

## CHAPTER 10

### OBJECTIVES, POLICY, AND SCOPE OF OPERATION

#### **Mission Statement**

The principal mission of Great Plains Interagency Coordination Center (GPC) in Rapid City, South Dakota, is the cost effective and timely coordination of land management agency successful emergency response for wildland fire. As a partner in the National Response Framework (NRF) and as interagency cooperators, we will also meet the requirements of all-hazard incidents as directed by the NRF or Presidential and Secretarial direction. This is accomplished through planning, situation monitoring, and expediting resource orders between the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Areas, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) States, South Dakota State Wildland Fire Division, Nebraska State Forestry, Nebraska Emergency Management, Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Forest Service (FS), National Park Service (NPS), National Weather Service (NWS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and other cooperating agencies.

The Great Plains Interagency Mobilization Guide identifies standard procedures which guide the operations of multi-agency logistical support activity throughout the coordination system. This guide is intended to facilitate interagency dispatch coordination, ensuring that the most timely and cost effective incident support services available are provided. This guide is intended to supplement the Rocky Mountain Area Interagency Mobilization Guide (RMG) and the National Interagency Mobilization Guide (NMG). This guide is an extension of Agency Manuals, Handbooks, Directives, and Instructional Memoranda relating to logistical support.

The Great Plains Board of Directors is responsible for review and approval of the Great Plains Interagency Mobilization Guide.

#### **Total Mobility**

Positioning and utilizing resources to meet existing and anticipated incident, preparedness, severity, and wildland and prescribed fire needs regardless of geographic location or agency affiliation. The closest forces concept will be utilized during initial attack, and when appropriate during extended attack.

#### **Priorities**

When competition exists for resources, priorities will be established depending on local preparedness levels:

Preparedness Level	Priorities set by
I and II	Center management or Delegated Authority
III, IV and V	Great Plains Coordinating Group (LMAC) as needed

If the Great Plains Local Multi-Agency Coordination Group (LMAC) is assembled, they will establish local priorities and confirm drawdown levels for out of zone assignments.

Priorities shall be established through use of National Standards (Ref NMG 10). When requested, GPC will submit a priority list to Rocky Mountain Coordination Center (RMCC).

The single overriding suppression priority is the protection of human life – both, that of our firefighters and of the public.

**Setting priorities and drawdown levels, the following criteria will be considered** (Refer NMG 10, RMG 10)

- Protecting communities and community infrastructure, other property and improvements, and natural and cultural resources.
- Maintaining initial action capability.
- Limiting costs without compromising safety.
- Meeting agency suppression objectives.
- Support to National Response Framework (NRF) tasking’s.

**Local Area Drawdown Levels** (Refer to NMG 10, RMG 10)

Local drawdown is established by the GPCG or LMAC and implemented by GPC (Refer to the 2015 Great Plains Fire Danger Operating plan for zone draw down levels). The local dispatch office will notify the Geographic Area Coordination Center (GACC) of local drawdown decisions and actions (NMG 10).

**National Ready Reserve implementation and local responsibilities:** (Refer to NMG 10)

GPC mobilizes National Ready Reserve resources through established ordering channels as requested. When ordered, National Ready Reserve resources must be in route to the new assignment within specific timeframes.

NMAC may retain available resources within the GPC zone, over and above the established zone drawdown level.

### **Scope of Operation**

#### **General**

GPC mobilization guide contains dispatching procedures and organizations. Included is a directory and catalog of personnel, equipment, aircraft, and supplies to assist in obtaining prompt and adequate response to ensure management of all wildland fire and prescribed fires within agency standards. Each unit will provide GPC with their individual unit’s information to supplement the RMG (Refer RMG 10)

**National Response Framework (NRF)** (Refer to NMG 10)

**Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) (Refer to NMG 10)****Great Plains Compact**

The states of South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska and North Dakota are members of the Great Plains Interstate Forest Fire Compact (Great Plains Compact).

Compact members may order directly from each other. Mobilization requests for the Great Plains Compact are processed between the member states. GPC is to be notified of all compact orders when Compact resources listed by GPC are mobilized under the Compact.

**Response to Incidents other than Wildland Fires**

GPC is capable of supporting non-fire incidents provided there are Agreements or Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) in place that identify payment procedures. Great Plains Dispatch Center Cooperating Agencies will normally function in a support role in a coordinated response to non-wildland fire emergencies. An agency may take the lead role for purposes of expediency in life threatening situations or when non-government emergency service programs are unable to provide leadership. Specific agency policies and administrators will provide direction in determining the availability of resources in conjunction with existing programs in order to support and coordinate with local authorities (Refer to NMG 10, RMG 10).

**Mutual Aid Agreements**

Mutual aid agreements have the primary purpose of providing Initial Attack (IA) 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. The forces are normally in sufficient amounts to successfully achieve the appropriate management response objectives without need for major reinforcements in a reasonable period of time. GPC has the authority to utilize the initial attack resources of adjoining units and centers across adjacent geographic area boundaries, according to existing border agreements.

Mobilization will be within the legal authority of existing formalized parent agreements. Local formal agreements and MOU's are not necessary. However, cooperating units will identify operating procedures in local operating plans.

Prior to the mobilization of IA resources, it is agreed that:

- There will be communication between all centers.
- An official resource request will be processed through dispatch channels for IA resources remaining on the incident beyond IA, and
- No IA resource responding across geographic boundaries will be mobilized further than that adjoining center boundary.
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**Responsibilities of the Great Plains Interagency Dispatch Center**

GPC shall serve as the dispatch office to provide logistical support to incidents in the GPC dispatch area. GPC will coordinate movement of all support resources within the area.

The GPC manager has delegated authority as identified by the signatories of the GMG. The delegated authority is outlined within this guide and establishes policies and procedures for the mobilization of personnel, equipment, supplies and aircraft for incident emergencies and pre-suppression in the GPC dispatch area, the Rocky Mountain area and Nationally.

**GPC will:**

- Act as a focal point for information concerning overall incident situations within the Great Plains dispatch area including but not limited to fire danger, current or projected activity, and resource status.
- Determine the amount and location of available overhead, crews, equipment, aircraft, supplies, and transportation. Anticipate and communicate initial and long-term needs and priorities for sharing available resources.
- Coordinate the movement of personnel, equipment, aircraft, crews and supplies responding to incident emergencies, preparedness, severity, wildland fire and prescribed fire from one location to another.
- Coordinate with local MAC group to determine priorities for resources in multiple fire situations.
- Coordinate rosters, schedules, and mobilization of Great Plains area resources. (i.e., Type I and Type II team members, Buying Team members, and Crews)
- Keep Agency administrators, local FMO's and RMCC informed of existing and projected critical fire situations.
- Determine the need to preposition suppression resources at the most strategic locations and initiate the movement using resource-ordering process in conjunction with the local MAC group and local FMO's.
- Comply with acceptable dispatch standards and procedures.
- Participate in active analysis of fire, coordination, and dispatch activities.
- Serve as information/technical advisor to the GPC Board of Directors (BOD) and the GPC operations committee
- Prior to fire season, initiate GPC BOD recommended changes in policies and procedures and Cooperative Agreements that affect GPC.
- Provide leadership and support in training programs to facilitate current dispatch and coordination needs.

**Responsibilities of GPC Agencies**

GPC Agencies shall responsible for:

- All fire activity within their respective protection boundaries, including initial attack and project support.
- Interagency agreements to facilitate a cost effective and responsive emergency management program, and the development of Mobilization Guides, Operating Plans, Aviation, Communication and Safety Plans.
- Preparedness in order to meet daily-anticipated fire suppression requirements.
- Ensuring adequate and timely staffing of all incidents through the Interagency Dispatch System. This includes overhead team requirements (complexity analysis) and Expanded Dispatch Organizations.
- Maintaining all equipment and supplies to Agency and National Fire Equipment Standards.
- Assessing and performing risk/benefit analysis prior to requesting extensive night mobilization.
- Ensuring that all resources meet qualification standards for mobilization.
- Adequately informing GPC of all intelligence regarding resources, weather, and incident information. This includes anticipated critical fire situations or fire activity that may exhaust unit response capabilities.
- For complete and accurate documentation in support of emergency activities and legal requirements.
- For administrative details including training, contracting, discipline, housing, time keeping, equipment, and any project work for shared resources based on the unit.
- Determine needs for repositioning of forces or deviations from approved and published staffing levels, and take appropriate action. (This includes obtaining severity authorization approval and initiating resource order request through the appropriate dispatch channels.)
- For the active support of incidents by making qualified personnel available for wildland and prescribed fire activities.
- For providing the training and support to wildland and prescribed fire personnel to assure safe, efficient, and effective incident activities.

**Responsibilities of the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center**

(Refer RMG 10)

## **Responsibilities of the GPC Fire Duty Officers**

Each Agency is responsible for providing a Fire Duty Officer (DO) and will provide GPC the name of the duty officer with work and after hours contact numbers. Such duty officers shall be available as scheduled.

### **Mobilization/Demobilization**

GPC will coordinate the movement of all resources across the zone dispatch boundaries as covered by local operating plans and other direction found in this Guide. To ensure safe and efficient mobilization of resources to incidents, resources are requested and mobilized using the Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS), which serves as a legal payment document.

Standard interagency mobilization processes are identified within the Interagency Standards for the ROSS Operations Guide (ISROG) located at the following website: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/logistics/references/ISROG.pdf>.

GPC will plan and execute a safe, rapid mobilization / demobilization program to minimize fire costs, commensurate with values at risk, and consistent with all agencies' resource management objectives. When a dispatch center has depleted jurisdictional and mutual aid resources, requests for assistance shall be placed first with their "neighbors" and second with RMC. The resource order form as described above will be used. The coordination center shall, through established dispatch channels, locate and order the closest available resource that will meet the requesting unit's needs. Consideration shall be given to more distant resources to avoid excessive commitments from units with similar or more critical fire severity.

When it is reasonable to expect containment prior to the next operational period, GPC should coordinate directly to RMCC and its neighbors, if the resources will continue to be used for initial attack or on adjacent jurisdictions. If it becomes evident the incident will not be contained during the first operational period, resources mobilized will be ordered through established ordering channels.

### **The following mobilization hierarchy will be honored:**

- 1. Agency**
- 2. Cooperators**
- 3. AD/EFF**
- 4. Contractors**

Units responding to GPC requests are responsible for ensuring the resources dispatched meet the criteria specified in this Guide and/or the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide (PMS 310-1). <http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/docs/pms310-1.pdf>

**Work/Rest, Length of Assignment, and Days Off**

(Refer NMG 10, RMG 10 and IIBMH10)

**Incident Operations Driving**

As stated in the current agency work/rest policy, documentation of mitigation measures used to reduce fatigue is required for drivers who exceed 16 hour work shifts. This is required regardless of whether the driver was still compliant with the 10 hour individual (behind the wheel) driving time limitations.

(Refer to the IIBMH Ch. 10 Regional Supplement for further information)

Employees must have a valid state driver's license in their possession for the appropriate vehicle class before operating the vehicle.

For non-commercial driving license (CDL) driving, current national interagency work-rest policy serves as duty-day limitation and driver rest requirements. Duty day will not exceed 16 hours for non-CDL drivers.

All driving requiring CDL will be performed in accordance with applicable Department of Transportation regulations found in 49 CFR 383, 390-397 and all state traffic regulations. (No driver of a vehicle requiring a CDL will drive the vehicle after 16 hours on duty during any duty-day.)

Exceptions: An additional two hours of driving time may be added if: A driver encounters adverse driving conditions, unforeseen emergency situations (breakdown), or to ensure the safety of personnel.

Reference IIBMH [http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/iibmh2/pms902\\_201208.pdf](http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/iibmh2/pms902_201208.pdf)

**Initial Attack Definition**

Initial Attack (I.A.) is defined as the first response of suppression forces dispatched to wildfires under established and planned direction. The forces are normally in sufficient amounts to successfully achieve the appropriate management response without need for major reinforcements in a reasonable period of time. The closest forces concept will be utilized during initial attack, and when appropriate during extended attack. (Refer RMG 10 - Mutual Aid Agreements).

Great Plains is 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.

Dispatching of Area initial attack resources within and across the defined GPC boundaries shall comply with the following:

- GPC has the authority to utilize the resources of adjoining units and centers within the GPC area as stated in the RMA Neighborhood Ordering Procedures. (Refer RMG 10)

- GPC the authority to utilize the Initial Attack resources of adjoining units and centers across adjacent geographic area boundaries.
- Mobilization will be within the legal authority of existing formalized parent agreements. However, cooperating units and centers have specifically identified operating procedures in local operating plans.
- Initial attack aircraft such as air tankers, helicopters, lead planes, smokejumper aircraft, etc., are considered resources that can be dispatched and arrive on scene within one hour of I.A. request.
- Initial attack ground resources are considered resources that can be dispatched and arrive on scene within three hours of I.A. request.
- Dispatch centers must make notification of National and Area resource commitment as outlined in RMG 10.
- At such time as it becomes evident that the incident will not be contained or controlled during I.A., the initial attack resources shall be formally requested on resource order(s) through established dispatch channels.

When the RMA reaches Preparedness Level 3, the RMC Center Manager and the RMCG Fire Duty Officer will determine the need for prioritization of available National and Area resources. RMC has the authority to withdraw Neighborhood Ordering within the RMA and/or I.A. resources movement across geographic boundaries as necessary

### **Resource Mobilization** (Refer to NMG 10)

The Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS) will be used for all movement of resources and serve as a legal payment document. Orders for resources shall be initiated / generated by the unit responsible for the incidents (prescribed fire, wildland fire, non-fire, etc). Orders shall be processed through established dispatch channels.

GPC/RMCC/NICC will not process requests for resources “**after the fact.**” i.e. requests for resources which have mobilized to an incident prior to receiving a resource order request.

GPC/RMCC/NICC will not process requests for Task Forces. In order to facilitate a coordinated, timely and cost effective response to wildland fire incidents, requests for Task Force components will be placed as individual single resource requests through established ordering channels.

### **Wildland Fire Entrapment/Fatality** (Refer NMG 10)

In the event that a wildland fire entrapment or fatality occurs, it should be reported immediately to RMC and NICC. A Wildland Fire Entrapment/Fatality Initial Report should be completed and mailed to RMC and NICC 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:

[http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/logistics/coord\\_forms.htm](http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/logistics/coord_forms.htm). Subsequent to the Initial

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

**National Resources** Refer NMG 10

National Resources are those which have national utilization, high demand, limited availability, and unique status reporting requirements identified by NICC.

Area Resources are those fire suppression resources whose primary duties are for the Rocky Mountain Area support of fire incidents.

- Type 2 IMT's
- Geographical Area Type 2 Buying Teams
- Type 3 Exclusive Use Helicopters
- Exclusive Use SEATS
- Type 2 crews and Type 2 IA crews
- Wildland Fire Modules
- Cache Vans

**Notification of Commitment of National Resource and Area Resources**

GPC will notify RMCC of the commitment of National Resources. Notification of resource commitment will be obtained via ROSS notification and via phone call within fifteen (15) minutes of commitment when National Resources:

- Are committed internally to an incident or are no longer available for dispatch,
- Are available again
- Have location changes

**Unable to Fill (UTF) Procedure**

A 48 hour "Unable to Fill" (UTF) policy exists nationally. NICC and/or RMCC will return requests to GPC with a "UTF" no more than 48 hours after receipt, unless notified the order can be filled. NICC/RMCC will not accept or process any request previously UTF'd unless a new request number is assigned.

**Standard Cubes, Weight, and Gear Policy for all Personnel (Excluding Smokejumpers, Rappellers, and Helicopter Managers)** (Refer NMG 10)

**General Demobilization Guidelines** (Refer RMG 10)

Demobilization plans prepared and approved by Area Command and IMT, or the local unit will be distributed to affected Unit or Expanded Dispatch and to the RMC at least 24 hours prior to any releases, 48 hours for resources traveling on Commercial Air. Reassignment potential will be addressed in this plan. Assure that Unit and Area priorities for release are met. Keep Dispatch Centers informed of demobilization plans, progress, and changes. Center Managers or EDSPs should sign off on demobilization plans. Assure that Area and Unit priorities for release are met.

Arrange staging and transportation as necessary. Arrange to have service representatives at departure/arrival points to keep the dispatcher informed of problems and progress (i.e., Fixed Wing Base Manager, etc.). Make sure resource orders are kept current for all releases.

Hold all resources at the base or staging area until travel arrangements can be made or cleared by the logistics dispatch system. Ensure crews are properly equipped with meals for the duration of their travel home, or arrangements have been made prior to travel. Attempt to assure that personnel shall arrive at their home station by 2200 home station time.

**Release Priority Guidelines** (Refer RMG 10)

**Radios:** (Refer to NMG 20)

Assemble National Fire Cache Radio Command & Logistic Systems and ship to RMK in Lakewood or NIRSC in Boise via airfreight or charter aircraft as soon as possible. Coordinate with the local dispatch center and RMC/RMK on transportation.

DO NOT hold radios on Unit. They must be returned to NIRSC for refurbishing for next fire.

**Wildland Fire Weather Forecasts** (Refer NMG 10 and RMG 10)

GPC will disseminate in a timely manner, all fire weather forecasts to all firefighting personnel on all wildland fires in the GPC IA dispatch area. The National Weather Service (NWS) in Rapid City, SD, Aberdeen, SD, North Platte, NE and Cheyenne, WY provide fire weather forecasts for our fire zones. The NWS office issues one (1) annual operating guide that provides details about the fire weather zones, operational dates, times and terminology.

The operations plan is maintained at RMC and can be found at the following website: [http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/predictive/2014\\_aop\\_rma.pdf](http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/predictive/2014_aop_rma.pdf).

**Cost Coding**

**Interagency Fire and Severity Activities**

The three State and five Federal agencies within the GPC zone have an Interagency agreement which gives direction on how invoicing and billing will be conducted for initial attack, extended attack, severity and all risk incidents.

GPC will issue firecodes for all incidents within the initial attack area response area. The BIA and FWS generally issue their own four digit firecodes through the Firecode program, but GPC is able to assist when requested. If additional resources are requested through GPC for incidents for which GPC has not issued a code, GPC will issue a new firecode for GPC tracking purposes.

For Severity the BLM, FWS, NPS and BIA will use a four digit interagency FireCode to track and compile costs for all severity activities; the ordering office must include the word “severity” within the resource order incident name.

(Information on the interagency FireCode can be found at:  
[https://www.firecode.gov/help/User\\_Guide.pdf](https://www.firecode.gov/help/User_Guide.pdf))

All wildfire suppression orders are to have a four (4) digit interagency FireCode assigned by the ordering office. Interagency dispatch procedures have been established to incorporate assigning one FireCode per incident for use by all federal wildland fire agencies.

Orders processed through NICC and RMCC must have at least one of the following federal agency cost codes assigned by the ordering office. Financial codes should be consistent with the Incident Type. See Firecode chart below:

**Fire Cost Coding - Agencies**

**BLM** (Refer to NMG 10)

**BIA** (Refer to NMG 10)

**NPS** (Refer to NMG 10)

**FWS** (Refer to NMG 10)

**USFS** (Refer to NMG 10)

**GREAT PLAINS ZONE ESTABLISHED FIRECODE CHART FOR FY 2015 Revised: Feb 2, 2015**

Coding Type	BLM <i>USFS code PD (1502)</i>	BIA <i>USFS code PA (1502)</i>	NPS <i>USFS code PP (1502)</i>	FWS <i>USFS code PR (1502)</i>	STATE <i>USFS code PN (1502)</i>	USFS <i>USFS code P2, (xxxx)</i>
<b>Fire Suppression</b>	1 FireCode per Fire  Office Code = LF2000000.HU000  LFSPxxxx0000 (xxxx = fire code)	1 Fire Code per Fire Fund Code(3 digits)  Functional Area (15 digits) Includes: Sub-Activity (9 digit) AF20001010  ABC (6 digit) 8T4100  WBS-work breakdown (17 digits)  Example – XYZ- AF2001010.8T410 0.AD.SPXXXX000 0.00000  Cost center 10 digit AAXXXXXXXXXX(a agency or regional cost center where casual is hired)	1 Fire Code (FC) per Fire  FC- is a part of the WBS accounting string  Example PF.FSG <b>75L</b> 014.00.1  Is a WBS for fire code <b>G75L</b> for FY15	1 Fire Code per Fire  WBS= FFF200000XXXX0 (For Suppression, XXXX=Fire code)	ABCD Misc BKF FAD157006  NBF FAD157007  All Others:1 FireCode per Fire along with a State fire number issued out of the book	BKF ABCD P2EKT9 OVERRIDE 0203  NBF ABCD P2EKU3 OVERRIDE 0207  1 Fire code per Reimbursable/billable Fire,  All fires larger than class D, or if an IMT 1, 2 or 3  is ordered, issue a unique Firecode  USFS Firecode Preface with “P2” 2 = Region number  BLM Fires = “PD” \  FWS Fires = “PR”   Override

						<p>NPS Fires = “PP”</p> <p>BIA Fires = “PA” 1502</p> <p>Other Fires = “PN” /</p> <p>Fire codes assigned by NICC – “PW”</p>
<p><b>Personnel</b></p> <p><b>Time Charges</b></p>	<p>Fire funded personnel charge base 8 to LF1000000.HT0000</p> <p>Fire Time During base 8 to LF1000000.HU0000 0.LFSPxxx0000</p> <p>All other charges will be coded to LF2000000</p> <p>Fire suppression code</p>	<p>Fire funded personnel Charge base 8 preparedness all other charges to functional area (15 digits)includes sub activity (9digits) example: AF2001010</p> <p>ABC (6 digits) 8T4100</p> <p>WBS-(17digit)(12 digits followed by 0000)Example: AT.SPXXXX0000. 0000(X=FC)</p> <p>Cost Center 10 digit AAXXXXXXXXXX agency or regional cost center where</p>	<p>Preparedness Funded Personnel charge Base hrs. to base acct and OT to WBS.</p> <p>All other personnel charge Base 8 and OT to WBS</p>	<p>Fire Preparedness Funded Personnel Base 8 - FFF1000000XXXX 0</p> <p>HFR Funded Personnel, Charges Entire Time to Fire</p>	<p>Charge <b>all</b> fire time to State code assigned to each Fire</p>	<p>Charge <b>all</b> fire time to the Firecode</p> <p>Preface with “P_,” S_,” or H_,” (_ = Region #, or _agency code as applicable)</p> <p>Support codes will be used when direct support to a specific P code cannot be identified</p>

		casual is hired(see management)				
<b>Reimbursable/billable fires</b>		(1 FC per fire) ORG code (6 digits) FY Activity code(5 digits) 92310 Project/Job code(4 digits) XXXX where X = fire code				
<b>False Alarms</b>	1 Fire Code per False Alarm  Office Code=LF2000000. HU0000LFSPxxxx0000  (xxxx=Fire code)		SD-MRP JG9L SD-WCP JG9M SD-BDP JG9N WY-DTP JG9P  Use WBS		FAD157005	SD-BKF False Alarm  Use ABCD Misc. code P2EKT9 (0203)  NE-NBF False Alarm  Use ABCD Misc. code P2EKU3 (0207)  <i>These should also be used for FS response to DOI FALs</i>

<p><b>Support Order Codes</b></p>	<p>Fire Code generated when needed</p>	<p>Local dispatch will establish (FC)</p>			<p>FAD157008 BKF-FAD157009 NBF-FAD157010</p>	<p>BKF – P2EK4G – 0203 NBF – P2EK4L – 0207 Non Land Based = RO = WGE5XP - 0231 RMC = WGE5XZ - 0231 RMK = WGE5YB - 0231</p>
<p><b>Staging</b></p>	<p>Fire Code generated when needed</p>	<p>Use unit Severity or support codes</p>				<p>R2 Staging P2EKR4 – 0231</p>
<p><b>County Assists</b></p>	<p>1 Fire code per Fire Office Code+ LF2000000.HU000 0 LFSPxxx0000 (xxxx=Fire code)</p>				<p>Issue state number and name/CTY</p>	<p>Issue FC to accompany the SDS code utilizing CTY</p>
<p><b>Severity</b>  USFS does not use FireCode</p>	<p>ST App Codes  Prior approval required for each State Office</p>	<p>BIA-NIFC Operations  Approve Severity requests and assigns FC for each Severity request.</p>	<p>1 FC per event/req.  Step up Park requests FC</p>	<p>Severity FFF210000XXXX0  Severity Packages approved by NIFC</p>	<p>FAD157004</p>	<p>Prior approval required  ( _=Region #) Regional - S_1111 + Unit Override</p>

		<p>Fund Code (3digits)functional area (15 digits) includes sub activity (9digits) AF2105050</p> <p>ABC (6 digit) 8T4100</p> <p>WBS (17 digits) Example: AF2105050.8T410 0.AD.SPXXXX000 0.00000 (Cost Center 10 digits) AAXXXXXXXXXX agency or regional cost center where casual is hired</p> <p>Severity Support Assist Code for DOI assist use FC Severity # provided by requesting DOI agency. For FS assist, use project code D0YY</p>	<p>per step up event Severity Packages</p> <p>Park requests FC approved by Region/National</p> <p>Severity Support assist Fire Code:</p> <p>DOI assists - use assigned FC</p> <p>FS assists - FC is D0YY</p> <p>All use WBS</p>	<p>– Regional issued Fire Code</p>	<p>Code</p> <p>National - S_9999 + Unit Override Code</p> <p>Unit Override = Unit with Severity Approval &amp; where assistance was provided.</p> <p>Severity Support to DOI:</p> <p>Override Code 1502</p> <p>BIA S70001</p> <p>BLM S70002</p> <p>FWS S70003</p> <p>NPS S70004</p>
<b>RX</b>	Usually assigned through agreements	Will be assigned for Melody’s use only			BKF – WFHF03 – 0203

						NBF – WFHFO7 – 0207
<b>BAER (Region)</b>	CSO approval required LF3200000	Stab. – the FC BIA NIFC approved 6 Digit Org Code- 92320-FC Rehab FC - BIA-NIFC approved 6 Digit Org Code- 92B20-FC	<b>BAER Plan approval required by RO/Nat'l</b>  The FC is carried forward from the fire requiring the treatment  Use WBS	RO approval < \$500K Chief, NRS approval > \$500K  Emergency Stabilization= FFF220000XXXXX BAER= FFF320000XXXXX	Mirror P code 1502 override	RO approval required  Baer Assessment Preface with H_ = H2BAER (0231)  (R2 CODE)  (Notify ASC once plan is approved)  Baer Implementation H2xxxx  X = Mirror Incident Fire code  (Unit Override Code)
<b>AD / EFF Training/WC</b>	National Code= AZA1	National code = AZA1  Funded(3digit) functional area(15 digits) includes sub activity(9 digits) AF2001010 ABC (6 digit)8T4100	National Code = AZA1	National Code = AZA1	FAD157002	Regional - WFSUAD - 0231

		WBS (17 digit)				
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**Great Plains Interagency Preparedness Plan**

Great Plains preparedness levels are established by the Board of Director and the Center Manager throughout the calendar year. Preparedness Levels are dictated by burning conditions, fire activity, and resource availability. Resource availability is the area of most concern. Situations and activities described within the Preparedness Levels consider wildland fires and prescribed fires. At any preparedness level, NMAC may request that proposed new prescribed fire (Rx) applications be curtailed to meet national resource needs for emergency operations.

**Why Preparedness Levels are established**

The purpose of established Preparedness Levels is:

- To identify the level of wildland fire activity, severity, and resource commitment locally.
- To identify predetermined actions to be taken by GPC and MAC to ensure an appropriate level of preparedness/readiness for the existing and potential situation.
- To guide and direct area Fire Management activities when essential to ensure national preparedness or in response to the National situation.

National Preparedness Levels are determined from the ground up and may influence resource allocations within Geographic Areas not experiencing significant activity to ensure sufficient resources are available for a national situation.

**Fire Preparedness Level Determination Procedures**

The following matrix is a guide for the Great Plain Center Manager and local MAC in setting overall preparedness levels within the GPC zone.

GPC preparedness levels with management actions and considerations			
Each action specified under a level is in addition to all actions taken in preceding levels.			
Level	Description	Management Actions / Considerations	Responsibility
I	<p>No large fire activity on wildland fire agencies jurisdictional lands. Most districts or units have low to moderate adjective class ratings. Little or no commitment of resources locally or nationally. Preseason preparedness duties being accomplished.</p> <p>Other characteristics of this preparedness level may include the following:</p> <p><b>ERC</b> - less than 24<sup>th</sup> percentile</p> <p><b>1000 hr fuels</b> - greater than 20%</p> <p><b>Resources committed</b> - 10% or less</p> <p><b>KBDI</b> - 0 to 300</p> <p><b>Burning Index- BI</b> trend is less than the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile</p> <p><b>US Drought Monitor</b> – normal, some pockets of abnormally dry area exist. Conditions are normal with some</p>	<p>A. Review and update all operating plans and cooperative agreements.</p> <p>B. Update fire management plans</p> <p>C. Identify and train personnel to meet possible expanded dispatch organization needs</p> <p>D. Prepare preseason BPA=s, Equipment Rental Agreements</p> <p>E. Weather stations activated before fire season starts so they can adjust properly</p> <p>F. Red cards completed and work capacity tests administered</p> <p>G. Incident Support Organization updated. Identify and train personnel to meet organization</p> <p>H. Preparedness review meetings with</p>	<p>GPC Board of Directors reps or agency designees and district or unit FMOs</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps or agency designees and district or unit FMOs</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps or agency designees, district or unit FMOs and Lead Interagency Dispatcher</p> <p>Contract/Procurement Unit Leaders in conjunction with units and/or FMOs</p> <p>Lead Interagency Dispatcher and /or district or unit FMOs, or agency designees</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps or agency designees, district or unit FMOs, Lead Interagency Dispatcher</p> <p>GPC Board of Director reps, or agency designees and Lead Interagency Dispatcher</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps or agency designees</p>

	short term dryness, slowing plant growth, some lingering water deficits	<p>other agencies as needed</p> <p>I. Forest communication, State digital system and other unit radio systems operational</p> <p>J. Analyze Fire Severity, resources committed and validate preparedness levels.</p> <p>K. Prescribed fire operations monitored</p> <p>L. During fire season, daily Situation Report is prepared and sent to RMACC by Lead Interagency Dispatcher. (Includes preparedness levels, prescribed burning operations and available resources)</p>	<p>and district or unit FMOs</p> <p>District or unit FMOs, NZ IRM tech, State radio communications reps and or other technical specialist</p> <p>GPC Board of Director reps, or agency designees, and district or unit FMOs, Lead Interagency Dispatcher and Cooperators</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps or agency designees, and Lead Interagency Dispatcher</p> <p>All Districts or Units</p>
Level	Description	Management Actions / Considerations	Responsibility
II	Class A and B fires occurring on jurisdictional lands and /or adjacent lands and a potential for escapes to larger (project) fires. One or more districts or units experiencing moderate to high adjective rating class. Resources within the GPC Zone and local cooperators are	<p>A. Analyze Fire Severity, fire resources ready and in place during fire season</p> <p>B. Alert the Joint Information Center for news release to media concerning prevention and/or suppression</p> <p>C. Check with districts or units for</p>	<p>GPC Board of Directors reps or agency designees, and Lead Interagency Dispatcher</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps or agency designees,</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps and/or agency designees,</p>

	<p>handling the situation. A potential exists for requesting additional resources from RMACC.</p> <p>Other Characteristics of this preparedness level may include the following:</p> <p><b>ERC</b> - 25th to 50th percentile</p> <p><b>1000 hr fuels</b> - 16% to 20%</p> <p><b>Resources committed</b> - 11% to 25%</p> <p><b>KBDI</b> - 301 to 399</p> <p><b>Burning Index- BI</b> trend is at or near the 35-55th percentile</p> <p><b>US Drought Monitor</b> – Abnormally dry and moderate drought building into some areas. Some damage to crops and rangelands, streams reservoirs or well low, some water shortages developing</p>	<p>needed actions for prevention, detection, pre-suppression and suppression</p> <p>D. Prescribed burning operations reviewed at the start of each day before there are any new ignitions.</p> <p>E. Detection flights as needed</p>	<p>Prescribed Fire Managers and GPC Board of Directors reps or agency designees.</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps, or agency designees and district or unit FMOs</p>
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Level	Description	Management Actions / Considerations	Responsibility
III	Two or more incidents (Class B, C or larger) on jurisdictional lands or adjacent lands requiring a major commitment of	<p>A. Possible activation of ISO and expanded dispatch</p> <p>B. All prescribed</p>	GPC Board of Directors reps, or agency designees, district or unit FMOs, and Lead Interagency Dispatcher

<p>resources or major special event with significant increase in human caused risk and resultant drain on resources. Likelihood of additional resources being requested and mobilized through RMACC. The weighted adjective rating class across the Zone is high to very high. One or more districts/units or a majority of the local reinforcement resources are committed to regional and national responses.</p> <p>Other characteristics of this preparedness level may include the following:</p> <p><b>ERC</b> - 51<sup>st</sup> to 80<sup>th</sup> percentile</p> <p><b>1000 hr fuels</b> - 13% to 16%</p> <p><b>Resources committed</b> - 50% to 75%</p> <p><b>KBDI</b> - 400 to 449</p> <p><b>Burning Index- BI</b> trend is at or near the 60-80th percentile</p> <p><b>US Drought Monitor</b> –Severe and moderate drought dominates much of the area. Crop and rangeland losses likely water shortages common</p>	<p>burning operations suspended</p> <p>C. Evaluate the need for fire restrictions in Black Hills Fire Protection area and/or restrictions on other jurisdictional lands</p> <p>D. Consider requesting other resources for pre-positioning</p> <p>E. Detection flights routine / daily</p> <p>F. Review Fire Severity Plan for implementation</p> <p>G. Interagency Incident Management Team organized with key positions assigned and accepted for initial management of escaped fires</p> <p>H. Implement Runcards for automatic initial attack dispatch procedures to adjacent units at ERC &gt; 65 or &gt;fire weather watch= or &gt;red flag warning= in effect</p>	<p>GPC Board of Director reps or agency designees , Prescribed Fire Managers, district or unit FMO, Burn Boss</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps, or agency designees, district or unit FMOs, Line Officers, and local Cooperators</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps, or agency designees and district or unit FMOs</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps, or agency designees, and district or unit FMOs</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps, or agency designees</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps, or agency designees. Incident Commander and cooperators</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps, or agency designees, and district or unit FMOs</p>
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	water restrictions imposed.		
Level	Description	Management Actions / Considerations	Responsibility
IV	<p>One or more district or units experiencing fire incidents requiring Type I or II teams or special event high human caused risk activities requiring management by the Interagency Initial Management Group or Type I or II teams. Potential for numerous incidents exist and/or numerous other incidents being reported or are in progress, depleting local resources. On-going mobilization of resources through RMACC. Adjective rating class is high to extreme on jurisdictional lands. Most of the local reinforcement resources are committed to local, regional, and national responses. No relief in fire severity or fire weather conditions predicted near term.</p> <p>Other characteristics of this preparedness level may include the following:</p> <p><b>ERC - 81st to 95th</b></p>	<p>A. ISO and/or Expanded Dispatch activated</p> <p>B. ALL PRESCRIBED BURNING OPERATIONS must be actively moved to “OUT” status declarations</p> <p>C. Implement fire restrictions or closures if not done previously</p> <p>D. Activate local multi-agency conference calls</p>	<p>Lead Interagency Dispatcher and GPC Board of Directors reps, or agency designees.</p> <p>GPC Board of Directors reps, or agency designees, and district or unit FMOs</p> <p>Agency Administrators LE Officers, Special Agents and Local County Sheriff(s)</p> <p>Lead Interagency Dispatcher and GPC Board of Director reps</p>

	<p>percentile</p> <p><b>1000 hr fuels</b> - 8% to 12%</p> <p><b>Resources committed</b> - greater than 75%</p> <p><b>KBDI</b> - 450 to 499</p> <p><b>Burning Index- BI</b> trend is at or near the 85-90th percentile</p> <p><b>US Drought Monitor</b>                  – Extreme drought exists across a large areas. Widespread crop and rangeland losses continue to occur. Widespread water shortages or restrictions are in place.</p>		
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Level	Description	Management Actions / Considerations	Responsibility
V	<p>Interagency and cooperator resources are committed to multiple incidents and/or major incidents and initial attack on jurisdictional lands or committed to regional / national suppression efforts. Resource orders placed with RMACC are outstanding. Adjective rating class is very high to extreme. Other characteristics of this preparedness level may include the</p>	<p>A. All available resources assigned to incidents or ready and in contact for immediate initial attack response</p> <p>B. Active enforcement of fire orders in effect</p>	<p>GPC Board of Directors reps, or agency designees and district or unit FMOs</p> <p>Agency Administrators, district or unit managers, LE Officers, and Special Agents</p>

	<p>following:</p> <p><b>ERC</b> - greater than 95<sup>th</sup></p> <p><b>1000 hr fuels</b> - less than 8%</p> <p><b>Resources committed</b> - most assigned to incidents, initial attack capability severely limited</p> <p><b>KBDI</b> - greater than 500</p> <p><b>Burning Index</b> - BI trends is at or near the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile</p> <p><b>US Drought Monitor</b>                  – Extreme to Exceptional drought exists across large areas. Exceptional and Widespread crop and rangeland losses continue to occur. Shortages of water creating a water emergency.</p>		
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(Refer RMG 10) For 7-Day Outlook information and the RMCC Planning level process

**Resource Drawdown Levels** (Refer RMG 10)

**RMA Mobilization Center** (Refer RMG 10)

**GPC Multi-Agency Coordinating Groups (MAC) Organization** (Refer NMG10, RMMG10 and GPC LMAC Plan)

Great Plains Local Multi-Agency Coordinating (LMAC) Group should be activated whenever wildland fire activities are affecting more than one agency or there is competition for incident resources. There may also be a need for the Geographic Areas to activate MAC when the Fire Preparedness Level is at 4 or 5.

Responsibilities of the LMAC should be too develop and provide greater efficiency to fire suppression organizations while relieving the dispatch centers

of heavy workloads during active situations. Care should be taken to ensure that local MAC Groups do not become involved in incident operations but restrict their activities to support functions

### **Incident Support Organization (ISO)**

Refer NMG10 and GPC Expanded Dispatch Plan

The ISO works to provide logistical support to the host agency and the incident(s). The ISO is implemented to address the increased business volume and to supplement established organizations. Staffing positions in an ISO are to be based on need rather than a preconceived organizational chart.

### **Mobilization Procedures for Military Assets**

It is advisable that units and field level users intending to order and utilize military resources obtain copies of the Military Use Handbook, NFES 002175, located at the following web site:

[http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/intelligence/military/Military\\_Use\\_Handbook\\_2006\\_2.pdf](http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/intelligence/military/Military_Use_Handbook_2006_2.pdf). The short term use of trained DOD assets should be considered until civilian or wildland fire agency resources become available to replace DOD assets.

### **National Guard**

The National Guard has helicopters, equipment and personnel that are available to assist in fire suppression for both Federal and State incidents. State incidents are allowed to utilize National Guard resources at anytime by calling the appropriate line listed below. Federal incidents should ensure commercial sources are exhausted or not immediately available during times when there is a threat to life and property, prior to activation of the National Guard. In the event Guard aviation resources are ordered for a Federal incident, a resource order will be immediately placed with RMCC to replace the National Guard resource. Upon arrival of the commercial resource the Guard resource shall be released to home unit. Prior authorization and orders for National Guard resources shall be routed through the following;

Nebraska	Nebraska State Emergency Management Agency
**South Dakota	Direct to the Military Support Officer number listed at the Air Craft desk
Wyoming	Wyoming State Forester Duty Officer

\*\* South Dakota NG has been identified and trained for medical hoist/extraction operations.

### **International Operations**

Refer NMG 10 or can be found on-line at:

<http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/mobguide/Chapter10.pdf> or

<http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/mobguide/index.html>

Interagency Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding for the Great Plains Zone (All are filed hardcopy at GPC)

### **Agreements & Memorandum of Understanding**

#### **Black Hills National Forest Agreements & Memorandum of Understanding**

- Annual Operating Plan with the State of South Dakota
- Annual Operating Plan with Crook County, Wyoming and Wyoming Division of Forestry
- Annual Operating Plan with Weston County, Wyoming, Wyoming Division of Forestry
- Memorandum of Understanding with Devils Tower, Mount Rushmore, Jewel Cave, and Wind Cave National Parks.
- Joint Powers Agreements, Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation in Fire Suppression between the South Dakota Army National Guard
- Cooperative Helicopter Agreement and Annual Operating Plan Between the USDA Forest Service; National Park Service; Bureau of Land Management; South Dakota Wildland Fire Suppression Division; Wyoming Division of Forestry; Crook County Wyoming and the Bureau of Indian Affairs – Pine Ridge Agency.

#### **Nebraska National Forest Agreements & Memorandum of Understanding**

- Shared Services Agreement for Fire and Aviation Management Between the Black Hills National Forest and the Nebraska National Forest.
- Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Nebraska, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and Nebraska National Forest.
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Nebraska National Forest and the State of South Dakota.
- Memorandum of Understanding between the State of South Dakota Wildland Fire Division and Nebraska National Forest Willow Creek

Facility Pierre.

**Nebraska National Forest and Volunteer Fire Department Cooperative Fire Protection Agreements and Annual Operating Plans**

Agreements are found in Chapter 40 Addendum, GPC filed Hardcopy and on the Nebraska National Forest home page: <http://fsweb.nebraska.r2.fs.fed.us/>

Alliance VFD  
Cascade VFD  
Chadron VFD  
Cody Rural VFD  
Crawford VFD  
Edgemont VFD  
Fairburn VFD  
Fall River County  
Folsom VFD  
Ft Pierre VFD  
Gordon VFD  
Harrison VFD  
Hay Springs VFD  
Hermosa VFD  
Hot Springs VFD  
Interior VFD  
Kadoka VFD  
Kennebec VFD

Kilgore Rural VFD  
Long Valley VFD  
Minnekahta VFD  
Murdo VFD  
Oelrichs VFD  
Oral VFD  
Phillip VFD  
Pierre Rural VFD  
Pierre VFD  
Quinn VFD  
Rushville VFD  
Smithwick VFD  
Thedford Rescue Squad  
Thedfore VFD  
Vivian VFD  
Wall VFD  
Wasta VFD

**Radio Frequency Agreements**

- Intra-Agency Agreement between the Black Hills National Forest and Nebraska National Forest.
- Memorandum of Understanding Between the State of South Dakota State Radio Communications and the Nebraska National Forest – Sharing of Battle Mountain.
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Nebraska National Forest and the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mt. Prairie Region, Ft. Niobrara, Valentine and Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge Complexes and National Park Service Midwest Region Niobrara National Scenic River and Scott’s Bluff National Monument and Agate Fossil Beds National Monument.

**State of South Dakota Agreements**

Refer section two, Cooperative Fire Suppression Agreements GPC filed hardcopy

- Department of Corrections
- Department of Game Fish & Parks and Custer State Park
- Joint Powers Agreement with SD Department of Military and 24 Veterans Affairs and SD National Guard
- SD Department of Military Affairs “First Burning” Period 26 Declaration (Attached to 49.1.3)
- Department of Transportation
- SD School of Mines and Technology
- Annual Fire Action Plan
- Prescribed Fire Policy

**Federal Agreements**

Refer section one, Cooperative Fire Suppression Agreements GPC filed hardcopy

- Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement
- USFS – Black Hills National Forest Annual Operating Plan
- BLM – Montana/Dakotas State Office, South Dakota Field 38 Office
- National Park Service Annual Operating Plan
- Cooperative Helicopter Agreement and Operating Plan
- Interagency Agreement for Cooperative use of Prescribed Fire
- FEMA Agreement for Fire Management Grant Program
- Federal Excess Personal Property
- Rapid City Air Tanker Base Operations Guide

**County and Local Rural Fire Department Agreements**

Refer 2 Section three, Cooperative Fire Suppression Agreements GPC filed Hardcopy

- State of SD Wildland Fire Suppression Agreement
- County Designees
- Rapid City Fire and Emergency Services Agreement
- SD Interagency Fire Council Charter
- In-State Fire Suppression Agreement and Prescribed Burning 10 Agreement (VFD Agreement)
- Rapid City Regional Airport Cooperative Agreement

**Support to Border Fires (Refer RMG 10)**

Whereas both Geographic Areas have a vested interest and authority to provide resource support to the incident, they may order directly from each other in support of the incident. The following protocols apply:

- A single ordering point will be designated to ensure proper assignment and demobilization of resources. The incident will remain with the originating unit for situation reporting and prioritization.
- The dispatch organization designated as the single ordering point may place orders to either GACC using established ordering channels, however only the GACC of the originating unit expanded dispatch is authorized to place orders with NICC.
- Prior to initiating border fire support operations, concurrence and agreement must occur between the two GACCs and NICC. In order to maintain effective coordination and ensure that the appropriate resources are mobilized, daily conference calls will be conducted between both GACCs and the expanded dispatch organization for the duration of the incident.

**Mobilization/Demobilization Procedures for Military Assets and International Assignments (Refer to NMG 10)****Established Resource Ordering Process (Refer to NMG 10)****Civilian Support (Refer to NMG 10)****National Guard (Refer to RMG 10)**

National Guard pilots and aircraft will be issued an annual letter of approval by the Forest Service Regional Aviation Officer or their designee. VHF-AM and VHF-FM radios will be installed in all helicopters to allow necessary communication with all other resources assigned to the incident.

Commercial sources must be exhausted or not immediately available during times when there is a threat to life and property, prior to activation of Guard units for Federal fires. (Refer to RMG 10, 50, 70 for National Guard contact information and further information).

Nebraska	Nebraska State Emergency Management Agency
South Dakota	Appropriate personnel listed at the aircraft desk
Wyoming	Wyoming State Forester Duty Officer

**Ordering Channels** (Refer RMG 10)

**Great Plain Interagency Dispatch:** Great Plains Dispatch is a third tier center and has the authority and responsibility to assign resources directly to an incident, primarily during initial attack and/or extended incident support. We have the responsibility to for initial attack for the Black Hills National Forest, Nebraska National Forest and Grassland, State of South Dakota on 10% forested lands, National Park Service. The remaining agencies within the zone generally manager their own initial attack, however GPC is responsible for the support of all fire within the zone as requested. Our adjoining Dispatch Centers will work directly with each other during initial attack to more effectively obtain closest resources. GPC will request support from the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center (RMACC) when local and mutual aid resources become committed or unavailable.

**Unit:** An agency described administrative area such as a National Forest, National Park or Monument, FWS Refuge, BIA Agency, BLM Field Office, State District, etc.

**Neighborhood:** GPC may order Initial Attack, extended attack, large fire support and non-fire incident resources directly from our neighbors in order to support incidents within our own Zone.

**Rocky Mountain Area Wide Ordering:** Allows RMA Dispatch Centers to order resources stasured in ROSS directly from one another under certain parameters and rules, during PL 1.

Great Plains Neighbors	
Casper Interagency Dispatch Center	WY-CPC
Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center	CO-PBC
Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center	CO-FTC
Miles City Interagency Dispatch Center	MT-MCD
North Dakota Interagency Dispatch Center	ND-NDC

**Ordering Procedures** (Refer to NMG 10 and RMG 10)

**Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS) Travel**

All travel information, mobilizing and demobilizing, will be through ROSS using “Travel with Itinerary”. (Refer to NMG 10 and ISROG)

## Neighborhood Ordering

Resource Ordering Standards apply for the movement of all resources. This includes Initial Attack procedures, Resource Orders, Notifications for national and area resources, ROSS travel and reassignment procedures. (Refer to NMG 10; RMG 10)

All prescribed fire (RX) resources will be ordered using the same dispatch procedures as used for wildfire mobilization.

When a resource is unavailable through Neighborhood Ordering, the requesting unit will place the order with RMC. RMC will obtain resources through established dispatch channels. RMC will normally not check with the requesting Dispatch Centers' neighborhood, unless the "Neighborhood Resource Ordering" has been withdrawn.

GPC cannot reassign resources to another Dispatch Center if that resource was originally mobilized through the Neighborhood Policy without the permission of the resource's home Dispatch Center.

Only when permission from the Home Unit is granted may a resource be reassigned from one neighborhood to a second, non-adjacent neighborhood. A copy of the printed ROSS order should be relayed through RMC to the home Dispatch Center.

RMC has the authority to withdraw Neighborhood Ordering. Traditional ordering procedures will be utilized when Neighborhood Ordering is withdrawn. Traditional ordering procedures = Dispatch Center to GACC to Dispatch Center. (Example: DRC to RMC to MTC).

### **All orders/requests will be followed up by a telephone call.**

The information transfer of a resource's travel, outside of office hours, will be exchanged via telephone.

### **A phone call is always required for confirmation of information received by fax.**

Keep a record of who has been contacted within ROSS documentation.

## Rocky Mountain Area Wide Ordering (RMW) Definition

To facilitate more efficient movement of resources, balance the workload, and utilize ROSS technology to its fullest potential, the Rocky Mountain Area has implemented the Rocky Mountain Area Wide Ordering. Rocky Mountain Area Wide Ordering will allow all dispatch centers in the RMA to order resources statused in ROSS directly from one another under certain parameters and rules.

- Rocky Mountain Area Wide Ordering will be utilized only at Rocky Mountain Area Preparedness Level 1.
- All orders for IMTs, BUYTs, and other resources normally obtained through the RMC will continue to be placed with RMC.

- Rocky Mountain Area Wide Ordering is authorized within RMA boundaries only, and does not replace existing initial attack agreements and procedures with dispatch offices across geographic area borders.
- Rocky Mountain Area Wide Ordering does not preclude the “Closest Forces” policy.
- A dispatch center may temporarily withdraw at any time, upon notification to RMC who will notify RMA Dispatch Centers. That center will advise RMC when ready to resume RMW ordering.
- RMA Dispatch Center Managers and the RMC Center Manager will evaluate the effectiveness of Rocky Mountain Area Wide Ordering on regularly scheduled conference calls.

### **Rocky Mountain Area Wide Ordering Procedures**

RMC will change selection areas in ROSS for all dispatch centers from Neighborhood selection areas to the Rocky Mountain Area Wide Ordering selection area. Dispatch Centers will be able to view all resources within RMA that are statused as available for GACC and National assignments.

All orders must be placed in ROSS, and followed up with a phone call confirmation. **Keep a record of who has been contacted within ROSS documentation.**

Notification is required for national and area resources

### **Non-Fire Incident Funding** (Refer to IIBMH 52)

Non-fire incident funding agreements must be in place. Resource Orders must be placed with appropriate management codes. A Detail Request Form should be utilized if appropriate.

### **Resource Availability and Tracking**

The movement of resources between units shall require that both sending and receiving units be responsible for safety of the resources involved. The following guidelines will assist with the orderly movement of resources.

- Aviation Resources dispatched both internally and externally shall be tracked using the Flight Manager guidelines. (Refer to NMG 20).
- **It is the responsibility of the sending Dispatch Center to make all incident travel arrangements for mobilizing resources. The receiving unit is responsible for the demobilization travel arrangements.**
- ROSS (Resource Ordering and Status System) will be used to track the movement, commitment, availability, and unavailability of area and national resources.
- For overhead availability tracking, “Incident Qualification Card (red carded)” individuals are required to status themselves for incident assignments outside of the zone in order to be considered for a dispatch to a GACC or National assignment.
- Equipment should be status by Duty Officers, Fire Chiefs etc.

- For Crews a manifest will be required prior to setting the crew available National enabling GPC staff to check ROSS, Redcard status and create a roster
- Individual overhead or equipment may report their availability by utilizing the “self-status” option in ROSS. To access ROSS, click on the ROSS icon on the GPC website: [https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch\\_centers/r2gpc/](https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2gpc/)
- All Incident Management Team Members should show their availability as “Available Local.”

