

# Fiscal Year 2011 Competitive Allocation Process

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry



**Description:** As directed by the 2008 Farm Bill, the Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry (NA S&PF) began a new Competitive Allocation Request for Proposals (CARP) process in Fiscal Year (FY) 2011. This process allocates Federal funds on a competitive basis to projects that address issues and priority landscapes identified in State Forest Action Plans and in national and regional strategies.

Besides targeting funds to identified priorities, CARP improves program integration and reduces duplication in application and review procedures. CARP used just one request for proposals with a single set of criteria to solicit proposals for Forest Health, Fire, Hazardous Fuels Mitigation, Stewardship, and Urban and Community Forestry. A 13-member Review Team—six State Foresters, three NA S&PF Field Representatives, two NA S&PF Assistant Directors, the (then acting) Director of NA S&PF, and the Executive Director of the Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters—ranked the proposals.

## Key Issues:

- Target Federal resources toward helping States work on important issues in priority landscapes.
- Simplify the request for proposals process and reduce duplication of effort while meeting strategic objectives.

**Accomplishments:** NA S&PF received 217 proposals requesting \$41.8 million. Of those, NA S&PF funded 22 projects as Redesign projects, totaling \$5.6 million. Another 57 projects met Congressional intent and criteria for Forest Health or National Fire Plan Hazard Mitigation, allowing NA S&PF to allocate another \$8.4 million to priority projects.

- NA S&PF awarded more than \$14 million to carry out State strategies while also meeting national and regional objectives.
- The competitively allocated funds supported both State Forest Action Plan priorities and NA S&PF's strategic priorities.
- Funds are strategic investments in activities that support forest health and stewardship, which help ensure that private forests within NA S&PF's geographic footprint continue to provide public benefits.

## Budget History:

Competitive Allocation Request for Proposals (Dollars, millions)		
	FY 2010	FY 2011
Redesign Funds	\$5.1	\$5.6
Forest Health and Hazard Mitigation	n/a	8.4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$5.1</b>	<b>\$14.0</b>

**Future Direction:** The CARP process in FY 2011 provided some flexibility but had some limitations in blending Redesign, Forest Health, and National Fire Plan funding pools to achieve optimal results. The FY 2012 process will be refined based on the FY 2011 experience. For example, the FY 2012 CARP will feature three separate requests for proposals for Redesign, Hazardous Fuels Mitigation, and Forest Health since the single pool of CARP funds in FY 2011 was more inflexible than initially assumed. NA S&PF will continue to solicit and fund proposals to address State and Private Forestry and State Forest Action Plan priorities on an annual basis. Please check <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/rfp/> for FY 2012 CARP details.

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