

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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To: All Employees

From: State Director

Subject: Interagency Integrated Fire Management Organizations for the Western Slope of Colorado

In February 2005 we made a decision to formally integrate the remaining fire management organizations of the western slope of Colorado. Specifically, we agreed to establish the following organizations effective May 15, 2005:

- Northwest Colorado Interagency Fire Management Unit: Routt National Forest, Kremmling Field Office, Little Snake Field Office, and White River Field Office.
- Upper Colorado River Interagency Fire Management Unit: White River National Forest, Glenwood Springs Field Office, and Grand Junction Field Office.
- Montrose Interagency Fire Management Unit: Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest; Gunnison Field Office; and Uncompahgre Field Office.

Each fire management unit will be under the direction of a local Board of Directors consisting of the heads of the serviced organizations. The Fire Management Officer for the Unit, a BLM employee, will be supervised by a member of the Board of Directors. Their second line supervisor will be the BLM Colorado Associate State Director.

Each Board of Directors is encouraged to invite the heads of other local land management agencies to participate as a member of the Board of Directors. The roles and responsibilities of these additional members will be determined locally.

In accordance with the 1998 and 2001 Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Acts and the National Memorandum of Understanding between the USDA and the USDO I BLM, individual supervisors are delegated reciprocal those authorities and responsibilities commensurate with USFS and BLM delegation of authorities manuals and their individual positions.

With this decision, we will realize a common vision that began many years ago. Our goal was to have this organization in place by the 2005 fire season, with final organization changes implemented by October 1, 2005.

I am encouraged by the cooperative attitude each of you have displayed regarding this effort and believe that the decision to fully integrate these fire management units will best serve the needs of the land, our organizations, and the local citizens.

Signed by:  
Ron Wenker  
State Director

Authenticated by:  
Adrian Caufield  
Branch of IRM & Access