

WILDFIRES & RESILIENCY

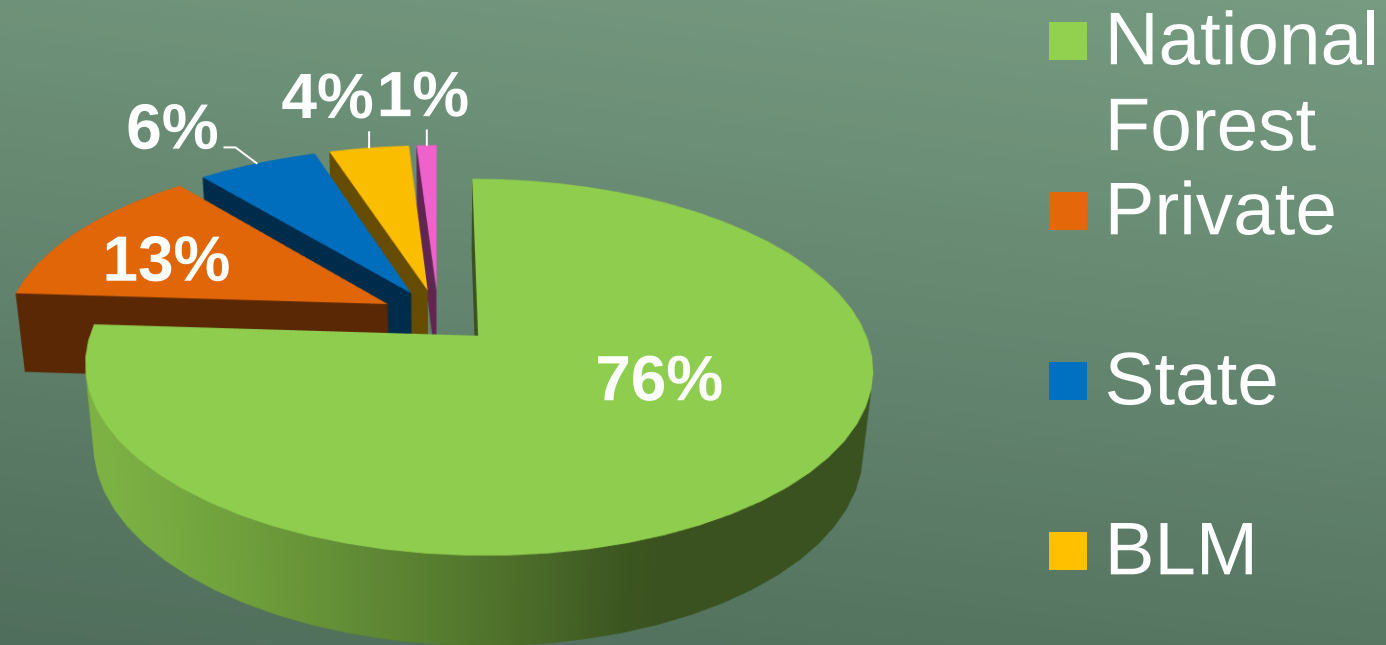


Craig Foss

State Forester

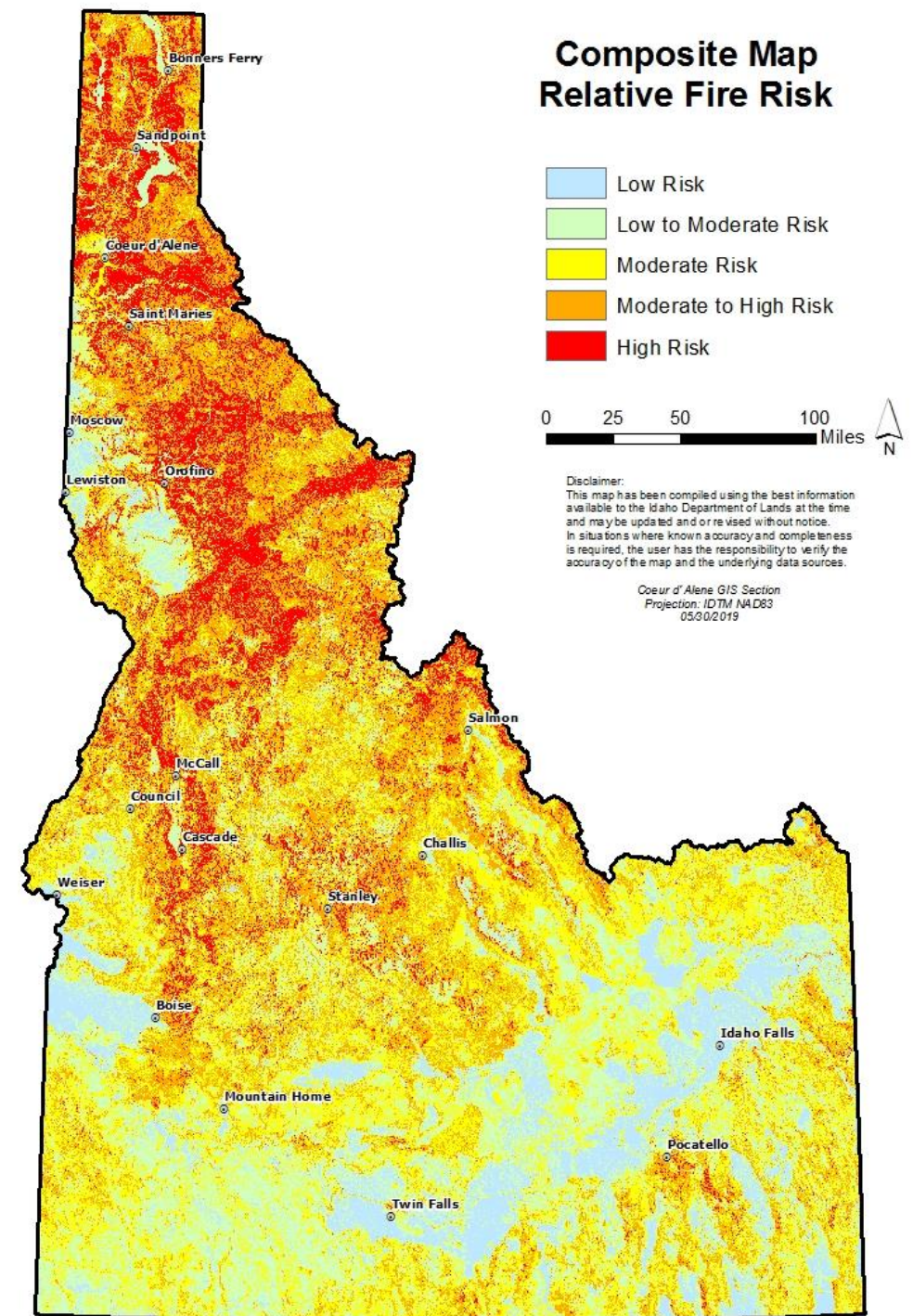
Idaho Department of Lands

TIMBERLAND OWNERSHIP CHALLENGES



IDAHO SHARED STEWARDSHIP

- *Shared Stewardship Master Agreement signed in 2018*
- *All-Hands-All-Lands, interagency collaborative approach to actively managing forest treatments*
- *Increasing pace and scale of fuels-reduction treatments on federal, state, private and tribal forestlands*
- *Promote cross-boundary work (treatments) within priority landscapes*
- *Double the annual acres treated on Idaho's National Forests*





Natural Resources
Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



#NOBOUNDARIESFORESTRY

Idaho Forest Action Plan &
Shared Stewardship Cross-Boundary Initiatives

FUELS REDUCTION – RESILIENT FORESTS

Unhealthy, Unmanaged Forestland

Healthy, Managed Forestland

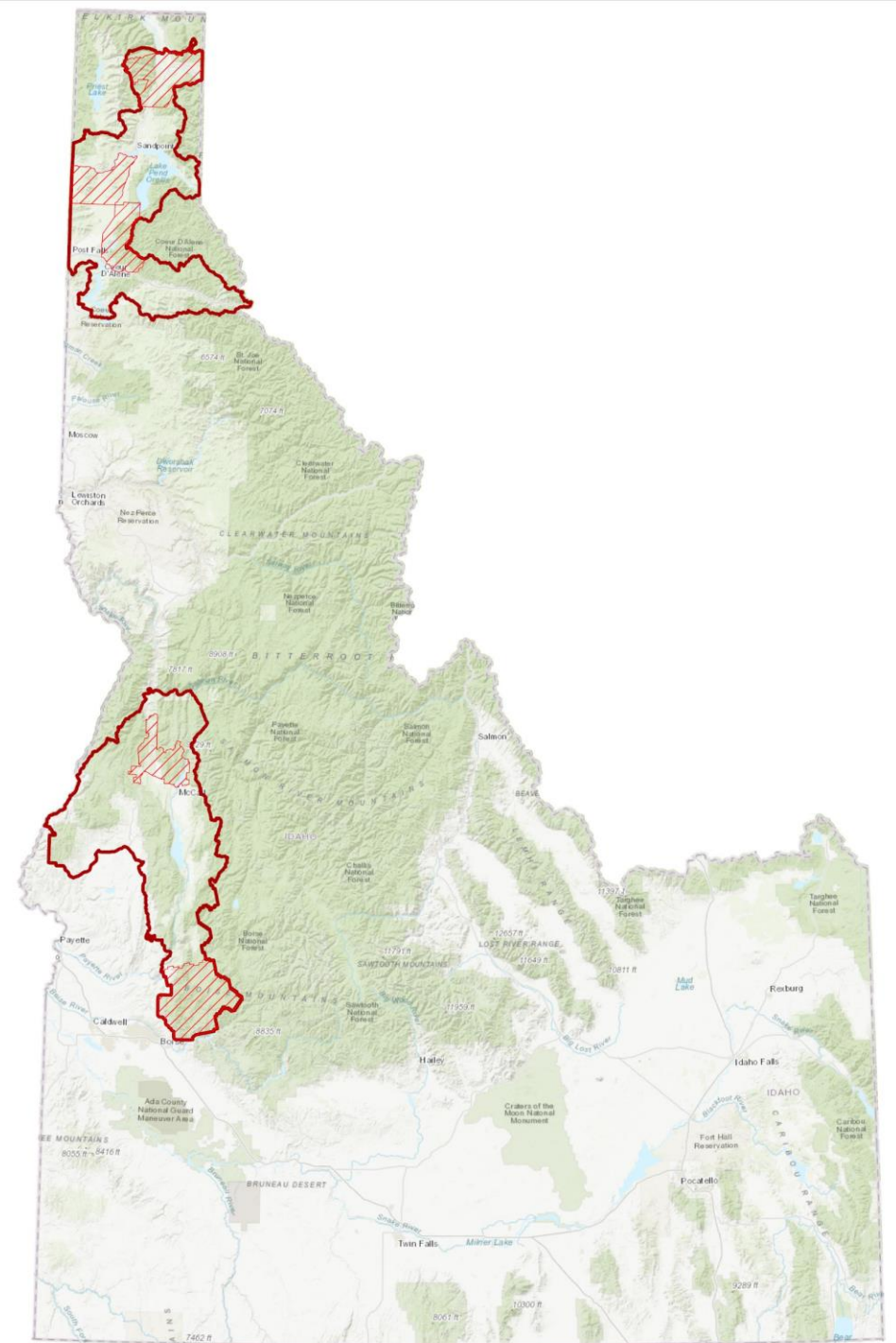


IDAHO SHARED STEWARDSHIP

Shared Stewardship *Priority Landscapes*

*Designated by the IDL State Forester
and USDA Region 1 and Region 4
Foresters as directed by the
2018 Shared Stewardship Agreement*

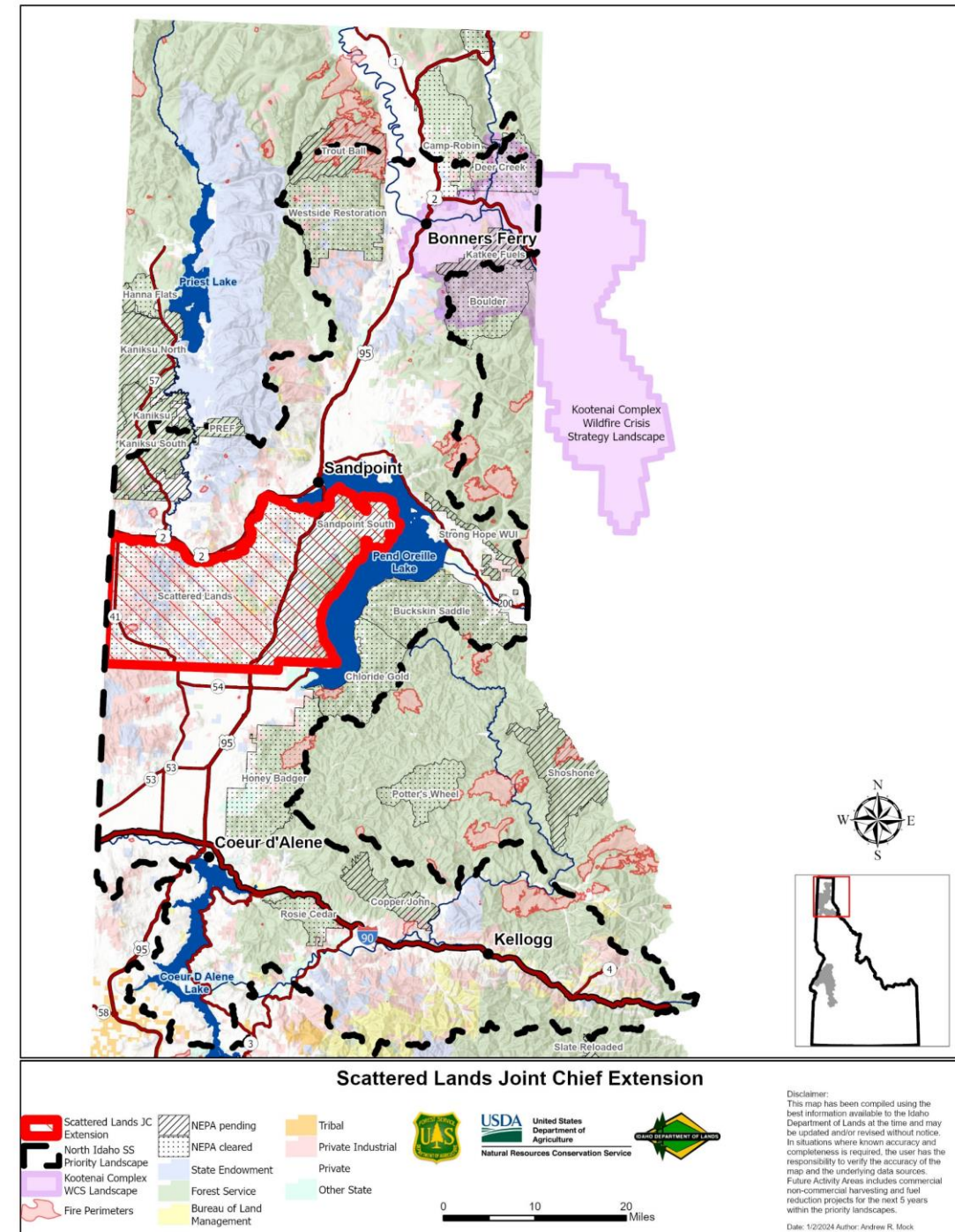
Focal Areas



North-Idaho Shared Stewardship Priority Landscape – Joint Chiefs

Scattered Lands Hazardous Fuels Joint Chiefs Project FY22-24

- \$1,482,865 total funding received
- 4,510 total planned treatment acres
- 2,837 acres treated to date (~63%)
- 6,597 cumulative acres treated to date (2022-2023)



IDAHO SHARED STEWARDSHIP STATEWIDE PROGRESS

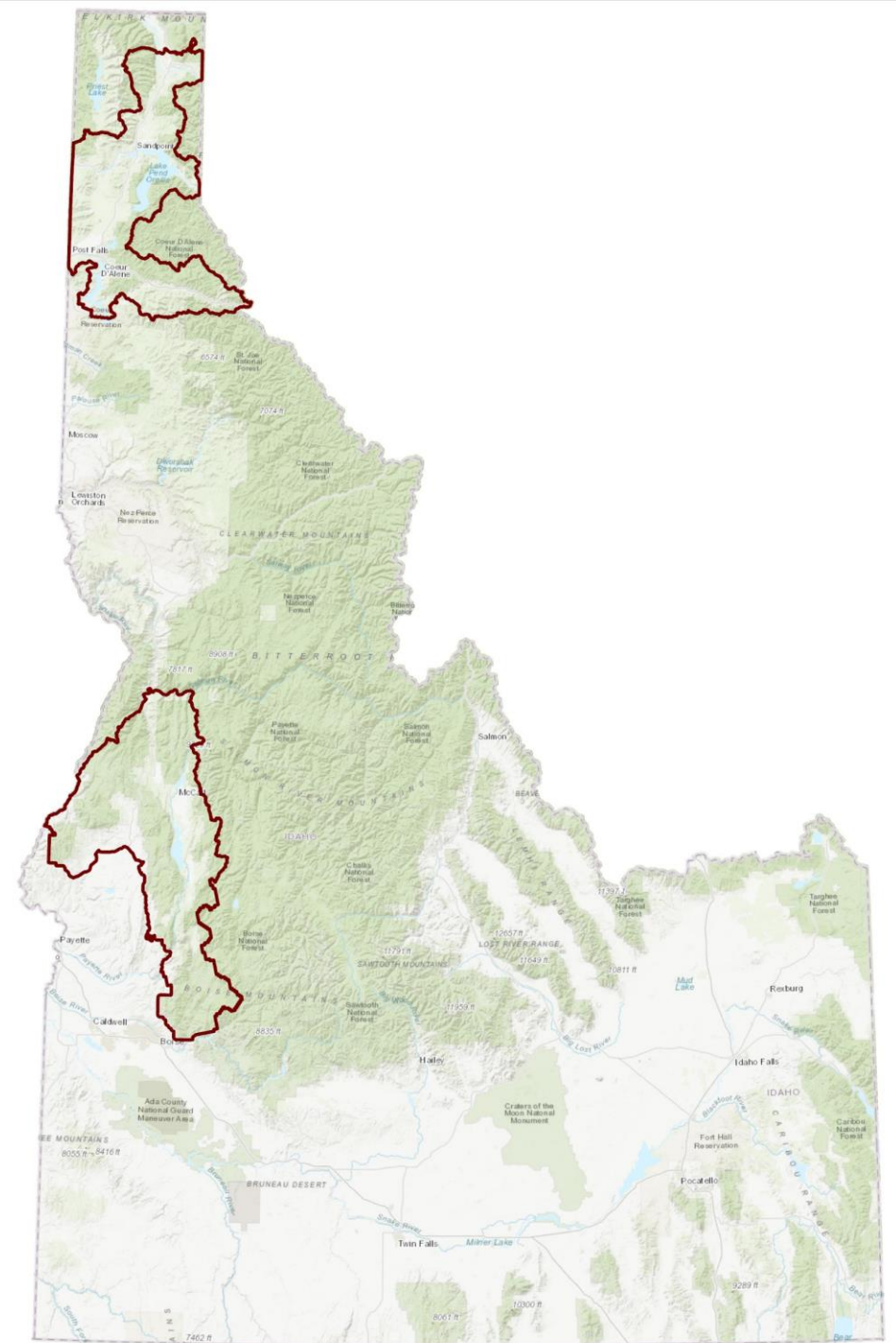
Acres Treated in Priority Landscapes:

- * 3 National Forests 53,675
- * State Trust Lands: 10,703
- * Non-industrial Private: 2,111

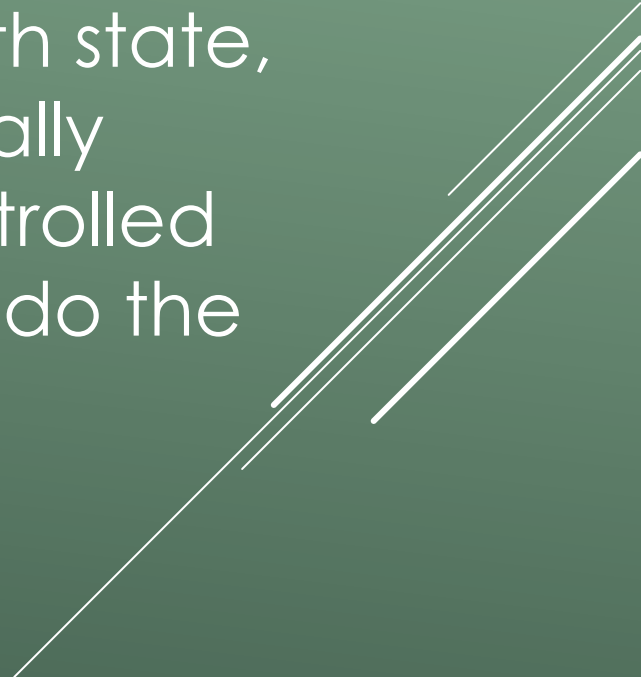
2019-2023 Treatments on all Idaho National Forests

54% Increase!

Up 36,758 acres per year, on average



GOOD NEIGHBOR AUTHORITY

- ▶ Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) allows the USDA Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to enter into agreements for up to ten years with state, county and tribal agencies to implement critically important management work on federally controlled land when the federal agencies are unable to do the work alone.
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- Three white lines of varying lengths and slopes are positioned in the bottom right corner of the slide, creating a modern, abstract graphic element.

AUTHORIZATION

- ▶ Authorized by 2014 Farm Bill
- ▶ In 2015 the Idaho Legislature, via SCR 126, directed IDL to “carry out forest, rangeland and watershed restoration services on appropriate federal lands within Idaho”
- ▶ GNA goals were established by Idaho’s GNA Working Group

GNA WORKING GROUP GOALS

1. Increase pace and scale of forest, watershed, rangeland restoration on federal land
2. Develop a self-sustaining program
3. Provide additive fiber to markets

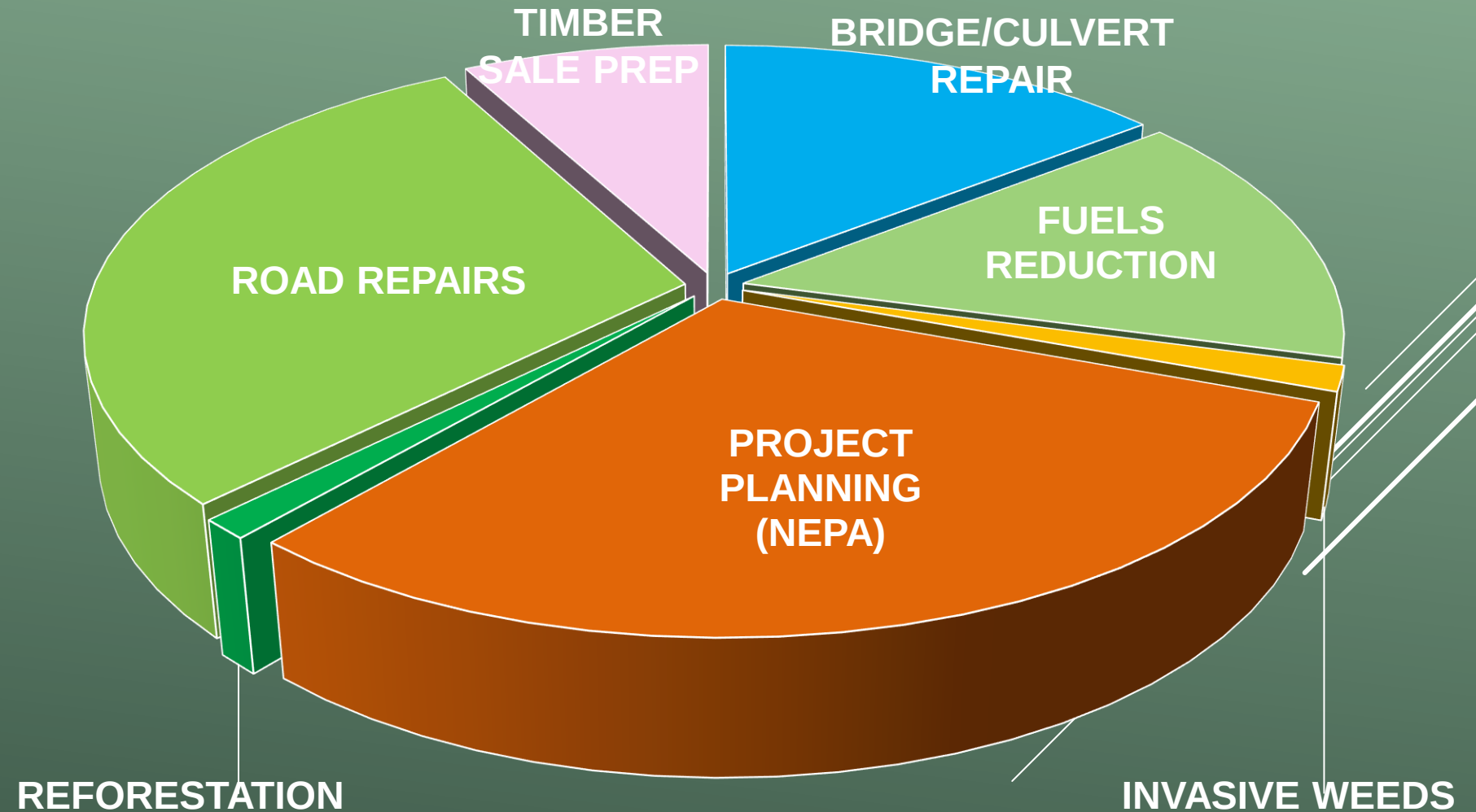
ACHIEVING OUR GOALS – RESTORATION

\$3.4M - NEPA

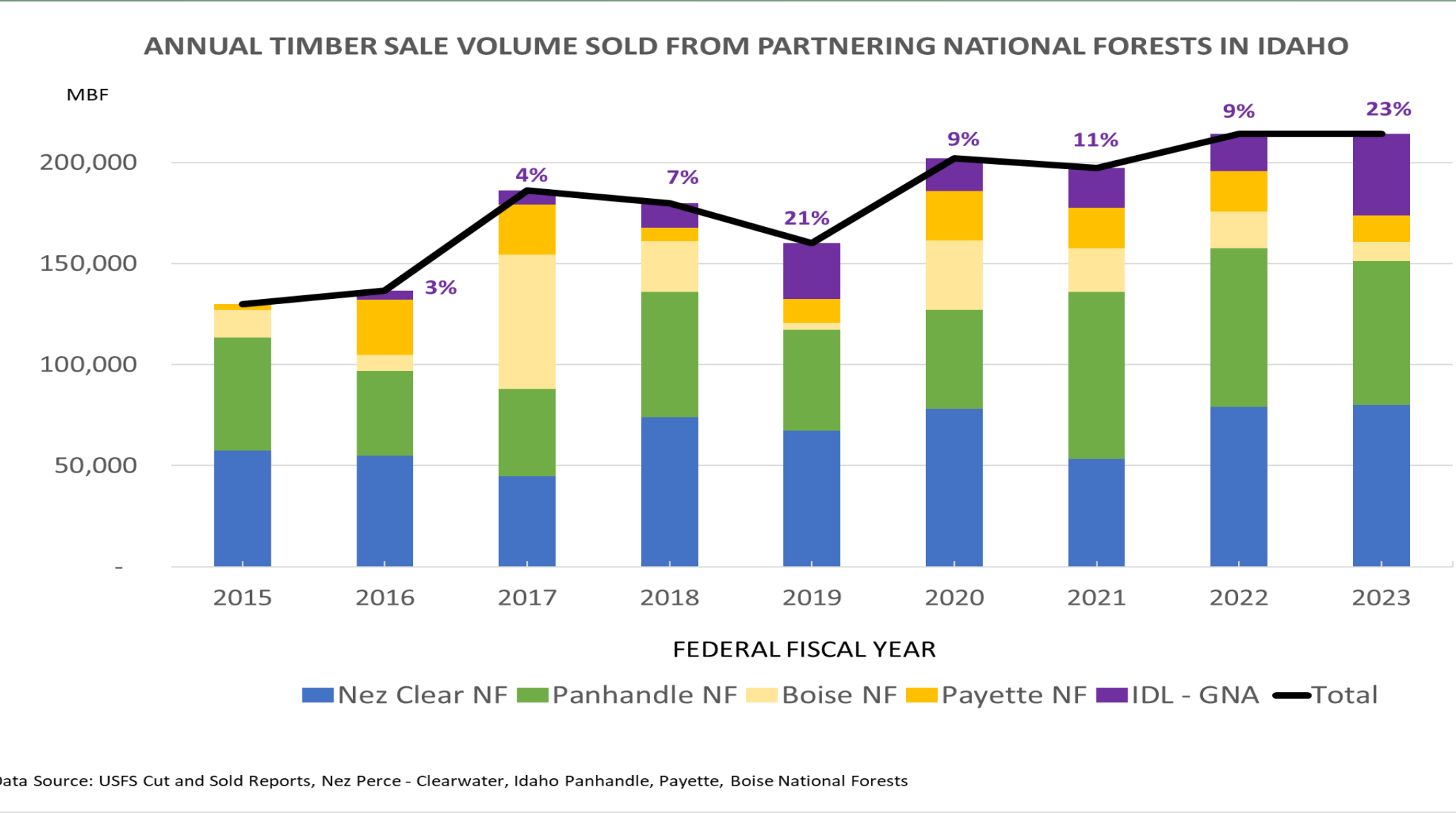
\$4.8M – Roads & Bridges

\$1.6M – Fuels Reduction

\$1.2M - Other

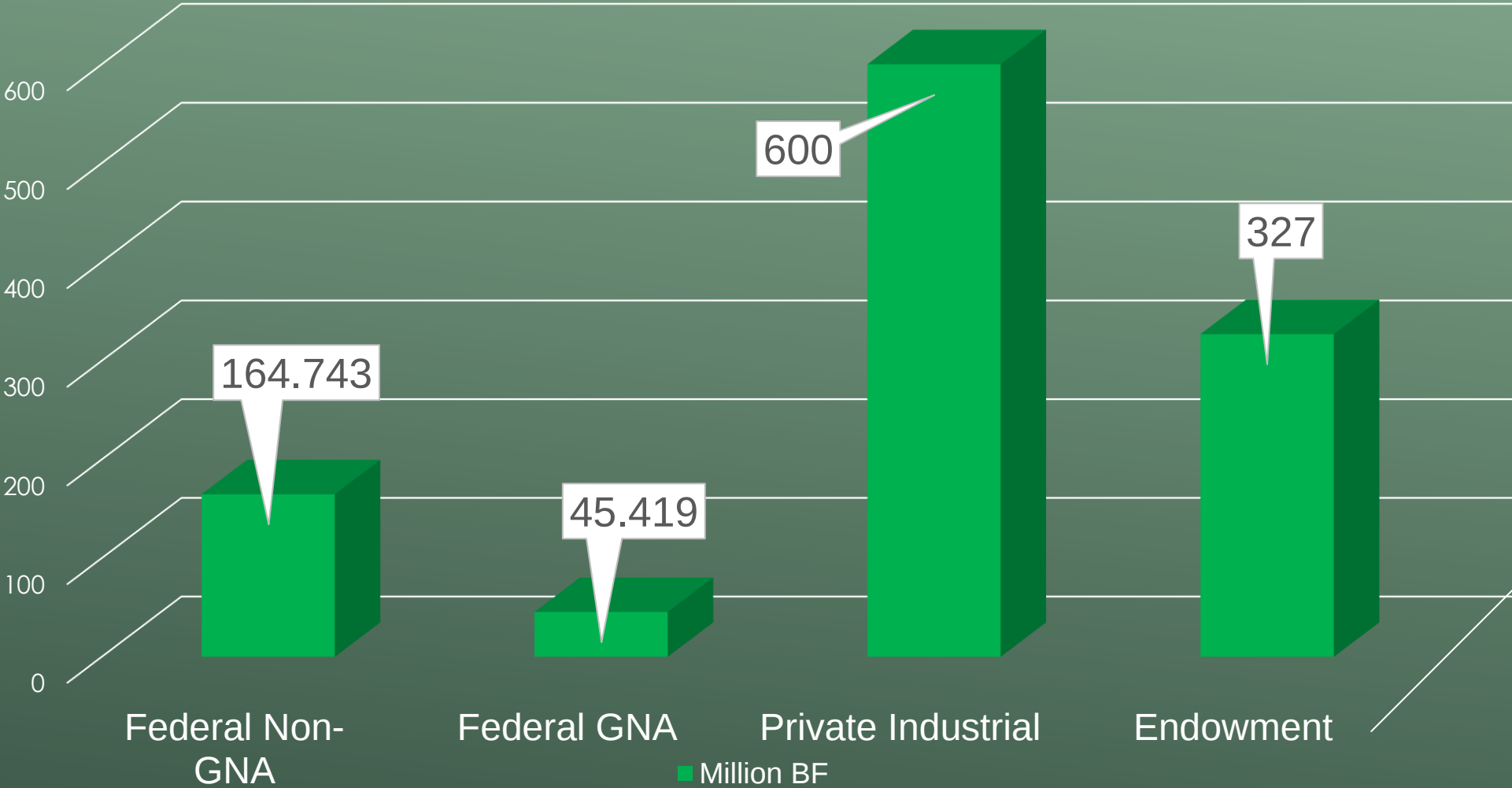


ACHIEVING OUR GOALS – FIBER SUPPLY



FUTURE PROOFING IDAHO'S FIBER SUPPLY

FY2023 Timber Harvest by Ownership



IDL FIRE – FIRE SUPPRESSION



IDL protects 9,583,305 acres of private, state and federal land from wildfires. We strive to hold 94% of the fires on land we protect to 10 acres or less by suppressing fires aggressively, yet safely.

WHAT'S NEW – IDAHO MASTER FIRE AGREEMENT

- * IDL protects more acres
6.3 million under old agreement, 9.5 million under the new one
 - * Fewer acres protected under offset
 - * IDL protects more acres in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)
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LIGHTNING and HUMAN CAUSED FIRES, 2009 - 2018

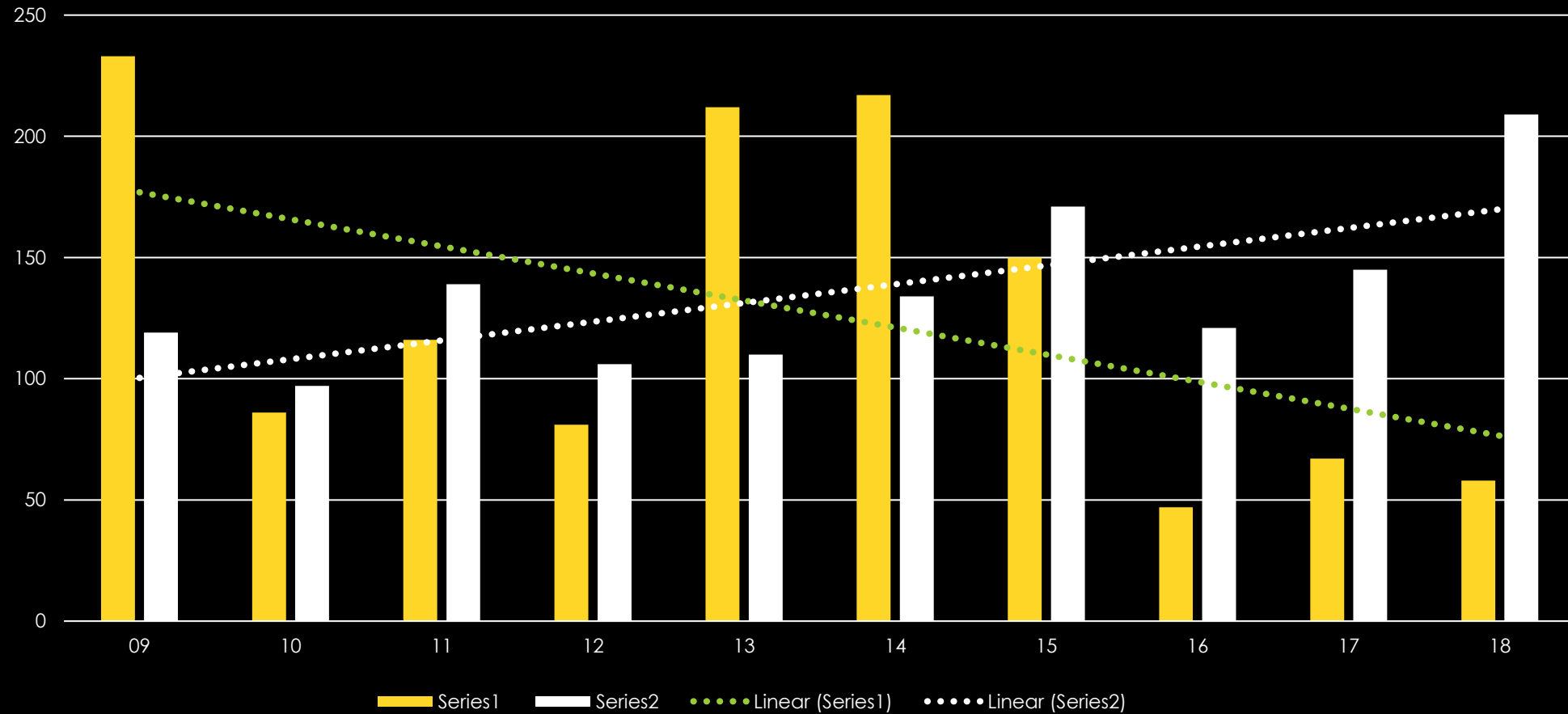
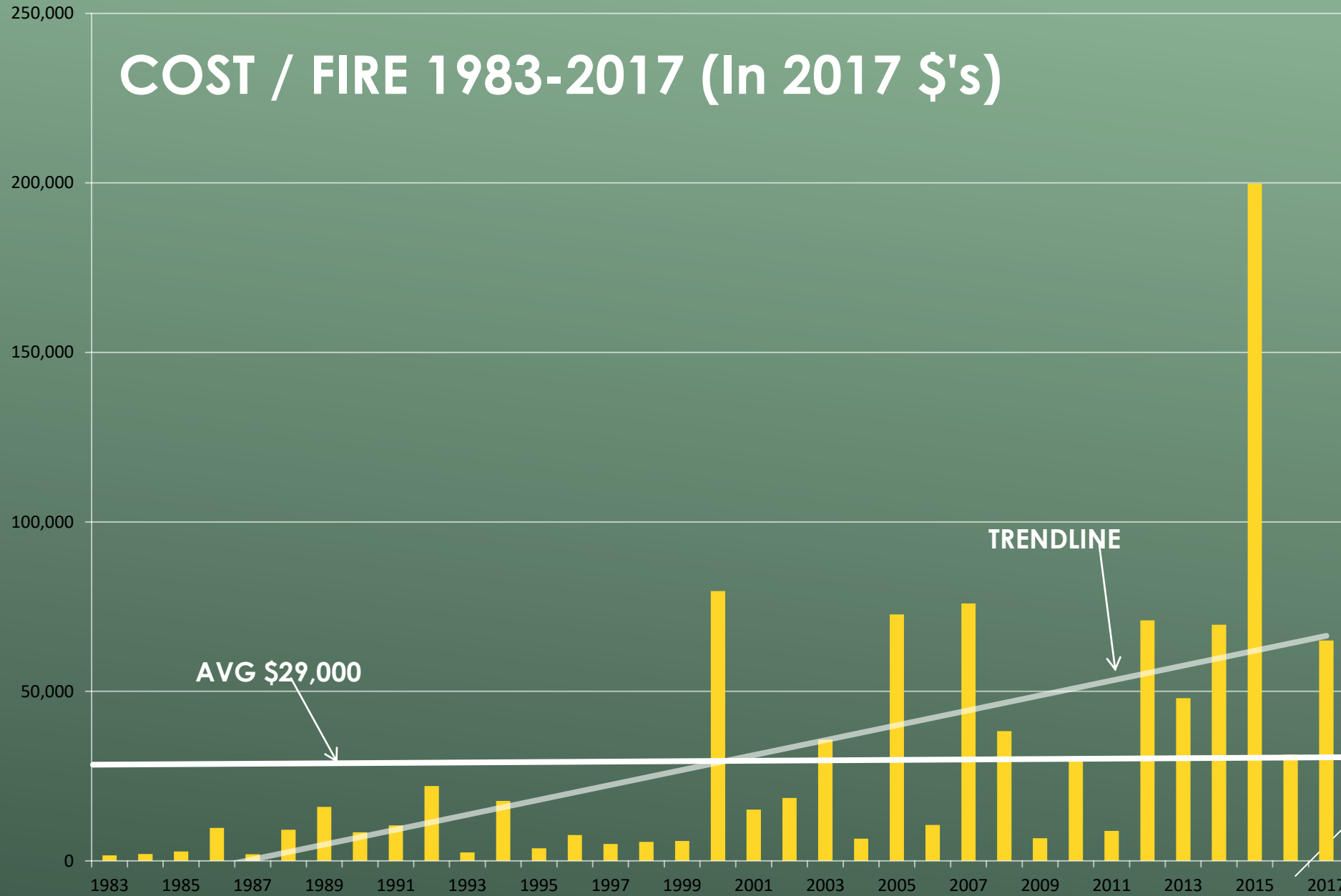


Chart 4: Over the past ten years of fire cause reporting, lightning fires and human-caused fires are on an opposite course of direction.

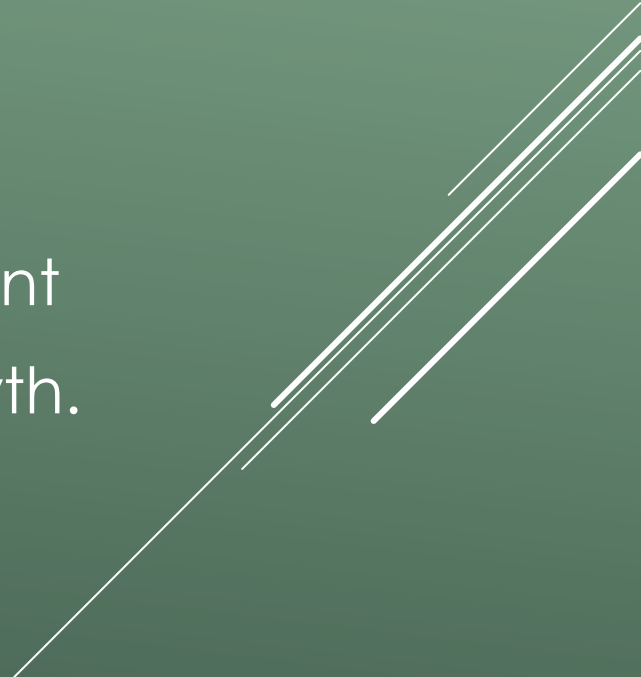
COST / FIRE 1983-2017 (In 2017 \$'s)



TRENDLINE

AVG \$29,000

IDAHO 2020S AND BEYOND

- ▶ Idaho – continued rapid growth
 - ▶ Communities -- bordered by Agriculture, Timber lands or both
 - ▶ Expansion into the Wildland Urban Interface
 - ▶ New residents -- non-fire savvy mindsets
 - ▶ Privacy is paramount – not fuels reduction/management
 - ▶ Agency funding cannot keep up with population growth.
 - ▶ Focused effort to modernize programs
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- A series of several parallel white diagonal lines of varying lengths, located in the bottom right corner of the slide, extending from the right edge towards the center.

WHAT ARE WE DOING TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES?

Strategic Planning to Modernize our Fire Program

- ▶ Legislation to:
 - ▶ increase base pay, Hazard pay, and paid R&R days
 - ▶ Increased benefited staffing positions
 - ▶ Staffing to expand agency aviation program
 - ▶ Additional fire engines and personnel
 - ▶ Stand up new East Idaho Forest Protective District
 - ▶ \$1 Million in fire bonuses

GOVERNOR'S WILDFIRE ROUNDTABLE

INDUSTRY LEADERS CONVENED TO DISCUSS:

Liability reform for utilities & insurers

Wildfire mitigation strategies

Statewide communication

GOVERNOR LITTLE'S WILDFIRE ROUNDTABLE

Recommendations include:

- * Establish remote wildfire detection camera system
- * WUI Code adoption/implementation
- * Expand access to interagency Fire Information webpage
- * Expand local fire department access to suppression assets
- * Expand funding for wildfire risk mitigation efforts
- * Expand IMT participation beyond state & federal employees
- * Expand IDL wildfire aviation program expertise

<https://gov.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/2024-wildfire-report.pdf>



THANK YOU

Learn More: www.idl.idaho.gov/fire