

# July Complex

CA-KNF-005561

## Strategic Operations Plan

08/14/14



## **Introduction**

This strategic operations plan outlines the long-term management of the July Complex located on the Salmon Scott River Ranger District of the Klamath National Forest. The strategic operating plan links strategic goals and objectives to tactical goals and objectives. It can help identify milestones, goals, objectives, and actions which all can be monitored to determine progress of the overall plan. The strategic plan can help define: where are we now, where do we want to be, how do we get there, and how do we measure our progress.

Numerous lightning fires started in Northern California in late July, 2014; many of them being contained while others have grown over the past week. Four fires became known as the KNF July Complex (Leef, Rays, Log and Whites). Leef and Rays are both contained at approximately 20 acres and likely to hold; while the Whites and Log fires have grown outside initial control objectives. The fires are likely to be a long-term event due to steep, rugged and largely inaccessible terrain coupled with current and expected weather and fire behavior. Past experiences and climatology records of the Scott and Salmon River drainage indicate a season ending fire event may not occur for a couple months.

Current fire suppression efforts include a combination of direct, indirect and point suppression tactics to take advantage of opportunities that provide for a high probability of success. The complex is utilizing a full suppression strategy. The intent of the strategic operating plan is to further build on opportunities that will provide for the highest probability of success for the duration of this incident.

To successfully manage and communicate the CA Interagency Incident Management Team – Team 1 developed the strategic operating plan. This tool can be used for informing and planning of ongoing suppression efforts as well as a communication tool for agency administrators, public information, and/or information for incoming incident management teams.

## **Objectives**

Develop a strategic operating plan to assist in the short-term and long-term management (strategic and operational) of the KNF July Complex.

Gather intelligence from the local public and fire agency resources including partners to provide a more robust knowledge/dataset of the area.

Produce timely products to assist the incident management team and agency administrators in the decision making process.

Develop a product that can be used as a communication tool for the concept of:

- The right plan, in the right place, at the right time, with the right assets, and for the right duration

## **Management Action Points**

Management Action Points (MAPs) are mapped locations where the fire's leading edge may reach. They are places where fire's arrival identifies a specific fire mitigation action to limit fire spread, to protect values at risk and when to provide updated information. Each MAP's description recommends the number and kinds of operational resources needed to accomplish the mitigation. MAPs can be accomplished sequentially or simultaneously, allowing for better utilization of resources.

MAP actions may be initiated at the discretion of an incident management organization. Implementation *should not* occur without consideration of current and predicted weather and fire behavior, and of other factors influencing the July Complex fires and their management. These factors will determine the need for implementation of the management actions as well as drive the location, urgency, and intensity of the actions.

All firefighting resources listed in MAP descriptions should be considered as recommendations only. In order to be safe and effective, Incident Commanders and other fire managers need the flexibility to use any tactical resources needed to meet the objectives of managing these fires. They should give careful consideration to geographic area preparedness levels and draw-down levels. **All fire management actions must be based on current and expected fire behavior, including in light of the time of year and season.**

As needed in response to the changing fire situation, it is important to update the plans in this document. The Log and Whites fires will grow in size and/or complexity during the rest of the fire season. New fires may start. Any of these fires may influence each other. In response to all of these changes, fire managers should reassess this document's contingency plans. Each day's operational priorities and planned strategic and tactical actions should be assessed in light of the location of the fire's leading edge relative to MAPs. Add new MAP's or change existing ones as needed.

## **Log Fire - Management Action Point 1: Mill Creek**

### **Condition**

The Mill Creek MAP has already been reached; Fire is backing towards Mill Creek, Mill Creek Trail and the main Mill Creek Road, and has slopped over Mill Creek. The details about this MAP that follow therefore describe actions already underway. Mill Creek is serving as a primary line to keep fire from spreading south and southeast.

### **Location**

South of the fire's current perimeter  
Along Mill Creek from Mill Creek Ponds to where Mill Creek Road intersects Emigrant Creek Road.

### **Management Intent**

If minimal effort and exposure can be taken to suppress slop overs or spot fires; action will be taken. Observe fire behavior and relay to Operations when fire is likely to further breach the MAP.

### **Actions**

If fire crosses Mill Creek an evacuation advisory is triggered.  
Extinguish any spot fires or slopovers as quickly as possible, but only if chances of catching any slop over or spot fire has a high probability of success.  
Implement a structure protection plan for the Mill Creek Road structures.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and private property. Numerous residences exist at the base of Mill Creek. As the fire spreads south, residences in Kidder Creek will be at risk.  
Timber Vest is the main landowner in this area. High valued timber and economic loss is of major concern. If the fire were to breach this MAP, additional Timber Vest land would largely be impacted.  
Mill Creek Trailhead is currently not open for public use; however, if this MAP is passed additional trail closures and dispersed camping may be impacted (i.e. Kidder Creek).  
Fish bearing streams that are habitat for Steelhead, Coho Salmon, and endangered aquatic species.  
Water quality impacts; including agriculture use and cultural uses of water in the area.  
Quartz Valley Indian Reservation cultural uses.

### **Probability of Success**

Low.  
Fuel concentration is high, and rolling rocks present a hazard to personnel in the area. Fuels have been extremely dry and there has been active fire behavior. There is limited ground access the area thus the actions would require aviation support. The fire is currently backing down near Mill Creek Trailhead area. Mill Creek drainage is wet; however, continuous fuels go near the creek. The likelihood of a slope over or spot fire is likely – leaving a likelihood of success to be low to moderate and depends largely on the success of resources to catch any fire that breaches the MAP.

**Resources**

Resources to be determined by the IMT.

**Consequences of Not Taking Action**

A much larger and potentially more expensive fire  
Increased firefighter exposure to the fire environment  
Private property damage and potential loss of structures  
Increased threat to natural, historic, and cultural resources  
Impacts to recreational activities  
Longer period of poor air quality

**Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors  
Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Office of Emergency Services  
Red Cross  
Community liaison  
Communities of Mill Creek, Quartz Valley and Kidder Creek

## **Log Fire - Management Action Point 2: Shackleford Creek**

### **Condition**

The Shackleford Creek MAP has already been reached; Fire backing towards Shackleford Creek, Shackleford Creek Trail and Trailhead. The details about this MAP that follow therefore describe actions already underway.

### **Location**

North of the fire's current perimeter  
Area along Shackleford Creek from Log Lake to Shackleford Creek Falls.

### **Management Intent**

Utilize available resources to suppress the fire at this MAP to eliminate the threat to identified values at risk.

### **Actions**

Brush where necessary on waterway and use portable pumps to support direct and indirect attack fire suppression actions  
Develop a structure protection plan for the Reynolds Cabin and structures at Shackleford Creek Trailhead.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure at the Shackleford Trailhead. In addition, the Reynolds Cabin near Log Lake.  
Shackleford Trailhead is a major and highly used trail system into the Marble Mountain Wilderness. The trails are currently closed. Additional trails and recreational impacts would occur.  
Timber Vest is the main landowner in this area. High valued timber and economic loss is of major concern. If the fire were to breach this MAP, additional Timber Vest land would largely be impacted.  
Fish bearing streams that are habitat for Steelhead, Coho Salmon, and endangered aquatic species.  
Water quality impacts; including agriculture use and cultural uses of water in the area. Quartz Valley Indian Reservation cultural uses.  
Grazing allotments that are currently being used would be impacted.

### **Probability of Success**

High.  
Fuels have been extremely dry and there has been active fire behavior. The fire is currently backing down near Mill Creek Trailhead area. Mill Creek drainage is wet; however, continuous fuels go near the creek. The likelihood of a slope over or spot fire is likely – leaving a likelihood of success to be low to moderate and depends largely on the success of resources to catch any fire that breaches the MAP.

**Consequences of Not Taking Action**

A much larger and potentially a more expensive fire  
Increased firefighter exposure to the fire environment  
Closure to an access point, trail head, to the wilderness thus limiting recreational opportunities  
Private property damage and potential loss to structures.  
Impacts to water quality and water uses.  
Active range allotments would be impacted  
Longer period of poor air quality

**Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors  
Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Office of Emergency Services  
Red Cross  
Community liaison  
Communities of Mill Creek, Quartz Valley and Kidder Creek

## **Log Fire - Management Action Point 3: East Flank Dozer Line**

### **Condition**

If the fire is likely going to spread to this MAP; prepare all roads and create dozer lines to protect structures, infrastructure and damage private property. The IMT is currently implementing this action.

### **Location**

East of the fire's current perimeter  
Dozer line from Shackleford Creek Road to Patterson Creek Road in relatively flat terrain.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to initiate action to protect structures and infrastructure in the greater Quartz Valley area. This is the last MAP before entering into numerous structures and infrastructure. This MAP should be high priority.

### **Values to Protect**

Numerous structures and infrastructure including the greater areas of Quartz Valley, Kidder Creek and Patterson Creek.

### **Actions**

This action is currently being implemented  
Implement structure protection mitigation actions  
Use existing roads, instead of building new line, wherever possible  
Construct line from Shackleford Creek Road to Patterson Creek Road.  
Develop structure protection plans for structures in the affected area.

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate to High.  
The area is in the foothills of the steeper mountainous terrain. The gentle terrain will increase the likelihood of success. Current active fire activity and extremely dry fuels may test

### **Resources**

Resources to be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of not taking action**

Fire could damage or destroy homes and other private property.  
Ingress and egress routes to residential areas would be compromised  
Tribal and cultural lands would be impacted  
Increased firefighter exposure to the fire environment  
Closure to an access point, trail head, to the wilderness thus limiting recreational opportunities

**Notifications**

Agency Administrator

Forest fire duty officer

Siskiyou Sheriff

California Highway Patrol

Red Cross

Office of Emergency Services

Community liaison

A public meeting should be considered in any communities affected or potentially affected.

## **Log Fire - Management Action Point 4: Mill Bluffs to Emigrant Ridgeline**

### **Condition**

Fire crosses or is likely to cross Mill Creek (the fire has already slopped over Mill Creek in the upper Mill Creek area, and the actions described in this MAP are being evaluation for implementation).

### **Location**

South of the fire's current perimeter  
Main ridge line that connects Mill Creek Ponds to Hays Peak and continuing down the main Emigrant ridgeline.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to prevent fire to move to the south and east towards homes and private timberlands. In addition, impair recreational opportunities into the Marble Mountain Wilderness.

### **Actions**

Implement evacuation order (see separate plan)  
Prepare Kidder Creek Road for holding  
Construct line on the Sauerkraut ridgeline.  
Provide structure protection, and develop structure protection and evacuation plans.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure in the Mill Creek and Kidder Creek drainages.  
Fisheries and cultural values  
Timber Vest is the main landowner in this area. High valued timber and economic loss is of major concern. If the fire were to breach this MAP, additional Timber Vest land would largely be impacted.

### **Probability of Success**

Low.

The area from Mill Ponds to Hays Peak has a high likelihood of success. The ridge is barren/rocky and open in most cases. From Hays Peak and down the main Emigrant ridgeline has a moderate likelihood of success. There are some barriers to fire spread; however, areas of continuous fuels exist that may become problematic for holding this MAP.

Resources:

Resources to be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Fire would become a much larger and costly event.  
The fire could burn homes, infrastructure and cause property damage.  
Additional Timber Vest land would be impacted  
Air quality would likely stay poor for longer.

**Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisor  
Community liaison

## **Log Fire - Management Action Point 5: Kidder Creek**

### **Condition**

Prepare an indirect line – which may turn into the primary line if MAP 5 is breached.

### **Location**

South of the fire's current perimeter  
Kidder Creek or the trail system or the main road from Kidder Lake to MAP 3 "East Flank Dozer Line"

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to eliminate spread to the South which would impact additional communities. In addition, impair recreation opportunities into the Marble Mountain Wilderness.

### **Actions**

Evacuation order for the Patterson Creek area  
Construct indirect line on ridge system to prevent fire spread to the south and east.  
Likely actions may include backing fire from the top of the ridge to the bottom to reduce fire intensity.

### **Values to Protect**

Wilderness recreational opportunities (e.g. wilderness closures due to fire). Kidder Creek Trailhead is a major access point into Marble Mountain Wilderness.  
Structures and infrastructure, particularly at the lower portions of Kidder Creek and into Patterson Creek drainages.

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate.  
Fuels have been extremely dry and there has been active fire behavior. The fire would likely flank or back into the Kidder creek drainage which is wet; however, continuous fuels go near the creek. The likelihood of a slope over or spot fire is likely – leaving a likelihood of success to be low to moderate and depends largely on the success of resources to catch any fire that breaches the MAP.

### **Resources**

Resources to be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

A much larger and more expensive fire  
Economic loss to valued private timberlands.  
Loss of recreation opportunities due to trail closure  
Fire could burn homes, infrastructure and cause damage to private property.  
Air quality would likely stay poor for longer.  
Increased firefighter exposure to the fire environment

**Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors  
Community liaison

## **Log Fire - Management Action Point 6: Boulder Peak/Red Mountain Ridgeline**

### **Condition**

Fire crosses or threatens to cross Shackleford Creek MAP

### **Location**

North Northwest of the fire's current perimeter

Main ridgeline that starts near Summit Lake and heads northeast to Boulder Peak and continues to Big Meadows Trailhead and goes down the road system and sub-ridges to the paved Big Meadows Road. (Note: The Back Meadows trail system from Calf Lake to Big Meadows trailhead may also serve as a line).

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to limit fire spread into communities at risk. The Red Mountain ridgeline portion intent it to reduce overall fire size and exposure to firefighters while reducing recreational impacts to the Marble Mountain Wilderness.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and Infrastructure in the lower elevations of Big Meadows.

Dispersed campgrounds and Big Meadows trailhead – Trail that leads into the Marble Mountain Wilderness.

Range allotment in Big Meadows and Back Meadows.

Timber Vest is the main landowner in this area. High valued timber and economic loss is of major concern. If the fire were to breach this MAP, additional Timber Vest land would largely be impacted.

### **Actions**

Implement structure protection for Reynolds Cabin

Construct fireline or prepare trails to serve as fireline in order to keep fire east of MAP ridgeline.

Look for opportunities to use natural barriers and MIST suppression strategies within the Wilderness.

Look for opportunities to eliminate spread to the south toward greater Quartz Valley communities.

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate to high.

The area from Summit Lake to Big Meadows Trailhead has a high likelihood of success. The ridge is barren/rocky and open in most cases. The sub-ridges and Big Meadows Road System will have a moderate likelihood of success. Fuels are more continuous with fewer open areas to limit fire spread.

### **Resources**

Resources to be determined by the IMT.

**Consequences of Not Taking Action**

- A much larger and more expensive fire
- Economic loss to valued private timberlands.
- Loss of recreation opportunities due to trail closure
- Fire could burn homes, infrastructure and cause damage to private property.

**Notifications**

- Agency Administrator
- Forest Fire Duty Officer
- Resource advisor
- Permittee of range allotment and area residences
- Notify Abbott Ranch private land owner

## **Log Fire - Management Action Point 7: Big Meadow Low Drainage**

### **Condition**

Fire has met evacuation trigger point and/or is likely to approach MAP 3 – East Dozer Line.

### **Location**

East of the fire's current perimeter  
Quartz Valley Road from Big Meadows Road to Shackleford Creek Road.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to implement the structure protection plan; and provide suppression tactics that best reduce loss of homes and damage to private property and infrastructure..

### **Actions**

Provide for structure protection and utilize direct suppression tactics to the point possible to keep fire as small as possible.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures, infrastructure and damage to private property

### **Probability of Success**

High.  
The terrain is relatively flat giving more options for fire suppression.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

The fire would burn homes, other infrastructure and cause major property damage.

### **Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest Fire Duty Officer  
Resource advisor  
Community liaison

## **Log Fire - Management Action Point 8: Shackleford and Mill Low Drainage**

### **Condition**

Fire has met evacuation trigger point and/or is likely to approach MAP 3 – East Dozer Line.

### **Location**

East of the fire's current perimeter  
Quartz Valley Road from Mill Creek (A.K.A Emigrant Creek Road) to Shackleford Creek Road.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to implement the structure protection plan; and provide suppression tactics that best reduce loss of homes and damage to private property and infrastructure.

### **Actions**

Provide for structure protection and utilize direct suppression tactics to the point possible to keep fire as small as possible.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures, infrastructure and damage to private property.

### **Probability of Success**

High.  
The terrain is relatively flat giving more options for fire suppression.

### **Resources**

Resources to be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

The fire could burn homes, other infrastructure and cause major property damage.

### **Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Red Cross  
Office of Emergency Services  
Community liaison  
A public meeting should be considered in any communities affected or potentially affected.

## **Log Fire - Management Action Point 9: Kidder and Patterson Low Drainage**

### **Condition**

Fire has met evacuation trigger point and/or is likely to approach MAP 3 – East Dozer Line.

### **Location**

East of the fire's current perimeter  
Kidder Creek to Patterson Creek Road systems.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to implement the structure protection plan; and provide suppression tactics that best reduce loss of homes and damage to private property and infrastructure.

### **Actions**

Provide for structure protection and utilize direct suppression tactics to the point possible to keep fire as small as possible.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures, infrastructure and damage to private property.

### **Probability of Success**

High.  
The terrain is relatively flat giving more options for fire suppression.

### **Resources**

Resources to be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

The fire would burn homes, other infrastructure and cause major property damage.

### **Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Red Cross  
Office of Emergency Services  
Community liaison  
A public meeting should be considered in any communities affected or potentially affected.

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 20: Russian Wilderness Ridge**

### **Condition**

The Russian Wilderness Ridge MAP has already been reached. The fire is near the edge of the main ridge in areas and is likely to spread toward the ridge in all other areas over time.

### **Location**

East of the fire's current perimeter

Main Russian Wilderness Ridgeline from South Sugar Lake to Big Blue Lake; then the sub-ridge running from Big Blue Lake to Hogan Lake and down to Sawyers Bar Road.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this management action point is to prevent fire spread to the east which could potentially impact homes, private property, natural and cultural resources, and recreational opportunities within the Russian Wilderness.

### **Actions**

Scout and complete preparation of vegetation where natural barriers do not exist. The primary emphasis for this will be from Sawyers Bar Road to Hogan Lake.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and private property. This is the last major ridgeline prior to heading down into French Creek and Sugar Creek drainages – both containing private property and structures.

Spotted owl cores and habitat

Loss of recreation opportunities.

Habitat for Coho salmon and other sensitive aquatic species, which could be degraded by increased siltation and turbidity, warmer water due to lost streamside vegetation, and changed water chemistry.

Historic mining structures. Especially valuable concentrations exist Eddy Gulch and Rainbow Mine.

Economic benefits of possible timber sales, and ecological benefits of possible timber sales and fuels treatments. The Eddy Gulch LSR project currently has signed NEPA and is ready for implementation (i.e. timber sales and prescribed fires).

The Russian Wilderness contains and SIA for botanical species as well as an RNA for the most diverse coniferous forest in the World.

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate to High.

A high likelihood of success due to the amount of natural barriers in the Russian Wilderness. Moderate chance of success for the line from Hogan Lake to Sawyers Bar Road; and is largely contingent on having enough resources and time prior to arrival of fire.

**Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

**Consequences of Not Taking Action**

A much larger and more expensive fire  
Potential for private property damage and loss of structures  
Increased threat to natural, historic, and cultural resources  
Further closures and loss of recreational opportunities  
Grazing allotment impacts  
Loss of value to current and ongoing NEPA projects and investments  
Longer period of poor air quality  
Increased fire fighter exposure

**Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors  
Community liaison

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 21: Sawyers Bar Road**

### **Condition**

The Sawyers Bar Road MAP has already been reached; Fire is established in multiple drainages and likely to back all the way to the MAP.

### **Location**

Northwest of the fire's current perimeter  
Sawyers Bar Road from Eddy Gulch to China Gulch.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this management action point is to prevent the fire from crossing Sawyers Bar Road and impacting the community of Sawyers Bar which has numerous homes and concerns of private property damage and domestic watershed.

### **Actions**

Complete preparation of vegetation along Sawyers Bar Road to minimize likelihood of fire crossing the road.  
Complete line on the ridgeline connecting Big Blue Lake and Sawyers Bar Road.  
Extinguish any spot fires or slop overs as quickly as possible.  
Provide structure protection and follow structure protection and evacuation plans as needed for Rainbow Mine.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and private property. Approximately 200 people live along the River between Mulebridge and Forks of Salmon, with the highest concentration in Sawyers Bar. Their homes are at stake.  
Sawyers Bar Road as a main ingress and egress route to local communities.  
Spotted owl cores and habitat.  
Related to the River:  
Loss of recreation opportunities, especially rafting, due to closures  
Long-term loss of visual beauty. The Salmon River is designated as Wild and Scenic.  
Habitat for Coho salmon and other sensitive aquatic species, which could be degraded by increased siltation and turbidity, warmer water due to lost streamside vegetation, and changed water chemistry.  
Campground improvements, and shorter-term loss of recreational camping opportunities due to closures  
Historic mining structures. Especially valuable concentrations exist near Tanners Peak.  
High density of noxious weed populations; particularly in Idlewild Campground area.

### **Probability of Success**

High.

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The fire is currently backing down the hill toward the MAP. The backing fire increases the likelihood of success for holding the MAP line. Sawyers Bar Road provides good access for firefighting resources to take action.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

A much larger and more expensive fire  
Potential for private property damage and loss of structures  
Increased threat to natural, historic, and cultural resource  
Impacts to recreational opportunities  
Longer period of poor air quality

### **Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors  
Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Office of Emergency Services  
Red Cross  
Community liaison  
Community of Sawyers Bar. A public meeting should be considered.

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 22: Whites Gulch to Eddy Gulch Lookout**

### **Condition**

The Whites Gulch to Eddy Gulch Lookout MAP has already been reached. Although the fire is currently about 2.5 miles from this MAP, it is the next logical and major ridgeline feature to stop the fire moving west.

### **Location**

West of the fire's current perimeter  
Ridge and road system from Sawyers Bar Road at Whites Gulch to Eddy Gulch Lookout.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this management action point is to suppress fire moving further west and into the community of Sawyers Bar. In addition, multiple concerns of valued timber investment; natural and cultural resources and domestic watershed to Sawyers Bar are at risk.

### **Actions**

Construct dozer line (utilize current road system where feasible) from Eddy Gulch Lookout to Sawyers Bar Road at Whites Gulch.

### **Values to Protect**

The greater community area of Sawyers Bar and Black Bear Ranch.  
Eddy Gulch Lookout.  
Benefits of possible timber sales and fuels treatments from the Eddy Gulch LSR and Jess NEPA projects.  
Spotted owl cores and habitat  
Domestic watershed for Sawyers Bar and Black Bear  
Habitat for sensitive and endangered aquatic species.  
High populations of noxious weeds in the area.

### **Probability of Success**

High.  
The construction of line will have time to be implemented. There is good access for firefighting resources to take action.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of not taking action**

The fire could burn homes and other private property in the Sawyers Bar and Black Bear Ranch areas.

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It could burn campgrounds, road access, Wild and Scenic River Corridor, domestic water-source, and active NEPA projects. Cultural, historic and natural resources could be negatively affected; including threatened and endangered species.

### **Notifications**

Agency Administrator

Forest fire duty officer

Resource advisors

Siskiyou Sheriff

California Highway Patrol

Office of Emergency Services

Community liaison

Eddy Gulch Lookout

Sawyers Bar, Black Bear Ranch and nearby communities. A public meeting should be considered.

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 23: Ridgeline from Eddy Gulch to South Sugar Lake**

### **Condition**

The Ridgeline from Eddy Gulch to South Sugar Lake is currently being used. The fire has hit this MAP line at the head of Six Mile Creek

### **Location**

South of the fire's current perimeter (although there are currently slopovers across this MAP in the Sixmile Creek drainage, which are currently being suppressed using direct attack).

Ridgeline from Eddy Gulch Lookout heading east to the 39N58 road; then to Russian Lake followed by South Sugar Lake.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to prevent the fire to move South into a very large and major drainage of the South Fork Salmon River; which in turn would make the fire perimeter much larger and increase risk, concerns and firefighter exposure. If the fire were to cross this MAP, additional communities near Cecilville would be at risk as well as additional resource and natural resource concerns would be highlighted.

### **Actions**

Utilize and improve existing trail systems, roads and natural barriers where possible.  
Construct line in all other areas.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure (greater Cecilville community area); including campgrounds (Shadow Creek and Trail Creek)  
NEPA and timber value investment from NEPA projects (Eddy LSR and Petersburg Pine)  
Eddy Gulch lookout  
Grazing allotments  
Increased impacts to recreational opportunities and closures  
Impacts to Cecilville Road as a major ingress and egress route.  
Spotted owl cores and habitat  
Habitat for sensitive and endangered aquatic species.  
High densities of noxious weed populations, particularly at low elevations.

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate.

The fire has currently sloped over into Six Mile Creek. The likelihood of success of suppressing the slop over is currently moderate. Holding the remainder of the area is considered to be moderate due to areas of continuous fuels.

**Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

**Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Fire would get established and start backing down towards the South Fork Salmon River. The area has communities and infrastructure. In addition, numerous cultural and natural resource concerns exist. Recreational opportunities and a range allotment would be impacted.

**Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest Fire Duty Office  
Office of Emergency Services  
Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Permittee of range allotment  
Community liaison  
Community of Cecilville  
Eddy Gulch Lookout  
Resource advisor

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 24: Sawyers Bar/Black Bear Summit/Eddy Gulch Lookout**

### **Condition**

Fire crosses or is likely to cross MAP 22 – Whites Gulch to Eddy Gulch Lookout.

### **Location**

West of the fire's current perimeter

Sawyers Bar South to Black Bear Summit; Black Bear Summit East Southeast to Eddy Gulch Lookout.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to prevent fire spread further west and south into additional community areas of Sawyers Bar, Black Bear Ranch, Godfrey Ranch and nearby areas. Heightened resource, natural resource and culture concerns would occur.

### **Actions**

Reduce vegetation on Sawyers Bar Road to increase the likelihood the road will hold.  
Construct line from Sawyers Bar to Black Bear Summit; utilizing road where feasible.  
Construct line from Black Bear Summit to Eddy Gulch Lookout; utilizing roads where feasible.

### **Values to Protect**

Community and domestic water source of greater Sawyers Bar and Black Bear Ranch area.

Main ingress and egress route of Sawyers Bar Road

NEPA project investments (timber sales and fuels treatment projects)

Spotted Owl cores and habitat

Sensitive and threatened aquatic species

Area has large populations of noxious weeds

Cultural and heritage concerns including historic mining network

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate.

The area has some concentrations of fuels and timberlands. The area has had some project work including prescribed fire treatments and timber harvest that may aid in controlling the fire.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Fire could burn down homes and cause damage to infrastructure, ingress and egress routes and private property.

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Fire could negatively impact natural and cultural resources; in turn may affect threatened and endangered species.

Fire would become larger and more expensive

### **Notifications**

Agency Administrator

Forest fire duty officer

Resource advisors

Siskiyou Sheriff

California Highway Patrol

Office of Emergency Services

Community liaison

Community of Sawyers Bar. A public meeting should be considered.

Godfrey Ranch, Blue Ridge Ranch, Black Bear Ranch

Eddy Gulch Lookout

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 25: Cecilville Road and Sub-ridges**

### **Condition**

MAP point 23 is crossed or is likely to be crossed; begin indirect line down ridgelines that box in the drainage in which slope/spotted occurred. In addition, improve Cecilville road in areas that will likely be impacted by fire.

### **Location**

South of the fire's current perimeter

MAP 25 -- Cecilville Road from East Fork Campground east to High C Road (41N14).

MAP 25 A – Bacon Rind Ridgeline. Ridgeline and road system connecting Klamath Basin (Near Eddy Gulch Lookout) to Cecilville Road.

Map 25 B – Shadow Creek Ridgeline. The Ridgeline separating Shadow Creek from Six Mile Creek from the 39N58 road to Cecilville Road.

Map 25 C – Ridgeline that separates the Scott and Salmon River Districts; Siphon Lake to Cecilville Road.

Map 25 D – Pacific Crest Trail from Bingham Lake to Cecilville Road.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to be a contingency plan if the fire were to cross MAP 23 - the ridgeline from Eddy Gulch Lookout to South Sugar Lake. The intent would be to box the fire in affected drainages to prevent further and widespread impacts to additional communities, natural, cultural, and resource concerns.

### **Actions**

Construct indirect line on identified ridge systems that box in any slope overs or spot fires, not successfully suppressed, over MAP 23 – Eddy Gulch Lookout to South Sugar Lake.

Scout and identify best line construction options on identified ridgelines.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure (greater Cecilville community area); including campgrounds (Shadow Creek and Trail Creek)

NEPA and timber value investment from NEPA projects (Eddy LSR and Petersburg Pine)

Eddy Gulch lookout

Grazing allotments

Increased impacts to recreational opportunities and closures

Impacts to Cecilville Road as a major ingress and egress route.

Spotted owl cores and habitat

Habitat for sensitive and endangered aquatic species.

High densities of noxious weed populations, particularly at low elevations.

**Probability of Success**

Moderate.

The area has steep and rugged terrain. Numerous resources would be needed to construct and hold ridgelines. Cecilville Road should have a high probability of success.

**Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

**Consequences of Not Taking Action**

A much larger and more expensive fire

Potential for damage to homes, infrastructure and private property.

Impacts to natural and cultural resources; including threatened and endangered species.

**Notifications**

Agency Administrator

Forest fire duty officer

Resource advisors

Siskiyou Sheriff

California Highway Patrol

Office of Emergency Services

Community liaison

Community of Cecilville.

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 26: High C Road (41N14)**

### **Condition**

MAP point 20 is crossed or is likely to be crossed; begin indirect line down ridgelines that box in the drainage in which slope/spotted occurred. In addition, improve High C road in areas that will likely be impacted by fire.

### **Location**

South of the fire's current perimeter

MAP 26 -- High C Road (41N14) from Cecilville Road north to Paynes Lake Trailhead.

MAP 26 A – Main ridge from South Sugar Lake to High C Road / or utilize road system 40N82 road and 41N16 road – depending on IMT discretion

Map 26 B – Paynes Lake trail and ridge system from Paynes Lake Trailhead west to Albert Lake.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to prevent further fire spread to the east; as this is one of a few remaining logical options to stop fire spread prior to impacting communities such as French Creek, Sugar Creek, Wildcat Creek and Callahan.

### **Actions**

Construct indirect line on identified ridge systems that box in any slope overs or spot fires, not successfully suppressed, over MAP 20 – Russian Wilderness Ridgeline. Scout and identify best line construction options on identified ridgelines.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure (Sugar Creek and French Creek community areas); including campgrounds

NEPA and timber value investment from NEPA projects (Jack EA and Sugar Creek EA)

Grazing allotments

Increased impacts to recreational opportunities and closures

Impacts to ingress and egress routes (French and Sugar Creek Roads)

Spotted owl cores and habitat

Habitat for sensitive and endangered aquatic species.

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate.

The area has steep and rugged terrain and parts of the High C road are on the middle of the slope. Lower elevations become more dense in vegetation while higher elevations are fairly sparse. Numerous resources would be needed to construct and hold ridgelines.

**Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

**Consequences of Not Taking Action**

A much larger and more expensive fire

Potential for damage to homes, infrastructure and private property.

Impacts to natural and cultural resources; including threatened and endangered species.

**Notifications**

Agency Administrator

Forest fire duty officer

Resource advisors

Siskiyou Sheriff

California Highway Patrol

Office of Emergency Services

Red Cross

Community liaison

Communities of Sugar Creek, French Creek, Wildcat Creek and Callahan.

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 27: Etna Summit**

### **Condition**

MAP point 20 is crossed or is likely to be crossed.

### **Location**

North of the fire's current perimeter

Etna Summit heading southeast on the PCT/ridgeline to Albert Lake and from Etna

Summit heading southwest to China Gulch

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to prevent further spread north and into the domestic watershed for Etna; and potentially impacting homes and private property in the community of Etna.

### **Actions**

Clear vegetation along Sawyers Bar Road and Pacific Crest Trail / ridgeline to increase likelihood of success lines will hold.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure (Community of Etna and Campgrounds such as Taylor Lake area)

Impacts to ingress and egress routes of Sawyers Bar Road

Private timberlands in the Etna Creek Drainage

Pacific Crest Trail and recreational opportunities

Etna Creek fisheries and domestic watershed for Etna

Spotted Owl cores and habitat

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate to High.

Sawyers Bar Road has good access for firefighting resources. Portions of Sawyers Bar Road is in steep terrain. The ridgeline is mostly open with moderate to high numbers of barriers to fire spread.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

A much larger and more expensive fire

Potential for damage to homes, infrastructure and private property.

Potential impacts to Etna's domestic water source.

Impacts to natural and cultural resources; including threatened and endangered species.

Impacts to valued private timberlands.

Closure to the Pacific Crest Trail and impacts to recreational opportunities.

Closure to ingress and egress from Etna to Sawyers Bar

**Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors  
Community liaison

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 28: Snoozer Ridge**

### **Condition**

Fire has crossed or is likely to cross Sawyers Bar Road.

### **Location**

North of the fire's current perimeter  
Etna summit northwest along the Pacific Crest Trail to Snoozer Ridge; from this point southeast to Mule Bridge Campground and Tanners Peak.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to prevent further spread of fire to the northwest and into additional infrastructure of campgrounds and a historic mining district near Tanners Peak. In addition, the intent is to help prevent structure loss and private property damage to the community of Sawyers Bar.

### **Actions**

Construct line on Snoozer ridge where natural barriers do not exist.  
Close portions of the Pacific Crest Trail if required for safety.

### **Values to Protect**

Recreation opportunities related to the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), and Trail improvements.  
Campgrounds (Mulebridge and Idlewild)  
Air quality in the Salmon River communities and Scott Valley  
Headwaters of Etna, the municipal water source

### **Probability of Success**

High.  
Snoozer Ridge has many natural barriers to fire spread. However, Snoozer Ridge is also very steep and rugged which may limit fire suppression work there.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Fire would become much larger and more costly.  
Air quality would likely stay poor for longer due to heavy smoke production.

### **Notifications**

Agency Administrator  
Forest Fire Duty Officer  
Resource advisor  
Community liaison

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 29: Taylor Creek to Carter Meadows**

### **Condition**

MAP point 25 (Cecilville Road) or 29 (38N04 Road) is crossed or is likely to be crossed.

### **Location**

South of the fire's current perimeter

From Carter Meadows summit south to Hidden Lake; then west on the main ridge to Poison Lake / Deadman Peak. From this point west to tie into Taylor Creek Road (38N04) to the main Cecilville road.

29A - Ridge from Poison Lake to Cecilville Road, aka. also known as the Scott River and Salmon River Division break.

29B - Long Gulch Trail from Carter Meadows to Long Gulch Lake

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to be a contingency plan if the fire were to cross or likely to cross MAP 25 – Cecilville Road. The intent would be to box the fire in affected drainages to prevent further and widespread impacts to additional communities, natural, cultural, and resource concerns; in addition to recreational opportunities tied into Carter Meadows Campgrounds and the Trinity Alps Wilderness. If the fire has potential to cross MAP 29, a new decision would be required and additional MAPs to the south of the fire would need to be developed.

### **Actions**

Begin preparation on Taylor Creek Road System, ridge from Carter Meadows Summit to Poison Lake and on trails from Carter Meadows to the ridge system.

Extinguish any spot fires or slop overs as quickly as possible, and provide point protection on structures and infrastructure.

Scout and identify best line construction options on identified ridgelines, road system and trail systems. Begin indirect line construction to keep fire within identified MAP.

Conduct strategic burning operations to secure the line and promote low intensity fire when conducting burn operations.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure (greater Cecilville community area); including campgrounds (Shadow Creek, Carter Meadows and Trail Creek)

Grazing allotments in Carter Meadows area.

Increased impacts to recreational opportunities and closures

Impacts to Cecilville Road as a major ingress and egress route.

Spotted owl cores and habitat

Habitat for sensitive and endangered aquatic species.

**Probability of Success**

Moderate.

The area has steep and rugged terrain. Numerous resources would be needed to construct and hold ridgelines.

**Resources**

Resource needs will be determined by the IMT.

**Consequences of Not Taking Action**

A much larger and more expensive fire

Potential for damage to homes, infrastructure and private property.

Impacts to natural and cultural resources; including threatened and endangered species.

Impacts to grazing allotment.

**Notifications**

CalFire: notification of fire burning in their DPA

Agency Administrator

Forest fire duty officer

Resource advisors

Siskiyou Sheriff

California Highway Patrol

Office of Emergency Services

Community liaison

Community of Cecilville.

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 30: JH Ranch to Sawyers Bar Road System**

### **Condition**

MAP26 or MAP 30 is crossed or is likely to be crossed.

### **Location**

East of the fire's current perimeter

Sawyers Bar Road near Alder Creek south on road and ridge system to JH Ranch area; then south on French Creek Road to 40N22 road.

30A – North Fork French Creek Rd. west to 41N15 Rd. continuing to the trailhead.

30B – The ridge in Section 24 just north of North Fork French Creek Rd.; continue NW then W to Etna Mtn. then onto Ruffey Lakes and the Pacific Crest Trail.

30C – From Etna north then northwest to Sawyer Bar Road.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to prevent further fire spread to the east and in to the communities of Etna, French Creek, Sugar Creek and structures on Highway 3. In addition, the intent is to limit additional impacts to private timberlands. If the fire has potential to cross MAP 30, a new decision would be required and additional MAPs to the east of the fire would need to be developed.

### **Actions**

Begin indirect line on road system and ridges from the JH Ranch to Sawyers Bar Road.

Utilize the North Fork French Creek Rd. west to 41N15 Rd. continuing to the trailhead as a indirect containment line.

Utilize the ridge from Etna north then northwest to Sawyer Bar Road to build indirect line.

Pick-up the ridge in Section 24 just north of North Fork French Creek Rd.; continue NW then W to Etna Mtn. then onto Ruffey Lakes and the Pacific Crest Trail as a containment line.

Extinguish any spot fires or slop overs as quickly as possible, and provide point protection on structures and infrastructure.

Utilize direct suppression tactics as much as possible to minimize fire size in this area.

Construct indirect line along the ridgeline and road system.

Conduct strategic burning operations to secure the line and promote low intensity fire when conducting burn operations.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure (Etna, Sugar Creek, French Creek and Highway 3 community areas).

Grazing allotments

Increased impacts to recreational opportunities and closures

Impacts to ingress and egress routes (French and Sugar Creek Roads)

Spotted owl cores and habitat  
Habitat for sensitive and endangered aquatic species.  
Water quality and quantity for multiple uses.

**Probability of Success**

Moderate.

The area has had some private timberland treatment and has many road access points. The area is heavily vegetated with continuous fuels. Numerous resources would be needed to construct and hold line for this MAP.

**Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

**Consequences of Not Taking Action**

A much larger and more expensive fire  
Potential for damage to homes, infrastructure and private property.  
Impacts to natural and cultural resources; including threatened and endangered species.  
Impacts to economic value on private timberlands.  
Impact to Water quality and quantity.

**Notifications**

CalFire: notification of fire burning in their DPA  
Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors  
Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Office of Emergency Services  
Red Cross  
Community liaison  
Communities of Sugar Creek, French Creek, Etna and Highway 3

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 31: Highway 3 – Sugar Creek / Etna**

### **Condition**

MAP 26 or 27 is crossed or is likely to be crossed.

### **Location**

East northeast of the fire's current perimeter

Sugar Creek Road from Highway 3 to the 40N22 Road. Highway 3 from Sugar Creek to French Creek.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to prevent further fire spread to the east and in to the communities of Etna, French Creek, Sugar Creek and structures on Highway 3. In addition, the intent is to limit additional impacts to private timberlands. If the fire has potential to cross MAP 23, a new decision would be required and additional MAPs to the east of the fire would need to be developed.

### **Actions**

Begin indirect line improvement and prepare vegetation around structures near and around highway 3 from Sugar Creek Road to Etna and on Sawyers Bar Road from Etna to Etna Summit.

Extinguish any spot fires or slop overs as quickly as possible, and provide point protection on structures and infrastructure.

Utilize direct suppression tactics to the point possible to keep fire as small as possible.

Identify a trigger point for evacuation orders.

Identify and utilize other major roads for suppression actions such as Miners Creek Roads (2G004 and 2G001)

Conduct strategic burning operations to secure the line and promote low intensity fire when conducting burn operations.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure (Etna, Sugar Creek, French Creek and Highway 3 community areas).

Private Property

Impacts to ingress and egress routes (Highway 3, French Creek and Sugar Creek Roads)

### **Probability of Success**

High.

There is a high density of roads as access points for firefighting resources. There are numerous structures in the area that will require numerous resources for point and direct suppression tactics.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

**Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Potential for damage to homes, infrastructure and private property – Heavily populated area.

Impact to Hwy. 3; a main north and south travel route

**Notifications**

CalFire: notification of fire burning in their DPA

Agency Administrator

Forest fire duty officer

Resource advisors

Siskiyou Sheriff

California Highway Patrol

Office of Emergency Services

Red Cross

Community liaison

Communities of Sugar Creek, French Creek, Etna and Highway 3.

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 32: Highway 3 – Sugar Creek / Callahan**

### **Condition**

MAP point 26 is crossed or is likely to be crossed

### **Location**

East southeast of the fire's current perimeter  
Sugar Creek Road from Highway 3 to the 40N22 Road. Highway 3 from Sugar Creek to Callahan. Cecilville Road from Callahan to Carter Meadows Summit.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to provide protection and prevent property damage to the communities along Sugar Creek Road, Highway 3 and Cecilville Road. If the fire has potential to cross MAP 23, a new decision would be required and additional MAPs to the east of the fire would need to be developed.

### **Actions**

Begin indirect line improvement and prepare vegetation around structures near and around highway 3 from Sugar Creek Road to Callahan and on Cecilville Road from Callahan to Carter Meadows Summit.

Extinguish any spot fires or slop overs as quickly as possible, and provide point protection on structures and infrastructure.

Utilize direct suppression tactics to the point possible to keep fire as small as possible.  
Identify a trigger point for evacuation orders

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure (Callahan, Sugar Creek, Wildcat Creek, and Highway 3).  
Private Property  
Impacts to ingress and egress routes (Highway 3, Sugar Creek and Cecilville Roads)

### **Probability of Success**

High.

There is a high density of roads as access points for firefighting resources. There are numerous structures in the area that will require numerous resources for point and direct suppression tactics.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Potential for damage to homes, infrastructure and private property – Heavily populated area.

### **Notifications**

CalFire: notification of fire burning in their DPA

## July Complex – Strategic Operations Plan

Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors  
Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Office of Emergency Services  
Red Cross  
Community liaison  
Communities of Sugar Creek, French Creek, Etna and Highway 3

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 33: Highway 3 – Etna to 4G003 Rd.**

### **Condition**

MAP point 35 or 34 is crossed or is likely to be crossed

### **Location**

Northeast of the fire's current perimeter  
Etna north on Highway 3 to 4G003 Road

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to provide protection and prevent property damage to the community of Etna, North along Highway 3 toward Greenview.

### **Actions**

Begin indirect line improvement and prepare vegetation around structures near and around Highway 3 in the Etna area  
Extinguish any spot fires or slop overs as quickly as possible, and provide point protection on structures and infrastructure.  
Utilize direct suppression tactics to the point possible to keep fire as small as possible.  
Identify a trigger point for evacuation orders for communities east of Etna  
Implement the applicable structure protection plan.  
Identify and utilize other major roads to the west of Highway 3 for suppression actions

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure in the Etna and Scott Valley area  
Impacts to ingress and egress routes (Highway 3 and arterial Roads)

### **Probability of Success**

High.  
There is a high density of roads as access points for firefighting resources. There are numerous structures in the area that will require numerous resources for point and direct suppression tactics.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Potential for damage to homes, infrastructure and private property – Heavily populated area.  
A much larger and expensive fire.  
Impacts to grazing, farm lands.

### **Notifications**

CalFire: notification of fire burning in their DPA  
Agency Administrator

## July Complex – Strategic Operations Plan

Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors  
Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Office of Emergency Services  
Red Cross  
Community liaison  
Communities of Etna, Scott Valley and Highway 3

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 34: Sawyers Bar Road to South Kidder Creek Road**

### **Condition**

MAP point 27 or is crossed or is likely to be crossed

### **Location**

North of the fire's current perimeter  
Sawyer Bar Road north along ridge line toward Whiskey Butte continuing to 42N07 or South Kidder Creek

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to provide protection and prevent property damage to the communities west and southwest of Etna.

### **Actions**

Begin indirect line improvement and prepare vegetation around structures near and around highway 3 from Greenview to Etna.  
Extinguish any spot fires or slop overs as quickly as possible, and provide point protection on structures and infrastructure.  
Utilize direct suppression tactics to the point possible to keep fire as small as possible.  
Implement the applicable structure protection plan.  
Identify and utilize other major roads in and around the Whiskey Creek, Johnson Creek and Crystal Creek drainages for suppression actions.  
Identify a trigger point for evacuation orders further into and around the Etna valley.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure around Etna and Highway 3.  
Private property, high density area  
Impacts to ingress and egress routes along Highway 3  
Timber Vest is the main landowner in this area. High valued timber and economic loss is of major concern. If the fire were to breach this MAP, additional Timber Vest land would largely be impacted.

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate  
There is a high density of roads as access points for firefighting resources. There are numerous structures in the area that will require numerous resources for point and direct suppression tactics.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Potential for damage to homes, infrastructure and private property – Heavily populated area.

**Notifications**

CalFire: notification of fire burning in their DPA  
Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors  
Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Office of Emergency Services  
Red Cross  
Community liaison  
Communities of Sugar Creek, French Creek, Etna and Highway 3

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 35: Snoozer Ridge to Whiskey Butte**

### **Condition**

MAP point 20 or the southwest portion of MAP 28 is crossed or is likely to be crossed

### **Location**

North of the fire's current perimeter  
Snoozers Ridge then north of Yellow Dog Peak along trail on the Salmon River RD and Scott River RD administrative border then east beyond Whiskey Butte.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to contain fire south of structures in the foothills of Etna. Provide protection and prevent property damage.

### **Actions**

Build indirect line along Snoozers Ridge from Yellow Dog Peak north to Babs Lake then east beyond Whiskey Butte.  
Burnout along the ridge east and south where possible to contain the fire from further advancement toward the Etna and Scott valleys.  
Identify and utilize other major roads in the Patterson Creek, Babs Fork, and Glendening Creek drainages for suppression actions.

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure (Callahan, Sugar Creek, Wildcat Creek, and Highway 3).  
Private Property  
Impacts to ingress and egress routes on the Sawyers Bar Road.  
Widespread impacts to valley communities, natural, cultural, and resource concerns; in addition to recreational opportunities tied into Marble Mountain Wilderness.  
Timber Vest is the main landowner in this area. High valued timber and economic loss is of major concern. If the fire were to breach this MAP, additional Timber Vest land would largely be impacted.

### **Probability of Success**

High.  
There is a high density of roads as access points for firefighting resources. There are numerous structures in the area that will require numerous resources for point and direct suppression tactics.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Potential for damage to homes, infrastructure and private property – Heavily populated area.  
Impacts to the Log Fire suppression effort.

**Notifications**

CalFire: notification of fire burning in their DPA  
Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors  
Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Office of Emergency Services  
Red Cross  
Community liaison  
Communities of Quartz Valley, Etna and Highway 3

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 36: Babs Lake to Kidder Creek Road**

### **Condition**

MAP 27 or 36 is crossed or is likely to be crossed

### **Location**

East southeast of the fire's current perimeter  
Sugar Creek Road from Highway 3 to the 40N22 Road. Highway 3 from Sugar Creek to Callahan. Cecilville Road from Callahan to Carter Meadows Summit.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to provide protection and prevent property damage to the communities of Quartz Valley, Greenview, Etna and Highway.

### **Actions**

Implement the applicable structure protection plan.  
Identify a trigger point for evacuation orders

### **Values to Protect**

Structures and infrastructure (Callahan, Sugar Creek, Wildcat Creek, and Highway 3).  
Private Property  
Impacts to ingress and egress routes (Highway 3, Sugar Creek and Cecilville Roads)  
Timber Vest is the main landowner in this area. High valued timber and economic loss is of major concern. If the fire were to breach this MAP, additional Timber Vest land would largely be impacted.

### **Probability of Success**

High.  
There is a high density of roads as access points for firefighting resources. There are numerous structures in the area that will require numerous resources for point and direct suppression tactics.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Potential for damage to homes, infrastructure and private property – Heavily populated area.  
Impacts to the Log Fire suppression effort.

### **Notifications**

CalFire: notification of fire burning in their DPA  
Agency Administrator  
Forest fire duty officer  
Resource advisors

July Complex – Strategic Operations Plan

Siskiyou Sheriff  
California Highway Patrol  
Office of Emergency Services  
Red Cross  
Community liaison  
Communities of Sugar Creek, French Creek, Etna and Highway 3

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 37: Mulebridge Trail System**

### **Condition**

Fire crosses or threatens to cross Tanner Peak to Wilderness Boundary MAP and cannot be contained/controlled in the next operational period.

### **Location**

East and northeast of the fire's current perimeter  
Mulebridge Trail from Idlewild campground to Abbott Ranch

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to provide opportunities to contain the fire from further advancement into the Marble Mountain Wilderness.

### **Actions**

Implement structure protection and evacuation plan for Mulebridge area.  
Construct fireline or prepare trails to serve as fireline in order to keep fire east or west of the Mulebridge trail system.  
Look for opportunities to tie into old firelines from the 2013 Boulder Fire and/or 1987 Neilon Fire to assist in containing fire spread more quickly and efficiently.

### **Values to Protect**

Spotted owl habitat  
Campground  
Range allotment  
Local income from outfitter-guide services in any areas closed to public access.  
Permittee Structures and private property\* at Mulebridge and Abbott Ranch; Sawyer's Bar may also be at risk if fire spreads to the south.  
Habitat for sensitive aquatic species  
Historic mining structures  
Benefits of possible timber sales and fuels treatments\*  
Sensitive plant habitat

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate.

The Mulebridge trail system is a well establish trail. Improvements and preparation to the trail system should provide for a moderate likelihood of success. There has

## July Complex – Strategic Operations Plan

been no fire history recorded in this area and the area is characterized by dense forested stands of timber.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Fire would likely become established in the North Fork of Salmon River which has no recorded fire history. This could contribute to large fire growth due to dense timber and understory growth.

Wilderness values and recreation opportunities could be compromised

Abbott Ranch private property and structure could burn.

Impacts to the Log Fire suppression effort.

### **Notifications**

Agency Administrator

Forest fire duty officer

Resource advisors

Siskiyou Sheriff

California Highway Patrol

Office of Emergency Services

Red Cross

Community liaison

Permittee of range allotment and area residences

Notify Abbott Ranch private land owner

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 38: Sawmill / Big Twin**

### **Condition**

Fire crosses or threatens to cross MAP 28 between Tanner Peak and the North Fork of the Salmon River and cannot be contained/controlled in the next operational period.

### **Location**

Northwest of the fire's current perimeter  
Tanner Peak north/northwest on ridge then down to the North Fork of the Salmon River.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to provide opportunities to contain the fire from further advancement into the Marble Mountain Wilderness.

### **Actions**

Construct fireline and prepare trail to serve as fireline in order to keep fire south and advancing further into the Wilderness.

Look for opportunities to tie into old firelines from the 2013 Boulder Fire to assist in containing fire spread more quickly and efficiently.

### **Values to Protect**

Spotted owl habitat

Campground

Range allotment

Local income from outfitter-guide services in any areas closed to public access.

Permittee Structures and private property\* at Mulebridge and Abbott Ranch

Habitat for sensitive aquatic species

Sensitive plant habitat

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate.

The Mulebridge trail system is a well establish trail and will serve as a tie-in to the line coming from Tanner Peak. The ridge north of Tanner Peak has many natural barriers to fire spread. However, the ridge is also very steep and rugged which may limit fire suppression work there. Improvements and preparation to the trail system should provide for a moderate likelihood of success. There has been

## July Complex – Strategic Operations Plan

no fire history recorded east of this area and it is characterized by dense forested stands of timber.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Fire would likely become established in the Wilderness which has limited recorded fire history. This could contribute to large fire growth due to dense tree composition and understory growth.

Wilderness values and recreation opportunities could be compromised

Abbott Ranch private property and structure could burn.

Air quality would likely stay poor for longer in the North Fork of the Salmon River drainage due to heavy smoke production.

### **Notifications**

Agency Administrator

Forest fire duty officer

Resource advisors

Siskiyou Sheriff

California Highway Patrol

Office of Emergency Services

Red Cross

Community liaison

Permittee of range allotment and area residences

Notify Abbott Ranch private land owner

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 39: Specimen / Big Creek**

### **Condition**

Fire crosses MAP 28 between Tanner Peak and the North Fork of the Salmon River and threatens to cross MAP 38.

### **Location**

Northwest of the fire's current perimeter

Starting from Road 40N42 following the ridge Northeast between Specimen Creek and Little Twin Creek to the North Fork of the Salmon River continuing Northeast then east along ridge to the North of Big Creek ending at Snoozer Ridge.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to provide opportunities to contain the fire from further advancement into the Marble Mountain Wilderness.

### **Actions**

Construct fireline and prepare trail to serve as fireline in order to keep fire south and advancing further into the Wilderness.

### **Values to Protect**

Spotted owl habitat  
Local income from outfitter-guide services in any areas closed to public access.  
Permittee Structures and private property at Mulebridge and Abbott Ranch  
Habitat for sensitive aquatic species  
Sensitive plant habitat

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate.

The Mulebridge trail system is a well establish trail and will serve as a tie-in to the ridgeline coming from the 40N42 Rd. Improvements and preparation to the trail system should provide for a moderate likelihood of success. There has been little fire history recorded east of this area and it is characterized by dense forested stands and under growth. The ridgeline Northeast and East of the trail has similar characteristics as to the West.

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

## July Complex – Strategic Operations Plan

Fire would likely become established in the Wilderness which has limited recorded fire history. This could contribute to large fire growth due to dense tree composition and understory growth.

Wilderness values and recreation opportunities could be compromised

Abbott Ranch private property and structure could burn.

Air quality would likely stay poor for longer in the North Fork of the Salmon River drainage due to heavy smoke production.

### **Notifications**

Agency Administrator

Forest fire duty officer

Resource advisors

Siskiyou Sheriff

California Highway Patrol

Office of Emergency Services

Red Cross

Community liaison

Permittee of range allotment and area residences

Notify Abbott Ranch private land owner

## **Whites Fire - Management Action Point 40: Little North Fork / Sawyers Bar**

### **Condition**

Fire crosses MAP 23 with continued spread toward Sawyers Bar.

### **Location**

West of the fire's current perimeter

Starting at Little North Fork following the ridge to the South to 39N21 continuing to Blue Ridge Lookout and onto Black Bear Summit, MAP 24.

### **Management Intent**

The intent of this MAP is to provide opportunities to contain the fire from further advancement West/Southwest toward Blue Ridge Lookout and Black Bear Summit.

### **Actions**

Utilize the existing network of roads, such as 40N46 and construct fireline on the ridge West of Jessups Creek to contain the fire spread. A contingency would also include considering building line South of Little North Fork, connecting existing roads to ridges ending at Black Bear Summit. Where feasible, promote backing fire rather than allow high intensity spread.

### **Values to Protect**

Economic benefits of possible timber sales, and ecological benefits of possible timber sales and fuels treatments. Sales and low-intensity prescribed fires near the wildfire would not occur.

Viability of sensitive plant populations. As an example, an uncommon lady's slipper grows in the area.

Plantations, planted stands of timber trees, progeny site, and source for seed of rust-resistant sugar pines

Campgrounds

Blue Ridge Lookout including outbuildings

Dispersed campgrounds

Critical spotted owl habitat

Deer winter range

At Mud Lake, habitat for a shrimp, which is an isolated population far removed from the species' core range.

Structures and private property

Portions of the municipal watersheds for both Sawyers Bar and Forks of the Salmon

Values related to the River

Historic mining structures

Habitat for sensitive aquatic species

### **Probability of Success**

Moderate.

There has been no significant fire in this area since 1987. Fuels are continuous and fire could grow significantly if established south of the North Fork Salmon River. The terrain is moderately accessible and is steep and rugged. On the other hand, some major ridgelines might be effective places to stop fire spread

### **Resources**

Resources will be determined by the IMT.

### **Consequences of Not Taking Action**

Larger and more costly fire

Likely private property damage and loss of structures

Increased threat to natural, historic, and cultural resources

Loss of value to current and ongoing NEPA projects and investments

Longer duration of poor air quality potential

### **Notifications**

Agency Administrator

Forest fire duty officer

Resource advisors

Siskiyou Sheriff

California Highway Patrol

Office of Emergency Services

Red Cross

Community liaison

Community of Sawyers Bar. A public meeting should be considered.

Godfrey Ranch, Blue Ridge Ranch, and Black Bear Ranch

Eddy Gulch neighborhood

Eddy Gulch Lookout