

"The general fund money in item DP 61 [Appropriation Distribution (09) (Governor's Initiative)] is appropriated with the condition that the item is matched with \$200,000 from funds identified by the board of regents. The office of the commissioner of higher education must certify to the office of budget and program planning that the matching sources have been identified and committed to supporting the Montana Tech economic development resource center."

"The general fund money in item DP 63 [Appropriation Distribution (09) (Governor's Initiative)] is appropriated with the condition that the item is matched with \$250,000 from funds identified by the board of regents. The office of the commissioner of higher education must certify to the office of budget and program planning that the matching sources have been identified and committed for the purpose of increasing the supply of health care workers."

"The general fund money in item DP 51 [Appropriation Distribution (09) (Governor's Initiative)] is appropriated with the condition that the item is matched with \$250,000 from funds identified by the board of regents. The office of the commissioner of higher education must certify to the office of budget and program planning that the matching sources have been identified and committed for the purpose of supporting a distance learning program."

* "The general fund money in item DP 67 [Appropriation Distribution (09) (Governor's Initiative)] is appropriated with the condition that the item is matched with \$159,967 from funds identified by the board of regents. The office of the commissioner of higher education must certify to the office of budget and program planning that the matching sources have been identified and committed for the purpose of supporting an integrated weed management and biotechnology program."

* "The general fund money in item DP 8 [Appropriation Distribution (09) (Governor's Initiative)] is appropriated with the condition that the item is matched with \$16,400 from funds identified by the board of regents. The office of the commissioner of higher education must certify to the office of budget and program planning that the matching sources have been identified and committed for the purpose of supporting a cropping specialist position."

* "The general fund money in item DP 16 [Appropriation Distribution (09) (Governor's Initiative)] is appropriated with the condition that the item is matched with \$32,800 from funds identified by the board of regents. The office of the commissioner of higher education must certify to the office of budget and program planning that the matching sources have been identified and committed for the purpose of supporting a livestock specialist position."

"The general fund money in item DP 68 [Appropriation Distribution (09) (Governor's Initiative)] is appropriated with the condition that the item is matched with \$36,720 from funds identified by the board of regents. The office of the commissioner of higher education must certify to the office of budget and program planning that the matching sources have been identified and committed for the purpose of supporting a technical assistance to small oil and gas operators program."

* "The general fund money in item DP 69 [Appropriation Distribution (09) (Governor's Initiative)] is appropriated with the condition that the item is matched with \$36,720 from funds identified by the board of regents. The office of the commissioner of higher education must certify to the office of budget and program planning that the matching sources have been identified and committed for the purpose of supporting a coal and coal bed-methane technology program."

* "The general fund money in item DP 66 [Appropriation Distribution (09) (Governor's Initiative)] is appropriated with the condition that the item is matched with \$38,259 from funds identified by the board of regents. The office of the commissioner of higher education must certify to the office of budget and program planning that the matching sources have been identified and committed for the purpose of supporting one additional fire services trainer."

Restriction on Shared Leadership Match Funding Appropriation

* denotes the five DP's that were addressed on February 10, 2005

Partner Contributions

Experiments on lands, consulting on industrial practices, logging methods, and wood utilization, field measurements for monitoring effects.

Return on Investment:

- Additional treatments of forests in the wildland urban interface supplies more forestry jobs including woods workers and monitoring specialists
- More opportunities to utilize wood products from Montana's forests, supplying more mill and manufacturing jobs
- More jobs in ancillary areas such as trucking, marketing, and financial services
- Increased safety for wildland firefighters and woods workers
- Reduced fuel levels in forest stands in rural areas will reduce fire suppression costs and increase safety and security in communities.

Selected Examples of Returns:

- Under dry summer conditions, by reducing the level of forest fuels in rural neighborhoods through commercial operations, the investment can be recovered within two years.

Forest and Conservation Experiment Station NP 88

The Montana University System
Strengthening the Montana Economy

PRODUCE HEALTHY RURAL RESIDENTIAL AREAS AND ADDITIONAL JOBS

State Need:

- Many Montana residents have settled on properties in the "wildland-urban interface," the low-elevation dry pine zone that is predisposed to frequent wildfires. This ecological zone will require ongoing vegetation management to sustain forest vigor and reduce the risk of fire damage to residential developments.

Current Problem:

- More and more people are moving into fire-adapted ecosystems. There is a strong public expectation to have their residential investments protected by fire suppression professionals.
- Although the protection of rural housing is closely related to homeowner treatments of the area immediately surrounding buildings ("firewise" treatments that utilize appropriate building materials and reduce fuels in the area within 100' of the house), the structure and composition of forests surrounding residential developments can affect fire behavior as well as other desirable attributes of a forest, such as wildlife habitat and aesthetics. The absence of systematic, science-based silvicultural guidelines for urban-interface forest treatments hinders the application of effective forestry in the urban interface.

Market Reality:

- Real estate values are affected by the condition of forests surrounding residential areas.
- The limited economic returns from the harvest of small diameter trees in the urban interface require operations to be highly efficient and well designed, so that larger, more economically valuable trees will be available in the future.
- Silvicultural treatments in the wildland-urban interface will require extensive cooperation among landowners, foresters, and highly trained timber operators, making interpersonal skills and sensitivities as necessary as technical capabilities.

Proposed Solution: Science-based, "Best Management Silvicultural Practices" in the lands surrounding rural residential developments

- Create a research, monitoring, and training program to evaluate the multiple effects of forest treatments in the wildland-urban interface and the types of treatment approaches most desirable to ex-urban residents.
- Provide economic evaluations of multiple uses of wood products based on the scale of operations, the market opportunities, and the types of forests affected.
- Develop, test, and apply voluntary guidelines to assist timber operators to become more effective in applying silvicultural treatments so that additional jobs are created in the forest.

Required Investment:

- \$175,000 per year to the Montana Forest and Conservation Experiment Station
- \$200,000 biennial investment from industry partners

MFCES Expenditures

Research and Monitoring faculty	\$ 80,000
1 doctoral student	25,000
Training Consultants	20,000
Labor and Operating	50,000
TOTAL	\$175,000