



United States Department of Agriculture

Key Partnership Tools: Cooperative Fire Management Agreement (CFMA)



Forest Service

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender

CFMA

- **California Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement**
- **Agreement is between USFS Regions 4,5,6 CAL-Fire, USDI BIA,NPS,BLM and FWS**
- **Took 18 months to develop**
- **Dictates how we will work with each other**
- **Exhibit D and F**



CFMA Exhibit D

- Referred to as a supplemental project agreement (SPA)
- Joint prescribed burning, operations, site preparation, and necessary follow-up activities for specific prescribed burn units on non-federal and federal lands, where the operations serve the public interest and support the Agencies' missions.
- Used to exchange money
- Can be signed by the Unit Administrator
- You will need a financial Plan



CFMA Exhibit F

- Using this as a legal “handshake”
- Specific to prescribe burning
- “joint prescribed burning” is defined as the unified activity of two or more agencies, state or federal, or any combination thereof.
- Provides a mandatory template for the Project Specific Agreement and Operating Plan
- A qualified prescribed fire Burn Boss (federal lands), prescribed fire manager (federal lands), or Incident Commander (IC) (SRA) is the individual with the final authority when Implementing the prescribed burn plan





United States Department of Agriculture

Key Partnership Tools : Good Neighbor Authority (GNA)



Forest Service

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender

What is the Good Neighbor Authority (GNA)?

GNA allows FS to enter into agreements and fund any State* agency to perform ***forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration services*** on NFS lands

*2019 Farm Bill added Counties and Tribes to GNA, however only States can manage revenue generated by projects





Who is responsible for what?

Relies more on state's* processes

FS responsible for NEPA Decision

State can do all work up to NEPA Decision (eg: sale prep, environmental analysis, biological assessments, surveys, etc.)

Roles and responsibilities should be clearly delineated in agreement

How does funding work?

There is no additional GNA funding associated with the authority

Any funding that can be used on/off NFS lands can be transferred to the partner State agency to be used in same manner

Stewardship retained receipts cannot be used

GNA agreement does not have to include funding transfer from FS

GNA is not a collection authority



Key GNA Parameters

- An area where the state* has “complementary activities”
- Adjacency is not required
- No match required
- Not restricted by mutual interest/mutual benefit
- 10 year agreements
- Forest Service approves any marking guides and silvicultural prescriptions
- Program revenue from sale of forest products can only be spent on NFS lands
 - Program revenue can be used for NEPA



Wyden Authority

The Wyden Amendment (Public Law 105-277, Section 323 as amended by Public Law 109-54, Section 434) authorizes the cooperative agreements to benefit resources within watersheds on federal lands. Agreements may be with willing Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments, private and nonprofit entities, and landowners to conduct activities on public or private lands for the following purposes:

- Protection, restoration, and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat and other resources,
- Reduction of risk for natural disaster where public safety is threatened
- combination of both.





New R5 USFS Partnership Resource Page

- CA – USFS Collaborative Directory
- Collaborative Resources
- Good Neighbor Resources
- Stewardship Agreement Resources

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r5/workingtogether/partnerships>





United States Department of Agriculture

Questions?

robyn.woods@usda.gov



Forest Service

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender