



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@nfvirechf.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.

Accounting Support

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.

Applications are reviewed by a selection committee and the NFCA Board of Directors will vote on award recipients. Hazardous Fuels Reduction Projects may be funded up to \$75,000.

January 7, 2026	Release of 2026 program applications
March 1, 2026	Deadline to submit application(s) to NFCA by 5:00pm PDT
March 2026	The selection committee reviews applications and makes recommendations to NFCA Board of Directors
March 2026	NFCA Board of Directors reviews and approves committee recommendations
March 31, 2026	Successful program recipients notified
April 2026 -June 30, 2027	Project timeline (12-months from time of award acceptance)



Project Overview

Funding for the 2026 Program is estimated at \$847,665. Applicants may apply for Hazardous Fuels Reduction Projects up to \$75,000.

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).**

Terms and Conditions - Certifications and Assurances for Federal Grants

Please see attached documents: Terms and Conditions and Attachment 1 - Certifications and Assurances for Federal Grants

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. See Attached Form.

Special Consideration for applicants:

- Working in areas directly adjacent to BLM 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.
- 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>



Application Submission

Submit application(s) with the application checklist by 5pm March 1, 2026 to:

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

OR

On the website nvfirechf.org Grant Portal

OR

by email to: grants@nvfirechf.org

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