



United States Department of the Interior
Office of Wildland Fire Coordination
MS2600 MIB
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Date : July 30, 2004

Subject: Introduction of the Interagency Landscape Fire and Resource Management Planning Tools Project, also referred to as the LANDFIRE project

To: Regional Directors, WO staff, and DOI employees

LANDFIRE is a five-year, \$40 million interagency partnership sponsored by the Wildland Fire Leadership Council. The project involves the USDA Forest Service and five Departments of the Interior bureaus: Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and U.S. Geological Survey and includes a partnership with The Nature Conservancy.

The LANDFIRE project integrates field reference data, satellite imagery, and models of fire and vegetation dynamics. LANDFIRE will generate nationally consistent, mid-scale maps and digital geospatial data of vegetation characteristics and condition, fire behavior and effects, fire behavior fuels models, historical fire regimes, and fire regime condition class at the landscape level.

The success of LANDFIRE is considered critical to the National Fire Plan, the Healthy Forests Initiative, and implementation of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act. It will be a valuable tool assisting land managers in identifying priority areas for reduction of wildfire threats and help in restoration and conservation activities.

The heart of LANDFIRE includes a reference database containing geo-referenced field data describing vegetation, fire, and fuels. The project relies heavily upon existing inventory, monitoring, and research programs for these data. Assistance from field units and managers is critical to ensure that the best data and science are incorporated into the LANDFIRE project. The LANDFIRE project will need appropriate land and resource management staff to attend LANDFIRE vegetative modeling workshops. Participation will ensure accurate representation of each area in the final products. These workshops are organized by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the Missoula Fire Science Lab.

Thank you for your efforts in supporting the LANDFIRE project. If you would like to learn more about LANDFIRE, please visit www.landfire.gov.

Scott Dalzell
Acting Director
OWFC

