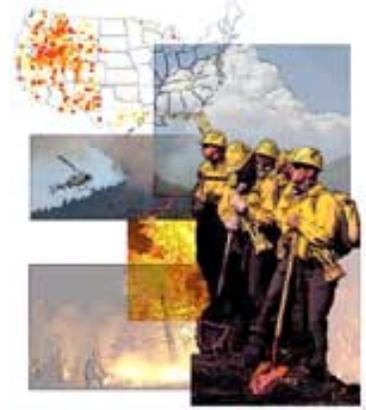




## The National Fire Plan

### FY 2001 Programs in Georgia



### Overview

In FY 2001, the National Fire Plan implements program activities across the landscape, to respond to the severe wildfires of 2000, reduce their impacts on rural communities, and enhance firefighting capabilities in the future. In the 13 southern States, the Plan serves to strengthen the firefighting organization, expand hazardous fuel reduction and management activities, and enhance economic development opportunities in rural communities.

In 2000, 10,639 fires burned 63,737 acres and damaged or destroyed 289 homes and structures in Georgia. Estimated National Fire Plan allocations to Georgia include (\$ in thousands):

Firefighting		Rehab and Restoration	Hazardous Fuel Treatment	Forest Health Projects	Community Assistance				TOTAL
Preparedness	Facilities				State Fire Assistance	Volunteer Fire Assistance	Economic Action Programs	Comm'ty & PrivateLand Fire Assist..	
2,674	275	0	624	45	1,072	146	20	175	5,031*

\* Includes \$1,750,000 for Research and Development activities in Georgia in support of the National Fire Plan.

### Firefighting Resources

*Staffing the most efficient organizational level (MEL) to provide prompt initial attack suppression on wildfires.*

In Georgia, 17 term positions and 1 temporary position in the National Forest fire organization are being filled in FY 2001, to build the most efficient level of organizational readiness. In addition, four engines are being added to the fleet, at a cost of \$240,000. \$75,000 is being invested in the Glassy Mountain Helibase Facility. Through the Federal Excess Property Program (FEPP), excess Federal property is loaned to state forestry agencies and their cooperators for wildland and rural community fire protection. The total value of FEPP inventory in Georgia is about \$19 million.

### Hazardous Fuel Reduction

*Targeting fuel management and reduction on high priority areas, especially wildland-urban interface areas.*

- No acres of hazardous fuel reduction have been recorded in the National Database as of July 27, 2001.
- Fuel reduction treatments are planned on more than 19,000 acres.

- An additional 20,000 acres of planning and NEPA work to prepare for FY 2002 fuel reduction treatments is also scheduled for FY 2001.

## Community Assistance

*Enhancing community capacity to reduce wildfire risk and expand local economic opportunities.*

- State Fire Assistance provides \$1,0722,000 through the National Fire Plan, in addition to base funding. The program will support over 10 wildland-urban interface (WUI) projects in fuels management, development of training materials, public education campaigns; development of a mobile classroom project; and support to the Helping Hands protective equipment program.
- Volunteer Fire Assistance provides \$146,000 through the National Fire Plan, in addition to \$97,000 in base funding. The program awards grants to address the needs of Georgia's 1,025 rural volunteer fire departments, for training, equipment, protective materials, and supplies. In 2000, 119 volunteer fire departments received grants, from among 814 that requested assistance.
- Economic Action Program focuses on high fire risk areas mostly in the wildland/urban interface areas, where conventional prescribed burning is not feasible. The program will help support a region-wide assessment of fuel loads and burned areas, to guide planning of longer-range strategies to reduce fuel loads and minimize risks to people and property in Georgia.
- Community and Private Land Fire Assistance program will provide support to communities in burned and impacted areas. Grants will support community planning, pilot projects and activities to mitigate the impacts of past fires, reduce the risks of and prepare for future fires, and explore economic opportunities that arise from the National Fire Plan, such as establishment of dry hydrants, stewardship planning and fuel management, hazard mitigation, and utilization of wood products from removed fuels.

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