

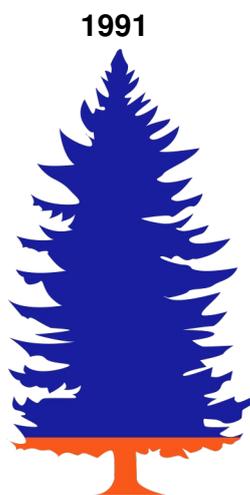
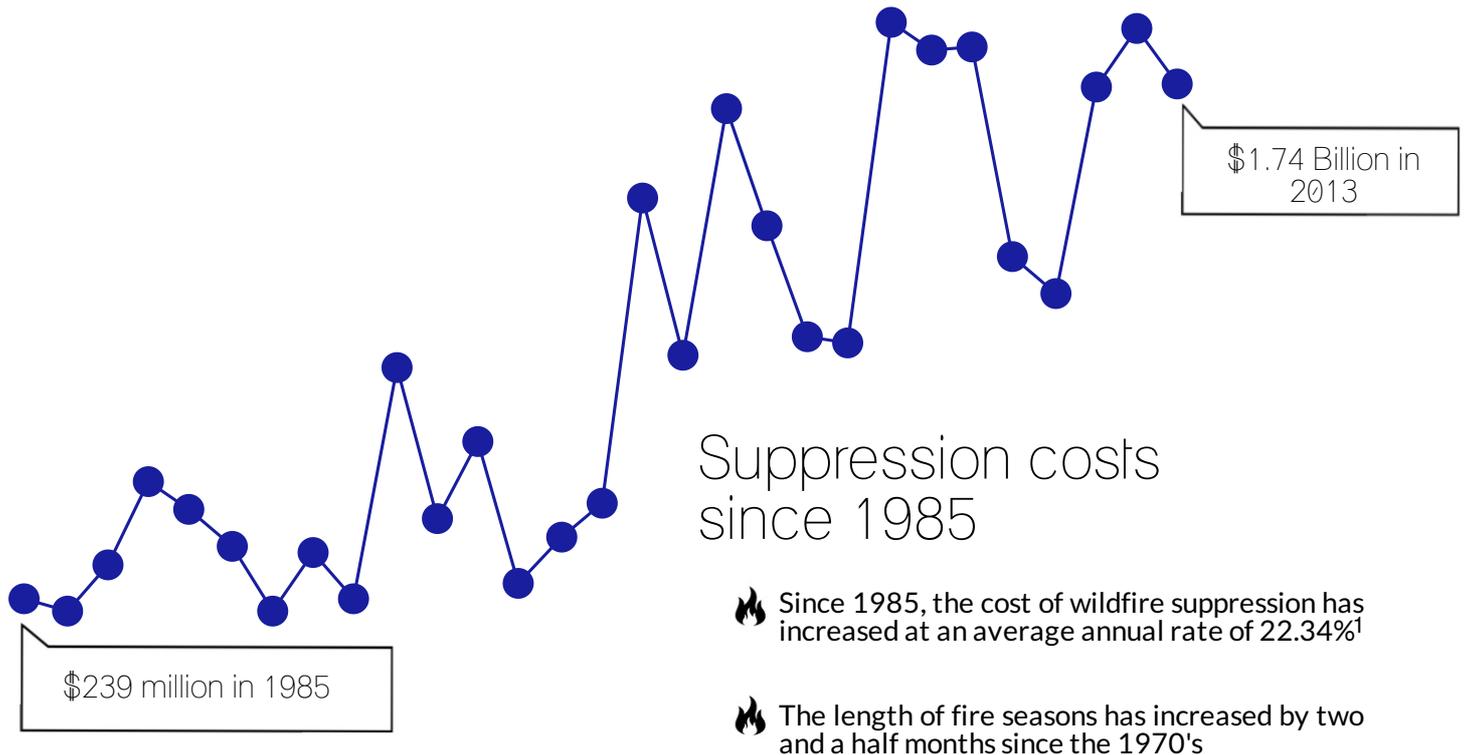
Conservation Dollars are Being Burned

The practice of fire borrowing means that the Forest Service and other land management agencies do not have the resources necessary to effectively manage existing forestry-management, wildlife conservation, and wildfire prevention programs.

Current spending levels for suppression activities are no longer sustainable, and land management agencies need a more stable budget strategy to effectively manage existing programs and resume congressionally mandated activities.

Shifting excess fire suppression costs away from the Forest Service budget would enable the agency to return to a state of budgetary stability.

These budgetary changes would restore appropriated dollars and congressional intent to programs vital to wildlife conservation and wildfire prevention.



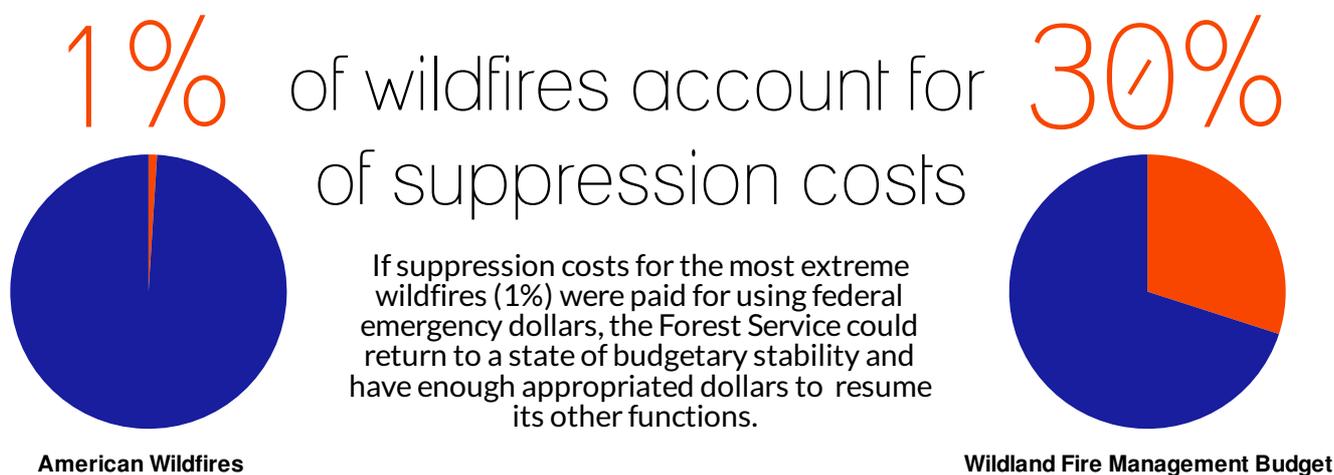
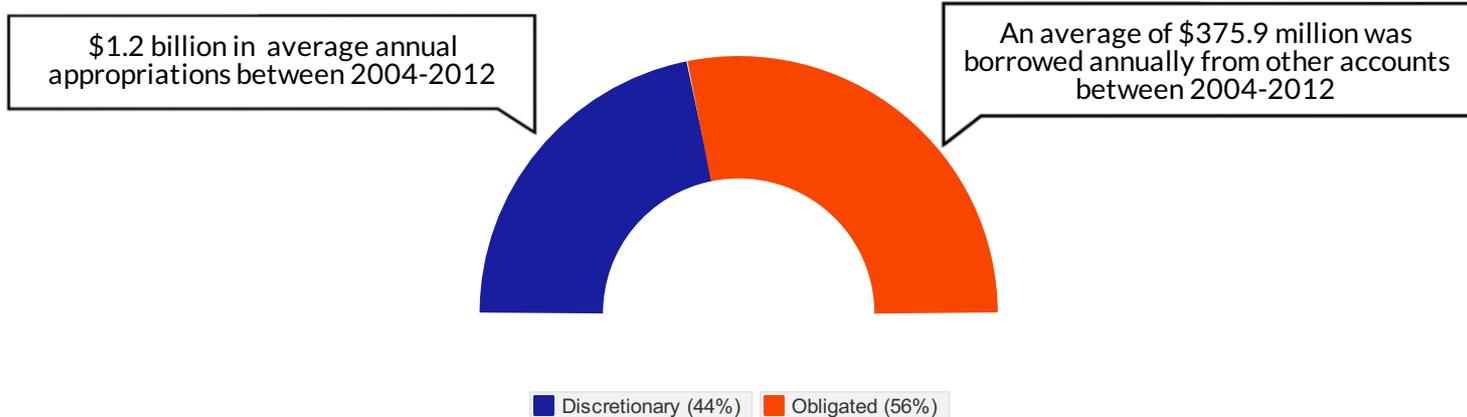
Wildland Fire Management Costs Account for More of the Forest Service Budget Every Year



Wildland Fire Management (13%)
Non-Fire Forest Service Programs (87%)

Wildland Fire Management (47%)
Non-Fire Forest Service Programs (53%)

Between 2004 and 2012, the cost of fire suppression required an average of \$375.9 million above appropriated levels, forcing the Forest Service to borrow the remainder from other important programs.



Wildfire Disaster Funding Act

H.R. 3992 and S. 1875 would put an end to the practice of fire borrowing and restore budgetary stability to the U.S. Forest Service without increasing federal spending.

This legislation would:

- Classify extreme wildfires as natural disasters, enabling the use of federal emergency dollars to fund excessive suppression costs
- Prevent disruptive funding transfers from essential non-fire programs, restoring functionality to vital forestry-management, fire prevention, and conservation programs under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service
- Introduce clear criteria on what suppression activities merit funding under the disaster cap



This document was created by the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership