

# Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act & Inflation Reduction Act: USDA Forest Service Overview & Opportunities

*This document provides an overview of the content and opportunities within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act as it relates to the USDA Forest Service. It does not include information on programs and activities funded through other appropriations.*

## Overview

Taken together, the 2021 [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) (IIJA; also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law or “BIL”) and 2022 [Inflation Reduction Act](#) (IRA) represent potentially transformative down-payments investing billions of dollars into reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire and other disasters, strengthening our fire-related infrastructure, and advancing restoration efforts for forests and grasslands.

The **IIJA** has two main sections focused on wildfire risk reduction and restoration: Section 40803 (Wildfire Risk Reduction) and 40804 (Ecosystem Restoration). There are approximately 40 provisions that the USDA Forest Service manages or is directly engaged in.

The **IRA** provides funding for hazardous fuels treatments and other wildfire mitigation and response (Section 23001, National Forest System Restoration & Fuels Reduction), competitive grants for non-federal landowners (Section 23002), and support for State, Private, & Tribal forestry conservation programs (Section 23003). The IRA contains roughly ten provisions the Forest Service manages or is directly engaged in.

## Supported programs and activities include:

### Post fire recovery

**Hazardous fuels reduction** on and off National Forest System lands

**Landscape restoration programs** (such as Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership & Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program)

**Community wildfire defense**

**Wildfire detection and monitoring**

**Fire response workshops**

**Aquatic connectivity**

**Watershed protection**

**Recreation site restoration**

**Tribal Forest Protection Act**

**Collaborative capacity**

**State Fire Assistance**

### Revegetation

**Invasive species** detection, research, eradication, & prevention

**Road & trail** construction and maintenance

**Removal of non-hydropower federal dams**

**Urban and community forestry**

**Old growth**

**Wood utilization**

**Firewood banking**

**Forest Legacy**

**NEPA**

**Climate mitigation, forest resilience, carbon market cost share/grants for private landowners**

**Good Neighbor Authority**

...And others

## How is the funding being spent?

The 50 or so provisions managed by the USDA Forest Service have various processes for determining how funding is prioritized and spent - and timelines for spending those funds. Mechanisms include:

- **Funds available to eligible entities** through grants.gov and notices of funding opportunity
- **Internal Agency funds managed by the USDA Forest Service:** prioritization and allocation decisions may be managed by the Washington Office, Regional Office, and/or individual Forest Service units. Some funding may be spent to support Agency staff and some funding may be spent through agreements or contacts with partners or contractors at the national, regional, and/or unit level.

## Where can I learn more?

Individual programs/funding opportunities are often posted on USDA Forest Service webpages managed by the staff areas responsible for it (or a relevant partner website) and opportunities and awards may be announced via USDA press release. There are also a few resources that provide limited information *across* provisions.

- <https://iratracker.org> allows the user to search for IRA programs/funding across a range of categories, and links to any relevant grant or other opportunities available for eligible entities to apply for directly.
- <https://www.tenstrategies.net/newfederalfunding> provides a similar search function for IJA, however, it does not link to open opportunities.

