



United States Department of Agriculture

Funding for Tree Establishment. Replumbing the Reforestation Pipeline

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Forest Service

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National Center for Reforestation, Nurseries and Genetic Resources

Family Forest Landowners & Managers Conference

Moscow, Idaho

27 Mar 2023

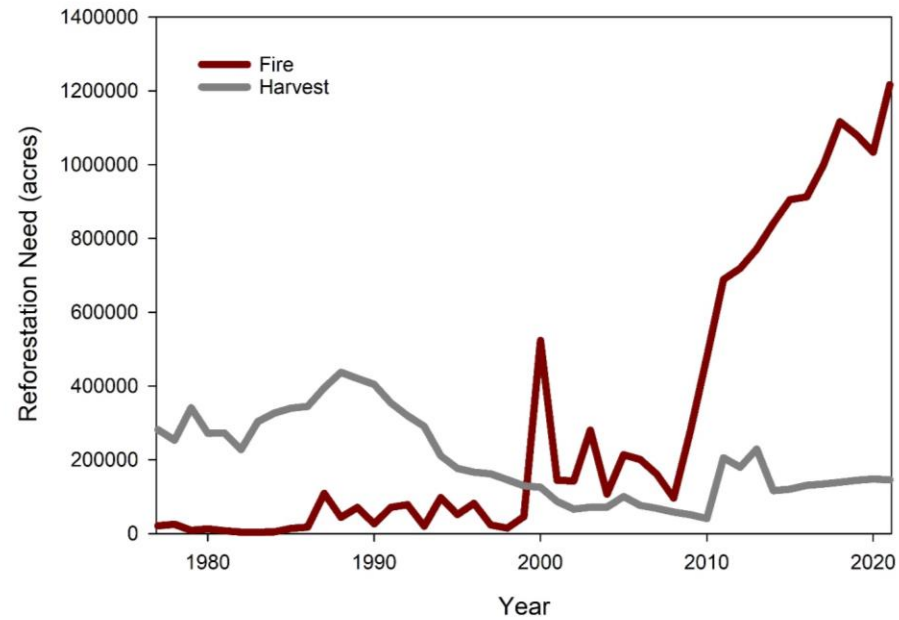
1985

- Gorbachev becomes Soviet leader.
- Reagan starts second term with tax reform.
- Kas is half-way through his MSc and still combing his hair.
- The last emphasis on USFS reforestation starts... R.I.P.

Reforestation Improvement Program

- 1976 National Forest Management Act
- Mid to late 1980s...
- Across the Agency
- Evaluate the reforestation chain
- Research-driven improvements
- More efficiency / success

Forest Service Efforts



Updated from: Dumroese RK, Balloffet N, Crockett JW, Stanturf JA, Nave LE. 2019. A national approach to leverage the benefits of tree planting on public lands. *New Forests*. 50: 1-9. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/treesearch/pubs/57828>.



Forest Service Efforts

- 2015 Reforestation Summit
- Partner Support and Engagement
- 2020+ The Nature Conservancy papers
- And then came 2021 and 2022!

Appropriations and Policies

- 2021

- Dec: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)
 - aka Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

- 2022

- Apr: Executive Order
- Jul: Secretary Vilsack's Memo
- Aug: Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)



Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (BIL)

Wildfire Risk Reduction (~\$3.4 billion)

Post-fire restoration
Collaborative Forest Landscape
Restoration Act projects

Ecosystem Restoration (~\$2.1 billion)

Ecosystem restoration
Good Neighbor Agreements
Abandoned mine land restoration
Public & private reforestation

REPLANT Act

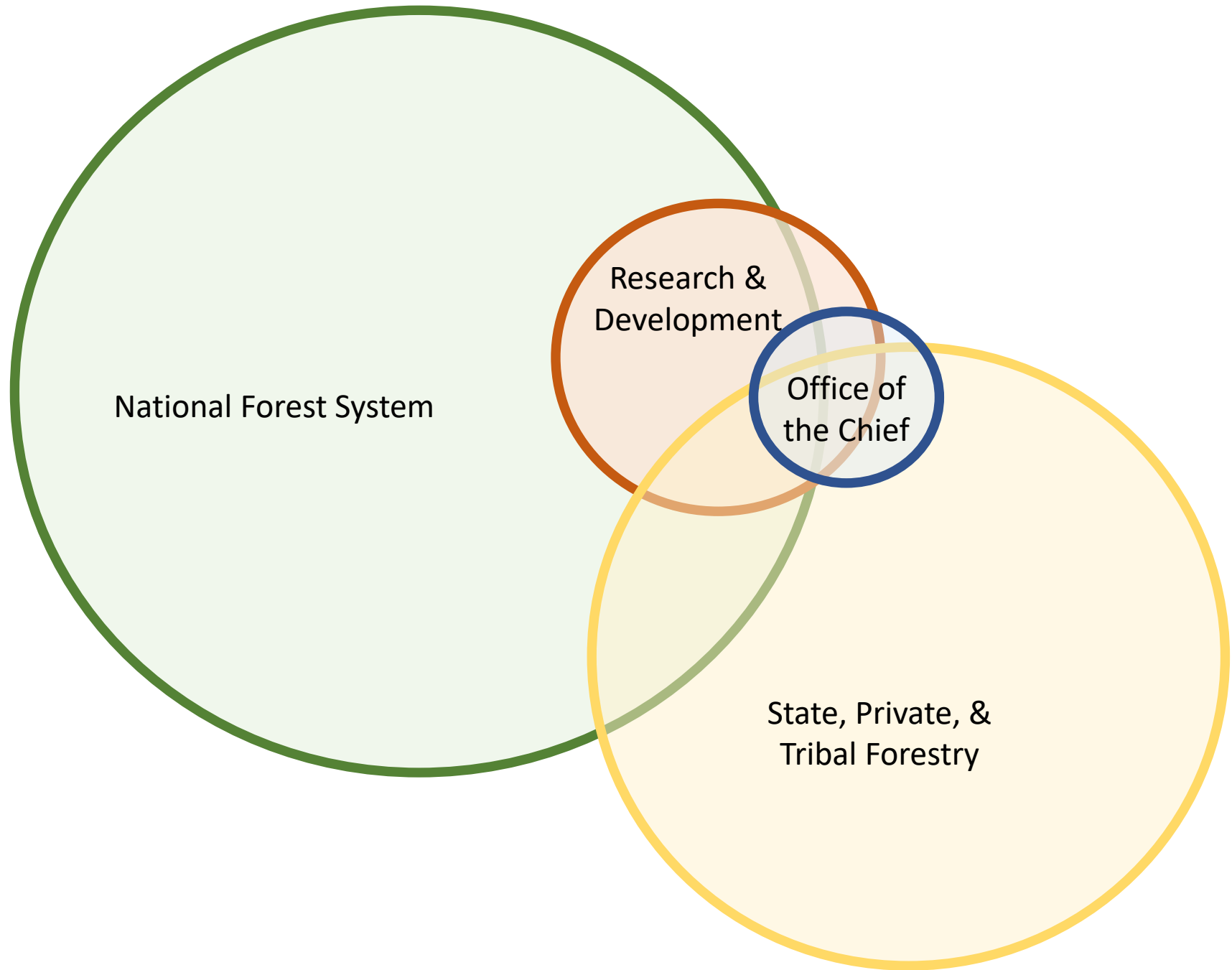
Repairing Existing Public Land by Adding Necessary Trees Act

Inflation Reduction Act

Inflation Reduction Act (~\$1.5 billion)

Urban landscapes

Underserved communities

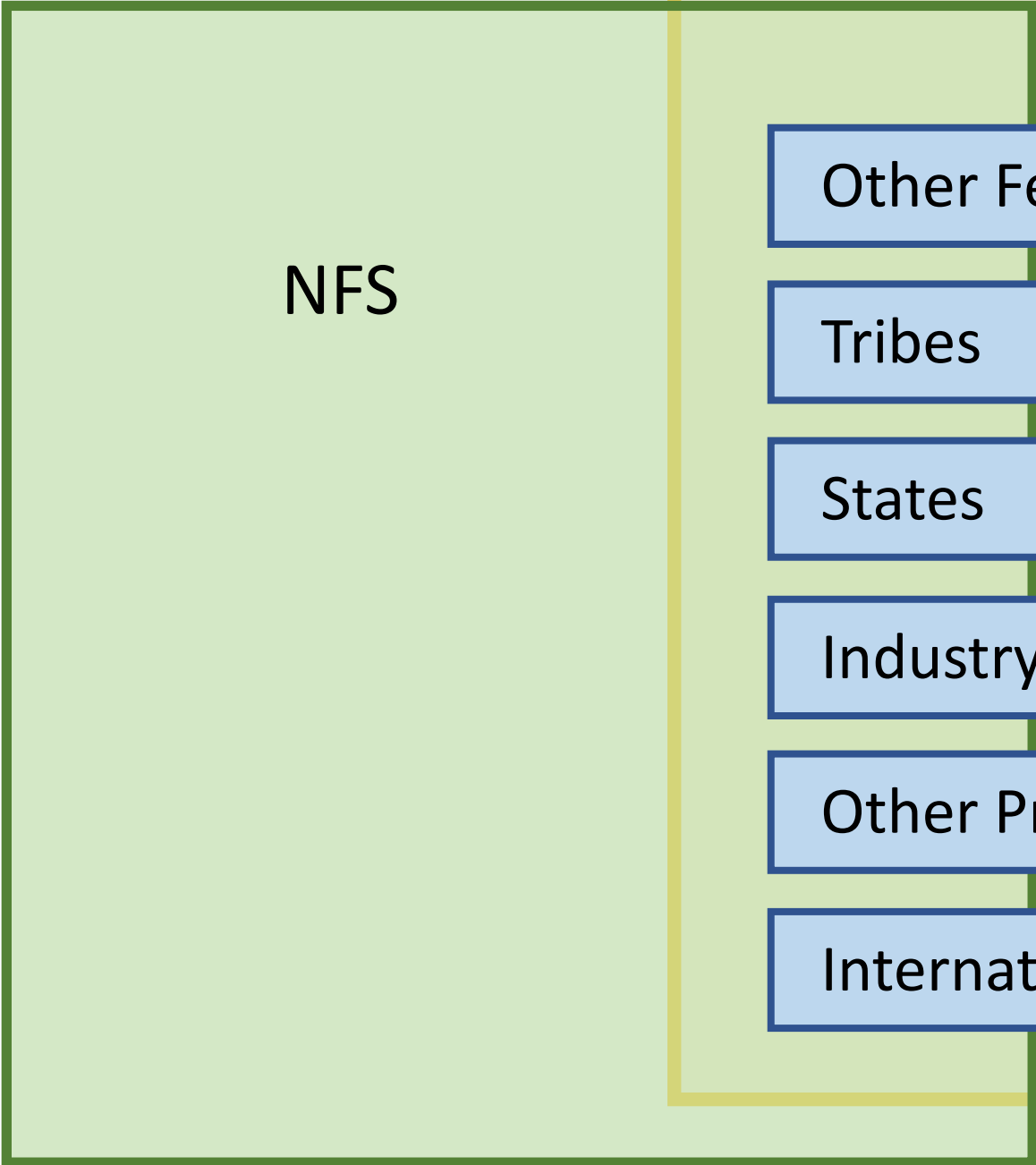


National Forest System

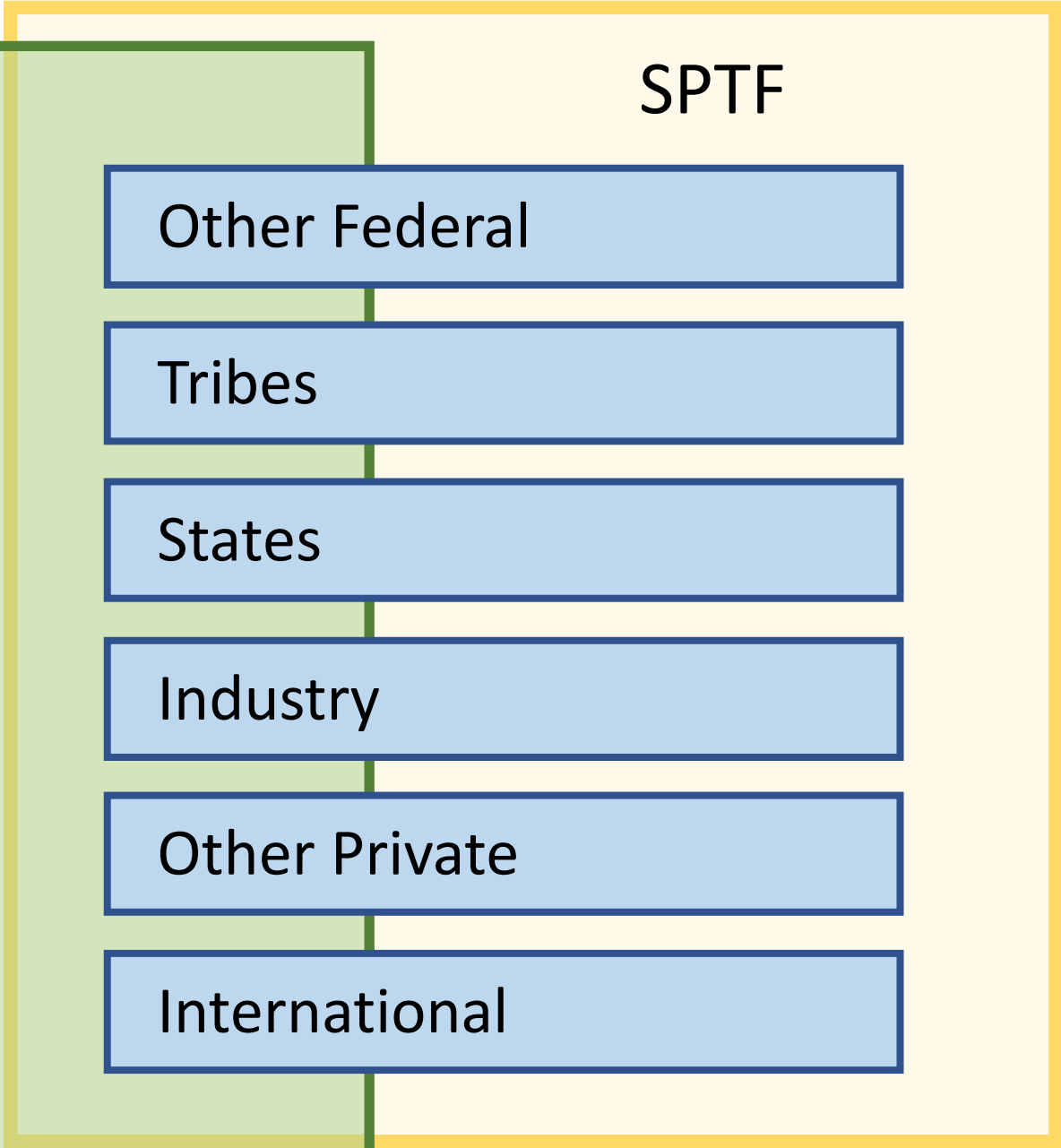
Research &
Development

Office of
the Chief

State, Private, &
Tribal Forestry



NFS



SPTF

Other Federal

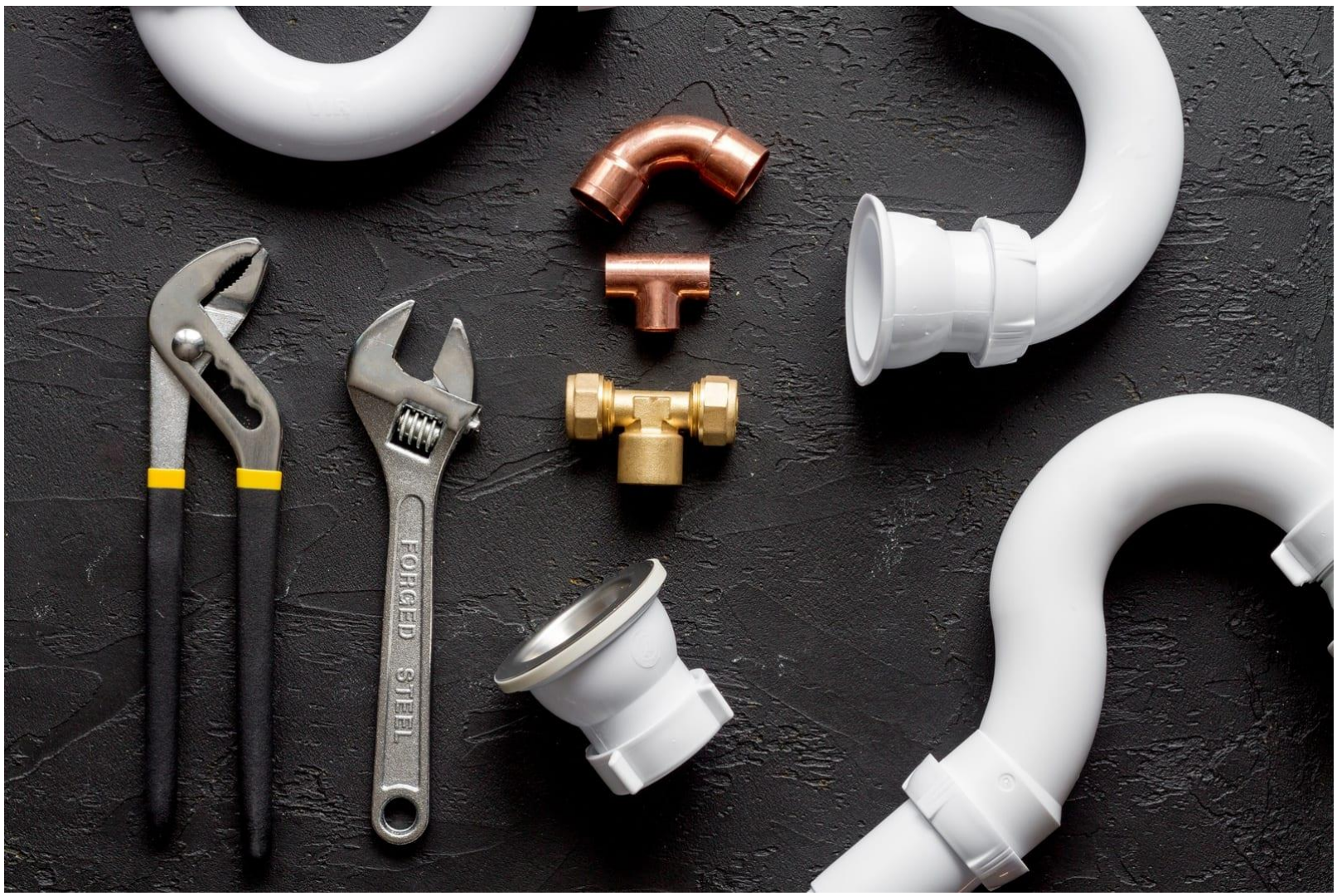
Tribes

States

Industry

Other Private

International



Unprecedented Opportunity

**IIJA aka BIL
Ecosystem Restoration
10-y Funds**

**IRA
10-y Funds**

**REPLANT Act
Forever Funds**

Tribes

States / Communities

Private

NGOs

Other Federals

State, Private, & Tribal Forestry

National Association of State Foresters,
Tribes, National Fish and Wildlife
Foundation, other partners....

- \$1.1 million – Revegetation of Formerly Mined Land
- \$7.7 million – National Revegetation and National Seed Strategy for Rehab and Restoration



State, Private, & Tribal Forestry

- **Nursery funds – 30 States and Puerto Rico**
 - \$4.96 million allocated this FY (\$160,000 each); \$6.2 million (\$200,000) requested next FY.
- **Nursery funds – 7 Island Territories and Commonwealths**
 - Up to \$75,000 each allocated this FY; \$100,000 requested next FY.
- **Nursery Specialist & Policy Coordinator**
 - New staff position to coordinate all SPTF work related to BIL funding for revegetation.



State, Private, & Tribal Forestry

- National State, Private, & Tribal Forestry Reforestation Strategy
 - Non-Federal land
 - Pipeline bottlenecks and strategies
 - Prioritization process
 - Collaborative opportunities
 - Strategy complements/supports NFS National Reforestation Strategy
 - Stakeholder participation

Take Some Time and Get It Right



Other Pipeline Considerations?

- Planning, Seeds, Nurseries, Outplanting, Tending
- Recruiting, Training, and Retaining Employees?
- Predictable Seedling Markets?
 - Federal Program(s)?
- Sustainable Management?



USDA Thinking Holistically

- Leveraging Mission Areas
 - NRE – Natural Resources and Environment
 - Forest Service
 - FPAC – Farm Production and Conservation
 - FSA – Farm Service Agency
 - NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - RD – Rural Development
 - REE – Research, Education, and Economics
 - ARS – Agricultural Research Service
 - NIFA – National Institute of Food and Agriculture





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Been There? Done That?

“The area of pine forested lands requiring planting in the California pine region is very large. Estimates ranging from 300,000 to 2,000,000 acres, though obviously very crude, serve at least to emphasize the magnitude of the planting job. On a large part of these lands all timber growth has been swept away by repeated fires and no chance for natural reproduction remains.”

S.B. Show, District Forester, California District, Forest Service, 1930

“...nothing is more universally expected of a forestry agency than that it be able to plant and grow ... trees.”

Chief R. Max Peterson, 1980

Show SB. 1930. Forest nursery and planting practice in the California pine region. Washington DC: US Department of Agriculture, Circular 92. 75 p.

Peterson RM. 1981. Emerging resource trends in the 80's. Proceedings of Intermountain Nurseryman's Association and Western Forest Nursery Association Combined Meeting. General Technical Report INT-109. Ogden, UT: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station: 5-6.

After passage of NFMA and establishment of Reforestation Trust Fund.... this successful, decade-long endeavor addressed a reforestation backlog of 3.1 million acres.



Thank You! Questions?



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