



MEGAFIRE ACTION

April 17, 2026

Scott Kupor
Director, Office of Personnel Management
Office of Personnel Management
1900 E Street NW
Washington, DC 20415

**RE: Proposed Rule - Differential Pay for Prescribed Wildland Fire Activities;
Docket ID: [OPM-2026-0199](#).**

Dear Director Kupor,

Megafire Action is a non-profit organization committed to ending the megafire crisis through a holistic approach to land management, wildfire response, and community resilience. We write in strong support of the Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) proposed rule establishing a hazard pay differential for Federal wildland firefighters performing prescribed fire duties.

Federal wildland firefighters put their lives on the line everyday to defend our communities and forests from catastrophic wildfires. A key tool for Federal wildland firefighters in reducing wildfire risk is prescribed fire. However, implementing prescribed fire requires demanding and inherently hazardous work from the wildland firefighter workforce. In particular, an increasing body of scientific evidence has authoritatively demonstrated the long-term impacts from smoke-inhalation on the health of wildland firefighters, including from prescribed fires. Expanding the hazard pay differential to cover prescribed fire duties would ensure compensation accurately reflects the risks, support the wellbeing of wildland firefighters, and improve recruitment, retention, and year-round workforce stability. Strengthening the wellbeing and capacity of this workforce is critical to increasing the pace and scale of treatments needed to address the megafire crisis, and we encourage swift finalization and implementation of this proposed rule.

Do not hesitate to reach out to our Director of Federal Affairs, James Campbell (James@megafire.org) for further information.

Sincerely,

Matt Weiner
Founder and CEO of Megafire Action