CONFRONTING THE WILDFIRE CRISIS: MILESTONES IN DEVELOPING A STRATEGY

2000 • NATIONAL FIRE PLAN
A national plan was created with five goals, including reducing hazardous fuels on the Nation’s forests and grasslands.

2001 • 10-YEAR STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
A strategy was adopted for reducing wildfire risk, followed by an implementation plan for preventing and suppressing wildland fires, restoring ecosystems, and helping communities protect themselves from wildfire.

2002

2003 • HEALTHY FORESTS RESTORATION ACT
Congress passed legislation to reduce wildfire risk by adding new categorical exclusions to extend the area of fuels and forest health treatments on Federal lands in the West.

2008

2010 • COLLABORATIVE FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROGRAM
The program has funded more than 20 large-scale projects nationwide with goals to reduce forest health and reduce wildfire risk across shared landscapes.

2012

2014 • NATIONAL COHESIVE WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
A national strategy was adopted with three central goals: restoring fire-adapted ecosystems on a landscape scale, building fire-adapted human communities, and responding safely and effectively to wildland fire.

2018 • OMNIBUS BILL/“CASE FOR CHANGE”
Due to rising wildfire risk, Congress asked the Trump administration to “review and update the National Fire Plan, as needed.” In response, the Forest Service launched “The Case for Change,” which led to creation of a year-round workforce for wildfire response.

2020 • “THOUGHT PIECE”
At the request of Congress, the Forest Service delivered a “thought piece” paper on how to greatly scale up fuels treatments and the projected costs of doing so.

2021 • LEAD EXECUTIVE NAMED
Chief Randy Moore named Brian Ferebee to lead a team that will operationalize the 10-year strategy, if funded.

2022 • STRATEGY LAUNCHED
Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced launch of Confronting the Wildfire Crisis: A Strategy for Protecting Communities and Improving Resilience in America’s Forests.