



The National Fire Plan

FY 2001 Programs in Colorado

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 2001, reduce their impacts on rural communities, and enhance firefighting capabilities in the future. Estimated allocations for Colorado (\$ 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.. | |
| 21,079 | 4,050 | 1,050 | 11,067 | 835 | 2,206 | 570 | 859 | 1,417 | 44,073* |

* Total includes \$940,000 for Research activities in support of the National Fire Plan in Colorado. Forest Service program administration costs are also included in the total for the State.

Firefighting Resources

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

- Preparedness Organization
 - 1 new Interagency Hotshot Crew, to be located at Fort Collins.
 - 12 additional engines to be procured.
- Workforce Development
 - 10 Job Fairs held and 3,000 applications received to date
 - 250 New Hires planned to meet MEL, and 120 additional positions (includes seasonal, temporary, and conversions to permanent).
- Fire Facilities - Four new facilities in Colorado, and Regional facilities support, at a total cost of \$4,050,000

Rehabilitation

Assuring long-term efforts to improve lands unlikely to recover naturally from fire damage.

- Rehabilitation work in Colorado is implemented through the Burned Area Emergency Restoration (BAER) program. In addition, \$1,365,000 for Rehabilitation projects through the National Fire Plan.

Hazardous Fuel Reduction

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

- 58,600 total acres planned for Hazardous Fuels treatment in 2001, at a cost of nearly \$6.5 million, with an additional \$5.3 million allocated for planning out-year projects.
- More than 28,300 acres of fuel treatments have been accomplished and are entered in the National Database through 7/27/01.
- Research and Technology Development funding of \$6,075,000 allocated to Rocky Mountain Research Station.
- Forest Health Management projects funded through the National Fire Plan at \$634,000.

Community Assistance

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

The following programs are included in the Community Assistance portion of the National Fire Plan :

- **State Fire Assistance** - Provides \$2.206 million through the National Fire Plan, in addition to \$936,000 of regular program funds, for technical training, financial assistance, and equipment to States for state and local firefighting crews.
- **Volunteer Fire Assistance** - Provides \$570,000 through the National Fire Plan, in addition to \$93,000 of regular program funds, directly to local and volunteer fire departments for training and equipment.
- **Economic Action Programs** - Provides support to local community to develop local solutions to environmental and economic concerns and issues. Includes activities to address needs in areas impacted by the 2000 fire season, support to planning and prevention in areas of risk, and grant funds to explore economic opportunities associated with utilization of removed fuel materials.
- **Community and Private Land Fire Assistance** - Provides support to communities in burned and impacted areas for a total of \$1.4 million. Includes \$174,000 for Hazard Mitigation, \$252,000 for Forest Stewardship planning, \$479,000 for Economic Action Pilot Projects and Community Fire Planning, and \$4,000 for Fence Replacement. 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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