



National Fire Plan

Managing the Impact of Wildfires on the Communities and the Environment



New Mexico 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 New Mexico, those actions will include the following:

Firefighting Resources

Preparedness

- Hire 83 additional permanent employees and 79 additional temporary and career seasonal employees; convert 30 positions to a more permanent status
- Purchase one new engine for firefighting
- Obtain under contract four additional aircraft, including three helicopters and one single-engine air tanker
- Invest \$33,530 in the maintenance/construction of one facility

Research

Co-sponsor one research project under the Joint Fire Science Program

Rehabilitation and Restoration

- Conduct long-term rehabilitation on 1,504 burned wildland acres - \$870,000
- Complete emergency stabilization on 4,100 burned wildland acres - \$480,000
- Conduct long-term rehabilitation on 2,200 burned acres in the wildland-urban interface - \$1,601,000
- Complete emergency stabilization on 6,000 burned acres in the wildland-urban interface - \$2,075,000

Hazardous Fuels Reduction

- Treat fuels on 14,326 acres in wildland-urban interface areas - \$7,649,000
- Treat 67,585 acres to maintain/restore range or forest health - \$9,370,000

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.

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