

# Region 8 Strategic Framework

(Version 03/2008)



## VISION

*For what desired future does Region 8 work?*

The Southern Region is a dynamic collection of lands, cared for by people as a legacy for future generations.



## CORE BELIEFS

*What beliefs about the world does Region 8 hold as essential to its work?*

We believe that:

Benefits to people flow from healthy land  
Healthy land is conserved through wise management  
Management is most effective when shared



## MISSION

*What does Region 8 do and for whom?*

**We conserve the lands of the Southern Region  
in partnership with the people we serve.**



## AREAS OF FOCUS

*In what primary areas does Region 8's mission-related work concentrate, and under each, what is the primary goal Region 8 is working toward?*

### **“Restore”**

*Ecological systems are returned to their natural resilience and sustained.*

**Objective 1:** EPA impaired watersheds are improved.

**Objective 2:** Native vegetation as defined in Forest or state plans is restored.

**Objective 3:** Species of concern are restored.

### **“Protect”**

*Human, natural and physical resources are secure from degradation and harm.*

**Objective 1:** People and resources are protected from catastrophic wildfires.

**Objective 2:** The basic structure and function of ecosystems is protected.

**Objective 3:** Visitors and users of the national forest are provided a safe environment.

**Objective 4:** Private inholdings and private lands adjacent to Forests and grasslands are not threatened by fragmentation.

### **“Respond”**

*Uses needed to meet social demands are met in an environmentally sensitive manner.*

**Objective 1:** Biomass utilization is emphasized to respond to anticipated demand for alternative fuels.

**Objective 2:** Development of energy resources (oil, gas, coal, water, wind, etc.) incorporates actions that offset environmental impacts or enhance environmental conditions.

**Objective 3:** Outdoor recreation opportunities are environmentally sustainable.



## **AREAS OF CAPACITY**

*In what areas is Region 8's capacity to do work in support the mission concentrated, and under each, what is the primary goal Region 8 is working toward?*

We value in all that we do:

Efficiency  
Sustainability  
Accountability  
Common Sense

All Capacity supports the Region's Mission, Focus Areas and Strategic Objectives.

### **Money**

Definition: Money and the accounting of it.

Goal: Financial resources are leveraged to maximize Regional accomplishments.

### **People**

Definition: All of the people (i.e. FS employees, volunteers, contractors, etc) who do the work of the Region and the issues involved with them.

Goal: The diverse mix of people who work for the Region is appropriate to the mission.

### **Equipment/Gear**

Definition: The hardware (all equipment) and software needed to do our work.

Goal: The right tool to do the job is readily available.

### **Infrastructure**

Definition: The human-made, physical improvements needed to conduct our business.

Goal: Infrastructure looks good, works good and fulfills the need.

### **Image**

Definition: Our "customers'" awareness, understanding, and support of what we do.

Goal: People actively endorse and contribute to what we do.

### **Governance**

Definition: The structure, roles and rules designed to organize ourselves (our work) and hold us accountable.

Goal: The Region advances cooperative leadership to ensure integration across functions and forests.

### **Knowledge**

Definition: The information and expertise needed to perform the job or task

Goal Statement: We have the knowledge to do the right thing and do things right.

**Key terms:**

**Benefits:** The economic, ecological, and human experience values derived from natural resources.

**Catastrophic wildfire** is a fire where there is a loss of life, injury to people, loss of structures, and the loss of critical natural habitats.

**Health:** In regard to ecosystems, health is a condition characterized by vitality, sustainability and balance, within the natural range of variability.

**Wise Management:** A perspective that attempts to balance the various and competing needs of people to use the land and benefit from it, while still preserving the fundamental capacity of the land to produce those benefits into perpetuity so that the legacy passed to future generations is not impaired or diminished.