

The USDA Renewable Resource Extension Act (RREA), passed by Congress in 1978, provides funding to expand the reach of forest and rangeland Extension programs at 73 land-grant universities through better coordination and delivery, use of innovative technologies, and development of easily replicable program models.

The RREA authorized annual funding level is \$30,000,000; however, only about \$4,000,000 is appropriated each year.

- 92% apportioned to states through a formula
- 8% applied to National Focused Fund projects via a competitive grant process



To inform this strategic plan, a national survey of rangeland and forestry Extension personnel was conducted, primarily to identify critical and emerging issues faced, in particular, by private forest and rangeland owners/managers. Survey results determined nine critical issues, recognizing that all are affected at some level by climate change, restoration, and land conversion and fragmentation. They are:

ecosystem services	landowner engagement	water and wetlands
intergenerational transfer	public awareness	wildfire
invasive species	rural economics	wildlife habitat and management



The 2018–2022 RREA Strategic Plan provides direction for addressing such issues threatening the health of forests and rangelands, and the people whose livelihoods depend on them. To ensure ecological sustainability, increased economic opportunities, and the broader societal benefits derived from forest and rangeland resources, the plan calls on expanded support for and collaboration among academic, landowner, and government sectors.

To achieve these ends, it is vital that the RREA:

1. is funded annually at the full authorized level of \$30 million;
2. expands the number of advocates from stakeholders and Extension leadership; and
3. increases marketing efforts to better showcase the important contributions RREA-supported programming makes to stakeholders across the nation and to achieving the goal of sustainable natural resources.

Read the RREA 2018–2022 Strategic Plan:

<https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/rrea-strategic-plan-fy-2018-2022> or <https://globalrangelands.org/rreasp/>