



# JOINT FIRE SCIENCE PROGRAM

The JFSP provides funding and science delivery for scientific studies associated with managing wildland fire, fuels, and fire-impacted ecosystems to respond to emerging needs of managers, practitioners, and policymakers from local to national levels.

## Research Supporting Sound Decisions

The Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) provides leadership to the fire science community by identifying high-priority fire science research needs that will enhance the decision-making ability of fire and fuels managers, natural resource managers, and others to meet their management objectives. The program also meets the decision needs of those involved in developing and implementing fire-related policy.

The program's breadth of stakeholders has broadened over the years commensurate with its science mandate; however, the JFSP remains focused on actionable science and tangible outcomes that meet the needs of end users.

### JFSP Values

The needs of managers and policymakers guide and frame research questions.

The JFSP emphasizes open solicitation and fair competition.

All research proposals receive an independent peer review to ensure scientific merit, applicability of outcomes, and feasibility of execution.

We share, synthesize, interpret, and demonstrate/validate results to maximize science adoption.

We perform regular self and external evaluations of program activities.

### Opening Pathways to Active Science Delivery

The Fire Science Exchange Network involves active knowledge exchange. The objective is to foster a dialogue in which scientists and managers help frame questions and research needs to address during both planning and execution of research.

The exchange network uses various venues that are convenient for the applicable timeframe, circumstance, or context of the issue. The exchanges interact and communicate through the following methods:

- Field trips and tours
- Demonstration sites
- Workshops and conferences
- Networks of experts
- Webinars and training
- Research syntheses and briefs
- E-newsletters, websites, social media
- Regionally focused databases

Fifteen regional exchanges form the JFSP's Fire Science Exchange Network. The network is a national collaboration that provides the most relevant, current wildland fire science information to stakeholders. The exchanges bring together fire managers, practitioners, and scientists to address common needs and challenges.



## Partnering to Leverage Capacity and Educate the Next Generation

More than 150 colleges and universities have collaborated on and partnered with JFSP-sponsored research projects. For example, each year, the JFSP offers Graduate Research Innovation (GRIN) awards to masters and doctoral students conducting research in fire science. This helps shape the next generation of resource managers and scientists.

The JFSP's collaboration also extends to private and nonprofit organizations, federal agencies, and tribal, state, county, and local governments. In all, nearly 300 organizations have become partners in JFSP-sponsored research.

**“What sets JFSP apart from other fire research funding entities is its emphasis on use-inspired science...The role that JFSP plays in the fire science arena is much larger than its direct funding.”**

JFSP Program Review 2017

## A Unique Role in the Fire Science Community

The JFSP responds to the emerging needs of stakeholders by tailoring timely wildland fire research through an annual cycle of proposal solicitation, review, funding, and science delivery. JFSP research projects complement and extend in-house capacity of other federal fire research programs, including the U.S. Forest Service research stations and the U.S. Geological Survey. Through these partnerships, they can collaboratively mobilize with universities and other affiliates in the fire science community.



## JFSP Governance

The JFSP, through its Governing Board, is chartered by the Fire Executive Council (FEC). The JFSP is jointly funded by the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Forest Service. It is governed by 12 members who represent the above agencies.

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