

Fire Management Today

Photo Contest

Fire Management Today invites you to submit your best fire-related images to be judged in our annual competition. Winners in each category will receive:

- 1st place—Camera equipment worth \$300 and a 20- by 24-inch framed copy of your image.
- 2nd place—A 16- by 20-inch framed copy of your image.
- 3rd place—An 11- by 14-inch framed copy of your image.
- Honorable Mention—An 8- by 10-inch framed copy of your image.

Winning images will appear in a future issue of *Fire Management Today* and are displayed at the Forest Service's national Visitor Center in Washington, D.C. Some winning images from our 2003 and 2004 contest are featured near national Fire and Aviation staff offices. All contestants will receive a CD with the images and captions (as submitted) remaining after technical and safety review. The CD identifies the winners by category.

Categories

- Wildland fire
- Prescribed fire
- Aerial resources
- Ground resources
- Wildland–urban interface fire
- Miscellaneous

Rules

- The contest is open to everyone. You can submit an unlimited number of entries taken any place or time. No photos judged in previous FMT contests may be entered.
- Images obtained by illegal or unauthorized access to restricted areas will not be considered for prizes.
- You must own the rights to the image and it must not have been previously published.
- We prefer an original slide or negative; however, we'll accept duplicate slides or high-quality prints (for example, good focus, contrast level, and depth of field). Please note that we'll be keeping your slide, negative, or print.
- We'll also accept digital image files if the image was shot at the highest resolution using a camera with at least 2.5 megapixels or if the image is scanned at 300 lines per inch and a minimum output size of 5x7 inches. Digital image files should be TIFFs or highest-quality JPGs.
- Please indicate only one competition category per image. To ensure fair evaluation, we reserve the right to change the competition category for your image.
- Provide a detailed caption for each image. For example:

A Sikorsky S-64 Skycrane delivers retardant on the 1996 Clark Peak Fire, Coronado National Forest, AZ. Photo: name, professional affiliation, town, state, year image captured.

- A panel of judges, with significant photography and publishing experience, determines the winners. Their decision is final.

- Photos will be eliminated from competition if they lack detailed captions, have date stamps, show unsafe firefighting practices (unless that is their express purpose), or are of low technical quality (for example, have soft focus or show camera movement).
- You must complete and sign the attached release statement granting the USDA Forest Service rights to use your image(s). Mail your completed release with your entry or fax it (970-295-5815) at the same time you email digital image files.

***Fire Management Today* Photo Contest Release Statement and Contact Information**

Enclosed is/are _____ (*number*) slide(s)/print(s)/digital image(s) for publication by the USDA Forest Service. For each image submitted, the contest category is indicated and a detailed caption is enclosed. I have the authority to give permission to the Forest Service to publish the enclosed image(s) and am aware that, if used, it/they will be in the public domain and appear on the World Wide Web.

Contact information:

Name _____

Institution affiliation, if any _____

Home or business address _____

Telephone number _____ Email address _____

Mail entries to:

USDA Forest Service, *Fire Management Today* Photo Contest, Karen Mora, 2150 Centre Ave., Building E, Suite 008, Fort Collins, CO 80526

or

Email images and captions to:

kmora@fs.fed.us and fax signed release form to 970-295-6799 (attn: Karen Mora)

Postmark deadline is the first Friday in March!