

National Fire Plan

Southern Region Advances National Fire Plan

Mississippi 2002



Due to the increased funding resulting from the National Fire Plan, the National Forests in Mississippi hired 41 fulltime fire personnel; meeting the required Most Efficient Level (MEL) needed to suppress wildfires. This much needed funding, up from a low \$800,000 to \$3.1M, increased the Forests efficiency of the total fire program and allowed the Forest to concentrate the new hires on critical fire activities and improving the Forests response time to national, regional and local emergencies

The 1.2 million acres of the National Forests in Mississippi extending from the Tennessee line to the Gulf Coast, experience more than 200 human caused wildfires annually. The \$2.7 million dollar increase helps the Forest play a key role in saving lives, homes and vital ecosystems throughout the State of Mississippi and along the highly populated Gulf Coast.