

Hazardous Fuels Reduction Program

Program Overview

Gallatin County Extension and the Northern Rocky Mountain Resource Conservation & Development (NRM-RC&D) partner to assist landowners with creating a survivable space around their home to reduce the danger from wildland fires. This program also addresses best management practices, forest stewardship, and tree insect and disease issues. The program provides technical assistance for landowners to develop and implement a hazardous fuels mitigation plan or a forest stewardship plan. Through grant funding we are able to provide cost share assistance to landowners who implement the plan. The grant funds assist landowners with paying for fuels reduction and forest health work (clearing, thinning, trimming vegetation). Crystal Hagerman, Natural Resource Program Coordinator, provides direct technical assistance to guide landowners through this process.



The owners of this property located in Trail Creek participated in the program to create a survivable space around their home for better protection from wildland fires.



Bridger Canyon property that has been thinned for wildland fire safety and overall forest health.

The public benefits that this program provides are instrumental to the counties it serves.

- Forestry jobs
- Increase wildland fire safety
- Active land management
- Education and awareness
- Money going back into the pockets of landowners, which in turn can be spent locally

2010 has proven to be a very successful year for the Hazardous Fuels Reduction Program. \$450,600 grant dollars were awarded for work in Park and Gallatin Counties. Areas of focus include the South Bozeman Watershed, Paradise Valley, Bridger Canyon, Trail Creek, and West Yellowstone. Grant funds are currently being sought after to assist Meagher County in the coming year. Program partners include: County Disaster and Emergency Services, Local Fire Departments, MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, U.S. Forest Service and FireSafe Montana. Through interagency partnership the program can effectively collaborate to meet the common goals of public safety, structure protection, active land management, and protecting Montana's valuable natural resources.

Program Successes to Date

- 232 landowner applications submitted
- 202 landowners receive financial assistance
- 734 total acres treated in Park, Gallatin, and Meagher Counties
- \$1,070,000 total grant funds have been received since 2006
- Program has provided \$442,213 to landowners since 2006
- \$310,723 is currently available to assist landowners
- 32 projects in the Cooke City area - Park County
- 7 project in West Boulder - Park County
- 22 projects in the Livingston area - Park County
- 10 projects in Smith Creek - Meagher County
- 51 projects in Big Sky - Gallatin County
- 46 projects in the Bozeman area - Gallatin County
- 22 project in West Yellowstone - Gallatin County
- 12 projects in the White Sulphur Springs Area - Meagher County



Gallatin Park Meagher

Contact

Crystal Hagerman

Natural Resource Program Coord.
Gallatin County Extension
201 W. Madison, Ste. 300
Belgrade, MT 59714

(406) 388-3213
Cell (406) 209-0344
gallatin3@montana.edu

www.gallatinextension.com
www.nrmrcd.org