



Support the Forest Legacy Program

The Forest Legacy Program provides critical federal assistance to states, private landowners, and conservation groups to **protect working forests** through permanent conservation easements and fee acquisitions.

Working forests play an important role in sustaining the economic, environmental, and social well-being of American communities through the jobs they support and the benefits they provide, such as wildfire threat reduction, clean air and water, wildlife habitat, and outdoor recreation space.

In FY19, state and territorial foresters ask that \$62 million be allocated to the Forest Legacy Program. If support for this program comes from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, it should be considered part of mandatory spending and not count against the discretionary budget cap.

Sample Forest Legacy Successes:

In northern Minnesota, the purchase and donation of 2,751 acres from The Nature Conservancy to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources was the culmination of a multi-year Forest Legacy effort to ensure sustainable forestry, protect wildlife habitat, and guarantee public access on industrial forestlands. The easement now supports a large block of mixed-forest (pine and hardwood) habitat for white-tailed deer, black bear, timber wolf, and ruffed grouse along the shoreline of Camp Lake, and provides ample opportunities for hunting, fishing, hiking, bird watching, and other outdoor recreation.

In northern Idaho, the Idaho Department of Lands, in partnership with the Trust for Public Lands, acquired 6,800 acres within the McArthur Lake Wildlife Corridor to protect environmentally sensitive, high-value forestlands threatened by development. Thanks to the Forest Legacy Program, the Stimson Lumber Company will continue to manage this land under an easement restricting development and subdivision, ensuring that the land will forever remain in active timber production while protecting wildlife habitat and providing free public recreation.

