



## Redesign Components: COMPETITIVE ALLOCATION PROCESS



The State & Private Forestry (S&PF) Redesign is based on the assumption that our collective efforts will be most effective if federal resources are focused on issues of national importance and prioritized using state and regional assessments with activities driven by a preference for meaningful outcomes on the ground. This concept is captured as: **focus + priority + outcome**.

Based on this concept, the Redesign Board recommends that an increasing percentage of S&PF funding be allocated through a competitive process based on the National Themes and associated guidance. **The percentage of funding that is competitively allocated should gradually increase over 5 years to a total of 65 percent.**

The competitive process will begin in FY 2008 with 15 percent of the net available allocation (after earmarks) being distributed competitively. In FY 2009, the percentage of funding that is competitively allocated will increase by 10 percent over that used in the previous year. This funding will be divided among the three geographic regions (northeast, south, west) according to current allocation methods.

National guidance, based on the Redesign National Themes and National Assessment, will be provided to each region specifying desired outcomes for the funding and timelines for managing the process. **State Forestry and U.S. Forest Service leadership in each geographic region will then work together to design and implement a competitive process** for the funding made available to them. The criteria established for the competition must address the national guidance, but each region may also specify additional criteria to emphasize unique regional issues and priorities.

Each region should identify ways to meaningfully involve external stakeholders in their competitive process and associated project proposals.

Once a region has completed the competitive process and determined how funds will be allocated, those funds will be sent by the S&PF Washington Office to the appropriate U.S. Forest Service Regions for distribution.

Participation in the initial two years of the competitive process will require development of proposals based on the guidance provided, but will not require the completion of a State Forest Resource Assessment. Beginning in 2010, State Forest Resource Assessments and Response Plans will be more formally incorporated into the process.

Applications for non-competitive federal S&PF funds will be submitted using the existing process for FY 2008 and FY 2009.

**DRAFT ~ 7/3/2007**