# Addressing Wildfire in the 21st Century

In the past 20 years, American wildfires have grown bigger and more extreme. The Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 directed the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior to develop a cohesive wildland fire management strategy (Cohesive Strategy).

The Cohesive Strategy takes a holistic view of fire on the landscape. Federal and State land and fire managers, Tribes, NGOs, and other stakeholders worked as partners to develop the strategy. The strategy is a framework to coordinate multiple agency and homeowner efforts toward three goals:

- Restore and maintain landscapes
- Create fire-adapted communities
- Improve fire response



Pagami Creek, Minnesota 2 years after fire by Eli Sagor

#### For more information:

<u>www.forestsandrangelands.gov/</u> <u>strategy</u>

### **Science for the Cohesive Strategy:**

www.cohesivefire.nemac.org



#### **Contact your Regional Coordinator:**

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**Management Strategy** 

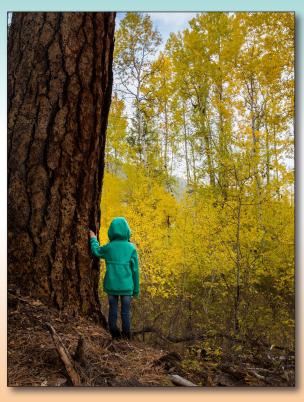




Cover photo: Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project, Oregon by Ally Steinmetz

Background: Ely, Minnesota by Kari Greer

## National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy



"To safely and effectively extinguish fire when needed; use fire where allowable; manage our natural resources; and as a Nation, live with wildland fire."

### **Working Together and Using Science for Effective Wildland Fire Management**

The National Strategy identifies opportunities to address four major challenges:

**Vegetation and Fuels** Management - Prioritize fuel treatments for maximum beneficial effects, manage wildfire for resource objectives, and maintain fire-adapted ecosystems.

Homes, Communities, and Values at Risk Management - Increase firefighter and public safety. Reduce damage to property and valuesat-risk through community and homeowner involvement in proactive wildfire risk reduction actions, e.g. **Community Wildfire Protection Plans** (CWPPs).



Hotshot on Gladiator Fire, Arizona, by Kari Greer Trinity Ridge Fire, Idaho, by Kari Greer Mitigation in Colorado, by Pam Wilson



Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project, Oregon, by Ally Steinmetz Waldo Canyon Fire, Colorado 2012, by Kari Greer Sage Grouse, by Jeanne Stafford/US FWS Background: Pagami Creek, Minnesota, by Eli Sagor

**Effective and Efficient Wildfire** Response - Enhance wildfire response effectiveness and preparedness for public and firefighter safety.



Trinity Ridge Fire, Idaho, by Kari Greer (Photo 1 & 2) Impassable Fire, Florida, by Keith Osteen/Florida Fire Service

#### Landscapes shape our economies, our culture, and our way of life.

There is no one-size-fits-all solution to reducing wildfire risk. Solutions must be tailored to landscapes and communities. The strategy offers a broad-based, collaborative response to local wildfire issues, based on a wealth of scientific information. Implementation will take place locally, through programs and projects to reduce wildfire risk across boundaries, building cooperation and coordination between agencies and stakeholders.