Amounts appropriated by this Act shall not be available for—

(1) the destruction of any healthy, unadopted, and wild horse or burro under the jurisdiction of the Secretary concerned (including a contractor); or

(2) the sale of a wild horse or burro that results in the destruction of the wild horse or burro for processing into a commercial product.

#### **FOREST SERVICE FACILITY REALIGNMENT AND ENHANCEMENT AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION**

SEC. 418. Section 503(f) of Public Law 109–54 (16 U.S.C. 580d note) shall be applied by substituting “September 30, [2024]2025” for “September 30, 2019”.

#### **LOCAL COOPERATOR TRAINING AGREEMENTS AND TRANSFERS OF EXCESS EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR WILDFIRES**

SEC. 419. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to enter into grants and cooperative agreements with volunteer fire departments, rural fire departments, rangeland fire protection associations, and similar organizations to provide for wildland fire training and equipment, including supplies and communication devices. Notwithstanding section 121(c) of title 40, United States Code, or section 521 of title 40, United States Code, the Secretary is further authorized to transfer title to excess Department of the Interior firefighting equipment no longer needed to carry out the functions of the Department’s wildland fire management program to such organizations.

#### **RECREATION FEES**

SEC. 420. Section 810 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6809) shall be applied by substituting “October 1, [2025]2026” for “September 30, 2019”.

#### **LOCAL CONTRACTORS**

SEC. 421. Section 412 of division E of Public Law 112–74 shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year [2024]2025” for “fiscal year 2019”.

#### **SHASTA-TRINITY MARINA FEE AUTHORITY AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION**

SEC. 422. Section 422 of division F of Public Law 110–161 (121 Stat 1844), as amended, shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year [2024]2025” for “fiscal year 2019”.

#### **INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION**

SEC. 423. Section 426 of division G of Public Law 113–76 (16 U.S.C. 565a–1 note) shall be applied by substituting “September 30, [2024]2025” for “September 30, 2019”.

#### **PUERTO RICO SCHOOLING AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION**

[SEC. 424. The authority provided by the 19th unnumbered paragraph under heading “Administrative Provisions, Forest Service” in title III of Public Law 109–54, as amended, shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year 2024” for “fiscal year 2019”.]

SEC. 424. Funds available to the Forest Service in this and prior Acts under the headings “National Forest System” and “Forest and Rangeland Research” may be used for expenses associated with primary and secondary schooling for dependents of agency personnel stationed in Puerto Rico, who are subject to transfer and reassignment to other locations in the United States, at a cost not in excess of those authorized for the Department of Defense for

the same area, when it is determined by the Chief of the Forest Service that public schools available in the locality are unable to provide adequately for the education of such dependents: *Provided*, That the Congress hereby ratifies and approves payments for such purposes to agency employees stationed in Puerto Rico made by the Forest Service after August 2, 2005, in accordance with the 19th unnumbered paragraph under the heading “Administrative Provisions, Forest Service” in title III of Public Law 109-54, as amended.

#### **FOREST BOTANICAL PRODUCTS FEE COLLECTION AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION**

SEC. 425. Section 339 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000 (as enacted into law by Public Law 106–113; 16 U.S.C. 528 note), as amended by section 335(6) of Public Law 108–108 and section 432 of Public Law 113– 76, shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year [2024]2025” for “fiscal year 2019”.

#### **CHACO CANYON**

SEC. 426. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to accept a nomination for oil and gas leasing under 43 CFR 3120.3 et seq., or to offer for oil and gas leasing, any Federal lands within the withdrawal area identified on the map of the Chaco Culture National Historical Park prepared by the Bureau of Land Management and dated April 2, 2019.

#### **TRIBAL LEASES**

SEC. 427. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of any lease under section 105(1) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5324(1)), the initial lease term shall commence no earlier than the date of receipt of the lease proposal. (b) The Secretaries of the Interior and Health and Human Services shall, jointly or separately, during fiscal year [2024]2025 consult with tribes and tribal organizations through public solicitation and other means regarding the requirements for leases under section 105(1) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5324(1)) on how to implement a consistent and transparent process for the payment of such leases.

#### **FOREST ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND RECOVERY FUND**

SEC. 428. The authority provided under the heading “Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery Fund” in title I of Public Law 111–88, as amended by section 117 of division F of Public Law 113–235, shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year [2024]2025” for “fiscal year 2020” each place it appears.

#### **ALLOCATION OF PROJECTS, NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LAND LEGACY RESTORATION FUND AND LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND**

SEC. 429. (a)

(1) Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall allocate amounts made available from the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund for fiscal year [2024]2025 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 200402 of title 54, United States Code, and as provided in subsection (e) of such section of such title, to the agencies of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture specified, in the amounts specified, for the stations and unit names specified, and for the projects and activities specified in the table titled “Allocation of Funds: National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund Fiscal Year [2024]2025” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(2) Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, as appropriate, shall allocate amounts made available for expenditure from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for fiscal year [2024]2025 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 200303 of title 54, United States Code, to the agencies and accounts specified, in the amounts specified, and for the projects and activities specified in the table titled “Allocation of Funds: Land and Water Conservation Fund Fiscal Year [2024]2025” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(b) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (c) of this section, neither the President nor his designee may allocate any amounts that are made available for any fiscal year under subsection (c) of section 200402 of title 54, United States Code, or subsection (a) of section 200303 of title 54, United States Code, other than in amounts and for projects and activities that are allocated by subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section: *Provided*, That in any fiscal year, the matter preceding this proviso shall not apply to the allocation of amounts for continuing administration of programs allocated funds from the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund or the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which may be allocated only in amounts that are no more than the allocation for such purposes in subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section.

(c) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may reallocate amounts from each agency's "Contingency Fund" line in the table titled "Allocation of Funds: National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund Fiscal Year [2024]2025" to any project funded by the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund within the same agency, from any fiscal year, that experienced a funding deficiency due to unforeseen cost overruns, in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) "Contingency Fund" amounts may only be reallocated if there is a risk to project completion resulting from unforeseen cost overruns;

(2) "Contingency Fund" amounts may only be reallocated for cost of adjustments and changes within the original scope of effort for projects funded by the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund; and

(3) The Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture must provide written notification to the Committees on Appropriations 30 days before taking any actions authorized by this subsection if the amount reallocated from the "Contingency Fund" line for a project is projected to be 10 percent or greater than the following, as applicable:

(A) The amount allocated to that project in the table titled "Allocation of Funds: National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund Fiscal Year [2024]2025" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act); or

(B) The initial estimate in the most recent report submitted, prior to enactment of this Act, to the Committees on Appropriations pursuant to section 431(e) of division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117–328).

(d)

(1) Concurrent with the annual budget submission of the President for fiscal year [2025]2026, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall each submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate project data sheets for the projects in the "Submission of Annual List of Projects to Congress" required by section 200402(h) of title 54, United States Code: *Provided*, That the "Submission of Annual List of Projects to Congress" must include a "Contingency Fund" line for each agency within the allocations defined in subsection (e) of section 200402 of title 54, United States Code: *Provided further*, That in the event amounts allocated by this Act or any prior Act for the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund are no longer needed to complete a specified project, such amounts may be reallocated in such submission to that agency's "Contingency Fund" line: *Provided further*, That any proposals to change the scope of or terminate a previously approved project must be clearly identified in such submission.

(2)

(A) Concurrent with the annual budget submission of the President for fiscal year [2025]2026, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall each submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a list of supplementary allocations for

Federal land acquisition and Forest Legacy Projects at the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service that are in addition to the “Submission of Cost Estimates” required by section 200303(c)(1) of title 54, United States Code, that are prioritized and detailed by account, program, and project, and that total no less than half the full amount allocated to each account for that land management Agency under the allocations submitted under section 200303(c)(1) of title 54, United States Code: *Provided*, That in the event amounts allocated by this Act or any prior Act pursuant to subsection (a) of section 200303 of title 54, United States Code are no longer needed because a project has been completed or can no longer be executed, such amounts must be clearly identified if proposed for reallocation in the annual budget submission.

(B) The Federal land acquisition and Forest Legacy projects in the “Submission of Cost Estimates” required by section 200303(c)(1) of title 54, United States Code, and on the list of supplementary allocations required by subparagraph (A) shall be comprised only of projects for which a willing seller has been identified and for which an appraisal or market research has been initiated.

(C) Concurrent with the annual budget submission of the President for fiscal year [2025]2026, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall each submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate project data sheets in the same format and containing the same level of detailed information that is found on such sheets in the Budget Justifications annually submitted by the Department of the Interior with the President’s Budget for the projects in the “Submission of Cost Estimates” required by section 200303(c)(1) of title 54, United States Code, and in the same format and containing the same level of detailed information that is found on such sheets submitted to the Committees pursuant to section 427 of division D of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116–94) for the list of supplementary allocations required by subparagraph (A).

(e) The Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate quarterly reports on the status of balances of projects and activities funded by the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund for amounts allocated pursuant to subsection (a)(1) of this section and the status of balances of projects and activities funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund for amounts allocated pursuant to subsection (a)(2) of this section, including all uncommitted, committed, and unobligated funds, and, for amounts allocated pursuant to subsection (a)(1) of this section, National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund amounts reallocated pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(f) Amounts allocated by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to subsection (a)(2) of this section shall include \$8,483,563 to the “Office of the Secretary—Departmental Operations” account for a Tribal Land Stewardship program for Tribal governments to acquire, whether in fee or in trust, land, water, or interests in land or water, for purposes consistent with chapter 2003 of title 54, United States Code, in accordance with criteria determined by the Secretary of the Interior in consultation with Tribes: *Provided*, That payments may be made by the Secretary of Interior through direct expenditure, or through grants, compacts, contracts, or cooperative agreements with Indian Tribes: *Provided further*, That of the amounts allocated, up to \$500,000 shall be available for Federal administrative expenses.

(g) In this section, the term “Tribal government” means the recognized governing body of any Indian or Alaska Native Tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, community, component band, or component reservation individually identified (including parenthetically) in the list published most recently pursuant to section 104 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5131).

## [POLICIES RELATING TO BIOMASS ENERGY]

[SEC. 430. To support the key role that forests in the United States can play in addressing the energy needs of the United States, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall, consistent with their missions, jointly—

(1) ensure that Federal policy relating to forest bioenergy—

(A) is consistent across all Federal departments and agencies; and

(B) recognizes the full benefits of the use of forest biomass for energy, conservation, and responsible forest management; and

(2) establish clear and simple policies for the use of forest biomass as an energy solution, including policies that—

(A) reflect the carbon neutrality of forest bioenergy and recognize biomass as a renewable energy source, provided the use of forest biomass for energy production does not cause conversion of forests to non-forest use;

(B) encourage private investment throughout the forest biomass supply chain, including in—

(i) working forests;

(ii) harvesting operations;

(iii) forest improvement operations;

(iv) forest bioenergy production;

(v) wood products manufacturing; or

(vi) paper manufacturing;

(C) encourage forest management to improve forest health; and

(D) recognize State initiatives to produce and use forest biomass.]

#### **[SMALL REMOTE INCINERATORS]**

[SEC. 431. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to implement or enforce the regulation issued on March 21, 2011 at 40 CFR part 60 subparts CCCC and DDDD with respect to units in the State of Alaska that are defined as “small, remote incinerator” units in those regulations and, until a subsequent regulation is issued, the Administrator shall implement the law and regulations in effect prior to such date.]

#### **TIMBER SALE REQUIREMENTS**

SEC. [432]430. No timber sale in Alaska’s Region 10 shall be advertised if the indicated rate is deficit (defined as the value of the timber is not sufficient to cover all logging and stumpage costs and provide a normal profit and risk allowance under the Forest Service’s appraisal process) when appraised using a residual value appraisal. The western red cedar timber from those sales which is surplus to the needs of the domestic processors in Alaska, shall be made available to domestic processors in the contiguous 48 United States at prevailing domestic prices. All additional western red cedar volume not sold to Alaska or contiguous 48 United States domestic processors may be exported to foreign markets at the election of the timber sale holder. All Alaska yellow cedar may be sold at prevailing export prices at the election of the timber sale holder.

#### **TRANSFER AUTHORITY TO FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION FOR THE NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LAND LEGACY RESTORATION FUND**

SEC. [433]431. Funds made available or allocated in this Act to the Department of the Interior or the Department of Agriculture that are subject to the allocations and limitations in 54 U.S.C. 200402(e) and prohibitions in 54 U.S.C. 200402(f) may be further allocated or reallocated to the Federal Highway Administration for transportation projects of the covered agencies defined in 54 U.S.C. 200401(2).

#### **PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS**

SEC. [434]432. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act may be used to promulgate or implement any regulation requiring the issuance of permits under title V of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7661 et seq.) for carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, water vapor, or methane emissions resulting from biological processes associated with livestock production.

#### **GREENHOUSE GAS REPORTING RESTRICTIONS**

SEC. [435]433. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to implement any provision in a rule, if that provision requires mandatory reporting of greenhouse gas emissions from manure management systems.

#### **FUNDING PROHIBITION**

SEC. [436]434. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to regulate the lead content of ammunition, ammunition components, or fishing tackle under the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) or any other law.

#### **ALASKA NATIVE REGIONAL HEALTH ENTITIES AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION**

SEC. [437]435. Section 424(a) of title IV of division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113–76) shall be applied by substituting “October 1, [2024]2025” for “December 24, 2022”.

#### **WILDFIRE FUNDING AND FOREST MANAGEMENT ACT**

SEC. [438]436. Section 104 [of division O] of the [Stephen Sepp] Wildfire Suppression Funding and Forest Management Activities Act (division O of Public Law 115 -141) is amended –

- (a) in subsection (a), by striking “90” and inserting “180”; and
- (b) in paragraph (4) of subsection (b), by inserting the following before the semicolon: “, and shall include an accounting of any spending in the first two quarters of the succeeding fiscal year that is attributable to suppression operations in the fiscal year for which the report was prepared”.

#### **GOOD NEIGHBOR AUTHORITY**

Sec. [439]437. Section 8206(b)(2)(C)(ii) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (916 U.S.C. 2113a(b)(2)(C)(ii)), as amended by section 8624 of the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-334), is further amended by striking “2023” and inserting “[2024]2025”.

#### **TIMBER EXPORT**

SEC. [440]438. The Secretary of Agriculture shall not be required to issue regulations under section 495 of the Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 620f) for the fiscal year.

#### **COST SHARE WAIVER**

SEC. 439. The Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, may waive, in whole or in part, the non-Federal cost sharing requirement of any appropriate conservation project under section 212(a)(1) of the Public Lands Corps Act (16 U.S.C. 1729(a)(1)): *Provided*, That in the event of such a waiver, the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, as appropriate, is authorized to pay up to 100 percent of the costs of such conservation project.

**Change Description**

The first change (SEC. 403) removes the word “by” from, the DISCLOSURE OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES provision.

The second change (SEC. 404) extends the reporting requirement in the MINING APPLICATIONS provision to 2026.

The third change (SEC. 405) extends the prior year limitation for contract support cost to 2025.

The fourth change (SEC. 406) extends contract support cost limitation in 2024 and 2025.

The fifth change (SEC. 415) extends the grazing permit authority (P.L.108–108 (117 Stat. 1307)) to 2025.

The sixth change (SEC. 418) extends authority for the Forest Service Facility Realignment and Enhancement Act (P.L.109–54 (16 U.S.C. 580d note)) to 2025.

The seventh change (SEC. 420) extends authority for the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6809) to 2026.

The eighth change (SEC. 421) extends the authority for local contractors.

The ninth change (SEC. 422) extends the Shasta-Trinity authority (P.L. 110-161(121 Stat. 1844), as amended) to 2025.

The tenth change (SEC. 423) extends the Interpretive Association Authority (P.L.113-76 (16 U.S.C. 565a-1 note)) to 2025.

The eleventh change (SEC.424) removes the Puerto Rico Schools authority (P.L.109-54, as amended) to 2025 language and adds language for funds available for schooling.

The twelfth change (SEC. 425) extends the Forest Botanical Products authority (P.L.106–113; 16 U.S.C. 528 note, as amended) to 2025.

The thirteenth change (SEC. 428) extends the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5324(l)) to 2025.

The fourteenth change (SEC. 429) extends the Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery Fund (P.L. 111-88, as amended) to 2025.

The fifteenth change (SEC. 430) adds language to the Allocation of Projects, National Parks And Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund And Land And Water Conservation Fund general provision in the tenth paragraph.

The sixteenth change (SEC. 430) adds language to the Allocation of Projects, National Parks And Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund And Land And Water Conservation Fund general provision in the eleventh paragraph.

The seventeenth change removes the POLICIES RELARING TO BIOMASS ENERGY.

The eighteenth change removes the SMALL REMOTE INCINERATORS.

The nineteenth change (SEC. 430) TIMBER SALE REQUIREMENTS, SEC. change from 432 to 430.

The twentieth change (SEC. 431) TRANSFER AUTHORITY TO FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION FOR THE NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LAND LEGACY RESTORATION FUND, SEC. change from 433 to 431.

The twenty-first change (SEC. 432) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS, SEC. change from 434 to 432.

The twenty-second change (SEC. 433) GREENHOUSE GAS REPORTING RESTRICTIONS, SEC. change from 435 to 433.

The twenty-third change (SEC. 434) FUNDING PROHIBITION, SEC. change from 436 to 434.

The twenty-fourth change (SEC. 435) ALASKA NATIVE REGIONAL HEALTH ENTITIES AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION, SEC. change from 437 to 435.

The twenty-fifth change (SEC. 436) WILDFIRE FUNDING AND FOREST MANAGEMENT ACT, SEC. change from 438 to 436 and removes language and adds language before Public Law 115-141.

The twenty-sixth change (SEC. 439) GOOD NEIGHBORING AUTHORITY, SEC. change from 439 to 437 and extends Good Neighboring Authority to 2025.

The twenty-seventy change (SEC. 438) TIMBER EXPORT, SEC. change from 440 to 438.

The twenty-eighth change adds the Cost Share Waiver provision from 2024 Senate bill.



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## **AGENCY-WIDE PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of the Summary of Performance and Evaluation section is to provide an update on Performance and Evidence and Evaluation efforts, facilitating compliance with the Government Performance Results Modernization Act and the Evidence Act of 2018, as well as departmental Key Performance Indicators (KPI). Specifically, the Office of Budget and Program Analysis (OBPA) leads the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Performance, Evaluation, Evidence, and Risk Management and chairs the Performance, Evaluation, Evidence Committee (PEEC) and the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) committees. The Forest Service is a member of both the PEEC and ERM committees which are comprised of individuals from different Mission Areas and backgrounds throughout USDA, as well as key evaluation partners, the USDA Chief Data Officer, and the Statistical Officer. These different perspectives and expertise facilitate buy-in across USDA, augment technical expertise, and create a greater diversity of perspectives. Partnership with the Chief Data Officer and Statistical Officer provides greater insight and advisement on data access, data quality, and statistical methods.

The Forest Service was established on February 1, 1905, within USDA. It has a unique mission to sustain healthy, diverse, and productive forests and grasslands for present and future generations. The Forest Service is composed of the following major deputy areas: Business Operations; National Forest System, State, Private, and Tribal Forestry, which includes Fire and Aviation Management; and Research and Development. The Office of Strategic Planning, Budget, and Accountability spearheads the Forest Service's efforts in strategic planning, performance and evidence, and evaluation. Additionally, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer leads Enterprise Risk Management activities. These offices work directly with OBPA and senior leadership as well as actively engaging with both internal and external stakeholders.

### **ALIGNMENT TO USDA 2022 – 2026 STRATEGIC PLAN**

The Forest Service contributes to Goals 1, 3, and 5 of USDA's Strategic Goals in the current Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 – 2026 USDA Strategic Plan through fact-based, data-driven, and customer-focused decisions. Departmental KPIs are performance metrics aligned with the Strategic Objectives laid out in the USDA's Strategic Plan and are monitored and evaluated during the Quarterly Strategic Reviews, the Bi-Annual Strategic Review with OMB, and included within the Annual Performance Plan and Report published by OBPA and is responsible for achieving and measuring results with respect to the relevant USDA Strategic Goal and Objectives. The Forest Service's FY 2024-2028 Strategic Plan will also be published by mid-FY 2024 and will serve as another mechanism outlining the goals and objectives for which all Forest Service components can measure their desired impacts and progress.

USDA Strategic Goal 1: Increase the Sustainability of Our Forest, Crop, and Livestock Systems by Deploying Climate- and Environmentally Smart Management of Working Lands and Waterways.

Objective 1.1: Increase the Sustainability of Our Forest, Rangelands, and Crop and Livestock Systems by Deploying Climate- and Environmentally Smart Management.

Objective 1.2: Lead Efforts to Adapt to the Consequences of Climate Change in Agriculture and Forestry

Objective 1.3: Lead Efforts to Mitigate Climate Change and Adapt to Drought, and Extreme Weather in Agriculture and Forestry Addressing Vulnerabilities such as the Risk of Catastrophic Wildfire

USDA Strategic Goal 5: Expand Opportunities for Economic Development and Improve Quality of Life in Rural and Tribal Communities

**Objective 5.4: Promote Environmental Justice by Maximizing Sustainable and Green Economic Development in Rural and Tribal Communities**

**SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE**

A more detailed report of the performance plan is located at [Performance Improvement and Evidence Building at USDA](#). The following tables summarize the Forest Service’s contributions to the KPIs.

Table FS-152. KPI -Terrestrial Condition Assessment

<b>Strategic Objective 1.1</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Terrestrial Condition Assessment</b>	Results	30%	-	-
<b>1.1.4</b> Percent of National Forest System (NFS) landscape ecosystems improved, maintained, or recovering due to management actions, Terrestrial Condition Assessment (TCA)	Target	38%	38%	39%

**Expected Performance Progress Towards the Achievement of Strategic Objectives:**

Strategic Objective 1.1: Increase the Sustainability of Our Forest, Crop, and Livestock Systems by Deploying Climate and Environmentally Smart Management of Working Lands and Waterways.

**Terrestrial Condition Assessment (TCA):** In FY 2025 and following recent investments, the Forest Service will continue with progress towards completing implementation of restoration projects that achieve the Forest Service’s focus on larger landscape restoration, as outlined in the Wildfire Crisis Strategy. This focus will also lead to increases in ecosystem health measured in the Terrestrial Condition Assessment KPI. Ongoing investments will also allow for staff in new roles to develop the skills, knowledge, and experience to expand the capacity of the Forest Service. Restoration work, especially when done at scale, takes time to complete and see the investment outcomes as various activities move through planning, contracting, and implementation phases prior to being completed. Through focused work in priority areas and greater support for landscape-scale work through Forest Service programs (e.g., selection and funding for the next group of Collaborative Forest Land Restoration Project projects), the percentage of landscapes improved, maintained, and recovering should continue to improve.

Table FS-153. KPI – Forest Legacy Program

<b>Strategic Objective 1.2</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Forest Legacy Program</b>	Results	46,772	-	-
<b>1.2.1</b> Number of private forest acres protected through the Forest Legacy Program	Target	64,000	64,000	64,000

Table FS-154. KPI – Wildfire Risk Reduction

<b>Strategic Objective 1.2</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Wildfire Risk Reduction</b>	Results	1	-	-
<b>1.2.2</b> Number of high priority areas where treatments have occurred to reduce wildfire risk to communities (number of firesheds, annually) <sup>a</sup>	Target	1	N/A	N/A

<sup>a</sup> This KPI is being retired in FY 2024 and will be replaced with a new KPI in a future plan.

Table FS-155. KPI – Hazardous Fuels Reduction

<b>Strategic Objective 1.2</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Hazardous Fuels Reduction</b>	Results	4.4	-	-
<b>1.2.3 Annual acreage treated to reduce or maintain fuel conditions on NFS and non-Federal lands (million acres, annually)</b>	Target	4.0	4.2	4.0

Table FS-156. KPI – Final Acreage Treatment

<b>Strategic Objective 1.2</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Final Acreage Treatment</b>	Results	1.4	-	-
<b>1.2.4 Annual acreage of NFS lands where final treatment effectively mitigates wildfire risk (million acres, annually)</b>	Target	1.6	1.7	1.6

Table FS-157. KPI – Timber Volume

<b>Strategic Objective 1.2</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Timber Volume</b>	Results	3.1	-	-
<b>1.2.5 Timber volume sold (billion board feet)</b>	Target	3.4	3.2	3.2

Table FS-158. KPI – Research Publications

<b>Strategic Objective 1.2</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Research Publications</b>	Results	N/A	-	-
<b>1.2.6 Number of Peer-Reviewed Scholarly Publications<sup>b</sup></b>	Target	N/A	1,100	1,100

<sup>b</sup> The Forest Service has previously tracked the number of peer-reviewed scholarly publications produced by Forest Service research scientists internally, but it will be elevated to a key performance indicator for the Forest Service beginning in FY 2024.

**Expected Performance Progress Towards the Achievement of Strategic Objectives:**

Strategic Objective 1.2: Lead Efforts to Adapt to the Consequences of Climate Change in Agriculture and Forestry

- **Forest Legacy Program:** By FY 2025, the Forest Legacy program expects to be operating at full capacity and anticipates that increased staffing, combined with improved knowledge, skills, and abilities, will result in an increased pace of successful project completions. Since Forest Legacy projects are Congressionally directed, grant awards are delayed until a final appropriations act is signed into law, and this continues to be a challenge. The program provides administrative funds to states in addition to funding projects and the Forest Service has increased project administration support to participating states. While some states have been able to quickly operationalize the availability of additional resources, other states face challenges in doing so. Forest Service program staff will continue to work with State partners to provide programmatic, educational, and financial support to ensure effective program implementation. Finally, additional funding made available by IRA will continue to increase capacity for the program including \$250 million in FY 2024 and \$125 million in FY 2025, which is also expected to increase accomplishments.
- **Wildfire Risk Reduction:** This KPI is being retired in FY 2024 and will be replaced with a new KPI in a future plan.
- **Hazardous Fuels Reduction:** The Forest Service Washington Office staff will continue to work with each region to achieve the right level of support to maintain fire-adapted ecosystems, continue investments, and maximize opportunities to reduce wildfire risk in those key firesheds identified in the Wildfire Crisis Strategy. Specifically,

the Forest Service has set its FY 2024 national hazardous fuels goal at 4.2 million acres on National Forest System lands and adjacent lands and a FY 2025 goal of 4.0 million acres. Achieving these goals is dependent on a broad range of enabling conditions related to litigation, timber markets, increased costs due to inflation, unpredictable situations such as wildfire conditions and other natural disasters, and final budget appropriations from Congress. Any of these could impact the Forest Service’s ability to achieve these accomplishment goals. Further, the Forest Service expects increased treatment costs as the focus work in areas that are more impactful in reducing wildfire risk, but that takes longer to complete and is more complex.

Although the Forest Service was able to achieve 4.4 million acres in FY 2023 with historic investments from BIL and IRA, treatments continue to be focused in the right places, and at the right time, to mitigate wildfire risk to communities, infrastructure, and natural resources. This focus does not always result in more acres treated. The Forest Service will continue to focus on outcomes, rather than acres treated, and is working on more effective ways to communicate this internally and externally.

- Final Acreage Treatment:** The Forest Service will continue to work closely with each region to achieve the right level of support to maintain current levels of risk, continue investments, and maximize opportunities to reduce wildfire risk. Funding in BIL provides opportunities to treat high-risk and high-cost acres in FY 2023 and is anticipated to have a similar impact in FY 2024 and FY 2025. These treatments will allow the Forest Service to redesignate more than 1.5 million acres to a low risk of wildfire. Additional investments will be required to maintain these areas over time and avoid returning to a high risk of wildfire.
- Timber Volume:** The Forest Service will continue to evolve this as an outcome-based indicator to measure success in combating climate change, and its support of America's working lands, natural resources, and communities. Forest Service field staff continue to look for new opportunities to work with partners, as well as the use of multiple contracting types and other authorities to get more work done at a larger scale. Additional support to provide training to employees and support options for efficiencies will be a key focus leading into FY 2025. The Forest Service will continue the development of a 5-year strategic plan of action that outlines expectations and outcomes for future planning, outcomes, and KPI accomplishments. These strategic investments will also support an emphasis on employee recruitment and position hiring will need to be a continued focus into FY 2025 to ensure a full work force is available to meet the Forest Service’s objectives.
- Research Publications:** Forest Service Research and Development (R&D) will focus on research publications to inform Forest Service land management responsibilities and to advance the highest national priorities. R&D will support the Forest Service’s Wildfire Crisis Strategy, including fire prediction, planning, decision support, strategic reduction of hazardous fuels, impact assessment, and recovery; continue investments in watershed research to sustain and improve water security in the face of increasingly frequent and extreme hydrological events from droughts to floods; and invest in research and development of innovative wood uses, generating new products, supporting new and emerging markets, and facilitating implementation of the Wildfire Crisis Strategy.

Table FS-159. KPI – Watershed Restoration

<b>Strategic Objective 1.3</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Watershed Restoration</b>	Results	6	-	-
<b>1.3.5</b> Number of watersheds moved to improved condition class or sustained in Condition Class 1	Target	16	21	25

**Expected Performance Progress Towards the Achievement of Strategic Objectives:**

Strategic Objective 1.3: Lead Efforts to Mitigate Climate Change and Adapt to Drought, and Extreme Weather in Agriculture and Forestry Addressing Vulnerabilities such as the Risk of Catastrophic Wildfire

- Watershed Restoration:** Increased project funding in FY 2023 through FY 2025 from BIL and IRA has allowed for an increase of four watersheds over the previous fiscal years target. Program investments will focus on making improvements to the conditions of priority and source watersheds, as well as improve water quality and quantity, along with providing updates to the Terrestrial Condition Assessment to enable continued reporting of ecological effects of ecological management activities. The program will also continue co-investment with critical partners, such as Trout Unlimited, to reach the Forest Service’s goal of improving the condition of priority watersheds. Furthermore, in FY 2025, the Forest Service will continue to strengthen coordination with States, Tribes, local communities, private landowners, and partners in the public and private sector, working to advance the goals set in the Forest Service Equity Action Plan and Tribal Action Plan.

Table FS-160. KPI – National Forest Customer Satisfaction

<b>Strategic Objective 5.4</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>National Forest Customer Satisfaction</b>	Results	TBD <sup>c</sup>	-	-
<b>5.4.2</b> Percent of customers satisfied with recreation facilities, services, and settings in National Forest	Target	98	98	95

<sup>c</sup> Data collection for FY 2023 is still on-going and visitor satisfaction levels will be available in spring 2024.

**Expected Performance Progress Towards the Achievement of Strategic Objectives:**

Strategic Objective 5.4: Promote Environmental Justice by Maximizing Sustainable and Green Economic Development in Rural and Tribal Communities

- National Forest Customer Satisfaction:** Continued investment in addressing deferred maintenance needs and additional investments in areas to accommodate high visitor use will support high levels of visitor satisfaction. In addition, investments made in customer service through such platforms as Recreation.gov will make Forest Service facilities easier to find and facilitate trip planning to match recreation user and visitor needs to appropriate resources. High levels of visitor satisfaction will likely continue, thanks to the recent hiring of new staff to support recreational programs, investments in deferred maintenance, and continued public interest in outdoor recreation. The targets for FY 2023 and FY 2024 were erroneously set at 98 percent, which was likely never achievable at the current financial resource levels. Therefore, the FY 2025 target has been adjusted back to a historically achievable level.

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## SPECIAL EXHIBITS

### **CARBON ACCOUNTING**

#### **Background**

This exhibit responds to a Congressional Directive from House Report 117-400:

The Committee recognizes our National Forests as an essential asset in reducing carbon emissions and in the fight against climate change. Healthy forests provide an important carbon sink, and the Committee recognizes the Forest Service's efforts to factor carbon accounting into its land management decisions. The Committee directs the Forest Service to submit a yearly estimate of carbon accounting on Forest Service lands broken down by region in its annual budget materials. The Committee expects the increases given to numerous programs throughout the Forest Service to combat wildfires, invasive species, and diseases, rehabilitate burned areas, among others, will help contribute to an increased amount of carbon stored in our National Forests.

#### **Overview**

For nearly a century, the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program has measured millions of trees, on hundreds of thousands of plots within a statistical nationwide framework, providing the information needed to assess one of America's greatest resources—its forests. The collection and development of scientifically credible FIA data, tools, and analyses over decades, integrated with remote sensing products, provide critical status and trend information to resource managers, policymakers, investors, and the public. This annual resource inventory covers both public and private forest lands – all ownerships – across the United States. FIA reports on status and trends in forest area and location; land cover and land use change; species, size, and health of trees; total tree growth, mortality, and removals by harvest; wood production and utilization rates by various products; forest land ownership; and forest carbon stocks and associated changes.

Given the complexities associated with estimating carbon in forest ecosystems, FIA measures more than just live trees. Dead trees, downed dead wood, forest floor, and soils have been added to the FIA program over the past decades to fully monitor forest carbon. This work is critical to meeting reporting guidelines under international agreements and is done collaboratively with other agencies, such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service's National Resources Inventory. The Forest Service reports annually on the forest and harvested wood products greenhouse gas emissions and removals to the United Nation's Framework Convention on Climate Change via the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, while also informing climate smart practices at small scales across rural landscapes.

In coordination with a host of critical partners, field inventory data are collected every year in all 50 States, and periodically in territories and former island protectorates. The goal is to publicly release fully processed forest carbon estimates data within two years of collection across a robust suite of forest health metrics (e.g., tree mortality and soil health) that provides decision makers and policymakers with evidence to support forest investments. The data helps enable the evaluation of tradeoffs between maximizing forest carbon storage and increasing the resilience of U.S. forests to expected global change (e.g., increasing droughts). Recognizing how the future of U.S. forests are entwined with communities and economies, FIA also conducts annual nationwide Timber Product Output and National Woodland Owners Surveys, which produce data that support a robust and inclusive national assessment of forest carbon and associated resource decisions.

#### **Carbon Accounting on Forested National Forest System Lands**

The tables below display the Forest Service's assessment of current carbon stock by forest areas and carbon stock by regions. Table FS-161 contains the current carbon stock and forest land acreage, and Table FS-162 provides net carbon change estimates for forest lands on National Forests System lands by region. The estimates are based on Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) data used in the most recent Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and



Sinks: 1990-2021<sup>61</sup> using the methodology described in the Population Estimation User’s Guide and Resource Update.<sup>62, 63</sup> Forest carbon estimates are derived by estimating the carbon content of forest biomass by various pools (e.g., live trees or soils) in a year all within the statistical framework employed by the FIA program. Change in stocks is calculated by subtracting the estimates between respective years. Programmatic synergies are achieved because the same FIA datasets used to estimate forest carbon are used by USDA and a host of Federal, State, and private entities for assessing a myriad of additional forest attributes such as wildlife habitat, effects of insects and disease, or old-growth prevalence across all U.S. forests.

In addition to sequestering carbon in live tree biomass via the growth of forests, carbon sequestration also continues in harvested wood, which has been less than one million metric tons of carbon per year for wood harvested from all National Forests.<sup>64</sup> Some treatment activities will increase carbon in the landscape, such as restoring burned areas. Other activities such as hazardous fuels treatments to reduce fire risk may reduce carbon in forested landscapes in the near term but potentially reduce the probability of catastrophic future emissions due to climate change with the added benefits of carbon stored in wood products and/or used as a substitute for energy from fossil fuels. Forest carbon is dynamic over time, and healthy forests may contain small or large amounts of carbon stocks change, or flux. Vigorously growing young stands may contain less carbon stocks than stands containing many large dead trees, while sequestering carbon from the atmosphere at higher rates. The collection and distribution of FIA’s Forest data empowers the evaluation of the many intricacies associated with forest carbon dynamics beyond the purview of this summary.

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<sup>61</sup> [Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2021](#)

<sup>62</sup> Pugh, SA et al. 2018. The Forest Inventory and Analysis Database: Population Estimation User Guide (Edition: November 2018). USDA Forest Service. 166 p. [Online]. Available at web address: [The Forest Inventory and Analysis Database](#)

<sup>63</sup> Domke et al. 2023. Greenhouse gas emissions and removals from forest land, woodlands, urban trees, and harvested wood products in the United States, 1990-2021. Resource. Bull. WO-101. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Washington Office. 10 p [Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Removal](#). [Accessed 7 November 2023]

<sup>64</sup> Heath, LS et al. 2011. Carbon stocks on forestland of the United States, with emphasis on USDA Forest Service ownership. *Ecosphere* 2(1): art6 doi:10.1890/ES10-00126.1.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Table FS-161. Carbon stocks (million metric tons carbon) and forested national forest area (million acres) on National Forest System (NFS) lands by Region, through Fiscal Year FY 2022 <sup>a</sup>

Region	NFS lands forested area (million acres)	Carbon stock (million metric tons) in forest pool					
		Above-ground live biomass	Below-ground live biomass	Dead wood	Forest floor	Soil carbon	Total
01-Northern	22.8	463.6	97.2	220.5	144.3	1,055.0	1,980.5
02-Rocky Mountain	15.2	210.4	43.4	113.0	80.6	580.9	1,028.3
03-Southwestern	11.5	132.5	26.8	38.6	35.7	422.1	655.7
04-Intermountain	20.7	235.6	48.1	122.3	84.3	844.1	1,334.4
05-Pacific Southwest	14.2	510.0	105.2	133.3	84.5	654.5	1,487.5
06-Pacific Northwest	22.6	984.2	206.5	260.7	142.6	1,056.9	2,650.9
08-Southern	13.1	453.3	88.9	46.7	49.8	439.2	1,077.9
09-Eastern	11.8	304.1	59.2	41.1	58.7	513.4	976.4
10-Alaska <sup>b</sup>	7.6	283.6	59.7	80.3	76.9	416.1	916.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>139.5</b>	<b>3,577.4</b>	<b>735.0</b>	<b>1,056.5</b>	<b>757.2</b>	<b>5,982.0</b>	<b>12,108.1</b>

<sup>a</sup>Data is derived from Forest Inventories through FY 2022, with the most recent snapshot of the dynamic database of incoming available data here: [Research Data Archive](#).

<sup>b</sup>Some National Forest wilderness areas are not included currently due to limited access.

Table FS-162. Net annual carbon stock change (million metric tons CO<sub>2</sub> eq./year) on forested NFS lands by Region <sup>a</sup> and reporting year, 2021

NFS Region	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2019	2020	2021
01-Northern	-1.45	-1.06	-0.56	-0.07	0.31	0.85	0.88	0.92
02-Rocky Mountain	13	13.18	13.37	13.48	13.63	12.34	12.25	12.24
03-Southwestern	5.14	5.32	5.52	5.72	6.01	6.73	6.82	6.92
04-Intermountain	9.07	9.41	9.84	10.26	10.83	11.17	11.29	11.49
05-Pacific Southwest	-8.62	-8.41	-8.15	-7.88	-7.55	-6.17	-5.95	-5.72
06-Pacific Northwest	-25.71	-24.78	-25.07	-25.51	-26.59	-28.07	-28.19	-28.31
08-Southern	-31.43	-30.31	-29.42	-28.42	-27.67	-26.13	-25.83	-25.53
09-Eastern	-12.64	-12.16	-11.93	-11.96	-12.07	-11.71	-11.61	-11.51
10-Alaska	-2.92	-3.12	-3.37	-3.61	-3.87	-4.07	-4.04	-4
<b>Total <sup>b</sup></b>	<b>-55.56</b>	<b>-51.93</b>	<b>-49.77</b>	<b>-47.99</b>	<b>-46.97</b>	<b>-45.06</b>	<b>-44.38</b>	<b>-43.5</b>

<sup>a</sup>Because FIA's annual measurement approach is based on measured data from the nationwide FIA program where a portion of all plots are measured in any given year, the change estimates span 5-to-10-year intervals.

<sup>b</sup>Negative carbon changes indicate carbon is increasing in the forest carbon pool.

The majority (6,118.9 million metric tons) of combined carbon stocks on NFS lands are in the following Regions: Northern (01), Pacific Southwest (05), and Pacific Northwest (06). The bulk of the estimated increase of net carbon stocks in 2021 (-65.4 million metric tons CO<sub>2</sub> eq. per year) occurred in the Pacific Northwest Region (06), Southern Region (08), and Eastern Region (09). Currently, there is a substantial transfer of live biomass carbon to the dead wood pool and atmosphere on National Forest System lands due to recent catastrophic events from fire, insect and disease, and storm damage, resulting in high tree mortality, which remains in place. FIA's measurement of

forest carbon across time and diversity of pools suggests complex tradeoffs between increasing the resilience of forest ecosystems to expected future change within the context of maximizing forest carbon.

**CRITERIA FOR ALLOCATING FUNDING FOR RECREATION ACCESS****Background**

This exhibit responds to a Congressional Directive from Senate Report 116-123:

The Committee believes increasing access to our public lands is important and provides funding to all four land management agencies—the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, the Forest Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service—to complete projects that enhance access to public lands for hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities. The Committee expects recreational access projects to be selected based on their role in meeting key recreation needs, and the agencies should work with their respective regions, State offices, and/or management units to identify all potential projects. Further, the agencies are again directed to include in future budget justifications an explanation of the process and criteria used for allocating funds for recreational access in the previous year.

**Overview**

Land Acquisition funds are used to secure access to public lands for recreational purposes. Funds are used to meet public recreation access needs, such as preserving large, intact areas for recreation, by working with landowners to secure rights-of-way, easements, or fee simple land acquisitions that provide or improve public access to existing public lands. Under the Great American Outdoors Act (P.L. 116-152), land acquisition funding through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) became mandatory. In FY 2023, the Forest Service acquired over 46,000 acres of land that provided or improved public access; of that 1,539 acres were purchased using funds provided specifically for small recreation access projects.

**FY 2023 Criteria**

The Forest Service prioritizes land acquisitions that have the broad support of stakeholders, local officials, and others at the local level to mitigate barriers to public access and attract more visitors to recreate in a safe, accessible environment. Congress requires the Forest Service to “annually develop a priority list for projects that, through acquisition of land (or an interest in land), secure recreational public access to Federal land under the jurisdiction of the applicable Secretary for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, or other outdoor recreational purposes” (54 U.S.C. 200306(c)).

The Forest Service evaluates proposed recreational access tracts for LWCF funding based on the following criteria:

- How does the acquisition solve a specific access problem or overcome a barrier to access?
- What is the size and configuration of the tract relative to the National Forest System lands around it?
- How much of the tract borders existing National Forest System or other publicly accessible lands?
- What types of recreational access would the land provide? Hunting, fishing, hiking, or other?
- Has the public indicated that more or improved access is needed in this area?
- What is the level of local support for the acquisition?

**Selected Example of Recent Progress**

**Windy Bluff Acquisition.** The Columbia River Gorge National Recreation Area in Washington State used recreation access funding to acquire 10.10 acres of Windy Bluff property. This acquisition will lead to the development of a key trail connection in the Coyote Wall-Catherine Creek area. The area is heavily used by mountain bikers, trail runners, and hikers in the Congressionally designated Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

**Recreation Access Funding.** The Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in Montana used recreation access funding to acquire a 160-acre private inholding along the West Fork Madison River. The Forest Service purchased the land to protect recreation access and conserve more water in a river system already under threat by climate change. This area sees heavy winter recreation and provides access to system trails open to ATVs, motorcycles, non-motorized uses, hunting, and fishing.

## **EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT (EAJA)**

### **Overview**

The EAJA, enacted in 1980, authorizes the payment of attorney fees and court costs to parties that prevail against the government in legal proceedings. The Forest Service has kept detailed records on EAJA payments and other attorneys since Fiscal Year (FY) 2009.

### **Background**

This exhibit addresses the directive included in House Report 112-151 that accompanied the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-74), where:

The Committee directs the Department of the Interior, the EPA, and the Forest Service to provide to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and make publicly available, no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, and with each agency's annual budget submission thereafter, the following information: detailed reports on the amount of program funds used; the names of the fee recipients; the names of the Federal judges; the disposition of the applications (including any appeals of action taken on the applications); and the hourly rates of attorneys and expert witnesses stated in the applications that was awarded, for all EAJA fee payments awarded as a result of litigation against any of the Department of Interior bureaus, the EPA, or the Forest Service, or their respective employees. The report shall also include the information listed above for litigation relating to the Endangered Species Act and the amounts, outside of EAJA awards, paid in settlement for all litigation, regardless of the statute litigated.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Table FS-163. FY 2023 EAJA Fee Payments

Docket/Court	Case Name	Plaintiff	Judge(s)	Date Certified	Program	Disposition of Application	Amount	FMMI Doc #
1:19-cv-00195-DCN US District Court of Idaho	Idaho State Snowmobile Assoc vs United States of America, U.S. Forest Service The Sawtooth NF	WildEarth Guardians, Winter Wildlands Alliance	David C. Nye	1/19/2023	FS Organizational Services	Settlement Agreement and Release	\$36,000	1941053652
2:16-cv-00168-DN US District Court of Utah	WildEarth Guardians v. Zinke et al.	WildEarth Guardians	David Nuffer	3/27/2023	FS Trails Capital Improvement, FS Minerals Management, FS Grazing Management	Stipulation of Dismissal with Prejudice	70,000	1941552907
2:18-cv-00012-SEH US District Court of Montana	Cottonwood Environmental Law Center v. Haaland, et al., D.	Federal Defendants-Appellees	Sam E. Haddon	4/27/2023	FS Vegetation & Watershed	Dismissal with Prejudice	7,500	1941858728
3:19-cv-00424-HZ US District Court of Oregon	Cascade Forest Conservancy v. Lenore Heppler, et al., ASCOT USA Inc and ASCOT Recourses LTD	Cascade Forest Conservancy	Marco A. Hernandez	4/27/2023	FS Minerals Management	Stipulated Settlement Agreement	120,000	1941884072
1:21-cv-02994-RMR US District Court of Colorado	San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council, San Juan Citizens Alliance v. Dan Dallas Rio Grand National Forest	Winter Recreation Claims	Regina M. Rodriguez	6/28/2023	FS Vegetation & Watershed	Settlement Agreement	3,000	1942511327
1:21-cv-01268 US District Court of Colorado	Citizens for a Healthy Community: High Country Conservation Advocates: Wilderness Work Shop: Ctr for Biological Diversity: and WildEarth Guardians	Citizens for a Healthy Community: High Country Conservation Advocates, Wilderness Workshop, Center for Biological Diversity	Unassigned	7/3/2023	FS Minerals Management	Voluntarily dismissed their appeal	17,000	1942554324

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Docket/Court	Case Name	Plaintiff	Judge(s)	Date Certified	Program	Disposition of Application	Amount	FMMI Doc #
1:21-cv-01268 US District Court of Colorado	Citizens for a Healthy Community: High Country Conservation Advocates: Wilderness Work Shop: Ctr for biological Diversity: and WildEarth Guardians	Citizens for a Healthy Community: High Country Conservation Advocates, Wilderness Workshop, Center for Biological Diversity	Unassigned	7/18/2023	FS Minerals Management	Voluntarily dismissed their appeal	178	1942554324
4:23-cv-00012 US District Court Southern District of Indiana	Monroe County Board of Commissioners, et al., United States Forest Service, et al.	Monroe County Board of Commissioners, Indiana Forest Alliance, Hoosier Environmental Council, and Friends of Lake Monroe	Tanya Walton Pratt	7/27/2023	FS Forest Products	Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 68	70,000	1942851068
4:17-cv-00475, 00576, 00189 JAS US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit	Center for Biological Diversity: Save the scenic Santa Ritas: Arizona Mining Reform Coalition: Grand Canyon Chapter of the Sierra Club: Tohono O'Odham Nation: Hopi Tribe: Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, named as Pascua Yaqui Tribe	US Fish and Wildlife Service; USFS; USA; Kurt Davis, Acting Supervisor of the Coronado NF; Calvin Joyner, Regional Forester; Randy Moore, Chief of the USFS; Thomas J Vilsack, US Secretary of Agriculture, Defendants, and Rosemont Copper Company	James A. Soto	9/19/2023	FS Landownership Management, FS Minerals Management	Motions for attorneys' fees and expenses	650,000	1943529508
						<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>973,678</b>	

## **NATIONAL SCENIC AND HISTORIC TRAILS**

### **Background**

This exhibit addresses requirements contained in House Report 111-180, which directed:

The Committee recommendation retains previous base funding for maintenance, construction, and operation of the network of national scenic and historic trails but encourages additional funding for required work of the newly authorized national trails. Future budget justifications should continue to provide specific trail operation, maintenance, and construction funding and accomplishment data for the national scenic and historic trails. The Forest Service should provide full-time administrators and prepare the required comprehensive management plans for the newly authorized national trails.

### **Overview**

The Forest Service has designated trail administrators for six National Scenic and Historic Trails (NS&HT) – Arizona, Continental Divide, Florida, Nez Perce (Nee Mee Poo), Pacific Crest, and Pacific Northwest – and manages portions of 16 additional NS&HTs on National Forest System lands, in cooperation with the Department of the Interior, State and county governments, and private partners. Funding for administration and management of these trails is included within the Capital Improvement and Maintenance Trails appropriation. Land acquisition for trails is primarily funded through the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

### **Arizona National Scenic Trail**

The 800-mile Arizona National Scenic Trail (AZNST) showcases Arizona’s diverse landscapes, offering unparalleled backcountry experiences in settings ranging from Sonoran Desert to alpine forests. The AZNST connects deserts, mountains, canyons, wilderness, history, cultures, and communities. Eighty-five percent of the AZNST is on Federal land that includes the Grand Canyon National Park and three other National Park Service (NPS) units, four National Forests, and two Bureau of Land Management (BLM) field offices. Partners include the Arizona Trail Association and numerous local trail clubs, Federal agencies, State and local governments, Tribes, and youth corps.

A total of 1,898 volunteers contributed 21,265 hours of work in support of the AZNST. Volunteers installed seven steel gates, 12 raised cattleguards, seven kiosks within gateway communities, and a new trailhead was constructed. One natural water source was rehabilitated, and a remote rainwater collector was fabricated and installed along a particularly arid segment of trail. Interpretive signs were developed and installed at six locations. Youth corps and volunteers maintained 67 miles of trail, and volunteers repaired or replaced signs along 71 miles of trail. Twelve miles of singletrack tread were constructed to remove the AZNST off paved and dirt roads and six miles of reroutes were constructed to improve sustainability and safety. A total of eight Trail Skills Institute courses were offered, providing in-depth hands-on training for more than 100 volunteers. More than 440 youth were engaged in trail stewardship activities, and 60 military veterans participated in trail maintenance and construction activities. A new national monument was designated by President Biden that includes 38 miles of the AZNST on the Kaibab National Forest.

The AZNST continues to be threatened by uncharacteristic wildfires and drought events that jeopardize natural water sources. Numerous wildfires forced temporary closures of 210 miles of the AZNST and eighteen miles within previously burned areas were stabilized and maintained to improve safety.

### **Continental Divide National Scenic Trail**

The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDT) is a 3,100-mile trail that runs along the spine of the Rocky Mountains from Mexico to Canada. It connects 20 national forests, three national parks, two national monuments, 13 BLM field offices, and several historic sites. About 95 percent of the trail is located on public lands; however, many trail segments are currently co-located along open roads. Easements are lacking on numerous private and State land parcels. Work has continued towards acquiring lands to eliminate gaps between sections of the trail and relocate existing portions of the trail. This includes working with the Trust for Public Lands on identifying opportunities to increase capacity in land acquisition and public land access for the CDT. Partners include the



Continental Divide Trail Coalition, Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps, Wild Montana, Colorado Trail Foundation, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, Montana Conservation Corps, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps, Southwest Conservation Corps, Backcountry Horsemen, and numerous other Federal, State, and local nongovernmental organizations.

Ninety-six percent of the CDT allocation went to field units and partners for 26 trail maintenance, reconstruction, and relocation projects. In addition, trail-wide partner organizations such as the Continental Divide Trail Coalition and local partner organizations led numerous volunteer projects that engaged people in trail maintenance and construction. The entire CDT on National Forest System land (approximately 2,200 miles) is a “Secretari ally designated” priority area for trail maintenance under the 2016 Trails Stewardship Act.

**Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 example trails project accomplishments by state included:**

**Idaho—Beaverhead-Deerlodge Heavy Maintenance:** The Forest Service completed heavy maintenance on sections of CDT on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. Work included clearing downfall and hazard trees, sign work, trailhead upkeep, treadwork repairs, rock retainer work, drainage, and structure repairs and maintenance. This work will improve safety and accessibility for hikers and other trail users, as well as the preservation of the natural beauty of the area. The work helps to ensure that the trail remains a sustainable and enjoyable resource for future generations. Priority sections of trail was completed in partnership with the Montana Conservation Corp (MCC), Wild Montana, Backcountry Horseman of Montana (BCHM).

**Wyoming—Fish Creek Park to Big Sandy Trailhead:** Trail reconstruction and maintenance was made on high-priority segments for a 3.6-mile section located within the 80-mile segment of the CDT within the Bridger Wilderness. Work included check step construction, rock removal, drainage repair and installation of water bars/graded dips, closure of user-created routes following blow down event and further log out of remaining large scale blow down segments. This segment of trail lies entirely within two National Trails Stewardship Priority Areas: The CDT and Wyoming Gateway Community. Work provided will continue to increase opportunities for collaboration and engagement with volunteers and partners.

**Colorado—Lake Ann Trail 1462 Heavy Maintenance:** The Lake Ann Pass segment of the CDT is extremely popular given its proximity to the Denver Metro Area, it shares its route with the Colorado Trail Collegiate West trail and leads to areas of spectacular beauty including high alpine Lake Ann and numerous 14er peaks<sup>65</sup>. At the same time, this section climbs over 2,000 vertical feet in less than three miles. This project included constructing 30 yards of turnpike, installing numerous water bars, and restoring tread on sections with steep side slopes. These efforts will improve the trail conditions and sustainability, by reducing erosion, enhancing drainage, and stabilizing slope trails. Project partners included Rocky Mountain Youth Corp, Colorado Trail Foundation, and the Upper Arkansas Wilderness Volunteers.

**Florida National Scenic Trail**

The Florida National Scenic Trail (FNST) consists of a 1,500-mile planning corridor stretching from Big Cypress National Preserve in the Everglades National Park to Gulf Islands National Seashore in the panhandle of Florida. Currently, 1,127 miles of certified FNST exist, with roughly 400 miles of gaps in the trail. Partners include the Florida Trail Association (FTA), National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, universities, and nearly all public land management state agencies, county, and local governments in Florida.

The Forest Service, together with Florida Trail Coalition partners, continues to carry out the goals of the Florida National Scenic Trail Five-Year Strategic Plan<sup>66</sup>. In FY 2023, the FNST partnership maintained 1,088 miles of trail,

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<sup>65</sup> In the mountaineering parlance of the Western United States, a fourteen er is a mountain peak with an elevation of at least 14,000 ft (4267 m).

<sup>66</sup> [Florida National Scenic Trail](#).

completed 136 feet of infrastructure replacement or new construction, and maintained over 1,000 feet of existing bridges or boardwalks. Non-profit partners contributed \$697,941 through 21,948 hours of volunteer labor directly to the FNST. The FNST Program successfully partnered with State, federal, non-profit and youth organizations to accomplish several critical infrastructure projects along the Florida Trail on both partner-managed and National Forest System lands. These multi-agency, partner, and volunteer projects addressed safety, access, and deferred maintenance throughout the State of Florida. FNST and Florida Trail Association staff finalized a trail-wide spatial inventory of all Florida Trailheads, this ArcGIS Online<sup>67</sup> based inventory will streamline future maintenance needs and priorities. The Forest Service expanded the Gateway Community and Junior Explorer programs by adding several new partner communities in Florida and publishing Spanish language Explorer guides.

Thousands of volunteer hours, five challenge cost share agreements, and collaborative support through land management agencies can be highlighted through the following projects:

**Infrastructure and Deferred Maintenance:**

- On the Apalachicola District the FNST program, together with the FTA and Franklin’s Promise Coalition (AmeriCorps partner), undertook a large-scale deferred maintenance project by replacing several minor trail boardwalks within the district.

**State and Non-profit Partners:**

- The Forest Service established an agreement with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to replace three bridges along the FNST on state lands, which were completed in FY 2023.
- The FNST program partnered with the Florida Forest Service, a division of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, to complete the planning, design, resource compliance, permitting, and engineering for a 120-foot bridge on the FNST on state forest land. This structure was completed and opened to the public in June of FY 2023.
- Florida Trail Association and Franklin’s Promise Coalition are in the planning phase to address the aftermath of Hurricane Idalia’s impacts on state lands of the FNST in the Florida Panhandle where much of the FNST remains inaccessible and closed to the public due to downed trees.

**Federal Partner:**

- The FNST program has made steady progress in implementing a Natural Resource Damage Assessment grant, funded from the Deep-Water Horizon oil spill, to construct a series of boardwalks and bridges on the FNST in St. Marks Wildlife Refuge. This multi-agency and partner effort will close a gap in the Florida Trail and provide a unique opportunity to access the Big Bend Coastline of Florida. Resource work has been completed through a partnership with the National Park Service and initial engineered design plans are being drafted for the structures along with conducting consultations with appropriate federal and state permitting agencies.

**Nez Perce National Historic Trail**

In 1986, Congress acknowledged the significance of the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877 by establishing the 1,170-mile Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail (NPNHT). With the cooperation of the State Highway Department and County Commissioners in the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana, over 2,991 miles of roads are designated as the NPNHT Auto Tour Route. The NPNHT includes a designated corridor encompassing 4,161 miles of roads, trails, and routes. The route roughly parallels the course travelled by the five Nez Perce bands during their historic 1877 odyssey and offers opportunities for off-highway vehicles users, mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrians. The NPNHT has 79 historic sites and seven high potential route segments that have historic tread

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<sup>67</sup> ArcGIS Online is a cloud-based platform for mapping and analysis. It allows users to use, create, and share maps, apps, and data, including basemaps and analytics from Esri. Esri is a company that provides geographic information system (GIS) software, web GIS and geodatabase management applications.

from 1877 or were prehistoric travel routes. The NPNHT has completed the revision of its Comprehensive Plan for trail administration and management.

The NPNHT relies on partners along the trail to help share and interpret the story of the Flight of 1877 and the trail including dozens of State, Regional, and local tourism organizations and regional and local museums along the trail. Partners working on a variety of trail and interpretive work include qa' ánin 'ískit (respect the trail) the new trail wide nonprofit (Bitter Root Cultural Heritage Trust is fiscal sponsor during startup) established in FY 2023, the Nez Perce Appaloosa Horse Club, the Idaho Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, the Wallowa Homeland Interpretive Center, the Joseph Center Library, and Friends of the Southern Nez Perce Trail, among others. In addition, Federal agency partners and Tribes provided additional work and interpretation on all aspects of the NPNHT.

**NPNT accomplishments for FY 2023 include:**

- Eighteen miles of trail maintained by the Nez Perce Tribe in central Idaho.
- Eight miles of trail were cleared of downed trees on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest due to beetle kill and reoccurring windstorms.
- Fifteen miles of trail were maintained on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest; and
- Twenty-Six miles of trail were maintained on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests.

The NPNT hosted one Virtual Student Federal Service intern to work on a booklet for High Potential Sites and Segments to use in consultation with Tribes. The partner Confluence interviewed and developed a series of videos of tribal elders from three of the Nez Perce Tribes on the Ft Vancouver Chief Red Heart Band Incident of 1877. The new trailwide nonprofit stewardship partner, qa' ánin 'ískit (respect the trail), was established in partnership with Northern Region (01) and NPNT leadership. qa' ánin 'ískit has already begun to support the NPNT team with Auto Tour Guide distribution and has booked trail museum exhibits at Museum of the Yellowstone, Musselshell Valley Historical Museum, Appaloosa Museum, Blaine County Museum, and American Prairie Discovery Center. Using a National Trails System Internship Grant they are creating a website and social media presence, developing a strategic plan, and planning the coordination of events in association with the NPNT Sesquicentennial in FY 2027. The Alvin Joseph Center Library continued their “Head and Heart of the Nez Perce Trail” project with a Snake River trip for twelve elders in May. Elders visited sites along the river as well as Tolo Lake. Additionally, they visited the Wallowa History Center, and provided stories, memories, and reflections on the area – all captured by young Nez Perce photographers and videographers.

**Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail**

The 2,650-mile Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) follows the crest of the Sierra Nevada and Cascade Mountain ranges from Mexico to Canada through California, Oregon, and Washington. The PCT crosses 25 national forests, seven BLM field offices, six NPS units, five national monuments, and 48 designated wilderness areas. More than one-half of the PCT is contained in designated wilderness, and the trail crosses 16 Wild and Scenic Rivers. Partners include the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA), American Conservation Experience (ACE), Student Conservation Experience (SCA), Washington Trails Association, Pacific Northwest Trail Association, Tahoe Rim Trail Association, Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship, Washington Conservation Corps, Oregon Equestrian Trails, Backcountry Horsemen of California, Oregon, Washington, and many other organizations. Below are some of PCT FY 2023 accomplishments and challenges:

- The PCT experienced record rain and snow in the Sierra Nevada, record snow, rain, and summer hurricanes in Southern California, and fires throughout the Pacific Northwest which resulted in degraded trail conditions through accelerated erosion, downed trees, washed-out bridges, and segments of trail. It was a successful year of completing trail work, partially funded through Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) and Disaster Supplemental funds from prior-year fires, but the compounding trail damage caused by extreme weather events is increasingly difficult for the PCT Program to respond to.

- In partnership with PCTA, there was a large investment in volunteer training and field projects to rebuild trail maintenance capacity post-COVID-19.
- PCTA held six Trail Skills Colleges across the trail, resulting in training 443 volunteers on trail maintenance and management skills.
- The GAOA PCT Deferred Trail Maintenance project in the Pacific Southwest Region (06) reached 48 percent completion, in partnership with ACE, PCTA, and SCA, which included work on the Klamath, Shasta-Trinity, Lassen, Plumas, Cleveland, Inyo, and Sierra National Forests.
- PCTA, SCA, and WCC were awarded GAOA-funded agreements to complete deferred trail maintenance work in the Pacific Northwest Region (06) with an emphasis on addressing complex, remote trail maintenance in the Glacier Peak Wilderness. This project shifted from planning to implementation and completed the first project work on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest.
- The Forest Service is in the process of developing regional volunteer service agreements with PCTA to create a cohesive and standardized program that best serves and supports volunteers along the entire trail. In addition, the PCTA SAW Program was accepted as a formal U.S. Forest Service cooperator program and the PCT Administrator received delegation of authority to sign PCTA volunteer SAW certifications which allows for increased efficiency, cohesive program oversight, and management at the national level.
- In partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, the Pacific Crest Trail Association completed their 2023-2026 Strategic Plan which prioritizes trail maintenance, management, and conservation; climate resilience, adaptation, and preparedness; inclusive and equitable trail experience; and community-centered partnerships and engagement.
- PCT Management Areas were successfully established for the PCT with the completion of the Land Management Plan revisions for the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests. These are the second and third formally designated PCT management areas which establish a set of management guidelines and standards for the trail itself, the lands through which it passes (including its associated resources and values), and its broader viewshed.
- In FY 2023, the 1,172-acre property, Girard Ridge parcel, was successfully acquired with Land and Water Conservation Funding and transferred to the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. 2.5 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail, its surrounding resources, and expansive viewshed are now permanently protected through this acquisition which includes iconic views of Mt. Shasta, the Trinity Divide, and Castle Crags.
- 7,005 PCT long-distance permits were issued for thru and section travel in partnership with PCTA.
- The Crest Runner and Crest Ranger program on the Cleveland & Inyo National Forests expanded by hiring two seasonal PCTA Crest Runners and three Crest Rangers which allowed for increased engagement, enforcement, and education for long-distance users in areas where visitor impacts are prominent.
- Investment in visitor use management research continues to be a priority at the termini and in the Sierra Nevada to understand permit utilization and travel patterns. The PCT program continues to collaborate with wilderness managers in the Southern Sierra on visitor use management concerns where the John Muir Trail overlaps the PCT for 170-miles.
- In FY 2023, planning efforts continued including the Big Bear Land Exchange PCT relocation on the San Bernardino National Forest (Public Law 116–283: 134 STAT. 3388), Sky River PCT relocation in Southern California, and complex trail maintenance within the Glacier Peak Wilderness of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Resource management planning efforts included Piutes Travel Management on the Sequoia National Forest, five over-the-snow travel management plans, California High Speed Rail, and proposed energy projects within the trail viewshed. The collaborative management with California State Parks and Bureau of Land Management continued to address motorized conflict and ensure timely resolution of issues.

### **Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail**

The Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (PNT) begins at the Continental Divide in Glacier National Park in Montana and travels 1,200 miles through Montana, Idaho, and Washington before reaching the Pacific Ocean. The trail's complex land ownership includes three national parks, seven national forests, and six Washington State parks. Partners include the Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA), various Back Country Horsemen chapters from across the trail, Washington Trails Association, University of Montana, and other organizations.

The PNT was designated by Congress in 2009 and the Forest Service has completed the statutorily required PNT Comprehensive Plan by the court-ordered deadline of December 31, 2023. The Pacific Northwest Regional Forester is the Responsible Official for the NEPA analysis and decision and for preparing the plan. The Chief of the Forest Service signed the plan and submitted it to Congress at the end of FY 2023.

The Forest Service has begun a partnership with the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association. The Forest Service and its partners, including the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, seek to develop a new service mark (trail logo) for the PNT to replace the current "thunderbird" service mark. The Forest Service invited consultation from affected Tribes on the development of a new service mark design.

Through a partnership with the Forest Service, a team of researchers from the University of Montana continues to collect trail use monitoring data for sites along the PNT in Montana and expanded monitoring to include three sites in Idaho. The team completed a multi-year effort to analyze existing geospatial data from the Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as GPS data collected for PNT thru-hikers, identifying locations along the PNT in the area of the Cabinet-Yaak Grizzly Bear Recovery Zone and eastern Selkirk Grizzly Bear Recovery Zone in Montana and Idaho. Annual results will be available on the Forest Service PNT website<sup>68</sup>.

The Forest Service held three meetings with the PNT Advisory Council. Members were appointed in May 2023 after a time of administrative inactivity before reconvening virtually in June, August, and November. Their input has been used to finalize changes to the PNT Comprehensive Plan and shift conversations toward implementation of the plan. The Advisory Council will continue to meet until May 2024, which marks the end of the National Trails System Act Authority for the Council.

In FY 2023, The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) employed seven, six-person full-time Performance Trail Crews across 900 miles of the PNT, with field seasons ranging from three to five months depending on location. In addition, PNTA crew leaders led numerous summer maintenance and construction projects for dozens of students in a partnership with the Job Corps in Eastern Washington. The Performance Trail Crew program employed approximately 50 youth and young adults from trailside communities in service to the trail, helping to build stronger connections between the people of these communities and their public lands. By paying participants a living wage, providing all meals and transportation to job sites, and maintaining an outdoor gear library so that all participants in the program were prepared to thrive in the backcountry regardless of resources at home, the Performance Trail Crew program created an inclusive and equitable experience for a diverse group of participants.

A highlight of the FY 2023 season included a vast multi-partner collaborative effort to restore the PNT and connecting trails throughout the Pasayten Wilderness. PNTA worked closely with packers from Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest and Back Country Horsemen of Washington to facilitate heavy logout and tread maintenance in remote locations throughout the wilderness to continue recovery of recreation infrastructure after many years of intense burns throughout the wilderness. At least two full PNTA crews, and occasionally three or more, worked full-time throughout the wilderness from the spring snowmelt to the first autumn storms.

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<sup>68</sup> [Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail](#).

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Another major effort included an effort to re-establish access to the northwestern corner of North Cascades National Park, where the PNT has been closed due to wildfire impacts from the previous season. A PNTA Performance Trail Crew worked alongside National Park Service crews all summer, reestablishing the trail corridor after it was almost entirely lost under jack strawed big timber and debris from slides that resulted from the destabilization of surrounding slopes.

PNTA’s volunteer program continued to grow in FY 2023, with over 8,000 hours of volunteer labor contributed. For the second year running, PNTA facilitated volunteer service opportunities for Boeing employees in growing partnership in Western Washington. In addition, volunteer vacations with participants from as far as Michigan state introduced new volunteers to the wonders of the wild Pacific Northwest.

**Other National Scenic and Historic Trails**

The Forest Service coordinates management with other Federal public land agencies for an additional 16 NS&HTs totaling more than 6,700 miles. These trails include Appalachian, California, Camino Real Tejas, Camino Tierra Adentro, De Anza, Ice Age, Iditarod, Lewis and Clark, Mormon Pioneer, North Country, Old Spanish, Oregon, Overmountain Victory, Pony Express, Santa Fe, and Trail of Tears.

Table FS-164. Funding for National Scenic and Historic Trails (thousands of dollars)

Name	2023 Trails Funding	2023 Salaries and Expenses	2023 Total	2024 Trails Funding	2024 Salaries and Expenses	2024 Total	2025 Trail Funding	2025 Salaries and Expenses	2025 Total
Arizona	\$397	\$223	<b>\$620</b>	\$397	\$223	<b>\$620</b>	\$397	\$223	<b>\$620</b>
Continental Divide	1,568	200	<b>1,768</b>	1,568	200	<b>1,768</b>	1,568	200	<b>1,768</b>
Florida	1,162	238	<b>1,400</b>	1,162	238	<b>1,400</b>	1,162	238	<b>1,400</b>
Nez Perce	453	258	<b>711</b>	453	258	<b>711</b>	453	258	<b>711</b>
Pacific Crest	1,671	275	<b>1,946</b>	1,671	275	<b>1,946</b>	1,671	275	<b>1,946</b>
Pacific Northwest	807	145	<b>952</b>	807	145	<b>952</b>	807	145	<b>952</b>
All others	1,102	-	<b>1,102</b>	1,102	-	<b>1,102</b>	1,102	-	<b>1,102</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,161</b>	<b>1,339</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>7,161</b>	<b>1,339</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>7,161</b>	<b>1,339</b>	<b>8,500</b>

Table FS-165. 2023 National Scenic and Historic Trails Accomplishments and Partner Contributions

Name	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer In-kind Contributions (in thousands)	Non-Cash Contributions (in thousands)	Miles of Trail Maintained	Miles of Trail Improved/Constructed	Major Structures Constructed
Arizona	21,265	626,227	135,119	126	18	6
Continental Divide	76,299	338,408	192,619	1560	15	10
Florida	21,948	697,941	13,000	1,008	3	2
Nez Perce	35,000	950,000	300,000	350	9	8
Pacific Crest	52,051	1,485,536	70,729	1,245	9	1
Pacific Northwest	8,000	228,000	124,570	377	7	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>214,563</b>	<b>4,326,112</b>	<b>836,037</b>	<b>4,666</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>27</b>

**OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL REIMBURSEMENT**

**Background**

This special exhibit is required by P.L. 117-328, 136 STAT. 4807, Administrative Provisions, which directed:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, of any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service, not to exceed \$500,000 may be used to reimburse the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), Department of Agriculture, for travel and related expenses incurred as a result of OGC assistance or participation requested by the Forest Service at meetings, training sessions, management reviews, land purchase negotiations, and similar matters unrelated to civil litigation: Provided, That future budget justifications for both the Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture should clearly display the sums previously transferred and the sums requested for transfer.

**Overview**

The USDA Office of General Counsel bills the Forest Service quarterly for non-litigation travel and related costs. The table below reflects billings received to date.

Table FS-166. Office of General Counsel Reimbursement Fiscal Year FY 2022 through FY 2025 (dollars in thousands)

<b>2022 Actual Reimbursement</b>	<b>2023 Actual Reimbursement</b>	<b>2024 Planned Reimbursement</b>	<b>2025 Planned Reimbursement</b>
-	\$12,569	\$18,000	\$18,000

**PRESCRIBED FIRE**

**Background**

This exhibit addresses the requirement from the Joint Explanatory Statement of Division G – Department of the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 2022: “The Service is directed to report in the annual budget submission on prescribed fire activities by region for the previous Fiscal Year (FY).”

**Overview**

Hazardous fuels reduction is the intentional removal or manipulation of vegetation to change fire behavior that reduces the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire for communities, infrastructure, watersheds, critical habitat, and traditional Tribal lands. Hazardous fuels reduction treatments generally include thinning, mastication, and prescribed fire. A prescribed fire is a planned fire intentionally ignited by forest managers to achieve desirable outcomes and meet management objectives, such as removing excessive vegetation and dead and down fuels, to improve wildlife habitat, recycle soil nutrients, and reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire to communities and watersheds. Prescribed fires are carefully planned and implemented to provide for a safe and controllable fire, while achieving the desired effects. Additional information about the Forest Service’s use of prescribed fire is available online.<sup>1</sup>

**FY 2023**

The Forest Service worked with partners and other entities to treat landscapes on Federal, State, Tribal, and private lands to accomplish 4.4 million acres of hazardous fuels reduction. A total of 3,896,000 acres were treated on National Forest System lands with a record high of nearly 2.0 million acres treated through prescribed fire, an increase of 500,000 acres from the ten-year average of 1.4 million acres.

Table FS-167. Hazardous fuels reduction accomplishments on National Forest System lands in FY 2023

Region	All Treatment Types (acres) <sup>a</sup>	Prescribed Fire Treatments (acres)	Percent of Treatments Prescribed Fire (%)
01 – Northern .....	258,000	60,000	23%
02 – Rocky Mountain .....	193,000	60,000	31%
03 – Southwestern.....	410,000	120,000	29%
04 – Intermountain.....	359,000	50,000	14%
05 – Pacific Southwest .....	350,000	50,000	14%
06 – Pacific Northwest .....	590,000	70,000	12%
08 – Southern.....	1,530,000	1,440,000	94%
09 – Eastern.....	202,000	100,000	50%
10 – Alaska .....	4,000	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,896,000</b>	<b>1,950,000</b>	<b>50%</b>

<sup>a</sup> FY 2023 year-end data from Forest Service Activity Tracking System (FACTS); rounded to the nearest thousand acre and includes wildfire from natural ignitions.

The Forest Service released the “National Prescribed Fire Program Review” shortly before the beginning of FY 2023 and conditionally resumed its prescribed fire program after a pause was placed on the program in FY 2022. The recommendations and actions identified in the review provided a starting point for continuous improvement in how the Forest Service plans and conducts prescribed burning operations.

In FY 2023, 74 percent of prescribed burns were completed in the Southern Region (08). The southeast United States is generally snow-free throughout the year with intermittent drying between rain events, which offers many



opportunities throughout the year to conduct prescribed burns. Additionally, these warmer and moister conditions cause vegetation to grow quickly, requiring treatment every two to four years to maintain a desirable fuel level and avoid build-up. Northeastern forests in Eastern Region (09) typically require prescribed fire treatments every two to six years, while drier forests located in the West require prescribed fire every five to ten years. Alaska Region (10) forests are generally not well suited to prescribed fire. The Forest Service has been working to increase the pace and scale of prescribed fire by using supplemental funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) and the Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169) to increase the capacity through direct hire authorities, partnerships, contracts, and cooperating agencies. All funding sources, including BIL, IRA, Disaster Supplemental, permanent, trust, and reimbursable, were used to achieve FY 2023 accomplishments.

## **STEWARDSHIP CONTRACTING**

### **Background**

This exhibit addresses the requirements of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (as amended, 16 U.S.C 6591c):

The Forest Service shall report annually to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives on 1) the status of development, execution, and administration of contracts under subsection (b); 2) the specific accomplishments that have resulted; and 3) the role of local communities in development of agreements or contract plans.

### **Overview**

Stewardship contracts and agreements manage natural resources through the implementation of ecosystem restoration projects. Stewardship contracts support new and emerging markets by sequestering carbon in forest ecosystems to help reduce greenhouse gases and by using forest products removed through restoration activities, including woody biomass for energy, and sustaining traditional markets. Stewardship contracting helps the Forest Service achieve land and resource management goals while promoting closer public-private working relationships by using the value of timber or other forest products to offset the cost of restoration activities. Stewardship contracts also enable the Forest Service to promote the development of sustainable rural communities, restore and maintain healthy forest ecosystems, and provide a continuing source of local income and employment. Stewardship contracting selection criteria include capability, use of local workforce, creation of jobs, and price. The objective is to create green jobs, promote a diverse forest products industry, and support sustainable communities and the forest contractor infrastructure needed to perform critical restoration work.

If the offset value of timber or other forest products from stewardship sales exceeds the value of resource improvement treatments, those receipts are retained and deposited in the Stewardship Contracting Fund and are available, until expended, for other authorized stewardship projects. Stewardship contracts are awarded on a best-value basis and may be used for:

- Maintaining or decommissioning roads and trails to restore or maintain water quality.
- Improving soil productivity, habitat for wildlife and fisheries, or other resources.
- Prescribed fires to improve the composition, structure, condition, and health of timber stands or wildlife habitat.
- Removing vegetation or other activities to promote healthy forests, reduce fire hazards, or achieve other land management objectives.
- Restoring and maintaining watersheds; and
- Controlling noxious and invasive weeds and reestablishing native vegetation.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-141) amended the stewardship authority to increase agreements and contracts from 10 to 20 years in locations meeting certain conditions. The Act also allows the cost of cancellation ceilings to be allocated in economically viable stages, relieving the forest unit of a large obligation in a single (first) year. The Forest Service has operationalized the 20-year stewardship contracting authority by extending the current executed agreements beyond 10 years and by entering into new 20-year stewardship agreements. Presently, the Forest Service has 18 agreements over 10 years in length.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) November 15, 2021, along with Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169) August 16, 2022, specifically addressed contracts and agreements on projects that reduce hazardous fuels, improve, or restore watershed conditions and complete habitat restoration for both aquatic and terrestrial species on Federal lands. In FY 2023, contracts and agreements were in developmental phases with multiple partners across the nation including the National Forest Foundation, National Wild Turkey Federation, and the

Mule Deer Association as national partners to address the Wildfire Crisis Strategy Landscapes and Watershed health issues across the nation.

The Forest Service continues to inform stakeholders about stewardship contracting through brochures, local field trips, webinars for partners and training opportunities. These efforts ensure a common understanding of stewardship contracting and facilitates its use in attaining land management goals while meeting local and rural community needs. To improve agency understanding and use of this authority, the Forest Service contracted to expand the national stewardship contracting and agreements training. In FY 2023, The Forest Service continued Stewardship contracting training courses conducted on a virtual platform to capitalize on the virtual environment. The Forest Service developed a new, smaller structured stewardship agreement training focused on partner understanding and technical training. This training will give partners a better understanding of the processes and procedures used within the Forest Service for the reporting and accounting of project accomplishments. The results for the FY 2023 training cycle were positive, with 142 personnel completing the training and receiving certificates, representing a 29 percent increase from the previous year.

A third-party monitoring effort is ongoing and under development through agreements with Oregon State University and the University of Oregon. The universities will assess the application of the stewardship authority across the Forest Service using the university’s social and analytical scientists. The process will use a 360-degree assessment involving contractors, partners, and internal forest service personnel with an anticipated FY 2024 interview process. The report will use the feedback from interviews along with data from national databases to get a trend line of usage of the authority and key items where the Forest Service can improve on its application. Results of the monitoring effort will be available at the end of FY 2025.

**Specific Accomplishments**

The below table displays accomplishments between FY 2019 and FY 2023. In many cases, multiple land management objectives are met through a single treatment activity. For example, a hazardous fuels reduction treatment can also improve wildlife habitat. These accomplishments not only result in ecosystem benefits, but also in forest products for manufacturing and energy production and the creation of jobs contributing to sustainable communities.

Table FS-168. Actual Stewardship Contracting Accomplishments (FY 2019 to FY 2023)

Measure	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Acres of forest vegetation established .....	3,624	4,678	2,715	6,988 <sup>a</sup>	5,299
Acres of forest vegetation improved .....	33,269	21,759	12,692	18,655 <sup>a</sup>	36,509
Acres of noxious weeds and invasive plant treatments ..	5,977	9,103	4,951	2,607 <sup>a</sup>	2,912
Acres of wildlife habitat restored or improved .....	49,042	79,009	83,625	10,360	16,225
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced .....	118	38	130	46	31
Miles of roads decommissioned .....	2	12	-	-	47
Volume of timber sold (million board feet) .....	859	888	670	696	1,063 <sup>b</sup>
Green tons of biomass made available for energy production .....	276,236	161,379	87,271	149,744	140,37
Acres of hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic fires (non- WUI) .....	49,574	46,360	52,573	52,686 <sup>a</sup>	108,98
Acres of wildland-urban interface (WUI) high-priority hazardous fuels treated .....	83,784	34,984	245,468	100,818 <sup>a</sup>	181,46
Stewardship contracts and agreements contributing to watersheds in fully functioning condition .....	2	-	1	7	15

<sup>a</sup> Acres reported are completed acres and represent the change of reporting from accomplishment in previous reporting to work complete.

<sup>b</sup>Data sourced from geo-enabled Performance Accountability System (gPAS) Reports. Data sort: “Initiative code of Stewardship” timber Volume Source: PSTAR reports.

The below table shows the acres awarded, number of contracts or agreements awarded, and volume awarded from FY 2019 to FY 2023. The number of contracts or agreements awarded includes those where forest products are exchanged for service activities as well as those where excess stewardship contracting funds are used for activities without the exchange of forest products.

Table FS-169. Acres Awarded, Number of Contract or Agreements Awarded, and Volume Awarded

Measure	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Acres Awarded .....	129,710	70,930	165,448	186,417	252,306
Number of Contracts and Agreements .....	150	156	141	138	195
Volume Awarded (thousand board feet (MBF)) ..	859,060	888,000	670,399	696,583	1,063,460

**Local Communities**

Collaboration with local communities, from development through implementation and monitoring, is a key component of successful stewardship contracting and provides a sense of community ownership in the project, a better understanding by communities of natural resource issues, and increased public support. This cooperation allows the Forest Service to tailor stewardship offerings that address local issues, needs, and capabilities.

**UNLIQUIDATED OBLIGATIONS**

**Background**

This exhibit is included to provide a display of Forest Service unliquidated obligation (ULO) balances.

**Overview**

Unliquidated obligations are defined as the balance remaining from orders placed, contract and other binding agreements awarded, or services rendered after making any payments or processing de-obligations. The following table contains the status of Forest Service unliquidated obligation balances in prior fiscal years for appropriated funds (regular and emergency) as of September 30, 2023.

Table FS-170. Forest Service Status of ULO Balances in Prior Fiscal Years as of September 30, 2023 (thousands of dollars)

Item	2020 and Prior	2021	2022	2023	Total
<b>Forest Service Operations:</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	-	\$ 9	\$ 771	\$ 33	\$ 813
Facilities Maintenance and Leases.....	-	1,145	6,755	988	8,888
Information Technology.....	-	21	-1,281	89	1,171
Organizational Services.....	-	430	3,360	127	3,917
Disaster Funding.....	-	-	15	-	15
Total, Forest Service Operations.....	-	1,605	9,620	1,237	12,462
<b>Forest and Rangeland Research:</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	-	11	-	-	11
Forest and Rangeland Research.....	-	-	13	-	13
Forest Inventory and Analysis.....	\$2	263	1,691	85	2,041
Joint Fire Science.....	-	-	3	-	3
Forest and Rangeland Research – Other.....	585	464	6,714	1,394	9,157
Disaster Funding.....	-	57	120	202	379
Total, Forest, and Rangeland Research.....	587	795	8,541	1,682	11,605
<b>State, Private, and Tribal Forestry:</b>					
Landscape Scale Restoration.....	65	1,108	4,681	691	6,545
FHM - Federal Lands.....	388	710	2,291	828	4,217
FHM - Cooperative Lands.....	1,189	3,091	5,164	1,613	11,056
State Fire Capacity Grants.....	5	666	194	-	864
Volunteer Fire Capacity Grants.....	11	2,241	3,926	590	6,768
Forest Stewardship (Working Forest Lands).....	350	1,059	2,643	622	4,674
Community Forest and Open Space Conservation.....	494	397	883	-	1,774
Urban and Community Forestry.....	612	2,898	4,651	3,490	11,651
Forest Resource Information and Analysis.....	-	-	12,797	-	12,797
International Programs and Trade Compliance.....	85	50	1,028	291	1,454
State and Private Forestry – Other.....	1,277	4,826	17,253	4,092	27,448
Forest Legacy Program.....	30,105	3,559	38,133	1,313	73,110
Disaster Funding.....	-	-	1,903	1,400	3,303
Total, State, Private, and Tribal Forestry.....	34,581	20,604	95,547	14,930	165,661

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item	2020 and Prior	2021	2022	2023	Total
<b>National Forest System:</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	-	219	50	-	269
Integrated Resource Restoration Pilot.....	27	170	50	-	247
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration.....	208	381	2,529	2,469	5,587
Hazardous Fuels.....	7,201	11,896	30,377	7,859	57,333
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness.....	264	930	6,068	1,074	8,336
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management.....	307	215	4,364	2,091	6,977
Grazing Management.....	76	41	741	107	965
Forest Products.....	357	494	4,988	4,066	9,905
Vegetation and Watershed Management.....	2,003	290	7,273	2,902	12,468
Minerals and Geology Management.....	66	412	1,436	678	2,592
Land Use Authorization and Access.....	360	527	4,743	1,679	7,309
Law Enforcement Operations.....	-	118	512	243	873
National Forest System – Other.....	689	1,613	2,820	389	5,511
Disaster Funding.....	105	471	17,191	3,892	21,658
Total, National Forest System.....	11,663	17,777	83,143	27,449	140,030
<b>Capital Improvement and Maintenance:</b>					
Facilities.....	156	252	1,670	184	2,262
Roads.....	860	840	2,746	2,445	6,891
Trails.....	312	203	1,302	144	1,961
Legacy Roads and Trails.....	30	-	119	-	149
Capital Improvement and Maintenance, Other.....	-	-	472	-	472
Disaster Funding.....	10	109	2,770	-	2,889
Total, Capital Improvement and Maintenance.....	1,368	1,404	9,079	2,773	14,624
<b>Land Acquisition:</b>					
Land Acquisition.....	6	-	-	-	6
Acquisition of Land for National Forest Special Acts...	-	450	-	-	450
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges.....	12	-	-	60	72
Total, Land Acquisition.....	18	450	-	60	528
<b>Other Appropriations:</b>					
Range Betterment Fund.....	-	-	80	10	90
Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses.....	-	99	72	-	171
Total, Other Appropriations.....	-	99	152	10	261
<b>Wildland Fire Management:</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	-	14	174	-	188
Preparedness.....	2,371	483	3,276	224	6,354
Suppression.....	63	456	10,455	547	11,522
Wildland Fire Management – Other.....	1,339	913	2,015	849	5,116
Total, Wildland Fire Management.....	3,773	1,866	15,920	1,620	23,179

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

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Item	2020 and Prior	2021	2022	2023	Total
<b>Total, Forest Service</b> .....	<b>51,999</b>	<b>44,600</b>	<b>222,000</b>	<b>49,761</b>	<b>368,353</b>

**USDA WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DEPARTMENTAL SHARED COST PROGRAMS, AND E-GOVERNMENT**

**Background**

This exhibit is included to provide a four-year summary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Working Capital Fund (WCF) and USDA Shared Cost Programs actual and estimated fees to the Forest Service for centralized services, as well as actual and estimated charges to the Forest Service that contribute to E-Government initiatives.

**USDA Working Capital Fund**

**Overview**

The USDA WCF (7 U.S.C. 2235) provides services that the Secretary, with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, determines are performed more effectively as central services rather than as separate services within USDA agencies. The USDA WCF is used to finance services to USDA agencies and non-USDA<sup>69</sup> agencies on a centralized, fee-for-service basis. The USDA WCF does not receive appropriated funds; all costs are reimbursed in full. The USDA WCF finances activity centers under five functional categories: Administration, Communications, Financial Management, Information Technology, and Correspondence Management.

Pursuant to the terms contained in general provisions in annual appropriations to USDA, agency administrators must authorize billings to their agency for these services. The Chief of the Forest Service (or a duly appointed representative) must sign an agreement at the beginning of the Fiscal Year (FY) authorizing billing for services provided and supply the appropriate accounting data.

The Forest Service acts as one of the overseers in the review of cost estimates for the National Finance Center through its participation in the WCF Executive Committee, a body comprised of representatives from various USDA agencies. The Executive Committee is charged with making budget recommendations and advising the Department’s Chief Financial Officer (CFO) as to the financial effectiveness of the WCF. The Forest Service works with the Department’s CFO to review activities included in the Greenbook/Shared Cost Programs and the basis for any costs attributed to the Forest Service.

Table FS-171. Forest Service actual and estimated fees made to the USDA WCF between FY 2022 and FY 2025 (thousands of dollars)

Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Working Capital Fund:				
Administrative Services:				
AskUSDA Contact Center .....	-	\$1,102	\$1,904	\$1,995
Fleet Charge Card Services .....	-	-	-	1,126
Materiel Management Service .....	\$899	697	1,125	1,050
Mail and Reproduction Services .....	453	562	529	526
Integrated Procurement Systems .....	8,637	8,543	9,643	-
Procurement Operations Services .....	73	91	92	8,092
Human Resources Enterprise Management Systems.....	1,064	997	1,009	1,035
Subtotal, Administrative Services.....	11,126	11,992	14,302	13,824
Communications:				

<sup>69</sup> Services to non-USDA agencies help reduce USDA’s share of fixed costs for WCF-supported services.



2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
Creative Media and Broadcast Center.....	474	462	559	391
Finance and Management:				
National Finance Center .....	8,716	8,874	8,394	8,566
Internal Control Support Services.....	382	299	415	397
Financial Management Support Services .....	45,733	45,970	47,683	44,781
Personnel and Document Security Program.....	-	1,547	1,781	1,795
Subtotal, Finance and Management .....	54,831	56,690	58,273	55,539
Information Technology:				
Client Experience Center .....	56,023	58,096	48,756	50,166
Department Administration Information Technology Office	1,111	-	-	-
Digital Infrastructure Services Center .....	51,472	52,928	41,038	38,751
Enterprise Network Services.....	14,960	14,443	19,609	20,632
Enterprise Cybersecurity Services.....	-	8,718	16,991	18,780
Enterprise Data and Analytics Services .....	-	1,445	1,376	1,306
Subtotal, Information Technology.....	123,566	135,630	127,770	129,635
Correspondence Management Services:				
Office of the Executive Secretariat.....	401	490	512	510
<b>Total, Working Capital Fund.....</b>	<b>190,398</b>	<b>205,264</b>	<b>201,416</b>	<b>199,899</b>

**USDA WCF Centralized Services**

**Administration**

USDA WCF Administration activities are managed under the Assistant Secretary for Administration and includes the following:

**AskUSDA Contact Center** provides a contact center that answers general inquiries from the public using trained agents and self-service options.

**Fleet Charge Card Services** provides policy, operational support, and oversight, ensuring adherence to government and departmental guidance for the Fleet Charge Card and mandatory training. Additional provisions include negotiation and coordination with General Services Administration, Wright Express, and Citibank.

**Human Resources Enterprise System Management** provides modernized, cost-effective, and standardized Department-wide human resource solutions that support the strategic management of human capital.

**Integrated Procurement Systems** provides modernized and integrated Department-wide procurement automation tools and systems.

**Mail and Reproduction Services** is responsible for managing and directing centralized printing and copier systems; mailing list systems; package delivery and chauffeur services; and staff support systems related to financial management, program analysis, and administration.

**Materiel Management Service Center** provides on-demand forms and publications acquisition, management, warehousing, and distribution; excess personal property accountability, reuse, sales, and disposal; and office and general supply acquisition, receipt and shipment of parcels, warehousing, and sales.

**Procurement Operations Division** provides a variety of contracting support services to USDA agencies.

### **Communications**

USDA WCF Communications includes the **Creative Media and Broadcast Center**, which provides creative design, radio and video production studios, and multimedia development and maintenance to USDA agencies.

### **Correspondence Management**

USDA WCF Correspondence Management includes the **Office of the Executive Secretariat**, which manages the official correspondence and records of the Office of the Secretary, provides departmental records management, establishes departmental directives, and assists the Office of the Secretary with special projects.

### **Financial Management**

USDA WCF Financial Management is managed by USDA's Office of the Chief Financial Officer and includes the following:

**Financial Shared Services** administers financial management applications to USDA agencies and is responsible for providing accounting services, administrative payments processing and disbursement certification, intragovernmental payment and collection reconciliation, Treasury fund balances, and Treasury reporting.

**Internal Control Support Services** provides services to USDA agencies related to internal control compliance efforts, such as annual financial reporting, efficiencies to administrative and financial processes, and information technology.

**National Finance Center** processes payroll for Federal employees and provides payroll-related data management and reconciliation for Office of Personnel Management government programs mostly related to employee health benefits and insurance.

**Personnel and Document Security**<sup>70</sup> is responsible for the protection of classified national security information by providing security clearance, training, policies, and guidance for USDA personnel.

### **Information Technology**

USDA WCF Information Technology is managed by USDA's Office of the Chief Information Officer and includes the following:

**Client Experience Center** provides Department-wide fee-for-service activities related to information technology operations, security, and technical support services.

**Department Administration Information Technology Office** provides centrally managed information technology solutions to USDA administrative and staff offices that adhere to functionality, accessibility, and compliance requirements of governing bodies and end-users.

**Digital Infrastructure Services Center** provides hosting services, workforce development services, program management and software engineering, and telecommunications management for USDA agencies and non-USDA agencies.

**Enterprise Cybersecurity Services** protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of data and information technology systems.

**Enterprise Data and Analytics Services** provides Department-wide aggregated data in multiple dashboard and visualizations and provides a subset of users the ability to perform self-service analytics using the data.

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<sup>70</sup> The Personnel Security and Classified National Security Information programs were consolidated into the Personnel and Document Security program in 2018.

**Enterprise Network Services** provides Department-wide management, support, and compliance related to telecommunications services.

**Departmental Shared Cost Programs**

**Overview**

Shared cost agreements may be entered into under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 2263. This language authorizes the USDA to transfer funds from USDA agencies to pay for department-wide initiatives that benefit multiple USDA agencies. The Forest Service shared cost transfers between FY 2022 and FY 2023, and estimated transfers between FY 2024 and FY 2025, are detailed in the below table.

Table FS-172. Forest Service transfers to USDA shared cost programs for FY 2022 through FY 2025 (thousands of dollars)

Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
<b>Department-Wide Shared Cost Programs:</b>				
Advisory Committee Liaison Services.....	\$285	\$261	\$319	\$319
Agency Partnership Outreach.....	1,962	2,313	2,351	2,351
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility .....	-	626	840	840
Intertribal Technical Assistance Network.....	1,079	1,123	1,123	1,123
Medical Services .....	144	202	329	329
National Capital Region Interpreting Services .....	31	64	133	133
Office of Customer Experience .....	2,708	1,009	1,012	1,012
Personnel and Document Security Program.....	667	-	-	-
Physical Security .....	1,322	1,423	1,478	1,478
Security Detail.....	1,400	1,581	1,689	1,689
Security Operations.....	1,927	2,190	2,394	2,394
Talent Group.....	-	1,138	1,041	1,041
TARGET Center.....	398	521	560	560
USDA Enterprise Data Analytics Services.....	1,366	-	-	-
Employee Experience .....	-	1,079	1,176	1,176
<b>Total, Department-Wide Shared Cost Programs.....</b>	<b>13,289</b>	<b>13,530</b>	<b>14,445</b>	<b>14,445</b>

**Shared Cost Programs**

**Advisory Committee Liaison Services** is managed by the USDA’s Office of the Secretary and provides guidance and direction to USDA agencies on Advisory Committees and Boards. Costs to support this function and screening/selection of members are reimbursed from agencies to the Office of the Secretary.

**Agency Partnership Outreach** is managed by the USDA’s Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement and supports multiple USDA partnership and outreach activities that benefit rural and underserved communities.

**Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility** is focused on improving employment and advancement opportunities and ensuring diversity, equity, and inclusion are considered and embedded in employee recruitment, hiring, performance management, retention, development, and other aspects of workforce management.

**Intertribal Technical Assistance Network** provides technical assistance and program access – in coordination with the Department of the Interior and Bureau of Indian Affairs – to American Indian and Alaskan Native tribal governments.

**Medical Services** provides preventative health measures (flu shots, health screening, nutritional principles, and fitness awareness) for USDA employees and contractors in the National Capital Region.

**Office of Customer Experience** is a department-wide program targeted toward increasing efficiencies in customer-facing processes; simplifying the public’s access to USDA programs; and developing and improving practices that contribute to increased USDA employee accessibility, responsiveness, professionalism, and expertise to the public.

**Physical Security** includes physical security, identity, credentialing, and access management.

**Security Detail** provides funding for the Secretary of Agriculture.

**Security Operations** provides Continuity of Operations Planning, training, and reenactment exercises to ensure USDA agencies can continue to provide critical essential functions during emergency situations.

**Technology and Accessible Resources Give Employment Today** Center provides services related to improving the accessibility and experience of individuals with disabilities.

**USDA Enterprise Data Analytics Services** provides access to data-driven, fact-based, customer-focused information that supports several administrative areas, including finance, human resources, information technology, procurement, property, fleet operations, and homeland security.

**Employee Experience** recognizes significant accomplishments of USDA employees through the Department’s highest honor awards program and creates effective pipelines for attracting, hiring, developing, rewarding, and retaining a diverse and talented workforce that is responsive to, and reflective of, the agricultural sector and customer. The effort includes active succession management, creating and administering internship opportunities with a particular focus on underserved communities, and further developing the current workforce to meet our USDA mission and advance the Administration's diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility goals.

## **USDA E-Government (E-Gov)**

### **Overview**

The E-Government Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-347), signed into law December 17, 2002, established the Office of Electronic Government within the Office of Management and Budget; established a Chief Information Officers Council<sup>71</sup>; established an E-Government Fund<sup>72</sup>; and included provisions requiring the use of “Internet-based information technology to enhance citizen access to Government information and services, and for other purposes.”

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<sup>71</sup> The Chief Information Officers Council is responsible for “improving agency practices related to the design, acquisition, development, modernization, use, operation, sharing, and performance of Federal Government information resources” (Public Law 107-347 § 3603(d)).

<sup>72</sup> The E-Government Fund is administered by the General Services Administration and is used to fund initiatives and lines of business that utilize the Internet and other electronic methods for delivering information and resources electronically to the public.

Table FS-173. Forest Service contributions to E-Gov initiatives for FY 2022 through FY 2025 (thousands of dollars)

Item	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Estimated
E-Gov:				
Budget Formulation and Execution Line of Business .....	\$37	\$34	\$39	\$41
Enterprise Human Resources Integration.....	72	-	-	-
E-Rulemaking .....	51	45	36	48
Financial Management Line of Business.....	85	85	81	81
Geospatial Line of Business .....	13	13	13	13
Grants.gov .....	11	9	5	5
Human Resources Line of Business.....	90	93	92	92
Integrated Acquisition Environment .....	193	239	323	315
<b>Total, E-Gov.....</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>595</b>

**USDA E-Gov Initiatives**

USDA E-Gov initiatives, managed by the USDA’s Office of the Chief Information Officer, provide efficient, cost-effective electronic services and resources to USDA customers, partners, and personnel.

**Geospatial Line of Business (LoB)** provides geospatial-related services, applications, data, hardware, and software to agencies and partners to achieve mission goals.

**Grants.gov** manages the Grants.gov<sup>73</sup> website; a resource that publishes grant opportunities and application packages and provides forms and resources for applying for grants.

**Budget Formulation and Execution LoB** collaborates with partner agencies on best practices for Federal budgeting (budget formulation, budget execution, and workforce planning).

**Financial Management LoB** provides financial management standards, requirements, tools, and services in support of USDA’s financial activities.

**Human Resource Management LoB** is responsible for managing employee human resource information.

**Integrated Acquisition Environment** offers services related to the Federal acquisition process and manages several acquisition systems.

**Hiring Assessment Tool** provides resources designed to recruit and acquire talent to the Federal governments using various strategies.

<sup>73</sup> [Manage Grants](#)

**SPEND PLAN FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT, 2022 (P.L. 117-58)**

**Background**

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) – also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58) (BIL) – included the following administrative provision:

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, shall submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a detailed spend plan for the funds provided to the Forest Service in this title in this Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, and for each FY through 2026, as part of the annual budget submission of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary shall submit a detailed spend plan for the funds provided to the Forest Service in this title in this Act for that FY.

**Forest Service Operations**

Forest Service Operations receives BIL transfer funds from other Deputy Areas to support key shared services, salaries management, and administrative functions.

Table FS-174. Forest Service Operations BIL spend plan (dollars in thousands)

Item	2024 Carryover	2025 Appropriations	2025 Transfers In	2025 Transfers Out	2025 Total Available	2025 Obligations	2025 Carryover
Information Technology and Centralized Processing .....	\$2,764	-	\$23,340	-	\$26,104	\$25,321	\$783
Organizational Services.....	3,321	-	25,961	-	29,282	28,111	1,171
Salaries and Expenses .....	5,554	-	55,314	-	60,868	59,042	1,826
<b>Total, Forest Service Operations .....</b>	<b>11,639</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>104,615</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>116,254</b>	<b>112,474</b>	<b>3,780</b>

**Forest and Rangeland Research**

The BIL provides the Forest Service an additional amount for Forest and Rangeland Research of \$10 million. Of this total, two million dollars is appropriated each fiscal year starting in FY 2022 through FY 2026. Each FY’s appropriation has a four-year period of availability. Funds are to carry out activities of the Joint Fire Science program, as authorized in section 40803 of Division D of the Act.

Forest and Rangeland Research receives BIL transfer funds from other Deputy Areas for salaries and expenses to support research functions for various BIL provisions.

The most significant challenge to implementation in the short term is a shortage of contracting, grants, and agreements staff. There are no long-term challenges to note.

Table FS-175. Forest and Rangeland Research BIL spend plan (dollars in thousands)

Item	2024 Carryover	2025 Appropriations	2025 Transfers In	2025 Transfers Out	2025 Total Available	2025 Obligations	2025 Carryover
Joint Fire Science .....	-	\$2,000	-	-	\$2,000	\$2,000	-
Salaries and Expenses .....	\$26,458	-	\$7,800	-	34,258	18,842	\$15,416
<b>Total, Forest and Rangeland Research.....</b>	<b>26,458</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36,258</b>	<b>20,842</b>	<b>15,416</b>

**State, Private, and Tribal Forestry**

The BIL provides the Forest Service an additional amount of \$1.5 billion for State, Private, and Tribal Forestry. Of this total, \$305 million is appropriated each year starting in FY 2022 through FY 2026. Each FY’s appropriation has a four-year period of availability. Funds are to carry out wildfire risk reduction and ecosystem restoration activities for the Department of Agriculture as authorized in Division D Section 40803 and Section 40804 of the Act, for grants to at-risk communities for wildfire mitigation activities, State Fire Capacity Grants, and Volunteer Fire Capacity Grants.

The key challenge to implementation in the short-term is shortages of grants and agreements staff. Another central issue to implementation is the inability to increase and expand partnerships through the many authorities provided to the Forest Service. Working in a shared leadership stance with partners is critical to the Forest Service’s ability to accomplish the expectations of the Act, as well as the desired need to expand the shared stewardship of our public lands.

**FY 2025 Projected Accomplishments:**

- Increase in at-risk community resilience.
- Increase in ability for States to implement priorities in their State Forest Action Plans.
- Increase in capacity for communities and Tribes to prepare for and respond to wildland fire.
- Increase in capacity for States to meet revegetation goals following wildland fires.
- Increase in number of communities with up-to-date Community Wildfire Protection Plans.
- Increase in opportunities for small businesses and private landowners to harvest timber.
- Increase in the operational capacity in support of the Forest Service’s mission through human resource management, procurement and contracting, grants and agreements, budget formulation and execution, and critical investments in technology.

For BIL line-item funds that will be competed, in whole or in part, announcements will be posted to

grants.gov. Table FS-176. State, Private, and Tribal Forestry BIL spend plan (dollars in thousands)

Item	2024 Carryover	2025 Appropriations	2025 Transfers In	2025 Transfers Out	2025 Total Available	2025 Obligations	2025 Carryover
State Fire Capacity Grants.....	\$500	\$17,600	-	-\$1,727	\$16,373	\$15,882	\$491
Volunteer Fire Capacity Grants.....	83	4,000	-	-	4,083	4,001	82
Community Wildfire Defense Grants.....	77,274	100,000	-	-10,171	167,103	130,000	37,103
Firewood Banks .....	76	1,600	-	-158	1,518	1,442	76
Invasive Species Detection, Prevention, Eradication and Research .....	6,260	20,000	-	-1,662	24,598	20,171	4,428
National Revegetation .....	10,438	12,000	-	-1,180	21,258	13,392	7,865
Portable Skidder Bridges.....	18,806	10,000	-	-984	27,822	8,625	19,197
State Forest Action Plans .....	1,948	40,160	-	-3,999	38,109	36,204	1,905
At Risk Communities Wildfire Mitigation Grants (CWDG).	231,944	100,000	-	-9,824	322,120	120,000	202,120
Salaries and Expenses .....	5,667	-	\$ 1,923	-	7,590	6,603	987
<b>Total, State, Private, and Tribal Forestry .....</b>	<b>352,996</b>	<b>305,360</b>	<b>1,923</b>	<b>-29,705</b>	<b>630,574</b>	<b>356,320</b>	<b>274,254</b>

### **National Forest System**

The BIL provides the Forest Service an additional amount of \$2.8 billion for National Forest System. Of this total, \$529 million is appropriated each year starting in FY 2022 through FY 2026. These funds remain available until expended. Funds are to carry out wildfire risk reduction and ecosystem restoration activities for the Department of Agriculture as authorized in Division D Section 40803 and Section 40804 of the Act, for hazardous fuels reduction and burned area recovery.

Noted challenges to implementation in the short term are shortages of acquisition and procurement staff, grants and agreements staff, and national forest system program staff responsible for the implementation of the activities outlined in the Act.

Another difficulty in implementation is the inability to increase and expand partnerships through the many authorities provided to the Forest Service. Match requirements create a huge challenge for many partners, inhibiting their ability to participate in the opportunities that BIL provides. Working in a shared leadership stance with partners is critical to the Forest Service's ability to accomplish the expectations of the Act as well as the desired need to expand the shared stewardship of our public lands.

### **FY 2025 Projected Accomplishments:**

- Increased pace and scale for ecosystem restoration producing desired outcomes such as community protection, forest and grassland restoration, watershed restoration, mine remediation, and wildlife habitat improvement on National Forest System lands. Funding will provide the capacity for planning, collaboration, project design, and implementation.
- Increased community resilience through hazardous fuels projects and related activities such as the development and improvement of control locations (fuel breaks).
- Increased contracts and agreements with partners, states, and tribes to perform ecosystem restoration activities on National Forest System lands providing jobs to local communities.
- Increased ability to provide recreation experiences that match visitation demands.
- Increased ability to operate, repair, reconstruct, and construct recreation cabins and repair or reconstruct historic buildings.
- Creation of incentives for increased use of biomass.
- Implementation of projects to permanently plug and remediate orphaned wells, reporting results as outlined in the Act.
- Continued focus on the successful management and operations of the established civilian climate corps, creating and providing jobs for young people, providing the Forest Service the necessary skills, experiences, and resources necessary to conserve and restore public lands and waters, bolster community resilience, increase reforestation, increase carbon sequestration, protect biodiversity, improve recreation, and address climate change.
- Increased operational capacity in support of the Forest Service's mission to include human resource management, procurement and contracting, grants and agreements, budget formulation and execution, and critical investments in technology.
- Support the Forest Service's work on the Wildfire Crisis Strategy, including continued funding for the initial 10 landscapes announced April 2022 and an additional 11 landscapes announced in January 2023, for total of 21 priority landscapes.

Funds will primarily be distributed via contract awards or through agreements with States, Tribes, and partners. Contract opportunities or procurement notices are announced through the Contract Opportunities website at



2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

SAM.gov<sup>74</sup>. Agreements utilizing authorities such as Good Neighbor Authority, Tribal Forest Projection Act, Stewardship Authority, etc. do not require funding announcements.

Table FS-177. National Forest System BIL spend plan (dollars in thousands)

Item	2024 Carryover	2025 Appropriations	2025 Transfers In	2025 Transfers Out	2025 Total Available	2025 Obligations	2025 Carryover
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program.....	\$8,229	\$20,000	-	-\$7,284	\$20,945	\$15,080	\$5,865
Mechanical Thinning, Timber Harvesting or Pre- commercial Thinning.....	9,282	80,000	-	-29,232	60,050	55,846	4,203
Control Lines and Fuelbreaks	2,785	50,000	-	-31,603	21,182	20,122	1,059
Hazardous Fuels.....	14,933	82,800	-	-46,756	50,977	35,855	15,122
Hazardous Fuels-Biomass.....	1,228	12,000	-	-60	13,168	12,641	527
Hazardous Fuels-Tribal Forest Protection Act .....	-	8,000	-	-40	7,960	7,960	-
Prescribed Fire and Related Activities.....	5,168	50,000	-	-22,110	33,058	28,099	4,959
Removal of Flammable Vegetation .....	3,156	20,000	-	-5,302	17,854	15,176	2,678
Restoration Projects-Good Neighbor or Tribal Forest Protection Act Agreements	2,501	32,000	-	-4,000	30,501	29,891	610
Byproducts .....	28,071	80,000	-	-28,566	79,505	64,399	15,106
Restore Native Vegetation and Mitigate Environmental Hazards on Mined Lands .....	8,478	20,000	-	-7,115	21,363	14,954	6,409
National Revegetation .....	3,720	14,000	-	-4,989	12,731	9,803	2,928
Restore Water Quality and Fish Passage.....	3,376	16,000	-	-2,380	16,996	15,127	1,870
Burned Area Recovery .....	11,980	45,000	-	-15,075	41,905	34,362	7,543
Restore Ecological Health.....	87,231	-	-	-	87,231	-	-
Restore, Repair, and Adapt Recreation Sites .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Orphaned Wells.....	14,973	-	-	-	14,973	6,289	8,685
Salaries and Expenses .....	1,539	-	\$60,202	-	61,741	60,506	1,235
<b>Total, National Forest System .....</b>	<b>206,650</b>	<b>529,800</b>	<b>60,202</b>	<b>-204,512</b>	<b>504,909</b>	<b>426,110</b>	<b>78,799</b>

<sup>74</sup> [Contract Opportunities](#).

**Capital Improvement and Maintenance**

The BIL provides the Forest Service an additional amount of \$360 million for Capital Improvement and Maintenance. Of this total, \$72 million is appropriated each year starting in FY 2022 through FY 2026. Each FY’s appropriation has a four-year period of availability. Funds are to carry out activities of the Legacy Road and Trails Remediation Program, for the construction of temporary roads or reconstruction and maintenance of roads to facilitate projects that reduce wildfire risk, and for the removal of non-hydropower federal dams.

The biggest challenge to implementation in the short term is a shortage of contracting, and engineering staff responsible for the implementation of the activities outlined in the Act. One more primary challenge to implementation is the inability to increase and expand partnerships through the many authorities provided to the Forest Service. Match requirements create a huge challenge for many partners, inhibiting their ability to participate in the opportunities that BIL provides. Working in a shared leadership stance with partners is critical to the Forest Service’s ability to accomplish the expectations of the act as well as the desired need to expand the shared stewardship of our public lands.

Funds will primarily be distributed via contract awards. Contract opportunities or procurement notices are announced through the Contract Opportunities website at SAM.gov<sup>74</sup>.

**FY 2025 Projected Accomplishments**

- Increased ability to restore fish passages, decommission roads, prepare roads for long-term storage, relocate roads, and convert roads to trails on National Forest System lands.
- Increased ability to construct temporary roads, reconstruct and maintain roads to facilitate forest restoration and management projects in support of the wildfire risk reduction.
- Increased operational capacity in support of the Forest Service’s mission to include human resource management, procurement and contracting, grants and agreements, budget formulation and execution and critical investments in technology.

Table FS-178. Capital Improvement and Maintenance BIL spend plan (dollars in thousands)

Item	2024 Carryover	2025 Appropriations	2025 Transfers In	2025 Transfers Out	2025 Total Available	2025 Obligations	2025 Carryover
Roads .....	\$9,675	\$20,000	-	-\$2,500	\$27,175	\$19,023	\$8,153
Dams .....	1,185	2,000	-	-250	2,935	1,878	1,057
Legacy Roads and Trails .....	46,459	50,000	-	-8,250	88,209	42,340	45,869
Salaries and Expenses .....	837	-	\$2,000	-	2,837	2,639	199
<b>Total, Capital Improvement and Maintenance .....</b>	<b>58,156</b>	<b>72,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>-11,000</b>	<b>121,156</b>	<b>65,880</b>	<b>55,278</b>

**Wildland Fire Management**

The BIL provides the Forest Service an additional amount of \$696 million for Wildland Fire Management. Of this total, \$552 million was appropriated in FY 2022 and \$36 million is appropriated starting in FY 2023 through FY 2026. These funds remain available until expended. Funds are to carry out wildfire risk reduction activities for the Department of Agriculture as authorized in Division D Section 40803 of the Act. The Department of the Interior received complementary appropriations for wildland fire management. The Department of the Interior and the Forest Service are collaborating and coordinating an implementation plan.

There are two short-term challenges to implementation: (1) ensuring consistency with the Department of the Interior; and (2) coordinating with the Office of Personnel Management to determine eligibility for the pay increase. Additionally, there are also two long-term challenges to implementation: (1) reconciling the increased base pay policy with a potential new pay scale; and (2) creating a workforce management plan that ensures a

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

sustainable and effective workforce of wildland firefighters. The Forest Service will also continue to expand existing capabilities to address and mitigate the significant mental health challenges and line-of-duty environmental hazards faced by our wildland firefighter workforce.

**FY 2025 Projected Accomplishments:**

- Improvement in wildland firefighter workforce morale and retention through compensation and workforce management reform, including investment in mental and physical health programs.

Table FS-179. Wildland Fire Management BIL spend plan (dollars in thousands)

Item	2024 Carryover	2025 Appropriations	2025 Transfers In	2025 Transfers Out	2025 Total Available	2025 Obligations	2025 Carryover
Preparedness.....	\$372	\$10,000	-	-\$4,281	\$6,091	\$5,786	\$305
Post Fire Recovery .....	39,923	20,000	-	-2,802	57,121	22,848	34,273
Reverse 911.....	16,690	6,000	-	-860	21,830	-	21,830
Wildfire Start Rapid Detection.....	4,702	-	-	-	4,702	1,834	2,869
Map High Risk Communities.	697	-	-	-	697	697	-
Wildfire Prevention Treatment Data .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Detection and Monitoring....	2,739	-	-	-	2,739	959	1,780
Wildland Firefighter Salaries and Expenses.....	15,000	-	-	-	15,000	15,000	-
Salaries and Expenses .....	2,320	-	\$62,480	-	64,800	63,504	1,296
<b>Total, Wildland Fire Management.....</b>	<b>82,443</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>62,480</b>	<b>-7,943</b>	<b>172,980</b>	<b>110,628</b>	<b>62,353</b>

**TRANSFERS WITHIN APPROPRIATIONS**

**Background**

The Explanatory Statement for the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023, included the following directive:

The Forest Service is directed to include a list of approved administrative transfers for the previous Fiscal Year (FY), including those made between accounts affected by budget restructuring and for hazardous fuels mitigation, in the annual budget submission.

**Transfers Between Accounts Affected by Budget Restructuring**

In fiscal year 2023, the Forest Service transferred \$18.250 million to Forest Service Operations from other Forest Service discretionary accounts for projects and activities related to budget restructuring. The table below displays each administrative transfer by account.

Table FS-180. Administrative transfers by account, FY 2023 (thousands of dollars)

Transfer Item	2023 Actual
<b>Forest Service Operations</b>	
Transfers In:	
Forest and Rangeland Research .....	\$4,210
State, Private, and Tribal Forestry .....	3,300
National Forest System .....	6,840
Wildland Fire Management .....	3,900
Subtotal, Transfers In .....	18,250
<b>Forest and Rangeland Research</b>	
Transfers Out:	
Forest Service Operations .....	-4,210
<b>State, Private, and Tribal Forestry</b>	
Transfers Out:	
Forest Service Operations .....	-3,300
Transfers Out:	
Forest Service Operations .....	-6,840
<b>Wildland Fire Management</b>	
Transfers Out:	
Forest Service Operations .....	-3,900

**Transfers Between Accounts Affected by Hazardous Fuels Mitigation**

In fiscal year 2023, there were no transfers between accounts affected by Hazardous Fuels mitigation.

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**APPENDICES**

**NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LAND LEGACY RESTORATION FUND**

The Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) (P.L. 116-152), enacted in 2020, allows the Forest Service to repair and upgrade vital infrastructure and facilities in the national forests and grasslands through the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, the Forest Service proposes \$285 million for the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund. These levels are subject to a 5.7 percent sequestration rate, and this is reflected in the tables below. The FY 2024 sequestration pop-up (payback), once returned, will act as the FY 2025 contingency fund. The Forest Service has developed the projects in accordance with GAOA requirements and Administration guidance. The full Project Data Sheets, including the project descriptions, will be transmitted to Congress concurrently with the FY 2025 Budget request. This project list may differ from what is provided in an enacted appropriations bill.

Table FS-181. FY 2025 National Parks and Public Lands Restoration Fund – Proposed Projects

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
1	R1	Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest	Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Deferred Maintenance	MT	Housing, Administrative Facility, Recreation Site, Wastewater System, Road	\$1,985,000	This project renovates the Birch Creek Civilian Conservation Corps Camp and rental cabins by updated roofing and water and wastewater systems. Additionally, the project resurfaces Delmoe Lake Road and Campground along with other improvements. Finally, concrete toilets will be replaced across the forest at high priority recreation sites and rental cabins.
2	R1	Bitterroot National Forest	Bitterroot National Forest Deferred Maintenance	ID, MT	Housing, Administrative Facility, Recreation Site, Water System, Road, Bridge	3,011,000	This project will address housing and water system issues at the Sula work center, repair and replace various trail bridges with safety deficiencies, execute long deferred maintenance tasks at quarters facilities, and repair pavements at popular campgrounds throughout the forest. Additionally, particular focus on campgrounds, trailheads, and recreation sites along the Magruder corridor will take place with many deferred maintenance repairs.
3	R1	Custer Gallatin National Forest	Beartooth Bunkhouses Housing Renovation	MT	Facility - Housing	260,000	This project will address maintenance needs at the Red Lodge north and south bunkhouses, including window installation, bathroom remodeling, roof repair, and HVAC replacement.
4	R1	Dakota Prairie Grasslands	Maah Daah Hey Trail Bridge Replacements	ND	Trail, Trail Bridge	390,000	This project will install two trail bridges on the Maah Daah Hey Trail near Magpie Trailhead. These are required due to existing bridge failure during heavy rains and for safety and mitigation for future resource damage.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
5	R1	Flathead National Forest	Lindbergh Lake Campground Deferred Maintenance and Resource Protection	MT	Recreation Site, Road, Water System	785,000	This project will repair Lindbergh Lake Campground by replacing the water system and upgrading the day use and parking facilities. Fire rings, picnic tables, and bear boxes will also be replaced for enhanced recreation experience.
6	R1	Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest	Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest Deferred Maintenance	MT	Housing, Administrative Facility, Recreation Site	2,685,000	This project will replace the existing Stanford Bunkhouse on the Judith District with a more energy efficient quarters building, and update the exhibits, lighting, windows and doors, paint and exterior of the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center.
7	R1	Idaho Panhandle National Forests	Idaho Panhandle National Forests Deferred Maintenance	ID	Trail, Trail Bridge, Recreation Site, Road, Water System	7,446,000	This project repairs and reconstructs many miles of the Canfield Mountain Trail system due to overuse, the Salmo Priest Trail system due to lack of maintenance for many years, and renovates campgrounds along the Coeur D'Alene corridor and the Sam Owen campground. Finally, the last phase of work on the Route of the Hiawatha Trail Trestles will be completed with this funding.
8	R1	Kootenai National Forest	Kootenai National Forest Deferred Maintenance	MT	Recreation Site, Road	1,330,000	This project will repair boat launches and docks for a more accessible recreation experience at McGillivray, Rexford Bench, and North Dickey Lake Campgrounds, and repair and replace toilets at Peck Gulch Campground and day use area.
9	R1	Lolo National Forest	Lolo National Forest Deferred Maintenance	MT	Housing, Water and Wastewater System, Road, Trail, Recreation Site	7,334,000	This project will reconstruct the administrative buildings at Fort Missoula, replace the wastewater system at Saint Regis work center to ensure adequate, safe employee housing, and will repair the trails and trailhead at Rattlesnake National Recreation Area and Wilderness.
10	R1	Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest	Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest Deferred Maintenance	ID	Trail, Trail Bridge, Administrative Facility, Recreation Site, Housing	1,745,000	This project will address several deferred maintenance needs at the Powell duplex, the forest's seven backcountry airstrips, and will fund the final phase of trail maintenance work on the Central Idaho Complex Priority Area.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
11	R2	Arapahoe-Roosevelt National Forest	Arapahoe-Roosevelt National Forest Deferred Maintenance	CO	Housing, Recreation Site, Trail, Trail Bridge,	1,112,000	This project replaces the toilet at Herman Gulch trailhead, a popular access point to the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, addresses deferred maintenance at the Arapahoe National Recreation Area and Brainard Lake Recreation Area, and improves trails and trailheads on the West Magnolia, Magnolia, Pawnee Buttes, and Crow Valley trail systems.
12	R2	Bighorn National Forest	Bighorn National Forest Deferred Maintenance	WY	Housing, Administrative Facility, Road	3,818,000	This project replaces the bathhouse at Burgess Ranger Station and upgrades RV hookups, resurfaces two highly used roads in Sheridan Municipal Watershed, renovates the barracks and the hotshot office and improves the parking lot at Greybull Work Center.
13	R2	Black Hills National Forest	Black Hills National Forest Deferred Maintenance	SD	Dam, Recreation Site, Road, Wastewater System, Trail	5,079,000	This project reroutes trails at Little Spearfish Creek for sustainability concerns, rehabilitates Strawberry dam to improve recreation opportunities, and reconditions Tinton Road to maintain access to recreation sites, private properties, and timber nearby. Additionally, the project intends to modernize Comanche Park Campground and address significant maintenance concerns at Mitchell Lake Dam.
14	R2	Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests	Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests Deferred Maintenance	CO	Recreation Site, Road, Trail, Water and Wastewater System, Housing	2,336,000	This project will perform major renovations at Cold Springs, Ward Lake, and West Muddy Guard Stations quarters facilities. The project will also reconstruct the Lizardhead Pass trailhead, replace kiosks across the forests for better information sharing and trail signage, and reconstruct Horse Ranch Park and Cliff Creek recreation sites.
15	R2	Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests	Wyoming Campground Deferred Maintenance	WY	Recreation Site	400,000	This project will address deferred maintenance at Silver Lake and South Brush Creek campgrounds, including modernizing parking spurs, and replacing picnic tables, fire rings, and site markers.
16	R2	Nebraska National Forest	Nebraska National Forest Deferred Maintenance	NE	Road, Housing	924,000	This project brings the Bessey Residence into code compliance and reconditions the Circle Road to improve visitor access and recreational activities.



2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
17	R2	Pike and San Isabel National Forests	Pike and San Isabel National Forests Deferred Maintenance	CO	Administrative Facility, Housing, Water System, Road, Trail	5,189,000	This project rehabilitates multiple housing facilities and associated utility systems at Leadville Crystal Lakes, Monument Fire Center, and South Park Fairplay work center while also repaving the Pikes Peak District office parking lot and addressing deferred maintenance at the South Park office. The project also reconstructs the access road to the Lake Isabel recreation area and reconstructs the adjacent trails and parking area at the recreation area.
18	R2	Rocky Mountain Region	Rocky Mountain Region Deferred Maintenance	CO	Trail	5,077,000	This project addresses accumulated deferred maintenance on the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail and the Colorado Fourteeners trail system due to sustainability issues and overuse.
19	R2	Rio Grande National Forest	Rio Grande National Forest Deferred Maintenance	CO	Road, Bridge, Trail, Recreation Site	895,000	This project replaces vault toilets at Trujillo Meadows, Road Canyon, and Lost Trail campgrounds, addresses deferred maintenance at the Stone Cellar guard station and at many road bridges throughout the forest. The project also widens and stabilizes many areas of the Ute Creek Trail that connects to the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail.
20	R2	San Juan National Forest	San Juan National Forest Deferred Maintenance	CO	Administrative Facility, Recreation Site, Road, Trail, Water System	1,545,000	This project addresses accessibility concerns on the Big Al Trail, restores a heritage cabin and barn at Provancher Ranch, renovate roads and facilities around the McPhee Reservoir, and rehabilitate the Eight Mile Fire Lookout.
21	R2	Shoshone National Forest	Shoshone National Forest Deferred Maintenance	WY	Trail, Trail Bridge, Administrative Facility, Recreation Site,	917,000	This project addresses maintenance and sustainability concerns at many highly used trail corridors around the forest, including erosion and washout issues, poor trail tread, and trail bridge hazards. The project will also replace various dilapidated toilets across the forest and renovate four historically significant structures for recreation rentals and employee housing.
22	R2	White River National Forest	White River National Forest Deferred Maintenance	CO	Trail, Trail Bridge	1,472,000	This project renovates the Blanco Ranger House to be used as employee housing and utilizes volunteers and youth corps to complete deferred maintenance repairs on the forest's expansive and heavily used trail system.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
23	R3	Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest	Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest Deferred Maintenance	AZ	Recreation Site, Road, Trail,	1,000,000	This project will address deferred maintenance work that includes, pavement, site amenity replacements, replacement of signs and markers, and installation of kiosks to improve visitor safety, interpretive and payment information.
24	R3	Carson National Forest	Carson National Forest Deferred Maintenance	NM	Recreation Site, Water System, Road	4,975,000	This project reconstructs the access road to the Canjilon Lakes recreation area and improves the trailheads, day use sites, and campgrounds at Canjilon Lakes. The project also replaces the water system that services the Tres Piedras Ranger Station, fire warehouse, and quarters.
25	R3	Coconino National Forest	Coconino National Forest Deferred Maintenance	AZ	Administrative Facility, Water and Wastewater System, Recreation Site	16,165,000	This project renovates the Cave Springs Campground and reconstructs the deteriorated pavement on Snowbowl Road.
26	R3	Coronado National Forest	Coronado National Forest Deferred Maintenance	AZ	Road, Trail	1,250,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Coronado National Forest. Work includes expansion of the Sabino Canyon parking area to reduce traffic congestion and increase site capacity. Additionally, this project will maintain and improve trails across the Sky Islands of the Coronado National Forest.
27	R3	Gila National Forest	Quemado Lake Recreation Areas Reconstruction and Accessibility Upgrades	NM	Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site, Road, Trail, Wastewater System	3,225,000	The Quemado Lake Recreation Area infrastructure has aged, deteriorated and has not been updated since the early 1990s. This project will reconstruct the site to address visitor safety, improved amenities, site accessibility, site drainage, traffic flow and a high-quality recreation experience.
28	R3	Kaibab National Forest	Kaibab National Forest Deferred Maintenance	AZ	Housing, Recreation Site	550,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Kaibab National Forest. This project will restore employee housing on the North Kaibab and Tusayan ranger districts, including bringing utilities up to current standards. Additionally, this project will decommission the Oak Hill parking lot and snow play site and construct a new trailhead for Keyhole Sink Trail.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
29	R3	Santa Fe National Forest	Santa Fe National Forest Deferred Maintenance	NM	Administrative Facility, Recreation Site, Trail	850,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Santa Fe National Forest. Activities include repair of historic cabins to enable their conversion to recreation rental cabins. This project will also replace the roofs at the Coyote Ranger District Office and Warehouse. Finally, this project will replace visitor information kiosks, fee payment receptacles, and trash collection device that were identified in poor condition at developed recreation sites on the Santa Fe National Forest.
30	R4	Ashley National Forest	Ashley National Forest Deferred Maintenance	UT	Road, Trail, Recreation Site, Water System	7,324,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Ashley National Forest. The project will rehabilitate and upgrade water system treatment facilities, distribution lines, storage tanks, and other necessary items to ensure potable water is supplied to campsites in the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area. Additionally, this project would repave the roads, parking areas, and accessible paved trails at the Red Canyon Visitor Center overlook in the Flaming Gorge Recreation Area.
31	R4	Bridger-Teton National Forest	Grey's River Corridor Phase 3	WY	Road	2,000,000	This project will resurface up to 10 miles of Forest Road 10138 on the Bridger-Teton National Forest.
32	R4	Caribou-Targhee National Forest	Caribou-Targhee National Forest Deferred Maintenance	ID	Recreation Site, Road, Trail, Trail Bridge	3,805,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. The project will restore recreation sites and trails to improve access, reduce deferred maintenance, provide for safety and health, comply with accessibility standards, enhance the visitor experience, and engage our partners. Additionally, this project will replace the roof at Big Falls Inn and improve pedestrian infrastructure and parking area at the Mesa Falls Recreation Area. This project will also maintain the Mesa Falls access road, including brushing, cleaning existing drainage structures, pavement repair, and sign replacement.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
33	R4	Dixie National Forest	Dixie National Forest Deferred Maintenance	UT	Dam, Recreation Site, Trail	4,215,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Dixie National Forest. This project will work with partners to repair high-priority non-motorized trails. Additionally, this project will resolve safety issues at the Pine Valley Dam in the Pine Valley Recreation Area. The low water outlet will be replaced, the upstream and downstream slopes will be stabilized to mitigate liquefaction potential, and the upstream slope armoring will be replaced.
34	R4	Fishlake National Forest	Forest-Wide Road Deferred Maintenance	UT	Road	330,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the main access roads into the Fishlake National Forest by reconditioning roads, restoring proper drainage, removing roadside vegetation, and placing a stabilized gravel or roto mill road surface.
35	R4	Manti-LaSal National Forest	Manti-LaSal National Forest Deferred Maintenance	UT	Administrative Facility, Housing, Recreation Site, Road, Water System	2,080,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Manti-LaSal National Forest. Activities include remodel of the Baker site bunkhouse and garage, Joes Valley campground maintenance, and campground fencing in the South Zone of the forest to ensure that livestock from nearby grazing allotments do not damage campground facilities.
36	R4	Intermountain Region	Idaho Airstrip	ID	Recreation Site	750,000	To improve the safety and accessibility of Idaho's backcountry, the Forest Service will address deferred maintenance on the airstrips that serve both the recreational public and Forest Service operations. Work includes drainage improvements, surface grading, aviation markers, approach clear zones, windsocks, tiedowns, information signboards, campsites, latrines, and associated facility repair and maintenance.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
37	R4	Salmon-Challis National Forest	Salmon-Challis National Forest Deferred Maintenance	ID	Administrative Facility, Housing, Wastewater System, Trail, Trail Bridge	1,450,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Salmon-Challis National Forest. This project will rehabilitate the Dagger Falls Trail Bridge, the first bridge on the Middle Fork Trail. The bridge is required to provide safe passage to backcountry and day users across the Middle Fork of the Salmon River and into the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. The next trail bridge crossing of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River is 25 miles downstream. Additionally, this project will rehabilitate substandard wastewater systems at existing housing sites throughout the Salmon-Challis National Forest. In some cases, the systems are non-existent or inadequate, meaning the housing cannot be used at all. In other cases, the systems are 30 to 50 years in age and impending failures would be catastrophic for both occupants and the environment.
38	R4	Sawtooth National Forest	Big Smoky Administration Site Housing Deferred Maintenance	ID	Facility - Housing, Road, Wastewater System	730,000	The Big Smoky Administrative site lies in the center of the Fairfield Ranger District and contains a Guard Station, Work Center, and sewage lagoons. The Guard Station and Work Center provides housing for seasonal employees on the district. The project includes hydrojetting and repairing sewer lines, grinding asphalt pavement in very poor condition, and topping with gravel, and installing new membranes for sewer cell lagoons serving the Work Center and all of the seasonal employee housing.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
39	R5	Angeles National Forest	Angeles National Forest Deferred Maintenance	CA	Recreation Site, Road, Housing, Water System	3,715,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Angeles National Forest. The Chilao Recreation Area relies on a water system built in the 1940s that has documented issues. Installing new pipelines and valves along with rehabilitating the water tanks in the system will provide reliable service to a fire station, recreation campsites, hikers on a National Recreation Trail, a visitor center, and partners in the forest. Additional improvements include road work for access, restroom decommissioning at the visitor center and water fixture repair near the fire station. Furthermore, this project will conduct site improvements at Chantry Flat Picnic Area, which is one of the most popular recreation areas on the Angeles National Forest. Work includes demolition of barracks and construction of a shuttle stop. Finally, the project will renovate existing bunkhouses on the San Gabriel National Monument.
40	R5	Cleveland National Forest	Renovate Falcon Group Campground and Trails	CA	Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site, Road, Trail	860,000	This project renovates a very popular group campground on the Cleveland National Forest. Activities include replacement of deteriorated recreational amenities and access improvements to the surrounding trail network to comply with Forest Service accessibility standards.
41	R5	Inyo National Forest	Inyo National Forest Deferred Maintenance	CA	Trail	240,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Inyo National Forest. This project will improve storm resiliency and public access on trails on the Mount Whitney Ranger District, which sustained damage in flooding and rockslide events in recent years. Work includes short re-alignments, structure construction, and re-establishing corridor and tread. This work will improve watershed health by reducing future sediment flow from the trails into waterways.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
42	R5	Klamath National Forest	Russian Wilderness Pacific Crest Trail and Feeder Trails Deferred Maintenance	CA	Trail	695,000	This project will address deferred maintenance within the Russian Wilderness Area on the Klamath National Forest. Work includes logging-out fallen trees, clearing brush from trails, repairing trail tread and repairing drainage structures. Portions of project area burned in the 2014 Whites Fire. Trail structures require heavy deferred maintenance and significant numbers of fire killed trees have fallen across the trail corridors.
43	R5	Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit Deferred Maintenance	CA, NV	Recreation Site, Water System, Administrative Facility, Housing	450,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit. The existing water system is reaching the end of its life cycle and is posing safety concerns and operational issues. This project involves the replacement of the water mains at the Nevada Beach Day Use Area, which services the bathrooms, campground, and barracks.
44	R5	Lassen National Forest	McCarthy Point Lookout Recreation Rental Restoration	CA	Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site	102,000	McCarthy Point Lookout was built in 1936 by the Civilian Conservation Corps and is now a recreation rental cabin. This project will restore windows and casings, repair the roof, and conduct interior renovation.
45	R5	Los Padres National Forest	Facilities Repairs	CA	Facility - Administrative, Facility - Housing	1,385,000	This project will address deferred maintenance of facilities that support temporary quarters, fire, and administration on the Los Padres National Forest. Building repairs include roof and siding replacement, including all structural critical components. If issues are not addressed now, structural elements pose a health and safety liability to all occupants of the facilities.
46	R5	Mendocino National Forest	Fouts Springs Critical Water Systems Repairs	CA	Recreation Site, Water System	120,000	Fouts Springs water system serves multiple campgrounds and an administrative site in the Stonyford Recreation Area. The water treatment system utilizes several types of filters to treat and remove secondary contaminants as defined by the State Water Resources Control Board. This project will replace filters, re-configure piping between components, and replace the pressure tank.
47	R5	Modoc National Forest	Forest-wide Recreation Site Maintenance	CA	Recreation Site, Road	800,000	This project will maintain campground and trailhead loops and repair kiosks and signs at recreation sites on the Modoc National Forest.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
48	R5	Plumas National Forest	Beckwourth District Office Water System Replacement	CA	Water System	605,000	This project will replace the water distribution lines and provide upgrades to the water system at the Beckwourth District Office Compound. Due to frequent leaks of the deteriorating water supply line, the current system requires extensive time and resources to maintain adequate water services for employees.
49	R5	San Bernardino National Forest	Applewhite Campground and Picnic Area Accessibility Improvements	CA	Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site, Road	1,256,000	This project will reduce deferred maintenance at the Lytle Creek Corridor recreation area. Work includes pavement rehabilitation, replacement of a campground restroom facility, installation of picnic area shade structures, and improved connectivity between sites within the recreation area.
50	R5	Shasta Trinity National Forest	Historic Recreation Cabin and Barn Roof Replacement	CA	Facility - Administrative, Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site	335,000	This project will replace deteriorated roofs at historic recreation rental cabins and the animal pack stock barn on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. Additional work may include replacement of unsafe electrical wiring to reduce fire hazards in the historic buildings, as well as a small solar unit to reduce use of open flames.
51	R5	Sierra National Forest	Administrative and Recreation Facilities Rehabilitation	CA	Facility - Administrative, Facility - Housing, Recreation Site, Road, Wastewater System, Water System	6,767,000	The project will rehabilitate facilities support the stock and wilderness program on the Sierra National Forest. Key tasks at the sites include repairing water supply, rebuilding horse corrals, repairing roofs, repairing the access ramp and stairs, repairing utility lines, installing bear boxes, and repairing kitchen, bathroom, and laundry rooms.
52	R5	Six Rivers National Forest	Six Rivers National Forest Deferred Maintenance	CA	Road, Trail	1,255,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Six Rivers National Forest. This project consists of replacing failed culverts on Forest Road 1N10 and grinding failed pavement to create aggregate surfacing on Forest Road 1N30. This project will also conduct trail maintenance, including brushing, removal of logs, and tread work within the Gasquet National Recreation Area and across the Mad River District.



2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
53	R5	Stanislaus National Forest	Stanislaus National Forest Deferred Maintenance	CA	Recreation Site, Water System	240,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Stanislaus National Forest. This project would replace the heavily used single vault prefabricated toilet located at the Rim of the World observation site with a new double vault facility. Additionally, this project will rehabilitate the Riverside Day Use and Picnic Area along the North Fork Tuolumne River. Work includes trail maintenance, water system repair, and replacement of site amenities.
54	R6	Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area	Historic Multnomah Falls Lodge Critical Accessibility, Utility, and Security System Upgrades	OR	Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site, Wastewater System, Water System	1,100,000	This project will conduct critical deferred maintenance at Multnomah Falls Lodge, the most popular recreation site in the Pacific Northwest. Work includes utility upgrades, security improvements, and visitor center renovation.
55	R6	Colville National Forest	Colville National Forest Deferred Maintenance	WA	Recreation Site, Wastewater System, Water System, Road, Housing	6,940,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Colville National Forest. Work includes remodeling bunkhouses and houses to ensure acceptable living conditions and accessibility in government-owned quarters. This project will also rehabilitate asphalt roads that have large and frequent potholes due to insufficient routine maintenance. Finally, this project will improve recreation sites through dock replacement, toilet refurbishment, picnic shelter replacement, and access road rehabilitation. These activities will improve the visitor experience and conform with Forest Service accessibility standards.
56	R6	Fremont-Winema National Forests	Cottonwood Campground Trail Bridge Replacement	OR	Recreation Site, Trail, Trail Bridge	186,000	The existing trail bridge spanning Cottonwood Meadow Lake's spillway has serious and widespread defects. This project will replace the deteriorating bridge with a new premanufactured weathering steel truss bridge. This bridge is a feature of Cottonwood Campground, which offers 22 campsites, six vault toilets, potable water, and an organizational camp.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
57	R6	Gifford Pinchot National Forest	North Fork Guard Station Restoration	WA	Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site	200,000	This project will repair the North Fork Guard Station on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The guard station is a historic structure that requires major renovation to restore functionality. Restoration work will consist of floor and wall repair, roof, cabinet, and plumbing replacement, exterior paint, and window maintenance. The forest intends to convert this building to a recreation rental to support on-going operations and maintenance.
58	R6	Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest	Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Deferred Maintenance	WA	Road, Road Bridge, Trail, Trail Bridge, Housing	4,131,000	This project addresses deferred maintenance on the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Work includes flooring replacement at multiple employee residences, critical road and bridge repair to support timber sales, improved aquatic organism passage, and trail rehabilitation and trailhead expansion.
59	R6	Mt. Hood National Forest	Lake Branch Bridge Replacement	OR	Road, Road Bridge	750,000	This project replaces Lake Branch Bridge, which failed a fracture critical test. This bridge is currently shut down and provides secondary emergency egress from Lost Lake, a major recreation site.
60	R6	Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest	Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Deferred Maintenance	WA	Recreation Site, Road, Trail, Trail Bridge, Wastewater System, Water System, Housing	6,650,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Activities include renovation of the Cle Elem Administrative Site bunkhouses, including replacement of roofs and windows, flooring, and kitchen counters. Bathrooms and shower areas will be upgraded to ensure adequate living conditions. Additionally, this project will address deferred maintenance on trails, bridges, campgrounds, and scenic viewpoints along the North Cascades Recreation Scenic Corridor.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
61	R6	Pacific Northwest Region	Pacific Northwest Region Deferred Maintenance	OR, WA	Recreation Site, Wastewater System, Water System, Trail, Road	3,200,000	This project will address deferred maintenance across the Pacific Northwest Region. There are thousands of road-stream crossings that are barriers to fish and wildlife and under capacity for high flows. This impacts fish populations because they are barriers and human road-user safety because the crossings could fail. This project will improve priority road-stream crossings across the region. Additionally, this project will address trail deferred maintenance including tread reconstruction and sign replacement. Finally, this project will address deficiencies at important developed recreation sites, including sign and kiosk repair, accessibility improvements, painting, and picnic table and fire ring installation.
62	R6	Siuslaw National Forest	Quarters and Facilities Deferred Maintenance Reduction	OR	Facility - Administrative, Facility - Housing, Facility - Fire, Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site, Wastewater System	2,165,000	This project will maintain recreation facilities and administrative buildings on the Siuslaw National Forest. Work includes septic system upgrades, roof and gutter repairs, and exterior painting and siding.
63	R6	Umpqua National Forest	South Umpqua Transportation Remediation and Watershed Improvement to Aid In Critical Access and Aquatic Organism Passage	OR	Road, Road Bridge	1,268,000	This project will replace critical transportation infrastructure to provide access for recreation visitors and natural resource management across the Umpqua National Forest. These routes provide the only road access to cultural sites for tribes. This project will eliminate deferred maintenance and improve access and safety on roads that will soon need to be closed if not repaired.
64	R6	Wallowa Whitman National Forest	Wallowa Whitman National Forest Deferred Maintenance	OR	Administrative Facility, Housing, Road	6,600,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Wallowa Whitman National Forest. Activities include remodel of living quarters at the Sled Springs Work Center and Wallowa Lake House. Additionally, this project will reconstruct a section of Forest Road 39 (Wallowa Mountain Loop Road), which is part of the Hells Canyon Scenic Byway. The existing thin pavement has reached the end of its design life and is breaking up along the entire section.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
65	R6	Willamette National Forest	Toilet Replacement and Composting Toilet Conversion Project	OR	Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site	1,169,000	This project will convert inoperable bathrooms to vault toilets in multiple campgrounds and day use areas on the Willamette National Forest.
66	R8	Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest	Lake Conasauga Recreation Area Rehabilitation	GA	Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site, Road, Trail, Water System	2,665,000	This project will rehabilitate infrastructure in the Lake Conasauga Recreation Area and conduct road maintenance to restore full functionality of the campground which regularly experiences water system outages.
67	R8	Daniel Boone National Forest	Great Meadows Water System Replacement	KY	Recreation Site, Water System	325,000	This project will update a well water system installed in the 1970s to a city water system. A new underground main line, tapped from municipal water, will be installed to the Great Meadows campground and to Hemlock Grove Picnic Area. Water hydrants in the campground will be replaced with accessible hydrants.
68	R8	George Washington and Jefferson National Forests	Grindstone Recreation Area Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement	VA	Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site, Wastewater System, Water System	4,600,000	This project will replace the non-operational wastewater treatment and associated collection systems at the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area's Grindstone Recreation Area with on-site treatment. Existing infrastructure, including buildings, treatment and collection system components, and associated appurtenances will be decommissioned.
69	R8	Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area	Brandon Spring Housing Replacement	KY	Facility - Housing, Recreation Site, Wastewater System, Water System	5,757,000	This project will replace government housing. The existing facility is uninhabitable due to water damage. The wastewater lagoon that treats wastewater from the government housing facility will be replaced to ensure the system follows all standards and regulations once the new facility is in place. The adjacent group camp and other recreation sites send wastewater to the lagoon for treatment.
70	R8	National Forests in Alabama	Payne Lake Dam Spillway Rehabilitation	AL	Dam	900,000	This project will reconstruct the sloped shoulder and install new concrete panels along the primary spillway at Payne Lake Dam.
71	R8	National Forests in Florida	New Osceola Office Site	FL	Facility - Administrative, Water System	5,442,000	This project will replace the Osceola Ranger District administrative offices and work center complex to provide a safe and efficient workplace for employees and lower lifecycle building maintenance costs.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
72	R8	National Forests in Mississippi	National Forests in Mississippi Deferred Maintenance	MS	Administrative Facility, Road, Recreation Site, Water System	11,608,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the National Forests in Mississippi. Activities include: replacement of a damaged bathhouse at the Chewalla Recreation Area with a waterless vault toilet; access road resurfacing at the Turkey Fork Recreation Area; replacement of the district office and renovation of the main work center on the Bienville District; and water system repair at the Davis Lake Recreation Area to prevent major water leaks and reduce water expenses.
73	R8	Ozark-St Francis National Forest	Ozark-St Francis National Forest Deferred Maintenance	AR	Administrative Facility, Dam	3,170,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Ozark-St Francis National Forest. Work includes rehabilitation of the Bear Creek Lake and Cove Lake spillways and the renovation of the Deer Work Center. This project will result in the elimination of a leased facility and cost savings for the agency.
74	R9	Allegheny National Forest	Allegheny National Forest Deferred Maintenance	PA	Road, Road Bridge, Recreation Site	1,074,000	This project will replace the Big Mill Creek Bridge on Forest Road 135. Additionally, this project will complete critical repairs to a historic picnic pavilion at Twin Lakes Recreation area. The pavilion was built by an African American Civilian Conservation Corps company in 1933. This project will replace the failed roof and complete log repairs. The pavilion is currently closed, and this project will allow for visitor use once again.
75	R9	Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest	Chippewa Campground Shower House Reconstruction	WI	Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site	1,230,000	This project will rehabilitate or reconstruct several shower houses and one fish cleaning building at the Chippewa Campground on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. The shower houses were constructed in 1969 and require extensive repairs.
76	R9	Chippewa National Forest	Chippewa National Forest Deferred Maintenance	MN	Recreation Site	443,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Chippewa National Forest. Work includes upgrading docks, stabilizing the boat launch areas with new concrete pads, and armoring areas to eliminate erosion and improve boat access across the national forest. This project will also repaint and complete minor repairs at Camp Rabideau to address safety issues. Camp Rabideau is a National Historic Landmark and one of the most complete Civilian Conservation Corps camps extant in the United States.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
77	R9	Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forests	Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forests Deferred Maintenance	VT	Dam, Recreation Site, Water System, Trail, Trail Bridge	1,519,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forests. Work includes structural repairs to observation towers to address Federal Aviation Administration inspection findings. This project will replace or repair structurally deficient trail bridges on the Appalachian Trail, Long Trail, and Vermont’s snowmobile and mountain bike trail networks. Finally, this project will address deferred maintenance at popular recreation sites, including trail maintenance, parking improvements, and energy efficiency upgrades.
78	R9	Hiawatha National Forest	Hiawatha National Forest Deferred Maintenance	MI	Recreation Site, Trail, Trail Bridge, Water System, Road	1,377,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Hiawatha National Forest. Activities include repavement of campground roads, replace trail bridges, and water system upgrades to address health and safety risks.
79	R9	Hoosier National Forest	Tipsaw and Buzzard Roost Recreation Areas Rehabilitation	IN	Road, Road Bridge	932,000	This project will reconstruct Tipsaw Main Road and Buzzard Roost Road. Additionally, this project will resurface Tipsaw Lake Recreation Area roads and replace the bridge deck.
80	R9	Mark Twain National Forest	Mark Twain National Forest Deferred Maintenance	MO	Recreation Site, Dam, Road	4,068,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Mark Twain National Forest. Work includes replacing amenities at multiple campgrounds across the national forest. Additionally, this project will rehabilitate Crane Lake Dam. This dam is more than 60 years old and is classified as a high hazard dam. This project will repair the structural integrity, meet seismic requirements, and comply with federal dam regulations. Forest Road 2113 provides permanent access to the dam and will be improved to accommodate construction activities and future administrative needs.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
81	R9	Monongahela National Forest	Monongahela National Forest Deferred Maintenance	WV	Recreation Site, Road, Bridge	1,697,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Monongahela National Forest. Activities include rehabilitation of the historic Rohrbaugh Cabin to convert the asset into a recreation rental for public use. The cabin is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This cabin provides historic value and a unique recreation opportunity within the Spruce Knob-Seneca Rocks National Recreation Area. This project will also repair or replace a bridge for better access to Dolly Sods Wilderness. The existing bridge has significant structural deficiencies that have reduced the load rating to three tons and one vehicle on the bridge at a time. This bridge is the primary access for approximately 100 private landowners. This substructure will have repairs and new streambank protection and the superstructure and deck will be replaced.
82	R9	Ottawa National Forest	Hunter Walking Trail and Trailhead Rehab	MI	Recreation Site, Road, Trail	360,000	This project will rehabilitate trails, parking areas, kiosks, and signs on hunter walking trails on the Ottawa National Forest.
83	R9	Shawnee National Forest	Forest-wide Toilet Replacements	IL	Facility - Recreation, Recreation Site	295,000	This project will replacement three to five aging toilets across the Shawnee National Forest to address health and safety issues. Sites include Rim Rock National Recreation Trail, Buttermilk Hill Picnic Area, Bells Smith Springs Interpretive Site, and Jackson Falls Trailhead.
84	R9	Superior National Forest	FR152 S. Brule River Bridge Replacement	MN	Road, Road Bridge	1,520,000	This project is to replace the existing road bridge over the South Brule River. The current bridge has a damaged superstructure and is load rated. There is no other access for the private residences beyond this bridge.

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
85	R9	Wayne National Forest	Wayne National Forest Deferred Maintenance	OH	Trail, Trail Bridge	646,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Wayne National Forest. This project will replace the Hanging Rock Off-Highway Vehicle Trail bridge and reroute the trail to conform to bridge design and sustainable trail standards. This project will also improve the Rock House Trail in the Lake Vesuvius Recreation Area. The trail is designed to be accessible, but tree roots and obstacles make the trail impassable to people in wheelchairs. This project will repave the trail and make additional improvements to comply with Forest Service accessibility standards.
86	R9	White Mountain National Forest	Corridor 11 Andro Snowmobile Trail Maintenance/Re route	NH	Trail, Trail Bridge	730,000	This project will relocate the Corridor 11 Snowmobile Trail, which was damaged in a flash flood in summer 2020. This project will reconstruct the trail in a more sustainable location to reduce future maintenance costs.
87	R10	Chugach National Forest	Chugach National Forest Deferred Maintenance	AK	Recreation Site, Trail, Trail Bridge	5,104,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Chugach National Forest. Activities include the replacement of the boardwalk in Quartz Creek Campground, a popular recreation site that accesses world-class trout fishing. Streambank protection of the area is an essential function of the boardwalk and provides angler access. Currently, the boardwalk is unsafe for pedestrians due to frost heaving of pilings. The project will repair multiple outhouses across the Chugach National Forest through: replacing access hatches, replacing miscellaneous parts, climate and weather renovations, establishing proper grading for drainage, relocation, and replacement. Additionally, this project will repair trails and trail bridges to maintain and enhance access to year-round recreation activities on the forest.



2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Item No.	Region	Unit	Project Name	State	Asset Types	2025 Funding	Project Summary
88	R10	Tongass National Forest	Tongass National Forest Deferred Maintenance	AK	Recreation Site, Trail, Wastewater System, Water System, Road	6,223,000	This project will address deferred maintenance on the Tongass National Forest. Work includes trail maintenance, employee housing renovations, recreation site improvements, trail bridge replacements, water and wastewater system repairs, and road work. This project will complete the parking and paving deferred maintenance at the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center, as identified in the master plan. This project will replace multiple trail bridges that access recreation sites on the national forest. This project will repair trails, including drainage, tread, brushing, and boardwalk replacement. It will renovate housing facilities and their components that have reached the end of their useful life. Finally, this project will replace vault toilet roofs and site amenities at popular recreation sites near Juneau.
89	R&D	Research and Development	Research and Development Deferred Maintenance	AZ, CA, MS, MT, MI, NC, NH, PR, OR, UT, WI, WV	Research Facility, Housing	13,592,000	This project will renovate multiple Forest Service research facilities and employee housing units in 12 states and territories. Activities include roof replacement, mechanical system repair, water system repair, and laboratory modernization.

<b>Total, 2025 Legacy Restoration Funding.....</b>	<b>234,895,000</b>
2025 Sequestration (5.7%) .....	16,245,000
Administrative Funds .....	21,000,000
Contingency.....	12,860,000
<b>Total, National Parks and Public Lands Legacy Restoration Fund.....</b>	<b>285,000,000</b>

**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND**

**FY 2025 Land and Water Conservation Fund Proposed Acquisition Lists**

The Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) (P.L. 116-152), enacted in 2020, permanently funds the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), investing in conservation and recreation opportunities in public and private lands.

In FY 2025, the Forest Service is requesting \$123,885,000 for Federal Land Acquisition projects and program administration and \$94,255,000 for Forest Legacy projects and program administration. These levels are subject to a 5.7 percent sequestration rate, and this is reflected in the tables below. The Forest Service has developed the projects in accordance with GAOA requirements and Administration guidance. The full project data sheets will be transmitted to Congress concurrently with the FY 2025 Budget request. These project lists may differ from those provided in an enacted appropriations bill.

Table FS-182. FY 2025 National Forest System Land Acquisition Program – Proposed Projects

<b>Total New Budget Authority, 2025 Allocation</b>				<b>\$123,887,020</b>
Previously Sequestered Budget Authority from 2024 (Sequester Return)				7,059,540
2025 Sequestration				-7,061,445
<b>Total Net Budget Authority in 2025 (Available Program Funding)</b>				<b>123,885,000</b>
<b>Priority Order</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Congressional District</b>	<b>Funding Request</b>
1	CA	Sequoia National Forest	CA-20	9,500,000
2	CA	Tahoe National Forest	CA-03	5,000,000
3	WA	Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests	WA-08	8,000,000
4	AZ	Prescott National Forest	AZ-02	10,500,000
5	AK	Chugach National Forest I	AK-At Large	5,000,000
6	CO	Rio Grande National Forest	CO-03	5,281,000
7	NM	Cibola National Forest	NM-02	10,000,000
8	GA	Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests	GA-08, 10, 14	6,156,000
9	AL	National Forests in Alabama	AL-03, 06	3,850,000
10	MT	Lolo National Forest, Phase I	MT-01	7,500,000
11	OR	Mt. Hood National Forest	OR-02	6,000,000
12	UT	Fishlake National Forest	UT-02	5,000,000
13	SC	Francis Marion And Sumter National Forests	SC-01	4,000,000
14	CO	San Juan National Forest I	CO-03	3,500,000
15	MT	Kootenai National Forest	MT-01	1,600,000
16	MT	Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest I	MT-01	1,740,000
<b>Subtotal, Project Funds</b>				<b>92,627,000</b>
Recreation Access				12,000,000
Acquisition Management				13,508,000
Critical Inholdings/Wilderness				5,500,000
Cash Equalization				250,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>123,885,000</b>

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

17	NC	National Forests In North Carolina	NC-05,11	850,000
18	MT	Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest II	MT-01	1,400,000
19	AR	Ouachita National Forest	AR-02	7,668,000
20	CO	San Juan National Forest II	CO-03	4,690,000
21	MT	Lolo National Forest, Phase II	MT-01	7,500,000
22	AZ	Coconino National Forest	AZ-02	12,150,000
23	MT	Custer Gallatin National Forest	MT-02	2,000,000
24	AK	Chugach National Forest II	AK-At-Large	1,145,000
25	SD	Black Hills National Forest	CO-01	2,374,500
26	WY	Bridger-Teton National Forest	WY-01	7,500,000
<b>Total, Supplemental Project List</b>				<b>47,277,500</b>

2025 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – FOREST SERVICE

Table FS-183. FY 2025 Forest Legacy Program – Proposed Projects

<b>Total New Budget Authority, 2025 Allocation</b>				<b>\$94,195,391</b>
Previously Sequestered Budget Authority from 2024 (Sequester Return)				5,428,746
2025 Sequestration				-5,369,137
<b>Total Net Budget Authority in 2025 (Available Program Funding)</b>				<b>94,255,000</b>
Rank	State	Project Name	Congressional District	Funding Request
1	MT	Stimson Timberland Legacy	MT-01	10,200,000
2	UT	Zion Connectivity Project	UT-02	3,000,000
3	VT	Hazen's Notch	VT-At-Large	2,260,000
4	AZ	The Sonoita Creek Wildlife Corridor	AZ-07	2,200,000
5	OK	Musket Mountain Forest	OK-02	15,915,000
6	ID	Spirit of Mt Spokane Phase 2A	ID-01, 05	8,000,000
7	WA	Spirit of Mount Spokane Phase 2B	WA-01, 05	5,060,000
8	NC	Roanoke River Bottomlands Forest	NC-01	3,000,000
9	OR	Tualatin Mountain Forest	OR-01	5,765,000
10	CA	Brushy Mountain Phase 4, Eel River Peninsula	CA-02, 04	11,675,000
11	GA	Upatoi Ravines	GA-02	13,500,000
12	FL	Avalon Woodland Ravines	FL-02	3,705,000
13	IA	Catfish Creek Headwaters	IA-02	1,975,000
<b>Subtotal, Project Funds</b>				<b>86,255,000</b>
Administrative Funds				8,000,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>94,255,000</b>
13	IA	Catfish Creek Headwaters - Remainder	IA-02	1,360,000
14	TX	Scrappin' Valley	TX-36	815,000
15	HI	South Kona Forest	HI-02	1,500,000
16	OR	The Columbia Gorge Forest	OR-02, 03	9,315,000
17	WA	Mt. Adams Forest	WA-03, 04	13,875,000
18	AL	Dugdown Mountain Corridor Stateline Alabama	AL-03, 14	3,750,000
19	AL	Weogufka State Forest Expansion	AL-03	9,235,000
20	OR	Lostine Forest	OR-02	3,750,000
<b>Total, Supplemental Project List</b>				<b>43,600,000</b>