



# National Fire Plan

## Managing the Impact of Wildfires on the Communities and the Environment



### Montana State Summary from Department of the Interior

Based on the National Fire Plan, the Department of the Interior (DOI) will implement a number of program actions to reduce hazardous fuels and their adverse effects on forest and range lands, mitigate the impacts of severe wildfires on rural communities, and enhance firefighting capabilities. In Montana, those actions will include the following:

#### Firefighting Resources

##### Preparedness

- Hire 32 additional permanent employees and 66 additional temporary and career seasonal employees; convert 63 positions to a more permanent status
- Purchase three new engines for firefighting
- Obtain under contract two additional aircraft, including one single-engine air tanker and one air attack aircraft
- Invest \$1,023,042 in six facilities maintenance and construction projects

##### Research

Co-sponsor 15 research projects under the Joint Fire Science Program

#### Rehabilitation and Restoration

- Conduct long-term rehabilitation on 24,441 burned acres - \$2,538,000
- Complete emergency stabilization on 887 burned acres - \$123,000

#### Hazardous Fuels Reduction

- Treat fuels on 4,894 acres in wildland-urban interface areas - \$1,231,000
- Treat 24,507 acres to maintain/restore range or forest health - \$2,056,000

#### Community Assistance

For FY 2001, the DOI was appropriated \$10 million to initiate a pilot program of grants to rural fire districts. The Department expects to assist approximately 830 rural volunteer fire departments nationwide with training, equipment, and supplies to increase their level of preparedness for wildland firefighting.

#### U.S. Department of the Interior

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