

# "Increasing Pace, Scale, and Quality"



## FEDERAL FOREST RESTORATION PROGRAM UPDATE ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES



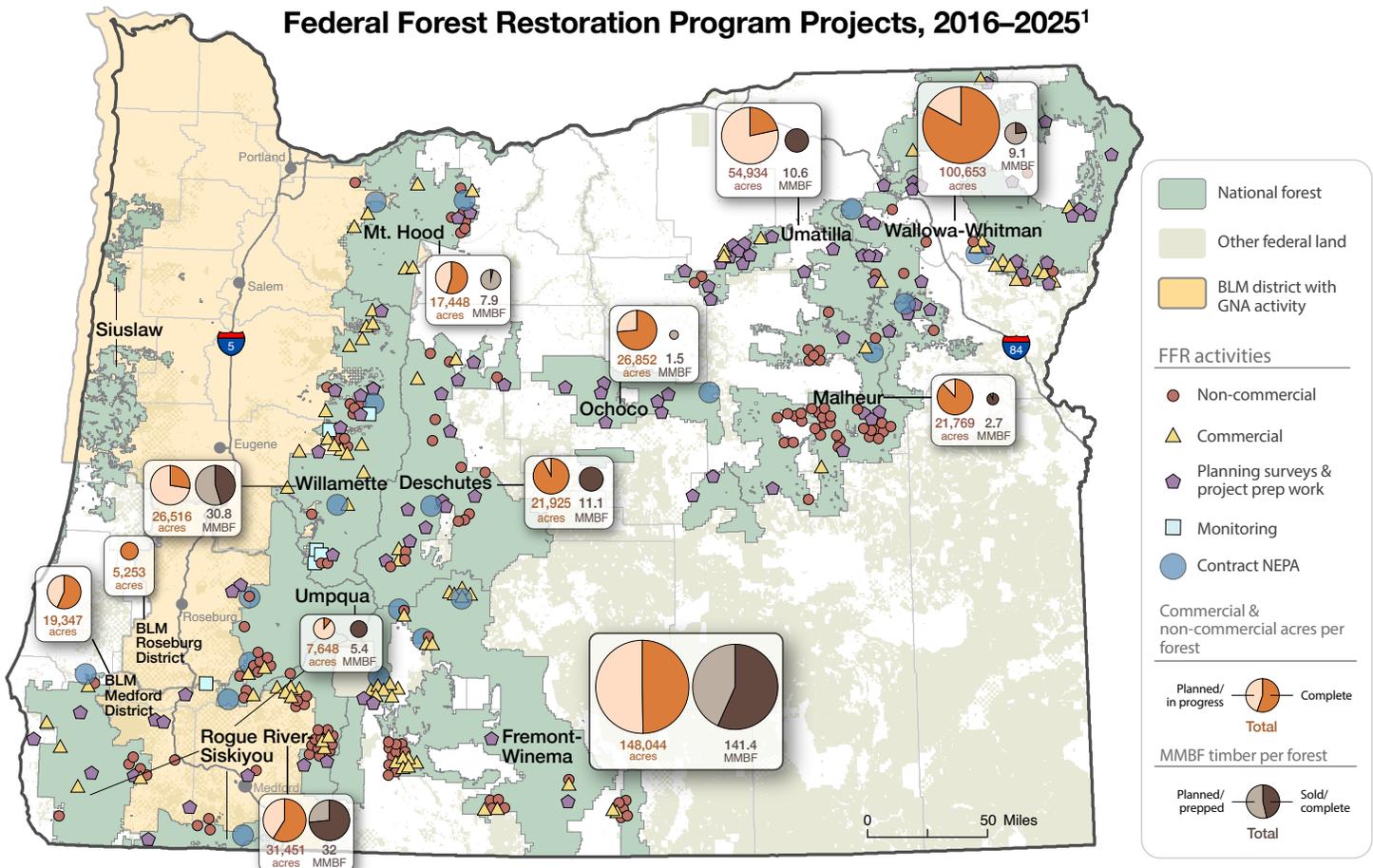
FACT SHEET 38 • FEBRUARY 2026

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) Federal Forest Restoration Program (FFRP) enters the new year with structural changes and new investments, strengthening its ability to deliver work on the ground. The program transitioned from ODF's Forest Resources Division to the State Forests Division to better align how the department plans and implements forest stewardship across ownerships. This move also expands the program's access to in-house expertise, including road specialists, biologists, and planners.

In the new biennium, the program will also focus on measuring progress toward resilience outcomes within priority watersheds identified in the 20-year landscape resilience strategy. As a pilot effort, ODF, the University of Oregon's Ecosystem Workforce Program, and Oregon State University's Institute for Natural Resources will conduct landscape evaluations across six watersheds with high restoration need and a high proportion of federal forest ownership. Findings will be used to describe current conditions and establish recommended treatment types and targets, enabling future actions to be measured against defined goals.

Finally, the FFRP will reoffer the Forest Collaborative Grant opportunity with an expanded scope. In addition to supporting zones of agreement development, grants will now support collective action forest partnerships, reflecting the evolving role of forest collaboratives in Oregon while ensuring investments continue to advance the program's mission.

### Federal Forest Restoration Program Projects, 2016–2025<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Restoration project inspection activities, including planting and fuels reduction inspections, were not included in the acreage totals for this report

# ODF's work on federal lands in Oregon, 2016–2025

**34** agreements — with — **10** national forests (29 agreements) — with — **3** BLM districts (3 agreements) — with — **Forest Service PNW Regional Office** (2 agreements)

## Restoration service projects

**Activities** on **10** national forests, **3** BLM districts covering

**267,098 acres** — including

- Planning surveys & project preparation:**
  - Wildlife, botany, heritage, or other resource surveys
  - Remote sensing, stand exams, or other forest inventory work
  - Cruising, tree marking, unit layout, or other project preparation
- Non-commercial:**
  - Non-commercial fuels reduction, thinning, or forest health treatments
  - Prescribed fire
  - Wildlife habitat restoration or improvement
  - Stream enhancement or road decommissioning
  - Invasive/noxious weed treatments
- Monitoring:**
  - Post-implementation vegetation management and stream restoration monitoring

**1,333 acres** complete

## Commercial projects

**82 Sales** on **10** national forests

35 complete, 16 sold, 31 planned

**64,989 acres** — with — **252.4 MMBF** (million board feet) — and — **851 miles** road maintenance & improvement

over an anticipated

## Contract NEPA projects

**19 Projects** on **10** national forests

11 complete, 5 in progress, 3 planned

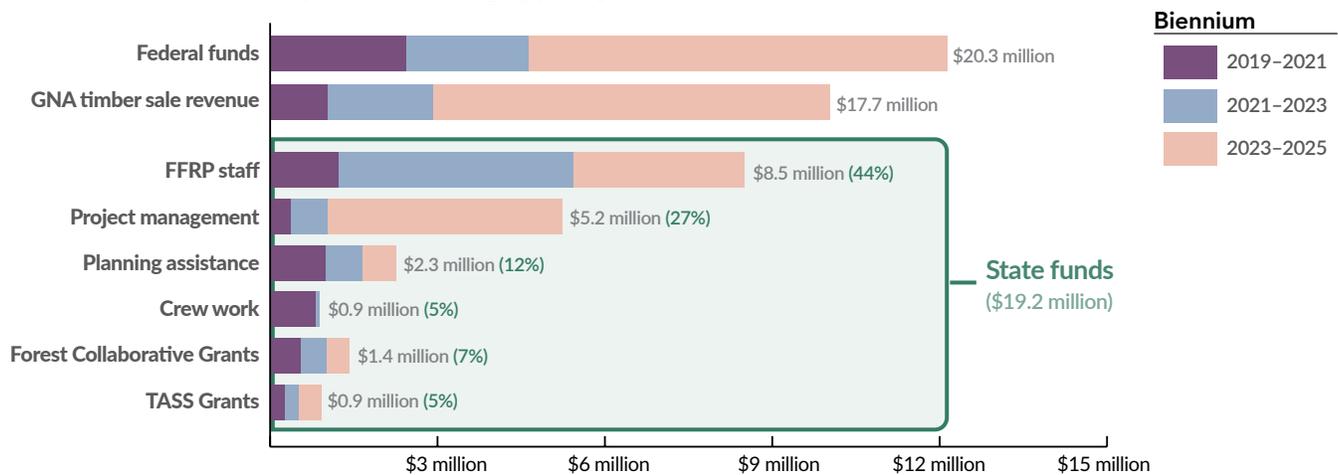
**143,804 acres** — during

over an anticipated

<sup>2</sup> Commercial projects are conducted under Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) agreements with the U.S. Forest Service

# Program investments and economic impact

## Total investments made by FFRP funding type by biennium, FY20–25



## Program investments by type:

**ODF FFRP staff** plan, prepare, and administer forest restoration and resilience projects under the Good Neighbor Authority. Program staff work with contractors and also perform on-the-ground treatments directly, for all activities the program performs including commercial, restoration service, and contract NEPA projects.

**Project management** primarily supports the administrative functions at ODF (e.g. procurement, information technology, human resources, etc.) through the administrative prorate. These investments also provide legal support and third-party program monitoring.

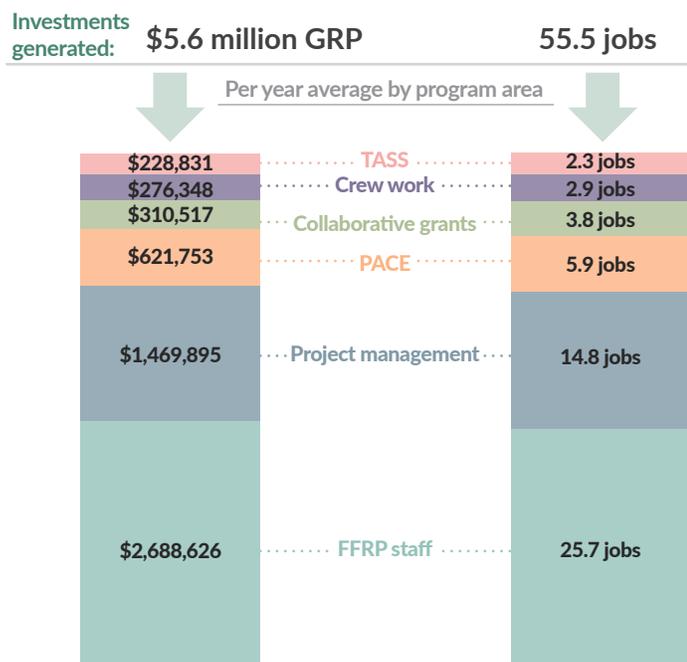
**Planning assistance** funds support the hiring of contractors to assist with project planning and federal law compliance, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). These investments support surveys and analysis that leads to more implementation-ready projects.

**Crew work** supports ODF fire crews completing chainsaw and field work when they are not engaged in fire response. This investment was phased out in the 2023–25 biennium as FFRP staffing increased and more work shifted to program staff and contractors.

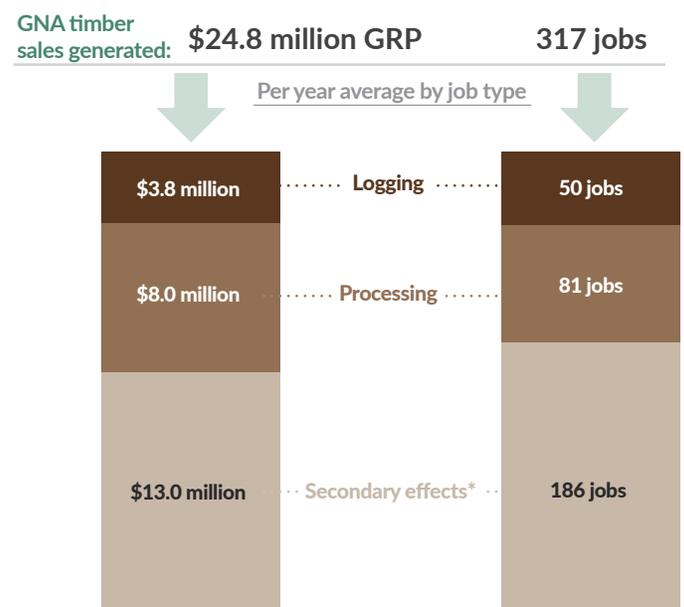
**Forest Collaborative Grants** provide facilitation support to forest collaboratives so they can build governance structures and develop zones of agreement, with the goal of improving social acceptance and shared understanding of proposed forest treatments.

**Technical Assistance and Science Support (TASS) Grants** provide forest collaborative groups access to expertise to support their agreement seeking efforts (e.g. researchers, outreach or communication specialists, social scientists).

## Average annual gross regional product (GRP) and jobs supported by FFRP investments by program area, FY20–25



## Average annual GRP and jobs supported by FFRP GNA timber sales, FY20–25



\*Secondary effects include employee spending and business purchases from suppliers and service providers

## Biennium (2025–2027) update & budget:

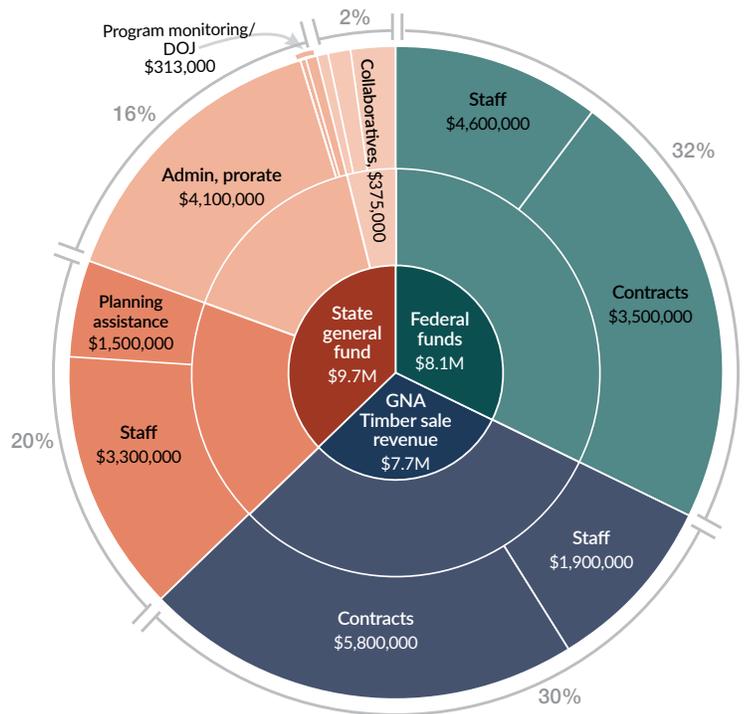
In October 2025, the FFR Program launched a new “A to Z” investment initiative designed to demonstrate clear additionality of program efforts and create a pathway to recover the costs of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) planning investments. These funds will support planning and compliance for relatively large project areas (>10,000 acres) completed from start to finish by ODF.

### Planned activities for the current 2025-27 biennium (July 1,2025–June 30,2027) include:

- Project planning and compliance for seven ‘A to Z’ projects covering 79,000 acres
- Completing 24,000 acres of non-commercial and commercial treatments, generating 91 million board feet
- Conducting landscape evaluations in six watersheds within the 20-year strategy priority geography

### \$25.5M budget

- » \$9.7M (38%) State
- » \$8.1M (32%) Federal
- » \$7.7M (30%) GNA Revenue



## PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: Lobert Restoration Project

Within the Fremont-Winema National Forest, the Klamath-Lake District of the Oregon Department of Forestry has completed a series of Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) projects designed to restore forest resilience and protect the community of Chiloquin from wildfire. The projects focused on reestablishing forest structure and species composition so stands can better withstand disturbance; maintaining and improving fish and wildlife habitat, particularly for mule deer; and conserving and restoring cultural plants and habitat for rare endemic plant species.

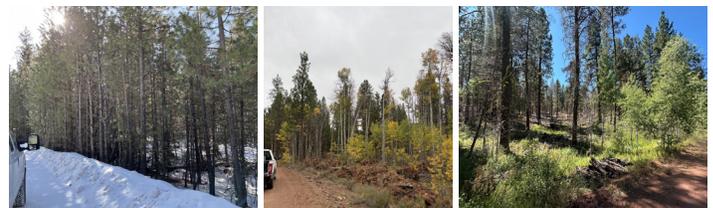
This project is within the Sprague River watershed, which was identified as a priority in the 20-year landscape resiliency strategy. According to the departure assessment used in the strategy (Laughlin et al., 2023<sup>1</sup>), 41% of the forest within this watershed requires disturbance to restore its historic structure.

Efforts within the Lobert Restoration Project area are a good illustration of the work ODF has been conducting in partnership with the forest since 2017. ODF has conducted a combination of commercial and non-commercial treatments within this project area to:

- restore a forest structure that can withstand wildfire, insect and disease;
- remove encroaching conifers from sensitive aspen stands;
- reduce ladder and activity fuels in improve firefighter access and suppression effectiveness.

To date, ODF has completed 5,400 acres of treatment within the Lobert project area and offered over 20 million board feet of forest products to the local market, supporting jobs and economic activity in the surrounding communities.

Individual projects are the Lobert Aspen Restoration Project consisting of a 70 acre non-commercial thinning project, the Lobert Draw Project consisting of 222 acres of non-commercial thinning within steep drainages, and the Ryhmano Grapple project consisting of 75 acres of heavy fuel loading piling work. This work was funded with GNA revenue generated from six commercial projects (including Rhymno GNA, Hippo GNA, Fir Lo GNA, and Sick Kid GNA). By pairing revenue-producing sales with high-priority restoration work, ODF can implement projects that otherwise would not move forward. This demonstrates the additive value envisioned in Oregon’s GNA statute.



From left to right: 1) Lobert Project Area prior to operations; 2) Lobert Aspen Restoration shortly after completion of operation; 3) Current state of Lobert Project Area with some Aspen along roadside

<sup>1</sup> Laughlin et al. 2023. 2023 iteration of the terrestrial ecological departure map for the Pacific Northwest. USDA Forest Service, PNW Region, and UW School of Environmental & Forest Sciences. <https://teui-region6-usfs.hub.arcgis.com/pages/ecological-departure>