



Addressing Wildfire Risk And Related Issues Together.

July 3rd, 2025

Have a happy 4th of July, and stay safe!

Member Spotlight

Lehi City, one of our original Alliance members, is this week's spotlight!

Lehi is a historic and vibrant city located north of Utah, nestled between the metropolitan areas of Salt Lake City and Provo. Known for its rich pioneer heritage and forward-looking community, Lehi offers a unique blend of tradition and innovation only hours away from several national parks.

In 2020, Lehi residents evacuated after the **Traverse Mountain Fires** — sparked by teenagers using fireworks — burned over 500 acres. With Utah reaching **record high wildfire risk** this summer and the Fourth of July approaching, officials are urging continued caution.



Regional Wildfire Differences

This week's regional wildfire challenge identified in a [widely shared report](#) from the [National Interagency Fire Center](#) is the [Southern United States](#).



Unlike the Western United States, Spring rains and above-average wet season erased many of the fears of an intense wildfire season in the South.

However, Texas remains critically at-risk, especially where oak wilt, ice-storm damage, and beetle kill have created plentiful dead material to burn. Florida also has above-average risk due to persistent pockets of drought. Significant fire potential could extend onto the plains in late Summer, but the Fall is too early to tell how conditions could develop.

Breakdown of the Agriculture Budget

Last week, we did a breakdown of the [Department of the Interior's \(DOI\) FY26 Budget in Brief](#). We'll be continuing to explain the budget and how it impacts federal wildfire services, but this week we wanted to add some context by delving into the [Department of Agriculture's FY26 Budget](#).

Continuing with the Trump Administration's agenda, the Agriculture budget zeros out requests for wildfire services and mitigation efforts, explaining that these programs alongside 11,000 firefighters, 3,000 operational fire support personnel and leadership, and 450 business support personnel would be transferred to the new U.S Wildland Fire Service under the DOI. The Joint Fire Science program would also be relocated to the DOI. In overall comparison, where previous separated budgets combined totaled \$4-5 billion, the new USWFS budget totals roughly \$6.5 billion.

[Media Coverage](#)



The Latest on Capitol Hill

Bill Introduced to Strengthen Forest Health and Reduce Wildfire Risk

Last month, **Congresswoman Kim Schrier, M.D. (WA-08)** introduced the bipartisan, bicameral **National Prescribed Fire Act of 2025**, which would enhance forest health and lower the risk posed by catastrophic wildfires by investing in prescribed fire to manage underbrush. The National Prescribed Fire Act of 2025 would fund and expand the use of prescribed fire across federal, state, and private lands, while requiring agencies to increase the number of acres treated. It also creates workforce development programs, promotes cross-jurisdictional collaboration, and improves coordination with air quality agencies to enable larger, more strategic burns, especially during winter.

[Media Coverage](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Wildland Urban Interface Summit - Prescott, AZ | Oct. 28-30**
- **Southern Blueridge TRENCH - Blueridge NC & SC | Nov. 3-15**

Wildfire in the News

- **NPR** - The White House took down the nation's top climate report. You can still find it [here](#)
- **The Cooldown** - Homeowners scramble as thousands of homes are suddenly deemed uninsurable: 'Unprecedented severity'
- **CNBC** - Homeowner's insurance premium rates in every U.S. state are going up
- **LA Times** - Fireworks warehouse explodes, sets off wildfire in Northern California

About Us

Wildfire Alliance is a coalition of local governments and state entities working with Congress and federal agencies to address the rising threat of wildfires.



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