

### **Forest Stewardship: Multiple authorities**

The Forest Stewardship funding offered each year in one Expanded Budget Line Item (SPST) includes components called:

- FSP - Forest Stewardship Program
- LOA – Landowner Assistance
- RFA - Rural Forestry Assistance
- FRM - Forest Resource Management
- RNGR - Reforestation, Nurseries and Genetic Resources

The relatively new (1990) “Forest Stewardship Program” focuses on private lands and most national guidelines, reporting, and funding allocation criteria for this funding are for private lands and landowners, or long-term private leases.

The older authorities (RFA, FRM, RNGR) can be used on non-federal public forest lands; these authorities are still valid and very appropriate to the islands. See “National S&PF Program Authorities and Guidance” pages 9-10 (<http://www.fs.fed.us/spf/redesign/spf%20authorities.pdf>) for lists of authorized activities. The Washington Office has clarified that authorized activities may include control of non-native animals to improve the quality of trees and other vegetation, habitat, and water (RFA Sec. 3(b)5; email from Karl Dalla Rosa, March 27, 2012).

All islands are required to have Forest Stewardship Committees and report Forest Stewardship accomplishments, even if their programs concentrate on RFA, FRM and RNGR.

Island grant proposals may include separate sections for each component, or may integrate them under relevant goals. Since it is all one funding source, it is not required to have completely separate proposals, budgets or reports for these different Stewardship components.

Most PMAS (or WebDet or SMART) data is only for private lands and private landowners. Therefore, islands with important projects on non-federal public forest lands, funded by Stewardship, should highlight those accomplishments in one or more of the following, visible reports:

- ✓ PMAS: Landowner Assistance Program Narratives (success stories)
- ✓ State Fact Sheets: Program Highlights
- ✓ “Redesign” reports on competitive grants