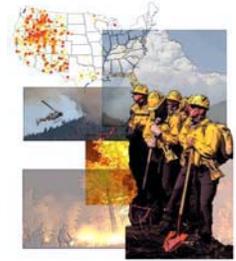


# National Fire Plan

## Advanced Modeling of Meteorology and Smoke Better Predicts Fire Spread and Improves Safety



Air quality regulations require that the USDA Forest Service become more active in smoke modeling and real-time emission tracking to better understand the impact of prescribed fire and wildland fire on air quality and visibility. The National Fire Plan also requires increased understanding of smoke impacts that often limit the use of prescribed fire to treat hazardous fuels, and the enhancement of fire weather and fire behavior models. Fire planners need better predictive models of fire behavior and fire hazard to increase efficiency, effectiveness, and safety of fire operations.

Under the National Fire Plan, four regional fire weather and smoke modeling centers have been established to provide critical research knowledge, and fire weather and smoke modeling support to Forest Service, state, and other partners. High-resolution weather models coupled with fire behavior models to provide substantially greater detail of anticipated fire spread, better planning for the safety of firefighters and the public, and more efficient allocation of fire suppression resources. All four centers have developed high-speed computing capabilities to support product delivery and ongoing research.



The National Modeling Consortia will deliver better predictions of smoke and fire behavior to firefighters and fire planners, enabling them to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, and safety of fire operations.

For additional information on the National Fire Plan, visit [www.fireplan.gov](http://www.fireplan.gov)