

**BLM GREAT BASIN SMOKEJUMPERS  
DISPATCH OPERATING PLAN  
2012  
Bureau of Land Management  
Idaho  
Nevada  
Colorado/Wyoming  
Utah**

Western Great Basin Coordination Center (WGBCC) coordinates ordering and initial activation of the BLM Great Basin Smokejumpers. WGBCC also functions as the “Lower 48” Coordination Center for the Alaska Smokejumpers when they come to the Continental US and integrate into the BLM Great Basin Smokejumper operations. This Dispatch Operating Plan is intended to clarify BLM Smokejumper ordering procedures and will be re-signed when major changes are made.

**1. BLM AUTHORITY FOR MOVEMENT OF BLM GREAT BASIN SMOKEJUMPERS**

- a. Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations – Chapter 2
  - i. Fire Operations Division Chief (FA-300)
    - 1. Serves as the BLM technical expert on national interagency mobilization and utilization of fire suppression resources.
    - 2. Develops national plans, standards, and technical guides for the BLM and interagency fire management operations.
  - ii. Delegation of Authority for State Fire Management Officers – Chapter 2
    - 1. Serve as the State Director’s authorized representative on geographic area coordination groups, including MAC groups.
    - 2. Coordinate and establish priorities on uncommitted fire suppression resources during periods of shortages.
    - 3. Coordinate logistics and suppression operations statewide.
    - 4. Direct accelerated, aggressive initial attack when appropriate.

**2. BLM SMOKEJUMPER CONTINGENTS**

- A. The BLM National Office of Fire and Aviation have four dedicated “contingents” of smokejumpers to be pre-positioned upon request in NV, UT, ID, and CO/WY for a defined period of time. Colorado and Wyoming will have a shared contingent. Each contingent consists of a minimum of twelve smokejumpers plus a spotter and a smokejumper aircraft. The contingents may be activated without a resource order anytime aircraft are available. When a BLM Fire Operations Group (FOG)

Representative /BLM State Duty Officer decides to activate their state's contingent, a courtesy call is made to the Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer and to their respective GACC. The Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer will make a courtesy call to WGBCC. Any numbers in excess of assigned contingents will be controlled by the Fire Operations BLM National Office.

- B. If a BLM FOG Representative/BLM State Duty Officer decides to release their state's contingent and it returns to Boise, notification is made to the Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer and the respective GACC. A BLM FOG Representative /BLM State Duty Officer may reactivate their contingent utilizing the same process (no resource order). Delays in re-mobilization of a contingent may occur if they are committed to fires elsewhere, but a state's request to reactivate its contingent will be honored.

### 3. INITIAL ATTACK - GENERAL

- A. All initial attack orders will be processed in accordance with the Great Basin Mobilization Guide Neighborhood Policy, Rocky Mountain Mobilization Guide and Great Basin BLM Smokejumpers' Dispatch Operating Plan. The Neighborhood Policy and this Dispatch Operating Plan allow adjacent dispatch centers to order initial attack smokejumpers from neighboring dispatch centers.
- B. This Dispatch Operating Plan allows internal movement of smokejumpers for initial attack between Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah and Nevada without placing an order through NICC. Orders will be placed through the respective Coordination Centers, Eastern Great Basin, Western Great Basin and Rocky Mountain. A call to the BLM FOG Representative/State BLM Duty Officer should be made according to each GACC's notification protocols.
- C. Dispatch will not be delayed pending processing of the order in ROSS as long as the necessary information to launch has been received by the smokejumpers. The Aviation Dispatch Form may be utilized to ensure complete information exchange. A copy of the completed resource order must be submitted to the appropriate GACC or the order must be placed in ROSS as soon as possible after launch. The complete order will then be forwarded to the requested smokejumpers.
- D. Resource Orders for smokejumpers will be processed in accordance with the National Mobilization Guide, Chapter 20.

#### 4. **INITIAL ATTACK AND IA PREPOSITIONING FROM BOISE**

- A. Nevada, Idaho, Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah may have smokejumpers committed to them that are physically located in Boise. The Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer will coordinate with the appropriate GACC and FOG Representative at the start of each business day to ensure there are no immediate plans for pre-positioning and will inform the assigned GACC should an initial attack order be placed.
- B. When initial attack orders are placed to Boise, the ordering center will place the initial notification call directly with the Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer. The Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer will notify WGBCC of the pending resource order. The ordering center should then make immediate notification to their appropriate GACC.

Upon completion of the assignment, the smokejumpers will be released from the ordering unit back to their appropriate GACC.

#### 5. **BOOSTER LOAD/INDIVIDUAL PREPOSITIONING**

- A. Upon considering a booster order, the appropriate GACC must contact the Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer to discuss operational considerations to ensure a smooth order and process.
- B. Orders for extended attack/booster smokejumpers will be processed according to the National Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 20. All orders will be processed through WGBCC through normal dispatch channels.
- C. Smokejumpers located in Boise that are not part of a contingent, will be managed by the Great Basin Smokejumper's Duty Officer. However, prior to any external order being filled, a call will be made to the appropriate management in host states to ensure needs are met for the primary users. Because smokejumper overhead orders are managed in ROSS, WGBCC is required to process booster orders and miscellaneous overhead orders, regardless of where the individual smokejumpers are located (unless they are already committed on an existing overhead order).

#### 6. **ALASKA/BOISE MOBILIZATIONS**

- A. As stated in the BLM Boise and Alaska Smokejumper Operating Agreement, the exchange of 20 Great Basin Smokejumpers to Alaska and 16 Alaska Smokejumpers to the Great Basin can be relied upon for planning purposes. These numbers will be maintained during periods of operational need. Normal detail length for BLM Great Basin/Alaska Smokejumpers will be 21 days with the option to extend if all parties agree.

- B. When Alaska Smokejumpers are mobilized for the Lower 48, they either travel on a NICC or a sponsoring GACC order. NICC or the BLM National Office may ask a GACC to place a support order for Alaska Smokejumpers through the normal dispatch channels.
- C. Alaska Smokejumpers who are mobilized to support Great Basin Smokejumper Operations will travel to Boise where they will receive Lower 48 training. Upon completion of the training, they become part of the Great Basin Smokejumper Operation and are available to support the Lower 48 as needed.
- D. NICC may also place an order for the Alaska Smokejumpers in support of another Geographic Area not included in Great Basin Smokejumper Operations. Normal length of assignment will be 21 days with the option to extend if all parties agree. Prior to being released to their home unit, the Great Basin Smokejumpers will be provided the option to integrate the Alaska Smokejumpers into their operations. From Boise they will be ordered and reassigned through established channels.

## 7. **IMMEDIATE PRE-POSITIONING**

- A. All efforts will be made to keep aircraft within Great Basin Smokejumpers operations staffed with a full load at all times. Mobility between state contingents and jumpers in Boise will be facilitated by the use of aircraft (charter) to quickly pre-position smokejumpers when the need arises. The BLM Asset Intelligence and Preposition (AIP) tool can be useful for strategic placement of SMJ resources. Transportation will be coordinated by the Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer and Western Great Basin Coordination Center as the need arises.

## 8. **FISCAL**

- A. Preposition Funding – is used to preposition jumper aircraft as well as per diem and travel for jumpers and pilots to standby locations.
- B. Severity Funding – used for smokejumper contingents for extended staffing and per diem. When severity is in place, it should be used in place of preposition funding.
- C. Fire Charge Code – used for overtime, per diem, travel, and flight time. The spotter/liaison officer must have approval from local unit before using these fire codes.
- D. Preparedness Funding – is used for proficiency jump flight time for aircraft or in rare cases for extended standby when one of the above charge codes are not available.

## 9. ACCIDENT REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION PROTOCOLS

- A. Boise BLM Smokejumpers will report and investigate accidents in compliance with:
1. The National Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations – Chapters 2 and 18.
  2. Required Treatment for Burn Injuries, and Burn Injury Criteria - Chapter 07.
  3. The BLM Smokejumper Malfunction Abnormality Reporting System (MARS) for parachute and smokejumper related accidents.
- B. The calling chain established is:

### *From the Scene:*

1. The accident is reported to the Spotter, Great Basin Smokejumper Liaison Officer, and local Dispatch.
2. When the accident involves a jump injury, the Spotter and/or ground contact will convey the medical needs and nature of the injury to the local dispatch.
3. If cell phone or satellite phone coverage is available, a ground contact will call the Great Basin Smokejumper Liaison Officer or Duty Officer with details about the accident.

### *From the Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer:*

1. The Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer will notify the Base Manager.
  - a. The Smokejumper Base Manager will notify the NIFC BLM Fire Operations Chief of Preparedness and Suppression Standards Sean Cross (or acting).
  - b. BLM Operations Chief of Preparedness and Suppression Standards will inform necessary parties up their chain of command and notify the NIFC External Affairs Officer.
2. The Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer will contact the State FOG Representative.
3. The Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer will confirm an agency person accompanies the injured party to the hospital.

### *From the BLM Great Basin Smokejumper Base Manager:*

1. The Smokejumper Base Manager will contact their Base Manager counterpart if a visiting jumper is injured.
2. The Smokejumper Base Manager will notify the emergency contact of the injury if the injured party is unable to do so.

**Approval – BLM Great Basin Smokejumpers Dispatch Operating Plan –2012**

/SS/ Hector Madrid  
Base Manager, BLM Great Basin Smokejumpers

3-22-12  
Date

/SS/ Paul Petersen  
SFMO, BLM Nevada

4-20-12  
Date

/SS/ Ken Kerr  
SFMO, BLM Colorado

4-6-12  
Date

/SS/ Jeff Fedrizzi  
SFMO, BLM Wyoming

4-16-12  
Date

/SS/ Mike Morcom  
SFMO, BLM Idaho

4-19-12  
Date

/SS/ Sheldon Wimmer  
SFMO, BLM Utah

5-1-12  
Date

/SS/ John Glenn  
BLM Division Chief Fire Operations, NIFC

5-1-12  
Date

/SS/ Dave Curry  
Center Manager, Western Great Basin

5-1-12  
Date

/SS/ Ruta Glinski  
Center Manager, Eastern Great Basin

4-23-12  
Date

/SS/ Jim Fletcher  
Center Manager, Rocky Mountain

5-1-12  
Date