



SAFETY TEAMWORK SUCCESS



2013

“We protect lives, property and natural resources on state and private lands by providing resources, leadership and coordination to ensure safe and aggressive fire suppression.” Montana DNRC Fire & Aviation Management Program Mission

Our vision is to be recognized and perform as the premier wildland fire management agency in the State of Montana.

Our values are:

- Firefighter and public safety must always be our highest priority;
- We are fiscally responsible and accountable;
- We operate with consistency and truthfulness;
- We value our people and recognize their contributions to our success; and
- Our success depends on the healthy relationships we foster with our partners, stakeholders, and the public.

STRATEGIC GOAL ONE | SAFETY

We seek to maintain an adaptable, safe, and effective fire organization.

Because of the rapid rate of change — and the volume of it — the DNRC fire program must be an adaptable organization with the flexibility to respond quickly to threats and also to emerging opportunities to improve or sustain our operations. Creating such an organization will:

- Support a network of area, unit and field offices providing wildland fire services throughout Montana.
- Provide for consistent program delivery across Montana;
- Position the DNRC Fire Program to respond effectively to external pressures (i.e., climate change, WUI, demographics) which threaten our success;
- Increase firefighter and public safety;
- Promote stability within the fire organization and enhance development of a highly trained workforce;
- Increase operational and cost efficiencies related to fire suppression and large fire management; and
- Enable the fire organization to be proactive in developing new policies, procedures, or methodologies that contribute to our success.

Accomplishing this goal means:

- Each employee is committed to the goals and objectives of the Fire & Aviation Management Program;
- All resources are allocated appropriately based on the highest priority — both short and long-term;
- Fire & Aviation Management programs (e.g., training, suppression, prevention, fire business) are sustainable and successful;
- We maintain a strong safety record;
- DNRC personnel continue to be highly trained and motivated to meet the mission of the fire program; and
- There are clear, established performance goals that are consistently met or exceeded.



STRATEGIC GOAL TWO | TEAMWORK

We establish and enhance successful relationships to achieve our mission.

The task of safe and effective wildland fire suppression across the State of Montana is simply too complex to do alone. The DNRC Fire & Aviation Management Program has decades-long relationships with local governments, fire departments, tribes, emergency managers, federal partners and others whose cooperation is vital to our success. Additionally, we strive to welcome new partners and expand our network to create the highest level of coordination and working together. In doing so, we:



- Provide better services to the public;
- Increase our chances of success in initial attack and large fire management;
- Reduce costs; improve efficiencies;
- Reduce the loss of natural resources on public and private property;
- Improve coordination and safety for personnel assigned to incidents and the public;
- Minimize conflicts resulting from differing fire suppression policies or strategies; and
- Expand our capabilities by maximizing the capability of our partners.

Accomplishing this goal means:

- We provide a clear and consistent message to our partners;
- We engage in regular contact with community leaders, elected officials, and the public;
- We promote ongoing training and development opportunities for our partners;
- We respond in a timely manner to concerns or requests for information;
- We follow through on commitments; and
- We identify and reach out to new partners in a timely manner.



STRATEGIC GOAL THREE | SUCCESS

We provide and manage our firefighting resources in a cost-effective manner.

Fire suppression is an expensive endeavor; however, there are ways to minimize costs while maintaining operational effectiveness. It involves fiscal oversight, sound financial decisions, and effective allocation of available resources. Ensuring that we obtain and manage resources effectively will pay dividends of:

- Increased firefighter and public safety;
- Minimized costs to Montana taxpayers;
- Reduced losses of natural resources and public/private property;
- Reduction of other impacts associated with large, long duration fires (i.e., smoke, economic impacts, tourism, etc.);
- Improved relationships with partners; and
- Efficiencies related to workload: accounting, fiscal management, etc.

Accomplishing this goal means:

- We ensure adequate resources to accomplish our mission;
- We promote accountability and fiscal responsibility;
- We encourage efficient use of resources;
- We create stability in fire program funding;
- We facilitate equitable distribution of funds and maximize their impacts; and
- We employ cost-containment strategies successfully.

We will work diligently to implement cost-effective policies and procedures for fire suppression, because we recognize the financial impacts to state government and, ultimately, Montana taxpayers.

The three strategic goals of the Montana DNRC Fire and Aviation Management Program can be summed up in three key words: **Safety, Teamwork, and Success**. If we keep firefighters and the public safe during fire suppression efforts, we work together with our partners, sharing information and working toward common goals, and if we manage our efforts with an eye toward cost efficiencies, natural resource protection, and reduction of other impacts, we will be successful in our pursuits.