

Interagency Fire Management Plan Template

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Fire Management Plans identify and integrate all wildland fire management and related activities within the context of approved land management plans. Wildland fire management goals and components must be coordinated across administrative boundaries on a landscape basis. Bureau or agency fire management decisions must be consistent or compatible across administrative lines.

I Introduction

The Introduction states the needs and reasons for developing the Fire Management Plan (Plan), that the Plan will help achieve the administrative unit's - Forest, Park, Refuge, Reservation, District, etc. (unit) - land and resource management objectives. It states how the Plan meets environmental and cultural compliances (e.g., NEPA, NHPA, ESA, etc.) and briefly describes compliance actions. It summarizes the collaborative processes used to develop the underlying land management plan direction and the fire management plan, as well as additional collaborative opportunities that will be available as the fire management plan is implemented. It also identifies the authority(ies) under which the Plan is developed.

II Relationship to Land Management Planning/Fire Policy

The Land Management Planning/Fire Policy section references and cites agency management policies concerning fire management and relates the Plan to the enabling legislation and the purpose of the unit including a summary of the significant resources and values of the unit. It identifies in broad programmatic terms, the direction found in the land and resource management plans, such as goals, objectives, standards, guidelines, and/or desired future condition(s) as they pertain to fire management

III Wildland Fire Management Strategies

A. General Management Considerations

This is a brief description to determine how wildland fire will be managed and identifies any area-wide considerations, such as interagency partnerships, regional strategies, collaborators, and collaborative processes to be incorporated in fire management strategies. The core principles of the 10 Year Comprehensive Strategy should be considered including collaboration, priority setting, and accountability.

B. Wildland Fire Management Goals

This is a list of the wildland fire management goals. These goals provide the programmatic direction for the wildland fire program. These goals should be stated in broad, programmatic terms, within the context of approved land management plan direction. Ideally these are found in approved land management plans. This section

describes how the Fire Management Plan will safely and effectively contribute to achieving the goals in the unit's approved land and resource management plan.

It is identified here how these goals contribute to accomplishing regional or national strategic plans such as the 10 Year Comprehensive Strategy, National Fire Plan, or Cohesive Strategies, as well as wildland fire policy. Fire program goals reflect the core principles and goals of the Comprehensive Strategy and the Cohesive Strategy where supported by land and resource management plans.

C. Wildland Fire Management Options

This section briefly addresses the scope of wildland fire management program options that will be implemented within the administrative unit and further developed through the Fire Management Plan. It should include a brief and defensible rationale for all wildland fire management strategies that managers intend to apply in each FMU/FMZ. It may include the full range of options authorized under current policy, or a more limited range consistent with approved land management planning and resources to be protected.

D. Description of Wildland Fire Management Strategies by Fire Management Unit (Zone) (FMU/FMZ)

Identification of fire management units/zones and strategies within the units/zones is the cornerstone for planning the management of the wildland fire program. This section must tie directly to the decisions made in the land and resource management planning process by management area, aggregated into FMUs/FMZs. This section identifies objectives, standards, guidelines and/or future desired conditions within the FMU/FMZ and the wildland fire management strategies that will be used to accomplish them.

An FMU/FMZ is any land management area definable by objectives, management constraints, topographic features, access, values to be protected, political boundaries, fuel types, major fire regime groups, and so on, that set it apart from the management characteristics of an adjacent FMU/FMZ. The FMUs/FMZs may have dominant management objectives and pre-selected strategies assigned to accomplish these objectives. The development of FMUs/FMZs should avoid redundancy. Each FMU/FMZ should be unique as evidenced by management strategies, objectives and attributes.

IV. Wildland Fire Management Program Components

Each Fire Management Plan is composed of the following wildland fire management components that define and document the unit's wildland fire program. Each of these components should be addressed in detail as it relates to the wildland fire management program described above in Section III. Although individual sub-elements of each of these components may differ from organization to organization, they should be addressed as needed either in this section, or a reference should be cited as to where this type of information can be found.

E Wildland Fire Suppression

This section includes program direction for suppression actions taken on fires for which suppression is the appropriate management response (i.e., the fire is not being managed for resource benefits). A full range of suppression response is available consistent with objectives, constraints, or other direction for a Fire Management Unit. It would include program areas such as preparedness (including prevention and community education programs, community grant programs and assistance, training, qualifications, readiness, detection and aviation), initial attack, extended attack, and other management considerations (e.g. air quality).

F Wildland Fire Use

This section includes direction for managing wildland fires for resource benefits. It includes direction for such things as decision criteria, implementation procedures, identifying objectives, constraints (air quality, etc.), required personnel, public interaction, and documentation and reporting requirements (e.g., costs).

G Prescribed Fire

This section describes planning and implementation for prescribed fire. It includes direction for; annual activities for implementation, long term prescribed fire program, required qualified personnel, prescription requirements, prescribed fire plan requirements, air quality and smoke management, treatment maps, and documentation and reporting requirements, etc.

H Non-Fire Fuel Applications

This section describes planning and implementation for non-fire fuel treatments. It includes direction for; annual activities for implementation, equipment and seasonal use restrictions, effects monitoring requirements, and reporting, documentation, etc.

E. Emergency Rehabilitation and Restoration

This section references post-fire emergency rehabilitation (stabilization) and restoration planning and implementation. Refer to the Interagency Burned Area Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook.

V. Organization and Budget

This section contains information pertaining to the wildland fire management organization and budget. It identifies the fire organization and budget needed to achieve the goals and objectives outlined in land and resource management plans and the fire management plan. It includes such things as the number, timing and location of the workforce and necessary equipment. The wildland fire management organization is normally based on analytical tools such as the Interagency Initial Attack Assessment (IIAA). This section identifies the budget level to support

the fire management organization. It identifies both the desired and current fiscal year organization and budget levels if they are different. Contract resources, and supplemental and cooperative agreements should be identified and referenced here.

VI. Monitoring and Evaluation

This section outlines monitoring and evaluation requirements. It identifies components, procedures, time frames, responsibilities and reporting requirements for monitoring and evaluating whether the FMP is being implemented as planned and whether fire-related goal and objectives are being achieved. Information obtained from monitoring and evaluations is used to update the FMP as well as land use plans.

Monitoring and reporting of national wildland fire performance measures will also be addressed.

Glossary

Appendix