**PROJECT NAME**

Dry Forest Investment Zone (DFZ)

**ALIGNMENT WITH THEORY OF CHANGE**

Community Capacity

**INITIATIVE**

Zones

**TYPE OF PROJECT**

Pilot/Demonstration

**TYPE OF INVESTMENT**

Traditional

Grant

**FUNDING**

<table>
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<th>Endowment</th>
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**AWARDEES**

Sustainable Northwest

**CHRONOLOGY**

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<th>Date Approved</th>
<th>Date Signed or Launched</th>
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<td>Board 6.30.2008</td>
<td>CEO 7.9.2009</td>
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**Project Overviews & Outcomes**

The Forest Zone strategy was to invest in sustainable forestry and rural community development practices at the regional level to retain and restore healthy working forests and provide multiple value streams which contribute to the economic health of forest-reliant communities. The underlying concept was that regional approaches are essential to local community economic vibrancy in a changing global marketplace. Degraded forests at high risk for catastrophic wildfire dominate the Dry Forest Zone landscape; about 67% of forests are federally-owned. The planned DFZ primary outcomes were: development of integrated woody biomass facilities; retention and creation of employment related to forest value streams; and collaboration between strong nonprofit, government, business, and community organizations to restore the forests and create strong local economies.

- Successfully built capacity and facilitated local collaboratives of diverse stakeholders (environmental groups to loggers) to agree on management plans for federal and state forests. These actions were critical to restoring economic possibility to the region.
- Developed a model “Integrated Biomass Campus” to merchandize low-value wood derived from forest restoration activities.
- Supported institutional-scale use of wood biomass for heating schools, hospitals, airports, and other public facilities. This helps “localize” energy economies.
- Successfully advocated state and federal policy to increase pace and scale of collaboratively developed management plans for public forests; biomass energy R&D; community economic development funding; and project financing.