

HB3 TALKING POINTS
On the 2012 Wildfire Season

How did we get to \$50 million, and where was it spent?

- DNRC paid for all or part of 31 large fires:
 - 7.5% of the total number of fires
 - 75% of the total suppression costs
 - 53% (\$19.9M) was spent in 4 counties in southeastern Montana
 - (Musselshell, Powder River, Rosebud, Big Horn)

- Musselshell County alone had 3 large fires that cost DNRC \$6.1 million.

- DNRC responded with engines and/or helicopters on fires in 11 months

- Severity resources added June 23rd until September 28th
 - 98 days total

2012 Fire Suppression Costs

- **ESTIMATES** as of Dec. 31, 2012:
 - Total fire costs: \$59,585,000
 - Less Reimbursements from Federal Agencies (\$9,410,000)
 - **Total state fire costs: \$50,175,000**

- **Actual costs paid to date: \$29,674,000**
 - How has DNRC covered costs paid to date:
 - Reimbursable by Federal Agencies \$3,340,000
 - Governor's Emergency Fund: \$14,165,000
 - Fire Suppression Fund: \$5,189,000
 - Temporary use of DNRC HB2 Budget: \$6,980,000

- **Total request for fire suppression in HB3: \$50,000,000**
 - Used as follows:
 - Reimburse DNRC HB2: \$6,980,000
 - *ESTIMATED* remaining costs to pay: \$23,840,000
 - Replenish Fire Suppression Fund* \$19,180,000

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
May 16, 2013
Exhibit 19

SOURCE: DNRC FIRE PROGRAM