



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Washington Office

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Subject: Introduction of Interagency Fire, Ecosystem, and Fuel Assessment Mapping Project, LANDFIRE

To: Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Director, IITF Director, and WO Staff

LANDFIRE is a five-year, \$40 million interagency partnership sponsored by the Wildland Fire Leadership Council involving the Forest Service, the Department of the Interior, including the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and U.S. Geological Survey. The Nature Conservancy is also a major partner and several other agencies are making contributions as well.

The LANDFIRE project integrates 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, 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 help land managers identify priority areas for reduction of wildfire risks and to identify and facilitate restoration of forest, shrub, and grass ecosystems.

At the heart of LANDFIRE lies 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.

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

/s/ Sally Collins (for)
DALE N. BOSWORTH
Chief

cc: fire directors

