

Wildland Fire

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Branch of Wildland Fire
Division of Fire and Aviation



Wildland Fire Fact Sheet

As of March 2024



New River Gorge NP&P



Manassas NB



Everglades NP



Sleeping Bear Dunes NL



El Malpais NM



Hawai'i Volcanoes NP



Alaska Region

Leadership

- Jason Fallon, Branch Chief
- Erin Horsburgh, Deputy Branch Chief
- Chris Wilcox, Division Chief, Fire and Aviation

Mission

The National Park Service Wildland Fire Management Program manages wildland fire to protect the public, park communities, and infrastructure, conserve natural and cultural resources, and maintain and restore natural ecosystem processes.

Administration

The National Park Service (NPS) manages 429 park units and more than 85 million acres of land throughout the entire United States and its territories, from Maine to Guam. Of the park units, 318 have burnable vegetation, totalling 53 million acres.

Focus

Safety - NPS wildland fire programs have a top priority of firefighter and public safety. With millions of visitors to national parks annually, NPS wildland fire staffs are prepared for action should an emergency arise.

Science - NPS wildland fire programs integrate a science-based approach into holistic fire management goals, decisions, and practices. The science informs pre-fire planning, preparedness, monitoring, smoke-related issues, and post-fire impacts. This knowledge better prepares fire managers to suppress fire when necessary and apply fire where useful to maintain natural ecosystems and cultural landscapes.

Stewardship - NPS uses wildland fire when appropriate to maintain natural and cultural landscapes as well as to restore fire-adapted ecosystems

Resources

Through interagency agreements, NPS wildland fire management resources support other federal, state, Tribal, local and non-governmental partners in wildland fire management activities.

The NPS hosts hand, engine, and helitack crews as well as wildland fire modules. These modules mainly support NPS and interagency prescribed fire activities and wildfire incidents. The NPS also has two Type 1 hotshot crews. Alpine Interagency Hotshot Crew

(IHC) and Arrowhead IHC are based at Rocky Mountain National Park and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, respectively.

Beyond firefighters, NPS wildland fire management includes vital personnel such as fire planners, fire ecologists, fire effects monitors, smoke management specialists, post-fire emergency repair specialists, administrative assistants, budget analysts, dispatchers, fire communication/ education specialists, and support personnel in parks, regional and national offices, and geographic area coordination centers (GACCs).

Equipment

The NPS manages an inventory of wildland fire funded equipment, strategically located throughout the United States, to support fire management activities. These include water tenders, engines, crew carriers, helicopters, and command vehicles.

For More Information

Learn more about the [NPS Wildland Fire Management Program](#).



NPS Wildland Fire Statistics

Statistics as of 03/08/2024

| PREPAREDNESS | FY'24 To Date | FY'23 Completed | FY'22 Completed | FY'21 Completed | FY'20 Completed |
|--|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Preparedness Expenditures* | \$15,621,261 | \$44,510,317 | \$42,637,000 | \$39,262,938 | \$38,627,000 |
| Preparedness FTE | 95 | 277 | 305 (est.) | 305 | 302 |
| Infrastructure Preparedness Expenditures | \$1,302,617 | \$9,639,825 | \$8,330,000 | | |
| Facilities Expenditures* | \$2,873,044 | \$1,281,610 | \$4,885,000 | 1,254,332 | \$306,346 |
| Wildfire-Unplanned Ignitions** | 154 | 627 | 584 | 516 | 636 |
| Wildfire-Unplanned Ignition Acres** | 21,372 | 127,808 | 63,703 | 113,644 | 236,448 |

*Source: NPS Financial Business Management System (FBMS) data as reported in the DOI Obligation Report and rounded to the nearest thousand.
 **Source: WFMI. Acres are the sum for which the statistical data owner is NPS: fires originated on NPS lands; statistic does not include acres that originated on other lands and burned onto NPS lands. Fire type/protection type 11,12, 13, 14. Acres shown are control acres.

| ACTIVE FUELS MANAGEMENT | FY'24 To Date | FY'23 Completed | FY'22 Completed | FY'21 Completed | FY'20 Completed |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Fuels Treatment* | | | | | |
| Prescribed Fire Acres | 26,957 | 261,922 | 170,116 | 173,588 | 134,016 |
| Mechanical Acres | 1,131 | 12,902 | 12,220 | 7,065 | 12,566 |
| Other Acres | 2,447 | 10,968 | 13,159 | 4,050 | 22,444 |
| Total Acres | 30,535 | 285,792 | 195,495 | 184,703 | 169,026 |
| Fuels Expenditures** | \$10,776,188 | \$33,939,510 | \$38,277,000 | \$29,271,654 | \$24,661,000 |
| Fuels FTE | 94.4 | 240 | 215 (est.) | 215 | 196 |
| Infrastructure Fuels Expenditures | \$8,277,205 | \$16,884,022 | \$1,689,000 | | |
| Infrastructure Fuels FTE | 39 | 55 | | | |
| Structures with reduced risk*** | 684 | 10,342 | 8,302 | 3,662 | 7,155 |

*Source: National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS)
 **Source: NPS Financial Business Management System (FBMS) data as reported in the DOI Obligation report and rounded to the nearest thousand.
 *** Source: NPS Wildland Fire Geodatabase

| OTHER | FY'24 To Date | FY'23 Completed | FY'22 To Date | FY'21 Completed | FY'20 Completed |
|--|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR) | | | | | |
| Acres* | TBD | 21,098 | 59,398 | 19385 | 12,151 |
| Expenditures / Obligation** | \$167,448 | \$3,098,986 | \$3,122,000# | \$2,392,686 | \$2,305,000 |
| Infrastructure Expenditures/ Obligations | \$775,970 | \$3,038,401 | | | |
| Emergency Stabilization (ES) | | | | | |
| Acres* | TBD | 1113 | 1189 | 5409 | 5632 |
| Expenditures / Obligation** | \$221,687 | \$1,400,441 | \$3,083,784 | \$2,365,946 | \$1,601,000 |

*National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS)
 **Source: NPS Financial Business Management System (FBMS) data as reported in the DOI Obligation Report and rounded to nearest thousand.
 #Includes Disaster Relief Supplemental