

WHO WE ARE

Council of Western State Foresters

The Council of Western State Foresters (CWSF) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit membership organization comprised of 17 western State Foresters and six U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Island Foresters.

Western Forestry Leadership Coalition

The Western Forestry Leadership Coalition (WFLC) is a partnership between western State Foresters and USDA Forest Service (Forest Service) leaders. The WFLC membership includes the 23 CWSF members, as well as 11 individuals from the Forest Service western leadership.

Staff

Based virtually in Colorado, the CWSF staff is made up of an Executive Director, Director of Partnerships and Program Implementation, Director of Communications, Director of Policy, Director of Agency Coordination, two Competitive Grants Managers, and an Organizational Services Assistant.

WHAT WE DO

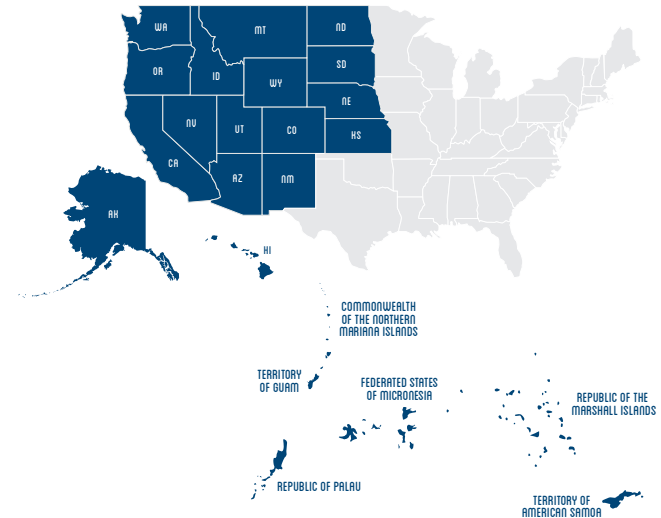
CWSF promotes the conservation, protection, and sustainable management of forests for today and generations to come by leading collective action, fostering learning, facilitating resource sharing, providing credible expertise and information, carrying out outreach and advocacy, and engaging with partners.

Priority issues, which exist throughout western states as evidenced by western state Forest Action Plans, include climate change, forest health, sustainability, water, and wildfire.

CWSF works closely on issues of regional and national importance with a broad range of partners, including its counterpart State Forester associations (National Association of State Foresters, Northeast-Midwest State Foresters Alliance, and Southern Group of State Foresters).

Leadership

CWSF looks to its Executive Committee, and WFLC to its Executive Board for governance, guidance, and organization oversight throughout the year. The CWSF Executive Committee is made up of four State Foresters filling the positions of Chair, Incoming Chair, Treasurer, and Past Chair. The WFLC Executive Board includes the members of the CWSF Executive Committee, plus two Forest Service Regional Foresters, one Forest Service State, Private, and Tribal Forestry Director, and one Forest Service Research Station Director.



The CWSF staff coordinates and manages the work of WFLC. WFLC facilitates information exchange, dialogue, and cross-boundary decision making among the membership, and plays a key role in helping to inform members and partners about timely issues impacting western forestry.

CWSF and WFLC's recent work and activities include:

- Supporting competitive grant processes for WUI, LSR, Forest Legacy Program, CWDG, and invasive species funding.
- WFLC released *The True Cost of Wildfire in the Western U.S.* report and 2023 Urban & Community Forestry publication.
- CWSF provided briefings to members, their staff, and partners regarding the forestry provisions within BIL and IRA. Briefers outlining those provisions are posted <https://www.westernforesters.org/publications>.