

**FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - SUMMARY OF ISSUES
ARIZONA STATE FORESTRY DIVISION**

GENERAL FUND

FY 2010 General Fund Budget 3,460,600

AGENCY REDUCTION TARGET - General Fund Reduction \$519,100

Priority	Issue Title¹	Reductions Amount
1	Eliminate Inmate Wildland Fire Crews	\$444,923
2	Reduce Fleet Maintenance	\$25,517
3	Eliminate Firefighter Safety & Qualification Program	\$36,713
4	Eliminate Wildland Firefighting Aviation Officer	\$33,933
	Issue Total	\$541,086
	Fund Total as a Percentage of General Fund Reduction Target	104%

¹ Please complete the attached Description and Impact Statement for each issue.

**FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - SUMMARY OF ISSUES
ARIZONA STATE FORESTRY DIVISION**

ALL NON-GENERAL FUNDS

FY 2010 All Non-General Funds Budget (less Federal Funds) **25,465,400**

AGENCY REDUCTION TARGET - ALL NON-GENERAL FUNDS (w/o Federal Funds) \$3,143,900

Fund	Reductions Amount	Percent Reductions
Fire Suppression Fund	\$3,143,900	100%
Issue Total	\$3,143,900	
All Non-General Funds Total as a Percentage of Agency Non-GF Reduction Target		100%

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**FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - SUMMARY OF ISSUES
ARIZONA STATE FORESTRY DIVISION**

FIRE SUPPRESSION FUND

FY 2010 - NON-GENERAL FUNDS BUDGET (W/Fed Fire Fund) 25,465,400

AGENCY REDUCTION TARGET - Non-General Funds (with Federal Fire Funds) \$3,143,900

Priority	Issue Title¹	Reductions Amount
5	Non-Payment of Fire Bills	\$3,143,900
	Issue Total	\$3,143,900

Fund Total as a Percentage of Non-General Fund Reduction Target 100%

¹ Please complete the attached Description and Impact Statement for each issue.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Arizona State Forestry Division

Issue Title: Eliminate Inmate Wildland Fire Crews

Issue Priority: 1

Reduction Amounts:

General Fund: \$444,923

Total: \$444,923

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

Inmate Wildland Fire Crews (Type 2) are the state's primary workforce for wildfire suppression and hazardous fuels reduction. Eliminate 12 FTE's.

- These crews are a key component of State Forestry's wildland firefighting and mitigation against wildfire - fuels treatment reduction programs on state and private lands;
- State Forestry's wildland firefighting capacity will shift from pro-active response to nominal response. The loss of this first-line-of-defense and the resulting pro-active vs. nominal response operational ability will result in larger fires and higher suppression costs. There will also be greater property, infrastructure and natural resource loss, potentially greater loss of life, and more injuries. There will be a reduction of some Federal funding to the State of Arizona for fuels reduction projects on state and private lands as these crews are a major workforce in fuels mitigation work;
- The Inmate Wildland Fire Crew program could be shifted to total self-funding. Rates charged to communities, homeowners associations, agencies and local governments presently for fuels projects would have to be raised. Most of those projects are funded through Federal grants;
- The Inmate Wildland Fire Crew Program is organizationally assigned to Districts/District Foresters;
- ARS 37-622 requires the State Forester to accomplish forestry programs which support the prevention and suppression of wildfires on 22 million acres of state and private land

**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Arizona State Forestry Division

Issue Title: Reduce Fleet Maintenance

Issue Priority: 2

Reduction Amounts:

General Fund: \$25,517

Total: \$25,517

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

The Fleet Maintenance Program manages the agency's emergency response vehicles statewide on a daily basis and keeps response vehicles operational 24/7 during wildfire season. The Maintenance Section also provides critical wildfire response equipment to rural fire districts through the Federal Excess Property Program (FEPP). This program provides excess federal firefighting apparatus at no-cost to the state. The state's contribution is staffing in support of the program for rural fire departments, which are the backbone of State Forestry's fire suppression program. Several of the newer rural fire departments got their start as a result of equipment received from the state through FEPP program. State Forestry has provided approximately 150 fire trucks to rural fire departments.

- One of three staff members certified to provide maintenance on emergency response vehicles/equipment
- Reduction in efficiency and potential delay in ability to maintain wildfire response vehicles. Because the maintenance shop is being managed at a minimum level presently, may force agency to cease participation in Federal Excess Property Program - a program many rural fire departments depend upon.
- None available
- Fire Management Section
- ARS 37-622 requires the State Forester to accomplish forestry programs which support the prevention and suppression of wildfires on 22 million acres of state and private land

**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Arizona State Forestry Division

Issue Title: Eliminate Wildfire Safety and Qualification Program

Issue Priority: 3

Reduction Amounts:

General Fund: \$36,713

Total: \$36,713

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

This position manages the wildland firefighter safety and qualification program for the entire state, including agency responders as well as State Forestry's 250 cooperators – rural fire departments. This program is necessary to ensure wildland firefighters have appropriate training and qualifications to perform safe firefighting operations. Serves as agency's Public Information Officer for wildland fire information and as the agency Safety Officer

- Maintaining qualifications and issuing certifications for the state of Arizona's wildfire responders
- Less qualified responders will result in larger and more expensive fires, risk of injury and death to firefighters, and property loss.
- The 250 rural fire district cooperators would have to pay full cost for training and issuance of certification (many of these districts are have limited financial resources);
- Fire Management Section; and
- ARS 37-622 requires the State Forester to accomplish forestry programs which support the prevention and suppression of wildfires on 22 million acres of state and private land

**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Arizona State Forestry Division

Issue Title: Eliminate Wildland Firefighting Aviation Officer

Issue Priority: 4

Reduction Amounts:

General Fund: \$33,933

Total: \$33,933

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

Elimination of the state aviation officer position.

- Responsible for the safety, coordination and contracting of tactical wildland firefighting aircraft. Maintains and develops statewide airtanker re-fill bases for rapid aircraft response to emerging wildfires. Coordinates with military flight service and the Federal Aviation Administration to maintain safe airspace over wildfires. Trains DPS and Arizona National Guard helicopter pilots in wildland firefighting operations. Oversees the state wildfire dispatch operation and Type 2 Incident Management Team. State liaison with Arizona Division of Emergency Management for statewide emergency response and movement of state and national emergency response resources
- Substantial reduction in aviation resources for suppression of wildfires in the state. In Arizona, air attack is sometimes the only viable option for reaching or fighting a fire. Would require State Forestry to depend on Federal resources if and when they would be available to us. Would likely eliminate Type 2 Incident Management Team and critical coordination with the Arizona Division of Emergency Management;
- None;
- Fire Management Section; and
- ARS 37-622 requires the State Forester to accomplish forestry programs which support the prevention and suppression of wildfires on 22 million acres of state and private land

**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Arizona State Forestry Division

Issue Title: Non-payment of Fire Bills

Issue Priority: 5

Reduction Amounts:

Fire Suppression Fund: \$3,143,900

Total: \$3,143,900

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

There are Federal, state and local jurisdictional responsibilities for wildfires in the state of Arizona yet wildfires know no jurisdictional boundaries. No one fire agency has sufficient resources to respond to all wildfires within their jurisdiction. State Forestry calls on local and Federal firefighting resources to respond to wildfires for which we have responsibility and we must reimburse them for their services.

- Federal and local wildfire resources have already been provided in the past, for which the state owes approximately \$5.5 million. This is for services rendered from federal and local wildfire agencies on state jurisdiction over the past five years. We would not be able to reimburse \$3.14 million of the money we currently owe to federal and local agencies;
- Fire districts will have severe economic impacts and could stop responding to the state's request for assistance. Federal agencies, particularly the Office of Aviation Safety, will limit or stop responding to the state's request for assistance. The US Forest Service will hold our federal grants for cooperative forestry programs in lieu of payment of fire suppression services rendered. The National Treasury may offset federal payments to other state agencies. Without fire suppression assistance from other agencies, wildfires will be bigger, cost more, with greater losses;
- Create an assessment for wildland fire protection services to state and private land owners;
- Office of the State Forester/Fire Management Section;
- ARS 37-622 requires the State Forester to accomplish forestry programs which support the prevention and suppression of wildfires on 22 million acres of state and private land; ARS 37-623.02.E.1 requires that, within 30 days after receiving a complete and correct claim for wildland fire suppression services, the State Forester shall pay the claim from available monies that have not been committed to the payment of other wildfire expenses.

October 9, 2009