

Photo Credit: Oregon Forest Products Institute

Photo Credit: D. R. Johnson



Brian Brashaw

USDA Forest Service State, Private, and Tribal Forestry

**WOOD INNOVATIONS
AUGUST 2025**





USDA Forest Service Wood Innovations Program

BUILDING MARKETS ... STRENGTHENING INDUSTRY



NO MARKETS ... NO MANAGEMENT?
Forest Products Support Healthy Forests

Priorities

- **Mass Timber and Green Building**
- **Wood Energy and Biomass Priorities**
 - Biomass Power, CHP, Thermal
 - Biofuels
 - Biochar
- **Hardwood Applications**
- **Logging Industry**
- **Temporary Bridges**
- **Feedstock Sustainability**
- **Communications**



Wood Innovations Team: [Link to Contacts](#)

National Office

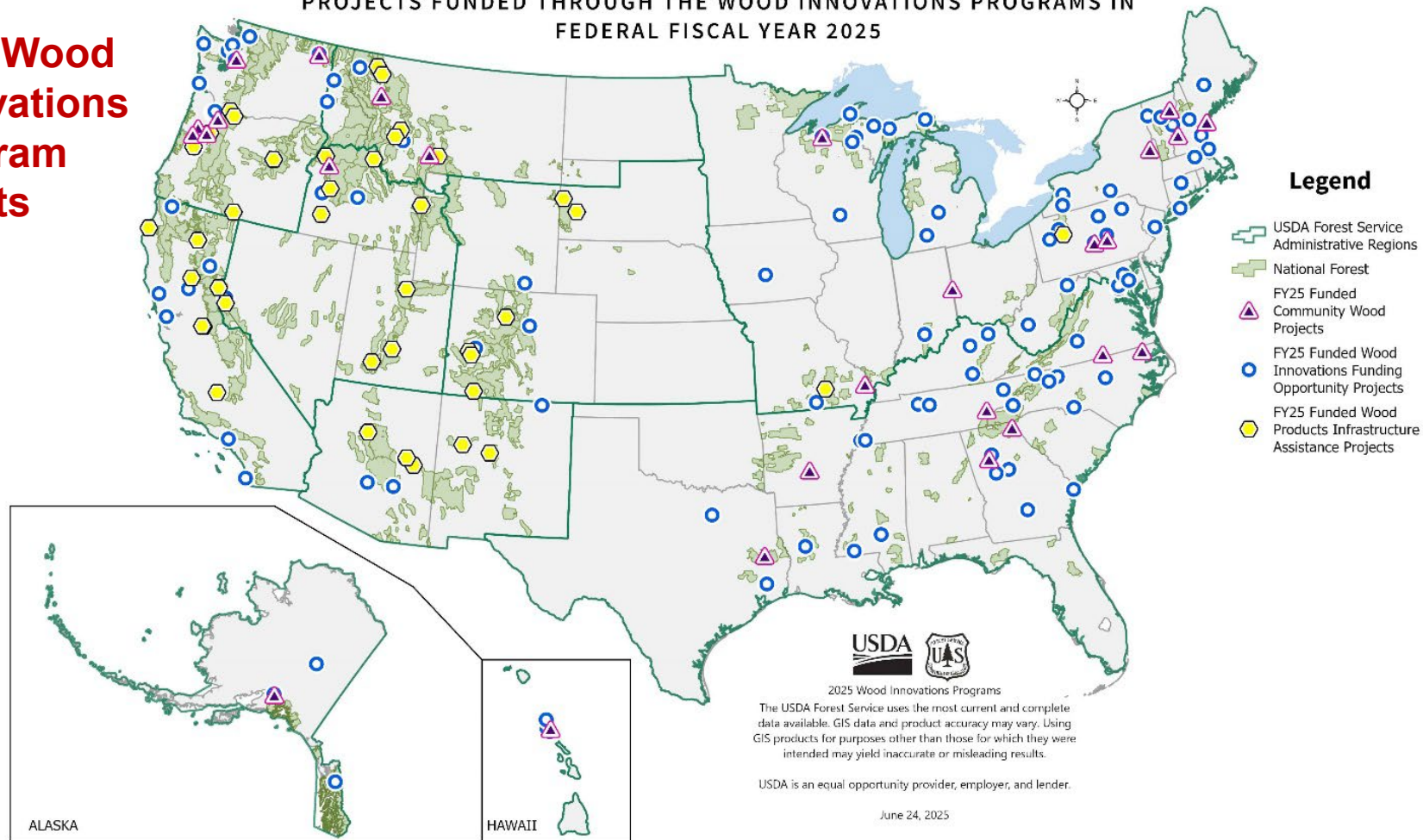
- Brian Brashaw
- Julie Tucker
- Alex Kazer
- Jeff High
- Collin Buntrock
- Kristen Bergstrand (NFS)

Regions

- Julie Kies (R1)
- Todd Gardiner (R2)
- Grace Sorenson (R3)
- Chris Clark (R4)
- Jim Dipasquale (R5)
- Adrian Kiser, Candice Washington, Alex Kazer (R6/10)
- Marcus Taylor, Jaime Hernandez (R8)
- Lew McCreery, Patrick Rappold (R9)

2025 Wood Innovations Program Grants

PROJECTS FUNDED THROUGH THE WOOD INNOVATIONS PROGRAMS IN FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2025



Upcoming Grant Programs: **All NOFOs dependent on Administration/Department approval and funding availability**

Wood Innovation Grants

Community Wood Energy Grants

Wood Products Infrastructure Assistance Grants

Tentative NOFO Announcement:

- Mid-October 2025

Tentative Proposal Due Dates:

- January 2026

Notice of Funding Opportunity(s) will be available online:

- [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)
- [Wood Innovations Homepage](#)

Eligible Applicants

- For-profit entities;
 - State, local governments;
 - Indian Tribes;
 - School districts;
 - Not-for-profit organizations;
 - Institutions of higher education; and
 - Special purpose districts (e.g., public utilities districts, fire districts, conservation districts, and ports)
-
- **Construction Costs are not allowed!**

Wood Innovation Grants

Purpose: Stimulate, expand, and support wood products markets and wood energy markets.

Program goals:

- Reduce hazardous fuels and improve forest health on National Forest System and other forest lands
- Reduce costs of forest management on all land types
- Promote economic and environmental health of communities

Funding Award Ceiling: \$300,000

- Exception: Up to \$1 million for stationary wood energy systems greater than 5 MW in thermal output

Cooperator Match: 1:1 or 100%

- Applicants must contribute matching funds equal to 100% of the Forest Service requested funds.

Community Wood Grants

Purpose: Support local economies by funding turn-key, ready-to-implement projects that either

- expand the number of thermally-led wood energy systems; OR
- build or expand innovative wood products manufacturing facilities.

Program goals:

- Install thermally-led wood energy system (<5 MW) OR to build or expand innovative wood product
- Improve forest health; and
- Stimulate local economies.

Funding Award Ceiling: \$1 million

- Special circumstances: \$1.5 million per grant and no more than 50% of total capital costs. **Advanced approval required.**

Cooperator Match

- Traditional match is not required--leveraging is required.
- Award amount can be no more than 35% of total capital costs
 - Remaining 65% of capital costs must be provided by applicant
 - Ex. \$1 million award requires \$1.857 million in cooperator contributions

Wood Products Infrastructure Assistance (WPIA) Grants

Purpose: Establish, reopen, retrofit, expand, or improve a sawmill or other wood-processing facility.

Projects must:

- Procure significant amount of feedstock from ecosystem restoration projects on federal or Indian lands
- Federal or tribal lands must be at risk of unnaturally severe wildfire or insect or disease infestation
- Be near the ecosystem restoration project

Funding Award Ceiling: \$1 million

Cooperator Match

- No match requirement.

Grant Program Key Points

- **All NOFOs dependent on Administration/Department approval and funding availability.**
- Applicants must be registered and have an active registration in SAM.gov to apply
- Engage early and often with Regional Coordinators
- Ensure your project meets the intent and eligibility of the grant program
- Application information can be found on Grants.gov and [Wood Innovations webpage](#)
- **Keep up to date with the various program deadlines (TENTATIVE)**

October 2025

- FY26 Notice of Funding Opportunity Announced

January 2026

- FY26 Proposals Due

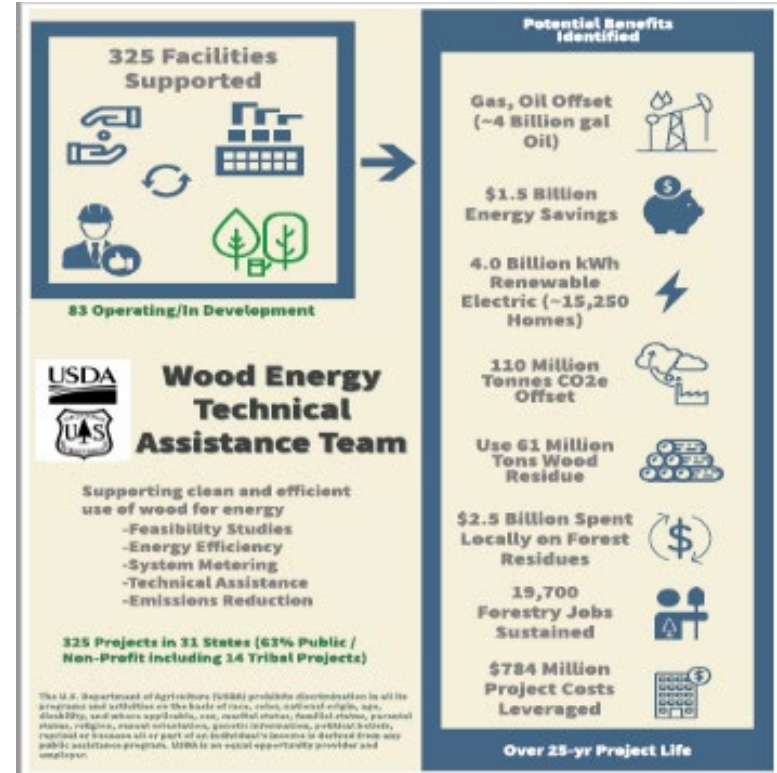
Late Spring 2026

- FY26 Awards Announced

Wood Innovations Team Assistance



Wood Energy Team: Heating, Cooling and Combined Heat and Power Systems



Wood Manufacturing Assistance Team

- Free technical assistance to small to medium-sized wood products facilities
- Services may include:
 - Operational Audits
 - Capital Project Planning
 - Strategic Planning
 - Market Studies
 - Education and Training
 - Benchmarking



U.S. Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory



Partnerships Matter





MOTTO
— Caring for
the Land and
serving
people



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Forest Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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