

National Fire Plan

Interagency Coordination Center

Brings Efficiency to Emergency Response

Indiana

2002



National Fire Plan funding was crucial to constructing the new Indiana Interagency Coordination Center on the Hoosier National Forest.

Coordination among interagency partners is crucial in reaching consensus and taking action on important issues. When it comes to planning and responding to emergencies, having interagency managers working from a central location makes good sense.

Coming together with that thought, the USDA Forest Service Hoosier National Forest, National Park Service, U.S.D.I. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources agreed to turn the concept into reality, and have joined together in a new facility located at the Tell City Ranger District on the Hoosier NF. Funded by the National Fire Plan, the new Indiana Interagency

Coordination Center (IICC) opened in August, 2002, with shared staffing and space for firefighters, training, and equipment.

The main purpose of the center is to serve as the focal point for resource mobilization. IICC collects intelligence data such as resource availability, fire danger, staffing levels, potential assessment reports, fire occurrence, and fire weather. In addition, the IICC coordinates all fire training statewide.

The establishment of the center has streamlined emergency response in the state of Indiana. This has resulted in much quicker, more efficient, and more effective emergency response at both the state and national levels.

As of September 20, 2002, IICC has processed 88 resource orders mobilizing eight Type 2 interagency handcrews, 17 wildland engines, and 66 overhead orders. This has been an extraordinary first year for IICC. With the construction of the new facility and a year of experience under their belt, the future looks bright for IICC. For more information contact Chris Peterson, Hoosier National Forest Fire Management Officer at (812) 547-9247.