



# Hazardous Fuels Reduction Grant Program

## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The Hazardous Fuels Reduction Grant focuses on reducing the risk of wildland fire and catastrophic losses to resources and property in high priority areas, which may result from a wildland fire encroaching from adjacent National Forest System (NFS) lands.



Source-funding is USFS State and Private Forestry (S&PF) dollars which are for work on non-federal lands to protect communities when hazardous fuels reduction activities are planned on adjacent NFS lands. This is accomplished by reducing the volume of hazardous fuels within a defined project area; through thinning, pruning, slash disposal, pile burning, and other conventionally accepted methods of fuels reduction. Public education and outreach about risks and responsibilities of living in the wildland urban interface (WUI) may be carried out in support of the primary goal of reducing hazardous fuels.

## CONTACT

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## PROJECTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING INTENT:

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- Protect communities within the WUI when prescribed fire is planned on NFS lands that have the potential to place WUI communities at risk. Projects shall be located within an average fire weather single-day burn window of NFS treatments units; generally interpreted to be 3-5 miles in western and central Montana and 10 miles in eastern Montana, subject to forest conditions.
- Occur within a specific geographic boundary, aligning treatments across neighboring properties to maximize benefits of project activities.
- Project initiation must be in advance and within three years of planned hazardous fuels reduction activities on adjacent NFS lands.

## GRANT AMOUNT & REVIEW

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- Budget requests should be \$100,000 or less.
- Proposals accepted on an on-going basis and reviewed quarterly by a designated panel when funding is available.

## MATCH

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- Requires a 25% match minimum, calculated as a percentage of total grant funds requested.
- Generally, match should be met by the landowners through contributions towards the completion of their hazardous fuel reduction project.

The funding for this program is derived from a federal award of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, to the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Forestry Division. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.