



RFA Partner Provides Initial Attack Assistance Blue Ridge Parkway, North Carolina National Fire Plan – Community Assistance

At 3 pm on Tuesday, March 8, 2006, the Reems Creek Rural Fire Department responded to the Rattlesnake Fire in Ashville, North Carolina. Initial attack was conducted by the Reems Creek Rural Fire Department and supported by a North Carolina Forest Service Type 2 helicopter dropping water from buckets. They had the fire contained at 1.5 acres by that night. National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service firefighters also responded. The fire was located in a closed section of the Blue Ridge Parkway along a popular hiking trail at a cultural site. The initial attack response capabilities of firefighters helped keep fire encroachment into the cultural site to a minimum.

Reems Creek Rural Fire Department is one of 49 local fire departments the Blue Ridge Parkway has provided wildland fire training, personal protective equipment, and tools for as part of the Rural Fire Assistance (RFA) program under the National Fire Plan.

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