

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

Forestry and Trust Lands Division

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GREG GIANFORTE, GOVERNOR

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STATE OF MONTANA

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September 8, 2025

Yellowstone County Fire Council
PO Box 35004
Billings, MT 59107

383.71 (2024)

Subject: 2025 VOLUNTEER FIRE CAPACITY GRANT

Congratulations, the application submitted by your organization for the 2025 Volunteer Fire Capacity Program has been reviewed by an interagency committee and designated for funding. From approximately \$1,602,951 requested, a total of \$600,362 was awarded. The maximum amount of allocated funds available for your submitted projects is \$18,000.00. Your project must include both your grant and 10% in matching funds; therefore, you will need to spend \$20,000.00. Funds originating from federal sources cannot be used as match.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service which makes funding available to rural fire departments. This federal funding is passed through and administered by the Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC). The funds are considered federal, and specific laws and rules apply.

When you have completed your project, the **Grantee Invoice form needs to be filled out by you**, signed, and returned with copies of your invoices, proof payment (town warrants and/or canceled checks, copy of credit card/bank statement etc.) to DNRC. Statements from vendors stamped "paid" are not acceptable as proof of payment. **Remember that you must expend the funds for approved purposes designated on your Appendix A of your grant application.** Keeping in mind that these funds will not be available after June 30, 2026.

Please contact me at 406-542-4267 if you have any questions and refer to VFC Agreement No. VFC-26-560.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rhea Blankenship".

Rhea Blankenship
Volunteer Fire Capacity Program
DNRC/Fire Protection Bureau
Forestry Division