



February 2004

Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Grand Teton National Park

Department of Agriculture
U.S. Forest Service
Bridger-Teton National Forest

Teton Interagency Fire Management

Interagency Fire Effects Meeting Shares Monitoring Information

The third annual Interagency Fire Effects Meeting was held in Jackson this month, bringing together resource professionals to review data and hold discussions on research and fire effects projects in the area. Participants included representatives from:

- Bridger- Teton National Forest
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Grand Teton National Park
- Salmon- Challis National Forest
- Teton Science School
- US Fish & Wildlife Service - National Elk Refuge
- Wyoming Game & Fish Department
- Yellowstone National Park



The diverse audience brought a range of skills and expertise to the meeting. In addition to fire effects technicians, the workshop was attended by fire ecologists, fuels specialists, education specialists, planners, fire managers, GIS specialists, wildlife biologists, vegetation specialists, and silviculturists.

The meeting allowed participants to share information and ask questions about the research and implementation of projects throughout the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Though many of the projects on the agenda had been preceded by interagency communication during the planning phase, the daylong workshop provided a format for professionals to distribute findings to a broader scope of cooperators.



The Teton Interagency Fire Effects Monitoring program follows guidelines established by a larger, standardized program begun by the National Park Service in the late 1980s. Fire effects crews monitor prescribed fire and hazard fuel treatment areas to document basic information, identify trends, and ensure that fire and resource management objectives are met. Crews also map burn severity on natural ignitions, collecting data to better understand the effects of natural processes and fire regimes.

The workshop demonstrated how research and management can parallel one another with a constant, ongoing improvement of knowledge base. The afternoon session ended with a key discussion of how the data will be used for direct adaptive management applications in the various programs through continued interagency coordination, management involvement, information sharing, and feedback.

