



## International Association of Wildland Fire

1418 Washburn Street  
Missoula, MT 59801 USA

[www.iawfonline.org](http://www.iawfonline.org), [www.wildfireworld.org](http://www.wildfireworld.org)  
Contact: Paula Nelson, Public Affairs Officer  
[publicaffairs@iawfonline.org](mailto:publicaffairs@iawfonline.org) or 406-821-0042

### NEWS

#### **For immediate release**

Missoula, MT, USA....The recent 11<sup>th</sup> International Wildland Fire Safety Summit held by the International Association of Wildland Fire (IAWF) in Missoula, MT brought together wildfire professionals from throughout the world. After-hours special events benefited three non-profit organizations at the local, national and international levels. “We had a great turnout of Association members for our presentations and demonstrations,” said IAWF President Chuck Bushey, “and we were pleased to generate financial support for the Wildland Firefighter Foundation, the International Fire Relief Mission, and the local Museum of Mountain Flying, too.” The IAWF members generated donations during a silent auction and a showing of the classic 1952 movie; *Red Skies of Montana*.

The Safety Summit brought together firefighters, researchers, fire industry representatives and students around a theme of promoting the story of wildland fire safety by sharing personal experiences, research and emerging technology.

During the Summit, fire related items donated by individuals and organizations from around the world were sold in a silent auction. Funds generated will go to the Wildland Firefighter Foundation based in Boise, ID, to help families of firefighters killed in the line of duty and to assist injured firefighters and their families.

On April 5, the IAWF joined with the Museum of Mountain Flying and the International Fire Relief Mission (IFRM) at the historic Wilma Theatre for a special showing of the 1952 movie; *Red Skies of Montana*. The movie, filmed in the local area, showcased wildland firefighting and smokejumping in a dramatization based on the tragic 1949 Mann Gulch fire. Money raised by the large turnout of enthusiastic viewers will enable the Museum of Mountain Flying to fund a 3D model of Mann Gulch as a backdrop to the actual plane that flew smokejumpers to the tragic fire. Funds shared with the International Fire Relief Mission will provide assistance from the IAWF for Relief Mission work overseas. The IFRM provides humanitarian aid to fire and EMS first responders in developing countries by recycling serviceable fire fighting and EMS equipment.

#### **About the International Association of Wildland Fire**

The IAWF is a nonprofit, 501(c) (3) professional association representing members of the global wildland fire community ([www.iawfonline.org](http://www.iawfonline.org) and <http://wildfireworld.org> ) and is uniquely positioned as an independent organization whose membership includes experts in all aspects of wildland fire management. IAWF independence and breadth of global membership expertise allows it to offer a neutral forum for the consideration of important, at times controversial, wildland fire issues. IAWF produces *Wildfire* magazine, the *International Journal of Wildland Fire*, and *FireNet*.

### **About the International Fire Relief Mission**

IFRM is a 501(c) (3) charitable organization whose mission is to collect donated new and used fire and EMS equipment, deliver it to fire departments in developing countries and educate members of those departments on the equipment's safe and proper use. IFRM is a nonreligious, nonpolitical group dedicated to saving firefighter and civilian lives. IFRM members do not draw a salary and all of the money raised issued to fulfilling the group's mission. IFRM was formed in 2007 by retired emergency-response professions. For further information, visit [www.ifrm2007.com](http://www.ifrm2007.com).

### **About the Museum of Mountain Flying**

To preserve the legends, lore, and historical legacy of the planes, pilots and individuals who pioneered one of the most dangerous and adventurous forms of aviation in the Rocky Mountain West. Our goal is to preserve this history for future generations through preservation and restoration of aircraft and artifacts that showcase this era and through those efforts be able to educate our visitors about a time when a pilot's motto was "Fly the Biggest Piece Back." For further information, visit <http://museummountainflying.org>

### **About the Wildland Firefighter Foundation**

The Wildand Firefighter Foundation's main focus is to help families of firefighters killed in the line of duty and to assist injured firefighters and their families. We honor and acknowledge past, present and future members of the wildland firefighting community, and partner with private and interagency organizations to bring recognition to wildland firefighters. For further information, visit [www.wffoundation.org](http://www.wffoundation.org)

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