

# National Fire Plan

USDA Forest Service  
**Northeastern Area**  
 State and Private Forestry



## The Northeastern Area – Wildland Fire Management

*Providing leadership in the development of safe, productive and efficient Wildland Fire Management programs that minimize the loss of life, property and natural resources.*



**Description:** In FY 2001, Congress funded the *National Fire Plan (NFP)*, providing additional funds to help the USDA Forest Service, states, and other partners address the growing threat to lives, property, and natural resources from catastrophic wildfires. This national initiative is helping reduce hazardous fuels, control wildland fires, restore landscapes, and assist communities at risk. State and Private Forestry programs play a major role in the Plan’s success, allowing the USDA Forest Service to offer technical and financial assistance directly to affected communities, helping them mitigate risks.

### Key Issues:

- **Firefighting:** Prepare for 2006 and beyond.
- **Rehabilitation and Restoration:** Restore landscapes and rebuild communities.
- **Hazardous Fuel Reduction:** Invest in projects to reduce fire risk.
- **Community Assistance:** Work directly with communities to ensure adequate protection.
- **Accountability:** Establish oversight, coordination, and accountability.

### Accomplishments:

- Established an Eastern Area Fire Plan Team with representation from the USDA Forest Service’s National Forest Systems Eastern Region, Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, Northeastern Research Station, North Central Research Station, and Forest Products Laboratory. The team’s purpose is to ensure that these units serve as “one Forest Service,” providing effective leadership, coordination, and continuity in all aspects of NFP implementation.
- Established the Northeastern Area Implementation Team for internal coordination and to help States and other partners implement program specific elements of the NFP.
- Provided administrative support to the Northeastern Area States Hazard Mitigation Review Team for FY 2005 State Fire Assistance Hazard Mitigation Project proposals submitted by the Northeastern Area State Foresters.
- Facilitated distribution of more than \$6 million in additional State Fire Assistance–NFP funds to communities to improve their wildfire response capacity, initiate hazardous fuels treatment, and develop community wildfire mitigation plans in the wildland urban interface (WUI).
- Facilitated the distribution of approximately \$2 million in additional Volunteer Fire Assistance–NFP funding to communities to improve their capacity to respond to WUI fires.

### Budget History: National Fire Plan

<i>State Fire Assistance (SPS2) &amp; Volunteer Fire Assistance (SPS3)</i>				
	<b>FY 2003</b>	<b>FY 2004</b>	<b>FY 2005</b>	<b>FY 2006</b>
State Fire Assistance	\$7,417,000	\$9,049,386	\$ 6,607,814	\$ 7,334,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	2,047,000	2,035,000	1,939,366	1,963,000
Totals	\$9,464,000	\$11,084,386	\$8,547,180	\$9,297,000

## **Future Direction:**

- Focus on implementing the five key issues—Firefighting, Rehabilitation and Restoration, Hazard Fuel Reduction, Community Assistance, and Accountability—cooperating with the Northeastern Area States, other Federal partners, programs, and local communities.
- Promote a greater capacity and efficiency among State agencies for wildland fire suppression and control.
- Foster and facilitate accountability for NFP expenditures through the NFP Operations Reporting System (NFPORS).
- Promote State Forestry agency and local community participation in the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) and Firewise Communities.
- Facilitate the distribution of FY 2006 National Fire Plan funds earmarked for State fire assistance, volunteer fire assistance, hazard mitigation, and community assistance.

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