

# The Renewable Resources Extension Act REMAINS CRITICAL IN 2018

The RREA funds forestry Extension programs at 73 land-grant universities nationwide to provide guidance to the country's 11 million+ forest and range landowners on best management practices. These landowners are responsible for 441,000,000 acres of forest and rangeland.<sup>2</sup> Management of this land strongly influences the economic, environmental, and social well-being of the nation. RREA finances thousands of educational events and learning opportunities that help private landowners keep their lands productive and healthy. The social and economic strength of working lands would be vastly diminished without this funding.

Private landowners and their managed forests supply forest products companies with the wood they need. Forest products companies in the US account for nearly 4 percent total U.S. manufacturing GDP and employ close to a million men and women. 1 in 10 manufacturing jobs in 45 out of 50 states depend on the strength and resilience of this industry.



**11,000,000+** INDIVIDUALS  
AND FAMILIES

## What is RREA?

Since 1978, the Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) has expanded Extension educational programs for private forest and rangeland resources.

- RREA has received authorized funding for up to \$30 million per year to fund efforts in all 50 states but has only been appropriated at \$4.060 million (13.5%) for several years, including 2017.
- Funding is allocated to each land-grant institution based on a formula that considers each state's forested acres, growth, wood industry, population and other factors.
- The Act addresses critical private forest and rangeland issues such as wood supply, wildlife habitat, rangeland grazing productivity, and economic and environmental benefits.



## Why Does it Matter?

RREA funding offers Extension programs the flexibility to address key local, state, regional and national issues. It also leverages partnership opportunities for state Extension to work with state forestry agency or other partners to address critical issues together. RREA funding has contributed to thousands of educational events for forest and range owners and directly or indirectly impacted millions of owners and managers of over 30 million acres of forest and rangeland annually.

**RREA**

Financial support from the Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) is critical to maintaining the ability of forestry Extension programs to support private landowners.

PRIVATELY OWNED  
MANAGED FORESTS  
PRODUCE WOOD  
NEEDED FOR:

FOREST PRODUCT  
INDUSTRY<sup>1</sup>

**4%** US GDP

**\$200B**  
industry

**900k** jobs

**\$1** RREA funding has been estimated to result in **\$13** of local impact



## PERSONNEL

Faculty and staff salaries are supported by research, teaching and Extension funds. A reduction in these sources can lead to a loss of forestry and rangeland faculty and the eventual elimination of forestry and rangeland programs.



## PRODUCTS & PROGRAMS

RREA funds can be used to support the development of educational materials directly (publications, websites, mobile applications, etc.) or the delivery of programs (in-person or online educational events) for landowners and forest and rangeland resource professionals.



## IMPACTS

RREA funds enable rapid response to high priority, high impact issues of significance to local and state stakeholders per the discretion of individual states. This flexibility and strength of the RREA program allow Extension experts to tackle the local problems relevant to their states and regions.

# Key impacts as recorded from state-level RREA participating institutions from around the country (2016 data):



1. American Forest and Paper Foundation. (2017, January). State Industry Economic Impact: United States. Retrieved June 12, 2017, from <http://afandpa.org/docs/default-source/factsheet/us.pdf?sfvrsn=4>

2. Butler, Brett J, Jaketon H. Hewes, Brenton J. Dickinson, Kyle Andrejczyk, Sarah M. Butler, & Marla Markowski-Lindsay. (2016). Family Forest Ownerships of the United States, 2013: Findings from the USDA Forest Service's National Woodland Owner Survey. J. For. 114(6):638 – 64.

