

Modernization: What it Takes

Creating simpler, less bureaucratic, more flexible and modern approaches to our forest management work

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Modernizing 4FRI Implementation

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Why Modernize?

80 million + acres in need of restoration treatment

50 million+ acres at high risk of wildfire, insects and disease



Forest Products Modernization Strategic Framework for Long-Term Action 2019-2023

- Investing in **people**
- Expanding use of new **technology**
- Improving **business practices**
- Updating **policy**

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Forest Products Modernization Strategic Framework for Long-Term Action: 2019-2023

The Ames-Celwer's Concessions Group Concessions Project in the Eldorado and Stanislaus National Forests, California. Photo by USDA Forest Service.

What is Forest Products Modernization
The goal of Forest Products Modernization (FPM) is to better align the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service culture, policies, and procedures with current and future forest restoration needs to increase the pace and scale of restoration and improve forest conditions. We are striving for efficiencies (time and cost) in how we manage forests, deliver forest products, and carry out timber sales to increase acres treated and volume produced.

Why Modernize?
About 80 million acres of the lands we manage as an agency are at risk of catastrophic wildfires or abnormal levels of insect and disease impacts. Drinking water, homes, communities, wildlife habitat, historic places, sacred sites, recreation opportunities, and scenic vistas are among the many values at risk.

Our fiscal year 2019 timber harvest and fire risk mitigation goals are to sell 3.7 billion board feet of timber volume and to treat 3.4 million acres—all while facing increasingly constrained budgets and resources. Our systems served us well under very different forest and staffing conditions, but we need to evolve to keep up with changing climate, technology, and markets. The magnitude of the challenges we face today demands that we use every authority, tool, and technology available to improve forest conditions, support rural economies, and deliver excellent customer service while managing workloads and caring for the health and safety of employees.

How We Are Modernizing
This framework outlines a path to better integrate our forest management program with other U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service programs and provide employees with tools and support to increase active management of National Forest System lands. We are incorporating feedback and ideas from hundreds of employees and partners to identify how we can improve by:

- Investing in **People** through improving recruitment and retention strategies and increasing training and education opportunities for employees.
- Expanding use of new **Technology** to increase efficiency.
- Improving **Business Practices** to be more responsive to employee and customer needs.
- Updating **Policy** to support modernized practices and processes.

We will achieve this through innovation and reasonable risk-taking, finding efficient ways to deliver forest products, and sharing stewardship of the land with States, Tribes, and industry partners.

Continuous innovation over the long term is critical to our agency's ability to improve conditions of forests and grasslands, provide excellent customer service, enhance recreation opportunities, and inspire and empower employees. Forest Products Modernization is not a strategy with an end date or finish line; it must become part of our culture. This strategy calls on every employee to be an advocate for change and innovation, continually seeking new and better ways to approach the day-to-day work and strengthen relationships with partners to find creative solutions to shared problems.

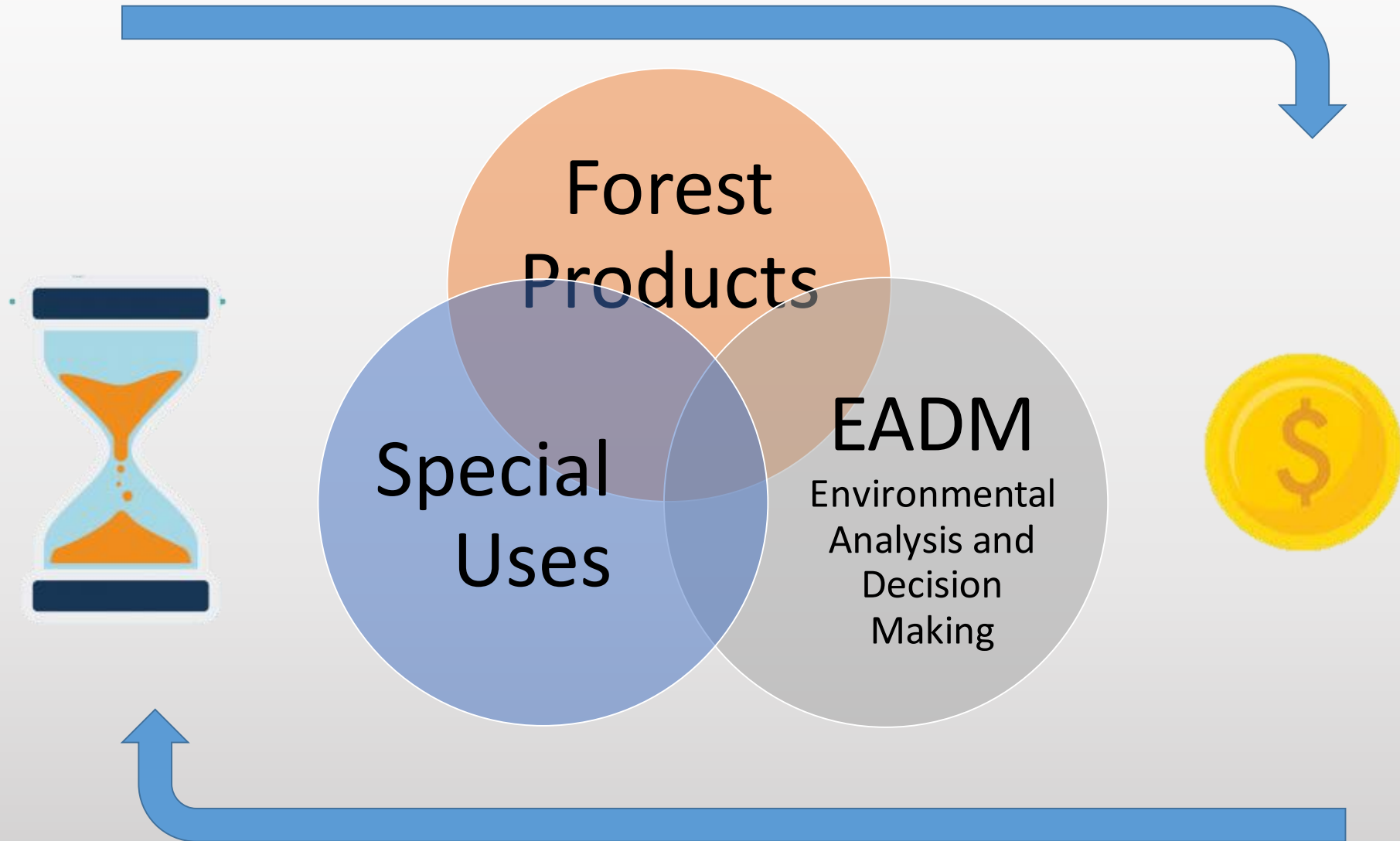
What We Have Done
Since initiating the FPM effort in June 2017, we have collaboratively reviewed the forest products delivery system. We have collected feedback and ideas from more than 150 partners, including industry, and more than 1,000 agency employees, resulting in more than 100 modernization actions added to our project pipeline.

We solicited ideas from solution teams made up of district, forest, regional, and Washington Office employees and more broadly through a dedicated FPM email address, a suggestion box on the national SharePoint site, and a series of virtual feedback sessions. A summary of how we

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Forest Service FS-1133d July 2019

Modernization Philosophy




Modernization Philosophy

Our core values:

- Service
- Interdependence
- Conservation
- Diversity
- Safety



United States Department of Agriculture



THIS IS WHO WE ARE

Values based.
Purpose driven.
Relationship focused.



Forest Service

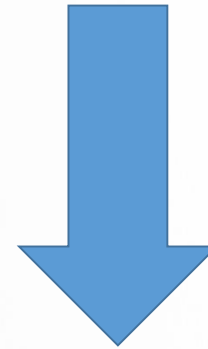
FS-1124a

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Modernization= Cultural Shift

“How do we usually do this?”



“How can we do this ***better***?”

4FRI: Innovation Incubator



- Digital Prescription Guide
- Virtual boundaries
- Landscape-scale NEPA

National Modernization Accomplishments

Since 2017: Hired >300 recent graduates

2019: 230 new positions approved

New training courses:

- Designation by Prescription
- Basic Timber Sale Prep
- Sale Administration Training Academy.

New minimum rates for low-value material

90% use of digital technology for cruising



Region 8- Unmanned Aerial Systems



Region 6- Designation by Prescription

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PRESCRIPTION PURSUANT TO C2.355# (OPTION 1) - DESIGNATION BY PRESCRIPTION.
(5/2015)

Table 1 - Prescription Summary

Subdivision Number	Designated Cut Tree Species	Tree Designation	Average Leave Trees per Acre	Acceptable Range in Leave Trees per Acre ¹	Number of No Treatment, No Equipment Skips	Number of Half Acre Gaps	Number of One Acre Gaps	Number of Radial Tree Releases
20A	Douglas-fir & Western Hemlock	DxP	50	47-53 ^{1/}	N/A	2	N/A	30
22	Douglas-fir & Western Hemlock	DxP	50	47-53 ^{1/}	N/A			
23	Douglas-fir	DxP	80	77-83 ^{1/}	N/A	3	N/A	20
26	Douglas-fir, Western Hemlock & Red Alder	DxP	50	47-53 ^{1/}	1	N/A		25
29	Douglas-fir, Western Hemlock & Red Alder	DxP	65	62-68 ^{1/}	N/A	2	1	40
20	Douglas-fir & Western Hemlock	<p align="center">Individual Cut Tree Marked By Forest Service, Cut trees marked in blue tracer paint</p>						



Region 9- Good Neighbor Authority



What's Next for Modernization?

- Line Officer Academy
- Markets and Utilization
- Recruitment and retention
- National sale advertising platform
- TIM modernization





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We Need Your Help!



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FOREST PRODUCTS MODERNIZATION Partner Feedback Sessions Summary Report



Forest Service



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What's on your mind?

