

# National Fire Plan

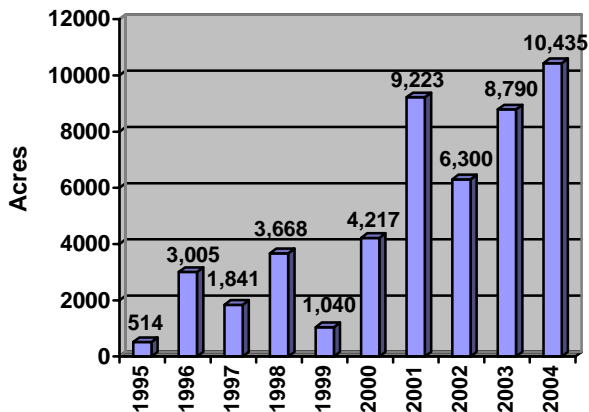
## Bankhead Prescribed Burn Program Grows Alabama 2004



With additional National Fire Plan funding, the Bankhead National Forest's prescribed burn program has increased treated acres by 500 % since the late 1990's. These new funds helped resource managers restore native fire dependant upland woodlands, reduce fuels, protect private inholdings, enhance wildlife habitat, and implement a better burn program on the ground.

Staffing, wildfire prevention and education, community outreach, cooperative agreements, efficient line placement and burn unit layout, erosion control, personnel training and public involvement have all been improved. Four additional full-time positions provided specialists in all aspects of the fire program.

**Bankhead NF Prescribed Burning Accomplishments 1995-2004.**



NFP funds have also supported advanced planning and layout of the best routes for fire lines, reducing environmental and heritage concerns related to plowed lines. More hand lines are now used in erosion prone and sensitive areas.

On inholdings, cooperative agreements reduced the length and amount of constructed fire lines, and erosion potential. More money for training has doubled the number of fire line qualified personnel since 2001. The Bankhead NF continues to protect water, soil, threatened and endangered species and wildlife habitat; reduce hazardous fuels buildup, and improve forest health while addressing public concerns.



**This fireline was mulched and seeded to minimize soil movement. Six weeks and six inches of rain (in a 24 hour period) later there was little soil movement.**