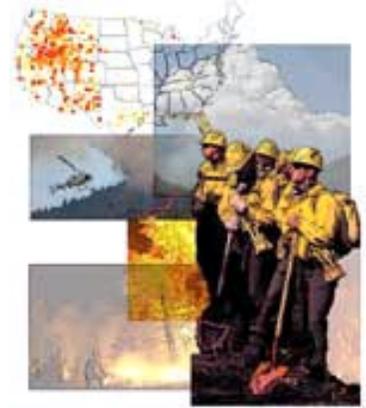




The National Fire Plan

FY 2001 Programs in Rhode Island



Overview

The National Fire Plan implements program activities in five key areas across the landscape. These key points are designed to respond to the severe wildfires of 2000, reduce their impacts on rural communities, and enhance firefighting capabilities in the future. Estimated National Fire Plan allocations to Rhode Island 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 & Private Land Fire Assist..	
0	0	0	0	0	55	20	0	0	75

Firefighting Resources

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

- Preparedness Organization - Increase resources within the 20-state Eastern Region to 125 engines, 17 dozers, 525 preparedness positions and one Interagency Hotshot Crew.
- Workforce Development - Plan for 274 new hires within the 20-state Eastern Region (includes seasonal, temporary, and conversions to permanent).
- Fire Facilities - Invest in Regional facilities planning support, at a cost of approximately \$2 million.
- Federal Excess Personal Property - Build on estimated \$2.8 million inventory value of equipment and material loaned to state fire organizations and their cooperators in Rhode Island.

Hazardous Fuel Reduction

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

- Fuels reduction and hazard mitigation activities proposed on non-federal lands.
- Forest Health Management activities to prevent and control invasive species.

Community Assistance

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

- \$55,000 in State Fire Assistance will increase organizational and preparedness skills to assist with firefighting efforts. Grants will be used for training and education, fuel reduction and hazard mitigation, and equipment. An additional \$57,000 is allocated in base program funds.
- \$20,000 in Volunteer Fire Assistance will support training and equipment to meet the needs of a portion of the 59 rural volunteer fire departments in Rhode Island. An additional \$13,000 is allocated in base program funds.
- \$985,000 in National Fire Plan Community Assistance will support activities across the 20 northeastern states. Included are:
 - Economic Action Programs to develop and expand markets for wood products from removed fuels; and
 - Community and Private Land Assistance to enhance fire planning in communities, enhance stewardship planning, and fund fuel management.

Lyle Laverty National Fire Plan Coordinator llaverty@fs.fed.us (720) 480-0452	Mark Boche Eastern Region Fire Plan Coordinator mboche@fs.fed.us (414) 297-1280	George Brooks NE Area Fire Plan Coordinator gbrooks@fs.fed.us (610) 557-4152	Thomas A. Dupree State Forester riforestry@edgenet.net (401) 647-3367
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