



# National Fire Plan

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



## FY 2002 Programs in The District of Columbia

In August 2000, the President directed the Secretaries of Agriculture and 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 Washington, D.C. estimated at:

### USDA Forest Service Allocations for FY 2002

Firefighting		Rehab & Restoration	Hazardous Fuel treatment	Research (R&D, JFSP)	Forest Health Projects	Community Assistance			Total
Preparedness	Facilities					State Fire Assist	Volunteer	Economic Action Programs	
0	0	0	0	0	0	9,732	0	0	9,732

\*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	Hazardous Fuel Treatment	Research	Community Assistance	Total
Preparedness	Facilities			JFSP	Rural Fire Assist	
153,000	0	0	88,000	0	40,000	128,000

## Program Highlights

- **Urban and Community Forestry-**The District of Columbia hired a new urban forestry coordinator, Mark Buscaino, and is establishing future direction with a new staff and a new partnership with the Casey Tree Foundation. The Urban Forest Council of Washington DC awarded neighborhood greening project grants, and supported projects in the Trinidad, Mount Pleasant/Columbia Heights, Westminster Park, and Kalorama neighborhoods that have increased the awareness by residents of the importance of trees in their lives.
- **Conservation Education-** The District of Columbia conservation education program, coordinated by the Department of Environmental Health Administration, established a Resource Room for educators that acts as a "one-stop-shop," providing a variety of conservation education materials. The DC Environmental Health Administration is also an active member of the Mid-Atlantic Conservation Education (MACE) Cooperative, which consists of six states and the District of Columbia. MACE, the first geo-regional conservation education council in the nation, is devoted to assisting members develop and implement quality conservation education programs in their states..

## 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, 65 lookouts, 12 air tankers, 23 helicopters, and 16 bull dozers.
- **Department of the Interior** will have a total of 619 firefighting personnel, 67 engines, 5 helicopters, 6 water/foam tenders, 3 dozers, and 1 airtanker.

### Facilities

- **USDA Forest Service** will be providing funding for the replacement/wastewater repair of 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 be providing 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 74,900 acres are planned for Hazardous Fuels treatment by Federal agencies (USDA Forest Service and Department of the Interior).**
- **An estimated 70,884 acres will be treated in the Wildland Urban Interface**
- **Forest Health Management funding is estimated at \$1,325,000**

## **Community Assistance**

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

**States are focusing funding on increasing wildland fire response capacity by enhancing their level of fire preparedness, training wildland firefighters, purchasing personal protective equipment, conducting fire education and prevention activities including Firewise projects; implementing hazard mitigation projects addressing fuel reduction and installation of dry hydrants, and fire planning projects assessing communities at risk**

- **Rural Fire Assistance (DOI): Estimated funding – \$40,000**
- **State Fire Assistance (FS): Estimated funding – \$9,732**

## **Accountability**

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

- **Accountability is crucial to ensure efforts made by DOI and Forest Service meets or achieves the desired goals and objectives of the National Fire Plan.**
- **Funds will be tracked and spent for their intended purposes.**

- **DOI and Forest Service are developing a uniform set of performance measures necessary to assess program effectiveness, to report accomplishments and track funding.**

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