

## Impacts of US Forest Service Transfer Fire Process

**Background:** As of September 1, 2008, the US Forest Service and Department of the Interior had expended well over \$1 billion towards fire suppression. With a month remaining in the fiscal year, it is likely that the Forest Service will expend all appropriated fire suppression funding in that time. As a result, the Forest Service asked all Regions, Research Stations, Northeastern Area, and the Washington Office to halt all discretionary spending and identify those sums available for transfer to the fire suppression account.

### FY 2008 US Forest Service Fire Transfer Strategy

US Forest Service Fund	Increment 1	Increment 2	Increment 3	Increment 4	Total
Forest & Rangeland Research	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	<b>\$20,000</b>
Forest Legacy Program	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	<b>\$5,000</b>
State & Private Forestry	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$20,000	<b>\$30,000</b>
National Forest System	\$20,000	\$35,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	<b>\$80,000</b>
Wildland Fire Management <sup>^</sup>	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$30,000</b>
Capital Improvement & Maintenance	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	<b>\$80,000</b>
Land Acquisition	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	<b>\$10,000</b>
Permanent Appropriations*	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$40,000	\$0	<b>\$85,000</b>
Trust Funds**	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	<b>\$60,000</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>

<sup>^</sup> Fire Preparedness and Hazardous Fuels Reduction

\* Includes Brush Disposal, Purchaser Elect, Restoration of Forestlands & Improvements

\*\* Includes Knutsen-Vandenberg

Final amounts transferred may differ from the above table.

The following are examples of projects and activities canceled in key states.

#### West Virginia

- Roughly \$325,000 from the state and partners
- \$600,000 in land acquisition funding

#### Wisconsin

- \$166,000 in Forest Health Management funding for Invasive pest and disease work was halted and 4 limited term positions will go unfunded – response to the recent Emerald Ash Borer detection in the state will be severely hampered by the work conducted through these positions.
- \$85,000 in State Fire Assistance funding that was to be used to cover increases in the reimbursement rates with local fire departments

#### Washington

- \$1.7 million in community wildfire protection projects to be implemented by the Washington Department of Natural Resources
- \$5.8 million in wildlife habitat, watershed management, and recreation projects in the state

#### Colorado

- \$2 million in Land Acquisition funding for recreation outlets
- \$1.2 million in invasive species prevention on National Forests

#### Mississippi

- USFS Research funds to support the threat detection center at NASA's Stennis Space Center

*September 2009*