



Economic Concerns

Wildland fire management activities can have both positive and negative economic impacts on local communities and individuals. Federal agencies try to keep negative impacts to a minimum, while also fulfilling their mandates to protect our public and private lands from unwanted wildland fires by using a variety of fire management options.

Economic Effects of Wildland Fire Management Activities

Positive Impacts

- ◆ Increased revenue from fire management operations
- ◆ Increased visitor revenue from people wanting to view the fire's effects
- ◆ Improved fire safety for local residents
- ◆ Reduced risk of catastrophic wildfires
- ◆ Healthy ecosystem for future generations

Negative Impacts (usually only short-term)

- ◆ Loss of tourism revenue
- ◆ Impaired visibility from smoke
- ◆ Loss of aesthetics
- ◆ Temporary road and trail closures
- ◆ Health care concerns from smoke

Mitigation Measures to Reduce Negative Impacts

- ◆ Notify local residents of planned prescribed burns before ignition and stress that the park will remain open.
- ◆ Conduct prescribed burns when weather conditions allow for adequate smoke dispersal.
- ◆ Conduct local meetings to educate and inform residents about proposed fire management activities and their objectives.
- ◆ Work cooperatively with other local agencies to coordinate fire management activities.
- ◆ Develop trust between local communities and the National Park Service by making compromises through public input to minimize negative impacts.

