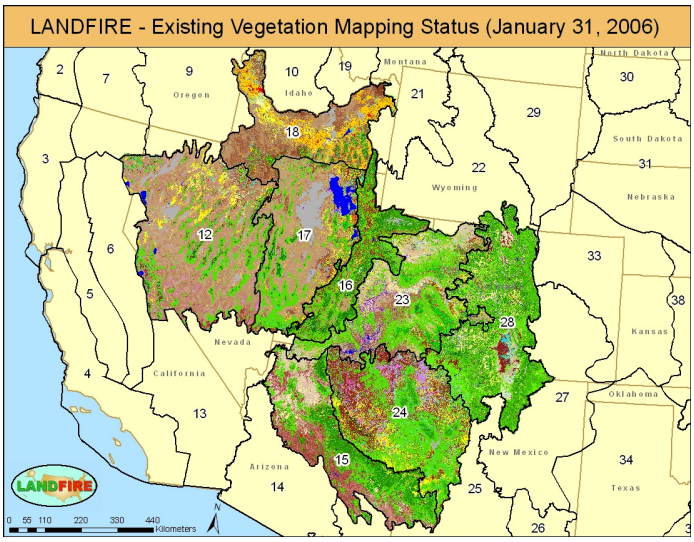
Geography - Geographic Analysis and Monitoring Program

LANDFIRE: Collaboration for National Fire Fuel Assessment

The implementation of national fire management policies, such as the National Fire Plan and the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, requires geospatial data of vegetation types and structure, wildland fuels, fire risks, and ecosystem fire regime conditions. Presently, no such data sets are available that can meet these requirements. As a result, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and the Department of the Interior's land management bureaus (Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and National Park Service (NPS)) have jointly sponsored LANDFIRE, a new research and development project. The primary objective of the project is to develop an integrated and repeatable methodology and produce vegetation, fire, and ecosystem information and predictive models for cost-effective national land management applications. **The project is conducted collaboratively by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the USDA Forest Service, and The Nature Conservancy.**

LANDFIRE will deliver a comprehensive suite of geospatial products, computer models, and utilities for the entire United States, including:

- **Vegetation data:** cover types, canopy cover, canopy height, biophysical settings and vegetation succession models
- **Wildland fuel layers:** fire behavior fuel models, fire effect fuel models, fuel loading models, and canopy fuel layers
- **Ecosystem fire regime conditions:** reference fire regime conditions, current departure from historical references, and fire regime condition class
- **Computer models:** WXBGC (biophysical simulation to produce landscape biophysical gradients) and LANDSUM (landscape fire succession to simulate historical fire regime characteristics)
- **Technology transfer:** community-based technology transfer and application guidance and a series of continuing education courses
- **Data dissemination:** interactive web services, incorporated with *The National Map,* provides access to LANDFIRE products



National delivery of LANDFIRE products will occur incrementally over the next five years, with completion of the western U.S. anticipated by the end of FY 2006, of the eastern U.S. by FY 2008, and Alaska and Hawaii by FY 2009.

For More Information

LANDFIRE Web site: http://www.landfire.gov
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