

## Appropriation: Wildland Fire Management

### APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE SHEET

For necessary expenses for fire preparedness, suppression operations, emergency rehabilitation, and hazardous fuels reduction by the Department of the Interior, [\$305,850,000] \$297,197,000 to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed [\$9,300,000] \$9,270,000 shall be for the renovation or construction of fire facilities: *Provided*, That such funds are also available for repayment of advances to other appropriation accounts from which funds were previously transferred for such purposes: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances of amounts previously appropriated to the "Fire Protection" and "Emergency Department of the Interior Firefighting Fund" may be transferred and merged with this appropriation: *Provided further*, That persons hired pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 1469 may be furnished subsistence and lodging without cost from funds available from this appropriation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 42 U.S.C. 1856d, sums received by a bureau or office of the Department of the Interior for fire protection rendered pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1856 et seq., Protection of United States Property, may be credited to the appropriation from which funds were expended to provide that protection, and are available without fiscal year limitation. (*Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000 as enacted by Section 1000 (a)(3) of Consolidated Appropriations Act 2000 (P.L. 106-113).*)

## APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE CITATIONS

16 U.S.C. 1;  
16 U.S.C. 594;  
16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee;  
42 U.S.C. 1856;  
42 U.S.C. 5121;  
16 U.S.C. 3101;  
43 U.S.C. 1469;  
43 U.S.C. 1748;  
25 U.S.C. 3101;  
P. L. 93-638;  
P. L. 103-413;  
P.L. 104-208;  
P.L. 105-83;  
P.L. 106-113;

***The National Park Service Organic Act (16 U.S.C. 1)*** provides basic authority for fire protection and suppression on National Park system lands.

***The Timber Protection Act of 1922 (16 U.S.C. 594)*** provides for mutual aid in fire protection.

***The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee)*** constituted an "Organic Act" for the National Wildlife Refuge System by providing guidelines and directives for administration and management of all areas in the system, including "wildlife refuges, areas for the protection and conservation of fish and wildlife that are threatened with extinction, wildlife ranges, wildlife management areas, and waterfowl production areas."

***The Reciprocal Fire Protection Agreement Act of 1955 (42 U.S.C. 1856)*** provides authority for mutual aid in fire protection and allows for emergency assistance in the vicinity of agency facilities in extinguishing fire when no agreement exists.

***The Disaster Relief Act of May 22, 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5121)*** authorizes Federal agencies to assist State and local governments during emergency or major disaster by direction of the President.

***The Alaska Native Claim Settlement Act of 1971, as amended by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (16 U.S.C. 3101 et. seq.)*** provides that as long as there are no substantial revenues from those lands, Alaska Native Corporation lands will receive wildland fire protection services from the United States at no cost.

***The National Indian Forest Resources Management Act of 1990 (25 U.S.C. 3101)*** provides BIA with authority for fire protection and suppression on Indian Trust Lands.

***The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1748)*** provides for protection of public lands and resources from destruction by fire.

**43 U.S.C. 1469** authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to perform work occasioned by emergencies.

**P. L. 93-638** authorizes contracting of DOI projects and programs.

**The Tribal Self Governance Act of 1994, P. L. 103-413**, establishes a program with DOI known as tribal "self-governance", authorizing the compacting of Interior programs.

**Section 102 of the General Provisions of the Annual Appropriations Act for the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies** authorizes the Secretary to transfer funds from other Department accounts for the suppression or emergency prevention of forest or range fires on or threatening the public lands and for the rehabilitation of burned lands.

**Department of The Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act 2000 as enacted by section 1000 (a)(3) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2000 (P.L. 106-113).**

## **APPROPRIATION DESCRIPTION**

This appropriation provides funding for the Department's wildland fire management program. The wildland fire management program is guided by the principles and policies of the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Program Review, adopted by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture in December of 1995.

The Department's program recognizes that fire is a critical natural process that is integrated into land and resource management plans and activities on a landscape scale, across agency boundaries, and based on the best available science. Wildland fire is used to protect, maintain, and enhance resources, and as nearly as possible, is allowed to function in its natural ecological role. The Department's program ensures the capability to provide safe, cost-effective fire management through appropriate planning, staffing, training, and equipment. Fires are suppressed at minimum cost considering firefighter and public safety, benefits, and values to be protected, consistent with resource objectives.

Nine principles are fundamental to the success of wildland fire management:

- Firefighter and public safety is the first priority in every fire management activity.
- The role of wildland fire as an essential ecological process and natural change agent will be incorporated into the planning process.
- Fire management programs, plans, and activities support land and resource management plans and their implementation.
- Sound risk management is a foundation for all fire management activities.
- Fire management programs are economically viable, based upon values to be protected, costs, and land and resource management objectives.
- Fire management plans and activities are based upon the best available science.
- Fire management plans and activities incorporate public health and environmental quality considerations.
- Federal, state, Tribal, and local interagency coordination and cooperation are essential.
- Standardization of policies and procedures among Federal agencies is an ongoing objective.

Wildland fire management will promote firefighter and public safety and protect, maintain and enhance natural resources through the following actions:

- C Manage wildland fires occurring on or potentially impacting DOI lands in order to protect natural resources and preserve their capability to contribute to social and economic objectives of the Nation.
- C Give highest priority to preventing a disaster fire situation where damages are of such magnitude that they adversely affect the management objectives or socioeconomic conditions of an area.
- C Consider wildland fires that threaten life, and property and resource values, as emergencies whose suppression will be given priority over other Departmental programs.
- C Allow wildland fires to achieve land and resource management objectives under appropriate management strategies, as specified in fire management plans and natural resource management plans.
- C Apply fire and mechanical treatments to protect, maintain, and enhance resources and reduce hazardous fuels.
- C Conduct wildland fire programs in a manner consistent with legal authorities, and Bureau land use and management plan objectives.
- C Prevent land degradation and resource losses, and to take other measures necessary to stabilize erodible soils, structures, or other damages cause by wildland fires or by actions taken to suppress fires.

The program is comprised of two activities: Wildland Fire Preparedness and Wildland Fire Operations. Funds are appropriated to the Bureau of Land Management and are made available by allocation to the other three Interior Bureaus with fire management responsibilities: the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the National Park Service (NPS), and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). A small portion is allocated to the Office of the Secretary (OS) for program coordination activities.

### SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

(dollars in thousands)

Comparison by Activity/ Subactivity	1999 Actual		2000* Estimate		Uncontrol- lable & Related Changes (+/-)		Program Changes (+/-)		2001 Budget Requests		Inc(+) Dec(-) from 2000	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
<b>Wildland Fire Management</b>	<b>2,870</b>	<b>336,895</b>	<b>3,152</b>	<b>292,282</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>+6,240</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,152</b>	<b>297,197</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>+6,240</b>
Wildland Fire Preparedness	2,870	156,895	3,152	175,850	0	+6,240	0	0	3,152	182,090	0	+6,240
Readiness & Program Management												
DOI Total	2,870	147,870	3,152	162,580	0	+6,240	0	0	3,152	168,820	0	+6,240
BLM	1,671	80,497	1,810	91,026	0	+3,768	0	0	1,810	94,794	0	+3,768
BIA	435	32,553	475	33,724	0	+934	0	0	475	34,658	0	+934
FWS	246	15,612	300	17,185	0	+922	0	0	300	18,107	0	+922
NPS	476	19,038	525	20,470	0	+609	0	0	525	21,079	0	+609
OS	2	170	2	175	0	+7	0	0	2	182	0	+7
Fire Science												
BLM	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	0	0	0	0	4,000	0	4,000
Deferred Maintenance & Capital Improvement												
DOI Total	0	5,025	0	9,270	0	0	0	0	0	9,270	0	0
BLM	0	2,500	0	4,584	0	0	0	+4,379	0	8,963	0	+4,379
BIA	0	850	0	0	0	0	0	+67	0	67	0	+67
FWS	0	790	0	0	0	0	0	+240	0	240	0	+240
NPS	0	885	0	4,686	0	0	0	-4,686	0	0	0	-4,686
Wildland Fire Operations	0	130,000	0	115,107	0	0	0	0	0	115,107	0	0
BLM	0	64,910	0	55,725	0	0	0	0	0	54,373	0	-1,352
BIA	0	33,526	0	28,634	0	0	0	0	0	28,421	0	-213
FWS	0	9,128	0	9,421	0	0	0	0	0	11,201	0	+1,780
NPS	0	22,436	0	21,327	0	0	0	0	0	21,112	0	-215
OS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Emergency Supp. Approp.	----	50,000	----	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Emergency Supp. Approp. Proposed Legislation [Non-Add]				[100,000]								
Reduction pursuant to P.L.106-51		-165										
Reduction pursuant to P.L. 106-113				-1,325								
Reimbursables	40	----	40	----	0	----	0	----	40	----	0	----

\*The distribution between Preparedness and Operations reflects the agreement between the Department and the Appropriations Committees reached after passage of the FY 2001 appropriations.

## JUSTIFICATION OF UNCONTROLLABLE COST CHANGES

(dollars in thousands)

	2000 Estimate	2001 Change
2000 Pay Raise	+1,150	+1,536
2001 Pay Raise	+4,275	+4,132
<p>The January 2001 pay raise amount above was calculated before the Presidential Policy pay raise amount was available to the Department of the Interior. In total, the sum of the amounts above for pay raise costs is nearly the same as the correct amount. The amounts above offset the equivalent of a 4.025% for the full fiscal year rather than 3.975%, that is they are 0.05% too high. The amounts above are based on raises of 4.4% and 3.9% respectively, rather than the actual 4.8% for January 2000 and the President's requested 3.7% for January 2001. The Office of Budget will compile the correct amounts and provide them to the Appropriations Subcommittees and post them on our website (<a href="http://www.doi.gov/budget">www.doi.gov/budget</a>) soon after release of the President's budget request.</p>		
Retirement System Cost Changes	+125	+300
<p>The adjustment is for changes in the estimated retirement costs paid by the Bureaus. It results from changes in the relative proportion of FERS employees in the workforce.</p>		
Employers Health Plan Costs		+57
<p>The adjustment is for the estimated increase in costs of Health Plans to be paid by the Bureaus. The increase results from changes in rates charged by health plans and/or other factors related to health insurance.</p>		
One Less Day of Pay		-385
<p>The adjustment reflects the fact that there is one less day of payroll in FY2001 than in FY2000.</p>		
Implementation of the Fair Labor Standards Act		+600
<p>The adjustment reflects the increase in cost due to reforming overtime pay for higher graded employees in the Fire Program.</p>		



## Activity: Wildland Fire Preparedness

### Activity Summary (000's)

Bureau / Office		1999 Actual	2000* Enacted To Date	Uncontrollable & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2001 Budget Request	Change From 2000 (+/-)
Readiness and Program Management							
DOI Total	\$	147,870	162,580	+6,240	0	168,820	+6,240
	FTE	2,870	3,152	0	0	3,152	0
BLM	\$	80,497	91,026	+3,768	0	94,794	+3,768
	FTE	1,711	1,850	0	0	1,850	0
BIA	\$	32,553	33,724	+934	0	34,658	+934
	FTE	435	475	0	0	475	0
FWS	\$	15,612	17,185	+922	0	18,107	+922
	FTE	246	300	0	0	300	0
NPS	\$	19,038	20,470	+609	0	21,079	+609
	FTE	476	525	0	0	525	0
OS	\$	170	175	+7	+0	182	+7
	FTE	2	2	0	0	2	0
Fire Science							
BLM		4,000	4,000	0	0	4,000	0
Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement							
DOI Total	\$	5,025	9,270	0	0	9,270	0
	FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
BLM	\$	2,500	4,584	0	+4,446	9,030	+4,446
	FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
BIA	\$	850	0	0	0	0	0
	FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
FWS	\$	790	0	0	+240	240	+240
	FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
NPS	\$	885	4,686	0	-4,686	0	-4,686
	FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dollars		156,895	175,850	+6,240	0	182,090	+6,240
Total FTE		2,870	3,152	0	0	3,152	0

\*The distribution between Preparedness and Operations reflects the agreement between the Department and the Appropriations Committees reached after passage of the FY 2001 appropriations.

## ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

The Wildland Fire Preparedness activity consists of three components: readiness and program management, fire science, and deferred maintenance and capital improvement. This activity provides safe, cost-effective fire management programs in support of land and resource management plans through appropriate planning, staffing, training, and equipment. This activity includes the hiring and training of personnel, prevention activities, deferred maintenance and capital improvements, purchase of and contracting for equipment, supplies, and support, planning and coordination, policy development and oversight, Joint Fire Science Program and research, and interagency coordination and direction.

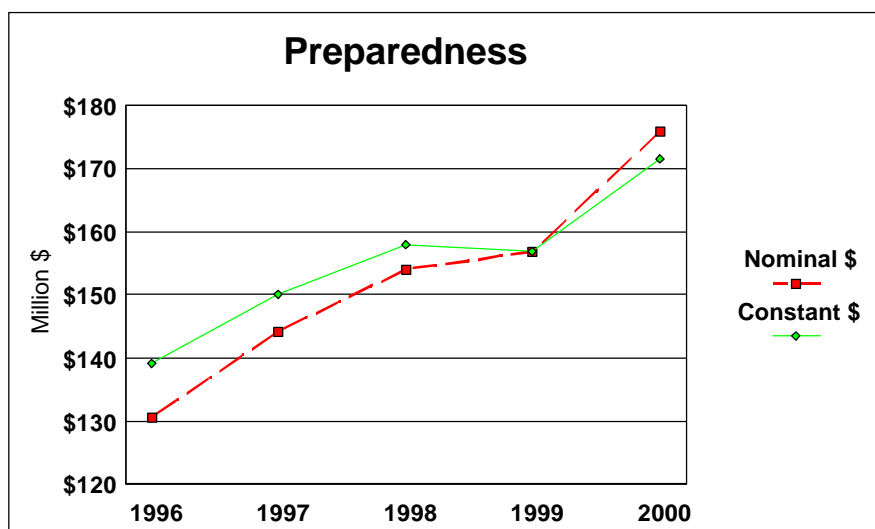
Wildland fire will be managed to promote firefighter and public safety and protect, maintain and enhance natural resources through the following actions:

- C Provide the necessary forces, resources, and capabilities, based on the Most Efficient Level (MEL) planning, to manage wildland fire to preserve the capability of DOI lands to contribute to the natural resource, socioeconomic and multiple use needs of the Nation;
- C Incorporate fire management planning into other land use and resource management plans of the Department;
- C Conduct research in order to improve fire fighting methods and knowledge of the relationship between fire and the environment;
- C Conduct a fire science program to support implementation of the hazard fuels reduction program;
- C Maintain an appropriate level of staff to support DOI fire programs at the funding level authorized by Congress; and
- C Reduce threats to public and employee health and safety and protect economic investments by maintaining facilities in a safe condition and remediating hazards.

## 2001 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The FY 2001 Wildland Fire Preparedness budget request is \$182,090,000 and 3,152 FTE. All FTE for all participating DOI agencies (excluding emergency firefighters) dedicated to the Wildland Fire Management Appropriation are accounted for in this activity.

**Readiness and Program Management** - All wildland fire management programs within the Departments of Interior and Agriculture are guided by fire management plans. These plans utilize economic efficiency as the primary measure for budgeting and managing the Department's Wildland Fire Preparedness activity. This measure is represented by the most cost efficient and technically effective fire management program level meeting resource objectives and minimizing costs of suppression and resource damages. We refer to this measure as Most Efficient Level (MEL). It covers planned contributions for interagency shared resources, training, prevention, wildland fire preparedness staffing, detection, and equipment.



Changes in technology, market values, industry standards, and pay increases significantly affect the costs of Preparedness. While funding for Preparedness has grown over the last five years as shown in this chart, there was actually a decline in firefighting readiness capability from FY 1997 through FY 1999 (as measured by the percent of MEL funded) due to the increasing costs

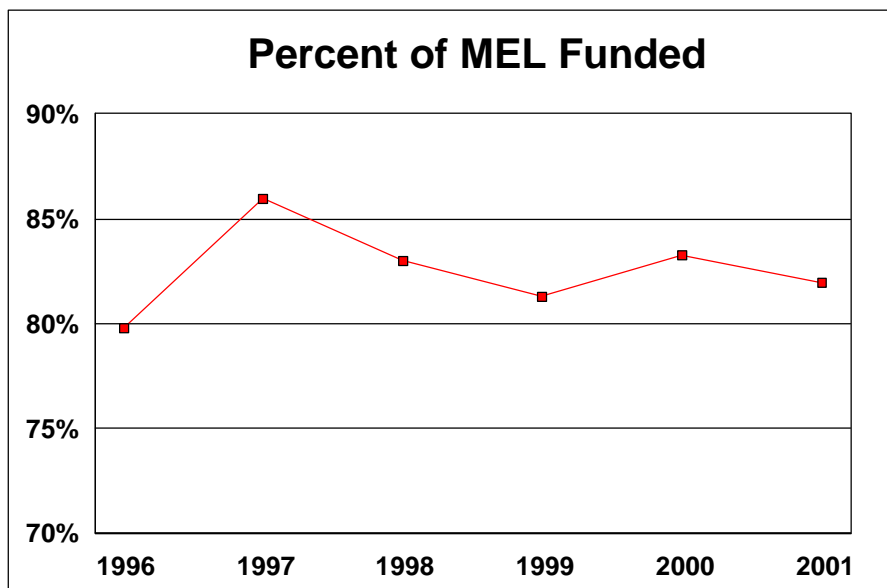
of readiness resources. Preparedness funding increased about 5% a year from FY 1996 through FY 2000, but the costs of Readiness and Program Management (as measured by MEL) increased at 7% per year over the last ten years. The cost of some readiness resources increased at a much greater rate. The following table displays examples of the escalating cost of significant readiness resources that are critical to handling fire emergencies safely and effectively.

### Changes in Readiness Resource Costs

Item	Unit Cost In 1996 - 1998	Unit Cost In 2000	Percent Change
Radios (Handheld) <sup>1</sup>	\$700	\$1,800	+157%
Wildland Engines			
Light	\$35,000	\$80,000	+129%
Heavy	\$73,000	\$140,000	+92%
Airtankers (contract availability)	\$228,000	\$320,000	+40%
Transport Aircraft (contract availability)	\$500,000	\$1,200,000	+140%
Helicopters (contract availability) <sup>2</sup>			
Light	\$70,000	\$150,000	+114%
Medium	\$195,000	\$245,000	+26%

<sup>1</sup> All Federal agencies are required to convert to narrow band radio systems by 2005.

<sup>2</sup> Replacement of obsolete aircraft and updated aviation safety standards.



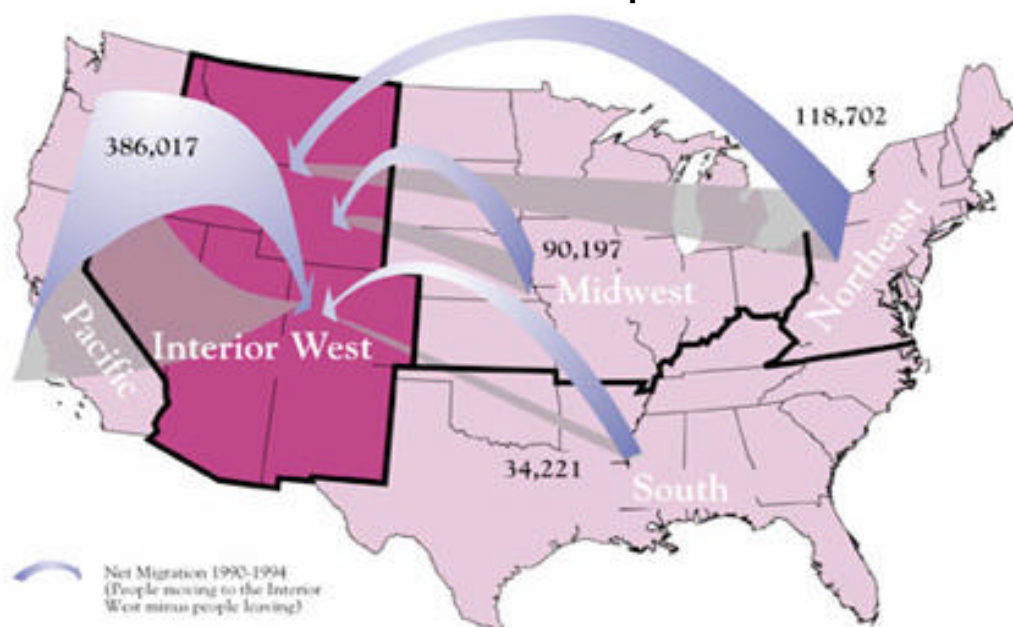
It is critical to the safety of firefighters and the public and to the effectiveness of the Wildland Fire Management program to maintain the level of readiness capability. This chart shows the level of readiness as measured by the level of the Most Efficient Level. In order to prevent a serious reduction in readiness in FY 2000, the Department reprogrammed over \$13,000,000 from the Operations Activity to the Preparedness Activity.

While this increased the level of MEL funded, the issue of keeping pace with increasing readiness costs will persist in future years.

**Workload Changes In Preparedness Activities** - The readiness and program management cost calculations, represented by MEL, also fluctuate due to changes in program workloads. These workloads are driven by changes in resource objectives, values to be protected, changes in land ownership, costs associated with the wildland/urban interface, increasing human caused fire occurrence associated with population growth, and continued hazardous fuels buildups.

Recent population growth statistics show that out of the top ten fastest growing states, 7 are in the western United States: Nevada, Arizona, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Washington, and Oregon. All of these states have large expanses of Interior-managed lands with historically active fire seasons and correspondingly high fire management workloads. Growing cities in these states abut and intermingle with wildland fuels raising risks to property values and personal health and safety. The increasing presence of homes dispersed in wildland fuels greatly increases fire planning workloads and complicates firefighting strategies and tactics. Greater level of effort is required to protect homes and the public than to fight fires in remote wildlands. The presence of more people living in wildland areas also leads to more human-caused fires, and more readiness resources are required to respond to this new workload.

### Growth Map



Net migration 1990 to 1994 (People moving into the Interior West minus people leaving)

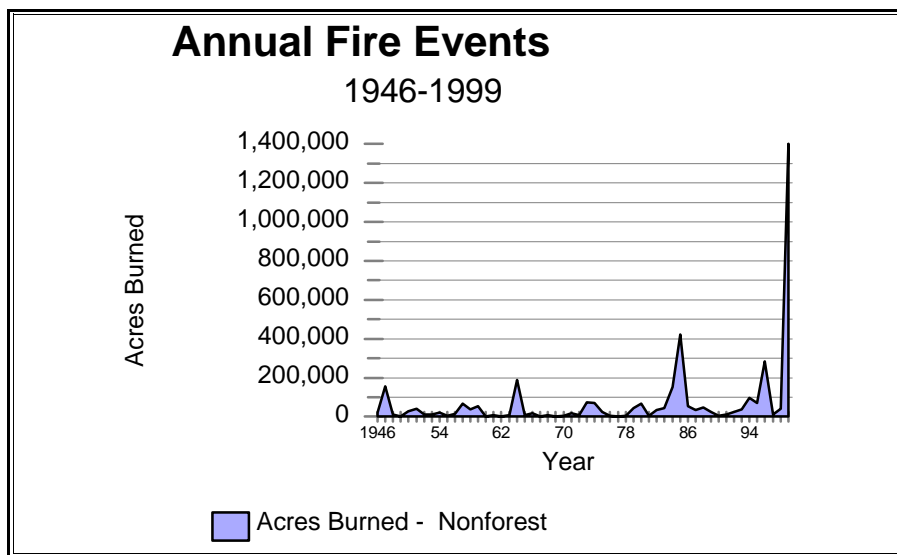
Source - Atlas of the New West, Center of the American West, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado.

**Changing Fuel Characteristics -**

The 1999 fire season in Nevada demonstrated the increasing workload associated with changing fuel characteristics. The rapid spread of cheat grass and other non-native grasses throughout the West has led to increasingly large and severe wildfires. Wildfires stimulate the further expansion of these unnatural fine fuels, compounding the problem. The damage done to these lands, due to unnaturally large and severe fires, also greatly increases the cost of emergency rehabilitation to prevent further resource degradation. Wind and water erosion on these burned lands will severely affect wildlife populations and other resource values and land uses without efforts to immediately revegetate extensive areas. The results are fast moving destructive wildland fires that damage site productivity and trap livestock and wildlife. These pictures show what happens when fires burn in these conditions.



This chart illustrates the severe increase in acres burned in Nevada during the 1999 fire season compared to the last 50 years.



This table shows firefighting resources available at recent appropriated funding levels.

MEL Percentage and Major Resource Elements	1999	2000	2001 PB
Most Efficient Level % see examples of MEL related preparedness resource capabilities listed below (percentage)	81**	83**	82**
Suppression, and Support Personnel excluding specialized resources and emergency firefighters (number)	4,157	4,400	4,280
Wildland Fire Engines (number)	1,157	1,191	1,176
Hot Shot Crews (number)	15	15	15
Call When Needed Crews (number)	385	405	395
Smokejumpers	130	130	130
Aviation Management Contracts and Fleet Aircraft Managed (number)	96	101	98

\*\* The Most Efficient Level (MEL) percentage excludes fire science and research and deferred maintenance.



Part of the DOI's mission and strategic vision is to protect property and resources from the destructive effects of wildland fires while providing for firefighter and public safety. To accomplish this mission, the Interior Bureaus fund preparedness activities on over 500 million acres of public lands, consisting of 264 million acres of BLM lands (2.4 million acres of which are Oregon and California Grant Lands, Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands and intermingled public lands in Western Oregon), 84 million acres of NPS land, 93 million acres of FWS lands, and 62 million acres of BIA Trust lands. As part of this coverage, whenever efficiencies can be gained and/or costs reduced, the Interior agencies enter into cooperative agreements with Federal, State, and local governments. Under these arrangements, protection responsibilities are exchanged and scarce resources are shared.

Readiness resources are established in advance of fire emergencies based on analysis of historic needs, to ensure Interior Bureaus' "readiness to respond" when fires occur. Department of the Interior Bureaus carry out wildland fire management responsibilities in such areas as National Parks, Wildlife Refuges, Preserves, Reservations, and Public Lands, including historic and cultural sites, commercial forests, range lands, and on some lands managed by other Federal and State agencies. Fire prevention and suppression are provided by Federal fire crews, and by arranging cooperative protection exchanges and contracts with other Federal and State agencies, and self governing tribes.

Program Management resources include permanent and career seasonal professional and technical personnel who provide leadership, coordination, program planning, technical and administrative support for fire and aviation management.

The quality of the fire planning and financial management systems used by the four agencies in the Department of the Interior (DOI) with wildland fire management programs is reflected by these agencies receiving "clean" financial audit opinions for their fire management programs for several years. These four fire programs have a proven record, through numerous audits and reviews, of being good fiscal stewards of the taxpayers' money.

**National Interagency Fire Center** - BLM hosts the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC), at Boise, Idaho, in cooperation with the Forest Service, National Weather Service, and other Department of the Interior Bureaus. The National Interagency Coordination Center at NIFC provides logistic support by mobilizing and coordinating movement of wildland fire resources when the capability in geographic areas is exceeded, and when states and other countries request assistance. In addition to its logistical coordination role, NIFC is also the home for one of the eleven national fire caches for supplies and equipment. It provides the national radio cache for fire and disaster assistance, and serves as the lead technical support group for communications, remote sensing, wildland fire engine development, and the national development center for standardized suppression, prescribed, prevention and management courses. It is also the home for the Great Basin Smokejumpers.

**Alaska Fire Service** - The Alaska Fire Service (AFS), located at Fairbanks, Alaska, is managed by BLM and is responsible for providing wildland fire suppression services to all DOI agencies and associated Alaska Native Corporation lands in Alaska. The area protected includes approximately 264 million acres. The total cost of AFS basic operations is included in the BLM portion of the Wildland Fire Management appropriation.



**Joint Fire Science Program** - The FY 2001 budget request for fire science is \$4,000,000. The 1998 Congressional appropriation provided a more flexible funding authority to support the aggressive use of prescribed fire and mechanical fuels treatments to reduce the occurrence of uncharacteristically severe wildland fires and improve ecosystem health. It also directed that the Bureaus establish a Joint Fire Science Program with the Forest Service to provide a scientific basis and rationale for implementing fuels management activities, with a focus on activities that will lead to development and application of tools for managers. The Department of the Interior Bureaus and the Forest Service each provided \$4,000,000 to fund this program in FY 2000 and will continue to do so in FY 2001. All of the Department of the Interior costs of this program are consolidated in the BLM allocation for Wildland Fire Preparedness, but are separate from readiness and program management.

The Fire Science Program primarily addresses four issues critical to the success of the fuels management and fire use program. These issues are:

- The need to develop and implement consistent interagency fuels mapping and inventories with common classifications and resolution within ecosystems. This information will help managers identify the location of hazardous fuels, determine where fuels have accumulated beyond the historic range of variability, determine potential impact of current fuel conditions on fire regimes and ecosystem processes, determine where fire damages and costs are increasing, recognize the most at-risk fuel/fire regime components, set priorities for treatments, and determine the appropriate type and frequency of treatment.
- The need to evaluate and compare fuels treatment practices and techniques, including prescribed fire, thinning and other mechanical methods, increased utilization of biomass, and no treatment. The evaluations will assess cost effectiveness, social impacts, air quality and watershed impacts, ecological consequences, and potential effects on wildland fire size, severity, and cost.
- The need to develop treatment schedules, determine the frequency of subsequent treatments, and coordinate treatment schedules among agencies. In developing treatment priorities and schedules, managers will need to consider the potential effects on other resources such as air and water quality, wildlife habitat, threatened and endangered species, and cultural values; on management activities, such as timber harvest, grazing, recreation, control of invasive, nonnative plants; and on costs, benefits, and risks associated with treatment and no treatment.
- The need to establish compatible interagency processes and procedures for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting fuels treatments. This will allow managers to determine whether the fuels management program is meeting its goals and objectives, by regularly updating fuels maps and inventories, and allowing synthesis of information across geographic and agency boundaries.

**Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement** - The FY 2001 budget continues a five year plan for maintenance and capital improvement of wildland fire facilities to address and eliminate critical health and safety problems. The DOI standard process and criteria were used to evaluate and prioritize all of the projects for health and safety concerns.

The 11 projects proposed in the attached list for FY 2001 have the highest health and safety ratings and will be addressed with the total of \$9,270,000 requested. This plan is subject to adjustments in future years based on funding levels and changing priorities. The Department supports inclusion of these projects as part of the five year plan to reduce critical health and safety risks at Interior facilities and on Interior lands. This is a critical investment if we are to meet the Department's and the four bureau missions, and reduce threats to public health, safety, and property, and restore and maintain the health of the land.

#### Proposed FY 2001 Fire Facility Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement Projects

Priority	State	Bureau	Project Name	Funding (\$000's)
1	AK	BLM	Alaska Radio Towers	250
2	UT	BLM	Cedar City Airtanker Base	1,200
3	NV	BLM	Logandale Fire Station	530
4	ID	BLM	Burley Fire Office	650
5	ID	BLM	NIFC Air Facility Ramp	2,460
6	ID	BLM	Malad Fire Station #8	490
7	ID	BLM	Pocatello Airtanker Base	250
8	OR	FWS	Malheur NWR Fire Quarters	240
9	NV	BLM	Battle Mountain Airtanker Base	1,530
10	AK	BLM	AFS Maintenance Shop	1,100
11	NV	BLM	Rogerson Fire Station	570
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$9,270</b>

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PLAN FY 2000 - 2005

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
PROJECT DATA SHEET

Bureau Priority/Ranking	1
DOI Priority/Ranking	1
Planned Funding FY	2001
Funding Source: Wildland Fire Preparedness, Deferred Maint. and Capital Improvement	

Project Identification

Project Title: Radio Tower Replacements			
Project No.: AK-009		Unit/Facility Name: State-wide Alaska	
Region/Area/District: Alaska Fire Service		Congressional District: 1	State: AK

Project Justification

<p><u>Project Description:</u> This project will replace the existing radio towers throughout the state. AFS currently has 63 Antenna towers under our maintenance. Collectively, we have 860 linear feet of tower. Estimated per/foot installation cost is \$262.50 for a total of \$225,750 plus estimated aircraft costs of \$24,250. Completion of project will result in 63 OSHA compliant Antenna Towers. These towers are scattered throughout Alaska, many of them in remote areas accessible only by helicopter transportation.</p>	
<p><u>Project Need/Benefit:</u> The national office reviewed all fixed site radio towers and has determined that they do not meet OSHA standards and are unsafe to climb. Replacement of towers will protect the health and welfare of employees required to climb them and bring us into compliance with OSHA. This will allow the AFS to meet it's mission objectives of emergency response to fires and other disasters by providing vital communication links statewide.</p>	
<p><u>Ranking Categories:</u> Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.</p>	
80 % Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	%Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance
% Critical Health of Safety Capital Improvement	20 % Compliance & Other Deferred Maintenance
% Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	% Other Capital Improvement
% Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	860 Rank Score
<p>Capital Asset Planning 300B Analysis Required on this Project: Yes No X</p>	

Project Costs and Status

<p><u>Project Cost Estimate:</u></p> <table> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$'s</td> <td>%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred Maintenance Work: \$</td> <td>250,000</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Improvement Work: \$</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Project Estimate: \$</td> <td>250,000</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Class of Estimate (circle one): <b>A B C D</b>                  Estimate Good Until (mm/yy): 6/00</p> <p>Dates: (qtr/yy)      <u>Sch'd</u>      <u>Actual</u></p> <p>Construction Start/Award</p> <p>Project Complete</p>		\$'s	%	Deferred Maintenance Work: \$	250,000	100	Capital Improvement Work: \$			Total Project Estimate: \$	250,000		<p><u>Project Funding History:</u></p> <p>\$ Available to Date: 0</p> <p>Requested in FY_01__ Budget: \$250,000</p> <p>Planned Funding FY \$:</p> <p>Future Funding to Complete Project:</p> <p>Total: \$250,000</p> <p>Project Data Sheet Prepared/Last Updated: 6/23/99</p>
	\$'s	%											
Deferred Maintenance Work: \$	250,000	100											
Capital Improvement Work: \$													
Total Project Estimate: \$	250,000												

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PLAN - FY 2001-2005

<b>BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT</b>  <b>PROJECT DATA SHEET</b>	Bureau Priority/Ranking	2
	DOI Priority/Ranking	2
	Planned funding FY	2001
	Funding Source: Wildland Fire Mgmt. Preparedness, Deferred Maint. & Capital Improv.	

**Project Identification**

Project Title: Cedar City Air Tanker Base - Phase III			
Project No.: UT00-2	Unit/Facility Name: Cedar City Air Tanker Base		
Region/Area/District: Utah, Cedar City	Congressional District: 1	State: UT	

**Project Justification**

<p><b>Project Description:</b> The total project includes relocation of the air tanker base from the south end of the runway to the north end. Phase I in 1997 provided for purchase and relocation of tanks and pumping system, and basic utilities. Phase II in FY99 includes construction of an aircraft ramp, mixing areas, three loading pits and aircraft parking areas and taxiway. Also included is a hazardous waste containment system and area for retardant storage as per Executive Order 12856. Phase III provides a new building to house the aircraft dispatch center, cache and ready rooms. The building will be approximately 2400 sq. ft. for a flight crew standby area, dispatch, and mixing crew offices.</p>								
<p><b>Project Need/Benefit:</b> The current airtanker base was established as a temporary reload base in the mid 70s and has been in operation ever since. The base facilities provide only the most basic of creature comforts for both base personnel and air crews. A small WWII (300 sq. ft.) 2 room, 40 year old building is used for base operations, and trailers are used for pilot standby facilities. The building is poorly insulated with only one small window air conditioner for personnel comfort in 90-100 temps, has no sound proofing of any sort, has no running water, or interior toilet or shower facilities (porta-potties are provide outside), electrical outlets and lights are not to current code. Visibility of the entire mixing plant and ramp is very limited and very restrictive. The retardant tanks are positioned almost directly in front of the building in such a manner that only a portion of the ramp is visible. A 40 ft trailer is used to accommodate transient flight crews and retardant contractor crew personnel. A 20 ft trailer is used for the home base flight crew office, ready room, and sleeping quarters. A 35 ft trailer is used for base timekeeping and dispatching functions. Electricity for all trailers is by extension cords plugged into the electrical box at the rear of the building. Cooling is by various small air conditioners, and there are no restroom facilities, or water in any of the trailers. Porta-potties are used as restroom facilities, and a washbasin is on the outside corner of the building. The base main water supply is a 1 1/2" line from the adjacent hangar. To meet the water demand when multiple tankers are loading at the base, two 1/12" hoses are run from fire hydrant 500 ft down the street to provide the additional water supply needed. Aircraft loading capability is one at a time in the single loading pit area. Loading and retardant mixing is done by noisy gas engine pumps. If a plane breaks down in the pit (which has happened more than once) the only way to continue loading other aircraft is to add to the loading hose and load on the taxi way west of the pit. Trucks off loading retardant must drive across the loading pit under the nose of an aircraft in the pit to access the retardant storage</p>								
<p><b>Ranking Categories:</b> Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td><u>50</u> % Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance</td> <td><u>    </u> % Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>15</u> % Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement</td> <td><u>35</u> % Compliance &amp; Other Deferred Maintenance</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>    </u> % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance</td> <td><u>    </u> % Other Capital Improvement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>    </u> % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement</td> <td><u>740</u> Ranking Score</td> </tr> </table>	<u>50</u> % Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	<u>    </u> % Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	<u>15</u> % Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	<u>35</u> % Compliance & Other Deferred Maintenance	<u>    </u> % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	<u>    </u> % Other Capital Improvement	<u>    </u> % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	<u>740</u> Ranking Score
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<p>Capital Asset Planning 300B Analysis Required on this Project: Yes <span style="float: right;">No X</span></p>								

**Project Costs and Status**

<table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Project Cost Estimate:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: center;">%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred Maintenance Work:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ <u>600,000</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>50</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Improvement work:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ <u>600,000</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>50</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Project Estimate:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ <u>1,200,000</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>100</u></td> </tr> </table>	Project Cost Estimate:	\$	%	Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$ <u>600,000</u>	<u>50</u>	Capital Improvement work:	\$ <u>600,000</u>	<u>50</u>	Total Project Estimate:	\$ <u>1,200,000</u>	<u>100</u>	<p><b>Project Funding History:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>\$ Available to Date:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Requested in FY <u>01</u> Budget:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,200,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planned funding FY <u>99</u> :</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Future Funding to Complete Project:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total:</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$ <u>1,200,000</u></b></td> </tr> </table>	\$ Available to Date:	\$	Requested in FY <u>01</u> Budget:	\$1,200,000	Planned funding FY <u>99</u> :	\$	Future Funding to Complete Project:	\$	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ <u>1,200,000</u></b>
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PLAN - FY 2001-2005

<b>BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT</b>  <b>PROJECT DATA SHEET</b>	Bureau Priority/Ranking	3
	DOI Priority/Ranking	3
	Planned Funding FY	2001
	Funding Source: Wildland Fire Mgmt. Preparedness, Deferred Maint. & Capital Improv.	

**Project Identification**

Project Title: Logandale Fire Station		
Project No.: NV00-1	Unit/Facility Name: Logandale	
Region/Area/District: NV, Las Vegas	Congressional District: 2	State: NV

**Project Justification**

<p><b>Project Description:</b> Replacement construction of a wildland fire station adjacent to the town of Logandale. This would be a 1-2 engine station to house up to 7 employees. This would consist of 2,400 sq. ft. for fire crew quarters, 2,400 sq. ft. for engine bays, cache, office and shop, and 256 sq. ft. for hazardous fuels storage. Site work is also included in this request, power, water, septic, and secure fencing.</p>								
<p><b>Project Need/Benefit:</b> The present facility is a 14'x60' trailer located behind a county volunteer fire station and cannot be used for mixed gender crews. Living/cooking areas are inadequate and constitute a health and safety hazard due to the poor condition of the kitchens. The employees live in the training room sleeping on cots and there is no shower facility. The facility does not meet ADA standards. There are no areas for office, cache, shop, or engine bays. Vehicles are parked outside exposed to the weather. Maintenance is done outside, and storage of supplies and equipment is minimal. This facility is supported by the 1998 Fire Management Planning process.</p>								
<p><b>Ranking Categories:</b> Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">40 % Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance</td> <td style="width: 50%;">20 % Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 % Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement</td> <td>10 % Compliance &amp; Other Deferred Maintenance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance</td> <td>10 % Other Capital Improvement</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement</td> <td>700 Ranking Score</td> </tr> </table>	40 % Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	20 % Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	20 % Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	10 % Compliance & Other Deferred Maintenance	___ % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	10 % Other Capital Improvement	___ % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	700 Ranking Score
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___ % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	700 Ranking Score							
<p>Capital Asset Planning 300B Analysis Required on this Project: Yes <span style="margin-left: 200px;">No</span> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <span style="margin-left: 20px;">X</span></p>								

**Project Costs and Status**

<p><b>Project Cost Estimate:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: center;">%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred Maintenance Work:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$371,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Improvement work:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$159,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Project Estimate:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$530,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">100</td> </tr> </table>		\$	%	Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$371,000	70	Capital Improvement work:	\$159,000	30	Total Project Estimate:	\$530,000	100	<p><b>Project Funding History:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>\$ Available to Date:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Requested in FY 01 Budget:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$530,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planned funding FY ____:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Future Funding to Complete Project:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$530,000</td> </tr> </table>	\$ Available to Date:	\$ _____	Requested in FY 01 Budget:	\$530,000	Planned funding FY ____:	\$ _____	Future Funding to Complete Project:	\$ _____	Total:	\$530,000
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PLAN - FY 2001-2005

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
PROJECT DATA SHEET

Bureau Priority/Ranking	4
DOI Priority/Ranking	4
Planned Funding FY	2001
Funding Source: Wildland Fire Mgmt. Preparedness, Deferred Maint. & Capital Improv.	

Project Identification

Project Title: Burley Fire Office and Engine Storage			
Project No.:ID-0033	Unit/Facility Name: Burley Fire Yard		
Region/Area/District: Upper Snake River District, West	Congressional District: 2	State: ID	

Project Justification

<p><b>Project Description:</b> Construction of a 4000 sq. ft. fire office for 40% of the District's fire organization. The project consists of office space for approximately 6 fire suppression supervisors, a fire training/ready/meeting room for 50 fire crew employees, showers/restrooms/lockers for 30 to 50 fire crew personnel, and a lunchroom area.</p>								
<p><b>Project Need/Benefit:</b> The current fire facility in Burley is situated on BLM land south of the City. The facility itself is a large 8600 sq ft metal building purchased for the YCC in the late 70's and erected by the Burley District fire crew. Through the past 30 years the BLM fire crew in Burley worked on the building and constructed fire offices, fire cache , a radio shop, and garage (shop). A large part of the project was completed in the late 70's and after that the construction was done on a piece meal basis as funds were available for construction material. Part of the office area is arranged into 2 stories, and the upper story is non-ADA compliant (including the restrooms) and has several low 6ft. entry ways. Only half of the offices have central air conditioning, and have no return air system. The building has no central heat with some rooms using old heater/air conditions, which vent into other interior areas. The roof leaks an numerous ceiling tiles fall and are constantly being replaced. The floors are degraded and most outside entrances are either lower inside or ground level, which allows water to enter the building during run off. Most doorways are low and small. The plumbing constantly needs repairs and does not meet code. The electrical wiring is at maximum capacity and is a constant problem with people working in the shop. The garage part of the building does not have an exhaust vent or a floor sump. Vehicle exhaust enters the office area unimpeded due to wall heater and air conditions exhausting into the shop area. The building has been inspected numerous times by the BLM state/national/Denver/local office fire and safety people as well as local and state fire department personnel and have constantly been given items to change or correct that are not possible without major investments, such as wiring and ventilation and fire walls between the shop and office spaces, etc. Remodeling the existing building into functional offices will be cost prohibitive because the base structure of the building was made to be a covered shed not and office building. Replacement construction of an office/ready room facility allows employees to work in a safe, healthy environment, and in a facility that meets ADA, OSHA, and EPA.</p>								
<p><b>Ranking Categories:</b> Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>60</u> % Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance</td> <td><u>30</u> % Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>    </u> % Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement</td> <td><u>10</u> % Compliance &amp; Other Deferred Maintenance</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>    </u> % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance</td> <td><u>    </u> % Other Capital Improvement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>    </u> % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement</td> <td><u>740</u> Ranking Score</td> </tr> </table>	<u>60</u> % Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	<u>30</u> % Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	<u>    </u> % Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	<u>10</u> % Compliance & Other Deferred Maintenance	<u>    </u> % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	<u>    </u> % Other Capital Improvement	<u>    </u> % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	<u>740</u> Ranking Score
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<p>Capital Asset Planning 300B Analysis Required on this Project:No X</p>								

Project Costs and Status

<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Project Cost Estimate:</td> <td>\$</td> <td>%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred Maintenance Work:</td> <td>650,000</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Improvement work:</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Project Estimate:</td> <td>650,000</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </table>	Project Cost Estimate:	\$	%	Deferred Maintenance Work:	650,000	100	Capital Improvement work:			Total Project Estimate:	650,000	100	<p><b>Project Funding History:</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>\$ Available to Date:</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Requested in FY <u>01</u> Budget:</td> <td>\$650,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planned funding FY <u>    </u> :</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Future Funding to Complete Project:</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:</td> <td>\$650,000</td> </tr> </table>	\$ Available to Date:	\$	Requested in FY <u>01</u> Budget:	\$650,000	Planned funding FY <u>    </u> :	\$	Future Funding to Complete Project:	\$	Total:	\$650,000
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PLAN - FY 2001-2005

<b>BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT</b>  <b>PROJECT DATA SHEET</b>	Bureau Priority/Ranking	7
	DOI Priority/Ranking	7
	Planned funding FY	2001
	Funding Source: Wildland Fire Mgmt. Preparedness, Def. Maint. & Capital Improv.	

**Project Identification**

Project Title: Pocatello Tanker Base		
Project No.: ID-0012	Unit/Facility Name: Pocatello Tanker Base	
Region/Area/District: Upper Snake River District East	Congressional District: 2	State: ID

**Project Justification**

<p><b>Project Description:</b> Phase 2 of the Pocatello Tanker Base. Construct a 60 x 40 building to serve as office space for the tanker base manager, retardant contractor, lead plane pilot, and Air Tactical Group supervisor. It would also have a office/ready room for air tanker pilots. The building must also contain office space for transient air tanker and helicopter crews. During the height of the fire season there may be as many as 10 air tankers, several helicopters, air tactical aircraft and lead planes. The building would require gender specific restrooms, a small kitchenette, and a briefing/meeting room.</p> <p>This building would combine the function of two existing trailers which are a major safety concern. The wiring in the pilot ready room is of a major safety concern. The location of the new building would provide a better view of the ramp and loading areas which is also a safety concern. In addition to the "Operations " building, a small 20 x 40 storage/shop with garage doors is needed to secure the tools and equipment associated with the retardant storage/mixing/loading functions (pumps, compressors, meters, etc.) as well as storage for the forklift. The construction associated with this phase would provide room for storing and mixing powdered retardant. Also included in this request is funding to access city sewer lines and upgrade electricity for the facilities.</p>								
<p><b>Project Need/Benefit:</b> The tanker base has three trailers which are used as offices and housing for the engine crews, pilots, retardant contractors and support personnel. These trailers are in extremely poor condition constituting a major concern for health and safety of government and contractor personnel. A condition assessment conducted in June '99 identified deficiencies with electrical and plumbing systems. Wiring is faulty with exposed wires. Wiring in these trailers is aluminum and does not meet health and safety code. These trailers are old and dilapidated and have been surpluses at least two times already from various agencies. They do not meet ADA requirements. Each year the trailers are infested with rodents and full of droppings. As a result there is potential for exposure to the hanta virus which has occurred in the local vicinity. This is a major safety concern for the employees working and living in these trailers. This is a critical station as identified in the fire management planning process.</p>								
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___ % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	30 % Other Capital Improvement							
___ % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	660 Ranking Score							
<p>Capital Asset Planning 300B Analysis Required on this Project: Yes No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X</p>								

**Project Costs and Status**

<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Project Cost Estimate:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: center;">%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred Maintenance Work:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$125,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Improvement work:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 75,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Project Estimate:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$250,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">100</td> </tr> </table>	Project Cost Estimate:	\$	%	Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$125,000	70	Capital Improvement work:	\$ 75,000	30	Total Project Estimate:	\$250,000	100	<p><b>Project Funding History:</b></p> <p>\$ Available to Date: \$ _____</p> <p>Requested in FY <u>01</u> Budget: <u>\$250,000</u></p> <p>Planned funding FY ___ : \$ _____</p> <p>Future Funding to Complete Project: \$ _____</p>
Project Cost Estimate:	\$	%											
Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$125,000	70											
Capital Improvement work:	\$ 75,000	30											
Total Project Estimate:	\$250,000	100											
<p>Class of Estimate (circle one): A B C D</p> <p>Estimate Good Until (mm/yy): <u>09/00</u></p>	<p>Total: <u>\$250,000</u></p>												
<p>Dates: (qtr/yy)                      <u>Sch'd</u>                      <u>Actual</u></p> <p>Construction Start/Award:    <u>   /   /</u>                      <u>   /   /</u></p> <p>Project Complete:                      <u>   /   /</u>                      <u>   /   /</u></p>	<p>Project Date Sheet Prepared/Last Updated: <u>6/99</u></p>												



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PLAN - FY 2001-2005

<b>BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT</b>  <b>PROJECT DATA SHEET</b>	Bureau Priority/Ranking	8
	DOI Priority/Ranking	9
	Planned funding FY	2001
	Funding Source: Wildland Fire Mgmt. Preparedness, Deferred Maint. & Capital Improv.	

**Project Identification**

Project Title: Battle Mountain Air Tanker Base			
Project No.: NV00-5	Unit/Facility Name: Battle Mountain		
Region/Area/District: Battle Mtn. District, NV	Congressional District: 2	State: NV	

**Project Justification**

<p><u>Project Description:</u> Reconstruction of taxiways and concrete loading facility to meet required specifications including EPA wastewater runoff approved system. The reconstruction includes aircraft parking areas.</p>								
<p><u>Project Need/Benefit:</u> The National Air Tanker Study identified the Battle Mtn. facility as lacking a retardant containment collection and disposal system. Presently excess retardant and other waste is hosed off the loading area into an adjacent ditch which has resulted in the killing of a large area of vegetation. If not corrected within the near future, the potential of contaminating the ground water is high. The present facility is in violation of OSHA and EPA requirements. Problems with the site have been documented in several reviews and inspections.</p>								
<p><u>Ranking Categories:</u> Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>___ % Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20 % Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ % Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___ % Compliance &amp; Other Deferred Maintenance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80 % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___ % Other Capital Improvement</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement</td> <td style="text-align: right;">660 Ranking Score</td> </tr> </table>	___ % Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	20 % Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance	___ % Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	___ % Compliance & Other Deferred Maintenance	80 % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	___ % Other Capital Improvement	___ % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	660 Ranking Score
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80 % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	___ % Other Capital Improvement							
___ % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	660 Ranking Score							
<p>Capital Asset Planning 300B Analysis Required on this Project: Yes <span style="margin-left: 200px;">No</span> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <span style="margin-left: 20px;">X</span></p>								

**Project Costs and Status**

<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><u>Project Cost Estimate:</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: center;">%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred Maintenance Work:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,530,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Improvement work:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Project Estimate:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,530,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">100</td> </tr> </table>	<u>Project Cost Estimate:</u>	\$	%	Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$1,530,000	100	Capital Improvement work:	\$	___	Total Project Estimate:	\$1,530,000	100	<p><u>Project Funding History:</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>\$ Available to Date:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Requested in FY <u>01</u> Budget:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,530,000</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planned funding FY ___ :</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">___</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Future Funding to Complete Project:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,530,000</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	\$ Available to Date:	\$	___	Requested in FY <u>01</u> Budget:	\$1,530,000		Planned funding FY ___ :	\$	___	Future Funding to Complete Project:	-	-	Total:	\$1,530,000	
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Project Complete:	/ /	/ /																										

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PLAN - FY 2001-2005

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Bureau Priority/Ranking	9
DOI Priority/Ranking	10
Planned Funding FY	2001
Funding Source: Wildland Fire Mgmt. Preparedness, Deferred Maint. & Capital Improv.	

Project Identification

Project Title: Maintenance Shop			
Project No.: AK00-2		Unit/Facility Name: AFS, Ft. Wainwright	
Region/Area/District: Alaska Fire Service		Congressional District: 1	State: Alaska

Project Justification

**Project Description:** This project is for the construction of a maintenance shop for housing of carpenters, plumbers, electricians and maintenance mechanics. Structure shall be a minimum of 5,000 sq. ft. conforming to all OSHA, ADA, Life Safety, NEC and other codes.

**Project Need/Benefit:** All of the maintenance of Alaska Fire Service facilities, and Northern District administrative sites, occurs from the Facility Operations Section. This project will: (1) alleviate the unacceptable risks to employee health and safety, (2) eliminate AFS occupancy of a building scheduled for demolition; and (3) bring the shop into compliance with codes. The present shop is owned by the Army, accessed through agreement and was constructed in the 1940's. It is inundated with friable asbestos and lead paint, and is collapsing around the occupants. Exterior walls have holes, gaps and have deteriorated beyond repair. Walls have little or no insulation against the -40°F winter temperatures. Sections of the ceiling have collapsed. Heating pipes are failing. In addition, the electrical service to this structure is vastly undersized and does not meet the NEC. The Military will not rehab the existing structure and it is on the list for demolition when it is vacated. This facility has potential for serious injury and sickness to employees working within.

**Ranking Categories:** Identify the percent of the project that is in the following categories of need.

<u>50</u> % Critical Health or Safety Deferred Maintenance	___ % Critical Mission Deferred Maintenance
___ % Critical Health or Safety Capital Improvement	<u>50</u> % Compliance & Other Deferred Maintenance
___ % Critical Resource Protection Deferred Maintenance	___ % Other Capital Improvement
___ % Critical Resource Protection Capital Improvement	650 Rank Score

Capital Asset Planning 300B Analysis Required on this Project: Yes No  X

Project Costs and Status

<p>Project Cost Estimate:</p> <table> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$'s</td> <td>%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred Maintenance Work:</td> <td>\$ 550,000</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Improvement Work:</td> <td>\$ 550,000</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Project Estimate:</td> <td>\$1,100,000</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </table>		\$'s	%	Deferred Maintenance Work:	\$ 550,000	50	Capital Improvement Work:	\$ 550,000	50	Total Project Estimate:	\$1,100,000	100	<p>Project Funding History:</p> <table> <tr> <td>\$ Available to Date:</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Requested in FY 01 Budget:</td> <td>\$ <u>1,100,000</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planned Funding FY :</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Future Funding to</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Complete Project:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:</td> <td>\$ <u>1,100,000</u></td> </tr> </table>	\$ Available to Date:	\$ _____	Requested in FY 01 Budget:	\$ <u>1,100,000</u>	Planned Funding FY :	\$ _____	Future Funding to	\$ _____	Complete Project:		Total:	\$ <u>1,100,000</u>
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	Sch'd	Actual																							
Construction Start/Award:	__/__/__	__/__/__																							
Project Complete:	__/__/__	__/__/__																							



## PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The following accomplishments represent activities occurring in FY 1999 and the first half of FY 2000.

**Planning** - In FY 1999 all agencies accomplished revisions to Fire Management Plans and initiated several new plans. These accomplishments provided the objectives necessary for updating the fire preparedness analysis, which in turn defines the most effective organization to meet the guidance, and the budget required to fund that organization (the Most Efficient Level). The bureaus have been directed by the Departments and Congress to develop a compatible program analysis and budgeting system. An Interagency Task Group, comprised of the BIA, BLM, FS, FWS, and NPS, was set up to assess implementation of a compatible interagency fire program analysis and budgeting system on a landscape scale across agency boundaries. This direction includes landscape scale planning. As an example, a pilot project has been initiated for the National Parks and National Forests in Washington and Montana to prepare integrated, interagency fire management plans. This project will be used to guide interagency fire planning elsewhere in the United States.

**Information Management** -New information resources management projects were developed and implemented, including Internet web sites for prescribed fire smoke management issues, fire occurrence information, firefighter safety awareness, weather, lightning and fire severity potential, accident investigation and results. Rapid dissemination of fire information improves the bureaus internal planning and response capability, increases public awareness, and allows regulatory agencies to more efficiently perform their functions.

**Program Management Accountability** - The bureaus issued a ready reference for standards for fire operations which formed the basis for measuring readiness and general program capability. Reviews were performed by interagency (federal and state) teams in the states of Nevada, Colorado, Idaho, Alaska, Washington, and Oregon. Evaluations of efficiencies and cost effectiveness were also performed on the National Interagency Fire Center's Training Program and the BLM's smokejumper program.

**Joint Fire Science Program** - By the end of FY 2000, the three year old Joint Fire Science Program is scheduled to have funded 66 projects for approximately \$24,000,000. The Joint Fire Science Program projects are collaborative efforts involving federal, state and private entities in the following states:

Alaska	Florida	Montana	South Dakota
Alabama	Georgia	New Mexico	Utah
Arizona	Idaho	North Carolina	Washington
California	Michigan	Oregon	Wisconsin
Colorado	Minnesota	South Carolina	

Some examples of the projects include producing a series of 5 fire effects syntheses (effects of fire on fauna, flora and fuels, soil and water, air, and archeological resources) to provide up-to-date abstracts for managers and practitioners. This task was widely

distributed across academia, research stations, and agencies. The first volume is currently available in both hard copy and digitally on the Internet. This 83 page report provides important information about the effects of fire on wildlife species and their habitat that will help field managers to manage their fire programs for the benefit of wildlife. The remaining volumes are to be completed by summer 2000. Following the disastrous 1998 Florida fire season, projects were solicited to measure public reactions to the fires and the use of fuels treatments to mitigate fire behavior, and to quantify the economic and ecological effects of the fires. These reports are due to be published in spring, 2000.

**Facilities** - Deferred maintenance and capital improvement fire construction projects were initiated in FY 1999 and the 1<sup>st</sup> half of FY 2000 as follows:

State	Number of Projects	Funding (\$000's)
Alaska	1	500
Arizona	5	1,143
Arkansas	1	292
California	6	2,726
Colorado	1	485
Idaho	2	755
Maine	1	140
Minnesota	4	152
Mississippi	1	325
Montana	1	29
Nevada	2	937
New Mexico	4	855
North Dakota	1	60
Oklahoma	5	485
Oregon	2	95
South Dakota	1	50
Utah	1	400
Washington	1	43
Wisconsin	1	46
Wyoming	2	280
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>\$9,798</b>

The bureaus are reducing the cost of wildland fire stations through the use of proven standard designs that eliminate costly custom architectural and engineering.



Facility in Dulce, New Mexico, used to construct new engines, that was completed in FY 1999 with fire deferred maintenance and construction funding

**Safety** - We continued to implement the Safety Awareness Fire Environment (SAFE) initiative including the establishment of dedicated positions to oversee this effort. The goal of this initiative is to review and evaluate the fire and aviation culture and improve safety awareness. The initiative includes projects such as the "Lessons Learned" training course, development and implementation of SAFENET to collect and immediately disseminate accident information; and completion of revisions to the DOI Safety Management Information System to accommodate fire injury data. All Rural Fire Department (RFD) cooperative agreements were updated to address lessons learned from the Point Fire tragedy in Idaho.



**Workload Measures**

Workload Measure	1999 Actual	2000 Enacted to Date	2001 Budget Request
Percent of fire management plans revised annually	75%	100%	0
Percent of fire management plans implemented consistent with agency fire management standards	10%	35%	50%
Fire facilities completed to approved standards (number)	26	17	12

## Activity: Wildland Fire Operations

### Activity Summary (000's)

Bureau / Office	1999 Actual	2000 Enacted To Date	Uncontrollable and Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2001 Budget Request	Change From 2000 (+/-)
BLM \$	64,910	55,726	0	0	54,373	0
BIA \$	33,526	28,634	0	0	28,421	0
FWS \$	9,128	9,421	0	0	11,201	0
NPS \$	22,436	21,327	0	0	21,112	0
OS \$	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Dollars</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>115,107</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>115,107</b>	<b>0</b>

\*The distribution between Preparedness and Operations reflects the agreement between the Department and the Appropriations Committees reached after passage of the FY 2001 appropriations.

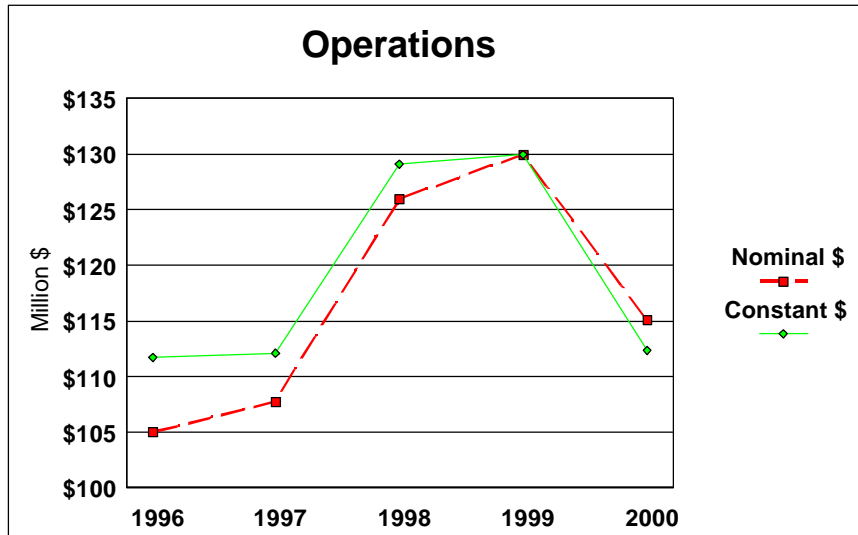
### ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

This activity funds the development and implementation of the three operational components of the Department's wildland fire program: suppression, emergency rehabilitation, and hazardous fuel reduction operations. Suppression operations include the total spectrum of management actions taken on wildland fires in a safe and cost-effective manner. Actions taken consider public benefits and values to be protected and are consistent with the resource objectives and constraints identified in land management plans. Fire severity funding to provide extraordinary preparedness under extreme conditions is included in suppression operations. Emergency rehabilitation of wildland fire areas is carried out to prevent land degradation and resource damages and to stabilize erodible soils, structures, or other conditions or damage caused by wildland fires or by actions taken to suppress wildland fires. Hazardous fuel reduction operations include all aspects of applying fire as a management tool to reduce fuel loadings and to restore an appropriate role for fire in ecosystems. It also includes mechanical reduction of fuel loadings where the application of fire is not feasible or preferable. Please note that all FTE are accounted for under the Wildland Fire Preparedness activity.

### 2001 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Funding for the wildland fire operations activities of the Interior agencies has been based upon the last ten years' average cost for suppression and rehabilitation, and an additional target level for hazardous fuel reduction operations. The current ten year average of costs for emergency suppression and rehabilitation is \$140,000,000. The estimated cost of the planned fuels management program in FY 2001 is \$52,000,000. Due to the unpredictable nature of fire operations, additional capability beyond the level in the annual appropriation is provided by emergency supplemental appropriations. The last supplemental appropriation for \$100,000,000

in 1997 was nearly exhausted during the 1999 fire season. An additional appropriation of \$100,000,000 is being requested for FY 2000. That funding would be available upon declaration of emergency by the President.



The proposed funding in the Wildland Fire Operations Activity would maintain the Bureaus' fuels management efforts in keeping with the Secretary's multi-year fuels treatment initiative while maintaining current suppression and rehabilitation capability. The build-up of hazardous fuels is now recognized as a major factor contributing to the increase in the number of catastrophic wildland fires in recent years. The requested funds

would help the Bureaus' meet their combined performance goal of treating 1,113,866 acres in FY 2001. Operations funding since 1996 is shown in the table above. This table does not reflect supplemental emergency appropriations.

Included in this activity are:

**Emergency Suppression** - The costs of managing wildland fires include the extraordinary costs (overtime, hazard pay, etc.) of fire line, command and support personnel, all wages of temporary Emergency Fire Fighter personnel, fire suppression and monitoring aircraft flight operations and ramp support, logistical services for all employees assigned to incidents, suppression and monitoring supplies and equipment (including replacement of lost capital and expendable equipment), contracts for goods and services, administrative support directly associated with incidents, and immediate measures to rehabilitate resources damaged by suppression efforts.

Fire severity funds are suppression funds that are used to improve initial attack response capabilities when abnormal fire conditions occur resulting in fire seasons starting earlier than normal, lasting longer than normal, or exceeding average high fire danger ratings for prolonged periods. Typical uses of these funds are: temporarily increasing firefighting staffing, pay for standby, pre-positioning of suppression forces in areas of abnormally high fire danger, additional aerial reconnaissance, standby aircraft availability, and other supplemental contractual services. The authorization to use Operations funds for severity purposes is controlled by individual project approval tied to dollar ceilings, time frames, and the identified initial attack resources.

**Emergency Rehabilitation** - This program covers the costs incurred to prevent land degradation and resource losses, and to take other measures necessary to stabilize erodible soils, structures, or other damage caused by wildland fires. This subactivity provides funds for specific emergency rehabilitation projects which must meet resource management objectives. Included

are such costs as re-seeding to prevent immediate wind or water erosion, other watershed stabilization measures, actions to prevent establishment of undesirable vegetative species, fencing to prevent animals or humans from entering sensitive areas, felling damaged trees posing threats to human safety, mitigation of other immediate human safety threats, and actions to stabilize and prevent further degradation to archeological and cultural resources damaged by fires and to stabilize ecosystems and maintain system functionality to allow for natural regeneration or future restoration. These costs have been increasing drastically due to the long term build-up of hazardous fuels combined with a series of severe fire seasons. Rehabilitation activities have also been increasing as a result of ecosystem changes from invasive, highly flammable species such as cheat grass and other noxious weeds.

***Hazardous Fuel Reduction Operations*** - In the 1998 appropriation, Congress provided a more flexible funding authority to support the aggressive use of fire and mechanical fuel treatments, in order to reduce the occurrence of uncharacteristically severe wildland fires and improve ecosystem health. Living and dead fuels continue to accumulate on Federal lands at varied rates dependent on site conditions. The Department of the Interior and the Forest Service have tentatively identified about 95,000,000 acres of Federal wildlands that require periodic burning or other fuel treatments. Fire is being reintroduced into some of this area through wildland fires managed for resource benefits, and into other areas through prescribed burns to maintain an existing natural ecosystem. The remaining amount of this area that constitutes hazardous fuels will be quantified by the Joint Fire Science Program in the near future. The agencies estimate that it may be feasible to treat up to 5,000,000 acres each year at full performance level to meet both ecosystem maintenance and hazardous fuel reduction needs. It is estimated to take a few more years to reach the full performance level.

This program includes planning, implementation and support to fuel management activities including inventorying fuel hazards, analyzing treatment alternatives, determining and applying appropriate fuel treatment methods, and monitoring and evaluating fuel treatment accomplishments. Activities include prescribed fire, mechanical treatments, and constructing fuel breaks to protect, maintain, and enhance resources and reduce hazardous fuels. This program excludes treatment of fuels generated in conjunction with commodity production activities, such as timber stand improvement, type conversions and slash disposal.

In FY 2001, the DOI Bureaus are targeting 1,113,866 acres of treatment, if conditions permit, at an estimated cost of approximately \$51,700,000 to fully accomplish this target. This is approximately a 10 percent increase over the previous year. In FY 1999 the bureaus used 26 percent of the total Wildland Fire Operations funds for hazardous fuels reduction. This percentage may increase in FY 2000, as the bureaus continue to expand these activities.

**Hazardous Fuels Reduction Operations Treatment Goals for 2001  
Acres By Bureau, and By State**

State	BLM (acres)	BIA (acres)	FWS (acres)	NPS (acres)
AK	28,000		6,818	
AL			4,902	
AR			3,420	1,500
AZ	25,000	43,295	27,000	7,500
CA	17,000	2,295	15,548	20,000
CO	20,000	4,653	4,149	2,000
DE			500	
FL		26,708	36,635	58,000
GA			26,890	350
HI			515	800
IA			3,700	
ID	40,000	2,145	5,090	
IL			500	
IN			750	530
KS		1,870	6,600	
KY			650	10
LA			23,500	
MD			5,000	
ME			439	275
MI			4,750	200
MO			920	1,160
MN		241	31,450	500
MS		1,679	21,000	200
MT	12,000	29,057	9,200	800
NC		132	20,500	
NE		2,200	9,850	900
ND		2,090	26,501	1,600
NM	53,000	33,403	12,655	14,000

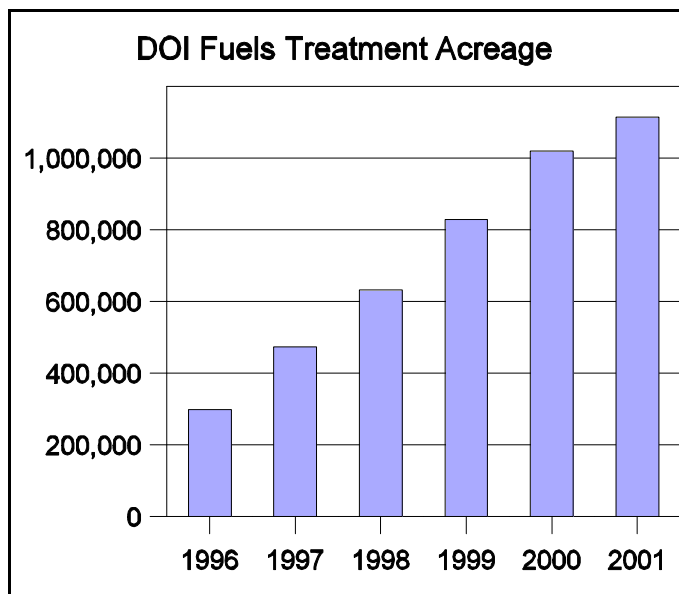
State	BLM (acres)	BIA (acres)	FWS (acres)	NPS (acres)
NV	8,000		3,200	
NY			750	1,000
OK		11,271	13,000	500
OR	45,000	9,394	14,400	600
PA			273	300
SC			18,000	300
SD		3,540	20,819	5,300
TN			1,025	300
TX			61,500	5,885
UT	24,000	220	2,860	4,500
VA			4,452	300
VT			75	
WA		13,200	6,677	140
WI		110	4,000	
WV				200
WY	57,000		2,750	4,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>329,000</b>	<b>187,503</b>	<b>463,213</b>	<b>134,150</b>
<b>Grand Total, 1,113,866 acres</b>				

**Emergency Contingency Funds** - The 1997 Interior Appropriations Act included \$100,000,000 as a one-time emergency contingency to be available only upon exhaustion of funds appropriated for emergency suppression and emergency rehabilitation. These funds were nearly exhausted in FY 1999. The President's FY 2001 Budget includes a request for an additional \$100,000,000 as a supplemental appropriation for FY 2000. Any funds remaining after FY 2000 will continue to be available in future years. This amount shall be available only to the extent that an official budget request for a specific dollar amount, that includes designation of the entire amount of each release as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Act of 1985, as amended, is transmitted by the President to the Congress. Use of these funds is subject to the same restrictions and parameters as described for wildfire fire operations.

The FY 2001 President's Budget maintains language in §102 of the General Provisions for the Department of the Interior which provides the Secretary of the Interior authority to make transfers of no-year funds to cover certain specified emergencies, including firefighting and emergency rehabilitation. If the FY 2001 budget level is not sufficient to cover actual emergency operations

costs, either the authority provided in §102 could be used by the Secretary to make transfers of funds to cover the additional emergency firefighting costs, or the Secretary could request the use of the remaining anticipated contingency funds. Neither the §102 authority nor the emergency contingency funds will be used to achieve a higher funding level for preparedness.

### PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS



**Fuels Management** - Historically, the BLM prescribed burned an average of 70,000 acres per year. Since the creation of the hazardous fuels reduction program in 1998, treatments have increased to approximately 250,000 acres. Similar dramatic increases have also occurred for the BIA, FWS and NPS. Overall, the DOI Bureaus conducted over 828,000 acres of fuels management treatments in FY 1999, an increase of 64 percent over FY 1997, the year prior to the creation of the hazardous fuels program.

In western Colorado and eastern Utah an area of approximately one million acres of federal and private lands has been identified in the Bookcliffs Fuels

Treatment project. A mosaic of burns, mimicking the natural fire cycle will be implemented over several decades. The goal is to maintain critical plant communities such as aspen, which is fire dependent, provide habitat for elk, improved grazing, vegetative diversity, and watershed stability. The BLM and the Boise National Forest have also established an integrated landscape scale prescribed fire project that will take several years to implement the first series of burns. Once the first series is completed continuous annual burns will occur to maintain the fire dependant ecosystem.

The ecological aspects of hazardous fuel reductions burning have had dramatic successes. The survival of the sole remaining viable population of the endangered whooping crane over the winter of 1999-2000 has been ensured by prescribed fire. Approximately 15,000 acres of designated critical habitat for the whooping crane was prescribed burned this last year at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas. The extended drought conditions which have been plaguing the area have increased salinity in the wetlands which make up the cranes' prime wintering habitat. Blue crabs are the primary food source, normally, and their populations are severely depressed by the changed wetland salinity. The prescribed fires have opened other areas along the coastal grasslands allowing the whoopers to feed on acorns as an alternative, and to remain within the secure boundaries of the refuge.

**Fire Suppression** - In FY 1999, 11,111 fires totaling 3,221,481 acres were suppressed at a cost of \$167,173,000. This represents a higher than average firefighting season. About two thirds

of the area burned was rangelands where the conversion to highly flammable annual grasses is the hazard fuels problem rather than the accumulations of large woody fuels. At the same time, the Bureaus' safety record was unblemished by fatalities or serious accidents.

**Emergency Rehabilitation** - In FY 1999, 1,571,000 acres were approved for rehabilitation. This figure represents almost half the total area burned and is by far the largest effort in recent history. Most of these projects are in Nevada, and are designed to stabilize and restore rangelands, combat the invasion of noxious weeds, and restore critical wildlife habitat.

### WORKLOAD MEASURES

Workload Measure	1998 Actual	1999 Actual	2000 Enacted to Date	2001 Budget Request
Fuels management treatments (acres )	631,958	827,824	1,020,000	*1,113,866
Fire suppression (number of fires and acres burned)	6,835 fires 519,747 acres	11,111 fires 3,221,481 acres	depends on severity of fire season	depends on severity of fire season
Emergency Rehabilitation (acres)	89,861	1,571,896	depends on severity of fire season	depends on severity of fire season

\*Represents the upper limit of DOI planned total commitment. The actual area treated depends on uncontrollable factors such as weather, and external constraints such as smoke impacts, fire season severity. The actual accomplishment is expected to fall between 650,000 - 1,020,000 acres for FY 2000, and 700,000 - 1,113,866 acres for FY 2001.