

Comprehensive Statewide Planning and Response

- 2007 Farm Bill proposals
- State and Private Forestry Redesign
- Existing Program Requirements & Guidance
 - Forest Stewardship Program
 - Forest Legacy Program
 - Urban and Community Forestry Program
 - Cooperative Fire Protection

2007 Farm Bill - House Version

- **National Priorities** (consistent with S&PF Redesign Themes)
- **Statewide Assessment**
 - Forest **conditions and trends, and threats**
 - Identify **priority areas** – incl., **multi-state**
- **Statewide strategy**
 - **Address threats**
- **Update strategy annually; Update assessment as needed**
- **Coordinate** with State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee (SFSCC), Wildlife Agency and State Tech. Committee (NRCS)
- **\$10,000,000 annual limit from funds available to states through CFAA**

2007 Farm Bill - Senate Version

- Focus on privately owned forest land
- Secretary develops **national priorities**
- State Forest Plans
 - In consultation with **stakeholders, conservationists, wildlife and other** appropriate agencies
 - Describe **threats with emphasis on national and state priorities**
 - **Goals and strategies**
 - Program to **monitor/measure progress**
- \$10,000,000 annual appropriation authorized

State and Private Forestry Redesign

- National Assessment
- State Forest Resource Assessments
- State Response Plans

National Assessment

- **Conserve Working Forest Landscapes**
 - Risk of Development (FOTE)
 - Woody Biomass production potential (FIA)
 - Forest Landscape Fragmentation (Ritter-FOTE)
- **Protect Forests from Harm**
 - Wildfire Risk (LANDFIRE)
 - Insect and Disease Risk (FS-FHTET)
- **Enhance Benefits Associated with Trees and Forests**
 - Fish and Wildlife Habitat (T&E occurrence from Natureserve)
 - Water Quality (TBD)
 - Wildland Urban Interface

National Assessment

- Produce through a web-based geospatial decision support system.
- Phase I will identify conditions, trends and opportunities for investment.
- Phase II will provide user interface and incorporate state and regional data.

State Forest Resource Assessments

To ensure that S&PF resources are being focused on **high priority areas** with the greatest opportunity to achieve **meaningful outcomes**. Each State will **work collaboratively with key partners and stakeholders** to:

- Describe **forest conditions and ownerships**.
- Identify **forestry related benefits and services**.
- Highlight **trends** and issues of concern.
- Delineate **priority forest landscapes**.
- Outline **strategies for addressing critical issues**.

State Response Plans

- Describe how states will invest federal program dollars and other available resources to address both **national and state priorities**.
- Describe how proposed activities will accomplish **national program objectives** and respond to performance measures.
- Include **timeline** for implementation.
- Provide detailed budget – incl. opportunities to leverage non-federal resources
- Identify **partner/stakeholder involvement**.
- Identify **strategies for monitoring outcomes** and revising action as needed.

Existing Program Guidelines

- **Forest Stewardship Program**
- **Forest Legacy Program**
- **Urban and Community Forestry Program**
- **Cooperative Fire Protection**

All of these programs currently require fairly comprehensive, inclusive, statewide planning.

State Forest Stewardship Plans

- Support related State and Forest Service strategic plans.
- Must be updated as needed, but no less frequently than every five years.
- Address **emerging issues, changing forest resource management priorities, program emphases, program delivery partnerships,** and other factors affecting program implementation.

State Forest Stewardship Plans

Must be action-oriented and multi-disciplinary in scope, and include or address the following:

- Baseline data on the **forest resources** of the State.
- Forest resource **threats and opportunities**, both environmental and socio-economic.
- Working **partnerships** with other agencies and organizations, particularly those that are part of, or complement program delivery strategies and systems.
- Management **problems, opportunities and objectives** associated with **intermingled** federal, State and private **land ownership patterns** within the State.

State Forest Stewardship Plans

- **Guided by the following stewardship principles (*NASF Principles and Guides for a Well Managed Forest*):**
 - **Contribute to the conservation and biological diversity of the forest and landscape in which it resides.**
 - **Maintain and improve productive capacity.**
 - **Maintain the Health and Vigor of the Forest and its Landscape/Watershed.**
 - **Protect Soil and Water Resources.**
 - **Consider Carbon Cycles.**
 - **Consider Socio-Economic Benefits.**
 - **Comply with Applicable Laws and Rules.**

State Forest Stewardship Plans

- Identify, describe and **spatially define important forest resource areas** where program outreach and activity will be emphasized.
- Establishment of **program focus areas** is intended to enable the efficient, strategic use of limited program resources where they will address current **State resource management priorities and produce the most benefit** in terms of important forest resource values.

Forest Legacy AON

- Define the Eligibility Criteria to be used in the identification of **important forest areas** (Forest Legacy Areas).
- Determine through analysis what defines “**threatened**” and “**environmentally important forests**”.
- Develop in **consultation with SFSCC** and approved by the State lead agency.

Forest Legacy AON

- The **present and future threat** of conversion of forest areas to nonforest uses. States are responsible for defining the conversion threat(s);
- Historic uses of forest areas, and **trends and projected future uses** of forest resources;
- Current **ownership patterns** and size of tracts, and trends and projected future ownership patterns;
- Cultural resources that can be effectively protected;
- Outstanding geological features;
- Threatened and endangered species;
- Other ecological values;
- Public recreational opportunities;
- Protected land in the State, to the extent practical, including Federal, State, and municipal lands and land trust organizations lands;
- Issues identified by the SFSCC and in the **public involvement process**.

Forest Legacy AON

- **Public participation and involvement** in the AON preparation is a State responsibility.
- States are encouraged to cooperate in the identification of FLAs that **cross State boundaries and to work together to coordinate** acquisitions of lands or interests in lands that have complementary purposes.

Urban and Community Forestry

The State's urban and community forestry Strategic Plan reflects **priorities** for the State's UCF Program.

- Ways to address this program element:
 - Incorporate urban and community forestry actions into a State's **statewide forest plan**;
 - Develop a separate urban and community forestry Strategic Plan; and/or
 - Incorporate urban and community forestry action items in an **existing document used for State-wide forest planning purposes.**

Urban and Community Forestry

- Strategic Plans should address **State-wide actions** necessary to deliver the UCF Program and meet both State and Federal Program goals and objectives.
- **Public participation** should be invited and considered in the development, review, and or revision of the State's urban and community forestry Strategic Plan.
- Strategic Plan revision should occur as necessary, but at least at five (5) year intervals.

Cooperative Fire Protection

FSM 3131 requires Regions to produce a Five-year Cooperative Fire Protection Plan

- Provides documentation and guidance for Forest Service cooperative fire protection programs
- Provides direction for establishing annual **program priorities within each State**
- Contains information applicable to the Forest Service planning and budgeting process.
- Provides the opportunity for State Foresters to participate directly in the development of program plans.
- Program plans may be used to support grant applications.