

# WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM



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# WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM

## Nevada faces a significant wildland fire challenge



- Cheatgrass and other invasive species
- Escalating fire suppression costs
- Expanding Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)
- Scattered (non-cohesive) capability and jurisdictions
- Tight budgets
- Declining federal resources and cost shifting
- Loss of critical wildlife habitat

### 2012 Fire Season

- 999 wildland fires as of October 2012
- More than 1,000,000 acres burned
- 29 homes destroyed
- 3 human lives lost



# WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM

## The Wildland Fire Protection Program is designed to meet the challenge

- The wildland fire program provides **comprehensive** protection
  - Prevention (education and pre-planning)
  - Fuels management (defensible space and forest/range health)
  - Fire suppression (air/ground resources and incident management)
  - Rehabilitation (technical assistance and nurseries/seedbank)
- The state, through NDF, will be **focused** on wildland fire year-round
  - Designed to fill federal gaps and allow local jurisdictions to focus on all-risk
  - Enables full implementation of NRS 472





# WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM

## The Program...

- Builds upon existing NDF strengths
- Provides for statewide integration and use of personnel and equipment
- Utilizes the same personnel to prevent, manage, suppress and rehabilitate wildfires
- Creates equitable opportunity for all local governments to participate voluntarily
- Adds capacity and capability in best interest of state/local government





# WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM

## Program Elements

- Focus response capabilities where historical fire occurrences and land/“values at risk” intersect
  - Homes and businesses
  - Agricultural land
  - Sage-grouse and other wildlife habitat
  - Watersheds
  - Recreational areas
- Identify/address capabilities that have been “unable-to-fill” suppression requests
  - (i.e., Type 1 crews, bulldozers)
- Develop more Type 3 Incident Commanders and associated staff
- Provide technical assistance with FMAGs, fuel reduction projects, cost-share agreements and training





## Elements of Local Participation

- Counties work with local government units on participation levels
- Counties pay annual assessment to help fund program
- Each county's assessment is based on:
  - Land base
  - Vegetation type(s)
  - Fire history
  - Population and population distribution
  - FMAG "values at risk"
  - County initial attack capability
  - Local fuel reduction work





## Benefits of Local Participation

- State provides financial assistance with wildland fire costs
- NDF resources may assist participating jurisdictions with other emergencies which threaten human life and property at no cost.
- Increased availability of suppression forces
- Enhanced fuels reduction
- Improved restoration of burned areas
- Incident management assistance
- Training
- Public education





# WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM

## County Assessments

Category 1

\$25,000

Churchill  
Esmeralda  
Mineral

Category 2

\$50,000

Nye  
Lyon  
Lincoln  
Pershing

Category 3

\$100,000

White Pine  
Humboldt

Category 4

\$150,000

Carson City  
Douglas  
Eureka  
Lander  
Storey

Category 5

\$250,000

Clark

Category 6

\$400,000

Elko  
Washoe





# WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM

## County/ State Relationships

- Standardized agreements and processes with federal, state, and local agencies
- Interagency cooperation and equipment sharing
- Coordinate initial attack and suppression capabilities
- Uniform cost share criteria and fire billing processes
- Fuels reduction and land rehabilitation project coordination

