

The National Strategy: The Final Phase of the Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy

KEY MESSAGES

The release of the National Strategy brings to a close the three-phased, collaborative approach to developing a National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy to evaluate and address the nation's wildland fire management issues, now and into the future.

The National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy is more than a document; it is a commitment to the mindset that as stakeholders we all share responsibilities for managing our lands; protecting our nation's natural, tribal, and cultural resources; and making our communities safe and resilient for future generations.

- Wildland fire management must be an integrated program that works hand-in-hand with other natural resource and land use program managers and planners, where we can achieve the most different on the ground, together.
 - It is an integrated program that works both within our own organization; then, looks for opportunities to work along with our neighbors and partners to make the most difference.
- Across the Nation, we can find places where the principles of the National Cohesive Strategy are already being implemented. We need to continue and strengthen those existing efforts and partnerships that are working.
 - Together, we can learn from and replicate existing collaborative behaviors and successful practices to achieve even greater success.

Wildland fire does not recognize jurisdictional boundaries. Working together, we can do more to achieve the goals of the National Cohesive Strategy—to restore and maintain resilient landscapes across all jurisdictions; prepare communities so they can live with and withstand a wildfire without loss of life and property; and safely, efficiently, and effectively respond to wildfires when they happen.

- The National Cohesive Strategy and Action Plan provide improved planning and implementation tools for wildland fire management and landscape restoration projects. Together, we can do more!

Our future success will be defined by our commitment and ability to work together to achieve the vision and goals of the National Cohesive Strategy. Partnerships and collaborative planning to prepare for and respond to wildfire is the foundation on which the National Cohesive Strategy was built and vital to our success into the future.

- Implementation of the National Cohesive Strategy will be undertaken in the same manner it was created—with recognition of the differences among stakeholders across the country and a vision of how we can collectively achieve more together.
- Although our missions and priorities are diverse, we are united, with a common vision and set of goals defined by the National Cohesive Strategy, established to collectively address our nation's wildland fire management issues, as we redeem our individual responsibilities.