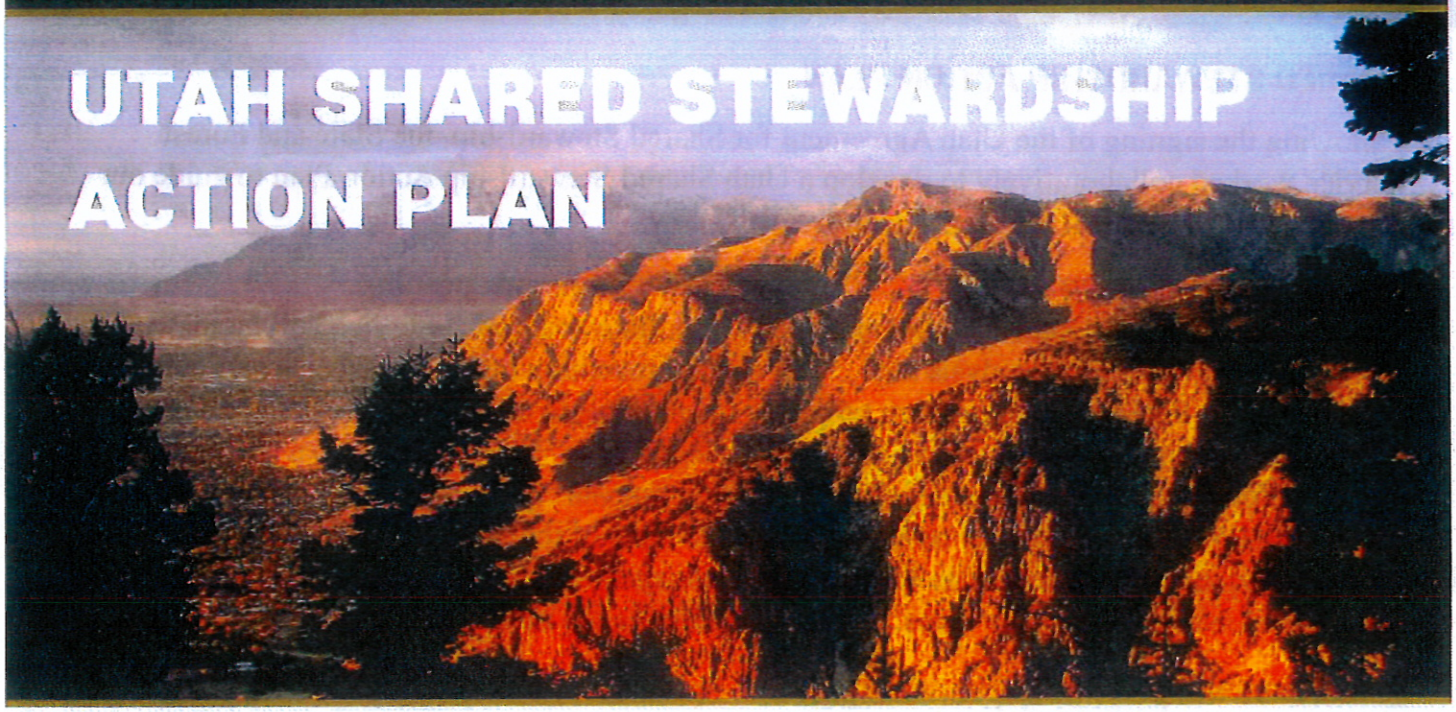
United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Intermountain Region

UTAH SHARED STEWARDSHIP ACTION PLAN



INTRODUCTION

On May 22, 2019, Utah Governor Gary R. Herbert and USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue signed the Agreement for Shared Stewardship between the State of Utah and the USDA Forest Service Intermountain Region. This agreement establishes six mutual commitments that support the national vision and framework for Shared Stewardship. We are committed to:

1. Existing partnership, programs, and initiatives that have been successful in Utah.

2. Working together to identify and map shared priorities for protecting at-risk communities and watersheds across all lands.

3. Making joint decisions and sharing resources for immediate and ongoing work in priority areas.

4. Engaging local communities in dialogue and learning about active management and desired landscape-scale outcomes, including capacity building and economic development opportunities.

5. Shared planning efforts, including the integration of Utah's Forest Action Plan and the Forest Service's Five-Year Vegetation Management Plans.

6. Co-managing wildfire risks and supporting each other in decisions that we have made together.

SHARED STEWARDSHIP ACTION PLAN

Following the signing of the Utah Agreement for Shared Stewardship, the State and Forest Service worked collaboratively to develop a Utah Shared Stewardship Action Plan to guide our efforts, which consists of the elements described below:

1. Accelerate planning

The Forest Service will expedite National Environmental Policy Act analysis and documentation for forest management projects that reduce community wildfire risks and stimulate forest-based economic development. This will increase the amount of on-the-ground forest management work available for funding and implementation in priority areas.

2. Increase the pace of implementation

The State and Forest Service will combine resources to increase the amount of forest management work that is funded and implemented in agreed upon priority areas.

3. Focus on economic development

The State and Forest Service will support a concerted economic development initiative to increase forest-related economic opportunities in Utah.

4. Provide more training

The State and Forest Service will increase fire prevention outreach and education efforts in an effort to curtail the number of human caused fires. The Forest Service will also continue its efforts to educate employees on the topic of the 2001 Roadless Rule and forest management activities that can be performed utilizing the rule's exceptions.

5. Convene stakeholders and leverage their interests

The State and Forest Service will collaborate with a broad spectrum of partners to develop informed plans for forest management projects that meet the goals of Shared Stewardship in Utah. Collaboration with partners will help build support for priority projects and increase project funding opportunities.

FUNDING

An initial 4-year investment to support the Shared Stewardship Action Plan was agreed to by the State and the Forest Service. This investment is subject to Congressional appropriation and State legislative approval:

Year	State	Forest Service
2019	$2 million[1]	$2 million match
2020	$1.5 million (optional)	$2.5 million plus[2] $1.5 million match
2021	$1.5 million (optional)	$2.5 million plus[2] $1.5 million match
2022	$1.5 million (optional)	$2.5 million plus[2] $1.5 million match
Total	$6.5 million	$14 million

[1] Appropriated by the State during the 2019 Utah Legislative Session [2] USFS funds contingent on State of Utah match