



Working Across Boundaries to Implement the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Strategy in the Northern Rockies

Field Tour Primer

The Cohesive Strategy represents the culmination of a collaborative effort by Federal, state, local, and Tribal governments, non-governmental partners and public stakeholders, using best science, to make meaningful progress towards the three overarching goals. The Cohesive Strategy also provides the strategic direction necessary to achieve the following vision for the next century.

Vision: *to safely and effectively extinguish fire when needed; use fire where allowable; manage our natural resources; and as a Nation, live with wildland fire.*

Overarching goals:

- **Restore and Maintain Resilient Landscapes** – landscapes across all jurisdictions are resilient to fire, insect and disease related disturbances.
- **Create Fire Adapted Communities** – Human populations and infrastructure can withstand a wildfire without loss of life and property.
- **Ensure a safe, effective and risk-based wildfire response** – all jurisdictions participate in making and implementing safe, effective, efficient, risk-based wildfire management decisions.

Management Options:

Prescribed fire

An effective, cost-efficient tool in areas with fire-adapted or fire-dependent vegetation.

Manage wildfires for resource objectives

The use of unplanned ignitions for ecosystem restoration or hazardous fuels reduction.

Fuels treatments using mechanical, biological, or other non-fire methods

Mechanical thinning, herbicide use, mowing or grazing for ecosystem restoration and wildfire risk reduction.

Homes and community action

Actions by the property owner to reduce ignition potential to homes, and the protection of individual homes during an incident.

Building codes

A focus on building materials and construction standards to reduce potential loss.

Reduce accidental and intentional ignitions

Implementation of locally tailored prevention efforts.

Prepare for large, long-duration wildfires

Enhancement of wildfire response preparedness in areas more likely to experience large, long-duration wildfires.

Protect structures and target landscape fuels

Enhancement of wildfire response preparedness in areas experiencing high rates of structure loss per area burned.

Protect structures and target ignition prevention

At the community level, emphasize both structure protection and wildfire prevention to enhance the effectiveness of initial response.