



# National Fire Plan

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



## FY 2002 Programs in California



In August 2000, the President directed the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to develop a plan to respond to severe wildland fires, reduce their impacts on rural communities, and assure sufficient firefighting capacity in the future. The National Fire Plan (NFP) was developed and addresses 5 key points:

- Firefighting;
- Rehabilitation and Restoration;
- Hazardous Fuel Reduction;
- Community Assistance; and,
- Accountability.

The USDA Forest Service and Department of the Interior are in the second year of implementing the National Fire Plan, with allocations to California estimated at:

### USDA Forest Service Allocations for FY 2002

Firefighting		Rehab and Restoration	Hazard Fuel Treatment	Research R&D JFSP	Forest Health Projects	Community Assistance			Total
Preparedness	Facilities					State Fire Assist	Volunteer Fire Assist	Economic Action Programs	
194,771,000	5,060,000	7,300,000	44,137,000	4,540,000	1,111,000	2,709,646	967,920	2,653,072	263,249,638

\*Allocations for FY 2001 and 2002 may vary slightly over time due to adjustments in accounting systems.

### Department of the Interior Allocations for FY 2002

Firefighting		Rehab and Restoration	Hazard Fuel Treatment	Research JFSP	Community Assistance Rural Fire Assist	Total
Preparedness	Facilities					
19,491,000	1,075,094	1,216,961	23,980,000	0	662,000	46,425,055

### Program Highlights

- Establishment of California Fire Alliance. The Alliance will provide a focal point for communication and coordination with state and local agencies and organizations as the implementation of the National Fire Plan proceeds in the Pacific Southwest Region.

- Begin construction of permanent facilities for the Wildland Firefighter Apprenticeship Program academy. Approximately 1,000 interagency students will pass through the program this year in five basic and three advanced academies.

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Deployment of advanced satellite communications systems for remote fire stations. Agreements with California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for the development of an automated resource ordering and tracking system.

## Fire Preparedness and Facilities

*Maintain a cost effective level of preparedness in firefighting and prevention*

- **Preparedness Resources**

- USDA Forest Service will have a total of 2,440 firefighting personnel, 270 engines, 12 air tankers, 23 helicopters, and 16 dozers.
- Department of the Interior will have a total of 619 firefighting personnel, 70 engines, 5 helicopters, 6 water/foam tenders, 3 dozers, and 1 airtanker.

- **Facilities**

- USDA Forest Service will provide funding for the replacement of barracks, repair of the wastewater system for the Hotshot barracks, Anza fire station, Oaks Flats barracks restoration, Santa Barbara R.D. Hotshot replacement, planning and design for FY03 R5 projects, and additional costs for the Santa Barbara and Chester air tank bases.
- Department of the Interior will provide funding for the Susanville Dispatch Center, Sequoia Grant Grove Engine Barn, Sequoia Mineral King Engine Garage and the Sequoia and Kings Canyon.

## Rehabilitation and Restoration

*Rehabilitate fire damaged wildlands and restore ecosystem*

- Rehabilitation and Restoration program consists of

1. Immediate actions to reduce threats to public safety, property and natural and cultural resources, and
2. Long-term actions to help restore healthy ecosystems and replace infrastructure damaged by fire.

- DOI funding will cover ecological stabilization, reforestation (seeding, cultural protection invasive species, contour tree felling, monitoring);
- USDA Forest Service funding will be used to improve overall watershed condition and restoring severely burned forests and rangelands. Projects include reforestation, watershed restoration, road and trail rehabilitation, fish and wildlife habitat restoration, planting and seeding and preventing invasive plants.

## Hazardous Fuel Reduction

*Invest in projects to reduce fire risk with focused effort in wildland urban interface areas.*

- Approximately 143,673 acres are planned for Hazardous Fuels treatment by Federal agencies; an estimated 71,213 acres will be treated in the Wildland Urban Interface
- An estimated \$68 million will be spent on hazardous fuels treatment work.
- Forest Health Management funding is estimated at \$1,111,000.

## Community Assistance

*Work with communities to reduce the risks of catastrophic fire*

- Rural Fire Assistance (DOI): Estimated funding - \$662,000
  - 30 rural/volunteer fire departments will receive assistance.
- State Fire Assistance (FS): Estimated funding - \$2,709,646.
- Volunteer Fire Assistance Program (FS): Estimated funding - \$967,920.
- Economic Action Program (FS): Estimated funding - \$2,653,072.

## Accountability

*Establish and maintain a high level of accountability including oversight reviews, progress tracking and performance monitoring*

- DOI and Forest Service are developing a uniform set of performance measures necessary to assess program effectiveness these measures will be tracked through a common electronic database by the end of the FY02.
- DOI and Forest Service have developed a uniform process and timeline to identify and complete planning on fuels treatment projects.
- A DOI and Forest Service contracting review has been completed and actions will be initiated to increase the level of contracts for fuels hazard reduction work.

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