

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS
AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012
House Report 112–331
CONFERENCE REPORT
TO ACCOMPANY: H.R. 2055
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WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$1,737,631,000 for Forest Service Wildland Fire Management. In addition to the funding provided, the Forest Service is directed to use \$240,000,000 in carryover emergency fire suppression funds before obligating fiscal year 2012 suppression funds. The amount provided, combined with \$315,886,000 in the FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund, fully funds the Forest Service's 10-year average expenditures for fire suppression.

The conferees also provide the following directions:

The Forest Service should complete a plan to replace the aging fleet of federal air tankers as soon as possible. While the Forest Service and others have produced study after study on the critical shortage of firefighting aircraft, there has been a complete lack of substantive progress this year. The Service must work more closely with the Department of the Interior in developing the strategy for replacing the current air tanker fleet.