



WASHINGTON

Land Management & Extraction - Wildlife Funding & Forest Management

Washington, California, and Oregon are three of the West's most fire-prone states, and thus their [governors applauded](#)⁶⁷ an executive order from President Trump that focuses on removing trees and brush from federal lands to curb catastrophic wildfire activity. However, the governors also questioned the ability of the order to accomplish anything due to the lack of structure and funding. The order instead seems a symbolic gesture of support for the states without any concrete action to assist with wildfire mitigation, suppression, and impacts.

Washington has seen an increase in wildfire activity in recent years, particularly on the state's more temperate west side. This is concerning to state officials, especially as President Trump

has yet to admit that climate change is a major contributing factor to increased catastrophic wildfire. To further highlight President Trump's lack of substantial action on wildfire funding, he proposed a decrease of \$3.6 billion in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 [budget](#)⁶⁸, despite his executive order supporting forest management.

This disjointed approach to wildfire policy and funding does not allow states the security they need when planning for wildfire season. With variable winter snowpacks and increased temperatures becoming the norm, it is even harder for managers and communities to know what to expect, and how to plan and tackle wildfire season.