



2025-2026 NFCA Wildfire Risk Reduction Program

Program Information

Background

The Wildfire Risk Reduction Program (Program) is being established under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, the Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Agreements, the 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act, and the National Fire Plan to assist communities throughout Nevada in reducing their risk from wildland fire on non-federal lands.

The Nevada Fire Chiefs Association (NFCA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation has partnered with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to administer the program and distribute awards. The work that will be completed by this program will meet with the intent of the funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law in helping strengthen communities and protect public lands.

NFCA Key Personnel

The Nevada Fire Chiefs Association, Inc. as a 501(c)(3) is governed by a Board of Directors made up of active professional Fire Chiefs currently employed by their respective jurisdictions. In accordance with the NFCA Constitution and Bylaws, an Executive Director is appointed and authorized to conduct business on behalf of the NFCA, with the approval of the Board of Directors (NRS Chapter 82).

Dave Cochran, Fire Chief
President of NFCA
cochrand@reno.gov
775-721-5330

Chief Cochran is the Fire Chief for the City of Reno, Nevada. He began his career with Reno Fire Dept. in 1998 as a firefighter. Moving through the ranks he became the Chief in 2015. He is also an attorney. Chief Cochran provides leadership and guidance not only to his department and community but to the NFCA. As President of the NFCA he has the authority to guide the day-to-day operation of the Association subject to Board of Director approval.

Program Administrator

Kelli Baratti - Executive Director, NFCA
Oversight, Program Planning, Development, and Implementation
kelli@nvfirechf.org
775-720-9874



Ms. Baratti will serve as the Program Administrator. This position directs the overall administration of the program; responsible for overseeing the implementation of program elements, coordination with other agencies, conducting meetings and coordinating with subrecipients, ensures timely programmatic and financial reporting, responsible for overall program evaluation; and is the responsible authority for ensuring necessary reports/documentation are submitted to federal granting agency.

With her combination of experience with more than 20 years of experience in wildfire suppression, prevention, and resource coordination as well as 12 years in emergency management dedicated to resource coordination and management, serving as the Emergency Operations Center Manager, Planning, Training and Exercise supervisor Ms. Baratti is uniquely qualified to lead this effort.

Program Coordinator – TBD

This person will serve as a technical adviser to applicants on fire mitigation practices, educational outreach and fuels reduction work and provide advice and guidance if needed to the applicant to ensure the submission of their application reporting requirements are met such as guidance on maps and/or shape files. This person will also be a subject matter expert when reviewing applications as needed.

Bookkeeper – TBD

This person will provide bookkeeping and fiscal support services to the WRRP program.

Program Overview

Program funding is intended to directly benefit communities that may be impacted by wildland fire initiating from or spreading to public land. The Program will help to reduce the impacts of wildland fire on property and the environment by providing communities with the ability to develop and implement fuels reduction and mitigation projects. The reduction in the impact of wildland fire on wildland urban interface communities in Nevada will also help reduce the risk of loss of life, enhance safety for residents and responders and improve public education and awareness of wildfire impacts. Projects will need to show a direct benefit to public land by helping to reduce the risk of spread of wildfire from initiation on private lands or expending resources to protect infrastructure from fire that originates on public land.

Applicants may apply for complimentary projects, but no more than one per category. Each project must be submitted on a separate application. Applications are reviewed by a selection committee and the NFCA Board of Directors will vote on award recipients.

Funding categories:

- Education and Outreach Activities up to \$10,000



- Hazardous Fuels Reduction Projects up to \$75,000

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| January 2025 | Release of 2025-2026 program applications |
| March 14, 2025 | Deadline to submit application(s) to NFCA by 5:00pm PDT |
| March 26, 2025 | The selection committee reviews applications and makes recommendations to NFCA Board of Directors |
| April 16, 2025 | NFCA Board of Directors reviews and approves committee recommendations |
| April 2025 | Successful program recipients notified |
| May 1, 2025-June 30, 2026 | Project timeline (12-months) |

Project Overview

Funding for the 2025-2026 Program is estimated at \$321,000. Applicants may request funding for no more than one project in each of the following categories:

Education & Outreach

Funding for wildland fire education and outreach activities should support the development of educational products, community outreach events, data collection, home evaluations, media and public information events, or training residents. Topics for these activities may include, but are not limited to structural ignitability, Firewise USA®, Fire Adapted Nevada (FAN), Ready-Set-Go®, defensible space, fire ecology, restoring fire to the environment, homeowner responsibility, fire adapted communities, evacuation, etc.

Hazardous Fuels Reduction

Fuels reduction projects and vegetation treatments should remove or modify fuels in the WUI to reduce severity or intensity of wildfires impacts to communities and residents. The goal is to modify, break up or reduce fuels in such a way that reduces threats to public and responder safety and damage to property. Examples include fuel breaks, thinning, pruning, prescribed fire, and landscape modifications.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants must be a county government or municipality, a 501(c) (3) organization in Nevada, a statutorily recognized political subdivision such as a Fire Protection District, Soil & Water Conservation District, or a Native American Tribe working on behalf of one or more



communities at risk of wildfires in Nevada. Applicants MUST have an active SAM.gov account and include their Unique Entity ID (UEI).

Program Requirements

Projects must be completed within 12 months of the award start date of May 1, 2025, and all funds must be expended within the 12-month period. It is the responsibility of the awardee to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws.

Applicants must submit partner commitment letters identifying roles, responsibilities, and cost sharing arrangements. Letters must be submitted on letterhead with a current date. Form letters will not be considered. Applicants doing work or outreach in or near tribes must submit documentation that demonstrates outreach and engagement of these communities with the application.

Maps and digital shape files must be submitted for fuel reduction projects and education & outreach projects.

Applicants who receive more than \$500,000 annually from federal sources are required to submit a copy of their audit to the NFCA.

Funds cannot be used to attempt to influence legislation or the outcome of any public election.

There is no cost share requirement for this program.

Awardees are required to submit quarterly progress reports and a final project report.

Selection Criteria

Applicants must demonstrate that the project area is at risk of fire originating on or spreading to public land and that the area impacted by the project is in the WUI.

Special Consideration for applicants:

- Working in areas directly adjacent to public land.
- Developing community capacity.
- Working on complementary existing or ongoing projects.
- Utilizing biomass from hazardous fuels reduction projects.
- Demonstrating a cost-effective approach to treating hazardous fuels.
- Developing sustainable education projects such as Train-the-Trainer.
- Supporting objectives or goals of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy <https://www.fs.usda.gov/restoration/cohesivestrategy.shtml>
- Advancing fire adapted community resilience.



- Providing benefits to multiple communities identified by the Nevada Shared Stewardship Program or community of interest to public lands. <https://forestry.nv.gov/natural-resource-management/shared-stewardship>

Payment

Funds are distributed on a reimbursement basis and final payment is made upon project completion. Projects that require funds for a one-time task (billboards, etc.) may be approved for a one-time distribution.

Application Submission

Submit application(s) with the application checklist by 5pm Friday, March 14, 2025, to:

NFCA – Wildfire Risk Reduction Program
Attn: WRRP GRANT
3827 S. Carson St. #197
Carson City, NV 89701

OR by email to: grants@nvfirechf.org

Contact Kelli Baratti at (775) 720-9874 if you have any questions.