



Tip sheet

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 26, 2007

CONTACT: Richard Sheehe at 202-315-5477

Travia Cole at 202-347-3190

WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION AND PREPAREDNESS PLANNING
Experts Available to Comment on Wildfires and Related National Academy
Reports to Congress and Departments of Agriculture, Interior

Washington – As officials and residents in California continue to cope with major wildfires, experts from the National Academy of Public Administration are available to provide context and to comment on a series of major reports the National Academy issued in recent years on wildfire mitigation for the U.S. Congress and the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior. Among the issues discussed in the reports:

- Suggestions on approaches to community development and planning that would minimize the vulnerability of homes.
- Recommendations on long-term strategies to reduce the buildup over time of excess natural fuels that feed wildfires.
- Generating fire prevention funds through commercial uses for flammable materials removed from burnable lands.
- Using community organizing principles to build long-term hazard mitigation planning groups.
- Recommendations on training a specialized corps of advisers with experience in real-time, day-to-day allocation of equipment, funding and other resources in fighting major fires. These advisers could deploy to assist in decision-making by local incident management teams on the front lines.

More information is available at www.NAPAwash.org. A direct link to the most recent report is at <http://www.napawash.org/wildfirereport.pdf>.

The National Academy's project manager and study panel chair for these reports are available to comment:

Bruce D. McDowell
National Academy Fellow &
Senior Project Director
202-204-3629
bmcowell@napawash.org

Frank A. Fairbanks
National Academy Fellow, Panel Study Chair
City Manager, City of Phoenix, Arizona
602-262-7958
frank.fairbanks@phoenix.gov

These individuals may be contacted directly. Please contact Richard Sheehe (202-315-5477) or Travia Cole (202-347-3190) for additional assistance.

The National Academy of Public Administration is a non-profit, independent coalition of top public management and organizational leaders who tackle the nation's most critical and complex challenges. With a network of more than 600 distinguished Fellows and an experienced professional staff, the National Academy is uniquely qualified and trusted across government to provide objective advice and practical solutions based on systematic research and expert analysis. Learn more about the National Academy and its work at www.NAPAwash.org

###