MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR SHARED STEWARDSHIP BETWEEN THE NORTHEAST-MIDWEST STATE FORESTERS ALLIANCE (NMSFA) AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Shared Stewardship is hereby made and entered into by and between the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service and the Northeast-Midwest State Foresters Alliance (NMSFA) on behalf of the states of the Northeast and Midwest; hereinafter referred to as "the Parties".

Connecticut	Indiana	Massachusetts	New Jersey	Rhode Island
Delaware	Iowa	Michigan	New York	Vermont
District of Columbia	Maine	Minnesota	Ohio	West Virginia
Illinois	Maryland	Missouri	Pennsylvania	Wisconsin
		New Hampshire		

Background

This MOU builds upon the regional Foundations for Collaboration for landscape scale conservation and management (Appendix I) established in 2009 and the regional Shared Stewardship MOU signed July 2020, renewing the commitment to work collaboratively to address forest threats across boundaries and ensure forests continue to provide public benefits for the people across the Northeast and Midwest.

The Nation's forests are a fundamental part of our landscape and American identity, and they are the legacy we keep in trust for future generations. Forests provide clean air and water, recreational opportunities, jobs, wildlife habitat, and a host of traditional and non-traditional forest products. The Northeast and Midwest region is home to one-quarter of the Nation's forests and 40% of the Nation's population. 92% of these forests are non-Federal lands, and 97% of the region's timber supply is held by non-Federal entities such as families, corporations, and states. In 2023, the region's forest products industry contributed $203 billion in economic output.[1] State forestry agencies and the Forest Service cooperatively play critical roles in protecting, managing, and restoring America's forests across a complex rural to urban land gradient. This lays the foundation for state forestry agencies and the Forest Service to collaborate with Tribes, communities, nonprofit partners, and private landowners, which is critical for sustained stewardship of our forests on a landscape scale.

I. PURPOSE:

Forests clean the water and air and provide a range of forest products, recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat, storm water management and residential energy savings in communities, and other benefits. However, there are many threats and stressors to these systems that need to be addressed to ensure healthy and resilient forests for the future. Shared stewardship for landscape scale conservation and management requires understanding how our distinctive roles, authorities, and collective responsibilities contribute to greater landscape goals. The Forest Service and NMSFA recognize that public benefits, as well as forest threats, cross boundaries and are best addressed collaboratively.

The purpose of this revised MOU is to reaffirm shared goals from the 2020 Shared Stewardship MOU

[1] Source: Forest Products Industries' Economic Contributions in the Northeast and Midwest Region 2023 report.

and foundations for collaboration between the Forest Service and the NMSFA. This MOU establishes three goals, codified in the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act (CFAA) listed below, to improve forest health and resilience through shared stewardship:

- Conserve and manage working forest landscapes for multiple values and uses.
- Protect forests from threats and restore appropriate forest types in response to such threats, including catastrophic wildfires, hurricanes, tornados, windstorms, snow or ice storms, flooding, drought, invasive species, and insect and disease outbreaks.
- Enhance public benefits from forests, including air and water quality, soil conservation, biological diversity, carbon storage, forest products, forestry related jobs, wildlife habitat, and recreation.

These goals contribute to Forest Service priorities to actively manage forests for health and productivity, protect communities and natural resources from wildfire, support disaster recovery, expand recreation access and improve visitor experience, prioritize safety, and strengthen partnerships to deliver results on the ground.

These goals also align with State Forest Action Plans (SFAPs), which are developed by state forestry agencies to assess the condition of trees and forests across each state and identify strategies to ensure healthy trees and forests into the future. In addition, regional common themes in the SFAP strategies across the Northeast and Midwest support these MOU goals (see Appendix II).

II. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFIT AND INTERESTS:

The Forest Service and NMSFA share the commitment to conserve and manage working forest landscapes, protect forests from threats, and enhance public benefits from forests. The Parties recognize the mutual benefits of a coordinated landscape-scale approach to forest restoration and management. Through shared stewardship, we seek to work seamlessly together and with other partners at a landscape level to achieve the goals and priorities in this MOU.

Across the NMSFA states, the Forest Service provides financial and technical assistance to deliver the programs authorized by the CFAA, manages National Forest System (NFS) lands for multiple uses, and carries out forest inventory, monitoring, and research programs.

NMSFA is a non-profit organization composed of 21 state forestry agencies stretching from Maine to Missouri. It cultivates a partnership framework for addressing cross-boundary issues and assisting with forestry program implementation. NMSFA also provides an important forum for State Foresters and state forestry agency staff to work together to provide practical solutions to the on-the-ground complexities of delivering meaningful and efficient conservation and management outcomes. Through NMSFA, the Forest Service and state forestry agencies have a long history of working together on developing shared priorities, coordinating landscape scale project development, such as the Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) Program, and exploring opportunities to coordinate forestry efforts for a more powerful collective impact across the entire regional footprint.

State Foresters are credible sources of information and provide leadership based on detailed knowledge of local economies, forest resources, partners, and landowners. State forestry agencies provide essential "boots on the ground" infrastructure that includes program implementation through technical and financial assistance to landowners and communities, administering Best Management Practices programs and forest practices regulations, implementing conservation tools such as easements, promoting wood utilization and markets for American wood, and providing wildland fire suppression and invasive species control. Many state agencies, through agreements such as Good Neighbor Authority (GNA), conduct critical management work on NFS lands in their state to keep our forests healthy and productive. State

forests and state tree seedling nurseries supply essential elements for landscape scale conservation and restoration. The infrastructure provided and supported by state forestry agencies is essential for maximizing public benefits from forests and meeting emerging challenges.

Most importantly, the Parties foster partnerships across states and with citizens and local, regional, and national stakeholders that multiply the efforts of all resource professionals and conservation experts. The Parties have a strong tradition of partnership and collaboration, but the current scale and urgency of threats demand even closer collaboration and continued work on all lands. To meet these challenges, the Parties continue an integrated approach. Federal legislation, including the EXPLORE Act, P.L. 118-234 (January 4, 2025), authorities such as the GNA, and existing programs such as the LSR Program provide powerful tools to accelerate forest management and reduce forests pests and wildfire at the landscape scale, and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities and long-term resilience.

Examples of ongoing shared stewardship successes across the Northeast and Midwest, contributing to the above goals include:

- Protected communities and natural resources from wildfire by treating a combined acreage of approximately 1.6 million acres of hazardous fuels on National Forests and state jurisdiction from 2020-2025, including 34,900 acres of hazardous fuels treated on National Forests through GNA projects.
- Expanded timber production and forest productivity and health of NFS lands through GNA agreements with multiple states, resulting in the sale of 644 million board feet of timber and 26,707 acres of active forest management from 2020-2025.
- Protected the health of forests across all lands in the Northeast and Midwest through cooperative forest health programs such as the Spongy Moth Slow the Spread, oak wilt, beech leaf disease, and hemlock woolly adelgid. For spongy moth alone, more than 1.7 million acres were cooperatively treated across the Northeast and Midwest 2020 to 2026, slowing the spread of the invasive species by 80%.
- Partnered to expand forest management across non-Federal lands through technical assistance and education for almost 920,000 private forest landowners and the preparation of almost 52,000 forest management plans covering more than 4 million acres of private woodlands from 2020-2025.
- Permanently conserved 250,000 acres of non-Federal working forests for recreation, timber production, and other public benefits through the Forest Service Forest Legacy and Community Forest and Open Space Programs 2020 to date, bringing the total for both programs to nearly 2 million acres.
- Annually assisted over 4,200 communities, serving over 80 million people with tree planting and maintenance, forest planning and management, public education, and workforce development.
- Restored more than 300,000 acres of non-Federal forestland through LSR Program 2018-2024 projects, including active management to improve wildlife habitat and water quality and to reduce hazardous fuels invasive plants, insects, and diseases.
- Collected and delivered forest inventory data across 20 states and the District of Columbia, leveraging the NMSFA Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Committee as a co-production framework.

III. THE PARTIES AGREE TO:

The Parties agree to continue collaborating on the delivery of CFAA programs, NFS partnerships, and

Research and Development partnerships to conserve working forests for multiple benefits, protect forests from threats, and maximize public benefits from forests. The NMSFA committees and staff will continue to serve as the foundation of this ongoing collaborative work, providing effective forums for facilitating regional collaboration, addressing shared forestry issues, and coordinating activities and resources. In addition to these collaborative, ongoing efforts, the parties agree to the following objectives for this MOU:

- **Collaborate on actions to support forest product markets.**

  The Parties recognize that thriving, consistent forest products markets support resilient forests and strong local economies. Collectively, we recognize market development for post-harvest forest residue and industrial byproducts will be a priority to support this sector in the long-term, and that close coordination between the Forest Service and state forestry agencies is needed to ensure timber supply from Federal and state sales aligns with market demand to avoid price depression and market disruption. This MOU reflects the Forest Service's trust in states to identify high-priority projects and urgent needs, and the states' confidence that the Forest Service will consider those priorities for technical or financial support, as available and appropriate. The MOU also reflects the mutual needs to partner with other organizations and enhance information sharing to forward overall goals. This includes supporting critical existing markets such as the paper and lumber sectors, and expanding innovative and emerging wood and biobased products, such as wood fiber packaging and other products that have traditionally used wood fiber in applications such as plastics and textiles; engineered wood products; and advanced soil amendments (e.g., biochar) to help develop unique and competitive markets in the region. The parties seek to continue supporting high-volume markets for low-value woody material like wood energy to encourage sustainable forest management practices and consistent demand.

  Working through the NMSFA Forest Markets and Utilization Committee to build markets and strengthen the wood industry, the Parties will collaboratively assess existing and potential wood processing, manufacturing, and energy-using facilities in the NMSFA region to establish two benchmarks:

  - To better understand the fiber needs of existing facilities, including which sectors are utilizing wood fiber by volume and quality, and
  - To identify those high-energy users in each state being impacted by increased energy costs that could utilize wood residues for process energy, facility heating, and electricity at their sites, and estimate the potential fiber needs of those users. This approach will consider wood fiber sustainably sourced from a variety of landscapes, including public and private, rural, urban areas, and communities; appropriate scale; and consistency with state forest-management objectives.

- **Improve wildfire response and reduce wildfire risk across communities in key areas through fire prevention, hazardous fuels reduction, training and development, and implementation of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs).**

  States and the Forest Service collaborate on wildfire prevention, reduction, and preparedness and help communities prepare CWPPs to provide regionwide reduction of wildfire risk. The Parties will collaborate to:

  - Maintain and seek improvement of the Northeast-Midwest Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal (NMWRAP), which provides the latest science and analytical tools for the public and states to make wildfire risk informed decisions.

- Identify areas with high wildfire risk that currently are not included in a CWPP or similar wildfire protection plan. This includes collaboration on the NMWRAP to identify priority areas.
- Prioritize fire prevention, fuels management, and development of CWPPs for areas with elevated wildfire risk. Collaborate with research, fire science exchanges, and the Northeast Regional Strategy Committee, to utilize best available science and leverage implementation opportunities.
- Continue working with partners to encourage use of prescribed fire through prescribed burn associations, certified prescribed fire practitioner programs, and legislative solutions to address liability. Coordinate prescribed fire practitioner qualifications across state and Federal jurisdictions.
- Support the continued reporting of grant accomplishments, including hazardous fuels acres treated, in order to update analytical tools such as the NMWRAP.
- Coordinate interagency collaboration between states and Federal agencies on all aspects of wildland fire management.

- **Collaborate on actions to address compounding forest health threats and restore forests across all ownerships.**

  Forest pests, invasive plants, environmental challenges, and land use changes threaten the health and productivity of eastern trees and forests at an unprecedented level. These threats impact individual tree species as well as the forest as a system and cause economic impacts to the forest products industry and communities, and they increase public safety risks.

  - The Parties recognize these economic, social, and environmental impacts and commit to developing renewed strategies to address this forest health crisis. These strategies would include a continued commitment by the Parties to work together and with other partners to address forest health threats, operational needs, and to jointly develop priorities to support healthier and more productive forests across the urban to rural gradient. Important components of such a strategy include, but are not limited to: Survey and monitoring, integrated pest management treatments, restoration, public outreach and education, and applied research. The Parties will focus on current core functions and how to best address forest health issues considering current technology, funding, and capacity. The NMSFA Forest Health Committee will serve as the primary forum to connect states, the Forest Service, and other partners to develop these strategies.
  - The Parties will pursue coordinated efforts for seed sourcing of native and pest-resistant trees for forest regeneration and restoration, such as sharing selection and production practices for genetically diverse, pest-resistant trees; sourcing and collecting native seed; sharing nursery stock across state lines; and tree breeding efforts.

- **Collaborate on disaster assessment and recovery for the Northeast and Midwest.**

  Natural disasters are becoming an increasingly frequent and intense threat to the Northeast and Midwest, including hurricanes, drought, tornados, ice storms, flooding, other storm events, and wildland fires, that not only damage forests but also the surrounding communities and their infrastructure. Large disaster events can impact multiple states and land ownerships and may require additional resources at the state and Federal level to support disaster response and recovery. Due to the increased frequency and scale of such events and the need for rapid response and recovery efforts, coordination is needed across multiple states and often across

local, state, and Federal agencies. A rapid response protocol for requesting assistance and a standardized methodology for assessing damage to aid in recovery planning efforts is critical to ensure affected landowners and communities receive the help they need. The Parties will collaborate to:

- Identify appropriate policies, procedures, and agreements that enable rapid resource deployment, information sharing, and streamlined approval processes.
- Evaluate the need for the development of a standardized method or protocol for quickly accessing difficult-to-reach affected areas and assessing forest, timber, and infrastructure damage after storms or other major disturbance events for adoption across the Northeast and Midwest.
- Support continued assistance for private landowners, such as for Forest Stewardship Plan development and implementation, encouraging conservation easements, and coordinating with the USDA Farm Service Agency to administer the Emergency Forest Restoration Program after qualifying natural disasters; and for communities, such as for forest management plan development and implementation and tree planting and maintenance, which are critical to mitigate natural disasters.
- Continue natural disaster reduction research with participation and communication between state and Federal partners.
- Leverage and coordinate mutual partners and projects associated with emergency response and long-term disaster recovery efforts.

- **Collaborate to deliver impactful science.**

  The Parties recognize that a collaborative approach to science yields new knowledge, information, data, stronger partnerships, and tools that are more useful to land managers and other end-users. Meaningful engagement between Forest Service Research and Development and the wider user community—states, universities, Tribes, nonprofits, and others—can be used to identify urgent management and information needs and supports the delivery of relevant science. Priorities in our region may include landscape-scale modeling to support forest planning and decision making, fire research and modeling, wildlife habitat concerns, and tools to address forest health challenges.

  - The Parties will continue to utilize the existing NMSFA committee structure to inform the agency's scientific agenda with emerging research, data, and information needs. The NMSFA FIA Committee and Forest Resource Planning Committee have served as a useful model for this concept in action, and other NMSFA committees can adopt a similar approach to working closely with Forest Service Research and Development.
  - The Parties will continue to leverage existing NMSFA committees and forums to communicate and disseminate research results and information to states and partners collectively. Regular and deliberative dialogue between Forest Service Research and Development and the state foresters supports science-based management decisions on non-Federal lands.

- **Advance landscape-scale conservation and restoration by supporting updates to and implementation of the SFAPs and National Forest Plans.**

  SFAPs guide the work of natural resource professionals to advance landscape-scale conservation and restoration across urban to rural lands. SFAPs provide an assessment of forest conditions and outline priorities and strategies to ensure healthy trees and forests into the future to provide

benefits including clean air and water, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, and forest products. They are updated at least every ten years using the latest data and science and input from partners and stakeholders. The Parties are committed to continue supporting and engaging in SFAP updates and implementation.

- The Parties will share information on training opportunities and support convening states for peer-learning and sharing on SFAP assessment and strategy development and implementation.
- Forest Service will share research results, data, and tools to support SFAPs, including FIA reports, National Woodland Owner Survey results, Timber Product Output reports, dashboards, and related tools; the NMWRAP; the Ecosystem Vulnerability Assessment in the Eastern Region; Forests-to-Faucets update; and other resources.
- The Parties will support SFAP and National Forest Plan updates, as appropriate, including providing input on drafts, supporting use of the adaptation workbook to develop strategies, and identifying shared goals.
- The Parties will support SFAP implementation through collaboration and coordination for efficient and effective delivery of the CFAA programs, including LSR, as allowable and allocated by Congress. State forestry agencies deliver landscape-scale conservation and management through programs that include assistance to private landowners, assistance to communities for tree planting and management, watershed forestry work from the Great Lakes to the Chesapeake Bay, and implementation of forest health, protection, and conservation practices on forest land across multiple ownerships.

The Parties will continue to use the NMSFA committee structure to develop implementation priorities, identify lead partners, and document measurable progress toward the objectives of this MOU.

IV. MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES:

A. **Legal and regulatory expectations**—The parties are bound by all applicable Federal, state, and local statutes and regulations. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to alter, limit, or expand the agencies' statutory and regulatory authority. If conflicts arise, the parties will evaluate how authorities can best achieve the goals of a project.

B. **Tribal rights and interests**—The Parties understand federally recognized Tribes may have treaty or reserved rights, consider certain areas or objects sacred, or have other interests in National Forest System lands and waters covered under this agreement. The Forest Service may consult Tribes if it determines that policy formulation or implementation under this agreement, or related contracts/agreements, have Tribal implications. Nothing in this agreement or related contracts/agreements alters the Federal government's government-to-government and trust relationship with Tribes or limits the Forest Service's authority under or compliance with Federal law.

C. **Communication**—The Parties will conduct business pertaining to this MOU by means of in-person meetings, virtual meetings, or other means and, in each calendar year, the Parties will meet at least once annually to evaluate progress on the MOU, identify near-term implementation priorities and responsible NMSFA committees and partners, and report annual accomplishments.

V. PRINCIPAL CONTACTS:

Individuals listed below are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this agreement.

Principal Northeast-Midwest State Foresters Alliance Contact:

NMSFA Program and Administrative Contact
Name: Ian MacFarlane Address: 444 N. Capitol St. NW, Suite 387, Washington, DC 20001 Phone: 202-580-5444 Email: ian@northeasternforests.org

Principal Forest Service Contacts:

Forest Service Program Contact	Forest Service Administrative Contact
Name: Susan Ellsworth Address: 626 E. Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53202 Phone: 414-232-9591 Email: susan.ellsworth@usda.gov	Name: Sherri Wormstead Address: 271 Mast Rd., Durham, NH, 03820 Phone: 603-244-0799 Email: sherri.j.wormstead@usda.gov

VI. PROVISIONS:

A. **Participation in similar activities**— This Agreement in no way restricts the Parties from entering into agreements for similar activities with other entities.

B. **Nonbinding agreement**— This Agreement is nonbinding and creates no right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable by law or equity. The Parties will manage their respective resources and activities separately, while coordinating as appropriate to advance the purposes of this agreement.

C. **Use of separate instruments and availability of appropriations**— The Parties will evaluate the use of and need for separate authorities and instruments to implement management activities and projects. Specific, prospective projects or activities that involve the transfer of funds, services, property, and/or anything of value to a party requires the execution of separate agreements and are contingent upon numerous factors, including, as applicable, but not limited to: agency availability of appropriated funds and other resources; cooperator availability of funds and other resources; agency and cooperator administrative and legal requirements (including agency authorization by statute). This agreement neither provides, nor meets these criteria. If the parties elect to enter into an obligation agreement that involves the transfer of funds, services, property, and/or anything of value to a party, then the applicable criteria must be met.

D. **Commencement, review, expiration and termination**— This Agreement is executed as of the date of the last signature and will remain in effect for up to five years unless terminated or modified. The Parties may conduct an annual review of this Agreement to evaluate its effectiveness, performance, compliance, and continued relevance. Any of the Parties may, in writing, terminate this Agreement, in whole or in part, at any time before the expiration date.

VII. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES:

By signature below, each party certifies that the individuals listed in this document as representatives of the individual parties are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this MOU.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have executed this MOU as of the last date written below.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service:

Date: 10/29/2026 **By:** _____
Thomas M. Schultz Jr. Chief
USDA Forest Service

Northeast-Midwest State Foresters Alliance:

Date: 10/29/26 **By:** _____
Patrick Hackley, NH State Forester
President, Northeast-Midwest State Foresters Alliance

Appendix I. Foundations of Collaboration

The successful pursuit of landscape scale conservation and management requires exceptional collaboration, openness to multiple goals and approaches, and shared purpose, responsibility, and communication. A driving principle of this approach is to take advantage of existing programs and efforts, while lending focus to the efforts of willing partners to address issues on landscapes. The SFAPs, NFS Land and Resource Management Plans, and outputs from the Northern Forest Futures Project are integral examples to emerging landscape scale conservation opportunities.

The following key aspects of successful collaboration serve as our Foundations of Collaboration.

Information and Communication are at the core of decision-making, both at the ground and policy levels. Collaboration among the Forest Service, state forestry agencies, and other partners helps fill knowledge gaps and address forest vulnerabilities. Clear and active communication among these parties allows sharing lessons learned, supporting priorities, and aligning different objectives. High-quality information must be produced, gathered, synthesized, and shared to create the basis of informed decision-making. The FIA Program is one example of a collaborative information system that underlies much of the work accomplished by the Forest Service, state forestry agencies, and NGO partners. Outreach is crucial to educate the public about current and future ecosystem challenges, the options in meeting those challenges, and why it matters.

Shared Landscapes and Shared Issues form focal points of intensive collaboration, integrating cutting-edge science, assessment, adaptation, monitoring, and other appropriate actions between the Forest Service, state foresters, and other partners. The intent is to bring shared expertise and resources to ongoing efforts, such as contributing to the implementation of SFAPs that identify and address priority landscapes, and developing and applying new techniques in land management. In shared landscapes, the overarching goal is to integrate these and other efforts where appropriate and possible, while fundamentally enhancing collaboration and public involvement and awareness throughout the region in the long-term. Continued support from the Forest Service reflects the trust and confidence in state foresters to carry out projects that will best serve the landscapes they oversee. A renewed focus on GNA agreements and partnerships with state forestry agencies provides an effective tool to collaborate on land management projects to achieve such shared goals as timber, recreation, and habitat management. Without continued investment by the Forest Service, vital projects that state foresters intend to implement for the good of the forest, the economy, and communities may not be possible.

Risk Management involves the assessment and mitigation of various ecosystem stressors, restoration for system resilience in the face of stressors, and effectively tests potential management responses at the landscape scale. It is vital to build off of the existing knowledge and experience held by state forestry agencies to identify the high-priority risks in their area, such as improving water quality and aquatic resources, addressing wildfire threats, utilizing forest products markets as a tool for forest management, and using innovative methods for mitigating the impact of invasive species. By focusing our collaborative efforts on specific portions of shared landscapes, we ensure that we efficiently test ideas and approaches and thereby replicate wise-use decisions through sound ecosystem management and protection.

Research and Implementation of innovative strategies and tools is ultimately where success is determined. The Forest Service, states, and other partners must identify opportunities for innovation and use that new knowledge to implement priority activities. Success is determined by how the elements work in concert to affect the provision of public benefits from forests in the Northeast and Midwest. The Forest Service and state forestry agencies must provide important resources, services, coordination, infrastructure, oversight, professional expertise, and engage effort into research opportunities to manage and protect forests across all ownerships.

Appendix II. Common Themes in 2020 SFAPs Across the Northeast and Midwest[2]

State Forest Action Plans (SFAPs) guide the work of natural resource professionals to provide forest benefits for future generations. The 176 million acres of forest in the Northeast and Midwest provide clean water, wildlife habitat, recreation, jobs, forest products, and carbon storage. Urban and community trees also conserve energy and mitigate stormwater runoff. SFAPs provide an assessment of forest conditions and outline priorities and strategies to ensure healthy trees and forests into the future. SFAPs are required for states to receive federal funding authorized by the CFAA and are revised at least every 10 years with input from stakeholders.

The common themes in SFAP strategies are important shared priorities to focus collaboration over the next 10 years in support of healthy forests for the future. These common themes are all important (not listed by priority) and are highly interconnected.

- Communications and Education
- Collaboration and Partnerships
- Sustainable Forest Management: Private Lands
- Sustainable Forest Management: Public Lands
- Keep Forests as Forests
- Urban and Community Forest Management
- Forest Health
- Climate Adaptation and Carbon Management
- Clean Water
- Wildlife Habitat
- Wildfire and Prescribed Fire
- Forest Products and Markets
- Forest-Based Recreation
- Research, Assess, and Monitor

State Forest Action Plans are a call to action and the regional common themes are shared priorities for partners at all levels to collaborate on so our forests are healthy, resilient, and continue to provide clean water, air, recreation, forest products, and wildlife habitat for future generations.

[2] This is from a briefing paper for the Regional Summary of 2020 SFAPs, which was completed March 2022.