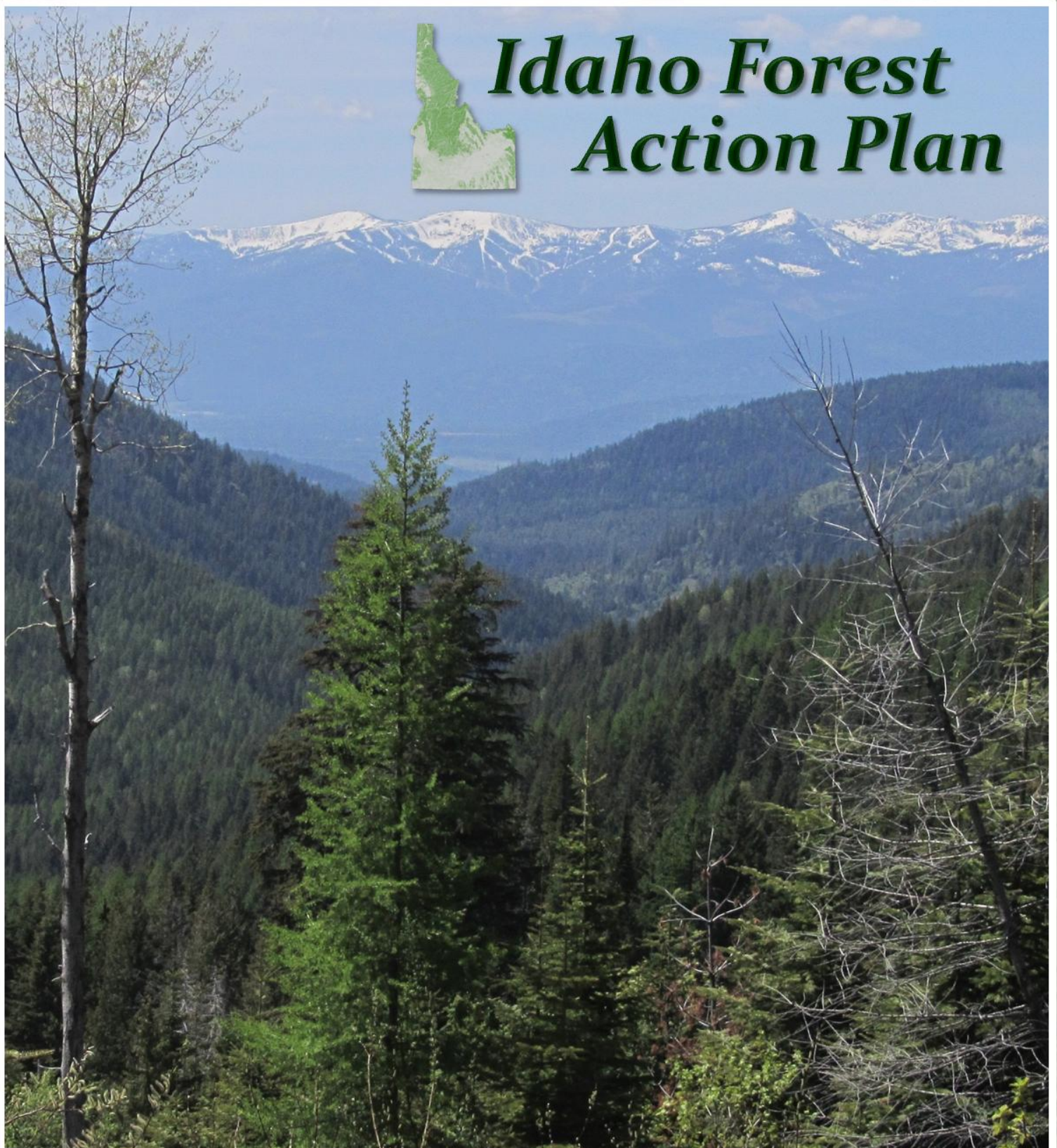




Idaho Forest Action Plan



ADDENDUM 1

**REPORT ON
ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2008-2015**



September 2015

Cover photo: Selkirk Range: looking west across Purcell Trench; *photo by David Stephenson*

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Letters from Leadership

Healthy Forests from Main Street to Mountaintop

A Message from Idaho's State Forester - David Groeschl



Five years ago, Idaho created its first Forest Action Plan, a set of pro-active solutions to address critical issues within our forests. Our vision is to provide healthy forests for all Idahoans and the work reflected in this report leads us in this direction. I am pleased with the remarkable accomplishments highlighted in this report and proud of the work of staff and our collective partners.

IDL has a long history of working with landowners, conservation groups, industry, agencies and organizations, and our partnerships are more important than ever. Together we are tackling issues that face our urban and rural forests. We are reducing threats from insects, disease, wildfire and invasive weeds and improving water and air quality, wildlife habitat, recreation and forest markets.

With 21 million acres of forestland in Idaho, our Forest Action Plan guides work in priority areas to ensure the wise investment of funds. Now and into the future, we will continue to target our efforts and work with our partners to leave a legacy of healthy forests for all Idahoans.



Message from the Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council - Ken Knoch, Vice Chair

The Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council (ILRCC) is a diverse group comprised of 23 members representing federal, state, local and non-profit organizations who assist the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) by guiding collaboration and implementation of the Idaho Forest Action Plan (FAP). FAP identifies key threats to and benefits from forests in Idaho – from Main Street to mountaintop – and strategies to address these issues through IDL forestry assistance programs. Integrating efforts between programs is a key strategy of FAP, as it increases efficiency of limited staff and resources and leads to improved forest health.

As you read in this report, the strategic vision behind forming the ILRCC is working. As members expand their understanding of forestry and fire issues, our collective ability to provide strategic direction toward FAP implementation has helped to better address the critical issues within Idaho's rural and urban forests. Further, this knowledge benefits council members in their regular jobs and their interaction with the organizations they represent.

ILRCC members are proud of the accomplishments summarized in this report, and we look forward to the opportunities before us. Together, we are working to enhance Idaho's forests!



Executive Summary

This report summarizes the efforts of the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and partners from 2008 through 2015 in addressing seven key issues identified in the Idaho Forest Action Plan (FAP). Issues within Idaho forests include:

Threats to forests:

- * Continued decline of forest health
- * Increased occurrence of large and intense (uncharacteristic wildfires)
- * Pressure of development, and recreation in undesignated areas

Benefits from forests:

- * Enhanced water quality and quantity
- * Improved air quality
- * Wildlife habitat and biodiversity
- * Sustainable markets for wood and forest products

This document provides information for project partners, agencies, landowners, collaborative groups and the public on large-scale actions to address these issues. Following this summary, FAP goals, strategies, Priority Landscape Areas (PLAs), the Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council (ILRCC), two project highlights, and Forest Legacy Program accomplishments are described in more detail. Project summaries, located at the end of this report, illustrate the diversity of work funded by the USFS State and Private Forestry grants and partner resources.

Idaho's Forest Action Plan is the guiding document that directed actions and accomplishments in this report. FAP is available on line at <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/forestry/forest-action/index.html>

A summary of FAP accomplishments:

Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council Forms

With the formation of the Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council (ILRCC), IDL achieved FAP Goal #6 –to create an integrated framework for implementing the FAP. This action **consolidated IDL's three advisory groups** (Forest Stewardship, Community Forestry, and the Idaho Fire Plan Working Group) into one integrated advisory group.

Formed in 2012, ILRCC coordinates with stakeholders across all State and Private Forestry (S&PF) programs, assists the State Forester in implementing the FAP, reviews policy issues, and selects projects to compete for Landscape Scale Restoration, Forest Legacy and Hazard Fuel Reduction funds.



This integrated approach focuses on strategic delivery of Idaho's forestry assistance programs, issues of importance in high priority landscapes, and opportunities for partnership efforts that further leverage resources and overall success.

Implementing Idaho's Forest Action Plan

Projects based on FAP strategies and developed with multiple partners across land ownerships helped to achieve FAP goals, reducing threats to and increasing benefits from Idaho forests. Below is a summary of projects funded in part by the USDA Forest Service and partner resources that address national priorities to conserve, protect and enhance forest resources.

- Over \$4.3 million in grants and \$7.4 million in partner contributions **funded 20 Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) projects**. Work includes:
 - Ten LSR projects completed with 10 additional projects currently underway
 - Twenty Forest Stewardship Plans
 - Tree canopy assessments on 267,000 urban forest acres for 18 of Idaho's largest cities
 - Twenty-eight educational workshops across the state for landowners and resource professionals
 - More than 6,500 acres treated to mitigate threats from wildfire, insect and disease, and tree canopy loss that increases benefits from wildlife and biodiversity, water quality and quantity, air quality and forest markets
- **Hazardous fuels reduced on nearly 10,000 acres within 20 Idaho Counties** with Western Fire Manager (WFM) grants to significantly lower risk from wildland fire for thousands of rural and urban landowners
- **13,575 acres of productive forestland protected from development** through conservation easements purchased by IDL with Federal Forest Legacy Program funds. By 2016, Idaho will have an additional 23,131 acres under Forest Legacy easements, for a total of 36,706 acres that will remain productive, working forests forever.

Additional Accomplishments:

With federal Forest Legacy Program funding, IDL purchased conservation easements on nearly 10,800 acres of productive forestland in the McArthur Lake Wildlife Corridor, ensuring these lands will remain forever as working forests, producing forest-based products, providing jobs and strengthening the local economy. These easements assure future timber harvests, protect critical wildlife habitat, and enhance recreation opportunities in one of the most important wildlife linkage zones in the region and a conservation area of national significance. <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/forestry/forest-legacy/index.html>

Two complimentary canopy assessments calculated the 2.4 million existing trees in Idaho's Treasure Valley, valued at \$3 billion, annually provide \$9.6 million in ecosystem benefits. The study identified and prioritized over 1 million future planting sites, quantifying their benefit to stormwater management, energy conservation and air quality improvement. Partners formed the Treasure Valley Canopy Network, a group dedicated to using the data to inform sustainable regional development. <http://www.tvcanopy.net/>

Guided by the tenets of the National Cohesive Wildfire Management Strategy, the Island Park Sustainable Fire Community collaborative formed to develop and implement a local strategy to mitigate wildfire risks. Educational events, homeowner assessments and treatments are helping create resilient landscapes, fire adapted communities and safe and effective wildfire response. <http://islandparkfirecommunity.com/>

In the years ahead, IDL will build upon these accomplishments and seek opportunities to work with our partners to ensure healthy forests for all Idahoans.



Idaho's Forest Action Plan

In late 2008, the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL), along with partners and stakeholders, initiated work on a Forest Action Plan (FAP)¹ for Idaho's rural and urban forests. Completed in 2010, FAP is a long-term, comprehensive, coordinated strategy for investing state, federal, and leveraged partner resources.

Purpose

The purpose of Idaho's Forest Action Plan is to help provide focus to landowners, agencies, collaborative groups, and partnership efforts in identifying projects and activities to reduce threats to, and increase the benefits of, Idaho's forestlands. From communities to rural forestlands, focusing work in the highest priority areas allows leveraging of funds and coordination across ownerships as a highly effective way to address the most critical forest resource issues in Idaho at a scale where significant, positive changes can be realized.

Goals, Strategies and Priority Landscapes

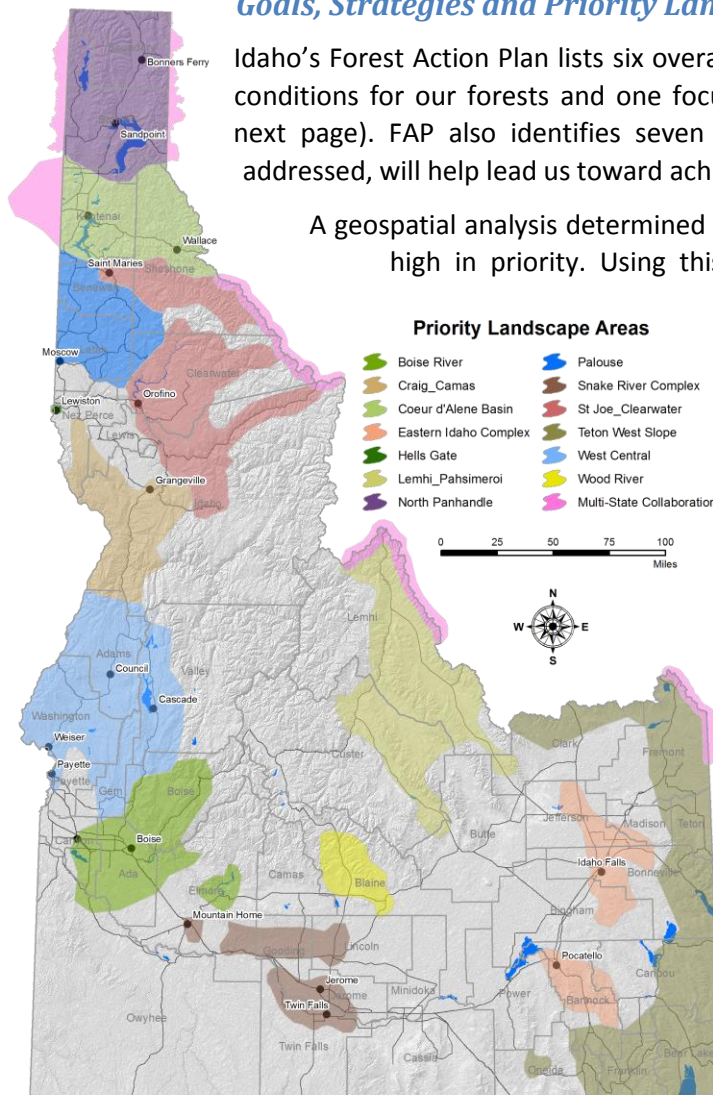
Idaho's Forest Action Plan lists six overarching goals, five of which describe the desired conditions for our forests and one focusing on a framework for implementation (see next page). FAP also identifies seven critical issues in Idaho (see page 15) that, if addressed, will help lead us toward achieving these goals.

A geospatial analysis determined areas where multiple issues ranked high or very high in priority. Using this information, stakeholders identified thirteen

Priority Landscape Areas (PLAs) and multi-state PLAs to help focus efforts where the need and benefits are greatest.

The Forest Action Plan identifies strategies, based on the goals, which address the high priority issues within each PLA.

The FAP strategies apply across all ownerships; however, FAP does not replace existing strategic or management plans for any agency, organization or individual, nor does it imply that lands not within a PLA are unimportant. Rather, it identifies opportunities for willing partners to align their plans, leverage resources, and work together as a way to gain the greatest value and benefits from limited resources in high-priority areas.



Idaho's Priority Landscape Areas

¹ <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/forestry/forest-action/index.html>

Idaho Forest Action Plan Goals:

- Goal 1:** *Idaho's Forests are diverse and resilient to climatic changes and other natural and unique stresses*
- Goal 2:** *The ecosystem benefits that Idaho forests provide are identified, maintained and enhanced*
- Goal 3:** *Forestlands with the highest benefits are identified, protected and enhanced*
- Goal 4:** *Forest ecosystems are resilient to human activities (development, recreation, forest practices, noxious weeds, etc)*
- Goal 5:** *Forest-based wood products markets are economically vibrant and sustainable*
- Goal 6:** *Idaho has an integrated framework for implementing the Idaho Forest Action Plan, which guides project development and legislative/policy actions. The framework will promote cohesive management of Idaho's urban and rural forests.*

FAP Implementation

The IDL implements FAP through its Forestry Assistance Bureau and with Federal funding provided through USDA Forest Service's State and Private Forestry (S&PF) Programs. These programs include Forest Health, State Fire Assistance, Forest Stewardship, Urban and Community Forestry, Forest Legacy, and Conservation Education. Descriptions of each of these programs are found on pages 11-15 in the FAP Strategy document.

Forest Action Plan Strategies guided the efforts described in this report. These projects were funded in part through western states grants programs and other special funding. These US Forest Service State and Private Forestry funding sources include:

Fire Mitigation Grants: The purpose of these grants is to mitigate risk from wildland fire within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), emphasizing hazard fuel reduction, information and education, assessment and planning, and monitoring through community and landowner action. Grants include Community Protection Program² funds for projects on private lands that are adjacent to federal lands and Western Fire Manager Grants for projects on private lands that are not adjacent to federal lands.

Landscape Scale Restoration Grants (LSR): Previously known as the Western Competitive Grants, the purpose of these grants is to implement projects identified within State Forest Action Plans and to address the following three national priorities.

- **Conserve and manage working forest landscapes for multiple values and uses**
- **Enhance public benefits from trees and forests**
- **Protect forests from harm**

Forest Legacy Project Grants: Projects compete nationally for these grants. States use these funds to purchase conservation easements (development rights) from willing landowners to protect and enhance high priority forestlands within Idaho in perpetuity.

Special Funding Sources: IDL received American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to improve rural and urban forest health and to reduce hazardous fuels. Funds were also awarded for pilot projects implementing the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, which focuses on creating fire-adapted communities, resilient landscapes and safe and effective wildfire response.

² Community Protection Program funding comes from the National Forest System branch of the US Forest Service
Idaho Forest Action Plan Accomplishments: 2008-2015

Accomplishments and Project Highlights

Creating the Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council

One of the six goals of Idaho's Forest Action Plan is to have in place an integrated framework for implementing the plan and to ensure it remains an active and effective document.

Historically, S&PF programs across the country have operated independent of each other, with program staff hired to oversee each, and with program-specific advisory councils. The Idaho FAP departs from this program-centric model and focuses on how best to address the seven key forest-related issues through partnerships and integration of S&PF programs. This integrated framework provides opportunity to work collaboratively on issues that cross program boundaries.

In 2011, an oversight group representing each of Idaho's three programmatic advisory groups³ reviewed how the groups were operating and provided recommendations on how they might work more cooperatively to address FAP priorities. Recognizing substantial overlap among each group's focus, and the great potential to achieve effective statewide program outcomes more strategically, they recommended consolidation of the three advisory groups into a single Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council (ILRCC).

ILRCC Duties

- *Assist the State Forester with implementing FAP and reviewing policy issues.*
- *Facilitate sound land management across all land ownerships with the overarching objective "Healthy Forests for all Idahoans."*
- *Identify and coordinate funding opportunities to address FAP strategies and objectives. Coordinate S&PF grant and other funding opportunities. Include partner and stakeholder involvement and leverage.*

Council Representation

Comprised of 23 members, ILRCC represents key S&PF program partners and stakeholders from federal, state, local and non-profit organizations. They meet twice a year to guide collaboration and implementation of FAP.

The formation of ILRCC achieves FAP Goal 6.

Learn more about ILRCC: <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/forestry/ilrcc/index.html>



Photo Credit: David Stephenson

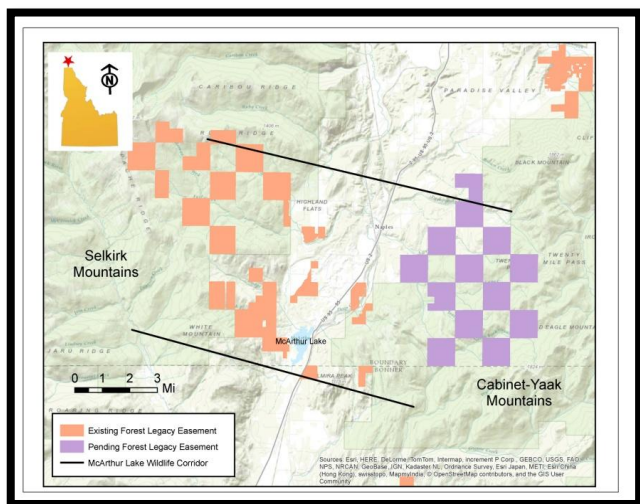
ILRCC members learn about City of Boise Forestry Issues and Projects from City Forester Brian Jorgenson

³ Idaho Forest Stewardship Advisory Committee, Idaho Community Forestry Advisory Council and Idaho Fire Plan Working Group

McArthur Lake Forest Legacy Projects

Nearly 10,800 acres of productive forestland in the McArthur Lake Wildlife Corridor are being maintained as working forests with two Forest Legacy conservation easements.

Located in Northern Idaho, the corridor is a national, state and local conservation priority area, critical for the survival and recovery of several threatened and endangered species, most notably grizzly bear.



Orange blocks represent existing FLP easements and purple represent pending FLP easements.

Partnerships Make it Happen



A view of McArthur Lake and the forests to the north. 10,800 acres of working forestland is protected within the west half of this corridor. Another Forest Legacy easement will protect 8,000 acres to the east in 2015.

Conserving these lands as working forests is extremely important to the region's economy. Collectively, these forests are capable of sustainably producing 5.5 million board feet of timber per year.

Easement Acquisitions Continue

The map on the left shows existing (orange) and pending (purple) easements. The first easement, acquired in 2010, protects 3,943 acres, and in 2014, 6,847 adjacent acres were added.

In 2015, easements will be acquired on an additional 8,000 acres, expanding the corridor to nearly 19,000 acres. These lands will be protected from development in perpetuity.

Landowners, conservation organizations and federal and state agencies are working together to strategically conserve and protect this important area. Partners include Trust for Public Lands, The Nature Conservancy and the Vital Ground Foundation.

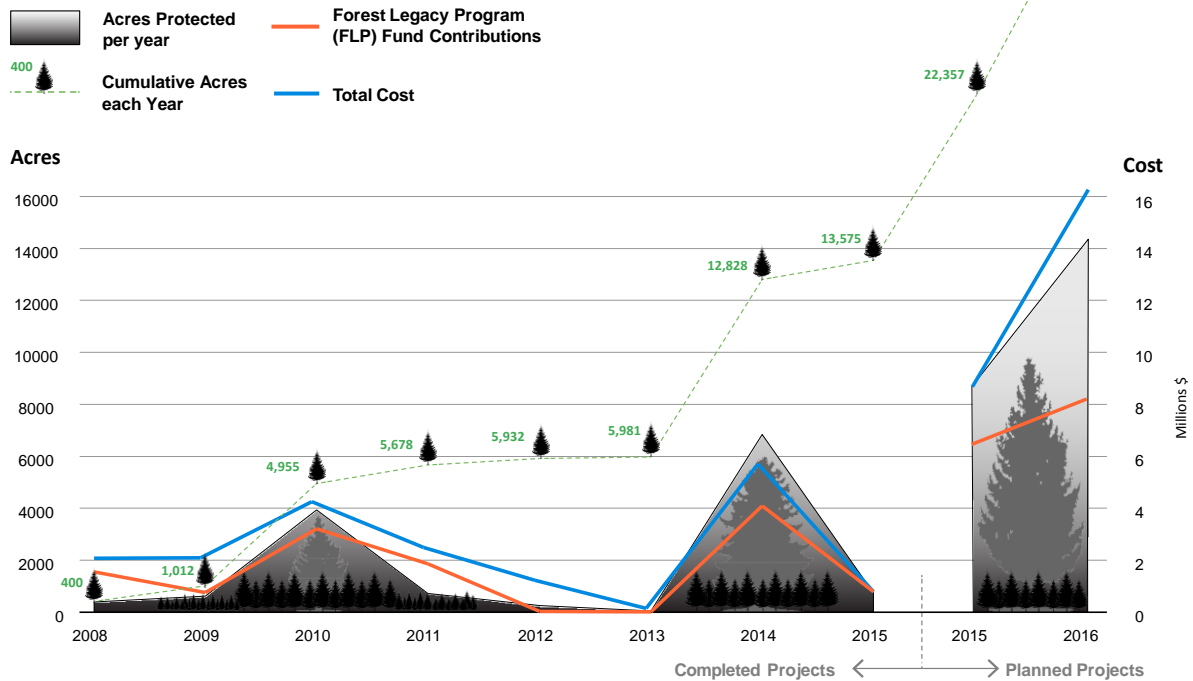
The easements are valued at \$9.9 million, with \$7.3 million coming from Forest Legacy funds and \$2.6 million from landowner and partner donations.

Lands enrolled in the Forest Legacy Program restrict development and mineral extraction and require sustainable forestry practices to protect other values such as water, cultural resources, and fish and wildlife habitat.

For more information, visit IDL's Forest Legacy Program: <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/forestry/forest-legacy/index.html>

Forest Legacy accomplishments address FAP Goal 3.

FOREST LEGACY



Graphic courtesy of Ecosystem Sciences Foundation

Idaho Forest Legacy Projects 2008-2015

The table below summarizes the individual easements acquired by IDL. Project status indicates if IDL has closed/completed all documentation related to the project.

Forest Legacy projects partners include private forest landowners, Trust for Public Lands, The Nature Conservancy, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Lands, USDA Forest Service

Project	Status	Acres	Grant Funds	Landowner/Partner Match
Gold Creek 1	Complete	400	\$1,552,800	\$517,680
Gold Creek 2	Complete	243	\$740,200	\$506,571
Trow Creek	Complete	369	\$15,000	
McArthur Lake	Complete	3,943	\$3,215,485	\$1,031,967
Bane Creek Neighbors	Complete	1,026	\$1,862,091	\$620,709
McArthur Lake Addition	Complete	6,847	\$4,095,000	\$1,600,000
Boundary Connections	Active	1,461	\$2,038,897	\$679,633
McArthur Lake East	Active	8,068	\$5,225,000	\$1,745,000
Clagstone Meadows	Active	13,093	\$5,500,000	\$7,155,000
Hall Mountain	Active	1,256	\$2,700,000	\$900,000

Treasure Valley Tree Canopy Analysis Project

The trees within our communities comprise a true working forest. They reduce runoff from stormwater, lower energy use, filter dangerous pollutants out of the air, absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide and improve human health. This \$300,000 LSR project, funded in 2010, implements two strategies within the Boise River PLA: to better understand the value of existing canopy, and through partnerships increase tree canopy in targeted locations to maximize their value.

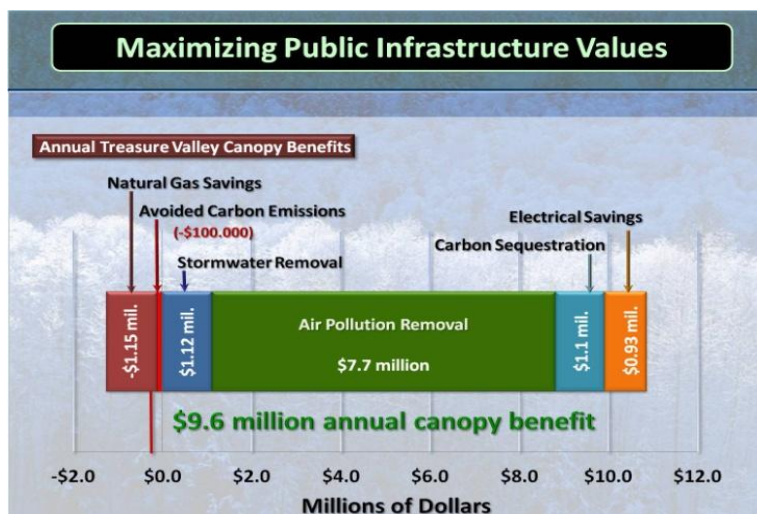
To understand tree canopy value, IDL and project partners completed a geospatial analysis and plot-based i-Tree Eco assessment over a 240-square mile area encompassing nine cities in Idaho's most populous region.



Photo Credit: Idaho Power

Local arborists in the Treasure Valley teach homeowners how to properly plant their new trees as part of Idaho Power's pilot Energy Saving Trees program

Blending these two assessments, the geospatial tools enable users to model scenarios for specific issues. The software models where canopy increases will be most beneficial, and provides economic value for energy savings, stormwater reduction and air quality improvement to any point in the next fifty years.



Study Findings

2.4 million existing city trees are valued at \$3 billion and annually provide \$9.6 million in ecosystem benefits, see graph at left. Additionally, over 1 million planting sites were identified to aid stormwater management, energy conservation and air quality improvement.

Project Outcomes

The Treasure Valley Canopy Network—a diverse coalition of project partners continues to work collaboratively, using the data and tools to address critical regional issues. www.tvcanopy.net

Examples of the Canopy Network efforts include:

- Idaho Power's Energy Saving Trees program provides trees to utility customers to plant in specific locations around their homes to reduce energy consumption (awarded a 2014 \$300K LSR grant)
- The Boise River Enhancement Network is using project data to inform restoration efforts
- City of Boise, Capital City Development Corporation and Ada County Highway District plan to invest more than \$7 million in green stormwater infrastructure projects based on information from the assessment
- City of Boise Community Forestry is working with homeowners to plant trees on their property
- City planners are using data/tools to model site-specific cost-benefits of strategic landscaping. IDL received a 2014 LSR grant for \$130K to complete a similar assessment in the Idaho Falls and Pocatello area. This project is currently underway. This project addresses FAP Goals 2 and 4.

Island Park - A National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Project

Island Park is a complex of small communities and developments interspersed with forested public lands. The city of Island Park boasts the longest main street in the United States extending 30 miles with clustered developments and businesses along this route. Public Lands surround and are intertwined with the private lands.

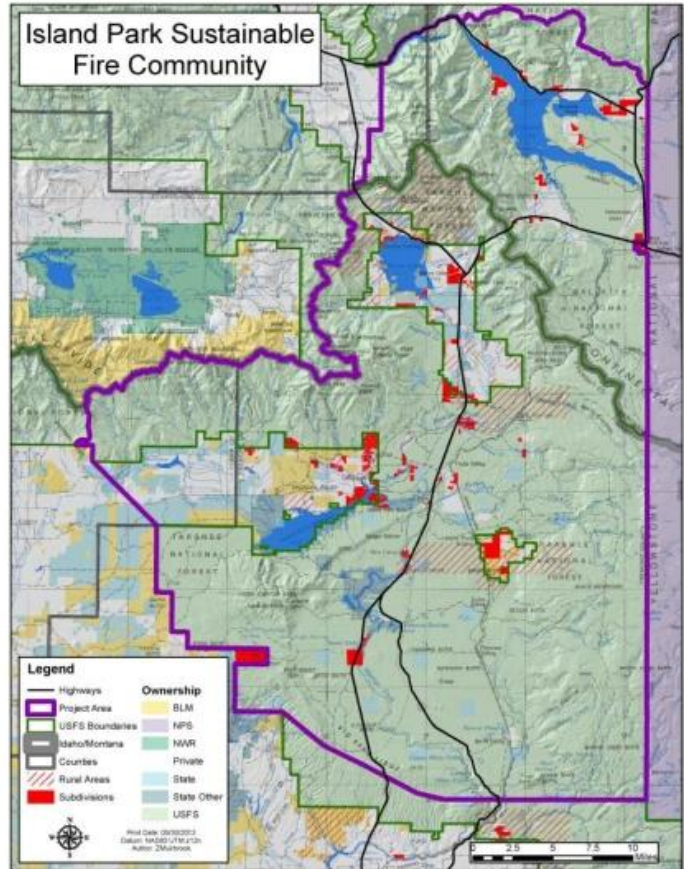
National Cohesive Wildland Fire Strategy funds are helping the local Idaho and adjacent Montana communities create a coordinated strategy that mitigates risk to the communities.

Local Group Forms

A collaborative group, The Island Park Sustainable Fire Community, comprised of federal, state, and local agencies, organizations and citizens formed to develop a sustainable fire-adapted social and ecological community that is resilient and accepting of fire, insect and disease disturbances.

While wildfire and insect outbreaks are infrequent, when they happen, heavy tree mortality occurs over an extensive area. The current forest structure is young and this scenario provides an opportunity for landowners, organizations and agencies to proactively develop and implement a comprehensive strategy and treatments to build a sustainable fire community.

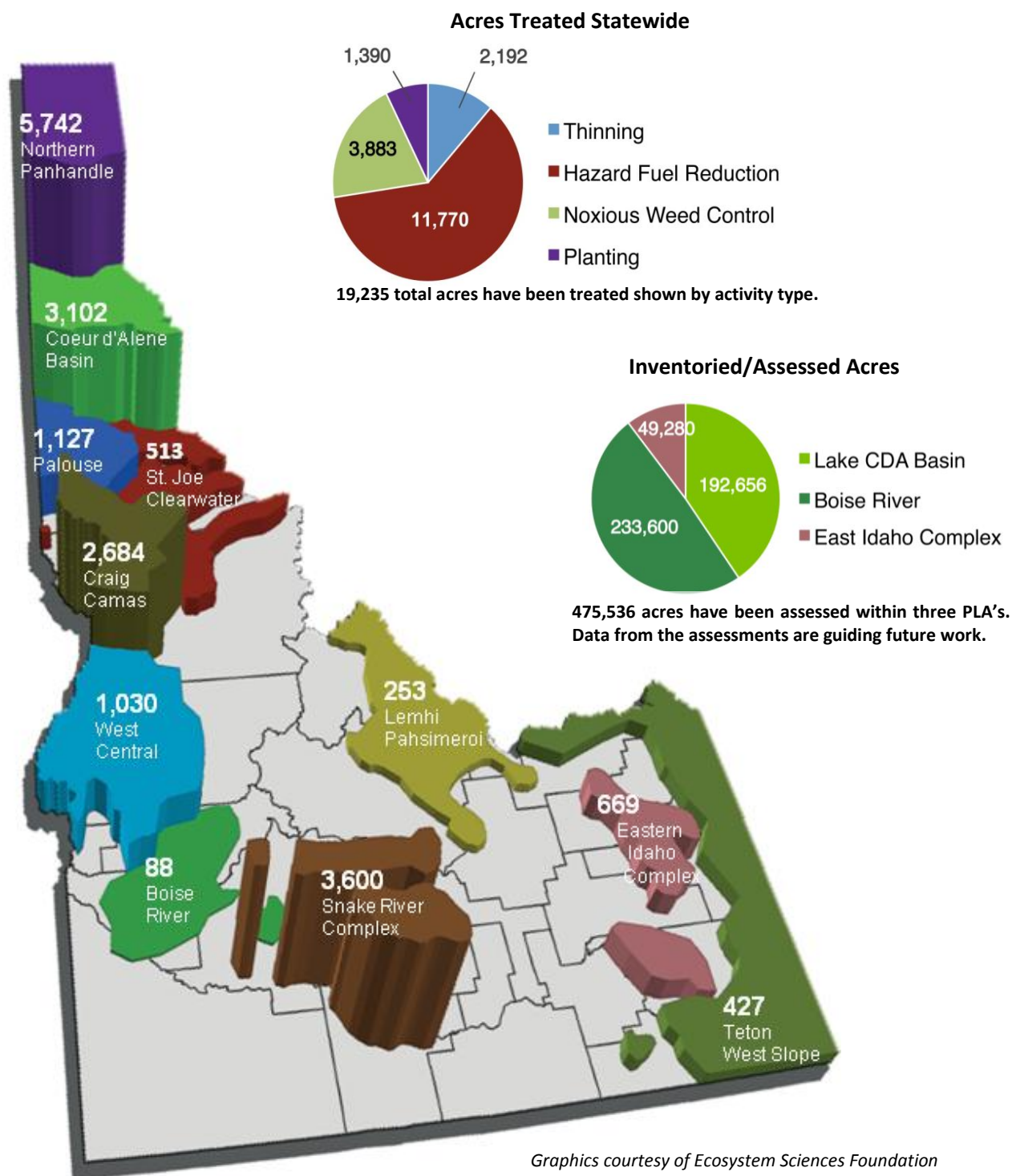
The Island Park project addresses FAP Goals 1 and 6.



The project area is 30 miles long and extends from Ashton, ID into West Yellowstone MT.

Accomplishments

- * Members developed a charter, formed committees, and hired a coordinator to oversee project management.
- * A long-term strategic plan was developed with guidance from the Fire Learning Network.
- * The first Annual Wildfire Awareness Week was held.
- * Four (4) demonstration sites were created to highlight fuel reduction work around homes.
- * Island Park was accepted into the National Fire Adapted Communities Network.
- * A dedicated website was developed <http://islandparkfirecommunity.com/>
- ❖ Education and outreach on fire preparedness, awareness, and risk assessments and treatment of hazardous fuels are scheduled in the years ahead.



The map illustrates the total acres treated within a Priority Landscape Area. Treatments include hazard fuel reduction, thinning, planting and noxious weed control.

Additional Grant Funded Accomplishments⁴

*28 Educational Workshops * 20 Forest Stewardship Plans * 4 Collaborative Groups Formed*

⁴ IDL programmatic accomplishments are not included in this report.
Idaho Forest Action Plan Accomplishments: 2008-2015

Project Summaries

The following pages describe all projects, completed and underway, implemented with funds from the Landscape Scale Restoration (formerly Western Competitive), American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA), Wildfire Mitigation (total includes Western Fire Managers, Community Protection Program and ARRA projects) and National Cohesive Strategy grants.

All projects address issues identified in Idaho's FAP and the national priorities.

Idaho Forest Action Plan Issues

Threats	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest health - insects and disease • Increase occurrence of large and intense wildfires • Pressure from development and undesignated recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality and quantity • Air quality • Wildlife habitat and biodiversity • Sustainable markets for wood and forest products

The National Priorities

Under the 2008 Farm Bill, the US Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters developed national priorities that each state must address within its Forest Action Plan.

On the following pages, the national priorities are identified as coded below:

P	Protect Forests From Harm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Restore fire-adapted lands and reduce risk of wildfire impacts * Identify, manage, and reduce threats to forest and ecosystem health
C	Conserve Working Forest Landscapes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Identify and conserve high priority forest ecosystems and landscapes * Actively and sustainably manage forests
E	Enhance Public Benefits from Trees and Forests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Protect and enhance water quality and quantity * Improve air quality and conserve energy * Assist communities in planning for and reducing forest health risks * Maintain and enhance the economic benefits and values of trees and forests * Protect, conserve, and enhance wildlife and fish habitat * Connect people to trees and forests, and engage them in environmental stewardship activities * Manage trees and forests to mitigate and adapt to global climate change

On the following pages, projects are listed to reflect work done and FAP Goals achieved within each **Priority Landscape Area (PLA)**. The goals described on page 8 are addressed in each project and identified as follows: G1=Goal 1, G2=Goal 2, G3=Goal 3, G4=Goal 4, G5=Goal 5, G6=Goal 6.



Northern Panhandle PLA Projects

Lower Kootenai River Watershed Restoration—LSR

G1, G4

The Lower Kootenai River Watershed is renowned for its wildlife diversity, including threatened and endangered species, productive forests and high relief watersheds that drain into the Kootenai River and north into Canada. This project provides education and outreach to strengthen private forest landowner skills, develops Forest Stewardship Plans, and assesses, prioritizes and implements treatments to improve forest health and riparian function. The project leverages complementary work on 800,000 acres by the Collaborative Forest Restoration Project on adjacent Federal Lands.

Partners include federal, state and local governments, the Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative (KVRI), Boundary Soil and Water Conservation District, The Nature Conservancy, rural fire departments, University of Idaho Forestry Extension and private landowners.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2014	Active	\$300K	\$300K	\$2.2M	\$2.8M	P	C	E

Wildfire Mitigation

G1

Bonner and Boundary Counties treated 2,446 acres with Hazardous Fuels Treatment grant funds provided through IDL. Projects are identified in the County Wildfire Protection Plans. Treatments reduced vegetation density and created fuel breaks, increasing defensible space on private ownership. Practices include thinning, limbing, chipping, mastication, burning and planting. The return on these efforts is an educated public, modification of local fire behavior, increased fire responder safety and improved community wildfire protection.

County	Acres treated	# of Projects	Grant Funds 2008-2014	Status	National Priorities		
Bonner	1215	7	\$1.3M	Ongoing	P		
Boundary	1,231	11	\$1.4M	Ongoing	P		



Coeur d'Alene Basin PLA Projects

Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Canopy Assessment - LSR

G2, G4

A cooperative effort between the IDL and local governments developed a GIS analysis of tree canopy that calculates the benefit of current and future increases in tree canopy to stormwater mitigation and water conservation and quality efforts. The analysis identified existing vegetative and impervious land cover and modeled future canopy benefits. The data assists local planning and guides forestry and development activities to maximize public benefits from green infrastructure.

Partners included the Panhandle Lakes Resource Conservation and Development Council, city and county departments.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2008	Complete	\$248K		\$62K	\$310K			E

Lake Coeur d'Alene NE Tributaries Watershed Action Plan—LSR

G1, G2, G4

The 65,000-acre Northeast Lake Coeur d'Alene Watershed has experienced significant adverse changes, primarily from development and recreation pressures. Additionally, poor management practices, fire suppression, and invasive species threaten the forest ecology and water resources. This project will identify high priority resource issues and mitigation strategies within the watershed, develop Forest Stewardship Plans, provide landowner education and conduct treatments.

Partners include Kootenai Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District, US Forest Service, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, University of Idaho, the local Watershed Advisory Group and county and city governments.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2014	Active	\$250K		\$1.5M	\$2M	P	C	E

Silver Valley Ecological Restoration and Economic Development -LSR

G1, G5

A key component of this project was formation of the Shoshone County Forest Health Collaborative to promote forest restoration within the county. A wood products feasibility study was completed to inform economic development initiatives, 53 acres were thinned, 1 demonstration site developed, and 4 educational events held.

Partners include Shoshone County, federal, state and local governments, rural fire districts, industry, private landowners, businesses, conservation groups.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2009	Complete	\$300K LSR	\$300K	\$120K	\$720K	P	C	E
2010	Complete	\$30K Energy			\$30K	P		E

Silver Valley Stimulus

G1, G5

American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funds were granted to Shoshone County. 846 acres were treated to improve forest health, and fuel breaks were created on 261 acres to protect several communities.

Partners include Shoshone County.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2009	Complete	\$1.8M			\$1.8M	P		E

Kootenai/Bonner County Stimulus—Urban Forest Health Improvement

G2

American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funds were granted to the Cities of Coeur d'Alene, Hayden, Post Falls, and Sandpoint to improve the health of public trees and enhance safety by addressing priority (high-risk) tree maintenance needs. Cities pruned 1,279 and removed 276 trees, and removed 280 stumps.

Partners include Cities of Coeur d'Alene, Hayden, Post Falls and Sandpoint.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2009	Complete	469K			469K	P		E

Wildfire Mitigation

G1

Kootenai and Shoshone Counties treated 1,268 acres with Hazardous Fuels Treatment grant funds provided through IDL. Projects are identified in the County Wildfire Protection Plans. Treatments reduced vegetation density and created fuel breaks, increasing defensible space on private ownership. Practices include thinning, limbing, chipping, mastication, burning and planting. The return on these efforts is an educated public, modification of local fire behavior, increased fire responder safety and improved community wildfire protection.

County	Acres treated	# of Projects	Grant Funds 2008-2014	Status	National Priorities		
Kootenai	907	7	\$1.2M	Ongoing	P		
Shoshone	361	3	\$568K	Ongoing	P		



Palouse PLA Projects

Big Bear Watershed Restoration—LSR

G1, G4

This project focuses work on the most critical 10-miles of stream and adjacent forestlands. Eight Forest Stewardship and Conservation Plans will be completed using information from a detailed assessment of the stream and surrounding riparian areas, also a component of this project. Treatment on approximately 300 acres will improve forest health, mitigate fire threats and improve riparian conditions. This project supports and expands work by partner agencies to restore salmon habitat.

Partners include the Latah Soil and Water Conservation District, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Idaho Office of Species Conservation, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries, Bonneville Power Administration and private landowners.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2012	Active	\$300K	\$300K	\$238K	\$838K	P	C	E

Wildfire Mitigation

G1

Benewah and Latah Counties treated 827 acres with Hazardous Fuels Treatment grant funds provided through IDL. Projects are identified in the County Wildfire Protection Plans. Treatments reduced vegetation density and created fuel breaks, increasing defensible space on private ownership. Practices include thinning, limbing, chipping, mastication, burning and planting. The return on these efforts is an educated public, modification of local fire behavior, increased fire responder safety and improved community wildfire protection.

County	Acres treated	# of Projects	Grant Funds 2008-2014	Status	National Priorities		
Benewah	594	9	\$1M	Ongoing	P		
Latah	233	1	\$300K	Complete	P		



St. Joe/Clearwater PLA Projects

Clear Creek Integrated Restoration—LSR

G1, G4

The Clearwater Basin is renowned for its clear, pristine water, anadromous and resident fisheries, big game species, vast landscapes & scenic vistas. Past management practices and human settlement have altered the landscape and threaten ecological values. This project treats private lands to improve forest health and mitigate fire threats. This work compliments concurrent efforts on federal lands under the Clearwater Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project. Workshops will provide information to landowners on forest practices to reduce weeds, and improve forest health and riparian areas.

Partners include Idaho County, federal, state and local governments, the Idaho County Soil and Water Conservation District, rural fire departments, private landowners, Idaho Office of Species Conservation, Upper Clearwater Weed Management Area Committee, Clearwater Basin Collaborative, and Youth Corps.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2013	Active	\$300K	\$300K	\$806K	\$1.4M	P	C	E

Wildfire Mitigation

G1

Clearwater County treated 118 acres with Hazardous Fuels Treatment grant funds provided through IDL. Projects are identified in the County's Wildfire Protection Plan. Treatments reduced vegetation density and created fuel breaks, increasing defensible space on private ownership. Practices include thinning, limbing, chipping, mastication, burning and planting. The return on these efforts is an educated public, modification of local fire behavior, increased fire responder safety and improved community wildfire protection.

County	Acres treated	# of Projects	Grant Funds 2008-2014	Status	National Priorities		
Clearwater	118	2	\$111K	Complete	P		



Craig Camas PLA Projects

Craig Mountain Forest Health and Wildlife Habitat Restoration—LSR

G1, G2, G4

Craig Mtn. Wildlife Management Area consists of 120,000 acres of mixed ownership and was created to protect and enhance wildlife, fish habitat, and rare and sensitive species along the lower Snake and Salmon Rivers. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game and Nez Perce County thinned 372 acres, created intermixed strategic fuel breaks and treated over 560 acres of weeds to improve wildlife habitat and forest health and resiliency.

Project partners include Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Nez Perce County, IDL and Craig Mtn. Cooperative Weed Management Group.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2011	Complete	\$275K	\$275K	\$295K	\$845K	P	C	E

Wildfire Mitigation

G1

Idaho and Nez Perce Counties treated 1,648 acres with Hazardous Fuels Treatment grant funds provided through IDL. Projects are identified in the County's Wildfire Protection Plan. Treatments reduced vegetation density and created fuel breaks, increasing defensible space on private ownership. Practices include thinning, limbing, chipping, mastication, burning and planting. The return on these efforts is an educated public, modification of local fire behavior, increased fire responder safety and improved community wildfire protection.

County	Acres treated	# of Projects	Grant Funds 2008-2014	Status	National Priorities		
Idaho	981	6	\$611K	Ongoing	P		
Nez Perce	667	2	\$342K	Complete	P		



West Central PLA Projects

Development Protection in Valley County's Wildland Urban Interface—LSR

G1

The conversion of productive forestlands to development is a critical issue in Valley County. A new county ordinance requires all new subdivisions to have a Wildfire Protection Plan. This project is developing Wildfire Protection Plans in 30 subdivisions platted prior to the ordinance at greatest risk to fire. Treatment will occur in areas of highest need and outreach to stakeholders will ensure understanding of the ordinance requirements.

Partners include local federal, state, county and city governments, rural fire departments, the Valley County Fire Working Group, private forest landowners, and the SW Idaho Woody Biomass Utilization Partnership (WBUP).

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2013	Active	\$300K	\$300K	\$321K	\$921K	P	C	E

Wildfire Mitigation

G1

Adams and Valley Counties treated 807 acres with Hazardous Fuel Treatment Grant funds provided through IDL. Projects are identified in the County Wildfire Protection Plans. Treatments reduce vegetation density and created fuel breaks that increase defensible space on private ownership. Practices include thinning, limbing, chipping, mastication, burning and planting.

Valley County National Cohesive Wildland Fire Strategy Project

With approximately 175 summer camps and conference centers located in Valley County, the target of this project is to improve fire response, evacuations and Firewise® education. A GIS layer is being developed to merge with Valley County's Mobile Risk Assessment to enhance safe wildfire response.

County	Acres treated	# of Projects	Grant Funds 2008-2014	Status	National Priorities		
Adams	86	1	\$47K	Complete	P		
Valley	721	9	\$1.6M	Ongoing	P		
Valley		1	\$121K	Ongoing	P		E



Boise River PLA Projects

Treasure Valley Air Quality Canopy Assessment—LSR

G2, G4

Two complimentary tree canopy assessments were completed in the state's most populous area. Covering 260 square miles and including Boise and eight adjacent communities, these assessments calculated tree canopy benefits to stormwater management, energy reduction and air quality and provided detailed land cover and planting location data that are informing a myriad of projects using trees to address critical issues. The Treasure Valley Canopy Network, comprised of a diverse set of professions, was created and continues to guide ongoing energy, stormwater and human health improvement projects within the Treasure Valley.

Project partners include federal, state, county and city governments, highway districts, Southwest Idaho Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D), Idaho Power, Boise State University, Meridian Technical Magnet School.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities	
2010	Complete	\$300K	\$300K	\$280K	\$880K		E

Treasure Valley Urban Forest Shade Tree Project—LSR

G2, G4

This project will design and implement a cost-effective, sustainable and replicable energy conservation/education program and will plant ~7500 trees in specific locations near buildings to maximize long-term energy efficiency. Data and tools from a recently completed geospatial tree assessment will identify targeted locations and model the value of benefits over time. Results will include increased tree canopy cover in an urban environment, reduced peak energy use through strategic shade tree planting, and increased air quality and stormwater.

Project partners include the Southwest RC&D, Ecosystem Sciences Foundation, Idaho Power, federal, state, county and city governments, Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association and IDL Community Forestry.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities	
2014	Active	\$300K	\$300K	\$245K	\$854K	C	E

Grimes Mores Riparian Restoration										G1, G2, G4		
Site Prioritization and Planning, and Riparian and Wetland Restoration Planting guides were developed as well as two training handbooks for utilizing volunteers. Volunteers planted 975 trees and shrubs to restore ¼-mile of stream. The project removed mine tailings and restored new floodplain.	Partners include Trout Unlimited, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Office of Species Conservation, private landowners, and volunteers.											
	Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities					
	2009	Complete	\$189K	\$189K	\$92K	\$470K		C	E			
Ada Risk Map										G1, G4		
The City of Boise and Ada County have the state’s highest population density and when coupled with high wildfire risk, the project area has a high loss potential to people and property. Project partners will complete a detailed risk assessment and create a wildfire risk map with robust interactive software to guide long-term initiatives to mitigate wildfire threats to lives, properties and the environment, and increase public awareness.	Partners include Ada County (Ada Co), Boise State University (BSU), Cities of Boise (Boise), Eagle, Kuna, Meridian and Star											
	Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities					
	2015	Active	\$200K	\$200K	\$312K	\$712K	P					
Ada/Canyon County Stimulus—Urban Forest Health Improvement										G2		
American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funds were granted to the Cities of Boise, Caldwell, Eagle, Garden City, Kuna, Meridian, and Nampa to improve the health of public trees and enhance safety by addressing priority (high-risk) tree maintenance needs. Cities pruned 2,723 and removed 239 trees, and removed 189 stumps.	Partners include Cities of Boise, Caldwell, Eagle, Garden City, Kuna, Meridian and Nampa.											
	Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities					
	2009	Complete	469K			469 K	P		E			
Wildfire Mitigation										G1		
Elmore County treated 78 acres with S&PF Hazardous Fuels Treatment grant funds provided through IDL. Projects are identified in the County’s Wildfire Protection Plan. Treatments reduced vegetation density and created fuel breaks, increasing defensible space on private ownership. Practices include thinning, limbing, chipping, mastication, burning and planting. The return on these efforts is an educated public, modification of local fire behavior, increased fire responder safety and improved community wildfire protection.	County	Acres treated	# of Projects	Grant Funds 2008-2014	Status	National Priorities						
	Elmore	78	2	\$93K	Complete	P						



Snake River Complex PLA Projects

Wildfire Mitigation

G1

Lincoln County treated 1,040 acres with S&PF Hazardous Fuels Treatment grant funds provided through IDL. Identified in the County's Wildfire Protection Plan, project treatments reduced vegetation density and created fuel breaks, increasing defensible space on private ownership. Practices include thinning, limbing, chipping, mastication, burning and planting. The return on these efforts is an educated public, modification of local fire behavior, increased fire responder safety and improved community wildfire protection.

County	Acres treated	# of Projects	Grant Funds 2008-2014	Status	National Priorities		
Lincoln	1,040	3	\$221K	Complete	P		



Eastern Idaho Complex PLA Projects

Snake River Valley Canopy Assessment—LSR

G2, G4

Air quality in and around Pocatello is non-attainment for air quality, and potential water quality benefits for tree canopy are high in the larger cities and suburbs. An inventory and analysis of canopy benefits will establish baseline data and model future benefits to help improve air and water quality, reduce stormwater, and conserve energy. Canopy goals based on assessment will support increases in canopy to measurably improve air quality and address other issues. This project will focus increases in tree canopy over impervious surfaces and near buildings for energy conservation.

Project partners include several cities, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University Idaho, Idaho Dept of Environmental Quality, Idaho Power, Rocky Mountain Power and Idaho Falls Power, Three Rivers Resource Conservation and Development Council, Idaho Community Forest Partners, and Portneuf Watershed Partnership.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2013	Active	\$200K	\$200K	\$367K	\$757K		C	E

Wildfire Mitigation

G1

Bannock County treated 669 acres with Hazardous Fuels Treatment grant funds provided through IDL. Projects were identified in the County Wildfire Protection Plans. Treatments reduced vegetation density and created fuel breaks, increasing defensible space on private ownership. Practices include thinning, limbing, chipping, mastication, burning and planting. The return on these efforts is an educated public, modification of local fire behavior, increased fire responder safety and improved community wildfire protection.

County	Acres treated	# of Projects	Grant Funds 2008-2014	Status	National Priorities		
Bannock	669	7	\$667K	Complete	P		
Bonneville	0	1	\$42K	Ongoing	P		



Teton West Slope PLA Projects

Wildfire Mitigation

G1

Bear Lake, Fremont, Franklin and Oneida Counties treated 427 acres with Hazardous Fuels Treatment grant funds provided through IDL. Projects are identified in the County Wildfire Protection Plans. Treatments reduce vegetation density and created fuel breaks, increasing defensible space on private ownership. Practices include thinning, limbing, chipping, mastication, burning and planting. The return on these efforts is an educated public, modification of local fire behavior, increased fire responder safety and improved community wildfire protection.

County	Acres treated	# of Projects	Grant Funds 2008-2014	Status	National Priorities		
Bear Lake	200	3	\$302K	Ongoing	P		
Fremont	174	5	\$645K	Ongoing	P		
Franklin	33	2	\$173K	Complete	P		
Oneida	20	1	\$3K	Complete	P		
Fremont	2013	1	\$330k	Ongoing	P		E

Island Park National Cohesive Wildland Fire Strategy Project

Project partners are creating and implementing a local strategy that mitigates risk to Island Park, a complex of small communities and developments interspersed with public lands. Education and demonstrations create greater awareness of the risk of fire and benefits of treatments. The goal is to create fire adapted communities adapted, resilient and healthy landscapes and increase local response and preparedness—tenets of the National Cohesive Wildfire Strategy.



Lemhi Pahsimeroi PLA Projects

Wildfire Mitigation

G1

Custer and Lemhi Counties treated 253 acres with S&PF Hazardous Fuels Treatment Grant Funds provided through IDL. The projects were identified in the Counties' Wildfire Protection Plans. Treatments reduced vegetation density and created fuel breaks that increase defensible space on private ownership. Practices include thinning, limbing, chipping, mastication, burning and planting. The return on these efforts is an educated public, modification of local fire behavior, increased fire responder safety and improved community wildfire protection.

County	Acres treated	# of Projects	Grant Funds 2008-2014	Status	National Priorities		
Custer	32	1	\$75K	Complete	P		
Lemhi	221	4	\$405K	Ongoing	P		

LSR - Multi-State Projects

The following projects were developed with other states to address mutual issues.

<i>Urban Online</i>							<i>G2</i>		
The project developed online natural resources technology transfer tools for reaching elected and appointed officials, citizen activists, city governments, non-profit organizations, and green industry professionals. A learning portal was created at http://elearning.pnwisa.org/ .							Oregon, Idaho, Washington and Alaska collaborated to develop the online tool. Other partners included the Pacific Northwest Chapter – International Society of Arboriculture, Oregon State University, and Oregon State University Extension.		
Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities			
2010	Complete	\$20K	\$20K	0	\$40K		C	E	
<i>Ties to the Land: Succession Planning for Family Forest Owners</i>							<i>G1, G4</i>		
Family owned forestlands provide important environmental, social, and economic benefits not only to their owners, but also to surrounding communities. These lands tend to be managed for diverse objectives and their future is unclear—44% of America's family forestlands are owned by persons 65 or older and will soon face an ownership transition. This multi-state project with the states of Idaho, Oregon and Washington protects family forestlands from fragmentation and conversion by delivering critically needed information about succession planning. Ten workshops were held using the award-winning "Ties to the Land" education tools with 162 participants learning about succession planning.							Partners include IDL, University of Idaho, Idaho Tree Farm Committee, Idaho Forest Owners Association, Idaho Resource Conservation and Development Association, Land Trust Organizations, the states of Washington, Oregon and California.		
Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities			
2010	Complete	\$22K	\$22K	\$9K	\$53K		C	E	
<i>Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Improvement</i>							<i>G1, G2, G4</i>		
Idaho and Washington co-hosted an Idaho-Washington Forest Owners Field Day and presented in-the-field educational sessions and forest management demonstrations to over 250 family forest landowners. Seventy-two Idaho educators attended Project Learning Tree workshops to raise student awareness on forestry-related activities that positively affect water quality and hydrologic function over the aquifer. The City of Post Falls developed an interpretative exhibit at the popular Q'emilin Park to inform park users of the importance of forest health to aquifer health. Additionally, a destructive sawfly infestation at the Hayden Poplar Waste-Water Treatment Plantation was mitigated through an aerial pesticide application.							Project partners include IDL, the University of Idaho, Idaho Forest Owners Association, Panhandle Lakes Resource Conservation and Development Council, Idaho Forest Products Commission, City of Post Falls, and Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board and the Washington Department of Natural Resources.		
Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities			
2009	Complete	\$150K	\$150K	\$40K	\$340K	P	C	E	

Mountain States DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD Campaign

G4

This project combined media efforts with the states of Idaho, Washington, Oregon and Montana to educate citizens about the dangers of transporting firewood infested with invasive species. The core message of 'Don't Move Firewood' was delivered in an extensive multimedia blitz that utilized materials such as billboards, radio and magazine ads, campground presentations, websites, informational handouts at visitor centers, and posters. Additionally, firewood bundle inserts were printed and distributed to targeted woodcutters and campgrounds.

In Idaho, partners include IDL, ID State Departments of Agriculture, Parks and Recreation, and Commerce, US Dept of Agriculture APHIS, and The Nature Conservancy.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2011	Complete	\$75K	\$75K	\$61K	\$211K	P		

Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality

G4

Coordinated between Idaho and Montana, this project provides educational tools for forest managers, contractors, and landowners to ensure Best Management Practices are implemented correctly. The project developed a user-friendly field guide, 40-minute instructional video, and web site.

<http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/idahoforestrybmps/>

Partners include the IDL, Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation, University of Idaho Forestry Extension, Idaho Forest Products Commission, forest industry, Idaho Forest Practices Advisory Committee, Idaho Forest Owners Assoc., Idaho Tree Farm.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2012	Complete	\$249K	\$249K	\$113K	\$611K	P		E

Facing Emerging Pest Threats

G4

This project coordinates with Colorado and Montana to develop state response plans and strategies to prepare for the introduction of new invasive forest pests. The plan will provide a guide for local communities to develop local urban forest management and invasive species response plans.

Partners include Idaho State Department of Agriculture, IDL, City of Boise, Idaho Nursery & Landscape Association, USDA Forest Service and the Idaho Invasive Species Council.

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2012	Active	\$51K	\$51K	0	\$102K	P		E

LSR - Statewide Project

Community-based Hazard Planning and Mitigation: Planning, Legal, and Policy Implications in the WUI

G4

Many Idaho Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas are threatened with high rates of development and Idaho's smaller local governments often lack knowledge, planning and legal resources to develop land-use policies that reduce WUI fire risk. This project increases planning capacity by providing ordinance guides for rural communities, conducting risk-perception assessments & hosting outreach programs tailored to local issues, services, & legal environments to decrease wildland fire risk.

Partners include Boise State University Community Regional Planning and Public Policy Center, University of Idaho's College of Law, Association of Idaho Cities, American Planning Association Idaho Chapter, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security, Coeur d'Alene Tribe, Idaho Association of Counties, Idaho Smart Growth, Lemhi County

Initiated	Status	Grant Funds	Match	Leverage	Project Total	National Priorities		
2015	Active	\$300K	\$300K	\$187K	\$787K	P		E