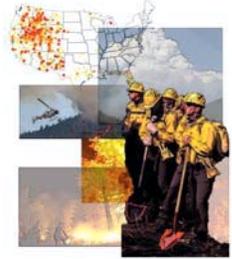


# National Fire Plan

## Grants Awarded by Secretary of Agriculture

Veneman



*California* - Under the National Fire Plan, funding is provided for fuels management and reduction to address the problem of dense wildland vegetation that has resulted from decades of wildfire suppression and fire exclusion on federal lands. Hazardous fuels reduction activities focus on wildland urban interface areas to reduce the risk to people and property. Additionally, grants are being awarded to communities nationwide under the community assistance portion of the National Fire Plan.



Secretary Veneman greeting California Firefighters



Secretary Veneman speaking

Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman visited California where she presented three National Fire Plan grants intended to help reduce the undergrowth and invasive grasses that could fuel a major fire. Veneman took an aerial tour of the areas devastated by the 2000 fires and visited the Northern California Fire Center.



Secretary Veneman inspecting the parachute loft



Presentation of the grant checks

During her visit, Veneman met members of the Forest Service's Lassen Hotshots. Above, Veneman is speaking with senior smokejumper and training supervisor Josh Mathiesen as he briefs her on parachute maintenance.

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