

## Appendix IV

### Potential Funding Sources

Program: **Rural Fire Assistance**

Source: Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Description: The Rural Fire Assistance Program is a Department of the Interior program to enhance firefighter safety and strengthen fire protection capabilities. Safe and effective fire suppression in the wildland urban interface demands close coordination among local, state, tribal, and federal firefighting resources. Funding will be used to provide technical assistance, training, supplies, equipment and public education support to rural fire departments.

More info: VFA/RFA Grant Program Coordinator Montana DNRC  
Forestry Division / Fire and Aviation Management Bureau 2705 Spurgin Road Missoula,  
Montana 59804-3199

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Program: **Communities at Risk**

Source: USDA Forest Service

Description: Assistance to communities for hazardous fuels reduction projects in the wildland urban interface; includes funding for assessments and mitigation planning.

More info: Regional Forester Rick Cables 303-275-5350

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Program: **State Fire Assistance**

Source: US Forest Service

Description: USFS grants to state foresters through state and private grants, under authority of Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act. Grant objectives are to maintain and improve protection efficiency and effectiveness on non-federal lands, training, equipment, preparedness, prevention and education.

More info: [www.fireplan.gov](http://www.fireplan.gov)

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Program: **State Fire Assistance Hazard Mitigation Program**

Source: National Fire Plan

Description: These special state Fire Assistance funds are targeted at hazard fuels treatment in the wildland-urban interface. Recipients include state forestry organizations, local fire services, county emergency planning committees and private landowners.

More info: [www.fireplan.gov](http://www.fireplan.gov) and [www.fs.fed.us/r4](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4)

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Program: **Volunteer Fire Assistance**

Source: Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Description: VFA, Title IV, is a federal matching funds program with dollars provided through the USDA Forest Service. The program is administered by the Montana State Forester (State Department of Natural Resources and Conservation - DNRC). Title II/IV authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to provide funds and technical assistance to the Montana DNRC to organize, train and equip local forces for preventing and suppressing wildfires.

More info: VFA/RFA Grant Program Coordinator Montana DNRC  
Forestry Division / Fire and Aviation Management Bureau 2705 Spurgin Road Missoula,  
Montana 59804-3199

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Program: **Forest Land Enhancement Program**

Source: US Forest Service

Description: The 2002 Farm Bill repealed the Forestry Incentives Program (authorized in 1978) and Stewardship Incentive Program (1990) cost share programs and replaced it with a new Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP). FLEP purposes include 1) Enhance the productivity of timber, fish and wildlife habitat, soil and water quality, wetland, recreational resources, and aesthetic values of forest land through landowner cost share assistance, and 2) Establish a coordinated, cooperative federal, state and local sustainable forestry program to establish, manage, maintain, enhance and restore forests on non-industrial private forest land.

More info: [www.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.usda.gov/farmbill)

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Program: **National Association of State Agencies for Surplus Property**

Source: Montana State Agency for Surplus Property

Description: Provides assistance to other state, county, and local governments by providing excess state property (equipment, supplies, tools) for wildland and rural community fire response.

More info: Mark Athearn, Program Manager Phone: 406-495-6016, Fax: 406-495-6001, Email: [mathearn@state.mt.us](mailto:mathearn@state.mt.us)

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Program: **Federal Excess Property**

Source: US Forest Service

Description: Provides assistance to state, county and local governments by providing excess federal property (equipment, supplies, tools) for wildland and rural community fire response.

More info: Mark Athearn, Program Manager Phone: 406-495-6016, Fax: 406-495-6001, Email: [mathearn@state.mt.us](mailto:mathearn@state.mt.us)

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Program: **Economic Action Program**

Source: US Forest Service

Description: A USFS, state and private program with involvement from local Forest Service offices to help identify projects. Addresses long-term economic and social health of rural areas; assists the development of enterprises through diversified uses of forest products, marketing assistance, and utilization of hazardous fuel byproducts.

More info: <http://www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop/programs/eap/>; Dave Atkins Phone: 406-329-3132  
Fax: 406-329-3132, email: [datkins@fs.fes.us](mailto:datkins@fs.fes.us)

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Program: **Forest Stewardship Program**

Source: US Forest Service

Description: Funding helps enable preparation of management plans on state, private and tribal lands to ensure effective and efficient hazardous fuel treatment.

More info: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1-r4/spf/stewardship.html>, Dee Sessions  
(801) 625-5189, (801) 625-5127 FAX, [dsessions@fs.fed.us](mailto:dsessions@fs.fed.us)

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Program: **Community Planning**

Source:	US Forest Service
Description:	USFS provides funds to recipients with involvement of local Forest Service offices for the development of community strategic action and fire risk management plans to increase community resiliency and capacity.
More info:	
Program:	<b>Firefighters Assistance</b>
Source:	Federal Emergency Management Agency and US Fire Administration Program
Description:	Financial assistance to help improve fire-fighting operations, services and provide equipment.
More info:	<a href="http://www.usfa.fema.gov">www.usfa.fema.gov</a>
Program:	<b>Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program</b>
Source:	Federal Emergency Management Agency
Description:	Emergency management assistance to local governments to develop hazard mitigation plans.
More info:	<a href="http://www.usfa.fema.gov">www.usfa.fema.gov</a> ; Larry Akers, Montana Disaster and Emergency Services, (406) 841-3960 e-mail: <a href="mailto:lakers@mt.gov">lakers@mt.gov</a>
Program:	<b>Community Protection Fuels Mitigation Grants</b>
Source:	USDA Forest Service
Description:	The purpose of this grant program is to protect communities and subdivisions from fires that cross onto private property from adjacent federal property. By providing assistance to private landowners to reduce their fuel hazard, the threat to communities is reduced.
More info:	Montana DNRC @ <a href="http://dnrc.mt.gov/forestry/Fire/Grants/cwpp.asp">http://dnrc.mt.gov/forestry/Fire/Grants/cwpp.asp</a>
Program:	<b>Community Facilities Loans and Grants</b>
Source:	Rural Housing Service (RHS) U. S. Dept. of Agriculture
Description:	Provides grants (and loans) to cities, counties, states and other public entities to improve community facilities for essential services to rural residents. Projects can include fire and rescue services; funds have been provided to purchase fire-fighting equipment for rural areas. No match is required.
More info:	<a href="http://www.rurdev.usda.gov">http://www.rurdev.usda.gov</a> ; or local county Rural Development office.
Program:	<b>Sale of Federal Surplus Personal Property</b>
Source:	General Services Administration
Description:	This program sells property no longer needed by the federal government. The program provides individuals, businesses and organizations the opportunity to enter competitive bids for purchase of a wide variety of personal property and equipment. Normally, there is no use restrictions on the property purchased.
More info:	<a href="http://www.gsa.gov">www.gsa.gov</a>
Program:	<b>Reimbursement for Firefighting on Federal Property</b>
Source:	U. S. Fire Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Description: Program provides reimbursement to fire service organizations that have engaged in firefighting operations on federal land. Payments can be for direct expenses and direct losses.

More info: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

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Program: **Fire Management Assistance Grant Program**

Source: Readiness, Response and Recovery Directorate, FEMA

Description: Program provides grants to states, tribal governments and local governments for the mitigation, management and control of any fire burning on publicly (nonfederal) or privately owned forest or grassland that threatens such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. The grants are made in the form of cost sharing with the federal share being 75 percent of total eligible costs. Grant approvals are made within 1 to 72 hours from time of request.

More info: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

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Program: **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program**

Source: Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, FEMA

Description: Provides states and local governments with financial assistance to implement measures to reduce or eliminate damage and losses from natural hazards. Funded projects have included vegetation management projects. It is each State's responsibility to identify and select hazard mitigation projects.

More info: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

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Program: **Catalog of Selected Federal Grants and Assistance**

Source: National Association of Conservation Districts

Description: Provides several lists of potential federal funding sources supporting the National Fire Plan.

More info: <http://www.forestry.nacdn.org/biomass/Funding/SpecificSources.htm>

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Program: **Building Better Rural Places**

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture in collaboration with the Michael Fields Agricultural Institute

Description: This guide is written for anyone seeking help from federal programs to foster innovative enterprises in agriculture and forestry in the United States. Specifically, the guide addresses program resources in community development; sustainable land management; and value-added and diversified agriculture and forestry. Thus, it can help farmers, entrepreneurs, community developers, conservationists, and many other individuals, as well as private and public organizations, both for-profit and not-for-profit.

More info: <http://attra.ncat.org/guide/index.html>

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Program: **Fuels for Schools and Beyond**

Source: Fuels for Schools Partnership

Description: To promote and encourage the use of wood as a renewable, natural resource to provide a clean, readily available energy source suitable for use in heating systems in public and private buildings. To facilitate the removal of hazardous fuels from our forests by assisting in the development of viable commercial uses of removed material.

More info: <http://www.fuelsforschools.org/>

## Appendix V

### Training Programs

Program: **National Fire Academy Educational Program**

Source: National Fire Academy, U. S. Fire Administration, FEMA

Description: Provides training to people responsible for fire prevention and control. Training is provided at the resident facility in Emmetsburg, Maryland, and travel stipends are available for attendees. The course is available to any individual who is a member of a fire department; attendees are selected based on need and benefit to be derived by their community.

More info: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

Program: **Emergency Management Institute (EMI), Independent Study Program**

Source: EMI Readiness, Response and Recovery Directorate, FEMA

Description: The program currently provides 32 courses in emergency management practices to assist fire department managers with response to emergencies and disasters. Several courses could apply to fires in rural interface areas.

More info: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

Program: **Northern Rockies Training Center**

Source: Various state and federal agencies

Description: This site enables access to the Northern Rockies Geographic Area Interagency Wildland Fire Training program. The Northern Rockies Training Center (NRTC) and the Northern Rockies Local Zones together, serve the Wildland Fire training needs of the Northern Rockies Area..

More info: <http://www.nationalfiretraining.net/nr/schedule.htm>

Program: **Fire Services Training School**

Source: Montana State University Extension Service

Description: This program offers a wide variety of fire rescue courses and hands-on training in various locations throughout Montana.

More info: <http://www.montana.edu/~wwwfire/index.html> or phone: 1-800-294-5272

Program: **National Interagency Fire Center**

Source: Various federal agencies

Description: The National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in Boise, Idaho is the nation's support center for wildland fire fighting offering various wildland fire training courses.

More info: [www.nifc.gov](http://www.nifc.gov) or phone: 208-387-5512

## Research Programs

Program: **Forestry Research** (Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act)  
Source: U S Forest Service  
Description: Awards grants for research in a wide array of forest-related fields, including forest management and forest fire protection.  
Contact: [www.fs.fed.us/links/research.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/links/research.html)

## Private Foundations

Source: **The Allstate Foundation**  
Description: Provides grants for community development, government/public administration, safety/disasters. Grants average \$1,000 to \$10,000.  
Deadline: None  
More info: Guidelines available by mail request only: 2775 Sanders Rd., Suite F3, Northbrook, IL 60062-6127; [www.allstate.com/foundation/](http://www.allstate.com/foundation/)

Source: **Plum Creek Foundation**  
Description: Provides grants for community projects in areas of company operations. In 2000, grants were awarded to a volunteer fire department and a county search & rescue unit. An application form is required. Grants average around \$5,000.  
Deadline: None  
More info: Contact foundation at 999-3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Suite 2300, Seattle, WA 98104; 206-467-3600; [www.plumcreek.com/company/foundation.cfm](http://www.plumcreek.com/company/foundation.cfm); [foundation@plumcreek.com](mailto:foundation@plumcreek.com)

Source: **The Steele-Reese Foundation**  
Description: Provides grants for rural development and projects that benefit rural areas; Montana is one of several areas in which the foundation funds projects. Have funded projects for emergency volunteers and fire protection districts in the past. Grant amounts fall within a wide range. The foundation requires three copies of the request letter; no application form is required.  
Deadline: April 1  
More info: 32 Washington Square West, New York, NY 10011. Info on programs: 406-722-4564