



Increasing the Flow of the Reforestation Pipeline: It's Plumb Crazy

*And more than
REPLANT!*

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Forest Service

Rocky Mountain Research Station

National Center for Reforestation, Nurseries and Genetic Resources

6th Annual Pacific Northwest Forest Vegetation Management Conference

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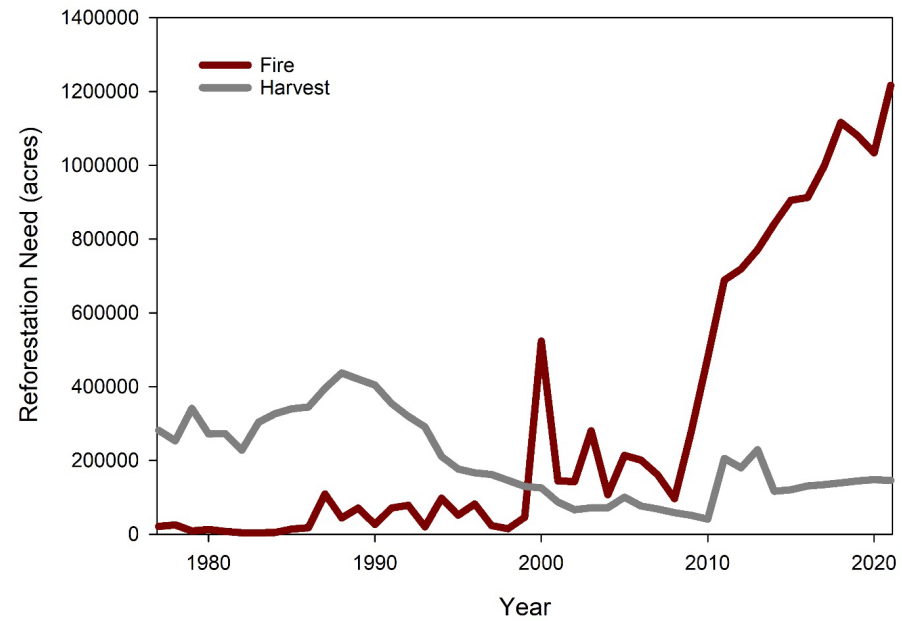
1985

- Gorbachev becomes Soviet leader.
- Reagan starts second term with tax reform.
- Kas is half-way through his MSc and still combing his hair.
- The last emphasis on USFS reforestation starts... R.I.P.

Reforestation Improvement Program

- 1976 National Forest Management Act
- Mid to late 1980s...
- Across the Agency
- Evaluate the reforestation chain
- Research-driven improvements
- More efficiency / success

Forest Service Efforts



Updated from: Dumroese RK, Balloffet N, Crockett JW, Stanturf JA, Nave LE. 2019. A national approach to leverage the benefits of tree planting on public lands. *New Forests*. 50: 1-9. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/treesearch/pubs/57828>.



Forest Service Efforts

- 2015 Reforestation Summit
- Partner Support and Engagement
- 2020+ The Nature Conservancy papers
- And then came 2021 and 2022!

Appropriations and Policies

- 2021

- Dec: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)
 - aka Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

- 2022

- Apr: Executive Order
- Jul: Secretary Vilsack's Memo
- Aug: Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)



Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (BIL)

Wildfire Risk Reduction (~\$3.4 billion)

Post-fire restoration
Collaborative Forest Landscape
Restoration Act projects

Ecosystem Restoration (~\$2.1 billion)

Ecosystem restoration
Good Neighbor Agreements
Abandoned mine land restoration
Public & private reforestation

REPLANT Act

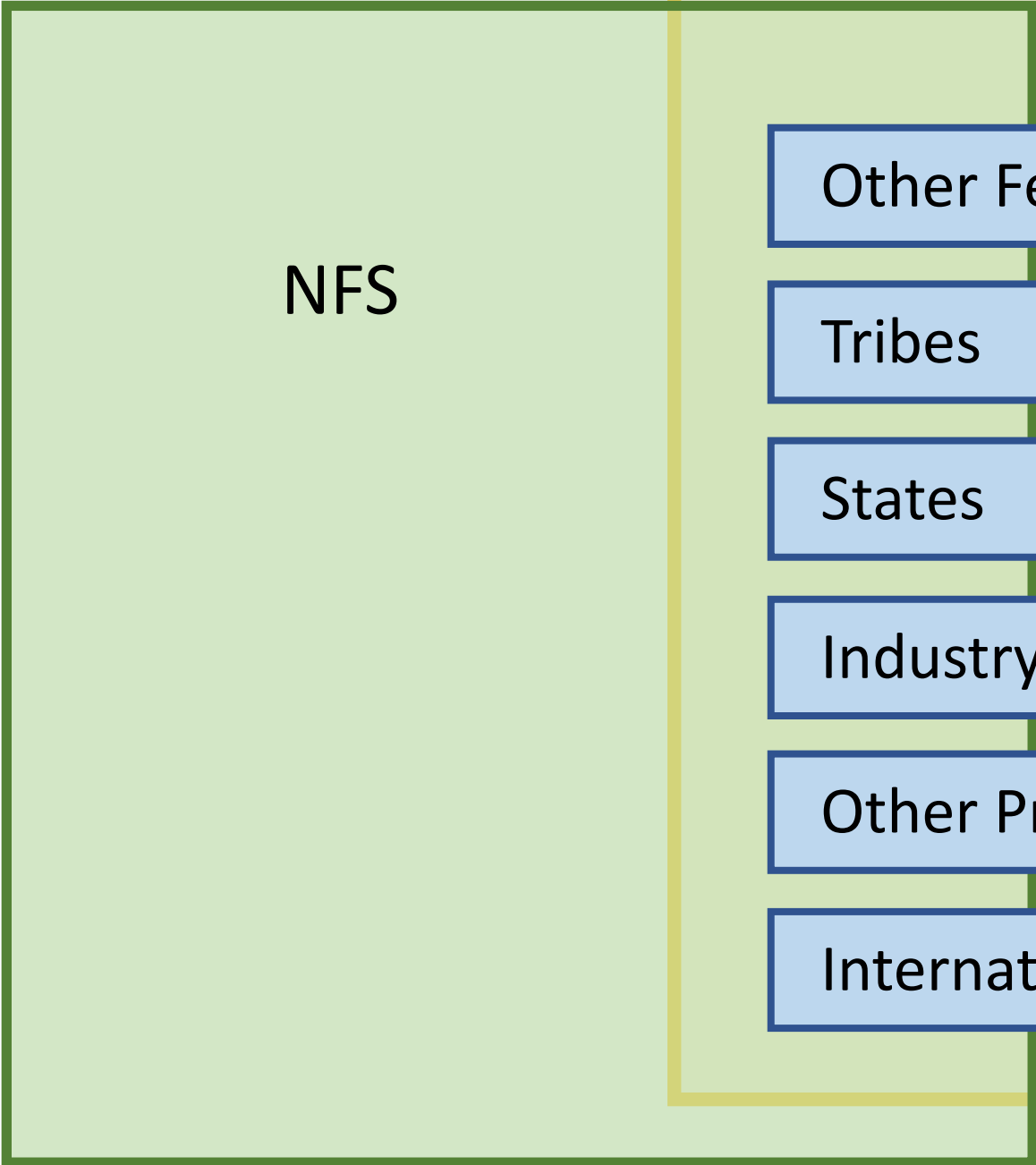
Repairing Existing Public Land by Adding Necessary Trees Act

Inflation Reduction Act

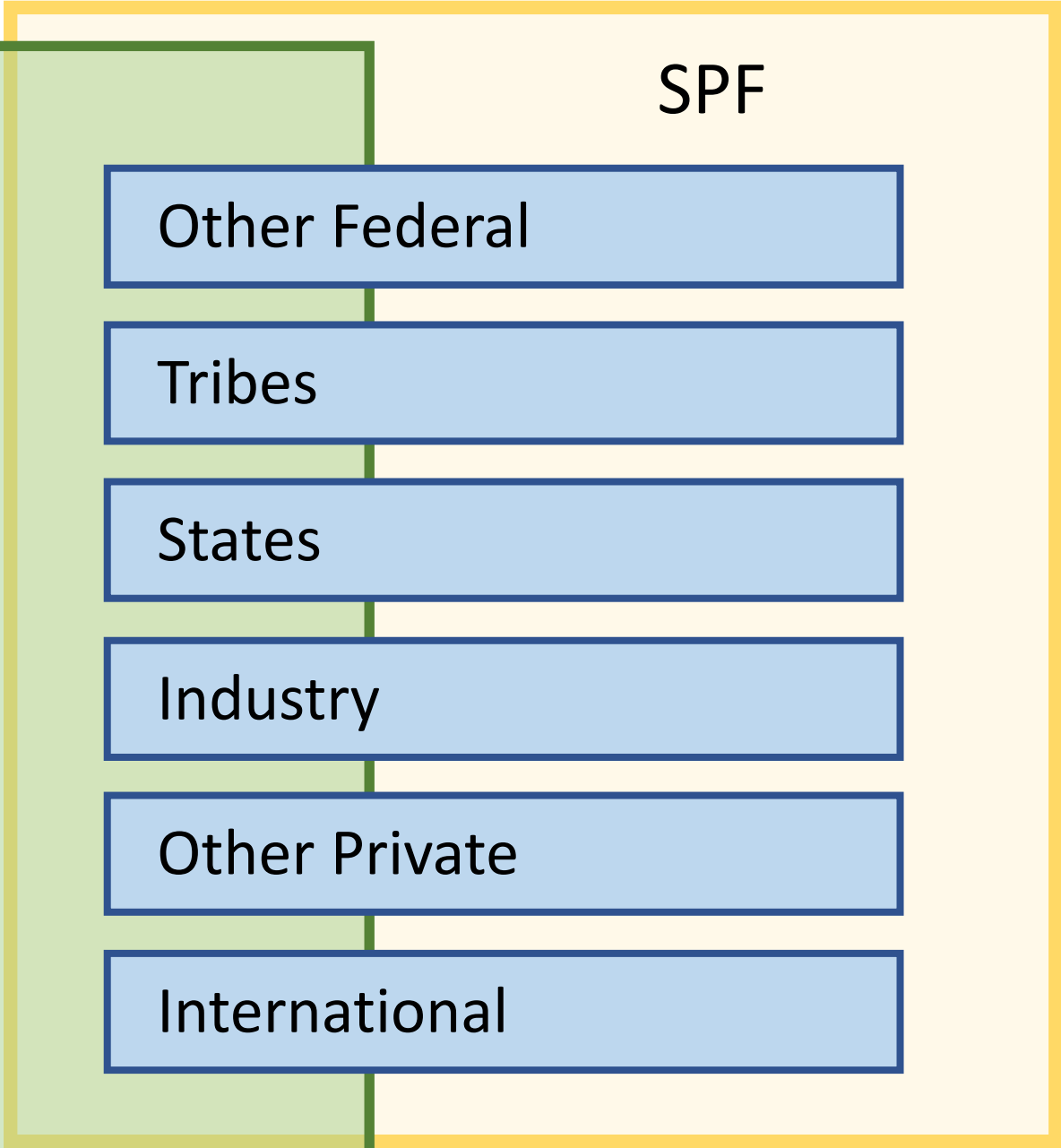
Inflation Reduction Act (~\$1.5 billion)

Urban landscapes

Underserved communities



NFS



SPF

Other Federal

Tribes

States

Industry

Other Private

International



Unprecedented Opportunity

**IIJA aka BIL
Ecosystem Restoration
10-y Funds**

**IRA
10-y Funds**

**REPLANT Act
Forever Funds**

Tribes

States / Communities

Private

NGOs

Other Federals

State & Private Forestry

National Association of State Foresters,
Tribes, National Fish and Wildlife
Foundation, other partners....

- \$1.1 million – Revegetation of Formerly Mined Land
- \$7.7 million – National Revegetation and National Seed Strategy for Rehab and Restoration



State & Private Forestry

- Nursery funds – 30 States and Puerto Rico
 - \$4.96 million allocated this FY (\$160,000 each); \$6.2 million (\$200,000) requested next FY.
- Nursery funds – 7 Island Territories and Commonwealths
 - Up to \$75,000 each allocated this FY; \$100,000 requested next FY.
- Nursery Specialist & Policy Coordinator
 - New staff position to coordinate all S&PF work related to BIL funding for revegetation.



State & Private Forestry

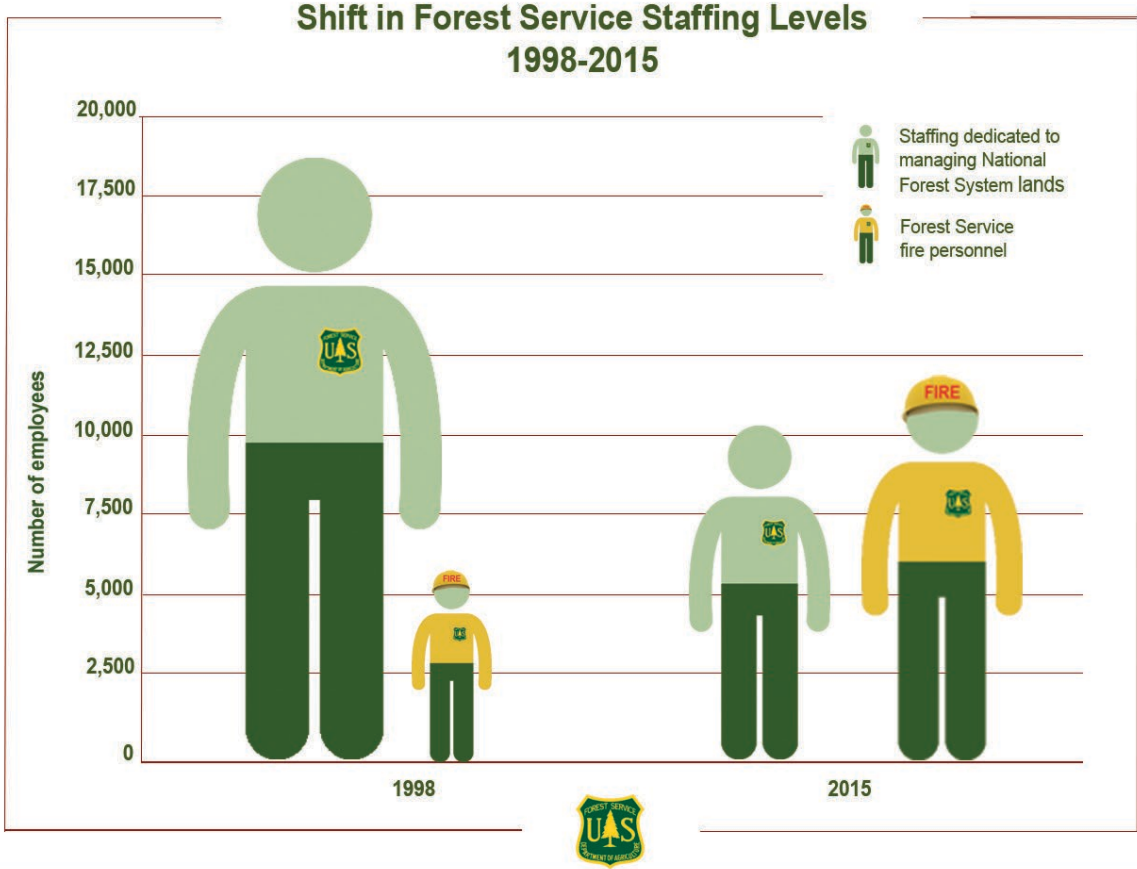
- Tribal Nursery Funds
- 6 tribes with “larger scale reforestation nurseries”
 - Total need of \$4.8 million
 - \$1.5 million allocated this FY
 - \$3 million requested for next FY
- Full-time Tribal Nursery Specialist
 - Currently part-time through RNGR
 - Full-time / service with RNGR
 - Updating 2003 Tribal Needs Assessment a priority



State & Private Forestry

- National State and Private Forestry Reforestation Strategy
 - Non-Federal land
 - Pipeline bottlenecks and strategies
 - Prioritization process
 - Collaborative opportunities
 - Strategy complements/supports NFS National Reforestation Strategy
 - Stakeholder participation

Take Some Time and Get It Right



Other Pipeline Considerations?

- Planning, Seeds, Nurseries, Outplanting, Tending
- Recruiting, Training, and Retaining Employees?
- Predictable Seedling Markets?
 - Federal Program(s)?
- Sustainable Management?



USDA Thinking Holistically

- Leveraging Mission Areas
 - NRE – Natural Resources and Environment
 - Forest Service
 - FPAC – Farm Production and Conservation
 - FSA – Farm Service Agency
 - NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - RD – Rural Development
 - REE – Research, Education, and Economics
 - ARS – Agricultural Research Service
 - NIFA – National Institute of Food and Agriculture





Yamaha
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PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDREW HAYES

TOP 10 REASONS
I'M RECONSIDERING
RETIREMENT...

1. FINALLY FUNDED
2. NURSERY UPGRADES
3. NEW PEOPLE
4. A LITTLE RESPECT
5. CHANCE FOR CHANGE
6. A.C.E.S.
7. ENVIRONMENTAL
8. CAN'T GROW BEARD



Thank You! Questions?



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