

Cooperative Fire Protection Program

USDA Forest Service
Northeastern Area
State and Private Forestry



State and Volunteer Fire Assistance Programs

Description: Wildland fire management is vital for protecting lives and property and for maintaining healthy forests and grasslands. In the 20 Northeast and Midwest States, grants and assistance from the Cooperative Fire Protection Program help support State wildland fire programs that serve 40 percent of the Nation's population.

Key Issues:

- Federal assistance is critical for effective fire management programs across multiple jurisdictions.
- Local volunteer fire departments are a key to wildland fire suppression in the Northeast and Midwest.

Accomplishments:

Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, State, and partner accomplishments include:

State Fire Assistance Program (including the National Fire Plan)

- Treating 89,276 acres with prescribed fire and 2,252 acres with equipment to reduce hazardous fuels.
- Preparing 335 community protection plans, risk assessments, or their equivalent; and providing 2,246 education programs.
- Training 17,706 people about the Incident Command System and wildland fire suppression.
- Providing specialized assistance to 5,150 communities for training, enhancing rural water supplies, and defensible space/Firewise activities in high-priority watersheds.

Volunteer Fire Assistance Program

- Training 11,193 volunteers about the Incident Command System and wildland fire suppression.
- Assisting 5,797 fire departments and forming 6 new fire departments.
- Awarding \$4.9 million in grants to 1,960 fire departments.

Federal Excess Property and Department of Defense Firefighter Property Program

- Acquiring and loaning \$9.5 million in new firefighting equipment. More than \$245 million in Federal equipment, mainly trucks and some aircraft, is on loan to State and local fire agencies.
- Signing over \$34.6 million in equipment to 9 States under the Firefighter Property Program.

Budget History:

| Cooperative Fire Protection Program | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| (\$ Thousands) | | | |
| | FY 2009 | FY 2010 | FY2011 |
| State Fire Assistance Program | \$13,405 | \$16,494 | TBD |
| Volunteer Fire Assistance Program | 4,566 | 4,981 | TBD |
| Total | \$17,971 | \$21,475 | TBD |

Future Direction:

- Emphasize the effective, efficient use of Federal resources.
- Promote the integration of fire management into landscape-scale management planning and implementation.

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