

CWSF
COUNCIL OF WESTERN STATE FORESTERS

WESTERN STATE FORESTRY AGENCIES
Good Neighbor Authority Activities and Accomplishments
NOVEMBER 2026

ID | Photo: Chase Bolyard

BACKGROUND

The Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) is a critical cross-boundary tool for improving forest conditions and increasing the pace and scale of restoration treatments across landscapes. The authority allows the USDA Forest Service (Forest Service), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the National Park Service (NPS) to enter into agreements with states, counties, and tribes to conduct authorized restoration and recreation services on and off federal lands.

The Council of Western State Foresters (CWSF), representing State Foresters across the 23 western states and U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands, has supported GNA since its beginning as a pilot and, later, its permanent expansion in the 2014 Farm Bill[1]. Amendments to the authority, such as road reconstruction, repair, and restoration fixes for National Forest System (NFS)[2] and BLM roads[3], the authority for states to retain GNA timber sale revenues for reinvestment in additional restoration services[4], and the cross-boundary application of GNA timber revenues[5] have further benefited GNA's success.

States are essential partners in implementing GNA, and state forestry agencies have embraced opportunities to utilize the authority in coordination with their federal partners. Sixteen of the 23 CWSF member states have Forest Service- or BLM-managed lands, or both, for implementing GNA. With the expansion of the authority to NPS and USFWS[6], 20 of the 23 CWSF member states and U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands may enter into GNA agreements. Recognizing the opportunities for GNA implementation in the West, CWSF established a committee comprising GNA staff from state forestry agencies to provide a platform for peer learning and the exchange of information, resource materials, and ideas.

16 of 23 WESTERN STATES have either or both Forest Service and BLM-managed lands to implement GNA.

The CWSF GNA Committee developed this document to capture and share GNA activities and accomplishments across western state forestry agencies. For the 2026 report, 15 western state forestry agencies responded to a CWSF GNA data sensing. This document synthesizes information gathered from the 15 western state forestry agencies and provides a snapshot of their collective GNA accomplishments from the start of each state forestry agency's use of the authority through the close of the state fiscal year (FY) 2026 (June 30, 2026).

1 Agricultural Act of 2014, P.L. 113-79
2 Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, P.L. 115-141
3 Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, P.L. 117-328
4 Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, P.L. 115-334
5 Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences (EXPLORE) Act of 2025, P.L. 118-234
6 Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024, P.L. 118-42

GNA AGREEMENTS

Western state forestry agencies began utilizing GNA quickly following its permanent enactment in the 2014 Farm Bill **(Graphic 1)**. The Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) and the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands (FFSL) began GNA work under the permanent authority in 2015[7]. In 2016, six western state forestry agencies, including the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (AZ DFFM), the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL), the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (MT DNRC), the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF), and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) entered into GNA agreements. From 2017 to 2018, seven additional western state forestry agencies began utilizing GNA.

GRAPHIC 1. When Western State Forestry Agencies Commenced GNA

2015	2016	2017	2018
Colorado	Arizona	Alaska	Nebraska
Utah	California	North Dakota	New Mexico
	Idaho	South Dakota	
	Montana	Washington	
	Nevada	Wyoming	
	Oregon		

At the time of this synthesis, the 15 state forestry agencies reported 172 active GNA agreements with the Forest Service and 112 expired or closed-out agreements **(Table 2)**. This number includes Forest Service Master Agreements, Supplemental Project Agreements (SPAs), and Stand-alone Agreements. With the BLM, the 15 states reported 17 active agreements and 24 expired or closed-out agreements. The agreements cover restoration activities and projects on 89 of approximately 105 national forests and grasslands and roughly 26 of 49 BLM districts across the 15 reporting states.

The Wyden Authority is cited in 67 western state forestry agencies' GNA agreements with approximately 18 active or completed projects. Under Wyden, the Forest Service and the BLM have the authority to utilize appropriated federal dollars to complete restoration work on non-federal lands that benefit watersheds on public lands[8]. Additionally, western state forestry agencies are exploring opportunities with their federal partners to apply the EXPLORE Act of 2025 GNA amendment, which allows GNA timber sale revenues to be used for mutually identified cross-boundary priority treatments.



WA | Photo: Monika Sowinska



MT | Photo: Josh Tomlin

7 Colorado and Utah were authorized under various federal appropriations acts to pilot GNA prior to the permanent authority in the 2014 Farm Bill

8 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Agreements, 16 U.S.C. 1011

TABLE 2. State Forestry Agencies' Active and Expired GNA Agreements with the Forest Service and BLM

State	Active Forest Service Master Agreements	Active Forest Service SPAs	Active Forest Service Stand-alone Agreements	Active BLM GNA Agreements	Expired/ Closed Out Forest Service GNA Agreements	Expired/ Closed Out BLM Agreements
Alaska	1	0	2	3	2	2
Arizona	1	11	1	2	7	3
California	0	0	3	1	5	0
Colorado	2	25	1	2	12	3
Idaho	1	5	9	1	0	1
Montana	0	0	16	1	2	2
Nebraska	1	1	0	0	8	0
Nevada	1	1	1	0	0	1
New Mexico	1	9	1	1	11	1
North Dakota	1	4	0	0	0	0
Oregon	1	19	0	3	33	7
South Dakota	1	1	1	0	3	1
Utah	2	5	2	0	7	0
Washington	2	20	0	2	2	1
Wyoming	1	16	2	1	20	2
Totals	**16**	**117**	**39**	**17**	**112**	**24**

GNA AUTHORIZED RESTORATION SERVICES ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Western state forestry agencies have completed numerous authorized restoration services under GNA agreements **(Table 3)**. To date, the authority has been most widely used by states to complete National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) surveys, followed by project-preparation fieldwork, timber sales, and non-commercial fuels and forest health work. Among other activities, state forestry agencies have also utilized GNA for invasive weed control, road repair and decommissioning projects, aquatic organism passage, and wildlife habitat improvement.



WY | Photo: Jeremy Dedic

Ten western state forestry agencies have **sold 424 timber sales across 159,356 acres** under GNA agreements (Table 3 and Table 4). These timber sales have **generated 1,121,841 MBF of sawlog timber and 57,721 MBF of pulp**, for a combined net value of $103,614,646.

Four agencies, IDL, MT DNRC, ODF, and the Washington Department of Natural Resources (WA DNR), have used GNA to conduct comprehensive environmental analyses for 19 Categorical Exclusions and two Environmental Assessments (EAs) encompassing 97,150 acres. In 2026, the CSFS and the Wyoming State Forestry Division indicated their agencies have commenced efforts to complete two EAs totaling 40,416 acres. Eight states have used GNA to complete discrete NEPA surveys across 552,629 acres.



CO | Photo: Dylan Eimer

TABLE 3. Western State Forestry Agencies GNA Restoration Services Accomplishments

State	Non-commercial Fuels & Forest Health (acres)	Invasive Weed Control (acres)	Road Repair & Decom-missioning (miles)	Aquatic Organism Passage (Bridge & Culvert Repair) (number)	Wildlife Habitat Improvement (acres)	Discrete NEPA Surveys (acres)	Project Preparation Fieldwork (acres)	Timber Sales (acres)	Other
Alaska	320	-	6	-	-	-	-	1,400	13 Community Wildfire Protection Plans
Arizona	17,485	47	6	131	8,925	36,250	65,428	21,816	170 boundary marking miles, 3,545 cruise plots, 1,262 fuels plots
California	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	50	5,000	-	
Colorado	8,689	-	-	-	-	600	7,000	19,403	400 Tussock moth control acres, 739 aerial seeding acres
Idaho	14,140	1,001	1,103	309	-	268,426	14,698	18,201	1,517 reforestation acres, 20,622 stocking survey acres, 75,000 seedlings purchased
Montana	9,107	500	152	12	-	20,277	6,305	35,613	160 property line survey miles
Nebraska	1,377	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nevada	580	70	-	-	1,271	-	-	126	
New Mexico	12,312	-	-	-	-	-	-		
North Dakota	244	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Oregon	34,168	478	529	1	475	107,644	40,135	36,160	594 bushels of cones, planted 423 acres, applied 10,314 acres of fungicide
South Dakota	-	18	-	-	-	-	16,813	475	55 LiDAR plots, 164 common stand exams
Utah	11,973	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	
Washington	19,711	103	574	112	381	102,000	26,958	13,362	
Wyoming	6,220	-	2	-	552	17,382	12,800	12,800	
Totals	**141,326**	**2,217**	**2,389**	**565**	**16,604**	**552,629**	**195,137**	**159,356**	

TABLE 4. Western State Forestry Agencies GNA Timber Sale Metrics

State	Number of Timber Sales Sold	Volume of Sawlog Timber Sold (MBF)	Volume of Pulp Sold (MBF)	Net Value of Timber Sales Sold
Alaska	2	36,000	0	$300,000
Arizona	13	62,989	16,747	-$14,897,942
Colorado	75	122,285	19,975	$1,678,794
Idaho	72	233,611	2,647	$39,285,109
Montana	100	227,204	13,500	$21,006,915
Nevada	2	411	0	$132,160
Oregon	62	191,000	4,800	$26,375,872
South Dakota	2	960	52	$58,498
Washington	35	149,711	0	$27,895,000
Wyoming	61	97,670	0	$1,780,240
Totals	**424**	**1,121,841**	**57,721**	**$103,614,646**

All 15 western state forestry agencies reported that their staff conducts GNA activities and projects. Twelve states utilize private-sector contracts. Eleven utilize other grants and agreements, such as state, county, or university agreements, and nine states use timber sale contracts **(Table 5)**.

TABLE 5. Who Completes GNA Activities?

State	State Forestry Employees	Private-sector Service Contracts	Other Grants and Agreements (State Agreements, County Agreements, Universities, etc.)	Timber Sale Contracts
Alaska	x	x		x
Arizona	x	x	x	x
California	x	x	x	
Colorado	x	x	x	x
Idaho	x	x	x	x
Montana	x	x	x	x
Nebraska	x			
Nevada	x	x		
New Mexico	x	x	x	
North Dakota	x			
Oregon	x	x	x	x
South Dakota	x		x	x
Utah	x	x	x	
Washington	x	x	x	x
Wyoming	x	x	x	x
Totals	**15**	**12**	**11**	**9**



AZ | Photo: Matthew Wilcox

GNA STRUCTURES AND STAFFING

Across the West, state forestry agencies vary in how they organize GNA within their agency structures and in the number of staff dedicated to GNA activities.

When asked whether the state forestry agency considers GNA an established/dedicated program within the agency or a tool for implementation, most states responded that they have established GNA programs **(Graphic 6)**. The number of staff with GNA responsibilities varies significantly by state forestry agency. For example, CAL FIRE, NDF, the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department Forestry Division, and Utah FFSL have no permanent or dedicated seasonal GNA staff. These agencies utilize non-dedicated state forestry staff to perform GNA work. States such as IDL, MT DNRC, ODF, and WA DNR utilize permanent, dedicated seasonal, and non-dedicated staff to perform GNA activities, with 39, 38, 52.5, and 50 full-time equivalents (FTE), respectively **(Chart 7)**.

The number of **GNA STAFF VARIES WIDELY BY STATE**, ranging from **no permanent or dedicated seasonal** GNA staff, to **over 50 full-time equivalent positions**.

GRAPHIC 6. Is GNA a Tool or an Established Program within State Forestry Agencies?

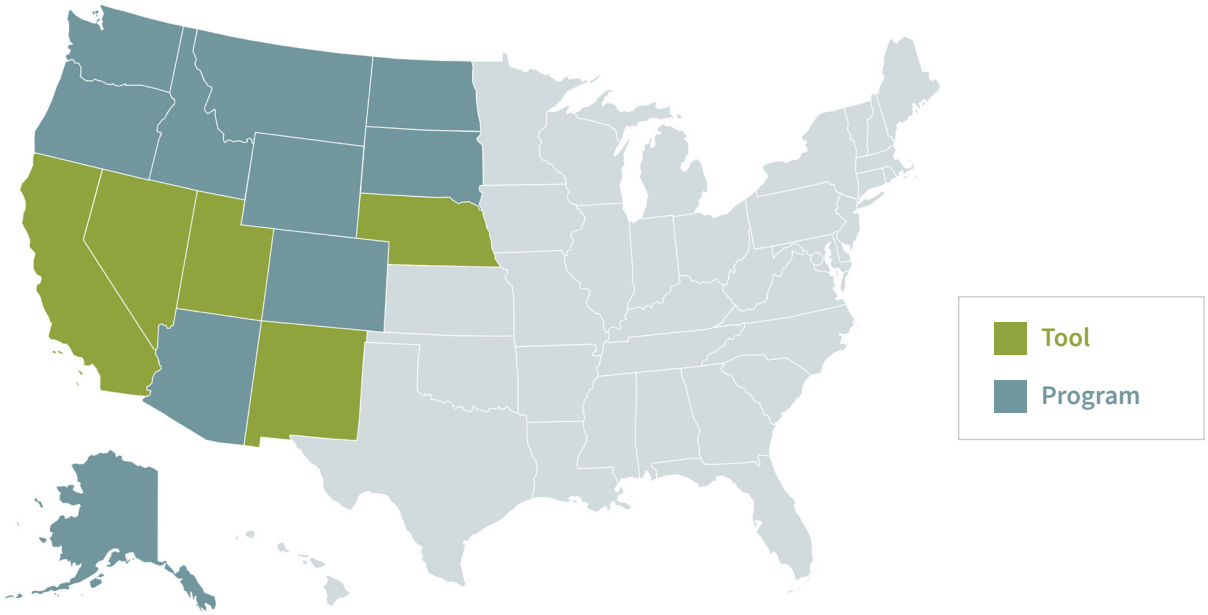
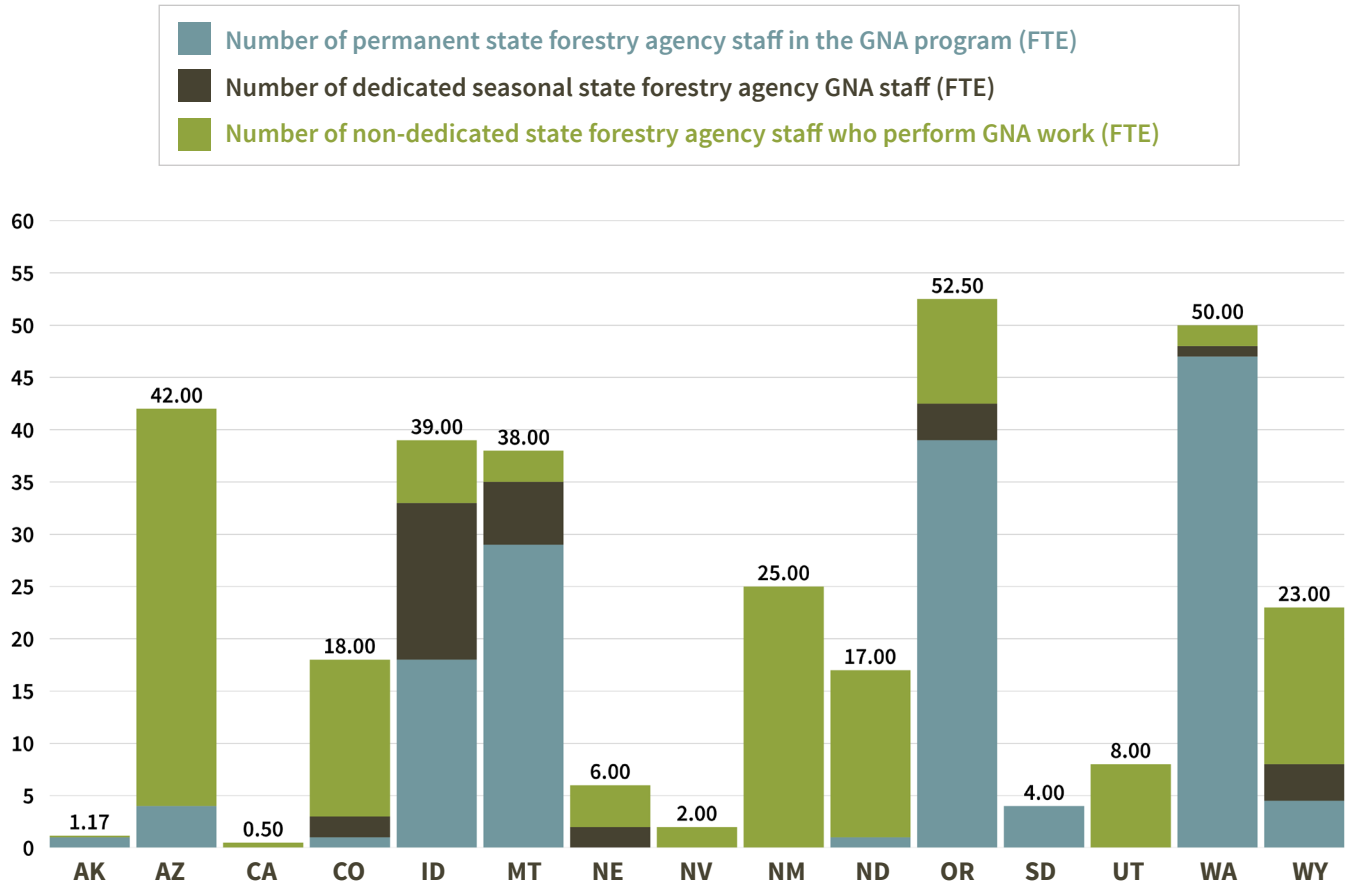


CHART 7. GNA Staffing Numbers in Western State Forestry Agencies



GNA FUNDING

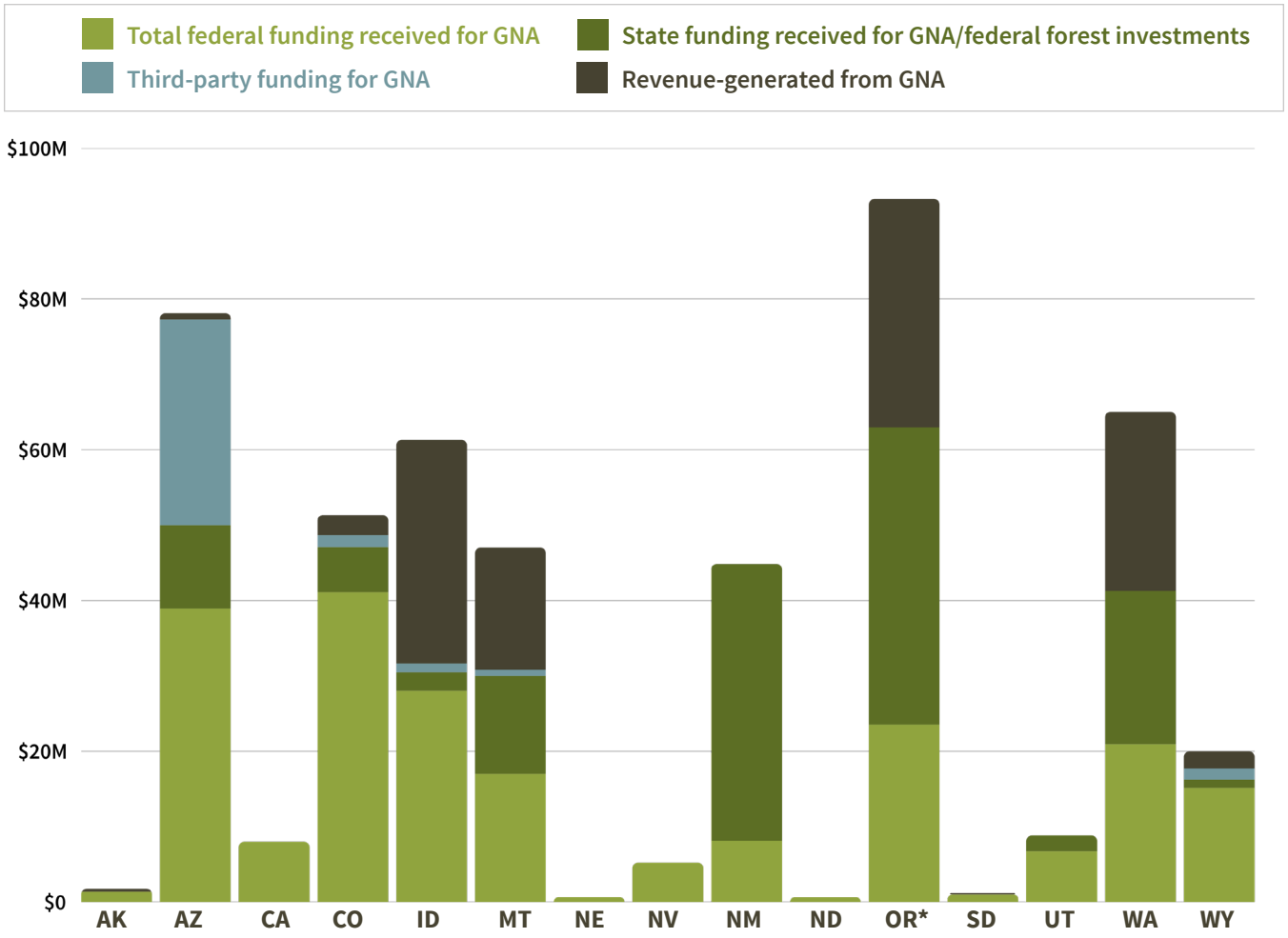
The GNA is funded from multiple sources **(Chart 8)**. At this time, there is no permanent federal authorization for appropriations specifically for GNA work, and any Forest Service or BLM funds used for GNA have come from existing budget line items. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)[9] appropriated $200 million specifically for GNA agreements/projects from FY 2022 to 2026, $160 million to the Forest Service, and $40 million to BLM. Additionally, the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)[10] funded certain GNA activities, provided the work aligned with the intent of the funding. Beyond federal appropriations, state appropriations and third-party contributions may be used for GNA work. Finally, revenue generated from GNA timber sales is utilized to conduct additional authorized restoration and recreation services as specified in GNA agreements.

Since GNA's permanent authorization, 15 western state forestry agencies have received **$216,543,183 in federal appropriations**, and nine have received **$132,142,214 in state appropriations**.

Of the total federal appropriation, $64,874,175 was awarded through the IIJA, and $28,755,989 has been awarded through IRA funding **(Table 9)**. Five state forestry agencies received third-party funding totaling $32,334,708, and nine western states have generated $106,153,334 in gross revenue from GNA timber sales to implement additional authorized services identified within GNA agreements.

9 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, P.L. 117-58
10 Inflation Reduction Act, P.L. 117-169

CHART 8. Western State Forestry Agencies GNA Funding



*In Oregon, the state funding received includes support for forest collaboratives.

TABLE 9. GNA Funding Received from IIJA and IRA

State	IIJA Funding Received for GNA	IRA Funding Received for GNA
Alaska	$1,000,000	$0
Arizona	$2,146,000	$19,965,565
California	$700,000	$0
Colorado	$15,192,481	$0
Idaho	$6,382,296	$25,000
Montana	$15,487,000	$1,500,000
Nebraska	$0	$0
Nevada	$2,856,565	$2,387,424
New Mexico	$0	$0
North Dakota	$0	$0
Oregon	$6,053,910	$0
South Dakota	$477,905	$0
Utah	$352,772	$2,398,000
Washington	$13,112,800	$2,480,000
Wyoming	$1,112,446	$0
Totals	**$64,874,175**	**$28,755,989**

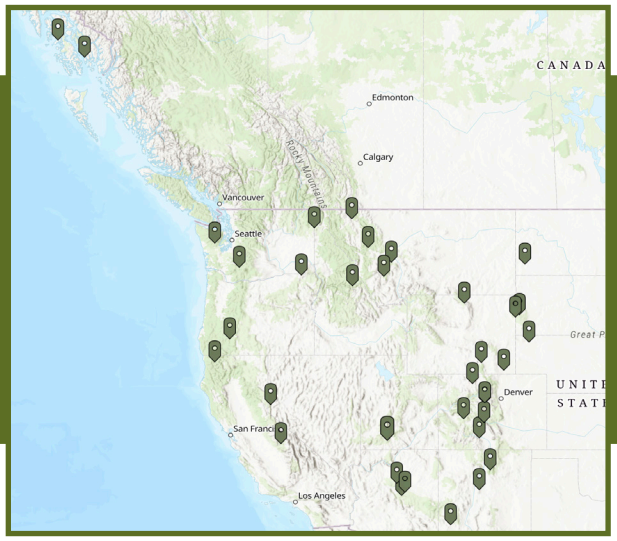


UT | Photo: Dixie National Forest

CLOSING

GNA remains critically important for western state forestry agencies to advance mutually identified priority forest restoration treatments in coordination with their federal partners. As stated earlier in this synthesis, the majority of the 15 states reported having established GNA programs within their agencies, with the intent to develop long-term GNA planning. Further, state forestry agencies have invested significant resources, including time, staff, and funding, to maximize GNA's application and resulting benefits. The numbers in this synthesis provide a snapshot of the significant accomplishments achieved since GNA was permanently authorized and underscore western state forestry agencies' strong support for continuing the authority's implementation for years to come.

Western state forestry agencies' staff will continue to utilize the CWSF GNA Committee platform to share information, lessons learned, and best practices regarding implementation. The committee anticipates refreshing this document annually with updated information.



GNA STORYMAP

CWSF collects GNA stories, or spotlights, from western state forestry agencies to showcase GNA efforts and accomplishments.

A collection of spotlights can be found on the CWSF StoryMap featured below.

https://arcg.is/WGOi

LEARN MORE

To learn more about GNA in the West, visit www.thewflc.org/partnerships/gna-information-and-resources.

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