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Forest Service U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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State and Tribal Nurseries



Conifer seedlings at a nursery take root. (USDA Forest Service photo by Andrew Avitt).

Tree nurseries are vital to efforts to restore forests following wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disturbances. Targeted replanting of forests on federal, state, tribal, and privately managed land following devastating wildfires is key to ensuring resilient forests for future generations to use and enjoy. Over the last two decades we have witnessed what has become a now familiar pattern: bigger and more destructive wildfires that are extremely difficult to suppress. America's forests are in a state of fire emergency: Nearly a quarter of the contiguous United States remains at moderate to very high risk of severe wildfires, and the need for intensive reforestation efforts is increasing.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests in the nation's network of state, commonwealth and territory, and tribal nurseries, which produce tree seedlings to support ecosystem restoration and conservation on all lands. In 2022, 38 State and territorial nurseries reported growing 123 million tree seedlings to support projects across the nation.

In early 2023, state, island territory, and commonwealth nurseries across the country received financial assistance through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to make improvements to the operation and efficiency of reforestation nurseries. Twenty-seven state nurseries have been selected to receive funding, as well as two nurseries managed by Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Republic of Marshall Islands.

The Forest Service also supports technical assistance and research to assist nursery operators through the <u>Reforestation, Nurseries, and Genetic Resources (RNGR)</u> program. This program is composed of specialists and researchers who provide technical guidance and best available science for nurseries and land managers regarding production and planting of trees and other native plants for reforestation, restoration, and conservation. In addition to regularly appropriated funding, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is helping to fund <u>RNGR</u> technical assistance to improve reforestation and restoration activities on Federal, state, Tribal, local, private, industrial, and international lands.

The agency is currently working closely with Tribes to provide technical assistance and award financial assistance to tribal nurseries to improve nursery operations. More information about this initiative will be announced later in 2023.

News and Announcements

Press Release: <u>Biden-Harris Administration Invests Nearly \$10 Million for Reforestation through</u> <u>Forest Nursery and Native Seed Partnerships</u>

Funding by State, Island Territory, and Commonwealth

Arkansas	+
Colorado	+
Florida	+
Georgia	+
Hawaii	+
Illinois	+
Indiana	+
lowa	+
Kansas	+
Kentucky	+

Maryland	+
Michigan	+
Minnesota	+
Missouri	+
Montana	+
Nevada	+
New Hampshire	+
New Jersey	+
New York	+
North Carolina	+
North Dakota	+
Oklahoma	+
Pennsylvania	+
South Carolina	+
Texas	+
Washington	+
Wisconsin	+
Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands	+
Republic of Marshall Islands	+

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