



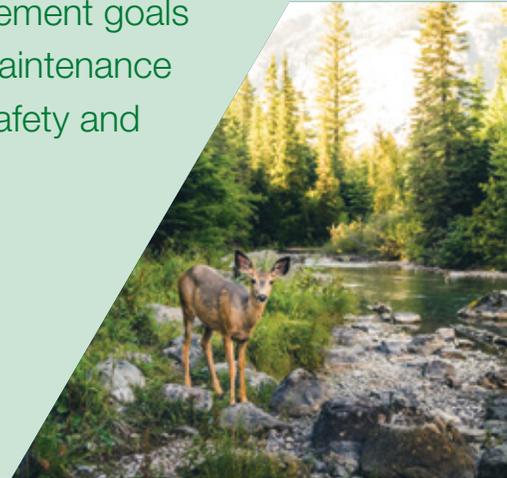
Forestry

STEWARDSHIP CONTRACTING AUTHORITY

- Grants the Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) authority to enter agreements to increase forest and rangeland resiliency to insects, disease, flood, fire, and other natural pressures
- Allows USFS and BLM to consider the value of natural resources removed, i.e. timber, when budgeting for a restoration project
- Authority is part of the Healthy Forests Initiative to enhance fish and wildlife habitat and provide a source of income and employment for local and rural communities.

AWWG Recommendations: Stewardship Contracting Authority

- Expand stewardship contracting authority to other federal agencies, and expand land management goals to include limited road maintenance work enhancing public safety and recreational access



HEALTHY FOREST RESERVE PROGRAM

- The Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP) helps landowners restore, enhance, and protect private forestland with 10-year restoration agreements and 30-year or permanent easements.

AWWG Recommendations: Healthy Forest Reserve Program

- Reauthorize the Healthy Forest Reserve Program at no less than \$12 million annually
- Expand eligibility to include state-identified Species of Greatest Conservation Need

For more information, please visit www.trcp.org/farmbill
or contact Alex Maggos (amaggos@trcp.org)

GOOD NEIGHBOR AUTHORITY

- Good Neighbor Authority supports partnerships between the USFS, BLM, and state and local natural resource agencies to restore watersheds, enhance rangelands, and improve forest management activities on public lands.
- Covered activities include treating insect- and disease-infected trees, reducing hazardous fuels, and other activities improving fish and wildlife habitat.

WILDFIRE FUNDING

- Increasing frequency and severity of wildfires are eroding the Forest Service budget, as more funds divert from USFS programs towards fire suppression.
- At current pace, fire suppression would take up 67% of Forest Service budget by 2021.
- In 2015, wildfire suppression costs totaled a record \$2.6 billion, and 2017 will almost certainly surpass that amount.

AWWG Recommendations: Good Neighbor Authority

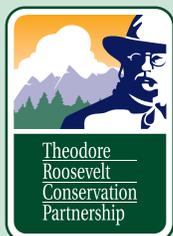
- Expand GNA by removing the exception for forest road maintenance to allow for access to project areas for restoration work.

AWWG Recommendations: Fire Funding

- Freeze the rolling ten-year average used to calculate fire suppression funding, which erodes the USFS budget
- Tap into disaster funding for extraordinarily costly fires, including those calculated in the 10-year average

Additional AWWG Recommendations

- Grant USDA Secretary waiver authority to allow designated wildlife practices on non-federal public land, where restoration of such land benefit eligible lands.
- Support post-harvest flooding of agricultural fields in areas of high historic wetland loss.
- Promote prescribed fire and grazing to benefit wildlife
- Support native vegetation for conservation practices on private lands



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