

Western Coordinating Committee of Extension Foresters – Logic Model – 2024-2029

SITUATION:
 Owners and managers of forested lands across the Western U.S. face challenges associated with managing, mitigating, and recovering from threats such as changing climatic conditions, heightened risk of destructive wildfires, acute needs for reforestation and rehabilitation following wildfires, growing abundance and proliferation of invasive species, changing landownership patterns, and limited public understanding of the benefits of active forest management. Adjacent communities also deal with associated threats, such as wildfires and post-fire flooding.

PRIORITIES:
 Dissemination of science-based information using audience-appropriate materials and approaches is one essential component of ensuring sustainable management of forests to foster ecosystem services, healthy communities, and healthy economies. Coordination among Extension Foresters in the Western states could enable more efficient and effective use of limited resources available for educating about natural resource management in a collaborative manner and help build crucial professional capacity within a small cadre of specialized educators. This is the intent of the Western Coordinating Committee of Extension Foresters.

INPUTS	ACTIVITES / OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES		
		Short-term	Medium-term	Long-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time commitments from Extension foresters in each western state to gather once per year. • Expenses for each forester to travel to annual gathering. • Time commitments from a chair, secretary/chair-elect, and administrative advisor to plan annual gathering and prepare annual report. • Collaboration with entities outside academia (e.g., USFS, BLM, NRCS, state agencies, natural resource NGOs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One annual gathering of Extension foresters from Western states to facilitate discourse and identify opportunities for collaboration. • Maintenance of contact details of all Western Extension foresters to enable communication through a listserv. • Professional development opportunities for Western Extension foresters. • Strategic planning among Extension foresters to identify opportunities for multistate collaboration and integrated activities. • Program and idea sharing that Extension foresters can adapt and use for their states. • Intentional seeking of funding for joint multi-state efforts. • Planning and execution of joint educational events. • Creation of joint educational products. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased capacity and efficiency of Extension personnel in Western states. • Increased awareness and knowledge regarding science-based management strategies for forestlands and the natural resources contained within. • Increased outreach to underserved audiences (e.g., Tribal, Spanish-speaking, women, professional loggers). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased adoption of sustainable management practices across forestlands in the Western US. • Increased application of science-based information to natural resource policy or decision-making. • Increased retention of Extension foresters due to cross state collegiality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased preparedness for changing climatic conditions. • Increased resiliency of forestlands across the Western US. • Improved forestry efficiency and profitability.