

Last Updated: 4.17.2015

**PROJECT NAME**

State and Future of U.S. Forestry and the Forest Products Industry

**ALIGNMENT WITH THEORY OF CHANGE**

Value Streams

**INITIATIVE**

Traditional Markets

**TYPE OF PROJECT**

Policy

**TYPE OF INVESTMENT**

**Traditional**

**Impact**

Contract

**FUNDING**

<b><u>Endowment</u></b>	<b><u>Partner</u></b>	<b><u>External</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>Downstream</u></b>	<b><u>ALL TOTAL</u></b>
\$150,356	\$150,000	\$ 362,500	\$ 662,856		\$ 662,856

**AWARDEES**

SAF      Dr. Robert Kellison      AFF      Resources for the Future      Greenwood Global

**CHRONOLOGY**

<b><u>Date Approved</u></b>		<b><u>Date Signed or Launched</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
<b><u>Board</u></b>	<b><u>CEO</u></b>	12.21.2012	
1.18.2012			Complete

**Project Overviews & Outcomes**

The USDA Forest Service approached the Endowment about their interest in identifying the most critical bottlenecks that if addressed would lead to a more robust future for the mostly rural-based forest manufacturing sector. In response, the Endowment organized a convening to identify key bottlenecks and propose strategies for each.

The Endowment and the USDA Forest Service co-funded and convened "[The State and Future of U.S. Forestry and the Forest Products Industry](#)". The Convening was held on May 29-30, 2013 with the final report released on September 15, 2013. The Society of American Foresters and Resources for the Future led program development with Endowment staff.

The report contained recommendations in five areas:

- Markets;
- Land tenure and ownership;
- Supply chain;
- Ecological health of federal lands; and
- Forest policy.

Specific recommendations were:

- Increased use of "check-off" or USDA commodity research and promotion programs;
- New public/private partnerships to produce new environmentally-friendly products;
- Retooled approaches to support America's family forest owners;
- Strengthening the timber harvesting system;
- Expanded work in biotechnology to address burgeoning forest health issues; and,
- A focus on the importance of wood in green building initiatives.

As follow-up to the convening, the Endowment sponsored work on four specific projects:

1. Background work to test interest in a potential Wood-to-Energy Check-off;
2. "[A New Model for Forest Sector Research and Development in the US](#)";
3. Support to the Forest Policy Forum review of carbon and the forest sector ("[A Forest Carbon Future](#)") and,
4. Forest Sector Thought Leadership to seek common messages across the sector.