



Southern California Forests and Watersheds

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ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 6,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$7.4 billion.

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Angeles National Forest

BACKGROUND

The Southern California Forests and Watersheds program (Program) was launched in 2016 to support strategic partnerships to help protect, restore, and sustain the region's unique environment impacted by past high intensity wildfires. The program aims to improve the pace and scale of post-fire restoration, provide sustainable and lasting ecological benefits, improve forest health and resiliency, and encourage stewardship.

The program has invested \$20.1 million in 95 projects supporting forest health and resilience within the Los Padres and Angeles National Forests through four key strategies: forest and upland restoration and management; watershed restoration and management; species management; and public use engagement and management. These 95 projects have generated nearly \$12 million in matching contributions, for a total conservation impact of more than \$32.1 million.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Southern California Forests and Watersheds program currently focuses on wildfire restoration for the recovery of lands and watersheds degraded from the influences of past high intensity wildfire events. The fund's investments are targeted primarily to address recovery in priority fire scars in the Los Padres and Angeles National Forests. In the Los Padres National Forests, these fires include the Zaca (2007), Piru (2003), and Jesusita (2009). In the Angeles National Forest, these fires include the Copper (2002), Ranch (2007), Sayre (2008), and Powerhouse (2013) fires.

The major goals of the Southern California Forests and Watersheds Program include:

- Increase the pace and scale of restoration to address impacts from these fires
- Provide sustainable and lasting ecological benefits to the forest
- Engage in efficient, strategic, and innovative solutions to improve forest health and resilience
- Encourage 'shared-stewardship' of USFS lands through expanded partnership and cooperation