

Incident: SPRING / 2011-UTASF-000089

08/01/2011 15:21 (Decision : Rationale : Content)

My decision is to monitor this fire and let it take its natural role in this environment while meeting land and resource management objectives and providing for public and firefighter safety.

Risk Assessment:

1. Describe the critical values at risk.

None

1. What is the chance the critical values will be impacted, and if so what are the consequences?

No critical values at risk.

1. What are the opportunities to manage the fire to meet LRMP objectives?

There is an opportunity to monitor the fire in this area and let it clean up some fuels for resource benefits. Given the high fuel moistures and continued weather pattern the burn intensity is expected to be low.

1. Describe the possible low probability/high consequence events?

The highest consequence event would be that the fire would approach private land to the east and north east and suppression actions would have to be taken. Should the fire reach this boundary it may be approximately 2-3,000 acres at this point. There is an extremely low probability of this occurring given the weather and fuel moistures.

1. Who are the stakeholders that should be consulted prior to making a decision?

The Uinta-Wasatch-Cache was notified to the west. At this point no other stakeholders would need to be notified.

Risk Decision:

1. What alternatives (objectives, strategies and tactics) are being considered?

- a) Monitor the fire
- b) Full suppression – direct attack while fire is small and inactive

1. What is the exposure to responders for the alternatives being considered?

a) Exposure is minimal – no direct action will be taken and fire will only be monitored periodically unless conditions (weather, fire activity) changes.

- b) Responders would be involved in direct attack and exposure would last for up to 1 day

1. What is the relative (high, medium, low) probability of success associated with the alternatives being considered?

- a) Probability of success of meeting our desired outcome of fuel reduction is medium due to high fuel moistures and continued wet weather.
- b) Probability of suppression is high

1. Describe the alternative that provides for the best balance between the desired outcome and exposure to responders.

Alternative A (monitor) has the best balance. Monitoring the fire and allowing it to take an active role in reduction of fuels while minimizing adverse affects to resources is the desired outcome. With the continued weather pattern and fuel moisture levels it is expected that this fire will burn at low intensity and reduce some fuels in the timber stand it is currently located in. Monitoring the fire only will also minimize exposure by responders. Personnel will only begin to monitor the fire if there is a drying trend in the weather.

1. What are the critical thresholds that will trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternative and how will they be monitored?

Should a change in weather patterns occur that leads to a drying trend for 3-4 days the fire will be monitored for a change in behavior. Once fire behavior increases and begins to move we will begin long term planning.

Incident: SWANHOLM / 2011-IDBOF-000401

08/03/2011 15:12 (Decision : Rationale : Content)

Risk Assessment:

Describe the critical values at risk.

- Hermada Mine and private structures
- Bull Trout Critical Habitat and Spawning & Rearing (MAP 1 & 2)
- Sensitive Plant – Idaho Primrose (MAP 3)
- Recreational Trail (MAP 3)
- Whitebark Pine
- Invasives – plants and aquatic invasives

What is the chance the critical values will be impacted, and if so what are the consequences?

The Swanholm unplanned fire is located in vegetation that is sparse and not indicative of vegetation type that is conducive to large fire growth. The area, in which the fire currently lies, falls between two recent fires - the Rabbit Creek Fire (to the north) and the Hot Creek Fire (to the south). Those two fires burned under high indices, burning the same vegetation where the fuels are favorable for low fire behavior. However, assuming a low probability/high consequence event(s), the team defined three MAP's to identify another decision/review option with the focus on bull trout, Idaho primrose, and recreational trail use.

What are the opportunities to manage the fire to meet LRMP objectives?

Fire resides in 4.1c, technically in FMU 3 but on the very edge of FMU 1. Due to the season and below normal indices the fire is best identified to allow to act naturally.

III-159: "Fire frequency is less than historic intervals."

III-162: Historical fire regimes for the area are estimated to be: 13% lethal, 42% mixed 1&2, and 45% non-lethal. An estimated 13% of the area regimes have vegetation conditions that are highly departed from their historical range.

Describe the possible low probability/high consequence events?

Two possibilities.

- 1) Fire is able to change slope aspect and vegetation type and make a run that allows it to spot over the ridge into West Warrior drainage and Warrior lakes.
- 2) The other possibility would be that the fire gets pushed down to the southwest and toward the private property.

Who are the stakeholders that should be consulted prior it to making a decision

Mine Owner

Frank Shirts (Sheep),

Town of Atlanta (smoke),

Sawtooth NF (low probability and smoke to Class 1 Airshed,

Governor's Office

Congressional Delegation

Elmore County

Boise County

Atlanta Hwy Dept

FS Retirees

Outfitter and Guide Association

Fish and Game

Idaho Dept of Rec and Parks

Risk Decision:

What alternatives are being considered?

- 1) Full Suppression
- 2) Point Protection and MAP's – implement point protection tactics now and identify MAP's for bull trout, Idaho primrose, and public recreational trail use. Allow fire to play its part and monitor, monitoring of fire behavior and progression as it relates to MAP's.

What is the exposure to responders for the alternatives being considered?

Steep, rugged terrain and the added complexity of aerial resources makes this fire challenging as it relates to firefighter exposure risk. The exposure does not compel the team to advocate for full suppression. The expected fire behavior and potential impact to the identified critical values at risk does not outweigh the exposure.

What is the relative (high, medium, and low) probability of success associated with the alternatives being considered?

Criteria for success is measured by minimizing exposure from fire fighting activities and allowing fire to serve its natural role.

- 1) Full Suppression – high probability of successful containment, but low to moderate success in exposure and allowing fire to play its role.
- 2) Point Protection, with MAP's – High probability of success that the fire will remain within our box and moderate to high success that exposure will be minimal and that the fire will play its natural role.

Describe the alternative that provides for the best balance between the desired outcome and exposure to responders.

Point Protection, with MAP's – allows fire to play its natural role, while minimizing exposure to firefighters both on the ground and in the air.

What are the critical thresholds that will trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternatives and how will they be monitored?

- ERCs going to the 90 percentile
- Forecasted wind event
- Increased fire activity on the forest or in the Boise dispatch area

Provide clear expectations and importance of monitoring the fire for the Sunset LO. Sunset LO will monitor fire behavior, and report increased fire activity will trigger additional discussion on monitoring options which could include placing a LO at Swenholm that looks right into the north aspect area of concern adjacent to current fire location. Monitoring will also occur during routine aerial detection flights (fixed wing).

SUMMARY

The fire is located on steep terrain in the Swanholm Creek drainage, currently burning in a Douglas-fir near the ridgeline. It is in sparse fuels and intermixed with exposed areas of decomposed granite soils. Fuels on the south and east facing slopes are sparse, with a mix of Douglas fir and whitebark pine. North and west facing drainages, adjacent to the fire, contain more continuous fuels and are a mix of Douglas-fir and subalpine fir. The Swanholm fire is located in between two large fire scars, the Rabbit Creek Fire (1994) and the Hot Creek Fire (2003), that restricts fire growth to the north and south. The combination of below normal fire indices, steep topography and sparse fuels at the fire origin defines a situation that can allow fire to play its natural role and to allow managers to minimize exposure to firefighters. Escape routes and safety zones are available in the drainage bottoms and in the higher elevation areas. Escape routes and safety zones in the immediate fire area are not available. A level of risk exposure will be transferred to aerial resources on occasion as a part of the monitoring efforts, as well as to ground resources if "confinement" tactics are needed as we move through the approximately six weeks of active fire season that still remains. Local knowledge and experience with fire behavior and fire growth in this area supports a high probability of success that this fire will play a natural role without putting identified values at risk.

The critical values at risk include a patented mining claim with private structure within approximately one mile SW of the fire origin. In addition Critical Bull Trout (TE&S) Habitat, including spawning & rearing habitat exists with drainages to the east of the fire origin. The drainages of specific concern are West Warrior Creek and Black Warrior Creek. Additional values at risk that are within the planning area are the Old Graham town site, Forest Service rental cabin and recreational cabin at Dutch Creek and a structure at Weatherby airstrip. Mitigation actions to be employed in the immediate future will focus on point protection near the Hermada Mine and related private structures closest to fire origin. Additional point protection will be evaluated for structures further to the east, if the fire growth reaches any of the identified MAPs, identified within the planning area. Heritage resource sites will be evaluated as the fire spreads.

Impacts from smoke will be mitigated by maintaining close contact with the local community, adjacent jurisdictions, fire districts, and local and regional media.

Based on the current and expected fire behavior and associated complexity, minimal resources will be required to monitor this fire as it plays its natural role and so if the incident complexity changes, the IC's role will change commensurate with the complexity.

The fire lies in FMU 2, however it is approximately 1 mile from the FMU 1 boundary. The full range of fire management options were considered and in combination with the values at risk, the decision to manage the fire with a focus on allowing fire to play its natural role was determined as the appropriate management response.

The current course of action will involve monitoring of fire behavior. This specific decision incorporates actions to implement point protection treatments near the Hermada Mine and to monitor fire growth towards the four identified Management Action Points.

Incident: Fleming / 2011-IDCTF-011010

07/31/2011 10:47 (Decision : Rationale : Content)

Fleming Fire Decision Rationale

Risk Assessment:

1. Describe the critical values at risk.

- Fire is located in a moderately visible area from the Snake River corridor. Critical infrastructure within a ten mile perimeter of the fire: Pine Basin Lodge (13.1 mi S.E.), West Pine Creek LDS camp (6.9mi S.E.), Pine Creek Campground (11mi E.), Fleming Canyon Private In holding (7.1 mi S.E.), and Burns Creek RNA (9.2mi N.W.)

2. What is the chance the critical values will be impacted, and if so what are the consequences?

- Due to current and expected fire behavior there is a low probability at this time that the mentioned infrastructure will be impacted. If the critical values are impacted there could be significant consequences to the values at risk mentioned above.

3. What are the opportunities to manage the fire to meet LRMP objectives?

(1997) Revised Targhee Forest Plan, Forest Wide Goals include:

- Identify the historic role of fire and restore fire as an ecological process, where appropriate to achieve multiple use and ecosystem management objectives (III-6)
- Prescribed fire and managed natural fire is used to achieve desirable soil and habitat conditions, to improve forest health, and to create or maintain diversity in vegetative structure, composition, and patterns as described in PFC analysis.(III-6)
- Suppress fire in a safe, cost effective manner where necessary to protect human life and safety, developments, structures, and sensitive resource values. (III-6)
- Fuel accumulations are reduced and managed within their historic range. (III-6)
- Maintain and restore healthy, diverse forested and non forested ecosystems through time, including appropriate components of dead and down woody material.(III-12)
- Use vegetation management to achieve a broad array of multiple use and ecosystem management objectives, including maintenance, improvement, and restoration of ; forest health, scenic view sheds and corridors, wildlife habitat effectiveness and quality, hazardous fuel reduction, biological diversity of plant and animal communities, riparian

and watershed health and function, and vegetation structure, composition, and distribution in larger landscapes. (III-12)

- Wildlife diversity is maintained or enhanced by managing for a diverse array of habitats and distribution of plant communities. (III-15)
- Provide habitat to support the wildlife and hunting goals of the States of Idaho and Wyoming. (III-15)

The fire is located within the Big Hole Mountain Forest Subsection which includes Forest Prescription Areas: 2.7(a-b) and 3.2(j). The relevant management goals found in these prescription areas is documented below:

- Forested vegetation is managed to maintain or improve cover or forage conditions needed for wintering deer and elk. 2.7 (a-b), III-104
- Prescribed natural fire and management –ignited fire will be managed to maintain fire’s ecological role and to enhance habitat. 3.2 (b, c,d,g,l,j), III-120

Opportunities to meet LRMP objectives:

- The fire is located in the green zone according to the Forest Strategic Response Zone map. Natural ignitions within the green zone may be managed for LRMP objectives.
- With the current fuel and weather conditions the opportunity to manage the fire for LRMP objectives with low risk to identified values is viable where as in a drier season the opportunity for such management would involve higher risk to values.
- Allowing the fire to perform its ecological role on a year of high fuel moisture allows us to accomplish resource objectives with minimal risk to responders and values while reducing fuel continuity and increasing age class diversity.

4. Describe the possible low probability/high consequence events.

- The possible low probability/high consequence event would be for the fire activity to increase enough to impact the values at risk. Based on current conditions and incident requirements actions would be taken to mitigate the occurrence of a high consequence event.

5. Who are the stakeholders that should be consulted prior to making a decision?

- The following stakeholders have been identified for contact if fire activity indicates the need for coordination/communication: Bonneville County, Idaho, Idaho Fish and Game departments, and Special Use permit holders.

Risk Decision:

1. What alternatives (objectives, strategies and tactics) are being considered?

Full Suppression

- Full perimeter control while minimizing acreage burned.

Modified Suppression Response/Manage for LRMP Objectives

- Monitor and manage fire across the identified planning area with the incorporation of Management Action Points (MAPs) as necessary. MAPs may include the following:

Fuels treatments/modifications adjacent to values at risk

Assess need for area closures

Direct/Indirect line construction, burnout operations

Coordination with stakeholders

Public information dissemination

Adjust planning area

2. What is the exposure to the responders for the alternatives being considered?

- Full Suppression – Exposure to firefighters for one to two operational periods while containment and control of fire is attained.
- Modified Suppression Response /Manage for LRMP Objectives - Exposure to firefighters intermittently over potentially an extended time period while monitoring or taking action in or adjacent to fire area.

3. What is the relative (high, medium, low) probability of success associated with the alternatives being considered?

- Full Suppression – High
- Modified Suppression Response/Manage for LRMP Objectives – High-Medium

4. Describe the alternative that provides for the best balance between the desired outcome and exposure to responders.

- Modified Suppression Response/Manage for LRMP Objectives – This alternative allows for attaining management objectives during a season which fuel and weather conditions reduce the relative risk of fire impact to critical values while minimizing exposure to

responders. The likelihood of engaging responders to implement the anticipated MAPs is low at this time due to minimal or potentially moderate fire growth expected.

5. What are the critical thresholds that will trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternative and how will they be monitored?

- Changes in fire activity, fuels conditions, and predicted weather conditions are the variables which may trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternative. These variables will be monitored by ground or aerial resources, local fire indices, and wildfire assessment tools.

Resource availability : Local resource availability is good between Idaho Falls BLM, CTNF, and resources within the GYA.

Preparedness: National-2, Eastern Great Basin-3, Local-1

Indicies: Local ERCs and 1000 hour fuel moistures are near average. Fine fuels are currently green and transitioning to curing.

Overall fire danger rating at this time is moderate.

07/14/2011 13:36 (Decision : Rationale : Content)

The King Creek fire is located within the Caribou Range Mountains Subsection, approximately 5 mi. SE of Alpine, WY. The current status of this fire is identified as a single tree/.1 acre in mostly continuous sub-alpine fir with pockets of brush/grass areas between the Burns Crk. and King Crk. drainages.

Current Fuel moistures are above normal with snow remaining in the high elevations. The seasonal outlook is currently calling for below normal temperatures and above normal fuel moistures. Current ERCs are below average and near average thus far in the month of July.

Current preparedness levels are as follows:

National: 3

Regional: 2

Local: 1

Resource availability within the East Idaho Interagency dispatch zone is high with minimal commitment to nationwide incidents.

The fire will be monitored by ground and air as conditions dictate. If the fire establishes to a size of 1-5 acres the fire staff/line officer will re-evaluate strategies and tactics pertinent to the situation as well as continued coordination and communication with the City of Alpine, Alpine Fire Department, Lincoln County, WY, Bonneville County, ID, Idaho and Wyoming Game and Fish, and private landowners/Hoffman summerhome owners.

King Creek Fire Decision Rationale

Risk Assessment:

1. Describe the critical values at risk.

- Fire is located in a highly visible area from Alpine, WY and surrounding areas. Critical infrastructure within a five mile perimeter of the fire: Black Mountain Communication site, Hoffman Summer Home area, private property and homes located in the McNeel Creek, Burns Creek, and King Creek areas east of the fire location, transmission lines located east of fire outside of the planning area.

2. What is the chance the critical values will be impacted, and if so what are the consequences?

- Due to current and expected fire behavior there is a low probability at this time that the mentioned infrastructure will be impacted. If the critical values are impacted there could be significant consequences to the values at risk mentioned above.

3. What are the opportunities to manage the fire to meet LRMP objectives?

(1997) Revised Targhee Forest Plan, Forest Wide Goals include:

- Identify the historic role of fire and restore fire as an ecological process, where appropriate to achieve multiple use and ecosystem management objectives (III-6)
- Prescribed fire and managed natural fire is used to achieve desirable soil and habitat conditions, to improve forest health, and to create or maintain diversity in vegetative structure, composition, and patterns as described in PFC analysis.(III-6)

- Suppress fire in a safe, cost effective manner where necessary to protect human life and safety, developments, structures, and sensitive resource values. (III-6)
- Fuel accumulations are reduced and managed within their historic range. (III-6)
- Maintain and restore healthy, diverse forested and non forested ecosystems through time, including appropriate components of dead and down woody material.(III-12)
- Use vegetation management to achieve a broad array of multiple use and ecosystem management objectives, including maintenance, improvement, and restoration of ; forest health, scenic view sheds and corridors, wildlife habitat effectiveness and quality, hazardous fuel reduction, biological diversity of plant and animal communities, riparian and watershed health and function, and vegetation structure, composition, and distribution in larger landscapes. (III-12)
- Wildlife diversity is maintained or enhanced by managing for a diverse array of habitats and distribution of plant communities. (III-15)
- Provide habitat to support the wildlife and hunting goals of the States of Idaho and Wyoming. (III-15)

The fire is located within the Caribou Range Mountains Forest Subsection which includes Forest Prescription Areas: 5.1.3 (b) and 5.4 (c). The relevant management goals found in these prescription areas is documented below:

- Manage vegetation and fuels to minimize fire risk for urban facilities within the interface. 5.1.3 (b), (III-140)

Opportunities to meet LRMP objectives:

- The fire is located in the yellow zone according to the Forest Strategic Response Zone map. Natural ignitions within the yellow zone may be managed for LRMP objectives however management complexity of these incidents may be increased due to proximity to critical values at risk.
- With the current fuel and weather conditions the opportunity to manage the fire for LRMP objectives with low risk to identified values is viable where as in a drier season the opportunity for such management would involve higher risk to values.
- Allowing the fire to perform its ecological role on a year of high fuel moisture allows us to accomplish resource objectives with minimal risk to responders and values while reducing fuel continuity and increasing age class diversity.

4. *Describe the possible low probability/high consequence events.*

- The possible low probability/high consequence event would be for the fire activity to increase enough to impact the values at risk. Based on current conditions and incident requirements actions would be taken to mitigate the occurrence of a high consequence event.

5. *Who are the stakeholders that should be consulted prior to making a decision?*

- The following stakeholders have been notified prior to this decision: Lincoln County, Wyoming Sherriff's Office, Alpine, Wyoming Fire Department, City of Alpine, Wyoming (Mayor)
- The following stakeholders have been identified for contact if fire activity indicates the need for coordination/communication: Bonneville County, Idaho, Idaho and Wyoming Game and Fish departments, private land owners/Hoffman summer homeowners.

Risk Decision:

1. *What alternatives (objectives, strategies and tactics) are being considered?*

Full Suppression

- Full perimeter control while minimizing acreage burned.

Modified Suppression Response/Manage for LRMP Objectives

- Confine/contain strategy to pre-determined area within the planning area to minimize long term efforts and resource commitment. Utilization of natural barriers as needed to contain fire and minimize fire growth and potential risk to responders and critical values and/or
- Monitor and manage fire across the identified planning area with the incorporation of Management Action Points (MAPs) as necessary. MAPs may include the following:

Fuels treatments/modifications adjacent to values at risk

Assess need for area closures

Direct/Indirect line construction, burnout operations

Coordination with stakeholders

Public information dissemination

Adjust planning area

2. *What is the exposure to the responders for the alternatives being considered?*

- Full Suppression – Exposure to firefighters for one to two operational periods while containment and control of fire is attained.
- Modified Suppression Response /Manage for LRMP Objectives - Exposure to firefighters intermittently over potentially an extended time period while monitoring or taking action in or adjacent to fire area.

3. *What is the relative (high, medium, low) probability of success associated with the alternatives being considered?*

- Full Suppression – High
- Modified Suppression Response/Manage for LRMP Objectives – High-Medium

4. *Describe the alternative that provides for the best balance between the desired outcome and exposure to responders.*

- Modified Suppression Response/Manage for LRMP Objectives – This alternative allows for attaining management objectives during a season which fuel and weather conditions reduce the relative risk of fire impact to critical values while minimizing exposure to responders. The likelihood of engaging responders to implement the anticipated MAPs is low at this time due to minimal or no fire growth expected.

5. *What are the critical thresholds that will trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternative and how will they be monitored?*

- Changes in fire activity, fuels conditions, and predicted weather conditions are the variables which may trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternative. These variables will be monitored by ground or aerial resources, local fire indices, and wildfire assessment tools.

Pending Decision (Rationale : Content)

The alternative that was selected best meets desired forest plan objectives while providing an acceptable level of firefighter exposure and reduces long-term ecosystem risk.

Risk Assessment:

1. Describe the critical values at risk.

Firefighter and Public safety, private property, timber resource(standing timber and thinning investment), wildlife habitat, goshawk home range, flammulated owl habitat, near peregrine falcon territory and wildlife guzzler, watershed stability.

2. What is the chance the critical values will be impacted, and if so what are the consequences?

Low if fire behavior and weather stay at anticipated levels.

3. What are the opportunities to manage the fire to meet LRMP objectives?

To move VSS conditions towards more desired condition, hazard fuels reduction, regenerate browse species to improve range conditions for big game.

4. Describe the possible low probability/high consequence events?

Loss of structures, loss of critical values stated above in question #1, large sediment flow, loss of timber resource and loss of public support.

5. Who are the stakeholders that should be consulted prior to making a decision?

State cooperators and local public officials

Risk Decision:

1. What alternatives (objectives, strategies and tactics) are being considered?

ALT 1-Full suppression,

ALT-2 Limiting fire spread to South of ATV Trail #7.73 West of Forest Road #30308 and North of closed road #34120 and East of ridge line which connects the closed road and ATV Trail.

ALT-3 South of Admin Road #31696 West of Forest Road #30308 and North of closed road #34120 and East of ridge line which connects the admin road and the closed road.

2. What is the exposure to responders for the alternatives being considered?

Driving fire equipment (ATV/UTV, Fire Engines and other support vehicles to and from incident, firing operations, hazard trees, steep slopes, possible lightning or other inclement weather, indigenous wildlife, smoke exposure and fire line work

3. What is the relative (high, medium, low) probability of success associated with the alternatives being considered?

High; under predicted weather and expected fire behavior.

4. Describe the alternative that provides for the best balance between the desired outcome and exposure to responders.

ALT-3 South of Admin Road #31696 West of Forest Road #30308 and North of closed road #34120 and East of ridge line which connects the admin road and the closed road.

5. What are the critical thresholds that will trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternative and how will they be monitored?

Failure to meet desired objectives, unexpected or extreme fire behavior and unfavorable weather forecast or conditions.

Incident: Indian / 2011-IDSCF-011089

08/02/2011 08:47 (Decision : Rationale : Content)

Fire Name

Indian

Date:

7/28/11

PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITIES

	Wildland Fire Protection	Structure Protection	Structure Supression
NFS	FS	FS	FS/NFVFD
Private (within FPD) Land Offset	FS/NFVFD	FS/NFVFD	NFVFD
Private Non-Offset unprotected	County Sheriff/landowner	County Sheriff/landowner	County Sheriff/landowner
Protected offset (outside FPD)	FS	FS Limited	Landowner/County Sheriff

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Risk Assessment:

1. 1. Describe the critical values at risk.

Name of Value	Description	Location from Fire
Lower Indian Creek Private Land	Complex of three private land owners, ~ 6 structures	.4 miles West and downhill from fire
Middle Indian Creek Private Land	Indian Creek Guest Ranch and related facilities, ~ 12 structures	1 Mile N of fire up the Indian Creek Drainage
Upper Indian Cr Private Land	Old Historic District, Ghost town and private inholdings, ~ 10 structures	4 miles N of fire up Indian Cr Drainage
Historic Indianola Admin Site	Historic ranger station/ work center, 15 structures	¾ miles SW and downhill from fire
Salmon River Corridor	Recreational corridor, main travel route for boaters on the Main and Middle Fork Salmon Rivers, multiple inholdings	½ mile South of Fire
Ulysses L.O. and Cabin	Steel Cab L.O., not in service and historic cabin.	3 miles NE and uphill from fire

Ulysses Mine	Old mining District with multiple run-down historic mining structures	2 miles N of fire
Thurber Private Property	Abandoned private structure	1.5 miles South of fire on opposite side of river
Salmon River Ranch Subdivision	Subdivision with approximately 15 structures	2 miles WSW
Sage Creek Corrals	Small corrals used for loading and unloading cattle into the Sage Allotment	3 miles Southeast of fire
Tryg Olson Private Land	Private land and associated structures	1.5 miles east of the fire
Tin cup Spring Outfitter Camp	Camp with limited developments, tent frames, etc. Utilized during hunting seasons.	6 miles North of fire
Private land NE of Ulysses	Patented mining claims	1.5 miles North of fire
Cummings Lake Private Land	Private Lake and large residence that used to be a lodge	5 miles Northeast of fire
Malloy Private Land	Private Residence and associated land	5 miles NE of fire
Whiskey Spring Range improvement	Water Trough and Spring Development	2 miles east of fire
Buster Gulch Mine	Historic Thorium Mine	3 miles SE of fire
Newland Ranch and Dump Station	Forest Service Administrative Facility, key to river sanitations	5 miles East of fire along Salmon River Corridor
Hwy 93 Corridor	Complex of private land interface running from the Town of North Fork , north 20 miles	6 miles East of the fire.
Lower Hughes Creek Private Land	Private Land with approximately 5 structures	7 miles Northeast of the fire
Upper Hughes Creek Private	Private Land with 2 structures	7 miles Northeast of the fire
Hughes Creek Stewardship Area	Landscape level restoration project currently being implemented, active timber sale and service contract work currently ongoing	8 miles Northeast of the fire
Community of Gibbonsville	Interface Community, ~ 50 structures	9 miles Northeast of the fire
Indian Range Allotment	Approximately 150 cattle grazing in the allotment.	North of Fire

Allen Natural Research Area	Verify management actions prior to suppression	North of Hughes creek, north of fire
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1. 2. What is the chance the critical values will be impacted, and if so what are the consequences?

Name of Value	Chance that the value will be impacted	Consequences of the impact
Lower Indian Creek Private Land	Moderate	Structures marginally defensible, probability of at least some structures being burned is high
Middle Indian Creek Private Land	Moderate	Most structures are defensible, high amount of irrigated grass, low probability if structure loss
Upper Indian Cr Private Land	Moderate	Moderate to high probability of structure loss in historic district, not defensible
Historic Indianola Admin Site	Moderate	Irrigated lawn, cottonwoods, low to moderate probability of structure loss
River Corridor	High	High probability of smoke impacts and some need for traffic management, impacts could be significant to local homeowners and recreating public.
Ulysses L.O. and Cabin	Moderate	Metal L.O. is low risk of loss however the historic cabin next to it would probably be lost
Ulysses Mine	Moderate	High impacts to private structures if lost.
Thurber Private Property	Moderate	High impacts to private structures if lost.
Salmon River Ranch Subdivision	Low	High impacts to private structures if lost.
Sage Creek Corrals	Low	Low impacts. Used for approximately 30 cows on the allotment.
Tryg Olson Private Land	Moderate	High impacts to private structures and land if lost. High priority due to location.
Tincup Spring Outfitter Camp	Low	Low consequences if fire reaches the

		area.
Private land NE of Ulysses	Low	High impact to private land with low impact to mining operations. No structures present.
Cummings Lake Private Land	Low	High consequences if fire reaches the private land. High impacts if structures are lost.
Malloy Private Land	Low	High consequences if fire reaches the private land. High impacts if structures are lost.
Whiskey Spring Range improvement	Low	Low consequences if fire reaches the improvement.
Buster Gulch Mine	Low	High impact and high consequences if fire reaches the mine. Safety concern for working in the area.
Newland Ranch and Dump Station	Low	High impact and high consequences. Mayor impacts to recreation related activities.
Hwy 93 Corridor	Moderate	High impact and high consequences. Mayor impacts to the travel corridor as well as private lands.
Lower Hughes Creek Private Land	Low	High impact and high consequences if fire reaches the area.
Upper Hughes Creek Private	Low	High impact and high consequences if fire reaches the area.
Hughes Creek Stewardship Area	Low	High impact and high consequences if fire reaches the area.
Community of Gibbonsville	Low	High impact and high consequences if fire reaches the area.
Indian Range Allotment	Moderate	High impact if a large percentage of the allotment is burned.
Allen Natural Research Area	Low	High impact from suppression actions.

*Based on the baseline approach of no action

1. 3. What are the opportunities to manage the fire to meet LRMP objectives?

This fire is located in the Salmon River Breaks Area, the LRMP does not provide for the option to manage for other resource objectives

1. 4. Describe the possible low probability/high consequence events?

Short Term - Firefighter injury related to steep terrain and snags or driving.
 High intensity Thunderstorm that significantly increases fire behavior.
 Aviation incident.
 Vehicle accident on narrow Indian Creek Road.

Long Term – Significant fire growth due to a wind event later in the summer that drives a significant increase in firefighter needs. Potential impacts to travel on Highway 93, impacts to local residence and impacts to the river corridor.

1. 5. Who are the stakeholders that should be consulted prior to making a decision?

Local landowners, County Commissioners should be consulted for a decision other than this initial attack response.

Risk Decision:

1. **1. What alternatives (objectives, strategies and tactics) are being considered?**
2. **2. What is the exposure to responders for the alternatives being considered?**
3. **3. What is the relative (high, medium, low) probability of success associated with the alternatives being considered?**

Alternative	Exposure to Responders	Probability of Success (H,M,L)
Control – Direct Line Construction aimed and keeping the fire as small as possible. Monitor fire to ensure containment.	5,000 firefighter days, multiple helicopters for ~ 50 days	High
Point Protection – Indirect suppression operations aimed at keeping the fire from spreading to adjacent private land	~ 7,000 firefighter days, significant exposure to landowners, # of responders will increase the chances of vehicle accidents	High
Indirect Suppression – Indirect line construction aimed at using geographic features to limit the fires spread	~ 8,000 firefighter days, more exposure to steep terrain and snags on the hillside than the Point protection strategy	High

1. 4. Describe the alternative that provides for the best balance between the desired outcome and exposure to responders.

We considered two options for managing the fire. One has high immediate exposure, goes direct on the south and east end and indirect (burn-out) on the north. The second option utilizes more breaks further out and would require additional burn-out operations. This option would require patience since all the fuels (high elevation) are not yet cured and likely would not burn completely. The advantage of option 1 is less total exposure by limiting duration. The advantage of option 2 is location of lines can be more carefully considered, but may ultimately have greater total exposure due to duration. Based on the described uncertainty, the current alternative that provides for the best balance between the desired outcomes and exposure to responders

is to modify the options to include a combination of the two alternatives. The decision was made to modify the options: hold and improve all firelines, continue mop-up operations, and monitor. Site-specific rehabilitation will begin.

5. What are the critical thresholds that will trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternative and how will they be monitored?

- If fire activity within the perimeter increases and potentially threatens holding lines.
- If spotting occurs outside of fireline.

A serious incident/accident occurs on the fire.

Incident: Mill / 2011-IDSCF-011090

07/18/2011 14:51 (Decision : Rationale : Content)

Risk Assessment:

1. Describe the critical values at risk.

- Custer Motorway/ Mill Creek Road
- Toll Station, Greenwood Station (historic sites with on-site interpretation)
- Fannies Hole Trail and Trailhead
- Mill Creek Campground
- Mosquito Flats Reservoir, Campground, Picnic Areas, and Boat Launches
- Private In-holding (Roberta Green Estate) on Challis Creek
- Private In-holding (Mill Creek Ranch) on Mill Creek

2. What is the chance the critical values will be impacted, and if so what are the consequences?

- Custer Motorway (w/in 500' of fire) - High, due to smoke impacts
- All other values listed in #1 (Toll Station through private in-holdings) - Moderate, from direct fire impacts

3. What are the opportunities to manage the fire to meet LRMP objectives?

- Given proximity to values at risk the incident objectives is to suppress. No additional resource objectives are included at this time.

4. Describe the possible low probability/high consequence events?

- Potential fire growth that would directly and/or indirectly impact the community of Challis and all the values at risk listed in #1.

5. Who are the stakeholders that should be consulted prior to making a decision?

- At this time the fire is entirely on National Forest System Lands. The Salmon-Challis National Forest is the primary stakeholder.

Risk Decision:

1. What alternatives (objectives, strategies and tactics) are being considered?

- At this time only 1 alternative, full suppression, is being considered. This alternative is recommended due to a combination of relative risk, location, departure from historic condition, time of year, high Haines Index and incoming cold front.

2. What is the exposure to responders for the alternatives being considered?

- Snags, steep terrain, driving, incoming cold front, weather, lightning, aviation.

3. What is the relative (high, medium, low) probability of success associated with the alternatives being considered?

- High. Adequate local resources are available to implement the decision.

4. Describe the alternative that provides for the best balance between the desired outcome and exposure to responders.

- At the current fire size, full suppression allows us to achieve our objectives.

5. What are the critical thresholds that will trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternative and how will they be monitored?

- Set trigger points are Mill Creek Road (to the west, south, and east) and the ridge to the north of the fire. If fire growth moves north of the ridge our proposed alternative would be reconsidered to allow a modified suppression response as the fire moves towards the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. If fire growth crosses Mill Creek Road our proposed alternative would be a combination of direct and indirect suppression tactics to reduce exposure. Trigger points will be monitored by fire personnel.

08/01/2011 19:49 (Decision : Rationale : Content)

1. Describe the critical values at risk.

Name of Value	Description	Location from Fire
Sliderock Lookout	Historic Tree Stand	2 miles east
Fur Farm	Historic 2-story structure	5 miles east
Thomas Creek	Air strip and outhouse, private offset	4 miles northwest
Middle Fork Lodge	Private inholding, multiple structures	4 miles northwest
Little Creek GS	Administrative facility	5 miles north
Sater Cabin	Historic cabin	5 miles north
Little Creek Pack Bridge	FS improvement	5 miles northwest
Thomas Creek Bridge	FS improvement	5.5 miles northwest
Check Creek outfitter camp	Scott Farr contact	6 miles west
Mahoney Creek Air strip	No structures	6 miles northeast
Marble Pack Bridge	FS improvement	7 mile northwest
Cabin Creek FS cabin	Historic cabin at mouth of Rapid River	8 miles west
Trails #005, 004, 009	FS improvements	various

2. What is the chance the critical values will be impacted, and if so what are the consequences?

Name of Value	Chance that the value will be impacted	Consequences of the impact
Sliderock Lookout	Low	High
Fur Farm	Low	Moderate
Thomas Creek	Low	Low
Middle Fork Lodge	Low	High
Little Creek GS	Low	High
Sater Cabin	Low	High

Name of Value	Chance that the value will be impacted	Consequences of the impact
Little Creek Pack Bridge	Low	High
Thomas Creek Bridge	Low	High
Check Creek outfitter camp	Low	Low
Mahoney Creek	Low	Low
Marble Pack Bridge	Low	High
Cabin Creek FS cabin	Low	?
Trails #005, 004, 009	Low	Moderate

3. What are the opportunities to manage the fire to meet LRMP objectives?

Allow fire to play its natural role in designated wilderness.

4. Describe the possible low probability/high consequence events?

- Fire impacts to all values at risk listed above.
- Impacts to river operations (e.g. smoke, direct fire, access interruptions) including risk to firefighters and public and socioeconomic values.

5. Who are the stakeholders that should be consulted prior to making a decision?

Fire entirely on NFS lands. USFS is primary stakeholder at this time.

Risk Decision:

1. What alternatives (objectives, strategies and tactics) are being considered?

- Monitoring
- Full perimeter control

2. What is the exposure to responders for the alternatives being considered?

- Monitoring - exposure is to aerial observer, will be minimized based on intel from Pinyon LO
- Full perimeter control - firefighter exposure due to limited access, steep terrain, snags, poor communications

3. What is the relative (high, medium, low) probability of success associated with the alternatives being considered?

- Monitoring - high for allowing fire to play its natural role in designated wilderness
- Full perimeter control - high (single tree, favorable weather conditions)

4. Describe the alternative that provides for the best balance between the desired outcome and exposure to responders.

Monitoring meets the incident and strategic objectives and minimizes exposure to risk.

5. What are the critical thresholds that will trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternative and how will they be monitored?

- If fire were to advance from the interior to the river corridor, consider point protection and managing river traffic.

- If fire were to cross Sheep Creek (approximately 1 mile from wilderness boundary with Seafoam bubble). Monitor by aerial observation.

07/19/2011 11:50 (Decision : Rationale : Content)

Values at risk are a few miles away from the fire. They include a repeater and the devils kitchen trailhead.

The chance of the values at risk being impacted is low do to the distance from the fire.

The location of this fire allows us to let fire play its natural role in the landscape and will help reduce fuel loading and promote, age class diversity and species diversity in the area.

The low probability/high consequence events could include impacting the repeater and Devils Kitchen Trailhead facilities.

The area is all Forest System lands with no private land for miles. District Ranger could provide courtesy notifications to Sanpete, Utah and Juab Counties.

Alternatives include: 1) Monitor incident, 2) Full Suppression

Exposure for monitoring the incident would include a couple of people periodically checking on the fire the exposure would be low. Exposure for Full Suppression would include hiking a full module to the incident down wet and slippery slopes, with Thunderstorms and lightning expected each afternoon for the next few days.

Monitoring may lead to natural supression due to the rain fall and wet weather pattern we are experiencing (Moderate to High Success).

Full Supression would also have a high probability of success due to the small size of the fire.

The monitoring is the best alternative because it provides less exposure to responders with the similar probability of success.

The Critical thresholds would be the passing of the wet weather system. Once the weather system has passed a couple of people would hike into the fire and reevaluate status.