



**Teton Interagency Fire**  
Bridger-Teton National Forest, National Elk Refuge,  
Grand Teton National Park & John  
D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway



## **2024 Incident Commander Delegation of Authority for Initial Attack (Type 3, 4 & 5) Fires and Expectations for all Firefighting Personnel**

As a Type 3, 4, or 5 Incident Commander, you are delegated the authority to manage wildfires according to the framework of laws, agency policy, and agency administrator direction. This delegation includes the authority to obligate funds as necessary to manage these wildfires in a cost-effective manner.

Initial response to wildland fire on all jurisdictions is based on implementation of land management objectives, while applying risk management principles in consultation with Agency Administrators (AA) and Fire Duty Officers (DO). Incident Commanders (IC's) shall receive AA and DO intent to assure that assigned fire personnel understand leadership direction. IC's and assigned personnel should continually assess the effectiveness of the selected strategies and tactics; and should Stop, Think, Discuss, and then Act to implement the leader's intent or to apply mitigations as needed.

Our intent is to engage in discussions about acceptable levels of risk. The management of wildland fires is an inherently risky endeavor that takes place in an environment ripe with objective and subjective hazards. Undertaking operations in harsh terrain, during severe weather and in forests with snags along with the nature of fire operations all contribute to the hazards. These hazards will be addressed during the risk management process and mitigations will be developed then applied to reduce the level of risk for each incident knowing that some risk will remain and it will need to be constantly assessed.

Our goal is to have a common understanding of what level of residual risk is acceptable based upon the values determined to be at risk. Your risk analysis should carefully consider the severity, probability, and exposure components of identified hazards. Use the Risk Management protocols outlined in the IRPG to help you and your crew in these honest, open discussions.

Agency Administrators put a great deal of faith and trust in fire management personnel. We believe that the best information regarding assessing hazards and determining appropriate mitigations comes from those closest to the operation. Our role is to lead the discussion in setting priorities among the values-at-risk with DO's and IC's.

We expect that all personnel will work in a professional manner to ensure appropriate representation of our agencies. This means making concerted efforts to foster a learning culture and an atmosphere free of discrimination, sexual harassment, inappropriate behavior, and includes taking proactive steps to ensure that people feel they are welcomed as being part of the organization and that they have well communicated avenues to privately discuss any concerns they may have about the workplace.

IC's shall ensure all of the following: Firefighter and public safety is your highest priority on every fire. All incoming resources as well as those already on the fire receive briefings that include an emphasis on safety related to local conditions and any out-of-the ordinary risks. That implementation of proper food storage policies/procedures will be followed. That personnel assigned on their incident are only assigned to fire line positions for which they are qualified for by their employing agency and ensure that trainees have a qualified trainer. Utilize the Incident Organizer, conduct AAR's and compile all information necessary for required agency fire reports for all fires.

IC's are responsible to update Teton Interagency Dispatch Center (TIDC) and the DO every morning and afternoon on the status of the incident. Immediate notification will be made for any significant changes in fire behavior, conditions, and all injuries or accidents.

AA's, DO's and IC's will only commit resources to a fire once risk management assessments have been completed and necessary mitigations are in place.

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