

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Fire Activity Report



2000



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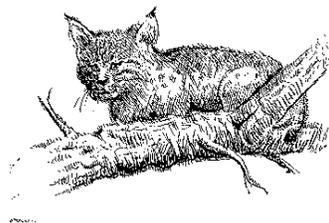
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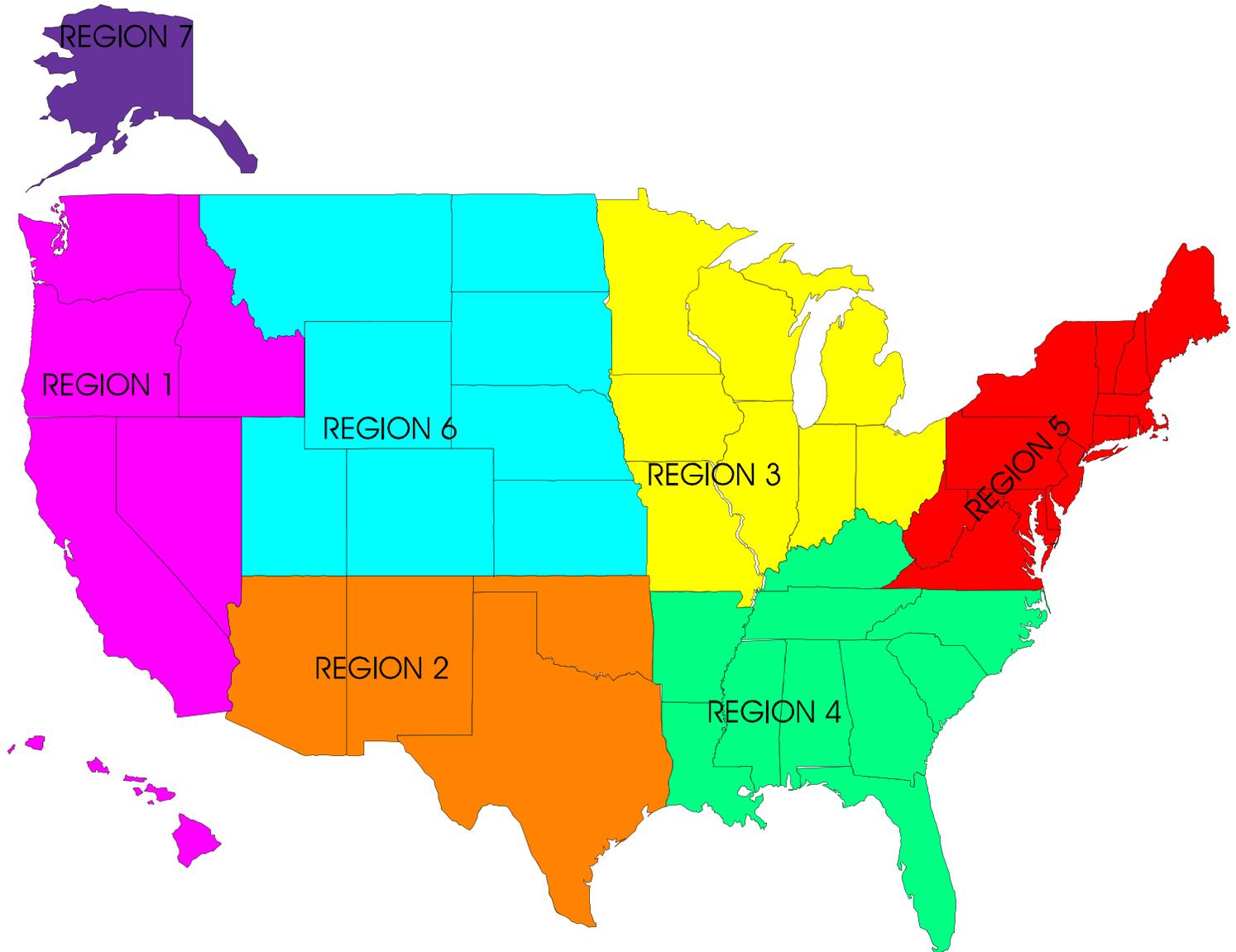
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U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE Regional Map



NATIONAL

Fire season 2000 was very active, with an above average number of wildland fires and acreage burned. Mobilization of firefighting resources started early in the year. As in 1999, the La Nina weather feature influenced fire activity with drier than normal conditions along the southern tier of States and wetter conditions in the Northwest. The year was also above average in terms of temperature. February mean temperatures across the country were the third highest ever recorded, and May was the second warmest. Warm temperatures, coupled with extensive areas suffering from drought, set the stage for large fires in the Southern, Southwest, Rocky Mountain, Great Basin, and Northern Rockies Geographic Areas.

January through March saw an upper level ridge of high pressure over the country from the Rockies to the East Coast, extending into the Southeast and Southwest. This caused warmer and drier than normal conditions. By mid-February, large grass fires (60,000 acres in size) were being experienced in the Southwest and moderate initial attack activity was being experienced in the Southern, Southwest, and Southern California areas. A Type 1 Incident Management Team was assigned to a fire in Louisiana in early March.

Cooler temperatures returned to the Southern Area by early April, caused by storm-producing troughs occurring in the East. A high pressure ridge dominated the West, causing warmer than normal temperatures. Precipitation amounts were near the long-term mean. Early April saw an increase in fire activity from the Mississippi River westward. The Southeast continued to have fire activity also.

May saw an upper-level ridge that produced warmer than normal temperatures over most of the country. Significant fire activity began in Florida early in the month and by mid-month, the Southwest and Eastern Geographic Areas were reporting large fire activity. During the last half of the month, the Rocky Mountain, Great Basin, and Southern California areas were reporting large fire activity.

June weather patterns continued to be warmer and drier than normal in the West and Atlantic coast areas. The central part of the country had some cooler conditions along with significant rainfall in the Ohio Valley, some mid-Atlantic, and mid-Mississippi Valley regions. A short monsoon set in over the Southwest and produced a wetter than normal condition. Generally, drought indicators lessened somewhat from May conditions. However, prior to the slight lessening, the drought area coverage was the worst since the late 1980s, with extreme drought conditions persisting in much of the country.

July and August saw a dominant high pressure ridge over the West. Precipitation was below normal in the Southwest, intermountain West, and portions of the South. Precipitation was being received in portions of the Great Basin and the Southeast by mid-August.

Fire activity continued to grow throughout the period. By mid-July, the interagency fire community was in Preparedness Level V, and by the end of July there were 48 large fires. The first military battalion was mobilized to the Burgdorf Incident in Idaho. In the Northern Rockies, a dry lightning storm moved through the Bitterroot Valley

of Montana and northward. This storm started 70 to 100 fires a day. By the end of the month, 98 large fires were reported. There were six Area Command Teams, six military battalions, 30,000 firefighters and support personnel; personnel and equipment from Canada, New Zealand, and Australia, and National Guard Mobile Airborne Fire Fighting aircraft mobilized to fight these fires.

During September, a high pressure ridge over the mid-continent brought warmer and drier than normal weather to the Great Plains, Texas, and westward to the Great Basin. Other parts of the country were seeing increased precipitation. By the end of the month, all military and international support had been demobilized. Firefighters were making good progress on all of the fires.

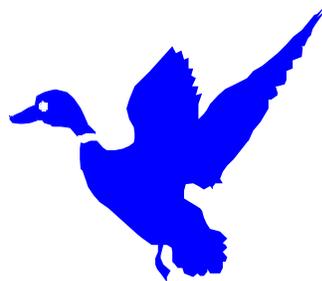
October saw warm, dry conditions continue in the Southern Area with fire activity in Texas and Oklahoma, and by mid-month the Eastern Area mobilized resources to Minnesota.

November saw high fire danger and numerous large fires in South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky. By the second week of the month, a cold front

passed through a portion of the area and helped firefighters reach containment goals on most fires and lower fire danger. By the end of the month, large fire activity was seen in Southern California, and portions of the Eastern and Southern Areas. No significant problems meeting containment objectives were encountered. In general, November saw much below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation.

December saw extremely cold temperatures in the southern regions. Drought conditions were offset in Texas and the Gulf States with above normal rainfall. While precipitation amounts were normal to above normal in the central and eastern United States, the West and Northwest recorded the fourth driest November-December on record. December began the initial attack period for the Eastern and Southern Areas.

The Service and its interagency fire community cooperators have put a great deal of effort into the message that “firefighter safety is always first.” This has been the basis of many training efforts for supervisors and firefighters alike. Clearly, those efforts could be seen during the 2000 fire season. The Service’s safety record this fire season was exemplary. The only known injuries were minor scrapes and bruises.



REGION



The year 2000 was a banner year in many respects, but a disappointing time in others. The year started off normal enough, but escalated from May into October. The Cerro Grande Fire put a major focus on fire management in the spring and as wildland fires increased in number and intensity, it became a major political football in the West. The sheer volume of fire activity taxed firefighting forces to their maximum. With the visit of the President to Idaho to see first hand what was taking place, the table was set for the fire appropriations add-on that was to follow.

Some of the disappointments experienced in Region 1 were due to a variety of factors. Cerro Grande put a moratorium on prescribed fire activity for around a month. The prolonged drought and severity of the fire season also impacted the burn program. Preparedness Level V, low live fuel moisture in major components of our proposed prescribed burns and air quality concerns continue to hamper completion of burn projects, especially in California and western Oregon.

Planning

The Director's memorandum stating that ALL Fire Management Plans (FMP) must be completed by September 30, 2001, or lose the opportunity to expend prescribed fire funds has had a major impact on Region 1. We are in the process of reviewing existing plans, standardizing our FMP format for all plans and moving briskly forward to complete at least all major fire stations by the deadline.

Staffing

The Regional Office had two staffing changes in 2000. Pam Ensley is the new Regional Fire Management Coordinator. She came to us from the Forest Service and

has hit the ground running. She is currently on a National Type 1 Team as an Operations Section Chief.

Amanda McAdams is the new Fire Planner for the Region. Amanda comes to us from the National Park Service and has begun the difficult process of managing our fire plan completion process. She has been traveling extensively in the field and is being well received.

Prescribed Fire

Prescribed fire accomplishments were disappointing in numbers and amount of acreage. Air quality restrictions, weather and national fire activity greatly affected prescribed burning. The Region was able to assist refuges outside the Region in Minnesota, Florida, Mississippi, Texas, and Arizona in their prescribed fire accomplishments. We eagerly expect our program to grow significantly, but safely.

Wildland Fire

The fire season started early and ran through New Years. Crews moved around the country more than ever before. The major incident of the year for Region 1 came on June 27, 2000. The Command 24 Fire (Hanford Fire) was started by a fatal car crash on land managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service, under contract with the Department of Energy. It was and is a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional incident that continues to involve significant media coverage, Congressional interest, and a substantial loss of property and resources. The Service's Region 1 Director requested a national level review of the fire, and is committed to continuing the implementation of all findings and recommendations.

REGION



The 2000 fire season was marked by many non-refuge large fires, which impacted refuge operations. A moderate strength La Nina event produced abnormally warm and dry weather across Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico.

The fire season in the Southwest, the Northern Rockies, and other areas used Region 2 Fish and Wildlife employees on many incidents. The Regional Director issued a request for personnel for wildland fire assignments in August. By the end of the Western fire season, Region 2 had 91 employees participate on wildfire assignments for a total of 3,679 days. The numerous large incidents helped in getting the Service its first Type I Incident Commander, Jeff Whitney. Mark Ruggiero of the South Texas Refuges Complex also made good progress on his Type II IC.

This was the first full year that we had a dispatcher at the Texas Interagency Fire Center. Dean Ross did an excellent job acquiring resources for refuge operations, getting training assignments for FWS personnel, and being knowledgeable with radios and other technology. The FWS is the largest Federal fire agency in the State of Texas, and our agency representation proved invaluable.

The first severity request for the Region was submitted in April for the Lincoln and Gila Zones of Southern New Mexico, the Western Arizona Zone, and the Lufkin Zone in Texas. A second was submitted in May for Fish and Wildlife Refuges in Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico, followed by a 30-day extension for Arizona and New Mexico. Starting

in May, we hosted a New Mexico Fire Prevention Team for 60 days at the Regional Office in Albuquerque. The final 2000 Region 2 severity request was made in August for the Lower Colorado River.

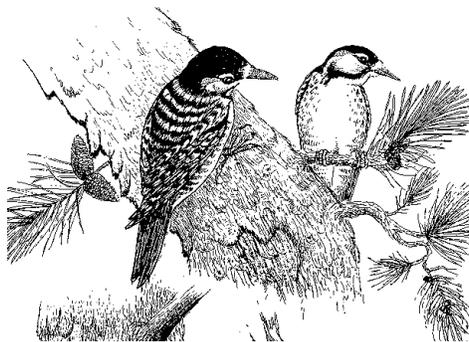
A total of 115 wildland fires burned 37,208 acres on FWS lands during the 2000 fire season. The largest fire on FWS land was the 13,000-acre East of Whites 2 fire at McFadden NWR in Texas. Buenos Aires NWR in Arizona had two 5000+ acre fires with the Gus and City Hall 2 fires. The 4,000-acre Chicken Fire near Nacogdoches, Texas, was finally put to rest by an Incident Management Team led and comprised of mostly FWS personnel.

Prescribed burning took a back seat this year due to fire conditions. The escaped prescribed fire Cerro Grande resulted in a Federal prescribed fire restriction west of the 100th meridian for part of the year. This led to interim prescribed fire guidelines being distributed in June. Although there were restrictions in 2000, the Region was able to have 52 prescribed fires totaling 15,476 acres.

BAER plans were submitted for Imperial NWR for the Ferguson Fire, Bosque del Apache NWR for the Unit 8 fire, and Bitter Lake NWR for the Sandhill fire.

FMO staffing changes in the Region included Butch Wilson stepping in as the Regional Suppression FMO and leaving to replace retired Rees Madsen at Buenos Aires. Jeff Whitney replaced Butch in the RO. Don Geesling moved from FMO at Brazoria to the Interagency AFMO at Lower Colorado River. New

to the Region and taking on FMO positions were Mark Ruggiero at the South Texas Refuges Complex, Mike Hayes at the Texas Mid-Coast Refuges Complex, and Jim Stockie at the Texas Chenier Plains Complex.



REGION



The 2000 fire season has been an active one in Region 3. While it was somewhat average in number of wildfires suppressed and acres burned, it was a good year for fire use. There was a potential for greater acreage and number of prescribed burns that was limited by a burning moratorium for a number of weeks in Minnesota and heavy drawdown of personnel and equipment for national wildland fire suppression response during a significant period of time.

The major activity of the season revolved around the national fire emergency. The Fish and Wildlife Service responded to resource requests in a greater degree than ever before. There were 62 Service personnel who accepted at least one 14-day assignment, and many of those accepted multiple assignments. Altogether, over 100 assignments were taken by Service employees. Many were able to get sign-off of position task books during their assignments.

The Service participated in the first Eastern Area MAC Group ever convened in the Eastern Area. This was a unique situation because the group was brought together to deal with fire resource support outside the Region. Refuge Manager Ron Cole from Big Stone acted for Regional Fire

Management Coordinator Meredith Weltmer during his absence for a short period. It was a good opportunity for a member of the field management staff to gain experience in an emergency management effort. Ron's contribution and willingness to participate in interagency business are greatly appreciated.

A focused effort is being undertaken by the Region to increase the qualification level of Service Fire Technicians. Five have been accepted for the Prescribed Fire Academy at Tallahassee, Florida, and one has been accepted to the Prescribed Fire Training Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The Region has initiated a major reorganization of the fire program with realignment of Zones and recruiting for new personnel. Tom Zellmer will be moving from Agassiz NWR near Thief River Falls to Leopold Wetland Management District in central Wisconsin. Five new prescribed fire specialists will be hired, with three of them at Minnesota field stations. Full performance level for these positions will require Incident Commander Type IV and Burn Boss II or higher qualification. They will be located at Detroit Lakes WMD, Fergus Falls WMD, and Morris WMD. In addition, a new position will be added to the Regional Office fire staff to facilitate the growth of the fire program.



REGION



Region 4 had 217 wildland fires covering 14,799 agency acres in 2000. St. Marks NWR had the largest amount of acres burned in the least amount of fires - 5 fires totaling 12,198.9 acres.

In spite of the wildfires, there were 288 prescribed fires conducted involving 75,709 agency acres. This area is about 55.1% of the 2000 planned acreage. The primary reason for not completing the 2000 planned acreage was due to the severity of the drought in the Region 4 area and the length of the area's fire season, including the severity and length of other Regions' fire activity.

The fire season began at the end of January, and by Thanksgiving there were still detailers working in the Coordination Center. Refuge firefighters worked on refuge and interagency fires in the geographical area until November. The actions in the geographical area gaining the most press were in Texas and Oklahoma.

Drought conditions were very high to extreme in most of the Region. As of September, drought indices in Mississippi and Louisiana were running in the 700-800's, compared to a norm of around 300. The eastern coastal areas are still in drought conditions because they did not receive normal precipitation, as did some of the other States in Region 4.

Assistance was provided on 61 different fires by local units, in addition to supporting fires in the Southwest and Western States. Positions provided ranged from Air Tanker Base Manager to helicopter managers and crew members, to Strike Team Leaders, Type I Operations Branch Director, trainee to Division Supervisor, to engine operators

with equipment and firefighters.

Region 4 supplied approximately 100 individuals, who filled approximately 35 incident assignment requests. Region 4 also provided numerous pieces of equipment to these incidents.

The Geographic Area was at Preparedness Level IV for 39 days and Preparedness Level V for 9 days. During this time, burning bans were placed on the Region, agency and Statewide. Burning bans were also issued by the Secretary of the Interior due to the fires in the Southwest. Burning bans were also placed while the National Preparedness Level was V. The National Coordination Center combines their Preparedness Levels IV and V together. For the year 2000, nationally there was a total of 53 days combined, which is the most days at those levels since 1990.

Five refuges in Region 4 received severity funding in 2000. These were Okefenokee, Merritt Island, Lake Woodruff, SE Louisiana Refuges, and Mississippi Sandhill Crane. St. Marks and Lower Suwanee were under severity conditions, but were supported by the Forest Service.

John Fort retired as Director of the Prescribed Fire Training Center in December, leaving that position open at this time. There are two vacant FMO positions at Merritt Island and Savannah Coastal.

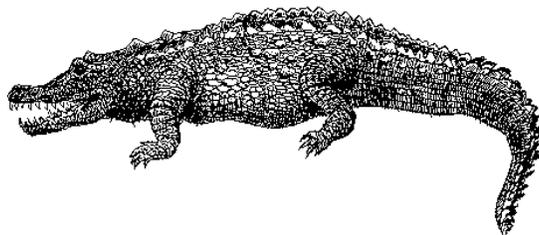
Lynne Howard came to Region 4 as the Assistant Regional Fire Management Coordinator. She came from the Forest Service in Florida. Lynne was the Assistant FWS Coordinator for the Coordination Center for 6 years; she then went to the Forest Service as FMO at the Ocala. We are

very happy to have Lynne join us again.

Pat Boucher joined us in January 2000 as Assistant FWS Area Coordinator at the Coordination Center. Pat came from the Northeast Regional Park Service office in Philadelphia. Her position there was Northeast Fire and Aviation Program Coordinator, which she held for 6 years before transferring to FWS. Pat detailed to the Coordination Center on many occasions; she is very willing to help and do a good job for all.

Margaret Hale-Quarles also joined us this year as secretary for the Regional Fire and Law Enforcement Branch. Margaret came to us from Department of Defense.

Four of our seven FMOs are now on our Type I or II teams. We also have four individuals on the trainee list for the teams.



REGION



Moist conditions in the Northeast kept wildfire activity to a minimum in the year 2000, but also limited the amount of prescribed burning accomplished. For the Region as a whole, the number of prescribed burns accomplished remained about the same as in 1999, but total refuge acres treated with prescribed fire declined by 35% from 1999 levels.

Blackwater NWR responded to several fires within the County at the request of Dorchester Fire Control due to the unavailability of Maryland Forest Service personnel and equipment. Refuge staff responded to a total of 9 wildfires during the year, totaling 119 acres burned. The majority of these acres were marsh, and the appropriate management response was surveillance with direct or indirect attack used to protect occasional structures.

The big story of 2000 was the western fire season, and a record number of individuals from Region 5 participated in suppression or severity details to the western States. Two people from refuges in New Jersey and Maine helped fill out engine crews at Mid-Columbia NWR in Pasco, Washington. Firefighters from Sunhaze Meadows NWR in Maine pulled two severity/initial attack assignments to Arizona on the Coconino National Forest. As the fire season progressed through the Great Basin area, one firefighter from Rachel Carson NWR went out as Crew Boss on five separate assignments. By August, Service employees from the Northeast were fully involved with assistance. Rick Vollick, Fire Management Officer for New England refuges, took two engines for 28 days to western Montana staffed by Service and National Park Service employees from Acadia National Park. Cape Cod National Seashore sent at least seven interagency crews out, with Service

representation on each crew. Additional staff from refuges in Virginia and Maryland served as Squad Boss, Crew Boss, or FFT2 on four separate interagency crews mobilized through the Virginia Coordination Center. Blackwater NWR sent a Type 6 engine and 3-person crew on a severity detail to Columbia NWR in Othello, Washington, during the month of August. Great Dismal Swamp FMO Gary Kemp had a Division Supervisor trainee assignment at Shenandoah National Park in November.

Personnel issues seemed to be particularly challenging in 2000, and affected the ability of some refuges to accomplish burn targets. It was very difficult to find temporary help for Moosehorn NWR, which resulted in a huge curtailment to that Refuge's burn program. Great Dismal Swamp NWR remained without a Fire Management Officer until August, when Gary Kemp reported for duty from Mid-Columbia NWR in Washington. A permanent full-time administrative/dispatcher position at Blackwater NWR was hired but after one day at work the selected individual resigned, requiring that the hiring process be restarted. The transfer of a term position assigned to Blackwater required that the position be advertised and by the end of the year, it was still not filled. The new Prescribed Fire Specialist position at Walkill River NWR remained vacant longer than expected, but by the close of 2000 a selection had been made and the offer of employment accepted.

Fire Management Plans completed and approved in 2000 included Blackwater and Chincoteague NWRs. Several others have been submitted in draft form and await RFMC review, and nine are in progress. A site visit by FMO Vollick and RFMC Carter to the new 24,000-acre Nulhegan NWR in

Vermont identified a need for an interim Fire Management Plan. The refuge has several private inholdings and over 60 camps in a heavily forested setting.

Many individuals in the Region received fire training, including refresher training. FMO Vollick was particularly active as an instructor at several Service sponsored or interagency training sessions including S-130/190 at Ninigret NWR in March; S-130/190 with the White Mountain National Forest in Maine; S-131/290 at NCTC; PFPI in Savannah, Georgia; refresher sessions at six refuges; and lead instructor for S-290, S-390, and S-234 at the Maine Ranger Academy. Vollick also received instructor hand-off National Fire Danger Rating System training at NARTC and Mentor/Mentee training at NCTC.

Interagency cooperation remains a keystone of the Region 5 fire management program. Blackwater NWR continued to foster relations with local and State fire agencies in Maryland through cooperative training efforts, public outreach, and suppression/prescribed burn coordination. Vollick attended preliminary meetings with the Northeast Forest Fire Compact members to establish a sub-regional interagency dispatch center for New England proposed for Augusta, Maine. Kemp represented the Service at the Virginia Multi-agency Coordinating Group (VMAC) meetings. RFMC Carter served as FWS representative to the Joint Fire Science Program.

FTS stations at Great Dismal Swamp NWR and Sunhaze Meadows NWR were upgraded with satellite telemetry, and are now fully operational RAWS stations.

The arrival of Laura Mitchell as Regional Fire Ecologist was a welcome addition to the Region 5 fire program. Laura formerly worked for Ecological Services in the Chesapeake Bay Field Office, and was responsible for coordinating the Service's partners and private lands restoration programs before taking a leave of absence to study for her Master's degree at Cornell University. Laura became interested in the use of fire as a management tool in the course of her private lands work. While at Cornell, she studied the effectiveness of fire as a grasslands maintenance tool under varying seasons and combinations with mechanical treatment. She began work as a Region 5 Refuges and Wildlife employee in May under the supervision of the RFMC. Since then, Laura has been involved in numerous projects including writing drafts or providing assistance to Fire Management Plan efforts at seven refuges to date; assisting on refuge burn crews; conducting literature searches for refuge planning and management efforts; coordinating, writing, and submitting grant proposals for fire research studies on refuges; assisting refuges in developing fire effects monitoring plans and in some cases collecting data for refuges; and providing technical fire assistance to cooperating tribes, State, and other Federal agencies on request.



REGION



The Region's prescribed fire program started off at a steady pace; however, the program came to an abrupt standstill due to the moratorium that was placed on prescribed burning after the Los Alamos incident. In addition, the severity level of the western States cut the prescribed fire burning season short. Despite these factors, Region 6 burned 42,965 acres in 2000, which is up from the 41,361 burned in 1999. The 42,965 acres were accomplished by completing 286 prescribed burns.

2000 was marked by the unprecedented wildfire season. Numerous Region 6 employees went above and beyond by providing assistance to the wildfire suppression efforts in the western States. Twenty-nine field stations supported suppression efforts this year. A total of 262 Region 6 employees stepped forward to assist with suppression duties. Ninety-eight of these employees were fire funded, with fire suppression being their primary duty. The remaining 164 employees were non-fire funded individuals. These employees set aside their duties in other Departmental programs to help fill the need for qualified firefighters. In addition, Regional Office staff played a large role in the wildfire activities of 2000. RFMC Phil Street served as a MAC Group member for the Northern Rockies and Rocky Mountain Geographic Areas. Phil spent a large part of the fire season filling this role. During Phil's absence, Jim Kelton filled the role of acting RFMC and Rocky Mountain MAC Group representative. RFPA Angie Braun detailed to the North Dakota Dispatch Center and assisted with interagency dispatches to the Northern Rockies.

The Region continues to complete and finalize all Fire Management Plans. To date 29 Fire Management Plans have been

completed and approved. Five plans are currently awaiting signature, and five are still in the development stage. The Region will have this process entirely completed by September 2001.

The annual spring FMO meeting was held this year in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. Attendance continues to increase as our fire staff continues to grow. Guest speakers who contributed to the success of the meeting were Rick Hafenfeld and Roger Erb. The fall Regional Office fire staff meeting was held in Estes Park, Colorado. Attendees included Zone FMOs and the Regional Office fire staff.

MT/WY/UT Zone

The prescribed fire season was limited this year due to high fire danger conditions experienced within the Zone. Nevertheless, prescribed burning acres were increased this year with a total of 23 fires ignited for 4,544 acres, approximately doubling the acres burned in 1999.

Refuges within the Zone were extremely busy with wildfire suppression duties this year. Western Montana and Wyoming experienced the majority of the wildfire activity; however, Central and Eastern Montana also experienced fire dangers that were very high to extreme. The Zone had a total 30 wildfires burning 2,238 acres. This is a little higher than in an average fire season. Approximately half the wildfires occurred within Charles M. Russell NWR (16 fires, 1,745 acres). Charles M. Russell NWR, National Bison Range, National Elk Refuge, and Red Rocks Lake NWR hosted several groups of detailers from other Zones. The detailers were utilized for initial attack at the refuges and surrounding area. In addition, many refuges within the Zone

provided support to interagency fire suppression efforts throughout western Montana and Idaho. Both refuge fire and non-fire refuge personnel participated in the suppression efforts. Mike Granger and Steve Nurse rotated duties serving on an Eastern Montana Type II Overhead Team.

Dedicated fire staff were busy throughout the year conducting training for new FWS firefighters. In addition, the fire staff assisted with interagency training sessions. Mike Granger and Steve Nurse both traveled to Florida to support the National Interagency Prescribed Fire Center. Mike instructed classes at the Center, and Steve provided assistance as a burn coordinator in the field.

In October, Charles M. Russell NWR hosted the Regional fire staff for a Fire Management Program Review. It was determined that a full-time station FMO was justified at Charles M. Russell NWR. Mike Granger accepted the reassignment as District FMO for Eastern Montana refuges. The Zone FMO position is currently vacant, but will be filled by February 2001. The new location of the Zone FMO will be Missoula, Montana.

All in all, it was a very productive prescribed fire season and a wild and crazy wildfire season that everyone was more than happy to see end!

ND/SD ZONE

2000 was a hectic year in the fire program in the Dakotas. A total of 141 prescribed burns were conducted totaling 23,087 acres. All projects were fire treatments; there were no mechanical projects in the Zone this year. This represents a 20% reduction in acres treated and a 30% reduction in numbers of burns over 1999 figures (28,763 acres/203 burns). These reductions were the direct result of the moratorium on burning after the Los Alamos incident, and the prolonged period the country was in Preparedness Level

VI due to the severity of the western fire season. These elements combined to shut down the prescribed fire program in the Zone from May 12, when the burn ban went into effect, until October 15, when the National Preparedness Level went below VI. The ND/SD zone typically has a 6- to 7- month burn season. In 2000, four months of the season were shut down. Due to these factors, prescribed fire goals for the Zone were not met; however, given these conditions, Zone fire personnel did an exemplary job conducting the prescribed fire program in 2000 and achieved excellent results.

162 prescribed burn plans covering over 39,320 acres were submitted for review in the Zone in 2000. An additional 180 plans totaling 47,560 acres were sent through the re-review process after the Los Alamos incident.

Zone fire staff managed the North Dakota Interagency Dispatch Center (NDC) during 2000, providing assistance to all North Dakota State and Federal agencies in support of wildfire suppression and prescribed burn operations. This was the first year the NDC functioned as a full Zone Interagency Dispatch Center, working directly with the Northern Rockies Coordination Center.

Operational support provided by the NDC assisted interagency cooperators in conducting and documenting 51 prescribed burns totaling 8,237 acres, and 1,069 wildfires that consumed 72,919 acres in the Zone. The NDC had a record year due to the incredible western fire season, dispatching 838 personnel, 103 engines, 30 initial attack modules, 18 crews and more than 250 overhead during the year. Personnel from North Dakota contributed over 10,100 person days in support of 81 interagency fire incidents in 14 States. This equals roughly one person working 40 hours

per week for 40 years. Overall, this was a 400% increase in business through the NDC from 1999 levels.

298 ND/SD Zone Service employees were dispatched from the NDC in 2000, working 3,523 person days, or roughly 45,700 hours. This equals approximately 22 full-time FTEs of staffing!

Numerous training courses were taught by FWS personnel in the Zone during 2000 including PFPI, S-212, S-260, several S-131 courses, S-130/190, and S-234. Zone refuge and fire staff attended a total of 115 fire-related training courses throughout the year.

The ND/SD Zone has made great strides in training, qualifications and experience over the past year, with many new RXB3s and single resource bosses added to the Zone pool. We also added a significant number of qualified Strike Team Leaders, ICT4s and RXB2s, along with a new Task Force Leader and several Division/Group Supervisor trainees. The enhancement of Zone qualifications and professionalism over the past 3 years has been substantial.

Minor staffing increases occurred during 2000, including the addition of a new FMO position at Huron (Shane Del Grosso) and new Fire Program Technician position at Des Lacs (Doug Downs).

In summation, 2000 was a very productive year in the ND/SD Zone. The Zone continued to improve in fire management operations, interagency cooperation, dispatch support, and overall fire management professionalism. All this was accomplished without serious incident or injury, the real testament to the quality and dedication of our field staff!

CO/KS/NE Zone

2000 started off with the addition of Tim

Klukas as FMO at Fort Niobrara. Tim transferred to Region 6 from Wichita Mountains WR and started in his new position in January, taking over from Jim Kelton, who had transferred to the Regional Office in the fall. Lou Ballard, Zone FMO for Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, and Utah, transferred to the BLM in June, which was a loss for the Service and a gain for the BLM; we will miss his insight and ability to help the refuge programs in the Region!

Prescribed burning in the Zone suffered as the moratorium was imposed. 122 prescribed fires were conducted for a total of 15,334 acres, which is up from the 13,259 acres burned in 1999. Thanks to cooperation with Region 3 and the many detailers from other parts of Region 6, Region 2, and other agencies who helped accomplish these burns. Later in the year, even after the national preparedness levels dropped, drought conditions persisted all the way to eastern Kansas. As a result, many counties imposed burn bans, which restricted the Kansas refuges' plans for late summer and fall burns.

Colorado Smoke management issues were a big topic that required much of Lou's (and later Jim's) time and energy. While the Service is a small player in Colorado fire management, the way the new Colorado law was written has the potential for huge impacts to Federal sovereignty throughout the country and was not something that could be left unchallenged. In between re-reviewing prescribed burn plans and sitting in on MAC Groups, the Regional Office fire staff managed to conduct fire management program reviews of Quivira, Flint Hills, Marais des Cygnes, Arapahoe, and Brown's Park NWRs.

Dry conditions and large fires occurred all over the country this year, and this Zone was no exception. In July the Buster Flats fire - a Type 2 incident - spread across much of

Brown's Park NWR, as well as NPS and BLM land. The Incident Management Team used refuge headquarters as their Incident Command Post, created a helibase nearby, and even did the refuge a favor by disposing of some unexploded ordinance discovered in the process of creating defensible space around refuge structures. Dave Walker from Des Lacs NWR provided invaluable assistance to the Zone as an agency advisor to the refuge.

In September, a widespread lightning storm started numerous fires across South Dakota and Nebraska, including several around Valentine NWR. At least 11 fires were started in or adjacent to Valentine NWR. The Valentine Complex burned 22,587 acres, of which 18,424 acres were on refuge lands - the largest wildfire event on that refuge to date. The Valentine Complex was a Type III

incident largely supported by FWS engine crews from the Dakotas, Kansas, and Nebraska. Other resources came from Colorado, Minnesota, and Wyoming. Fires triggered by the same storm burned approximately 100,000 acres in Nebraska, and led to heated discussions between local, State, the Service, and other Federal agencies on how to improve preparations for fire response in the future.

Refuges in the Zone showed strong support for wildfire assistance, both on Service lands and for other agencies. Fire staff in the Zone were detailed to provide leadership roles at refuges in Montana and Wyoming, and as overhead for fire crews dispatched to other parts of the West. Nearly all refuges contributed people and/or equipment, including some refuges that had never sent anyone out on any fire assignments in the past. Responses by other Service employees were generally positive, and led to many people wondering how they can increase their involvement with fire in the future.



REGION



The 2000 fire season in Alaska began on a somber note when a training fatality occurred with the BLM Alaska Fire Service Smokejumpers. Smokejumpers are a key interagency fire management resource in Alaska. Despite a stand-down of the BLM Smokejumper operation for much of the fire season in Alaska pending results of an investigation into the cause, Alaska smokejumpers were utilized in other capabilities and USFS smokejumpers were utilized to a greater extent than would normally have been the case.

Fire occurrence during 2000 was somewhat below the 10-year average in Alaska. On an interagency basis, 368 wildland fires burned 743,400 acres Statewide. The largest fires occurred in the central portion of interior Alaska. The first refuge fire of the year occurred May 6 on Kodiak NWR, and the last fire of the year occurred on December 27 on Yukon Delta NWR. Twenty-nine fires burned a total of 180,822 acres on 10 National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska, including 2 on Alaska Maritime NWR, 1 on Arctic NWR, 1 on Innoko NWR, 2 on Kanuti NWR, 5 on Kenai NWR, 1 on Kodiak NWR, 5 on Koyukuk NWR, 3 on Nowitna NWR, 7 on Yukon Flats NWR, and 2 on Yukon Delta NWR. All of the fires were managed under the guidance of the Alaska Interagency Fire Management Plan. Of those 29 fires, 2 burned 0.2 acres in Critical Management Option areas, 3 burned 14,662 acres in Full Management Option areas, 5 burned 8,551 acres in Modified Management Option areas, and 19 burned 157,610 acres in Limited Management Option areas. Twenty-one of the fires were lightning caused. The largest fires occurred on Nowitna NWR, where the 3 fires that occurred burned 148,642 acres. No refuge fires required any action above Type 3

management, and all but 9 received periodic surveillance action only.

The most unusual fire in 2000 occurred on Yukon Delta NWR on December 27 and burned 14,661 acres before the year ended. The wind-driven Pastoliak River fire (near the mouth of the Yukon River) occurred in sub-freezing temperatures and exhibited erratic fire behavior, including fire whorls. Normally the area is under snowpack by October, but warm temperatures and limited snowfall left many areas in Alaska snow-free by year's end. Despite threatening bristle-thighed curlew habitat (1,500-2,000 breeding pairs of the 3,500 known to exist worldwide nest in uplands east of the fire on the refuge), no suppression action other than surveillance was taken due to extreme environmental conditions and a lack of initial attack resources. New Year's weekend was a slow time for the news media, and this fire received considerable national coverage.

Prescribed burning was substantially impacted by the moratorium initiated west of the 100th parallel in May and June, and later on by wildland fire activity in the western U.S. One prescribed burn was completed on Yukon Flats NWR for a total of 125 acres. Eleven acres were mechanically treated on Kenai NWR as part of a hazardous fuels reduction project. FWS personnel provided assistance to the State of Alaska in preparations for a prescribed burn they initiated.

FWS personnel from Region 7 substantially participated on fire assignments in 2000. Twenty-five employees spent over 628 days on 47 wildland fire assignments in Alaska, Florida, New Mexico, Arizona, Washington, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Idaho, and

Montana. Incidents ranged from Cerro Grande in May to rehabilitation work at the Valley Complex in October. In addition to individual resource assignments, Region 7 personnel participated on 5 interagency crew assignments. Trainee assignments included ICT4, EQTR, MDUL, RADO, BCMG, and HEB2. Assignments in qualified positions included DIVS, TFLD, HEMG, DECK, FOBS, FFT2, CRWB, DOZB, ENGB FELB, EMT1, MDUL, HECR, PTRC, and EDSD.

FWS personnel from Region 7 participated as instructors in S-130, S-190, Standards for Survival, Fireline Safety, and S-211 courses. Peter Butteri from Tetlin NWR attended a Prescribed Fire Training Center Session in Florida. Yukon Flats NWR FMO Perry Grissom participated on an interagency military training cadre in Texas and California.

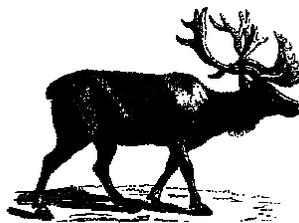
FWS co-sponsored an interagency Fire Monitoring Skills Workshop at Kenai NWR. FWS fire management personnel in Region 7 continued to cooperate on nationally funded research projects that involve Alaska, including Wildland Fire Impacts on Caribou, Fuel Treatment Tradeoff Modeling, and a Natural Fuels Photo Series for Hardwoods. Fire effects poster sessions were presented at the National Fire Ecology and Fire Management Congress, and a Fire Education poster session was presented at the Arctic Science Conference.

Education and outreach continued to be important facets of the Region 7 fire management program. Firewise Community

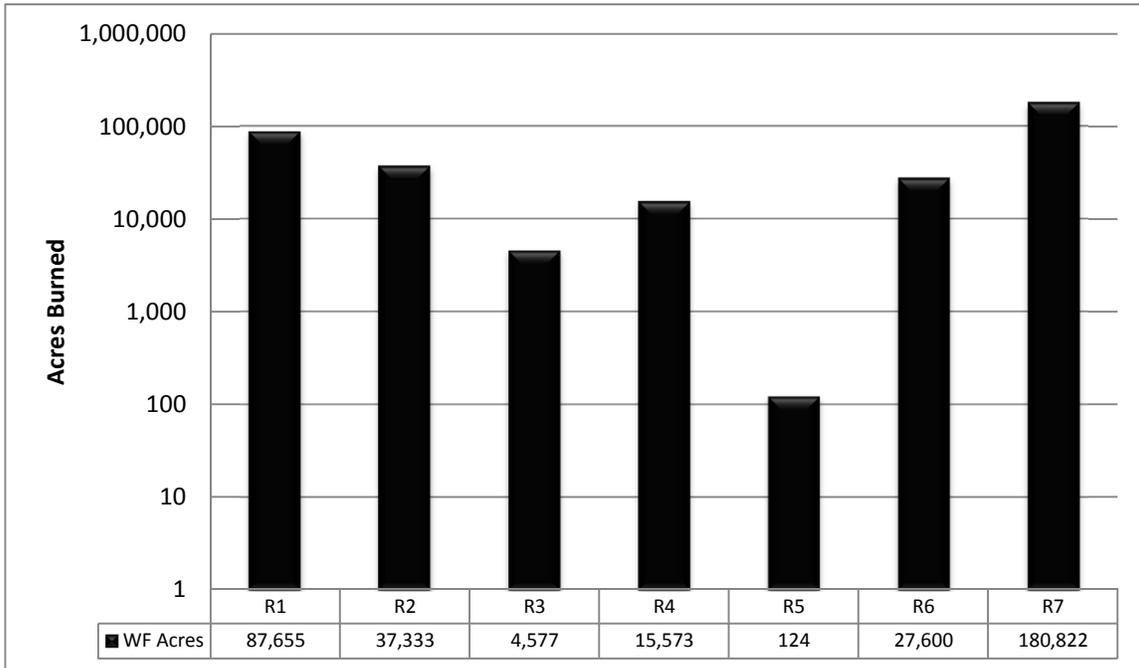
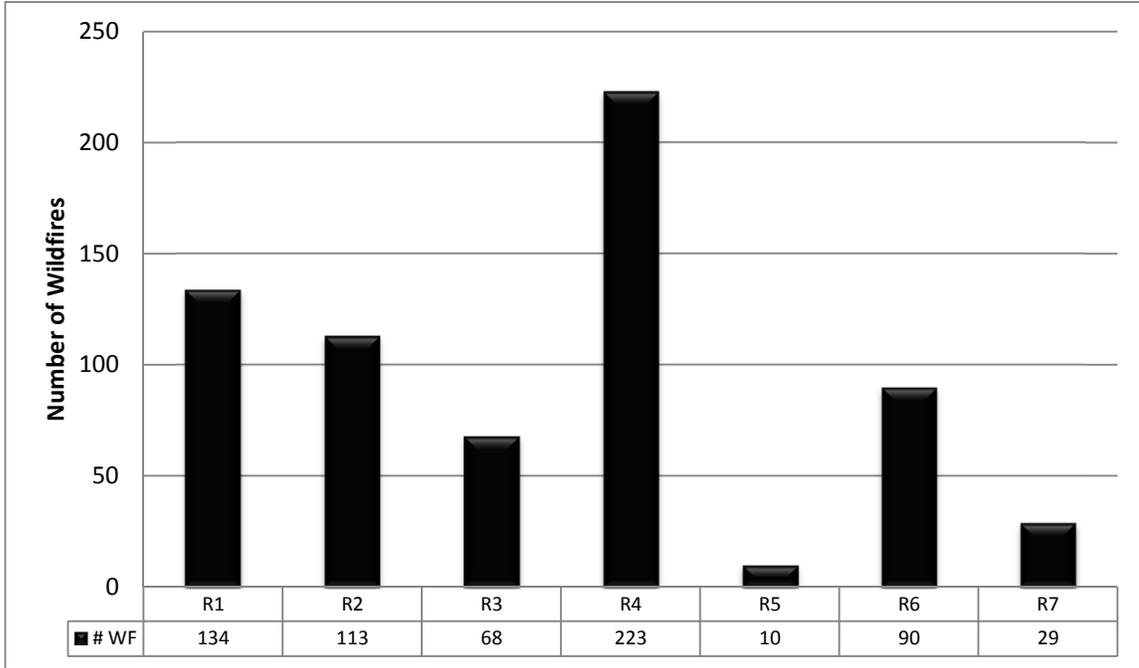
Action Program for Alaska homeowners' packets were distributed at several events. Kenai FMO Doug Newbould organized a Project Impact cooperative hazardous fuels mitigation project with the Alaska Military Youth Academy. Kenai NWR staff also participated in a Neighborhood Firewise Demonstration Project. Fire prevention and fire history themes were incorporated into campground chat programs by Rangers and other refuge staff at Kenai NWR. Role of fire education topics were incorporated into numerous outreach efforts including a Habitat Camp and Prescott College canoe tour through a fire site by Tetlin NWR, and Science Camps by Koyukuk and Innoko NWRs. Staffs at Kenai, Yukon Flats, Koyukuk, and Tetlin NWRs incorporated fire effects and fire management topics into presentations at local school programs.

FWS personnel from Region 7 participated on national and geographic area committees and working groups including the NWCG Wildland Fire Education Working Team, Chair of Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group, and Alaska GACG committees on Firefighter Safety and Health, Fire Prevention Education and Awareness, Fire Research and Applications and Training.

Finally, there were three FMO changes in 2000. Tetlin FMO Bruce Miller transferred to an NPS FMO position at Dinosaur NP in Colorado in March. AFMO Doug Newbould was selected as FMO at Kenai NWR in September. Mary Kwart, Prescribed Fire Specialist for NPS at Yosemite NP, assumed FMO duties at Tetlin NWR in December.



WILDFIRES 2000



WILDLAND FIRES by CAUSE 2000

CAUSE	# FIRES	# ACRES
Lightning	191	217,471.5
Campfire	49	2,533.0
Smoking	36	15,626.0
Fire Use	113	4,165.5
Incendiary	89	6,094.2
Equipment Use	76	99,008.1
Railroads	12	475.6
Juveniles	13	1,040.6
Structure	1	13.0
Undetermined	87	7,256.8
TOTAL	667	353,684.3



WILDLAND FIRES by SIZE CLASS 2000

SIZE	# FIRES	# ACRES
A (0 - .2)	171	19.5
B (.3 - 9.9)	239	643.3
C (10 - 99.9)	133	4,556.1
D (100 - 299.9)	63	10,455.6
E (300 - 999.9)	34	17,852.9
F (1000 - 4999.9)	17	27,250.9
G (5000 +)	10	292,906.0
TOTAL	667	353,684.3

WILDFIRES

by State

2000

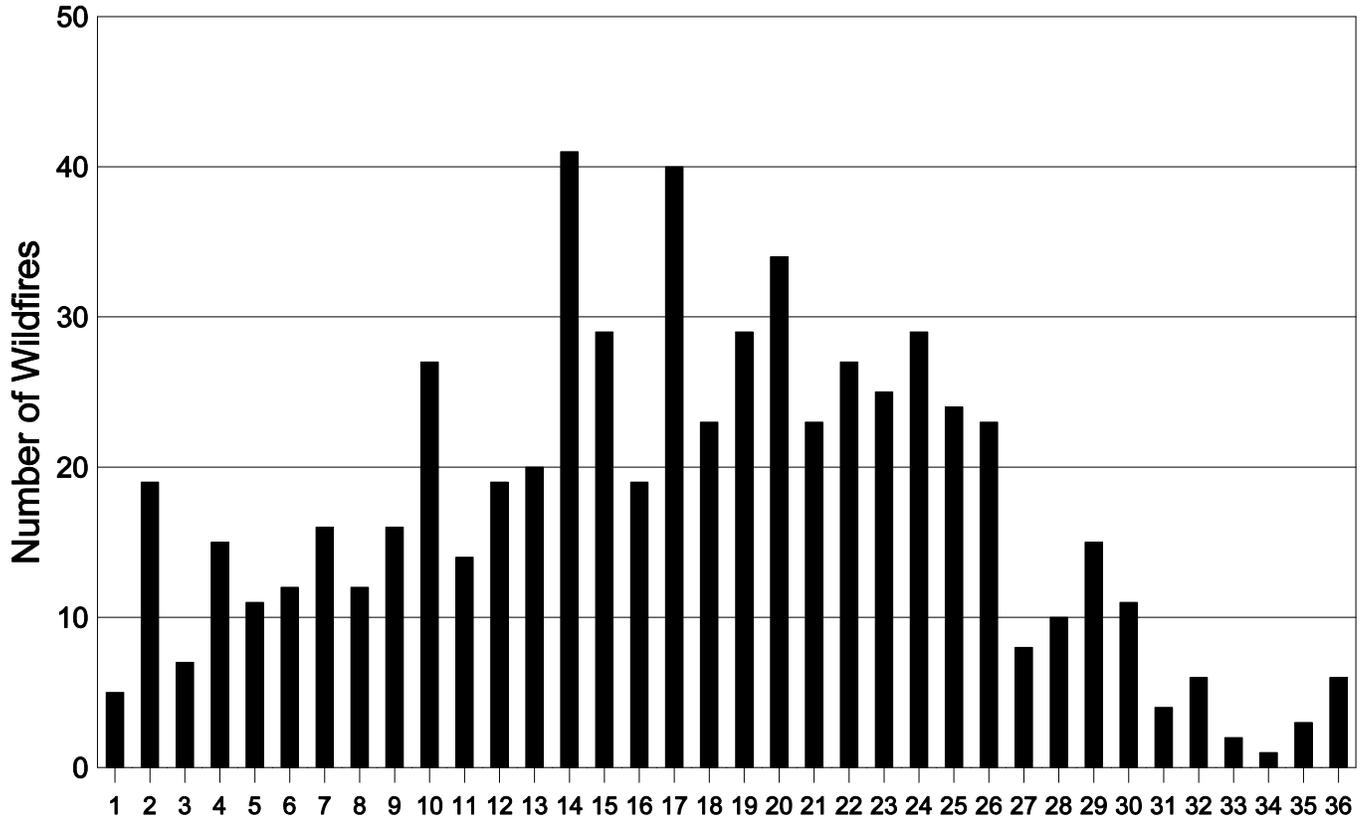
<u>State</u>	<u># Fires</u>	<u>FWS Acres</u>
Alabama	1	251.0
Alaska	29	180,821.9
Arizona	20	14,992.6
Arkansas	12	119.3
California	49	1,476.7
Colorado	7	1,385.8
Florida	57	3,641.1
Georgia	28	37.5
Hawaii	1	5.0
Idaho	8	2,412.0
Iowa	11	1,722.0
Kansas	15	500.3
Louisiana	44	7,175.4
Maine	2	0.6
Maryland	3	52.2
Massachusetts	1	4.0
Michigan	2	2.0
Minnesota	48	2,146.3
Mississippi	34	2,226.1
Missouri	5	696.0
Montana	16	2,101.5
Nebraska	23	22,861.2
Nevada	13	1,763.2
New Mexico	5	1,189.1
New York	2	0.2
North Carolina	33	1,769.6
North Dakota	19	385.0
Oklahoma	25	735.3
Oregon	27	1,566.5
South Carolina	9	303.6

South Dakota	8	230.5
Tennessee	5	49.0
Texas	63	20,386.3
Utah	1	0.1
Virginia	2	66.5
Washington	36	80,461.8
Wisconsin	2	11.1
Wyoming	1	136.0
Total	667	353,684.3



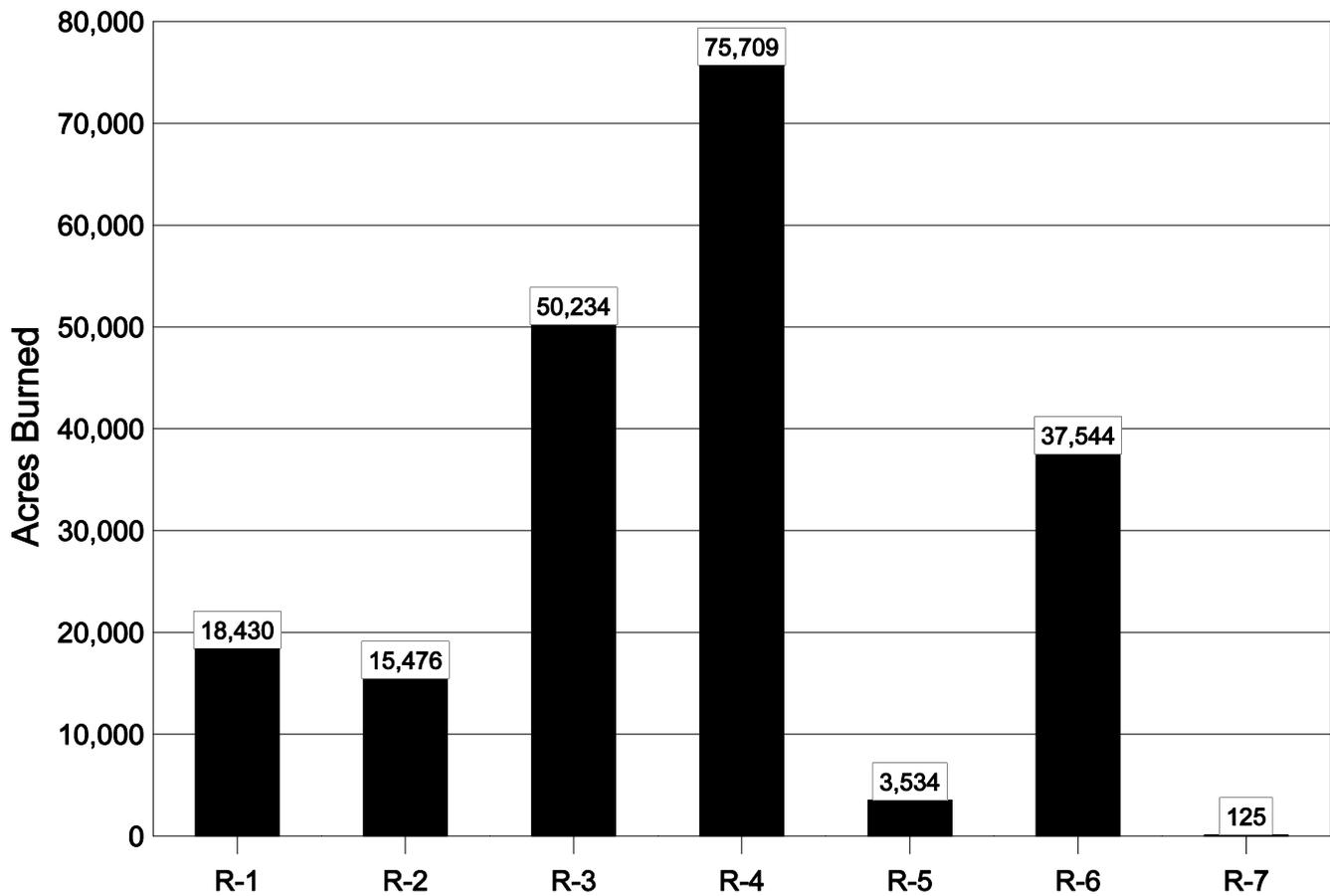
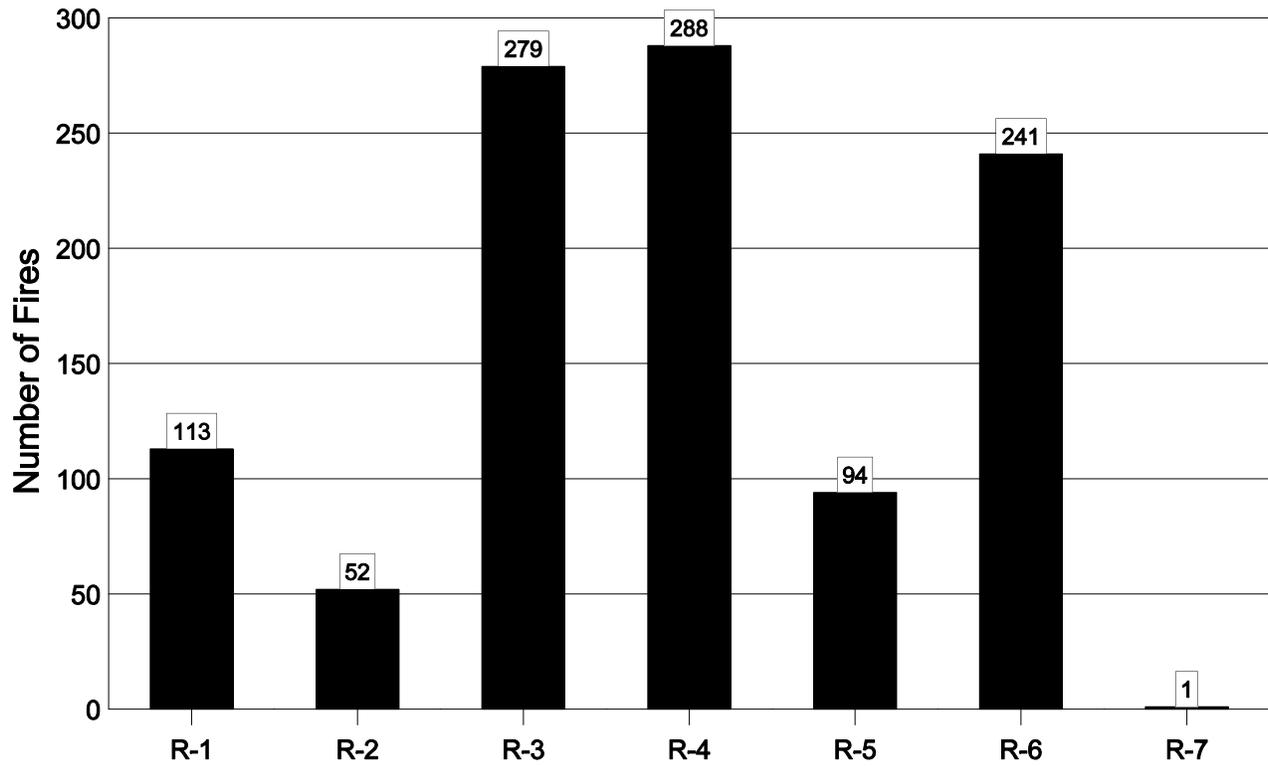
WILDLAND FIRES - 2000

10-Day Period



<u>Period</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	Jan 01 - Jan 10	13	May 01 - May 10	25	Aug 29 - Sep 07
2	Jan 11 - Jan 20	14	May 11 - May 20	26	Sep 08 - Sep 17
3	Jan 21 - Jan 30	15	May 21 - May 30	27	Sep 18 - Sep 27
4	Jan 31 - Feb 09	16	May 31 - June 09	28	Sep 28 - Oct 07
5	Feb 10 - Feb 19	17	June 10 - June 19	29	Oct 08 - Oct 17
6	Feb 20 - Mar 01	18	June 20 - June 29	30	Oct 18 - Oct 27
7	Mar 02 - Mar 11	19	June 30 - July 09	31	Oct 28 - Nov 06
8	Mar 12 - Mar 21	20	July 10 - July 19	32	Nov 07 - Nov 16
9	Mar 22 - Mar 31	21	July 20 - July 29	33	Nov 17 - Nov 26
10	Apr 01 - Apr 10	22	July 30 - Aug 08	34	Nov 27 - Dec 06
11	Apr 11 - Apr 20	23	Aug 09 - Aug 18	35	Dec 07 - Dec 16
12	Apr 21 - Apr 30	24	Aug 19 - Aug 28	36	Dec 17 - Dec 27

FWS PRESCRIBED FIRES - 2000

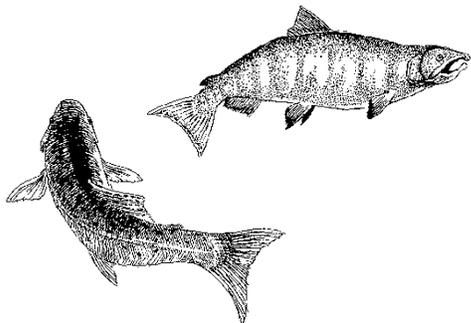


Prescribed Fires By State 2000

STATE	FIRES	FWS ACRES
Alabama	1	40.0
Alaska	1	125.0
Arizona	0	0.0
Arkansas	14	4,230.0
California	52	10,528.8
Colorado	1	26.2
Connecticut	0	0.0
Delaware	4	42.0
Florida	106	24,116.5
Georgia	32	3,362.3
Hawaii	1	3.0
Idaho	3	700.0
Illinois	9	316.0
Indiana	8	4,188.5
Iowa	38	4,658.1
Kansas	66	9,685.8
Kentucky	0	0.0
Louisiana	19	18,635.7
Maine	22	248.7
Maryland	38	2,748.0
Massachusetts	0	0.0
Michigan	4	213.0
Minnesota	178	38,958.8
Mississippi	38	4,242.8
Missouri	4	157.0
Montana	15	2,530.7
Nebraska	50	4,944.3
Nevada	6	61.1
New Hampshire	0	0.0
New Jersey	0	0.0
New Mexico	8	506.2
New York	25	457.5
North Carolina	33	8,192.0
North Dakota	90	16,041.7

Ohio	0	0.0
Oklahoma	12	2,958.3
Oregon	34	5,618.2
Pennsylvania	2	10.7
Puerto Rico	0	0.0
Rhode Island	2	9.0
South Carolina	45	12,889.9
South Dakota	25	2,687.2
Tennessee	0	0.0
Texas	32	12,011.8
Utah	1	272.0
Vermont	0	0.0
Virgin Islands	0	0.0
Virginia	1	18.0
Washington	17	1,519.2
West Virginia	0	0.0
Wisconsin	27	1,517.3
Wyoming	4	1,581.0

TOTAL	1,068	201,052.3
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PRESCRIBED BURNS

by Refuge - R1

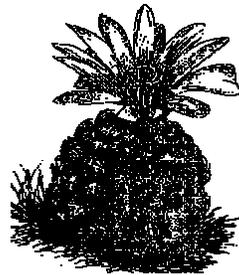
<u>REFUGE</u>	<u># BURNS</u>	<u># ACRES</u>
Antioch Dunes NWR	1	15.0
Bear Lake NWR	3	700.0
Bear Valley NWR	3	307.0
Bitter Creek NWR	1	10.0
Cold Springs NWR	3	109.0
Columbia NWR	6	586.2
Colusa NWR	1	80.0
Delevan NWR	1	10.0
Hart Mountain National Antelope	6	1,113.1
Hopper Mountain NWR	1	30.0
Kern NWR	1	10.0
Little Pend Oreille NWR	2	56.0
Lower Klamath NWR	16	8,627.8
Malheur NWR	5	2,536.0
McKay Creek NWR	2	64.0
McNary NWR	7	587.0
Mid-Columbia River Complex	7	785.0
Oahu Complex	1	3.0
Sacramento River NWR	9	679.0
Sacramento Complex	5	425.0
Salton Sea Complex	2	30.0
San Diego NWR	2	120.0
San Luis Complex	11	765.0
Sheldon NWR	6	85.1
Sheldon-Hart Mountain Complex	3	36.1
Stone Lakes NWR	2	120.0
Turnbull NWR	2	290.0
Willamette Valley Complex	4	251.0
Total	113	18,430.3



PRESCRIBED BURNS

by Refuge - R2

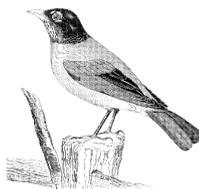
<u>REFUGE</u>	<u># BURNS</u>	<u># ACRES</u>
Aransas/Matagorda Island Complex	6	2,065.0
Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR	4	1,892.0
Balcones Canyonlands NWR	1	164.0
Bitter Lake NWR	3	16.2
Bosque Del Apache NWR	4	330.0
Dexter National Fish Hatchery	1	160.0
Hagerman NWR	1	570.1
McFaddin NWR	1	400.0
Muleshoe NWR	3	612.0
Salt Plains NWR	2	667.0
San Bernard NWR	4	1,910.0
Sequoyah NWR	1	650.0
Texas Chenier Plains Refuges Complex	7	1,976.7
Texas Midcoast Refuges Complex	5	2,422.0
Tishomingo NWR	3	268.0
Washita NWR	5	551.0
Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge	1	822.3
Total	52	15,476.3



PRESCRIBED BURNS

by Refuge - R3

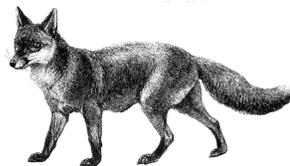
<u>REFUGE</u>	<u># BURNS</u>	<u># ACRES</u>
Agassiz NWR	15	9,997.6
Big Stone NWR	22	2,054.2
Crab Orchard NWR	4	184.0
Crane Meadows NWR	2	710.0
DeSoto NWR	18	322.8
Detroit Lakes Wetland	24	3,712.0
Fergus Falls Wetland	35	4,402.0
Great River NWR	6	230.0
Hamden Slough NWR	2	535.0
Horicon NWR	7	434.0
Leopold WMD	14	816.3
Litchfield WMD	13	2,915.0
Minnesota Valley NWR	11	744.0
Morris WMD	15	2,329.0
Muscatatuck NWR	8	4,188.5
Port Louisa NWR	9	2,092.5
Rice Lake NWR	4	1,620.0
Sherburne NWR	9	4,763.0
Shiawassee NWR	4	213.0
Squaw Creek NWR	1	12.0
St. Croix WMD	6	267.0
Tamarac NWR	8	3,159.0
Two Rivers NWR	2	47.0
Upper Mississippi River National	1	35.0
Walnut Creek NWR	21	2,433.0
Windom WMD	18	2,018.0
Total	279	50,233.9



PRESCRIBED BURNS

by Refuge - R4

<u>REFUGE</u>	<u># BURNS</u>	<u># ACRES</u>
Ace Basin NWR	5	240.0
Alligator River NWR	13	5,262.0
Bayou Sauvage NWR	2	3,073.0
Big Branch Marsh NWR	2	40.5
Blackbeard Island NWR	4	751.3
Bogue Chitto NWR	1	0.1
Carolina Sandhills NWR	37	12,140.0
Chassahowitzka NWR	1	348.0
D'Arbonne NWR	5	277.0
Felsenthal NWR	14	4,230.0
Florida Panther NWR	6	2,641.0
J.N. Ding Darling NWR	5	159.1
Key Cave NWR	1	40.0
Lacassine NWR	5	793.1
Lake Woodruff NWR	18	518.5
Lower Suwannee NWR	8	1,290.0
Mackay Island NWR	2	51.0
Merritt Island NWR	19	7,344.0
Mississippi Sandhill Crane NWR	1	7.0
National Key Deer Refuge	1	25.0
Noxubee NWR	36	4,227.8
Okefenokee NWR	7	870.0
Pee Dee NWR	9	1,652.0
Piedmont NWR	19	1,722.8
Pocosin Lakes NWR	9	1,227.0
Sabine NWR	5	14,460.0
Savannah NWR	5	528.1
St. Marks NWR	43	10,583.9
St. Vincent NWR	5	1,207.0
Total	288	75,709.2



PRESCRIBED BURNS

by Refuge - R5

<u>REFUGE</u>	<u># BURNS</u>	<u># ACRES</u>
Chesapeake Marshlands Complex	37	2,698.0
Bombay Hook NWR	4	42.0
Great Dismal Swamp NWR	1	18.0
Eastern Neck NWR	1	50.0
Erie NWR	2	10.7
Iroquois NWR	14	154.7
Montezuma NWR	5	245.0
Wertheim NWR	5	56.4
Moosehorn NWR	10	150.8
Petit Manan NWR	4	31.2
Rhode Island Complex	2	9.0
Rachel Carson NWR	3	8.0
Sunkhaze Meadows NWR	6	60.1
Total	94	3,533.9



PRESCRIBED BURNS

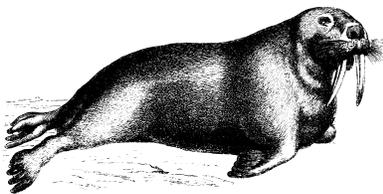
by Refuge - R6

<u>REFUGE</u>	<u># BURNS</u>	<u># ACRES</u>
Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR	1	26.2
Benton Lake NWR	5	938.0
Medicine Lake NWR	6	393.2
National Bison Range	1	0.5
National Elk Refuge	2	1,564.0
Lee Metcalf NWR	1	5.0
Bowdoin NWR	2	1,194.0
Arrowwood NWR	4	804.0
Long Lake NWR	8	1,328.0
Audubon NWR	7	894.0
Audubon WMD	3	171.0
Des Lacs NWR	12	6,953.0
Devils Lake WMD	18	1,637.7
J. Clark Salyer NWR	19	1,692.0
Tewaukon NWR	18	1,962.0
Upper Souris NWR	1	600.0
Huron WMD	10	1,394.2
Crescent Lake NWR	13	341.1
Rainwater Basin WMD	26	4,378.0
Lacreek NWR	1	161.0
Lake Andes NWR	7	755.0
Madison WMD	1	80.0
Sand Lake NWR	5	272.0
Flint Hills NWR	36	1,509.3
Waubay NWR	1	25.0
Kirwin NWR	10	1,398.0
Quivira NWR	12	6,505.0
Marais Des Cygnes NWR	8	273.5
Ouray NWR	1	272.0
Seedskaadee NWR	2	17.0
Total	241	37,543.7



PRESCRIBED BURNS by Refuge - R7

<u>REFUGE</u>	<u># BURNS</u>	<u># ACRES</u>
Yukon Flats NWR	1	125.0



PRESCRIBED FIRES

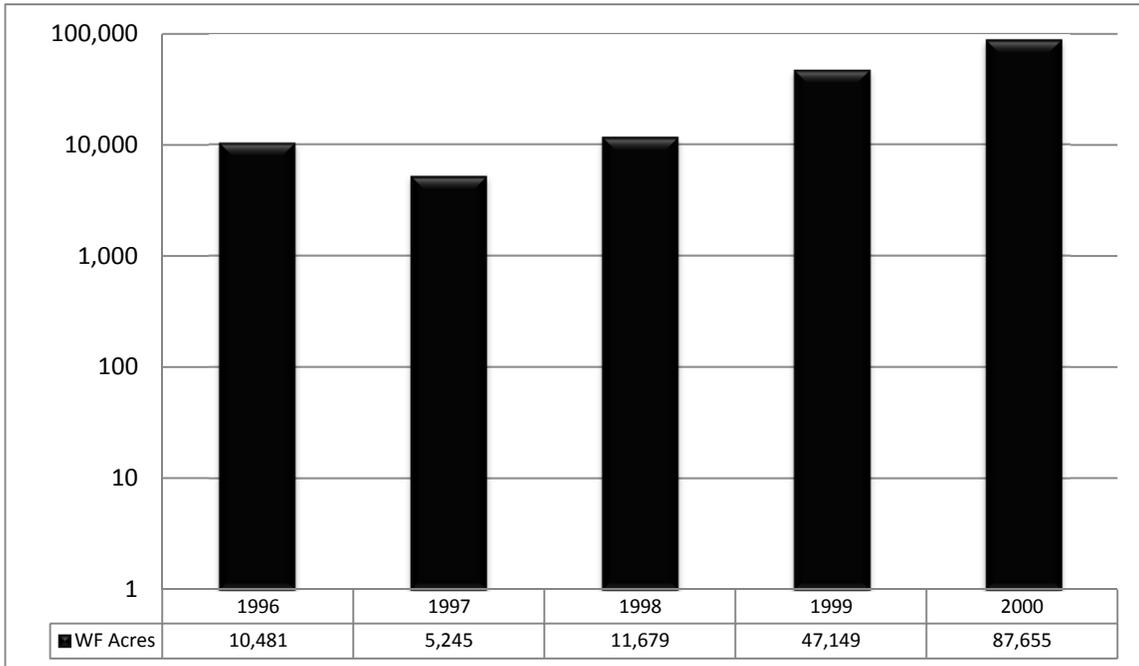
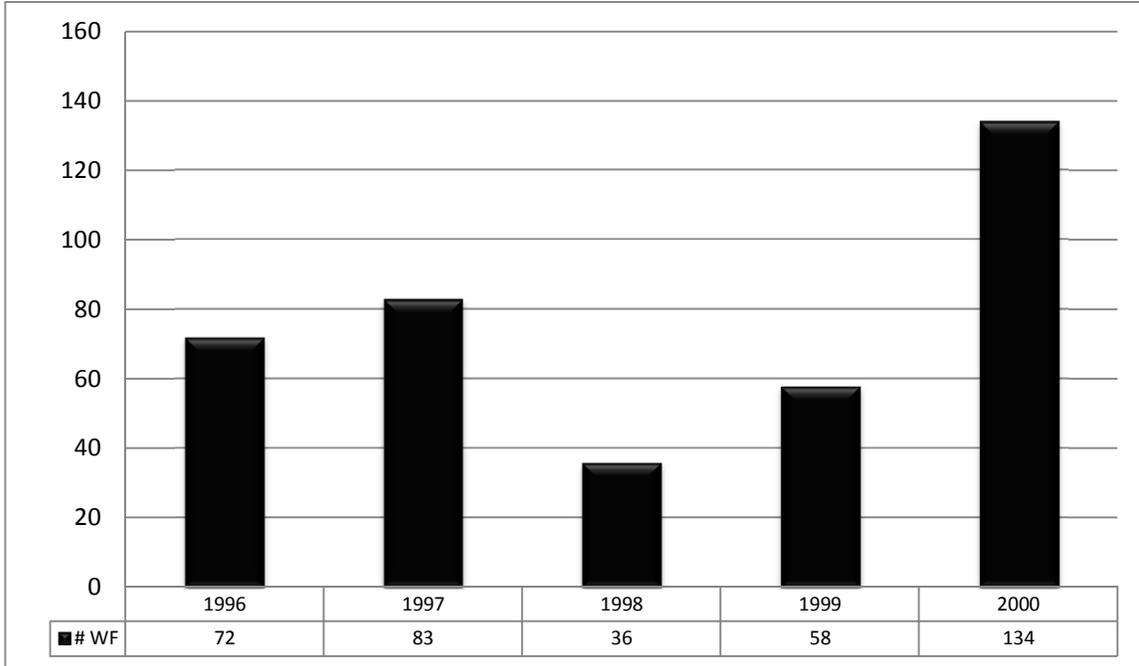
Burn Plan Objective

2000

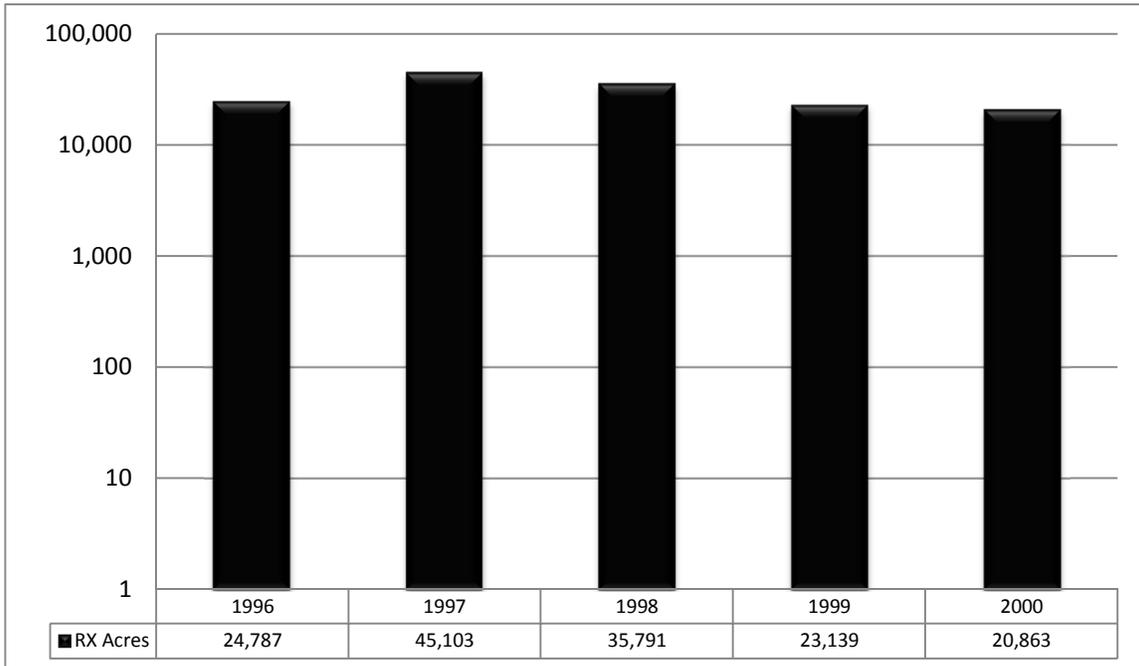
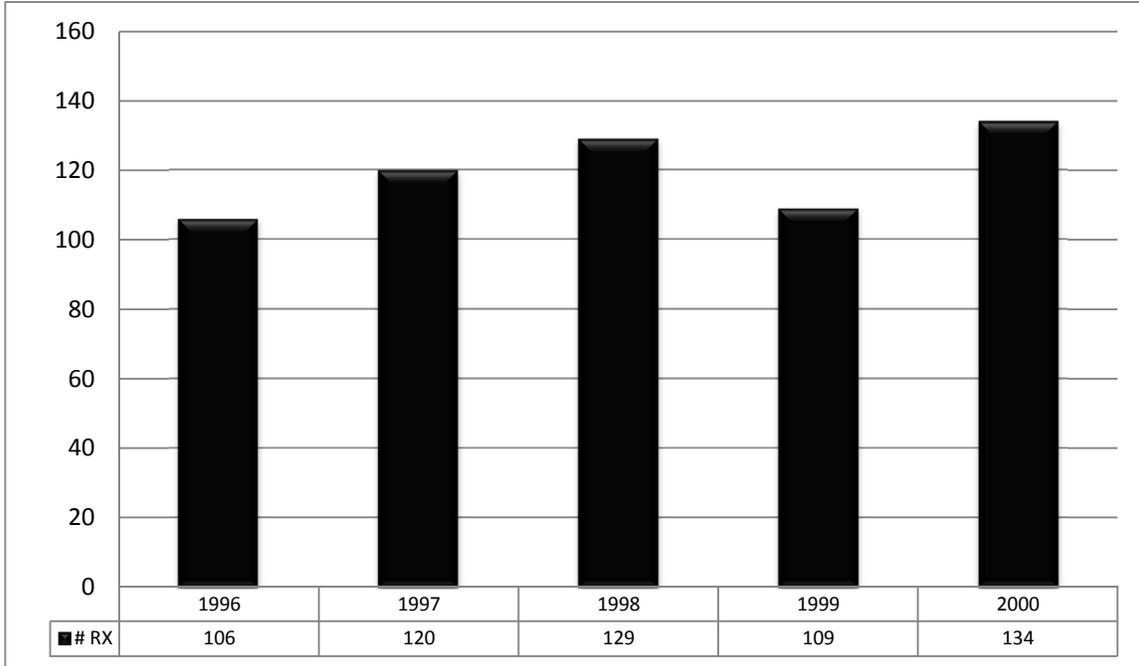
OBJECTIVE	# FIRES	# FWS ACRES
Cultural Scene Maintenance		
Historical Scene Maintenance	2	570.2
Other Cultural Site Maintenance	1	33.1
Natural Systems		
Exotic or Undesirable Species Control	110	18,091.7
Habitat Maintenance	524	100,790.2
Research	32	1,176.3
Hazard Reduction		
Fuel Reduction - Activity Fuels	30	3,019.2
Fuel Reduction - Natural Fuels	286	71,625.3
Real Property Protection	2	40.0
Fuel Break Maintenance	7	231.0
Maintenance		
Debris Removal	53	4,006.2
Right-of-way Maintenance	4	173.0
Silvicultural		
Seed Bed Preparation	9	616.0
Vegetative Type Manipulation	8	680.1
TOTAL	1,068	201,052.3



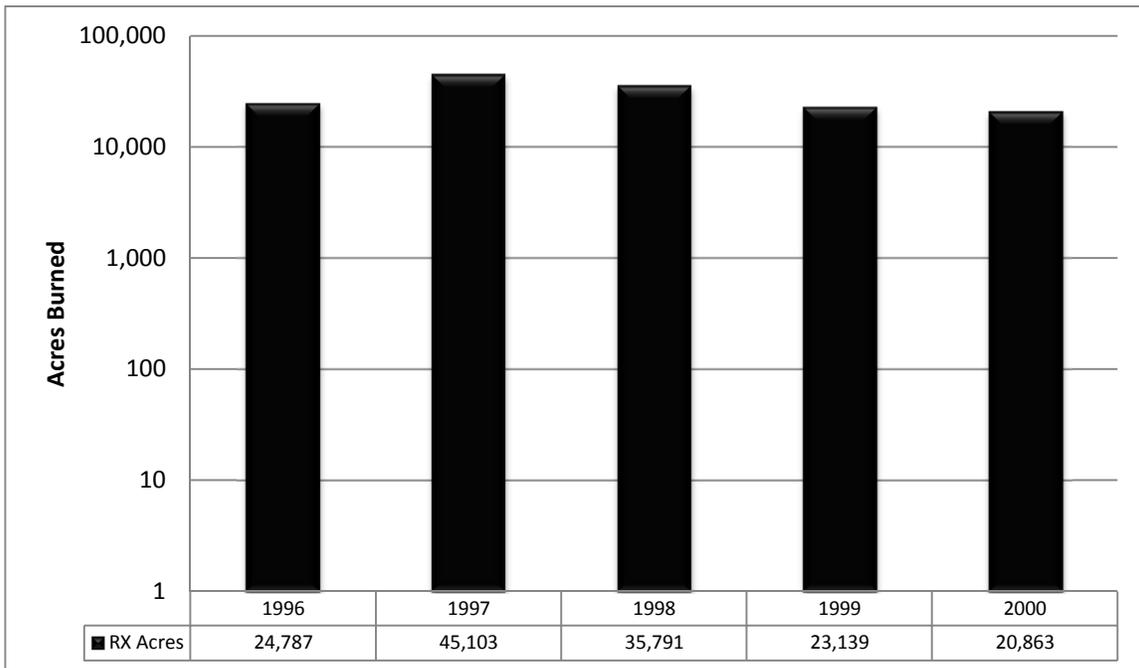
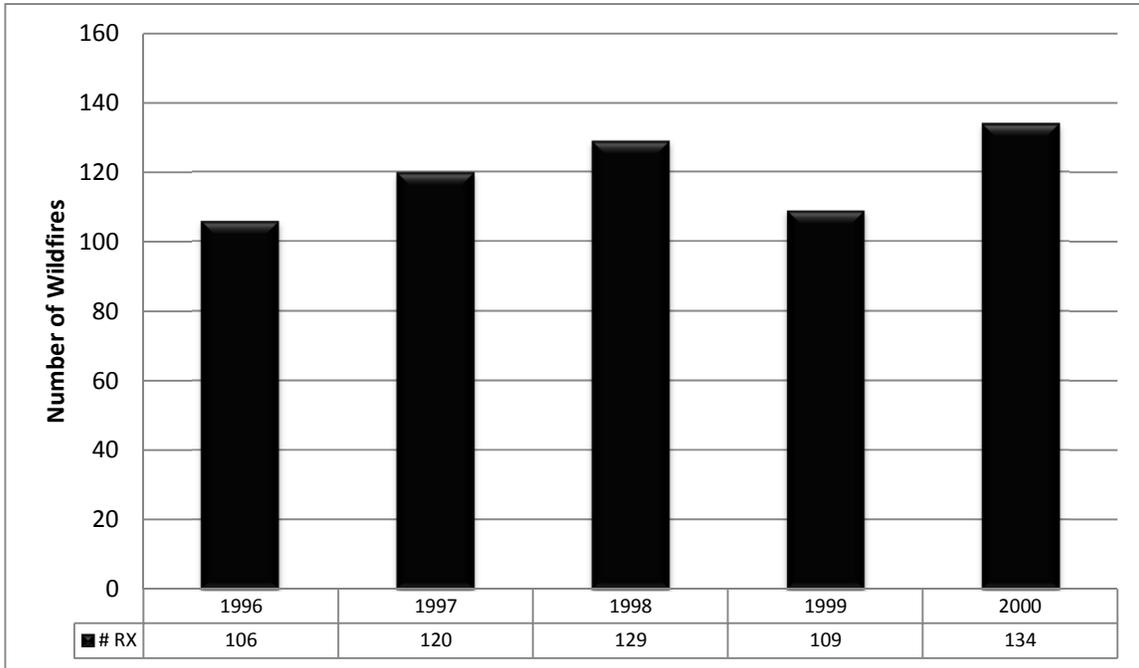
REGION 1 WILDLAND FIRES 1996-2000



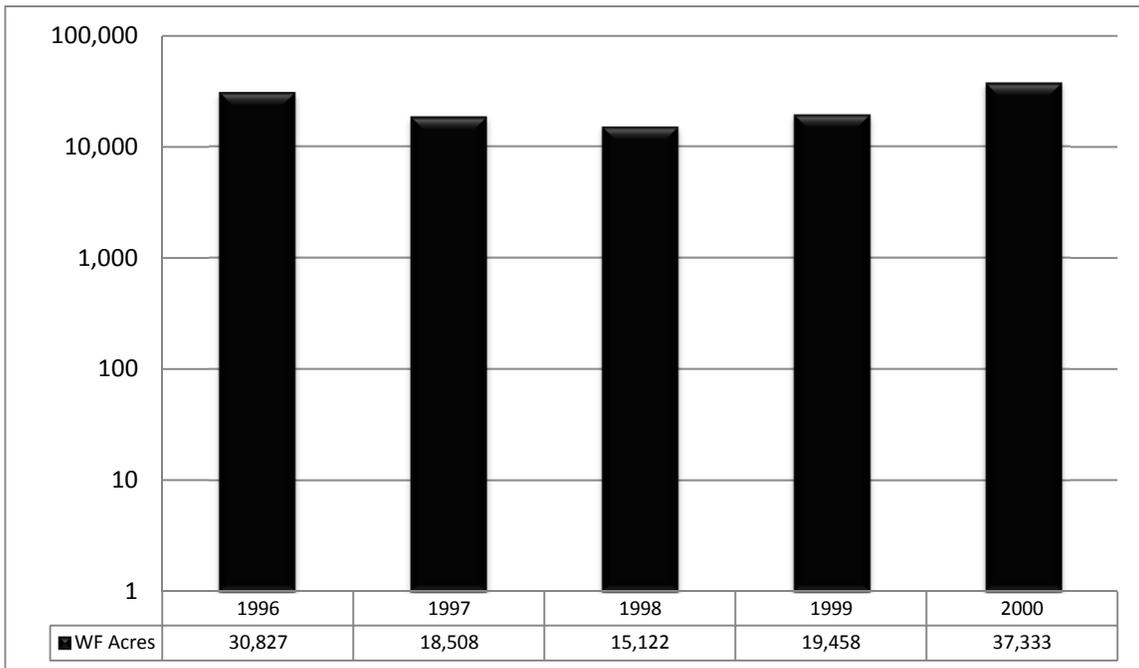
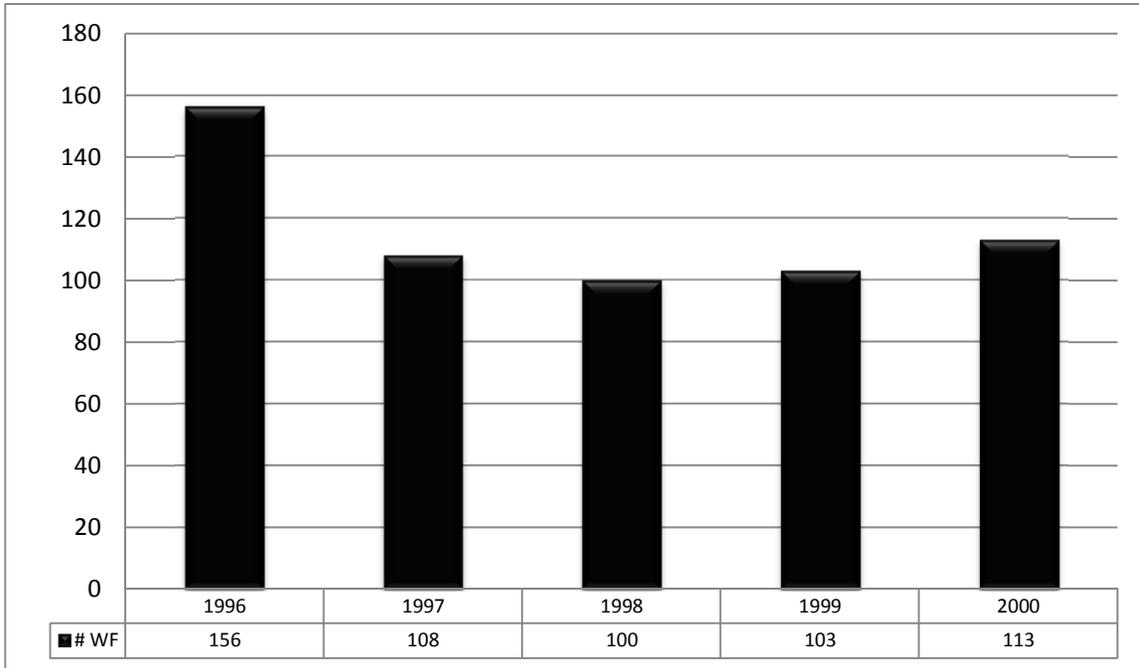
REGION 1 PRESCRIBED FIRES 1996-2000



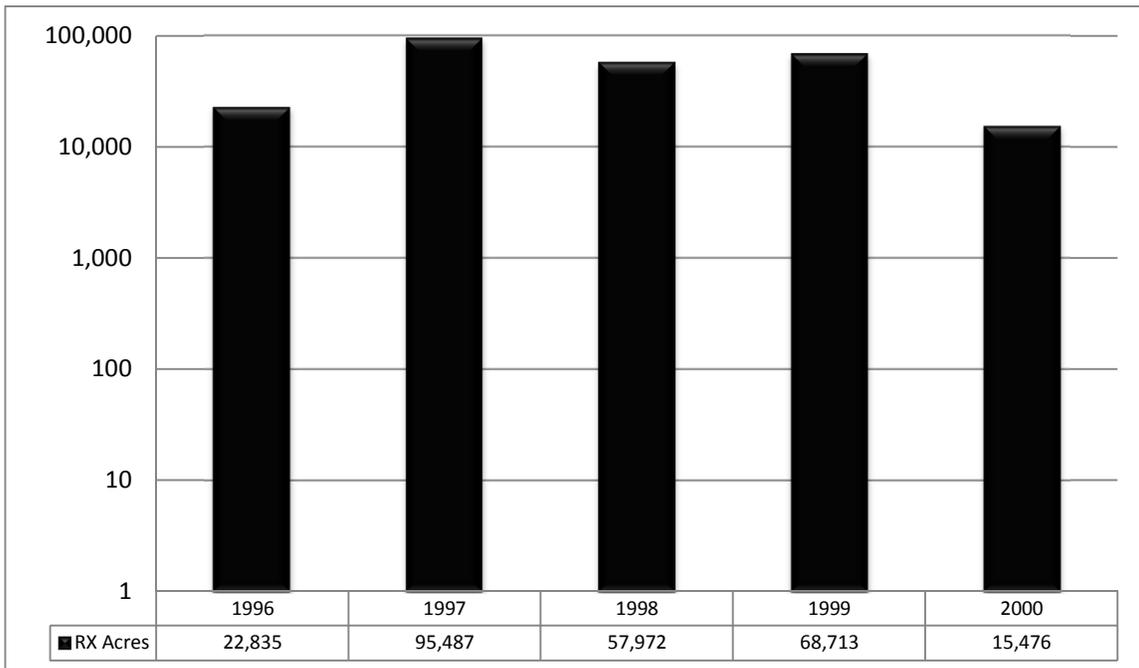
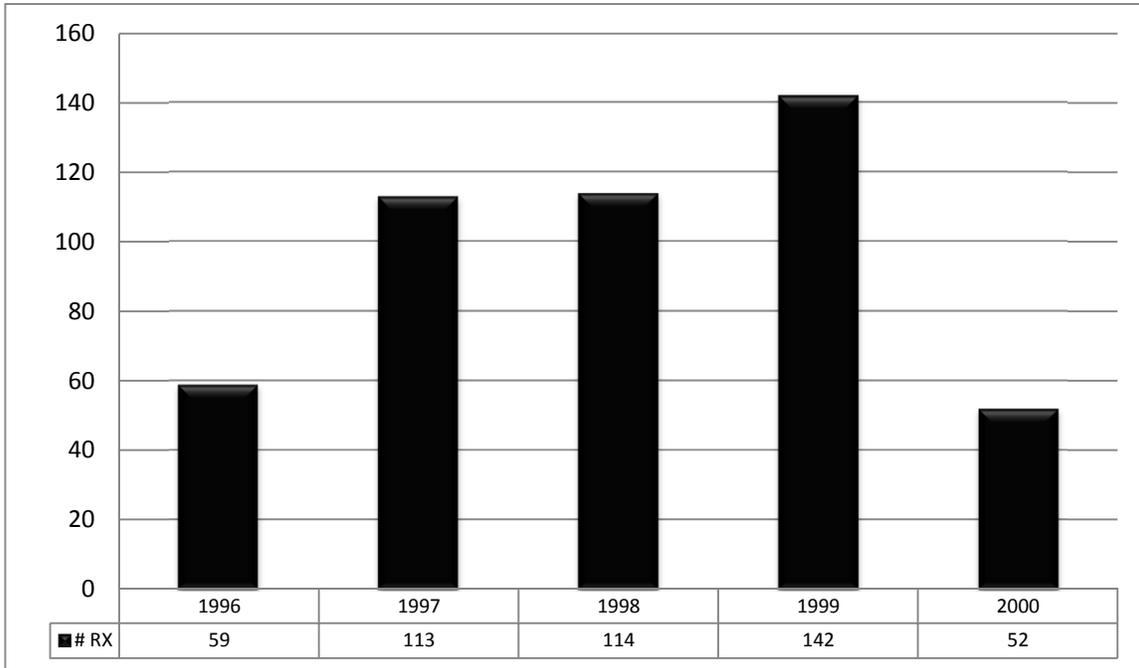
REGION 1 PRESCRIBED FIRES 1996-2000



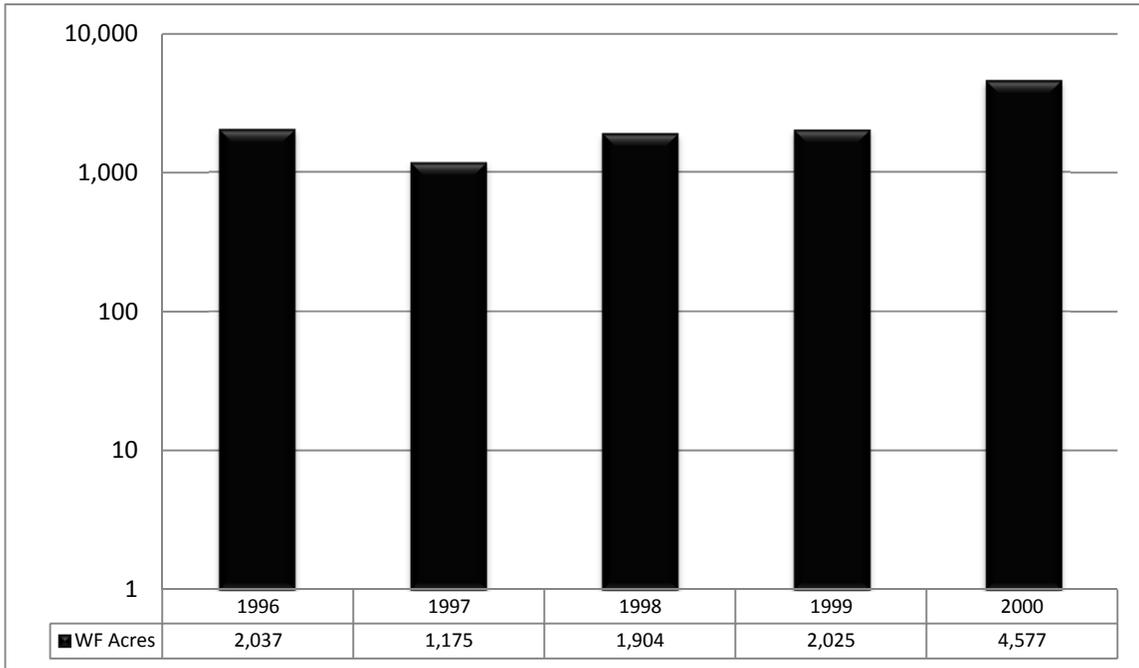
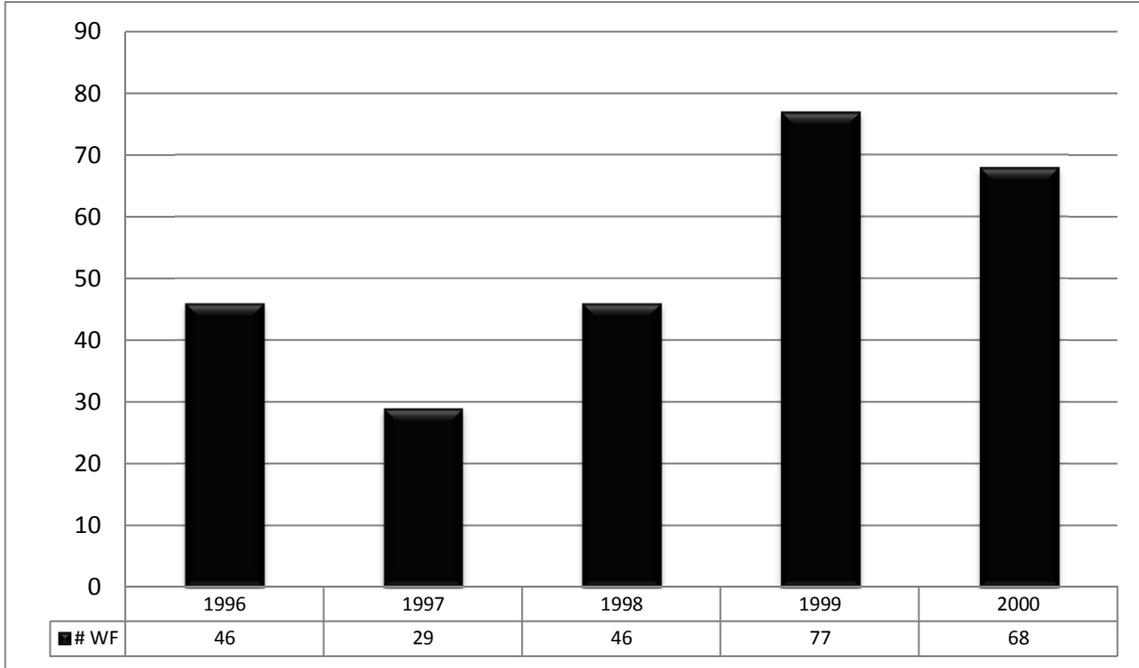
REGION 2 WILDLAND FIRES 1996-2000



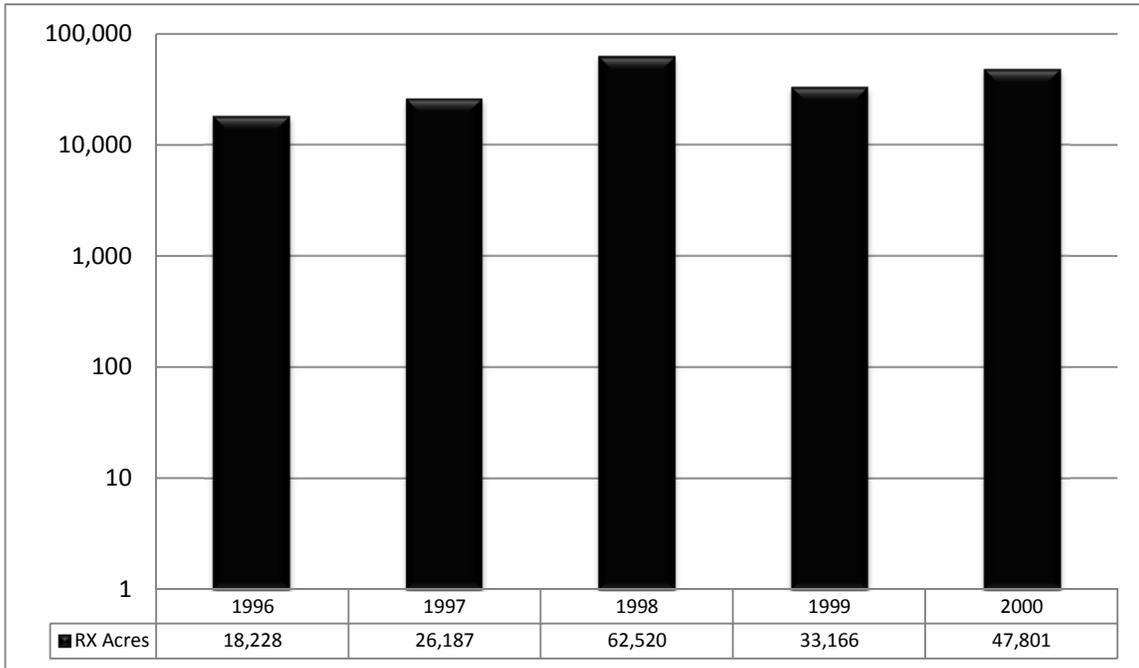
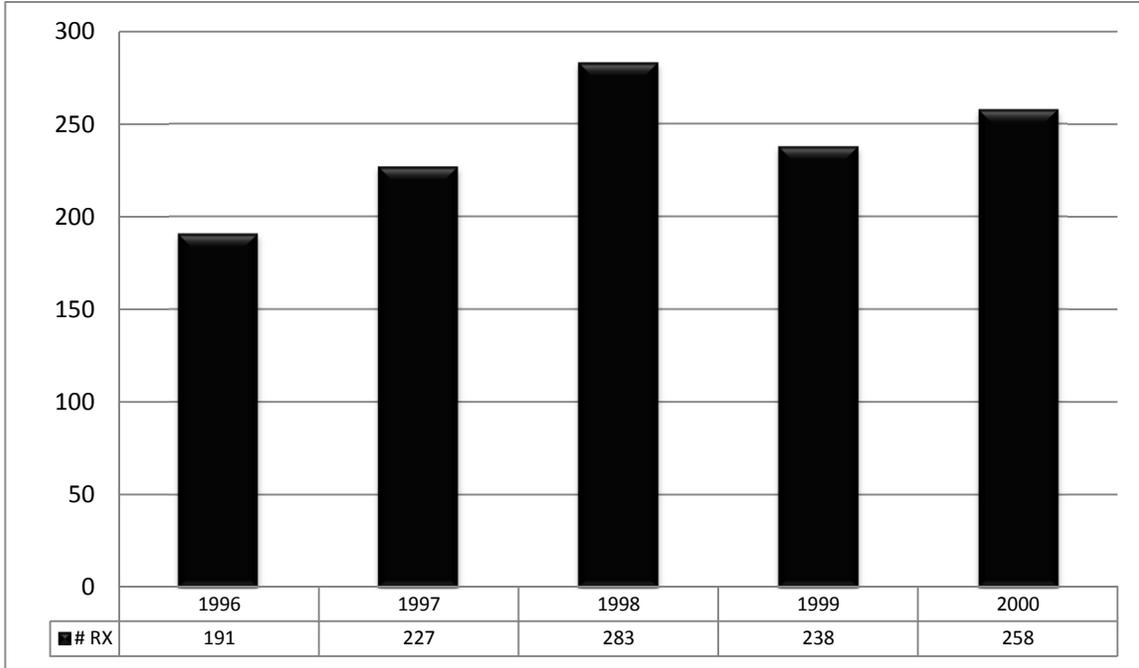
REGION 2 PRESCRIBED FIRES 1996-2000



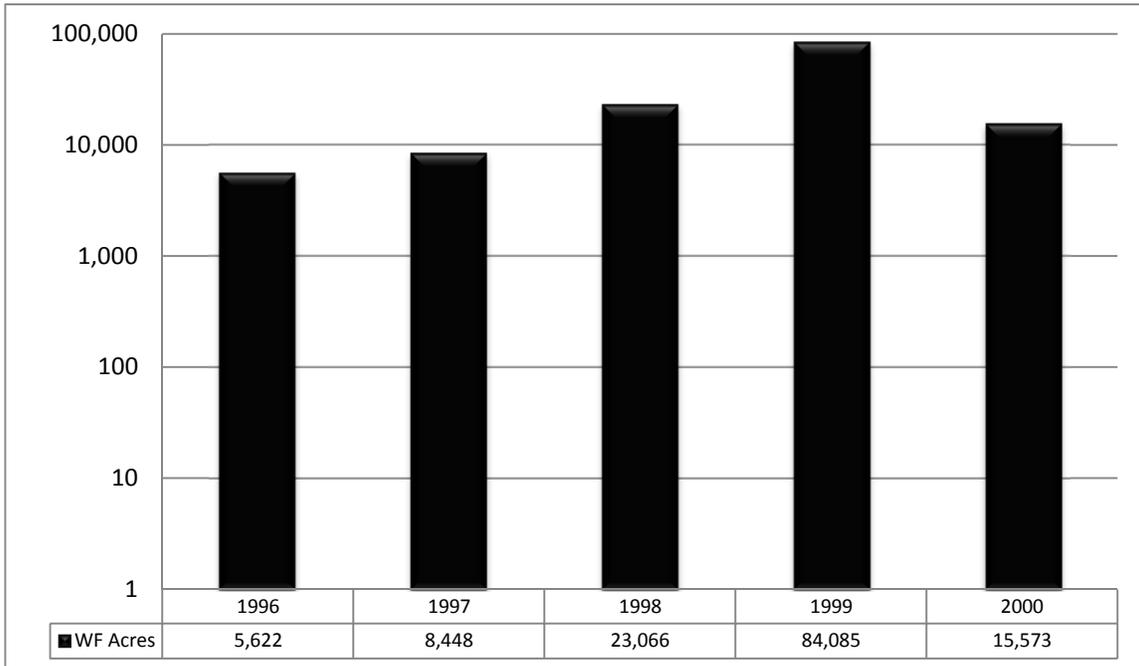
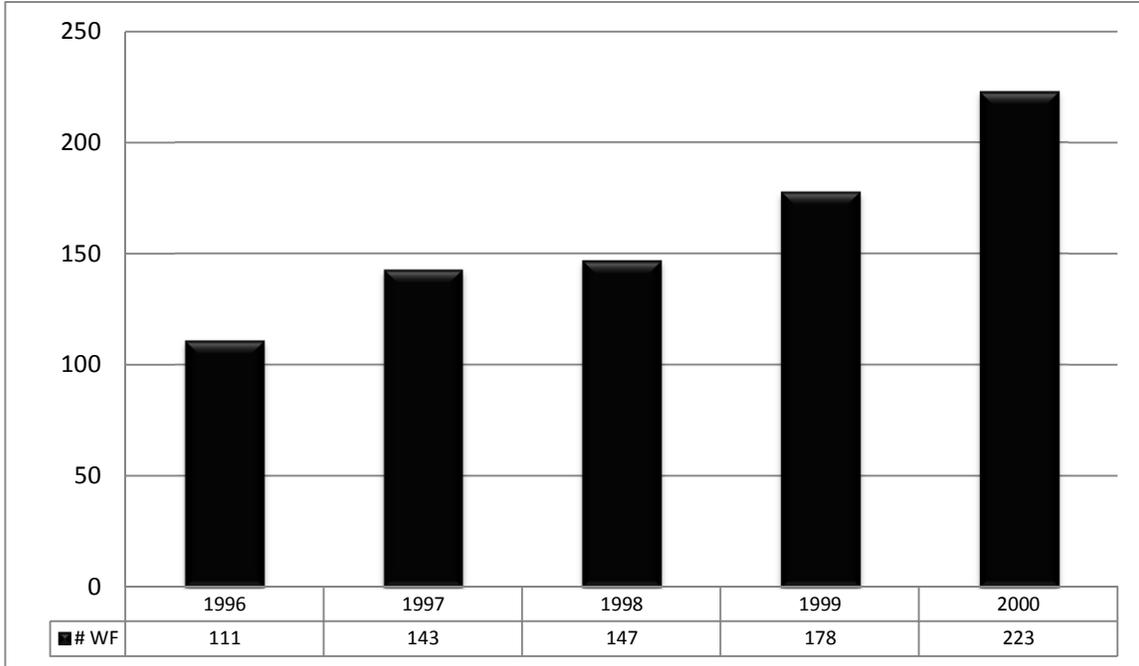
REGION 3 WILDLAND FIRES 1996-2000



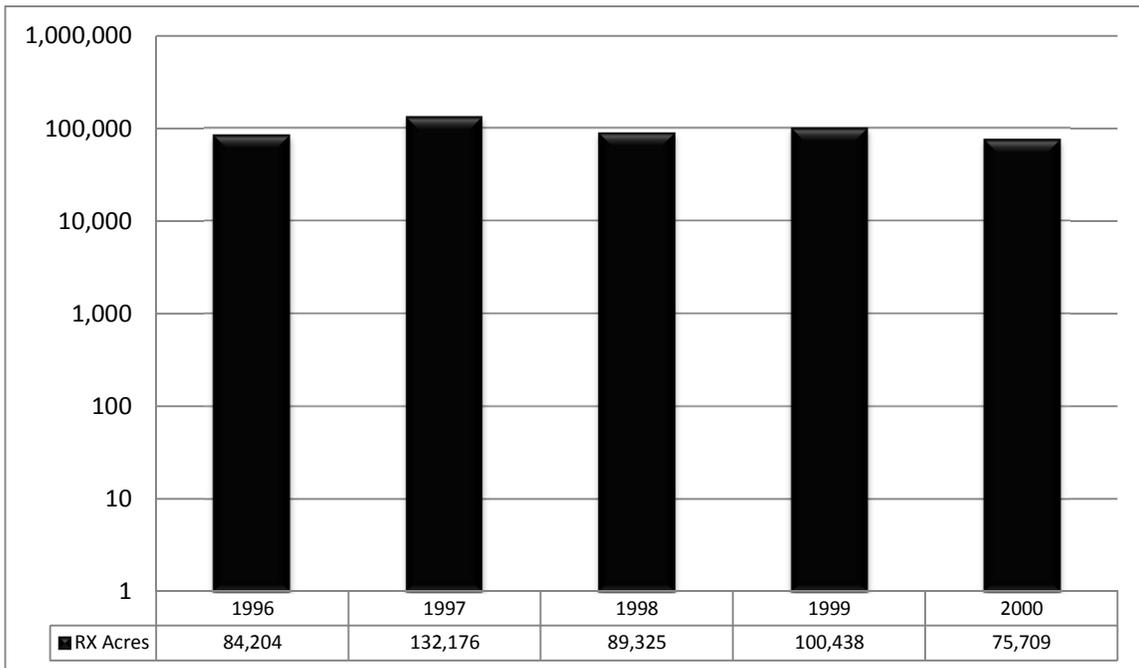
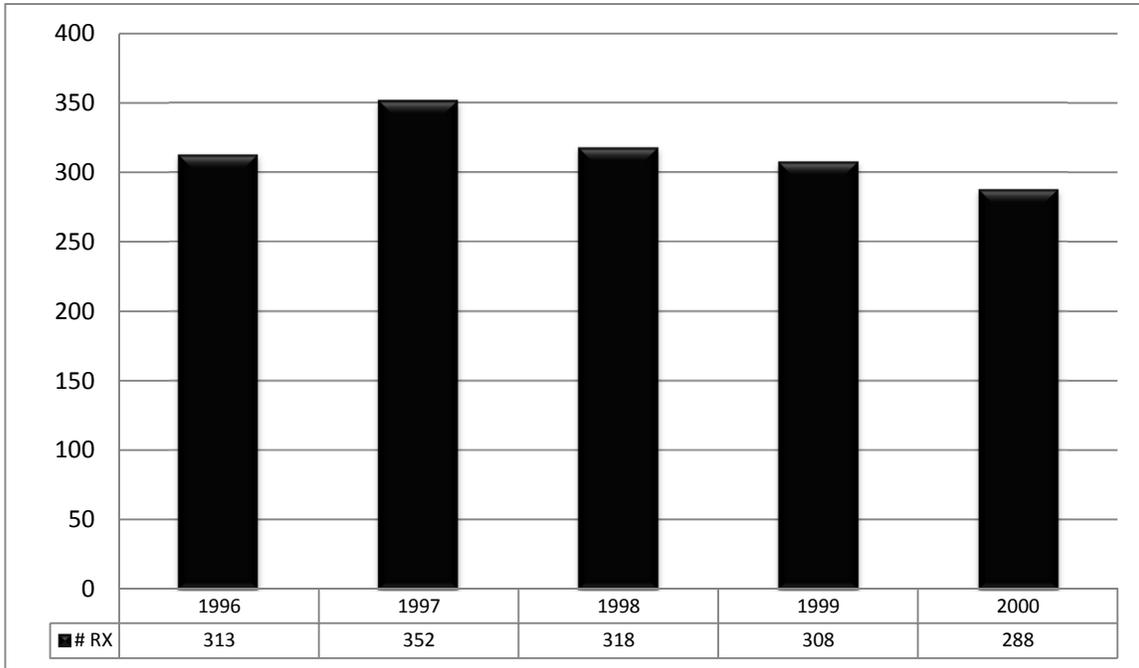
REGION 3 PRESCRIBED FIRES 1996-2000



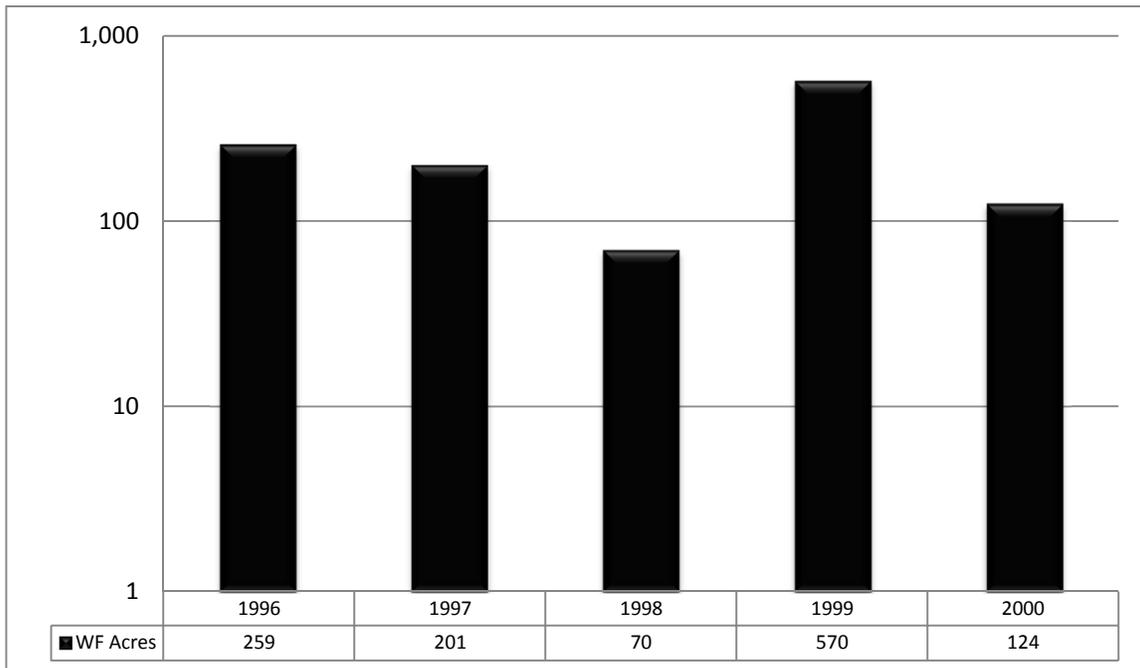
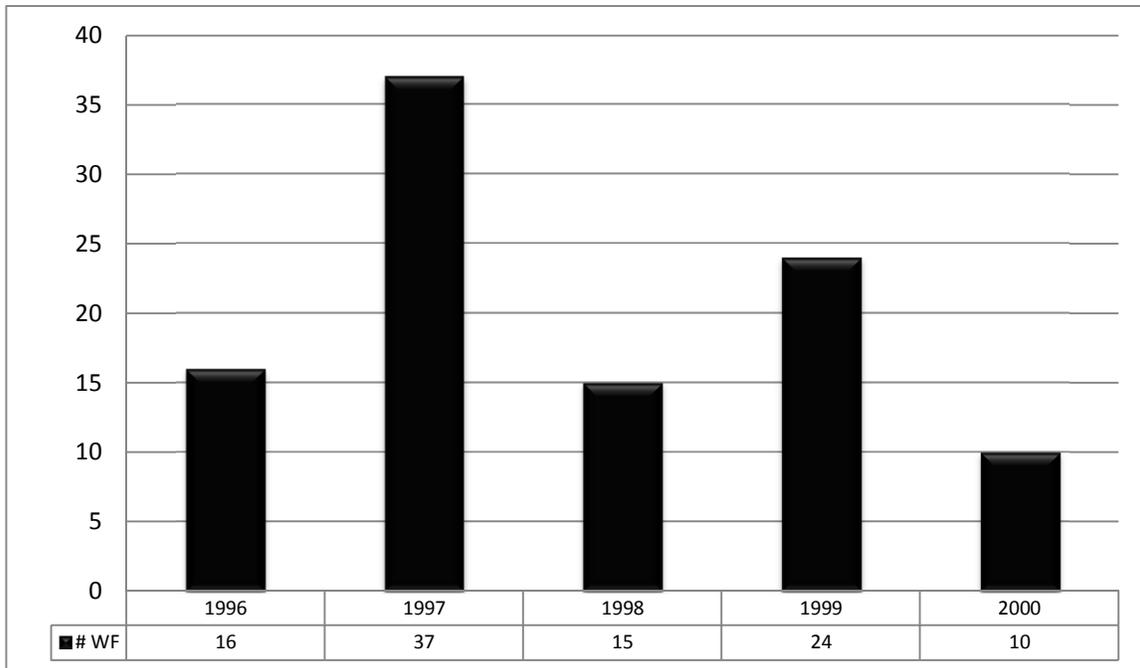
REGION 4 WILDLAND FIRES 1996-2000



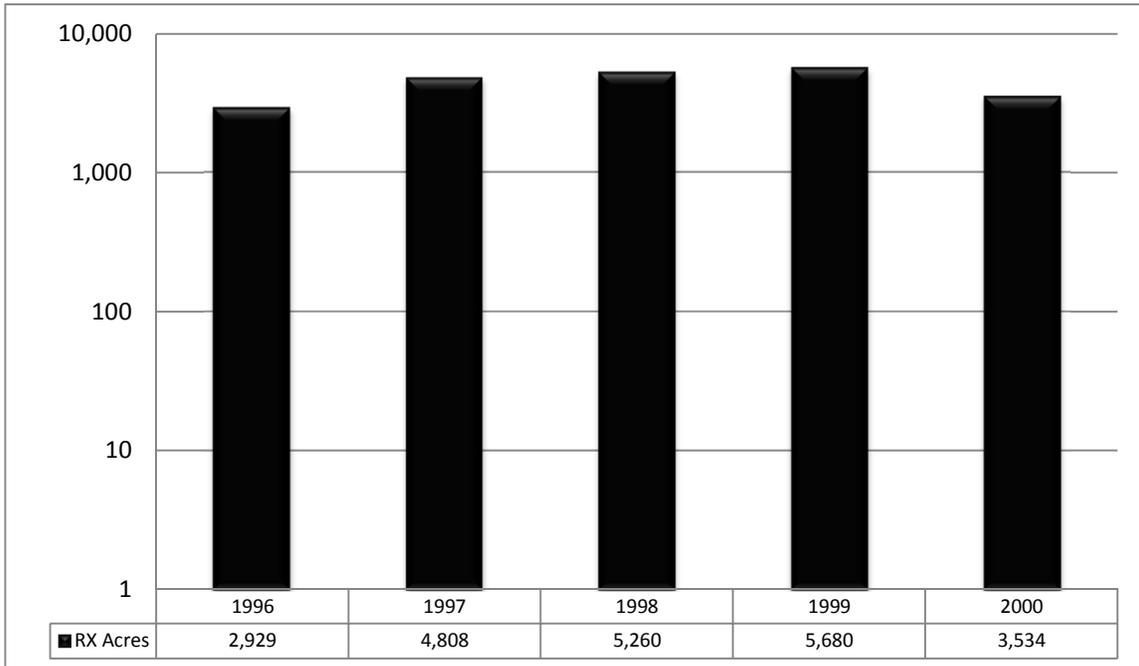
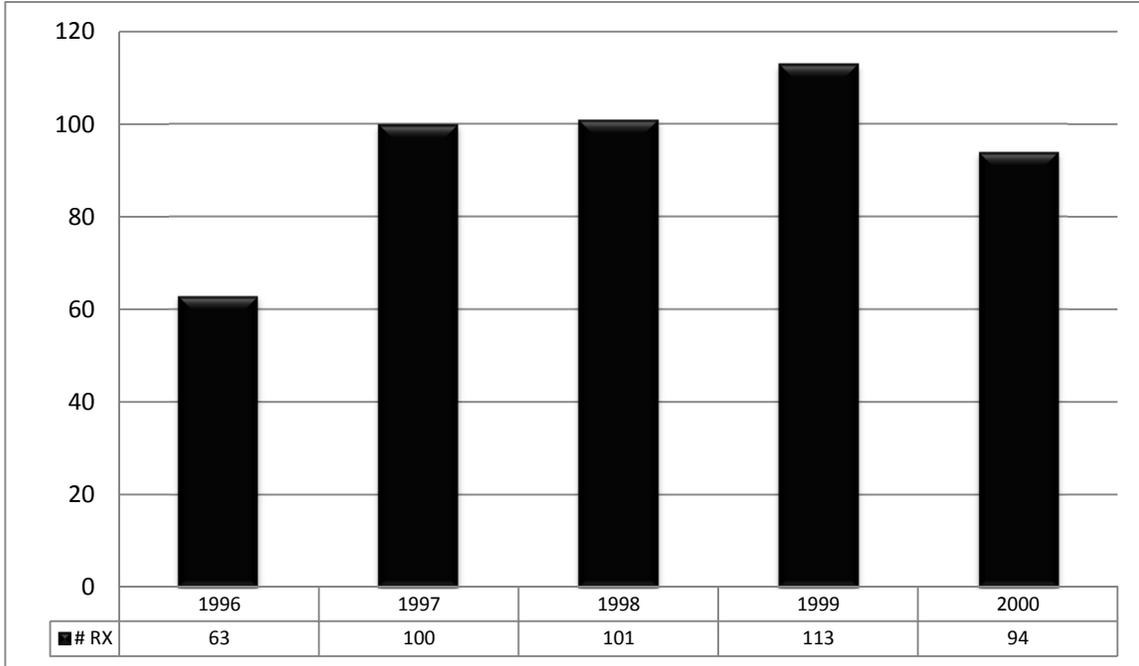
REGION 4 PRESCRIBED FIRES 1996-2000



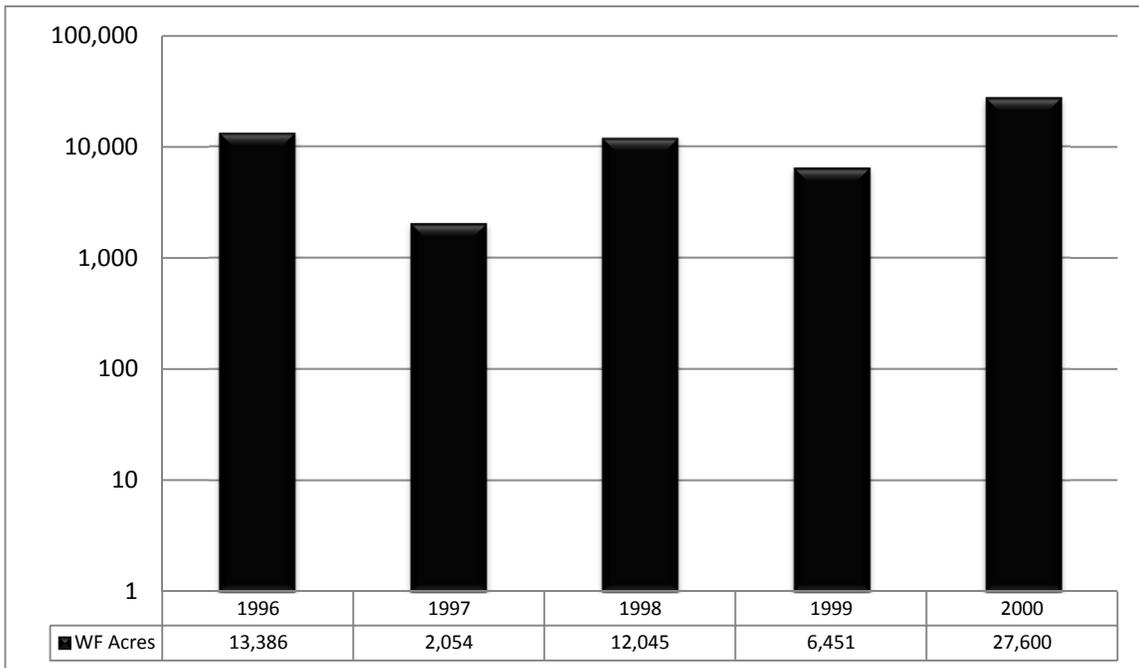
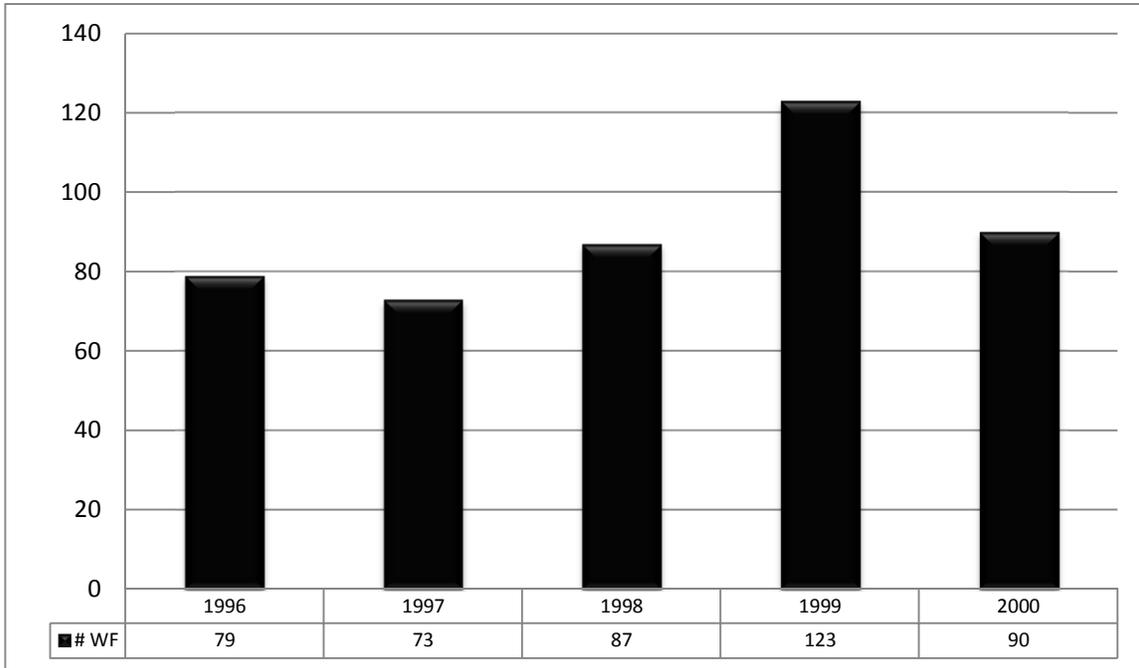
REGION 5 WILDLAND FIRES 1996-2000



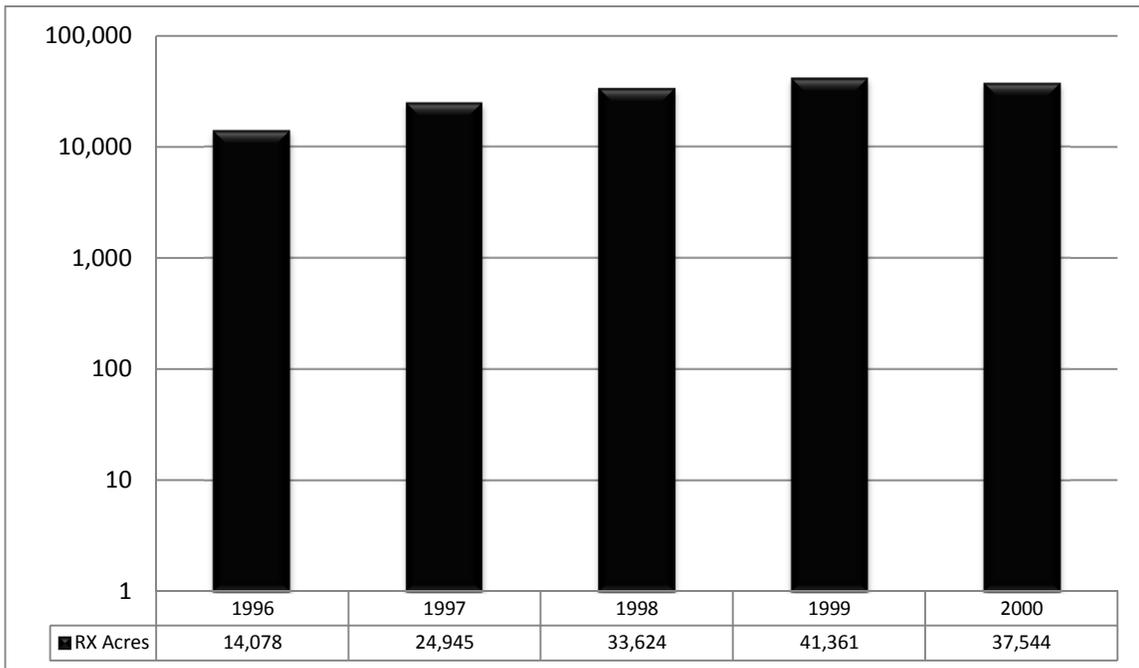
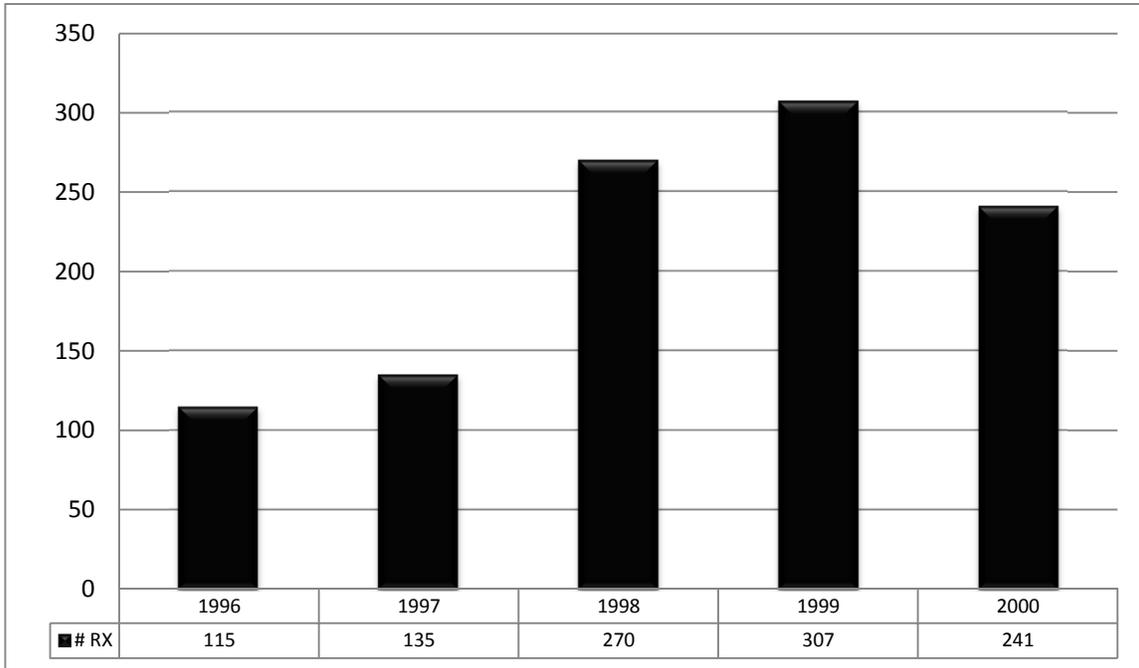
REGION 5 PRESCRIBED FIRES 1996-2000



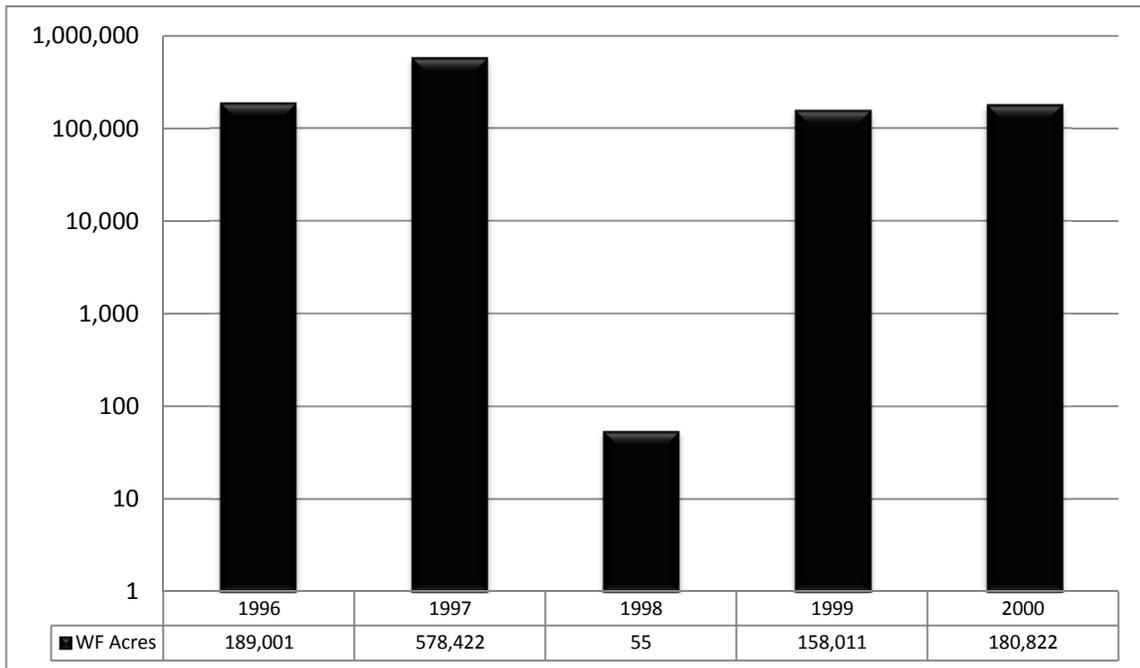
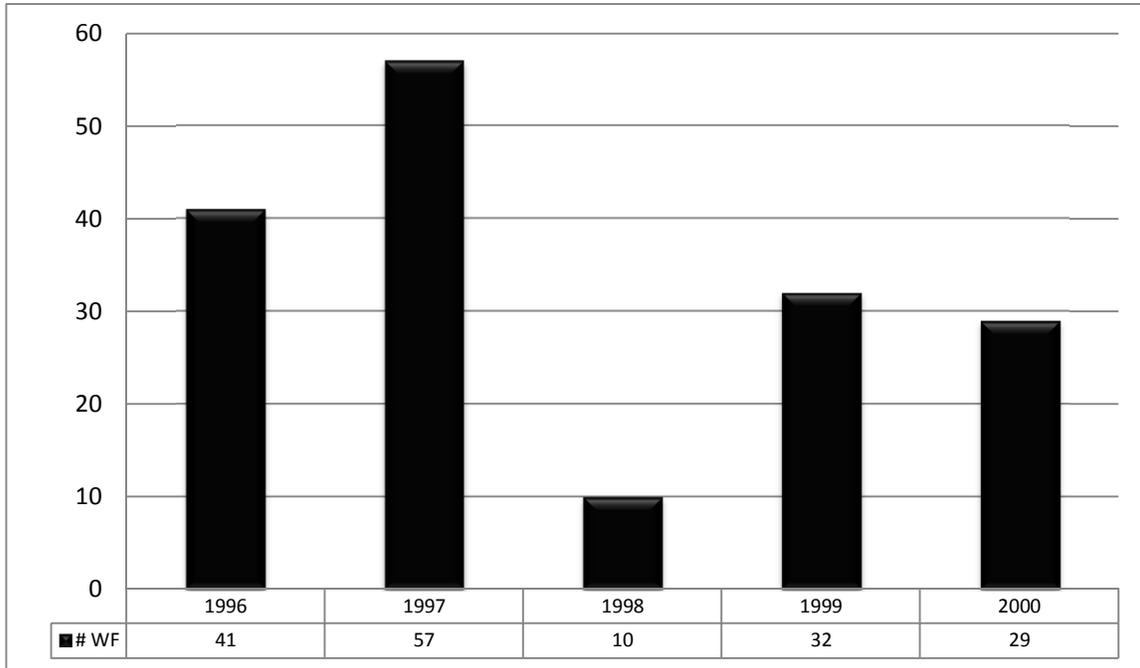
REGION 6 WILDLAND FIRES 1996-2000



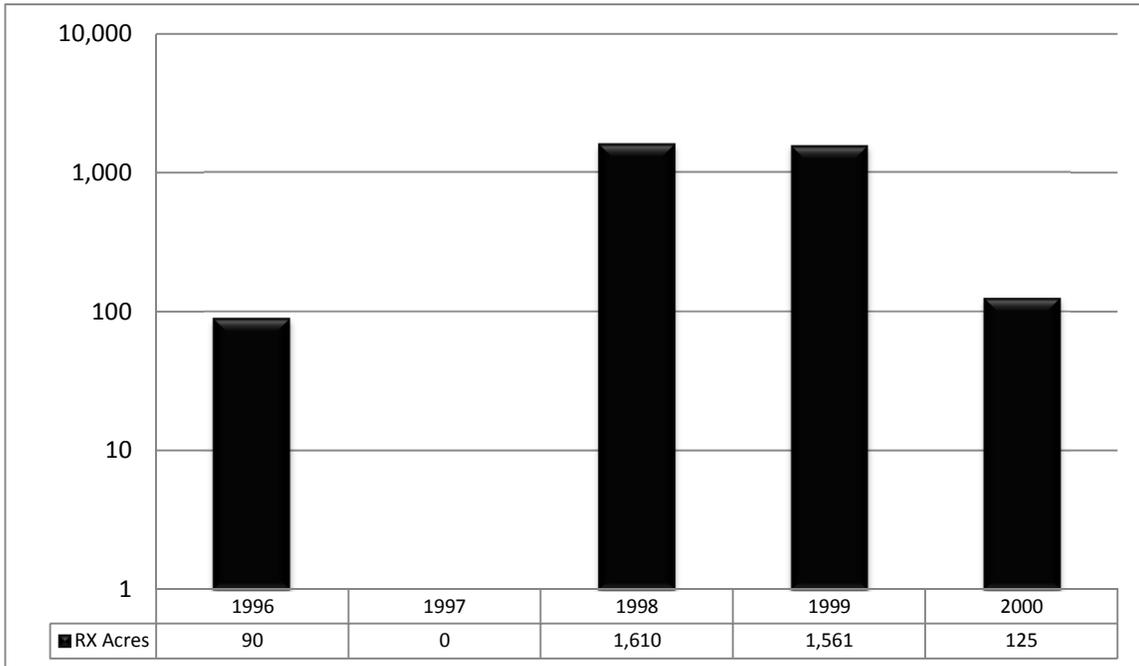
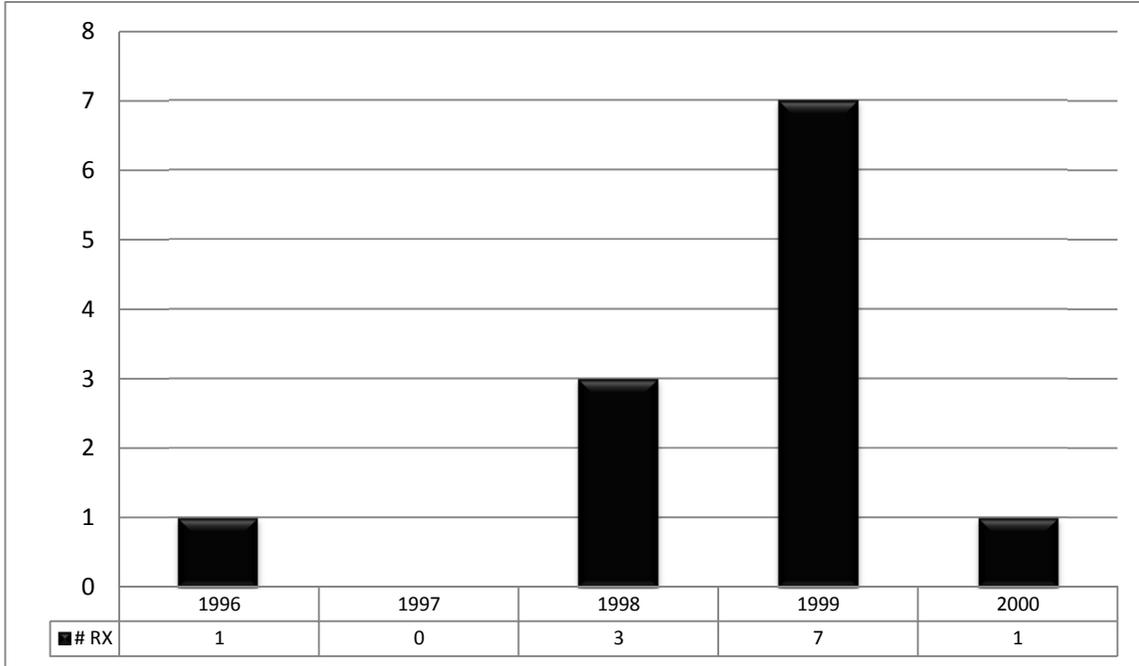
REGION 6 PRESCRIBED FIRES 1996-2000



REGION 7 WILDLAND FIRES 1996-2000

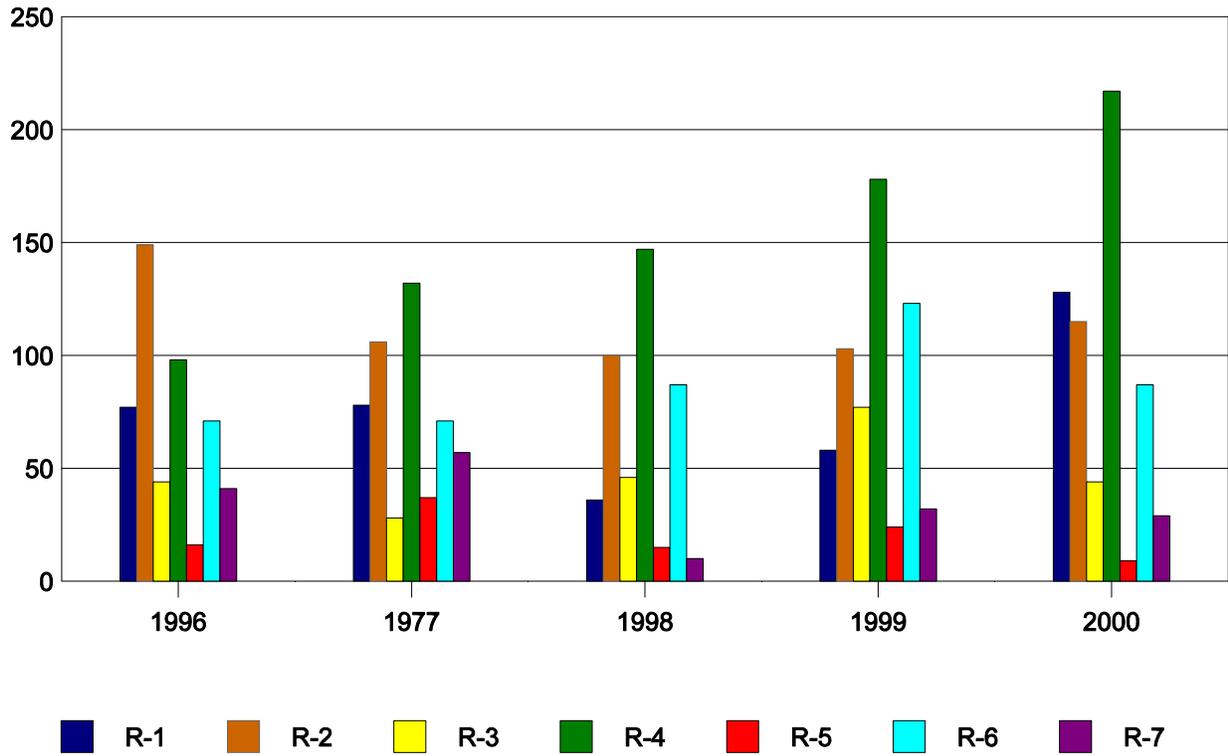


REGION 7 PRESCRIBED FIRES 1996-2000

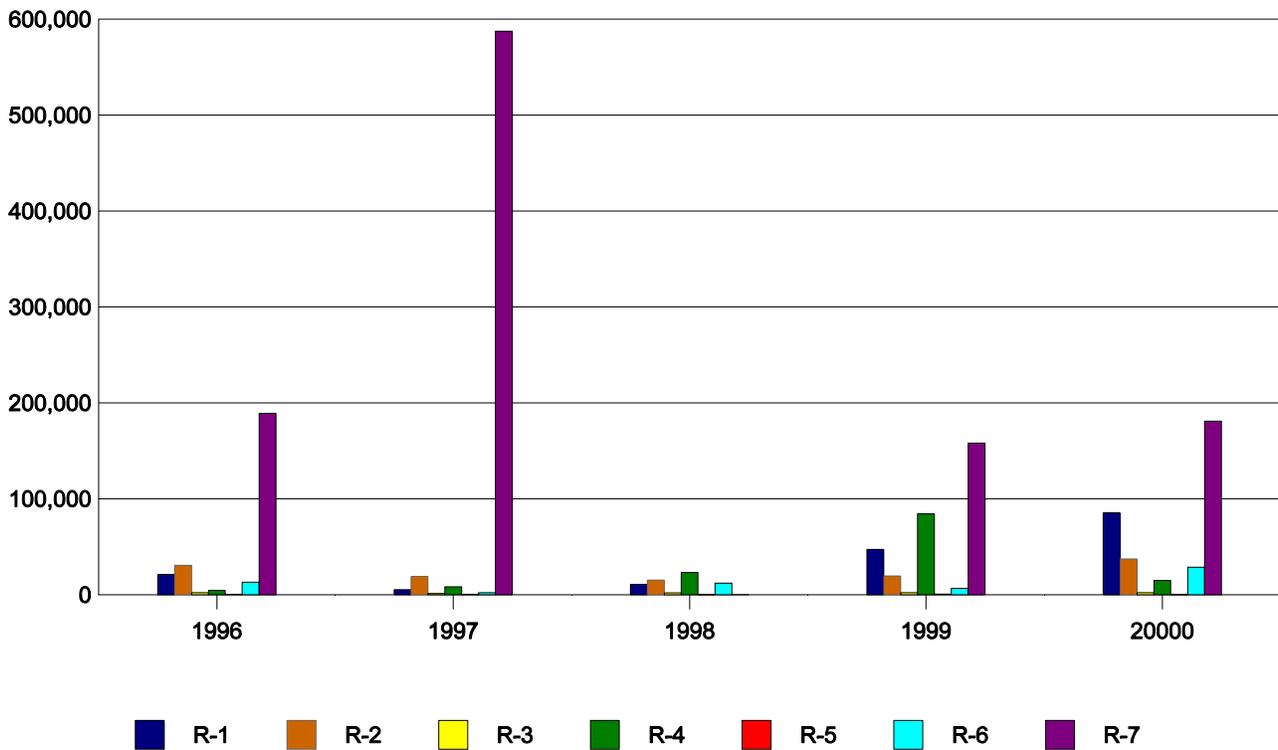


WILDLAND FIRES 1996 - 2000

Number of Wildland Fires

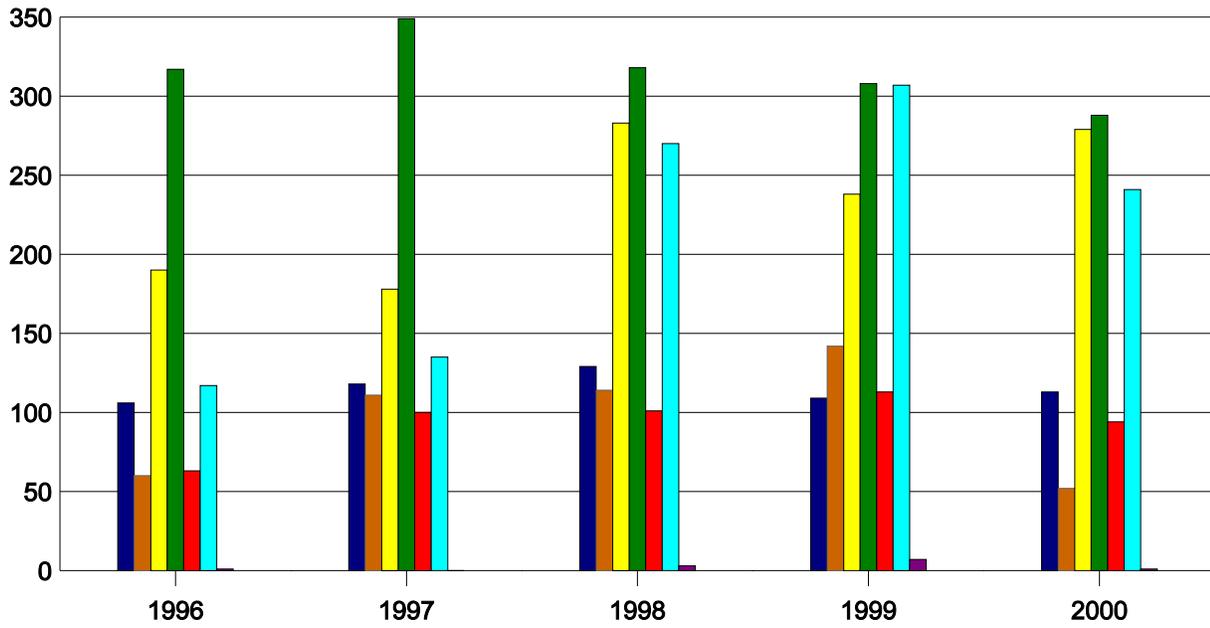


Number of Acres Burned



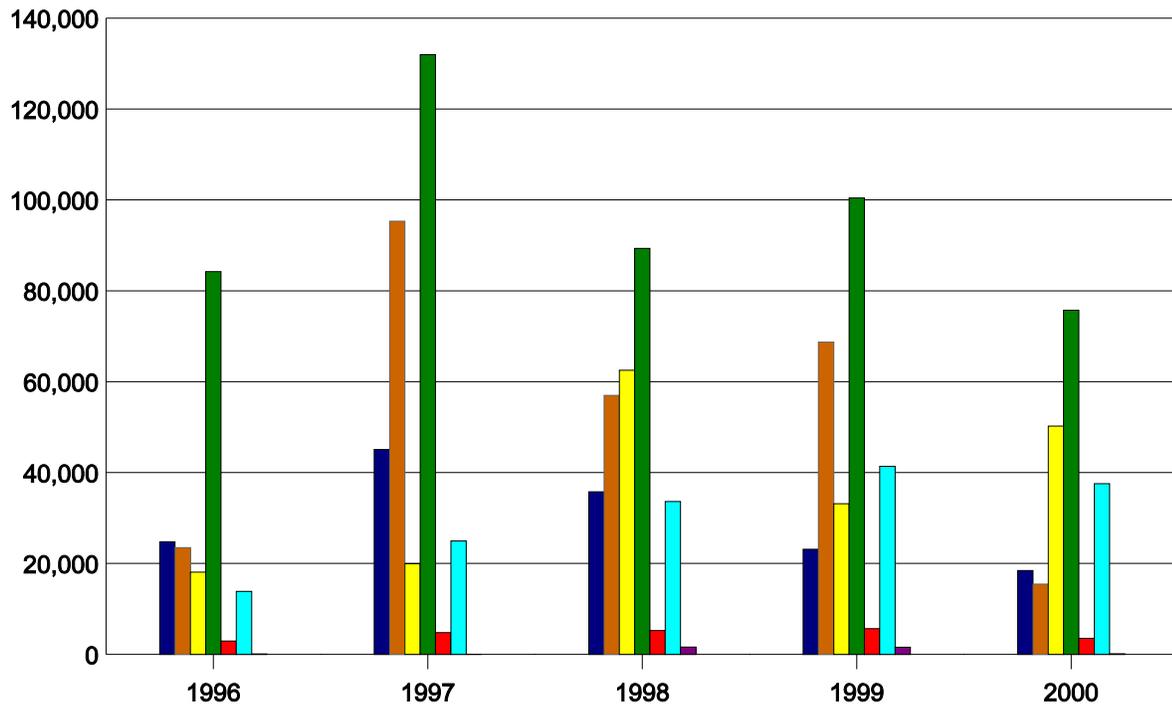
PRESCRIBED FIRES 1996 - 2000

Number of Fires



■ R-1
 ■ R-2
 ■ R-3
 ■ R-4
 ■ R-5
 ■ R-6
 ■ R-7

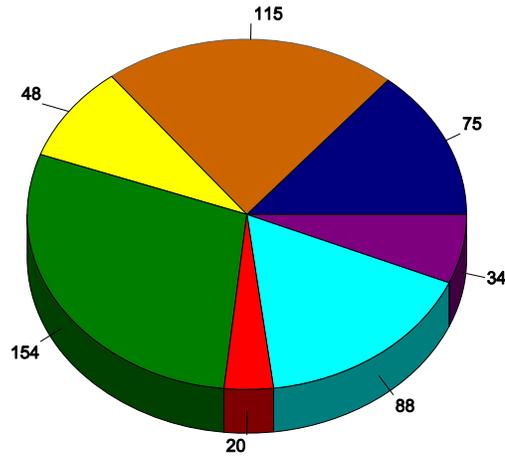
Number of Acres Burned



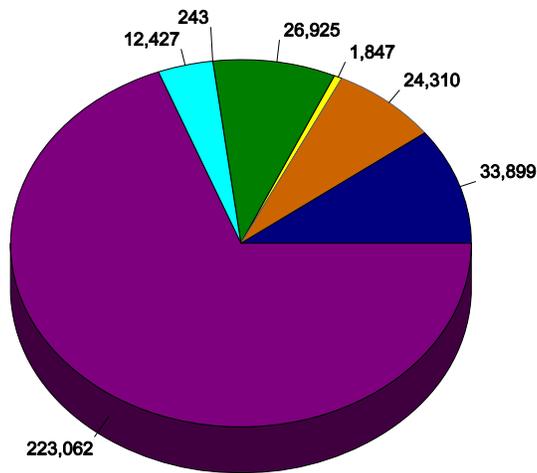
■ R-1
 ■ R-2
 ■ R-3
 ■ R-4
 ■ R-5
 ■ R-6
 ■ R-7

WILDLAND FIRES

1996 - 2000 (Average)



Number of Fires

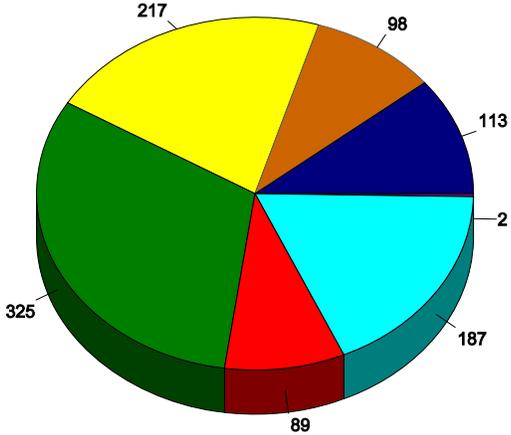


Acres Burned



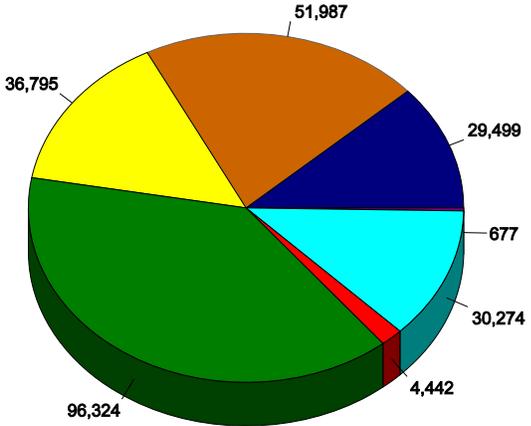
PRESCRIBED FIRES

1996 - 2000 (Average)



Number of Fires

■ R-1
 ■ R-2
 ■ R-3
 ■ R-4
 ■ R-5
 ■ R-6
 ■ R-7

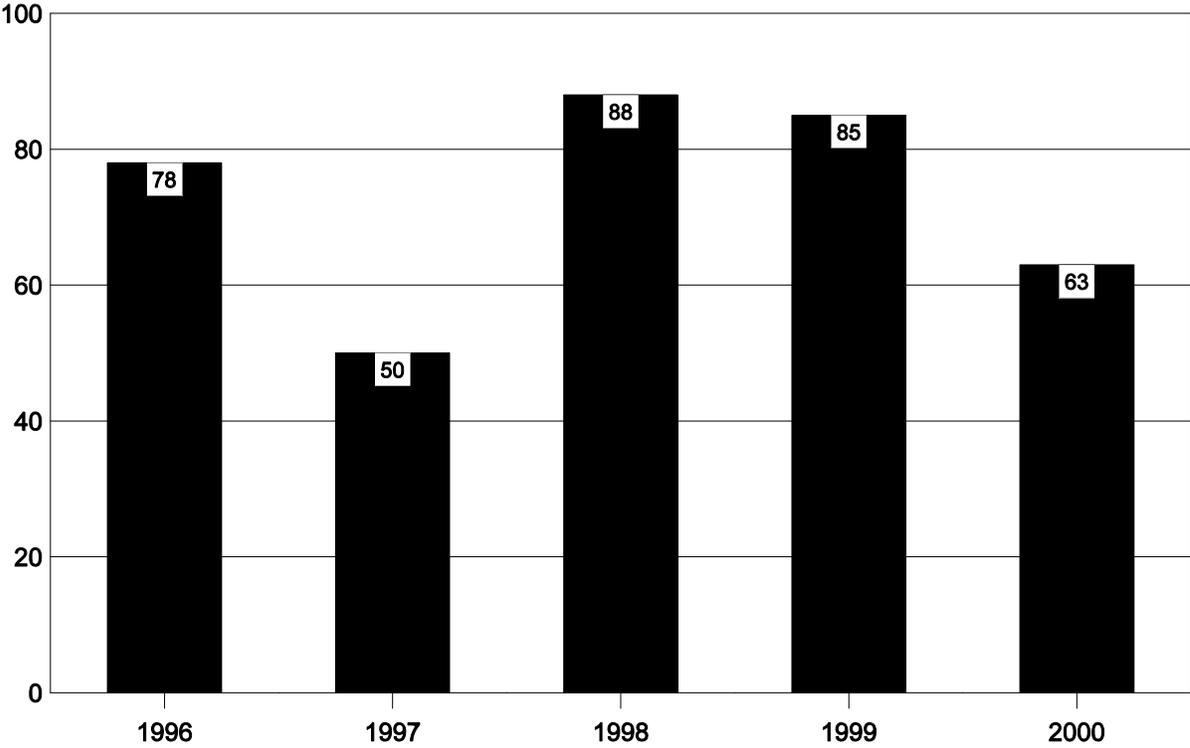


Acres Burned

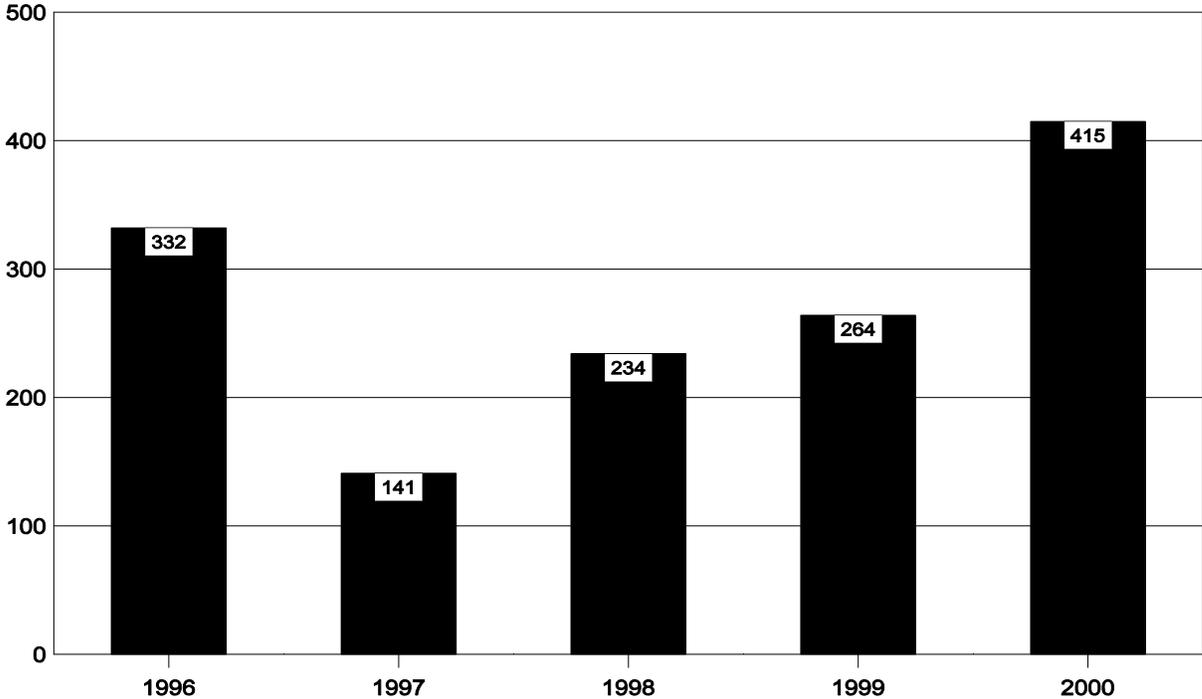
■ R-1
 ■ R-2
 ■ R-3
 ■ R-4
 ■ R-5
 ■ R-6
 ■ R-7

REGIONS 1 - 7

FALSE ALARMS 1996 - 2000

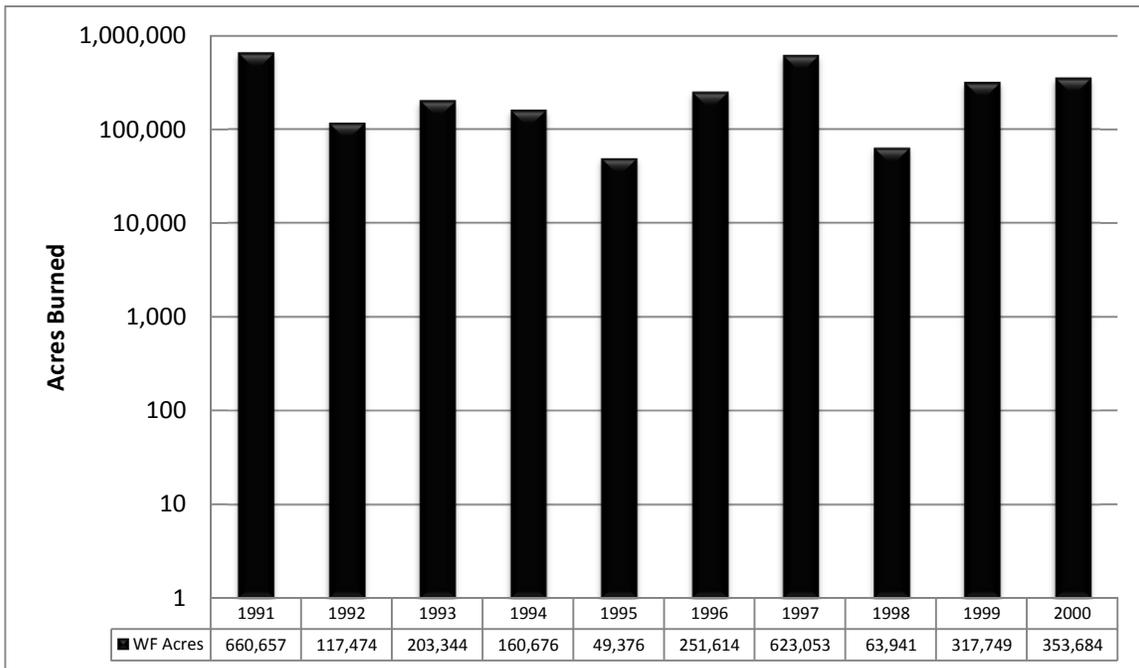
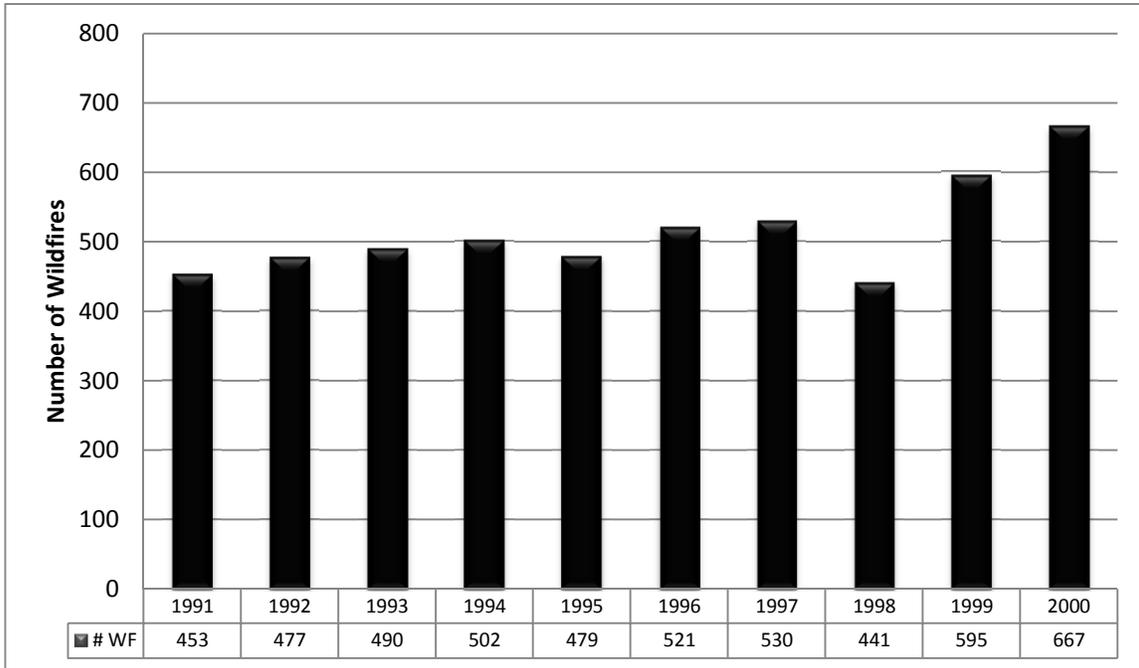


SUPPORT ACTIONS



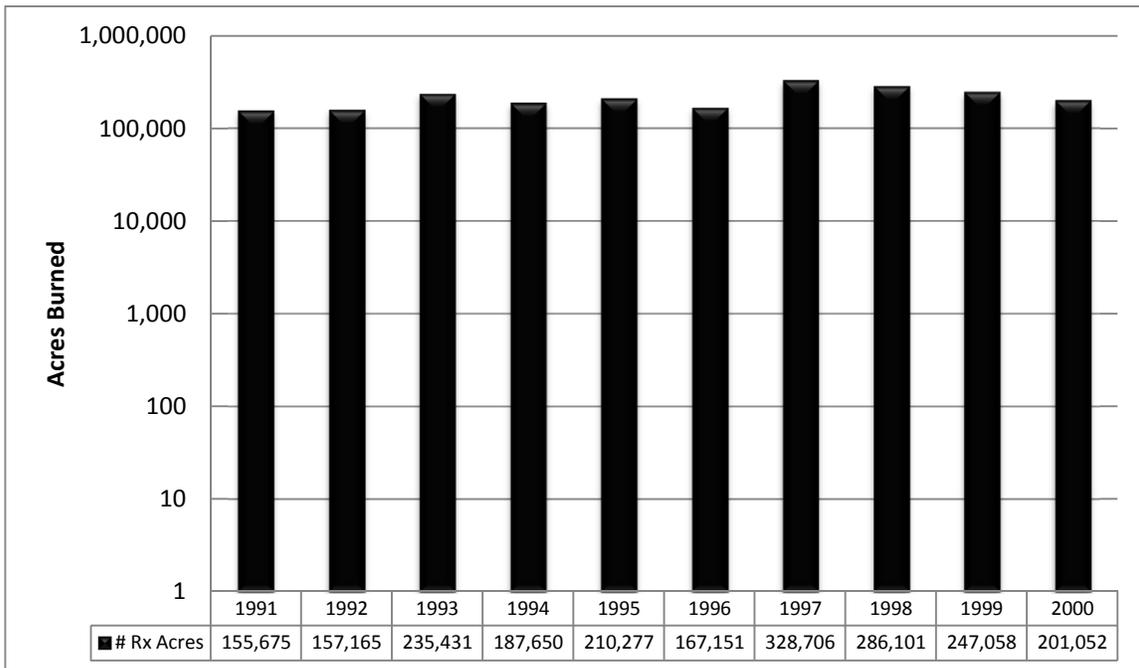
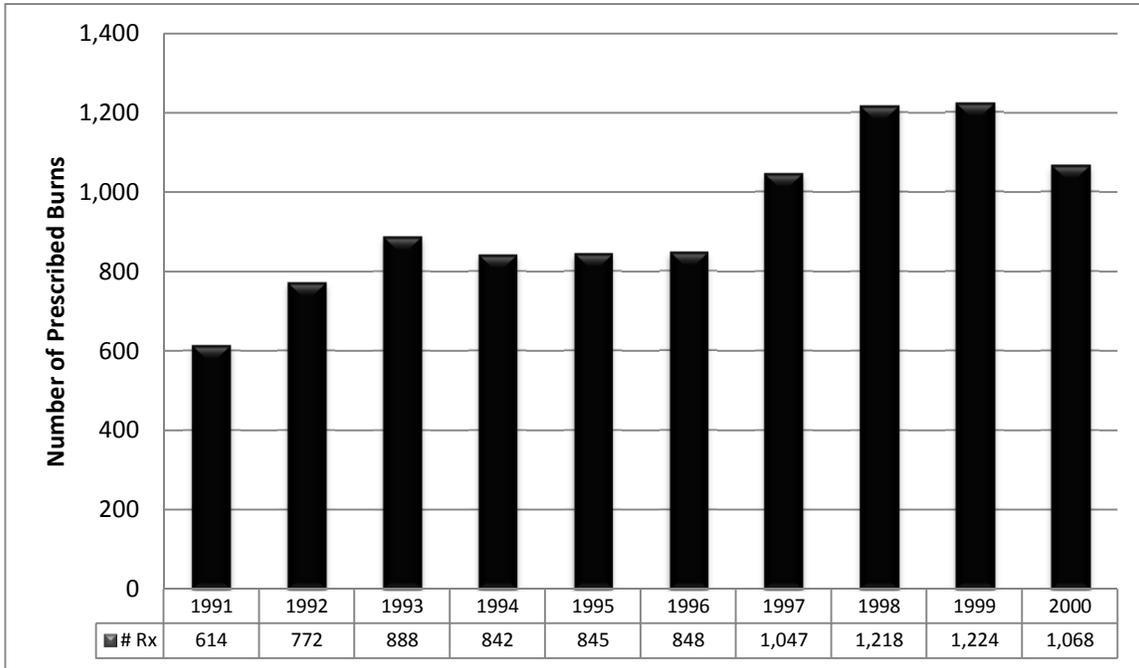
WILDFIRES

1991 - 2000



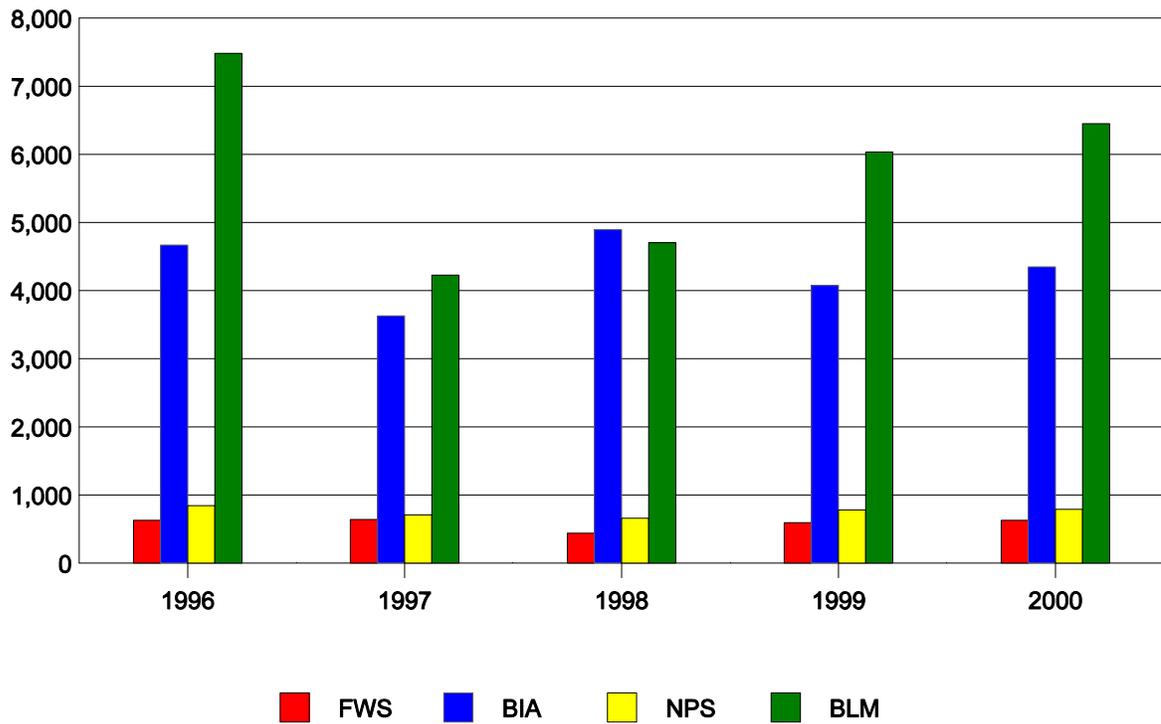
PRESCRIBED BURNS

1991 - 2000

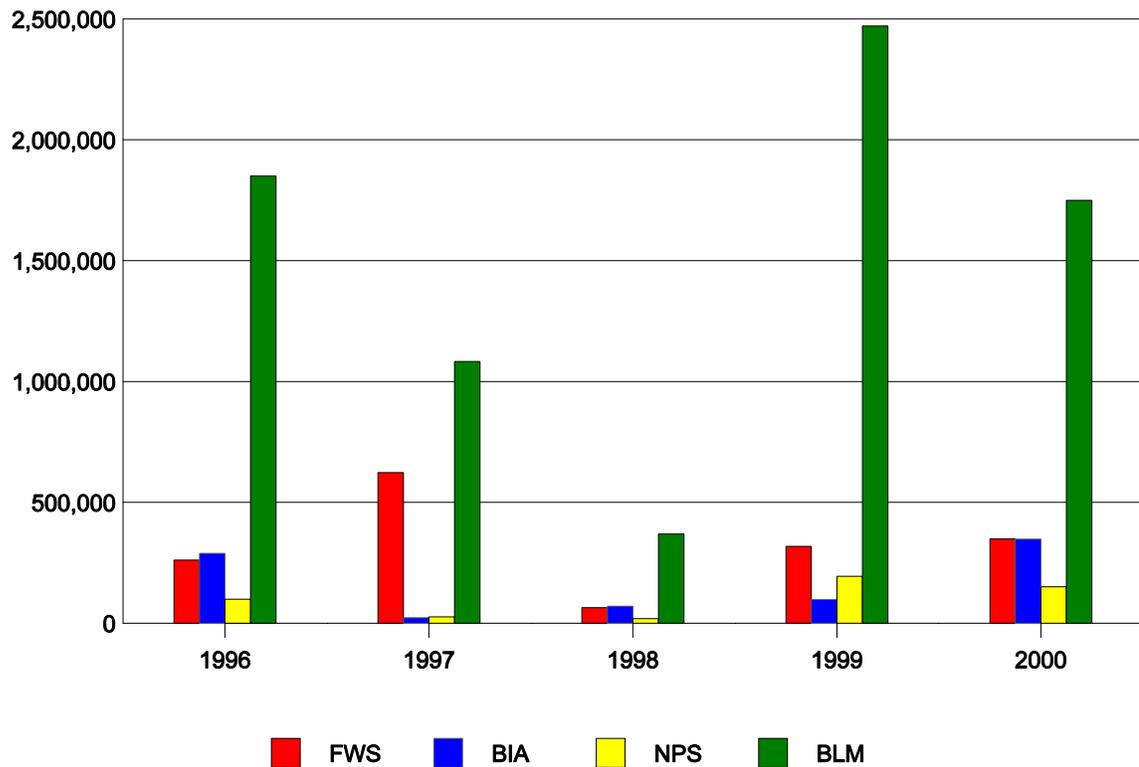


DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR 1996 - 2000

Number of Wildland Fires

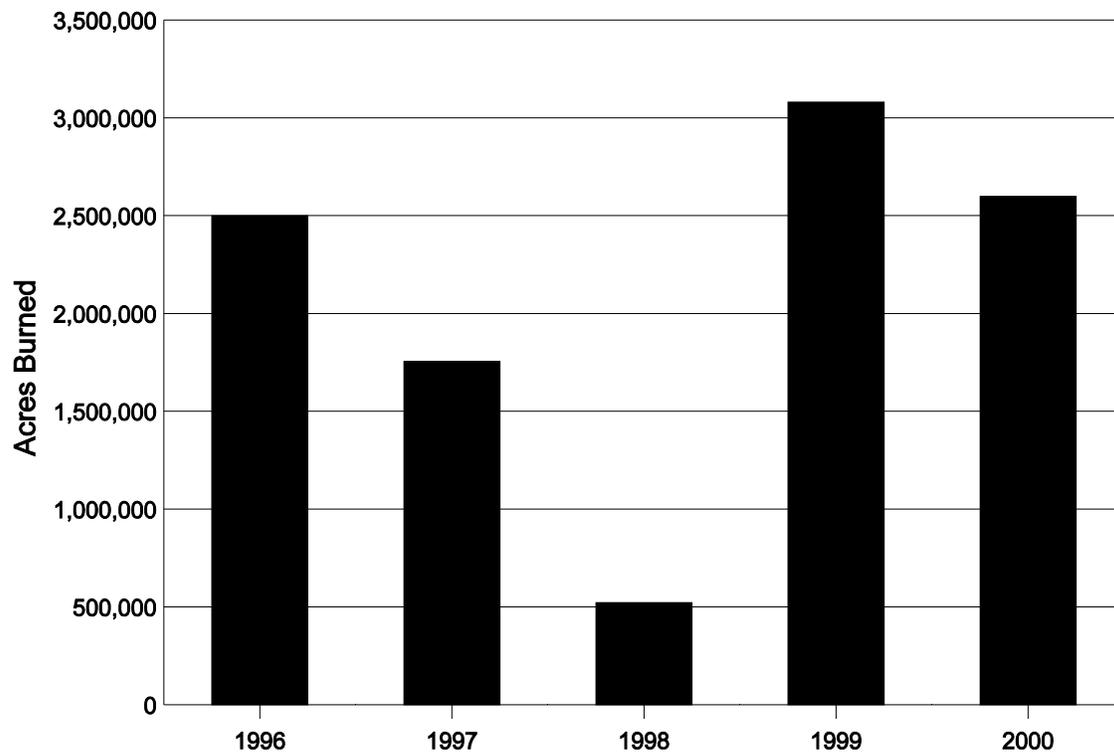
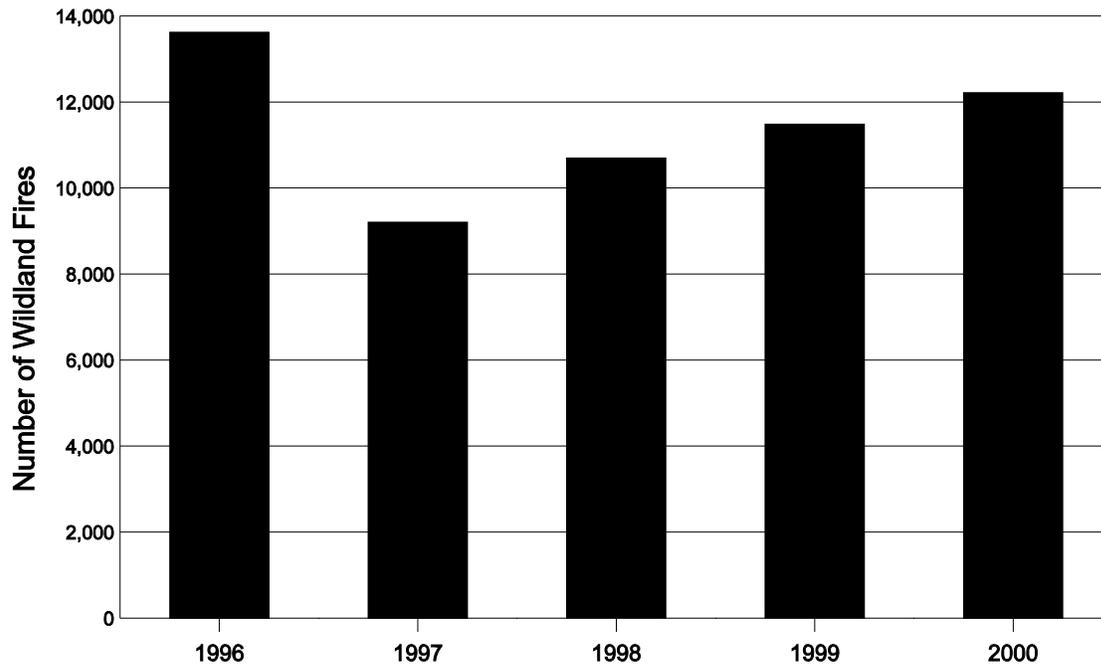


Number of Acres Burned



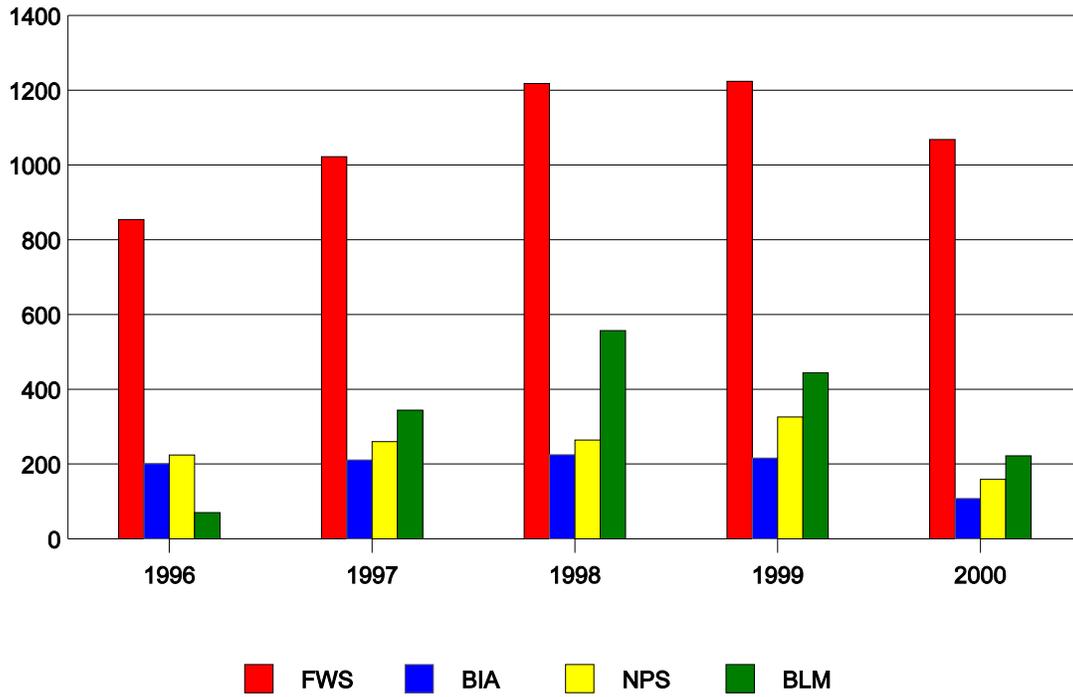
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

WILDLAND FIRES 1996 - 2000

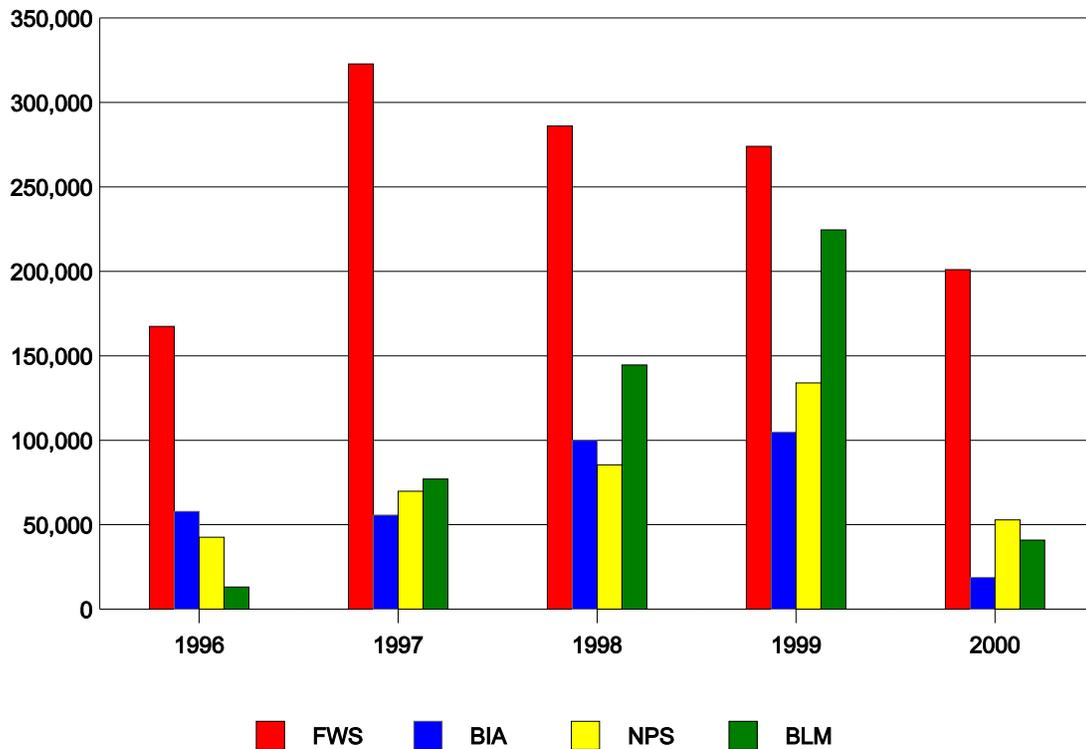


DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR 1996 - 2000

Number of Prescribed Fires



Number of Acres Burned



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

PRESCRIBED FIRES 1996 - 2000

