

National Fire Plan

Department of the Interior and US Department of Agriculture
www.fireplan.gov



FY 2003 Programs in Indiana

The USDA Forest Service (FS) and the Department of the Interior (DOI) agencies are in the third year of successful implementation of National Fire Plan (NFP) activities. The NFP was developed in August 2000, following a landmark wildland fire season, with the intent of actively responding to severe wildland fires and their impacts to communities while assuring sufficient firefighting capacity for the future. The NFP addresses five key points: Firefighting, Rehabilitation, Hazardous Fuels Reduction, Community Assistance, and Accountability.

(dollars displayed in thousands)

USDA / DOI	Actual 2002	**Estimated 2003
Preparedness	1,444	1,540
Operations		
Suppression*		
Hazardous Fuel	479	944
Rehabilitation	0	
Fire Facilities	88	
Research and Development	0	
Joint Fire Sciences	0	
Forest Health Management	0	
State Fire Assistance	60	326
Volunteer Fire Assistance /Rural Fire Assistance	67	118
Economic Action Program	0	
TOTAL	2,138	2,928

* Suppression costs for Indiana totaled \$309,000 in 2002.

** Actual funding will be displayed in the 2003 Annual Performance Report.

Program Highlights:

- In November 2002, the Indiana Interagency Coordination Center was officially dedicated. The event was attended by more than 50 representatives from participating agencies. The facility, made possible with National Fire Plan funding, was completed in August in 2002.

Fire Preparedness and Facilities

- Preparedness Resources
 - ## The USDA Forest Service will maintain preparedness resources at the 2002 levels.
 - ## Department of the Interior will have a total of 10 firefighting personnel, 3 engines, and 1 water/foam tender.

Rehabilitation

- Rehabilitation 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 restore 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 Fuels Reduction

- Approximately 5,300 acres are planned for hazardous fuel treatment by federal agencies; an estimated 1,800 acres will be treated in the wildland urban interface.
- An estimated \$944,000 will be spent on hazardous fuels treatment work.

Community Assistance

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
10 rural/volunteer fire departments will receive assistance from DOI.
- State Fire Assistance (FS) – Estimated funding – \$326,166
- Volunteer Fire Assistance Program (FS) – Estimated funding – \$78,000

Accountability

- DOI and USDA Forest Service developed a uniform set of performance measures to assess program effectiveness for FY 2003 and FY 2004 program measurement.
- DOI and USDA Forest Service, with input from the National Association of State Foresters, developed action plans for nearly all of the 23 tasks in the Implementation Plan for the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy. The State Foresters and their partners are continuing to develop field guidance for fuels reduction projects.
- DOI and USDA Forest Service developed the National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS), a common data collection and reporting system for gathering project plans and accomplishments.

Department of the Interior Tim Hartzell National Fire Plan Coordinator-DOI (202) 606-3211	USDA Forest Service Corbin Newman National Fire Plan Coordinator (202) 205-1332	State of Indiana Burnell C. Fisher Dept. of Natural Resources (317) 232-4105
--	--	---