

Community Assistance Grants Background Information

Since 2001 in the Pacific Northwest, funds for National Fire Plan (NFP) grant opportunities are administered through a “one-stop-shopping” interagency grant process. The USDA Forest Service along with the four wildland firefighting agencies within the Department of Interior: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Fish & Wildlife Service, and National Park Service have worked to create this streamlined application process. This system allows each grant seeker to submit a single proposal and ensures community projects are matched with the most appropriate funding sources. The end result is collaborative achievement of NFP goals and effective community protection programs in Oregon and Washington.

The federal multi-agency community assistance program is designed to reduce wildfire threats to communities and to support local economies. The program, managed by an Interagency Grant Team, pools Forest Service community grant funds and a Department of the Interior Wildland-Urban Interface Community Assistance Program into one application process. Each program has a different focus, but combined they increase interagency and community coordination and encourage grassroots solutions to reducing wildfire threats.

The following table shows the number of grants received and funded since the program began. As you can see, this is a competitive program with an average of 30% of the requested funding awarded each year.

Wildland-Urban Interface Community Assistance Program Overview					
Year	Total Interagency Amount Awarded	Total # of Applications	Total Dollars Requested	Total # of Grants Funded	% of Requested Dollar Amount Funded
2001	\$7 million	179	\$27,572,737	60	25%
2002	\$6.4 million	149	\$18,431,105	73	35%
2003	\$6.5 million	147	\$20,249,842	47	32%
2004	\$6.5 million	142	\$23,537,952	49	28%
2005	\$4.3 million	172	\$24,985,100	36	17%
2006	\$4.45 million	162	\$22,472,973	35	20%
2007	\$3.65 million	77	\$11,950,220	26	30%