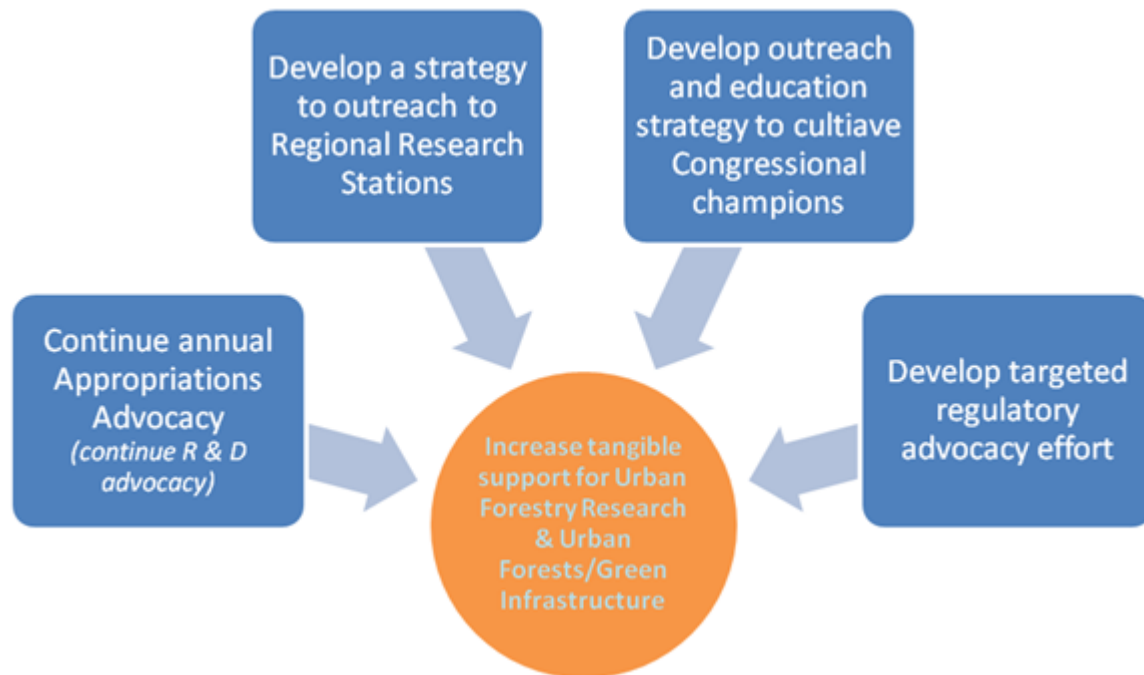


Advancing Urban Research Call:
August 30, 2012

Participating: Carrie Gallagher, Christi Layman, Larry Wiseman, Don Winsett, Nick Tobenkin, Beth Larry, Scott Maco, Gerry Gray, John Barnwell, Cara Boucher, Alice Ewen, Faith Campbell and Jen Hinrichs

- Jen briefed the participants on past conversations and outlined the four areas below of interest in urban research to SUFC Policy Working Group members:



NOTE: SUFC leadership is also working simultaneously to build and develop working relationships with FS Research leadership.

- There was general acknowledgement that this community is not able to effectively advocate for increased (or sustained) urban researching funding by the inability to pinpoint how urban research funding is spent within the Forest Service and potentially other federal agencies.
- There has been an increase in spending from 7M to 9M in 2013 on national urban ecosystem research; participants expressed an interest in better aligning with this – especially if we are not able to carve out a specific portion for urban forestry.
- Current dynamic environment in re: to urban research – with the pending National Academies of Science workshop (October 29-30); NUCFAC research priorities

assessment to be completed by 2014 (starting within six months); an increase in the FS spending (noted above); upswing in interest and commitment from SUFC members etc.

- Participants expressed clear interest in support Beth Larry's efforts @ urban research and increased agency transparency – and offered to provide support and resources as appropriate going forward. How to best support/help TBD.
- Questions to address in subsequent call/s:
 - What is it that we as SUFC define as urban research? What are our *own* priorities?
 - What are the current national priorities as set by the FS? What are the regional research station priorities?
 - What other agencies are looking at/conducting urban research? To what end?
 - What can be done with additional urban research funding?
 - What are the best tools and what have SUFC members used?
 - How is urban natural resource stewardship defined exactly? Can we locate the white paper on this by Michael Rains? (internal transitional document for FS)
- Carrie, Scott, Nick, Gerry, Beth, Cara, Danielle and John expressed interest in continuing this dialogue and potentially serving on subcommittee to further develop SUFC position and advocacy strategies (policy-oriented, regulatory and educational in nature).

Next Steps: Interested representatives should respond to the Doodle poll and attend the next meeting set for September or October.

<http://doodle.com/6b8uart9vv344uds>