

CHAPTER 10

OBJECTIVES, POLICY and SCOPE OF OPERATION

Mission Statement

The principal mission of the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC) is to provide the safe, cost effective, and timely response of resources to wildland fires and other emergency management activities within the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center area. CRC's coordination effort will be in cooperation with the Rocky Mountain Area Interagency Coordination Center (RMCC) and those dispatch centers within the CRC 'neighborhood', including Grand Junction, Ft. Collins, Casper and Uintah Basin (Vernal). The cooperating agencies involved with CRC include:

- Northwest District Fire and Aviation (NWDFA), which is comprised of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM): Northwest Colorado District, CO-LSD, CO-WRD and CO-KRD
- US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS): Arapaho and Brown's Park NWRs, CO-ARR, CO-BPR
- The US Forest Service (USFS): Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland, WY-MRF
- The National Park Service (NPS): Dinosaur National Monument, CO-DSP
- Grand County, CO-GRX
- Jackson County, CO-JCX
- Moffat County, CO-MFX
- Rio Blanco County, CO-RBX
- Routt County, CO-RTX
- Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC)

The Craig Interagency Mobilization Guide identifies policies and agreements to establish standard operating procedures for multi-agency/jurisdiction logistical support activities. It is a supplement to the National and Rocky Mountain Area Mobilization Guides and is an extension of all agency manuals, handbooks, directives, and instructional memorandums relating to logistical support. This guide is intended to promote the uniformity of dispatch communications, interagency dispatch coordination, and to assure that timely and cost-effective services are provided.

This guide is reviewed annually to accommodate amendments. All material found in this guide will be recognized as our current standard operating procedures until amended.

Agency administrators are responsible for review and approval of the following chapters: Objectives, Policy and Scope of Operation (Chapter 10).

CRC is responsible for Mobilization Guide development, review, approval, and implementation of Chapters 20 through 90.

Total Mobility

Total mobility will be understood as the capability to move, position, and use resources to meet existing and anticipated fire needs regardless of geographic location or agency affiliation. The

closest forces concept will be used during initial attack and, when appropriate, during extended attack. Refer to RMG (Ch. 10).

Priorities

When competition exists for resources, priorities will be established by the CRC center manager during local preparedness levels 1-2. At preparedness levels 3 and 4, priorities for each agency will be established by zone FMOs or duty officers. Priorities between agencies will be established through a cooperative effort between agency duty officers. At preparedness level 5, the Local Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (LMAC) for the dispatch center establishes priorities.

In setting priorities, the following criteria should be considered:

- Protection of human life, both that of our firefighters and of the public.
- Protecting communities and community infrastructure, other property and improvements, and natural and cultural resources, in the following order:
 - Communities
 - Community infrastructure (including long term effects to economic sustainability and viability)
 - Historically significant cultural resources
 - Commercial business
 - Principal residence (year-round homes)
 - Non-principal residence (seasonal homes, cabins, etc.)
 - Out-buildings (barns, unattached garages, utility buildings, etc.)
- Maintaining initial attack (IA) capability
- Limiting costs without compromising safety
- Meeting agency suppression objectives
- Support to National Response Framework (NRF)

Refer to RMG (Ch. 10) for Rocky Mountain Region Specific Priorities

Frequency Management

Federal and State Land Management Agencies agree to the sharing of specific radio frequencies that are authorized and/or licensed for each agency. Shared frequencies are to provide efficient and cost-effective radio and communication support in protecting life and property. The sharing of frequencies is under the authority of the NTIA Regulations Manual, Sections 7.3.1, 7.3.4, and 7.5.1 and the FCC Rules and Regulations, Part 90, Sections 90.405 and 90.407. Refer to the specific County Annual Operating Plan for the shared frequencies within the CRC zone.

Local and Geographic Area Drawdown Levels and National Ready Reserve Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Scope of Operation

General

National Response Framework Refer NMG (Ch. 10)

Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance Refer NMG (Ch. 10)

Response to Incidents Other Than Wildland Fires Refer RMG (Ch. 10)

Mutual Aid Agreements

Mutual Aid agreements have the primary purpose of providing initial attack and short-term logistical support between adjoining units and dispatch centers. Initial attack is the first response of suppression forces dispatched to wildfires under established and planned direction. These forces are normally sufficient to successfully achieve the appropriate management response without need for major reinforcements in a reasonable period of time. CRC has the authority to use the resources of adjoining centers as stated in the RMG (Ch. 10). Prior to the mobilization of initial attack resources, it is agreed that:

- An official resource request will be processed through dispatch channels
- An official resource order will be processed through dispatch channels for initial attack resources remaining on the incident beyond the mutual aid period
- No initial attack resource responding across geographic boundaries will be mobilized further than that adjoining center's boundary without approval from home unit.

Refer to the specific county Operating Plan (OP) for a synopsis of the Mutual Aid Agreements pertaining to the CRC and its cooperators.

Responsibilities of the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Responsibilities of the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center

- Coordinate the movement of wildland fire resources throughout the Craig Dispatch Center's area of influence
- Provide initial attack dispatching for the Little Snake Field Office; White River Field Office; Kremmling Field Office; Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland (Parks, Hahns Peak/Bears Ears, and Yampa Ranger Districts); Dinosaur National Monument (Colorado side); Brown's Park NWR; Arapaho NWR; as well as Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Rio Blanco, and Routt Counties
- Supply dispatch and coordination services to all CRC cooperating agencies, using any or all employees, equipment, supplies, and facilities available through the dispatch center
- Understand and meet the expectations of the Craig Interagency Fire Management Group (CIFMG).
- Review OPs and assure compliance by the dispatch center
- Assure that dispatch operations follow the Standard Operating Plans (SOPs) outlined by each agency
- Develop and distribute the Craig Interagency Mobilization Guide
- Maintain the SOPs for wildland fire, logistics, air operations and expanded dispatch

- Prepare and disseminate weather forecasts and broadcast, resource status information and the daily situation report
- Fulfill all regular reporting requirements to RMCC
- Provide a central information source for prescribed fire, fire closures, etc.
- Maintain the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center website
- Develop and distribute the annual CRC Year-end Report

Responsibilities of Agencies within the Craig Interagency Dispatch Area of Influence

BLM Northwest Colorado District Fire will provide the following:

- Housing for CRC at 455 Emerson Street in Craig, Colorado
- The CRC center manager, two initial attack dispatchers, and seasonal dispatcher(s)
- The BLM computer system, radio system, telefax, and copy machine
- Resources for cooperating agencies on wildland fires
- Additional financial support for supplies (see CIFMG AOP, Table 1)
- Utilities

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland will provide the following:

- Support for the Forest Radio System
- CRC assistant center manager
- Co-funding for one career seasonal dispatcher with NPS
- Additional dispatchers during periods of high fire activity
- Forest Service computers and printer
- Resources for cooperating agencies on wildland fires
- Additional financial support for supplies and prescribed burn support (see CIFMG AOP, Table 1)

Dinosaur National Monument will provide the following:

- Co-funding for one career seasonal dispatcher with USFS
- Early detection of fires using the Zenobia and Roundtop lookout towers
- Resources for cooperating agencies on wildland fires
- Additional financial support for supplies (see CIFMG AOP, Table 1)

US Fish and Wildlife Service will provide the following:

- Financial support to CRC operations up to the agreed amount (see CIFMG AOP, Table 1)
- Rocky Basin Fire Management Zone will provide the following:
 - Initial attack response for fires within the North Zone of the Craig Dispatch area when available and requested.
 - When communication with Craig Dispatch cannot be established, station personnel at Brown's Park NWR will assist Craig Dispatch in facilitating telephone and radio communications when available.
 - Resources for cooperating agencies on wildland fires when available.

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control will provide the following:

- Financial support for initial attack to cooperating county agencies on wildland fires.
- Financial support to CRC operations up to the agreed amount (see CIFMG AOP, Table 1)

Responsibilities of Rocky Mountain Agencies Refer RMG (Ch. 10)

Responsibilities of the RMCG Fire Duty Officer Refer RMG (Ch. 10)

Delegations:

CRC Center Manager

The CRC Center Manager position works directly with the LMAC group and is under the day-to-day supervision of the NWDFFA FMO.

It is the responsibility of the Center Manager to:

- Understand and meet the expectations of the Craig Interagency Fire Management Group (CIFMG)
- Review Operating Plans and ensure dispatch center compliance
- Ensure dispatch operations follow the SOPs outlined by each agency
- Manage the dispatch center budget
- Prepare workforce analysis and/or staffing plans as directed
- Prepare the Mobilization Guide for the dispatch center
- Participate in CIFMG meetings
- Assist chairman of the CIFMG with logistics for meetings and conference calls as requested
- Maintain the SOPs for wildland fire, logistics, air operations and expanded dispatch
- Represent the dispatch center to the CIFMG cooperators
- Supervise dispatch center employees
- Assign subordinates supervisory responsibilities
- Develop and maintain the infrastructure (phones, radios, computers, etc.)
- Create and manage expanded dispatch as needed
- Call for and facilitate the LMAC as necessary
- Extend the operational service period of resources as necessary
- Provide required services to all agencies and functions
- Brief affected FMOs/duty officers as fire activity exceeds local resource capability

In absence of the duty officer(s), the Center Manager is assigned the following responsibilities:

- To evaluate and prioritize new incidents and assign critical resources based upon priorities established in Chapter 10
- Expend emergency funds while implementing management responses according to approved plans or cooperative agreements commensurate with values at risk
- Dispatch available resources to fill orders for regional or national incidents
- Ensure that agency resource situation status is current

- Determine need for, and designate locations for, staging area(s) and pre-positioning of IA forces
- Anticipate future area needs
- Brief or update agency administrator on current fire situation

In the absence of the Center Manager, an acting Center Manager will be delegated. In most cases, it will be either the Assistant Center Manager or an initial attack dispatcher.

CRC Services

- Agencies provide employees, equipment, supplies and facilities to CRC in exchange for dispatching and coordinating services
- Agencies are responsible for their accountable property at CRC
- All property at CRC is available for use to cooperating agency employees to meet agency dispatching and coordination needs
- The CRC Center Manager may utilize any and/or all federal employees, equipment, supplies and facilities available at the dispatch center to meet any objectives identified in the Operating Plan, or any of the SOPs established by the CIFMG

Employees at CRC may provide services to one agency while being paid by another

Mobilization and Demobilization Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

CRC will provide logistical support to all units located within the dispatch zone. CRC will coordinate movement of all resources within the dispatch center's area of influence. The CRC Center Manager, or acting, has delegated authority from Federal and State Land Management Agencies as identified by signatories of the Craig Interagency Mobilization Guide (CIMG). The delegated authority is outlined within the CIMG and establishes policies and procedures for the mobilization of personnel, equipment, supplies, and aircraft for incident emergencies and pre-suppression in Northwest Colorado, the Rocky Mountain Area, and Nationwide.

IROC will be used for all movement of resources. A resource order will serve as a legal payment document.

Safe and rapid mobilization and demobilization will be cost effective, commensurate with values at risk, and consistent with all agencies' resource management objectives.

When CRC has depleted jurisdictional and mutual aid resources, requests for assistance will be placed with dispatch neighbors first and then with RMCC. The resource order will be used for tracking and payment purposes.

The following hiring hierarchy will be honored (RMG Ch. 10):

- 1) ***Agency (including Cooperators)**
- 2) **AD/EFF/**Supplemental Resources**
- 3) **Contractors**

*An Agency is a division of government with a specific function, or a non-governmental organization that offers a particular kind of assistance. In ICS, agencies are defined as

jurisdictional (having statutory responsibility for incident mitigation), or assisting and/or cooperating (providing resources and/or assistance). Agencies include but are not limited to: Federal, State, County, and Local agencies.

****Supplemental Resources** constitute overhead personnel tied to a local fire department/agency (generally by agreement) who are mobilized primarily for response to incidents/wildland fires outside of the department/agencies district or mutual aid zone. They are not a permanent part of the local fire organization and are not required to attend scheduled training, meetings, etc. of the department staff.

Units responding to RMA requests are responsible for ensuring the resources dispatched meet the criteria specified in the RMG and/or the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Incident Qualification and Certification Handbook (NWCG, PMS 310-1), USFS Forest Service Fire & Aviation Qualifications Guide, and/or the minimum requirements as outlined in the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations and county and statewide agreements.

Demobilization shall be carried out in an orderly manner to accomplish a cost-effective program commensurate with efficient and effective organization practices.

To manage fatigue, every effort will be made to conduct mobilization and demobilization travel between 0500 and 2200.

Work/Rest, Length of Assignment, and Days Off

To maintain safe and productive incident activities, incident management personnel must appropriately manage work and rest periods, assignment duration and shift length for all incident personnel.

To assist in mitigating fatigue, days off are allowed during and after assignments. If necessary to reduce fatigue, the Type 1/2 Incident Commander (IC) or Agency Administrator (AA) (incident host or home unit) may provide time off supplementary to mandatory days off requirements.

For Type 3 – 5 incidents, paid days off should be the exception. However, if necessary, the Agency Administrator (incident host or home unit) may authorize day(s) off with pay.

The IC or AA authority to grant a day off with pay lies within 5 USC 6104, 5 CFR 610.301-306, and 56 CG Decision 393 (1977).

Work/Rest Guidelines

Work/Rest Guidelines should be met on all incidents. Plan for, and ensure, all personnel are provided a minimum 2:1 work/rest ratio (for every 2 hours of work or travel, provide 1 hour of sleep and/or rest).

Work shifts that exceed 16 hours and/or consecutive days that do not meet the 2:1 work/rest ratio should be the exception, and no work shift should exceed 24 hours. In situations where this does occur (for example, initial attack) incident management personnel will resume a 2:1 work/rest ratio as quickly as possible.

The intent of the guidelines is to manage fatigue and provide flexibility for ICs and AAs managing initial attack, extended attack, and large fires. The guidelines are designed to ensure that for every 2 hours of work or travel, 1 hour of time off should be provided within a 24-hour

period. It does not matter when the 24-hour period starts; all time recorded on the clock is counted as hours of work; time off the clock is counted as hours of rest, including meal breaks.

The IC or AA must justify work shifts that exceed 16 hours and those that do not meet 2:1 work/rest ratio. Justification will be documented in the daily incident records. Documentation shall include mitigation measures used to reduce fatigue.

The Work/Rest Guidelines do not apply to aircraft pilots assigned to an incident. Pilots must abide by applicable Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidelines, or agency policy if more restrictive.

Work/rest guidelines for all local initial attack resources (including those that are here on a detail in excess of 14 days) will have one day off for every 14 days worked. Every effort will be made to provide the day off on a regularly scheduled day off. If resources have been working extended hours (12-14 hours per day) for the 14 day period, it is the responsibility of the zone or agency FMOs to determine if more than one day off is needed to manage fatigue. It is the zone or agency FMO's responsibility to monitor and manage days off and assure that initial attack resources are adequate.

Personnel who have worked one to six days on unit are available for an off-unit dispatch. Personnel with seven or more days worked on unit will be required to have one day off prior to an off-unit dispatch. Exception maybe negotiated with the zone or agency FMO.

Length of Assignment

Assignment Definition: An assignment is defined as the time period (days) between the first full operational period at the first incident or reporting location on the original resource order and commencement of return travel to the home unit.

Length of Assignment: Standard assignment length is 14 days, exclusive of travel from and to home unit.

Time spent in staging and preposition status counts toward the 14 day limit, regardless of pay status, for all personnel, including Incident Management Teams.

Days Off: After completion of a 14 day assignment and return to the home unit, two (2) mandatory days off will be provided (2 after 14) (State regulations may preclude authorizing this for State employees). Days off must occur on the calendar days immediately following the return travel in order to be charged to the incident (5 U.S.C. 6104, 5 CFR 610. 301-306, and 56 Comp. Gen. Decision 393 (1977)). If the next day(s) upon return from an incident is/are a regular work day(s), a paid day(s) off will be authorized.

Pay entitlement, including administrative leave, for a paid day(s) off cannot be authorized on the individual's regular day(s) off at their home unit. Agencies will apply holiday pay regulations, as appropriate. A paid day off is recorded on home unit time records according to agency requirements.

Casuals (ADs) and contract resources are not entitled to paid day(s) off upon release from the incident or at their point of hire.

Home unit Agency Administrators may authorize additional day(s) off with compensation to further mitigate fatigue. If authorized, home unit program funds will be used.

Resources returning from an off-unit assignment of 14 days will have two days off. Anything less than 14 days will not warrant automatic days off, but will be left to the discretion of the zone or agency FMO, based on fatigue factors and total days worked, etc.

Refer to Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (Chapter 7) for length of assignment scenarios.

Refer to the NWCG Standards for Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook for further information.

All length of assignment rules apply to aviation resources, including aircraft pilots (notwithstanding the FAA and agency day off regulations).

Assignment Extension Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Incident Operations Driving Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Initial Attack Definition Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Initial Attack is a planned response to a wildfire given the wildfire's potential fire behavior. The objective of initial attack is to stop the fire and put it out in a manner consistent with firefighter and public safety as well as values to be protected.

An initial attack wildfire is generally contained by resources initially dispatched, without significant augmentation of reinforcements, within two hours after initial attack, and full control is expected within the first burning period.

Dispatch centers are to inform all resources of the name of the assigned Incident Commander and all other pertinent information. All changes in Incident Command leadership will be announced to assigned and incoming resources during initial and extended attack incidents. This information should also be relayed to Fire Management staff.

Initial attack involving the commitment of resources across recognized dispatch boundaries must comply with the following guidelines:

- Resources dispatched are identified in formalized Agreements, Operating Plans, or Memoranda of Understanding and are located on/or adjacent to mutual jurisdictional wildland fire management boundaries.

Prescribed Fire Notification

When ordering resources for a prescribed burn, a single point of contact will be established between the burn organization and CRC. Resource Orders will be created for In-Unit resources only at the request of the Burn Boss. Resource Orders are required for all off-unit resources. Allow adequate time for the resource order to be processed. A minimum of two days is suggested.

Any unit planning on conducting a prescribed fire needs to notify CRC at least one day prior to the planned ignition. It is preferred that the planned prescribed fire form be used. It is located on the CRC web site under forms and dispatch notification. The information provided will be reported in the daily SIT report and submitted to RMCC who then notify the FAA.

A copy of the signed burn plan needs to be provided to dispatch prior to ignition, along with charge codes.

Resource Mobilization Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

All orders for resources will be initiated by the IC responsible for an incident, or the Unit or Zone FMO while coordinating with the incident IC, and generated through CRC. Orders shall be processed through established dispatch channels using the standard National Coordination System.

For the movement of resources within the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland (MBR & TBG), the requesting duty officer or fire management officer for the incident will notify their respective dispatch center for movement of forest resources across dispatch zones (CRC and Casper Dispatch (CPC)). This notification process does not require dispatch center approval prior to the immediate movement within the MBR & TBG across dispatch zone boundaries. The dispatch centers are responsible for assuring that coordination and established dispatch procedures are followed using the standard National Coordinating System.

For the movement of resources within the Dinosaur National Monument, the requesting duty officer or fire management officer for the incident will notify their respective dispatch center for movement of NPS resources across dispatch zones (CRC and Uintah Basin Dispatch (UBC)). The dispatch centers are responsible for assuring coordination and that established dispatch procedures are followed using the standard National Coordinating System.

All resources mobilized beyond initial attack will adhere to the NWCG Physical Fitness Standards when on Federal lands.

Wildland Fire Entrapment/Fatality

Entrapment: A situation where personnel are unexpectedly caught in a fire behavior-related, life-threatening position, where planned escape routes or safety zones are absent, inadequate, or have been compromised. An entrapment may or may not include deployment of a fire shelter. This situation may or may not result in injury. In the event that a wildland fire entrapment or fatality occurs, it should be reported immediately to NICC through proper agency channels. A Wildland Fire Entrapment/Fatality Initial Report should be completed and mailed to RMCC electronically or by fax machine within twenty-four (24) hours. Submit this report even if some data is missing. Form is located at the following web site:

https://www.nifc.gov/nicc/logistics/coord_forms/PMS405-1_Entrapment_201408.pdf.

Subsequent to the Initial Report, the investigation and review shall be conducted following agency specific policies and NWCG Guidelines.

National Resources Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Dispatching of National and/or Area resources within and across the defined Rocky Mountain Area boundaries shall comply with the RMG. National Resources are those fire suppression resources whose primary duties are for the National support of fire incidents. These resources have high demand, limited availability, and unique status reporting requirements identified by NICC.

Notification of Commitment of National & Area Resources Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Notification by phone to RMCC of commitment of National and Area resources will be within 15 minutes of commitment.

Notifications will be done when the following circumstances occur:

- When National or Area Resources are committed internally to an incident or are no longer available for dispatch
- When resource is available again
- When resource location changes

Unable to Fill (UTF) Procedures Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Standard Cubes, Weight and Gear Policy (excluding smokejumpers, rappellers, and Helicopter Managers) refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

All personnel dispatched off their unit must conform to the following limitations:

- One frameless soft pack not to exceed 45 pounds
- Web gear or briefcase (not both) not to exceed 20 pounds
- Maximum allowable crew weight, including equipment is 5300 pounds

All personnel baggage weights must be displayed separately from individual weights on flight manifests

Pre-identified Type 1 and Type 2 IMT members are authorized additional weight, not to exceed 300 pounds, for equipment per team. The Incident Commander must designate, in advance, which team members are authorized additional weight and make this a matter of record.

Fire Weather Forecasts

Fire weather forecasts will be disseminated to all firefighting personnel. The morning fire weather forecast will be discussed at the morning briefing and will be included in the Craig Daily Briefing on the website

(https://firenet365.sharepoint.com/:x/s/DC_COCRC_Craig_Interagency_Dispatch/EZGTGRg75klJgOfHqSfRIg0ByHyu2cMsI2X3TG6Ae6PasQ?rttime=-VdbzYD52kg). If needed, field units will receive this information via radio at 1100 when the morning weather and aircraft status is read. The afternoon fire weather forecast will be broadcast at 1530 on all appropriate frequencies available to CRC.

Requests for spot weather forecasts for wildland fires will be made through CRC. Depending on the location of the incident, CRC will contact either the Grand Junction National Weather Service or the Denver/Boulder National Weather Service and request the spot forecast. When

the spot forecast is received, CRC will read the information to the requesting incident personnel via radio or cell phone.

Spot weather forecast requests for prescribed fire can be made directly to the weather service by the burn boss or their designee. CRC will be notified of the request, so they can document the information in an incident action file for historical record purposes.

Red Flag Warnings, Fire Weather Watches, severe weather events and updates to the weather forecast will be communicated to all firefighting personnel via radio or briefing. Duty Officers will receive a phone call informing them of the weather alert and a confirmation is required. A text message alert will also be sent to all participating federal and cooperator parties through WildCAD for all Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches. The text message will contain the following information: type of alert, which fire weather zone(s) are affected, what the alert is for (high winds, high temps, low RH, etc.) and what time the warning will start and expire (if applicable). CRC will NOT expect a response. The sent text will be retained in WildCAD and serve as confirmation that the alert was distributed. The Red Flag Warning or Fire Weather Watch will also be broadcast to all fire units not in station in the affected weather zones and a confirmation will be required. A reminder will be given to any units responding to a fire within the affected weather zones. In cases where a Fire Weather Watch or Red Flag Warning is issued several days prior to the date of the expected conditions the notifications will happen the morning of the day prior to the event, as well as if/when a Fire Weather Watch changes to a Red Flag Warning.

All weather forecasts, Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches are posted on the National Weather Service's (NWS) website. It can be accessed through CRC's website. Go to https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2crc/predictive/weather/weather.htm then click on the appropriate link (spot forecast request for a new request or the spot forecast monitor link for an existing request) under the Fire Weather Forecasts section.

Fire Resource Check-in and Tracking Procedures

Responsibilities of the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center include:

- Daily tracking the status of fire resources for initial response to wildfires,
- Tracking assigned and contingency resources for prescribed fires, and
- Providing communications and other support for resources engaged in prescribed fire and initial/extended attack operations.

In addition, a key reason for tracking of resources is to provide a safety net. If expected arrival times or communication schedules are not executed as planned, it may be an indicator that someone is in trouble and that search plans or other emergency plans need to be activated.

Check-in/Check-out Season

Check-in/Check-out Season for daily tracking of fire resources will be from April 1st to October 31st. During this period, all fire resources are expected to follow the established general check-in and check-out procedures outlined below. Tracking fire resources outside of the April 1st - October 31st season will be done upon request. CRC cannot guarantee staffing during this period outside of the check-in/check-out season due to training, meetings, annual leave, etc.

General Procedures

Resources need to call in when they are leaving the station; providing dispatch with destination and ETA. They need to call again upon arrival at destination and anytime they change locations throughout the day. This is critical for mobilization of closest resources to fires/incidents.

- At the end of the day if the dispatch center does not have confirmation that a resource is back at station a dispatcher will begin a search.
- If fire resources check in with CRC, it is then assumed that CRC will be tracking them until they either return to station or reach their destination and have checked out for the day.
- If fire resources are checking in for informational purposes (outside check-in season) dispatch will not be tracking them unless requested to do so. For ex: FMO/Engine traveling to another town for a meeting or training etc. If fire resources are going to the field outside of the above mentioned season, then it is assumed that the project supervisor will be keeping track of personnel working on that project unless it is for a prescribed fire. If resources are engaged in prescribed burning CRC will track the resources.
- CRC will not make the decision to go home while resources are still in the field. For example, if resources are returning from a prescribed burn/wildland fire and it is past the normal closing time, CRC will stay in service until released by either the incident commander, burn boss or supervisor responsible for operations. Resources should relay their needs to the dispatch center in a timely manner for planning purposes. It may be there are several resources travelling together and they are comfortable with dispatch going out of service - they have good cell phone coverage, they are on pavement, etc. Other times dispatch should stay in service – single resource travelling, no cell coverage, etc.

CRC staffing for Wildfires

- CRC will remain in service for all wildfires that are staffed throughout the night unless released by an incident commander or other supervisor responsible for incident operations and other arrangements for communications are in place.
- CRC will remain in service for all wildfires that have resources camping out unless released by an incident commander or other supervisor responsible for incident operations and other arrangements for communications are in place.

CRC Staffing for Prescribed Fires

- CRC will be in service during all prescribed fire operations unless released by a burn boss or other supervisor responsible for incident operations and other arrangements for communications are in place.
- CRC will remain in service for all prescribed fires that have resources camping out unless released by a burn boss or other supervisor responsible for incident operations and other arrangements for communications are in place.
- Resources that have been identified as contingency resources for prescribed fire should not check out until they have been notified by dispatch that they have been released by the burn boss.
- Outside the “Check-in” season, if resources are engaged in prescribed burning, CRC will track the resources.

Cost Coding Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Fire Cost Coding Agencies Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

All incidents in the CRC area will be assigned accounting codes for all responding agencies utilizing the FireCode System. A cost code will be assigned to every resource order to be used nationally for cost collection and accounting information.

Each agency is responsible for tracking their own costs according to agency policy in regard to cost containment and large fire cost accountability objectives.

Fire Cost Coding (BLM) Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Fire Cost Coding (BIA) Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Fire Cost Coding (NPS) Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Fire Cost Coding (FWS) Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Fire Cost Coding (USFS) Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Preparedness Level Definitions

For a more detailed definition of preparedness levels, refer to the Craig Interagency Dispatch Area Interagency Fire Danger Operating Plan.

Craig Interagency Dispatch Center Preparedness Levels

Preparedness levels are established for the CRC area utilizing the Craig Interagency Dispatch Area Interagency Fire Danger Operating Plan and based on current and forecasted burning conditions, fire activity, resource availability and fuel conditions.

#1	ERC Breakpoints	1	2	3	4	5
	Model X (FDRA Zone 1) 7 day forecasted average rolling	0-39	40-55	56-78	79-94	95+
	Model Y (FDRA Zone 2) 7 day forecasted average rolling	0-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+
	Model Z (FDRA Zone 3) 7 day forecasted average rolling	0-43	44-74	75-88	89-111	112+
#2	Dispatch Areas Level will be done by; three zone average (using the preparedness level of each FDRA and then dividing by 3)					
	Zone Preparedness Level	I	II	III	IV	V

Craig Interagency Dispatch Center Preparedness Level Action Items

Refer to the Craig Interagency Dispatch Area Interagency Fire Danger Operating Plan for the applicable action item matrices.

Rocky Mountain Area Preparedness Levels Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Multi-Agency Coordinating Group Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Rocky Mountain Area MAC Group Coordinators Refer to [RMA MAC Plan](#)

Craig Interagency Fire Management Group (CIFMG)

Refer to Chapter 90 for CIFMG Charter

The Local Multi-Agency Coordination Group (LMAC)

The LMAC group communicates during the Daily Morning Briefing throughout the summer. It is comprised of representatives from the CIFMG . The LMAC group responsibilities are:

- Prioritize incidents including prescribed fire according to:

- Life threatening situations
- Property threatened
- High resource damage potential
- Incident complexity
- Ensure that agency resource status is current
- Determine specific agency resource requirements
- Determine agency resource availability (for out of jurisdiction assignments, etc.)
- Determine need for and designate locations for staging area(s) and prepositioning points for IA resources
- Anticipate future agency/area needs
- Communicate LMAC group decisions back to agencies/areas/RMACC
- Critique and recommend improvements

Expanded Dispatch Organization Refer to NMG (Ch. 10) and CRC Expanded Dispatch Plan

Mobilization Procedures for Military Assets Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Established Resource Ordering Process Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Civilian Support Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Demobilization Procedures Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

International Operations Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

National Guard Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Ordering Channels

Geographic Area Coordination Centers (GACCs) Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Craig Interagency Dispatch Center Units

- Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge
- Brown's Park National Wildlife Refuge
- Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control
- Dinosaur National Monument NPS
- Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland
 - Hahn's Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District
 - Parks Ranger District
 - Yampa Ranger District
- Grand County
- Jackson County
- Moffat County
- Rio Blanco County

- Routt County
- Northwest Colorado District BLM
 - BLM Kremmling Field Office
 - BLM Little Snake Field Office
 - BLM White River Field Office

Rocky Mountain Area Units Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Ordering Procedures Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

CRC will coordinate the movement of all resources utilized within the dispatch center's boundaries. Established ordering channels will be followed for incidents, preparedness, severity, wildland, and prescribed fire.

The primary goals of the dispatch of any resource are:

- SAFETY
- EFFECTIVENESS
- EFFICIENCY

The following criteria will be accomplished by the CRC:

- Rapid response
- Communications/Intelligence - Information must be accurate and timely
- Efficient use of the most effective resource

CRC may order initial attack resources directly from an adjoining dispatch center. These centers include: Grand Junction, Casper, Ft. Collins and Uinta Basin dispatch centers. CRC can also order resources for extended attack, large fire support, and all risk incidents directly from the same neighboring dispatch centers listed above, except for Uinta Basin. These centers can also order resources directly from CRC.

Initial Attack Dispatching Procedures

All incidents will be reported to CRC.

Incident size-up information is critical for establishing priorities and should always be available from committed resources. All resources providing size-up information are required to use the Craig Dispatch Initial Fire Size-up Card or a similar format.

CRC will use the closest forces policy to dispatch resources. CRC will notify the unit with jurisdictional responsibility according to agency guidelines listed below. It is understood that initial response will not be delayed over questions of ownership. The intent of this policy is to assure that resources are promptly dispatched to an incident to determine ownership, conduct an initial size-up, and take appropriate action if the jurisdictional agency approves. The concept will be used to the greatest extent possible, within the limits of agreements and agency policy.

“Closest Forces” definition – The nearest (in terms of response time) resource(s) will be dispatched regardless of agency affiliation.

All Agencies:

Follow reporting procedures in the appropriate county OP.

Based on this initial report, CRC will dispatch the appropriate resources as identified by initial attack guidelines (run cards). Following mobilization, dispatch will notify the appropriate Duty Officer of location, size, behavior and resources responding. The Dispatch Center's responsibility is to assure that resources promptly respond to all incidents so initial intelligence can be gathered and fire management decisions can be made. The Duty Officer's responsibility is to oversee all suppression operations for the purpose of establishing priorities in the event there is competition for resources or multiple fires exceed available resources. The Duty Officer also confirms that the appropriate Agency Administrator has been notified.

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control

Some fires require immediate notification of 1st) Regional Battalion Chief, 2nd) District Chief or DFPC Duty Officer.

Immediate Notification Criteria:

- When DFPC is requested by a local agency (i.e., County Sheriff, Fire Chief)
- When structures or critical infrastructure (i.e. large energy infrastructure, communication towers etc.) are at risk from a wildfire
- Upon initial dispatch of aircraft to wildfires involving non-federal land
- Any request by an Incident Commander for out-of-county non-federal resources (DFPC assets or cooperators)
- Confirmed wildfires on non-federal land during a Red Flag Warning period
- At the discretion of Regional Battalion Chief, District Chief or Duty Officer due to safety/communication/political issues

Support Border Fires Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Mobilization and Demobilization Information Refer to NMG (Ch. 10)

Neighborhood Ordering

Neighborhood Ordering Definition Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Neighborhood Ordering Procedures Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

- Resource Ordering Standards apply for the movement of all resources. Included in this are Initial Response procedures, IROC or resource order forms, commit messages and reassignment procedures
- When a resource is unavailable from a neighbor, the order will be placed with RMCC. RMCC will not check with CRC neighbors to fill orders for CRC unless notified that CRC did not check with neighbors
- Resources mobilized through RMCC are not available for neighborhood ordering

All Dinosaur National Monument resources will be dispatched by CRC for off Monument assignments, including Prescribed Fire assignments (Initial Attack agreements with adjoining units are excluded, but the Monument will notify CRC of any resource commitment outside of CRC).

Resources ordered into Dinosaur National Monument, other than for fires on the Utah side, (i.e., severity, pre-position, details) will be ordered through CRC. Fires occurring on the Utah side will be supported by Uinta Basin Fire Center (UBC). Fires occurring on the Colorado side will be supported by CRC.

Refer to RMG for more information on resource ordering and the chart describing resource types, the approved ordering method, and the required notifications.

Rocky Mountain Area Wide (RMW) Ordering Definition Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Rocky Mountain Area Wide Ordering Procedures Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Rocky Mountain Neighborhood Resource Ordering Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)

Rocky Mountain Area Resource Ordering Chart Refer to RMG (Ch. 10)