

FS Agreement No. 14-IA-11015200-005
Cooperator Agreement No. _____

MASTER SERVICE FIRST INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
Between The
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, ALASKA FIRE SERVICE
And The
USDA, FOREST SERVICE
NORTHERN REGION

This MASTER SERVICE FIRST INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT is hereby made and entered into by and between the Bureau of Land Management, Alaska Fire Service, hereinafter referred to as "Alaska Fire Service," and the USDA, Forest Service, Northern Region hereinafter referred to as the "U.S. Forest Service," under the authority of: Service First Authority, Section 330 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2001, Pub. L. 106-291, 114 Stat. 996, 43 U.S.C. sec. 1701 note, as amended by Section 428 of the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2006, Public Law No. 109-54, 119 Stat. 555, as further amended and extended through September 20, 2011 under Section 418 of the Omnibus appropriations Act of 2009, Pub. L. 111-8, and as amended. .

Background: The U.S. Forest Service and Alaska Fire Service have recognized that partnering on a formal basis will afford opportunities to markedly improve wild land fire management efficiency for both parties. There is a rich history in wild land fires and cooperation between the U.S. Forest Service and the Alaska Fire Service.

The parties' mutual interests in sharing wild land fire-related resources has been a successful partnership due to the need for technical expertise or the capability one organization lacked and the other possessed; non-conflicting fire seasons; and the mutual recognition of benefits received. The Fire and Aviation programs of both agencies have similar visions of how wild land fires should be managed in the future; how to organize and train; how to implement fire management strategies; and the tactics required to accomplish this vision.

The overall goal of this agreement is to maintain or increase each organization's individual wild land fire management capability in a flat or declining budget situation. Since the fire seasons in the two areas are offset and complimentary, resource sharing outside of large fire support is easily facilitated. It is anticipated that in the absence of such opportunities, each region's fire-fighting production capability will decrease. The focus will be on sharing knowledge and the most efficient use of government resources.

Benefits realized by both agencies include the following:

1. An increase of each organization's capability, as well as fuels treatment accomplishments.
2. Enhanced training, leadership and increased effectiveness of fire and aviation programs.
3. More rapid development of workforce experience and expertise.
4. Increased efficiencies gained by working together on national issues and issues common to both organizations.
5. Increased opportunities to recruit and retain a high performing and diverse workforce.



Title: Sharing Wildland Fire-related Resources

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this agreement is to document the cooperation between the parties to maintain or increase each organization's individual wild land fire management capability in accordance with the following provisions and the hereby incorporated Operating and Financial Plan, attached as Exhibit A.

In consideration of the above premises, the parties hereto agree as follows:

II. THE ALASKA FIRE SERVICE SHALL:

A. Perform in accordance with the Annual Operating Plan, Exhibit A.

III. THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE SHALL:

A. Perform in accordance with the Annual Operating Plan, Exhibit A.

IV. IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AND UNDERSTOOD BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT:

- A. Both agencies (parties) have mutually agreed to and it is understood by both parties that by March 1 of each year, the parties will execute an Annual Operating Plan under this agreement which details the program of work including, but not limited to, personnel, transportation, and any associated funding.
- B. Sharing may include, but is not limited to: smokejumpers, aviation assets, crews, fire line leadership and support, and workforce recruiters as identified and agreed to by both organizations.
 - 1. Each party will track their costs for the collaborative projects. If an inequity in cost is identified, adjustments will be made between the parties through a separate Interagency Agreement.
 - 2. Sharing among interagency teams or modules must be approved by all agencies providing the resources.
- C. This agreement is not intended to affect prior agreements between the parties or with other organizations



D. PRINCIPAL CONTACTS. Individuals listed below are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this agreement.

Principal Cooperator Contacts:

Cooperator Program Contact	Cooperator Administrative Contact
Kent Slaughter Manager, Alaska Fire Service P.O. Box 35005 Fort Wainwright, AK 99703 (907) 356-5506 kslaught@blm.gov	Laura Powe DOI - Bureau of Land Management P.O. Box 35005 Fort Wainwright, AK. 99703 (907) 356-5500 lpowe@blm.gov

Principal U.S. Forest Service Contacts:

U.S. Forest Service Program Manager Contact	U.S. Forest Service Administrative Contact
Patti Koppennol Director, FAA P.O. Box 7669 Missoula, MT 59807 (406) 329-3296 pkoppennol@fs.fed.us	Matt Gordon Western Montana Acquisition Zone Building 24, Ft Missoula Missoula, MT 59804 (406) 329-1012 mgordon@fs.fed.us

E. NOTICES. Any communications affecting the operations covered by this agreement given by the U.S. Forest Service or Alaska Fire Service are sufficient only if in writing and delivered in person, mailed, or transmitted electronically by e-mail or fax, as follows:

To the U.S. Forest Service Program Manager, at the address specified in the agreement.

To Alaska Fire Service, at Alaska Fire Service’s address shown in the agreement or such other address designated within the agreement.

Notices will be effective when delivered in accordance with this provision, or on the effective date of the notice, whichever is later.

F. TERMINATION – INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS. This IA may be terminated upon 30 calendar days’ written notice by either party. If this agreement is cancelled, any implementing contract/order may also be cancelled. If the IA is terminated, the agencies shall agree to the terms of the termination, including costs attributable to each party and the disposition of awarded and pending actions. If the Servicing Agency incurs costs due to the Requesting Agency's failure to give the requisite notice of its intent to terminate the IA, the Requesting



Agency shall pay any actual costs incurred by the Servicing Agency as a result of the delay in notification, provided such costs are directly attributable to the failure to give notice.

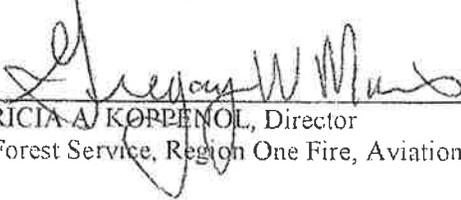
G. ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION – INTERAGENCY. The parties to this agreement shall settle any disputes that may arise under this agreement by following direction in the Treasury Financial Manual, Volume 1, Bulletin 2011-04, Section VII (“Resolving Intragovernmental Disputes and Major Differences”).

H. MODIFICATIONS. Modifications within the scope of this agreement must be made by mutual consent of the parties, by the issuance of a written modification signed and dated by all properly authorized, signatory officials, prior to any changes being performed. Requests for modification should be made, in writing, at least 30 days prior to implementation of the requested change. The U.S. Forest Service or Alaska Fire Service is not obligated to fund any changes not properly approved in advance.

I. COMMENCEMENT/EXPIRATION DATE. This agreement is executed as of the date of the last signature and is effective through December 31, 2018 at which time it will expire, unless extended by an executed modification, signed and dated by all properly authorized, signatory officials.

J. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES. By signature below, each party certifies that the individuals listed in this document as representatives of the individual parties are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this agreement. In witness whereof, the parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the last date written below.

acting for 
_____ 19 March 2014
Date
- KENT SLAUGHTER, Manager
Bureau of Land Management, Alaska Fire Service

acting for 
_____ March 21, 2014
PATRICIA A. KOPPIN, Director
U.S. Forest Service, Region One Fire, Aviation & Air

The authority and format of this agreement has been reviewed and approved for signature.


_____ 3/21/14
Date
MATT GORDON
U.S. Forest Service Grants & Agreements Specialist



Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0217. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice). TDD users can contact USDA through local relay or the Federal relay at (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (relay voice). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

2014 OPERATING PLAN
BETWEEN
ALASKA FIRE SERVICE
AND
USFS REGION 1 FIRE AND AVIATION MANAGEMENT

This annual operating plan is tiered to Interagency Agreement #14-IA-11015200-005 between Forest Service Region 1 (R1 FAM) and Alaska Fire Service (AFS). Both have recognized that partnering on a formal basis will afford opportunities to markedly improve wildland fire management efficiency for both. Since 2001 the two regions have informally exchanged resources on an individual, as available basis. In 2009 these organizations began exploring a more formal and comprehensive resource sharing arrangement; because there was a need for technical expertise that one region lacked and the other possessed, non-conflicting fire seasons, and mutual recognition of benefits received.

The overall goal of this plan outlines operating procedures, organizational contacts and ordering procedures. The intent is to maintain or increase each region's individual wildland fire management capability in a flat or declining budget situation. The focus will be on sharing resources rather than transferring money. Resources ordered under the agreement will be ordered utilizing regular program dollars. Resources will be utilized and managed at the receiving unit as a home unit resource, available for assignment to the full spectrum of fire management activities.

ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN

Typically fire season in Alaska begins around April 15th and slows in mid-July. Fire season in the Northern Rockies begins about mid-July and normally runs to mid-September. AFS will prioritize surplus resources to support R-1 FAM when Alaska fire danger has moderated and national BLM needs are accounted for. R-1 FAM resources are available in April to support AFS and will be balanced with the spring burning needs of R-1 FAM.

Smokejumpers

- AFS and R-1 FAM have agreed to detail 6-12 smokejumpers each direction on an ongoing annual basis.
 - R-1 FAM will provide a minimum of 2 jumpers to AFS by May 12 with the remaining portion of the detail available to AFS no later than May 30.
 - AFS will provide a minimum of 6 jumpers to R-1 FAM by July 20 with any remaining portion of the detail available to R-1 FAM by August 1.
 - Start dates, end dates, numbers, and qualifications are negotiable by the base managers based on fire season and need.
 - Detailers are expected to commit for a minimum of 4 weeks. Extensions beyond 4 weeks require the concurrence of the detailers and base managers.
- The home unit will pay mobilization costs.
- The hosting unit will pay subsistence/per diem.

Smokejumper Aircraft

- AFS will coordinate with R-1 FAM when releasing aircraft currently on contract.

Air Attack Detail

- Based on need, R-1 FAM will host 1 ATS position detail from mid-July through mid-September.
- R-1 FAM may request an ATGS position in times of need to facilitate the training of R-1 FAM's ATS qualified employees and help create depth in the R-1 ASM program.
- The start and end dates of the detail will be based on need and have the ability to rotate every 21 days or as needed.
- The home unit will pay mobilization costs.
- The hosting unit will pay subsistence/per diem.

R1 Fuels Program

- The AFS and R-1 FAM agree to share resources for, but not limited to, prescribed fire and fuels program support.
- The home unit will pay mobilization costs.
- The hosting unit will pay subsistence/per diem.

ICT3 Team

- The AFS and R-1 FA, agree to share Type 3 Incident Management Teams or any portion of for, but not limited to, fire support or reposition of resources.
- The ordering unit will pay mobilization costs.

Fire Management and Aviation Management

- Both units will explore opportunities to share their expertise in fire and aviation management by assisting each other, on a negotiated basis, through temporarily filling key leadership positions until a permanent selection can be made.
- The hosting unit will pay subsistence/per diem and travel costs.

All above Resources:

Before an order is placed, both units need to communicate to ensure that the proper order is processed and the resource is available. No resources will be dispatched without a resource order. This applies to replacement/rotation resources as well. Both units should be in agreement on the job code and the length of the tour, prior to documenting a resource order and actually sending the resource.

The ordering process will go through the proper dispatch channels. Resources will be name requested with all of the resource identifiers listed on the resource order. For fire preparedness the resource home unit will cover base salaries. The receiving unit will cover overtime. Once a resource is at a host unit, it will be managed as a local resource at the receiving unit. When the resource is utilized on an incident it will charge it's time to that incident. Resources that are ordered for project work will charge their time to that project. Details and agreements will be worked out between the two parties. There is not a guarantee of extra hours.

Resources will be managed by the receiving unit as a home resource and hours will be determined by local unit needs to meet fire management demands.

Resources filling orders shall be qualified for the position being filled. Personnel are expected to act in a professional manner. If performance or discipline problems are encountered, the home unit of the resource needing attention will be notified and the issue will be resolved within administrative procedures to the satisfaction of both sending and receiving units. Unprofessional behavior will result in a person being sent back to the home unit and appropriate documentation will be provided.

The following Points of Contact are responsible to track the performance of this operating plan. Any changes to the plan will be negotiated at an annual pre-season meeting.

POINTS OF CONTACT

Region 1:	Alaska Fire Service:
For Aviation: Margaret Doherty For Smokejumpers: Mike Fritsen 5765 West Broadway Missoula, Montana 59808	Primary: Dave Whitmer Aviation: Gary Baumgartner Smokejumpers: Bill Cramer P.O. Box 35005 Ft. Wainwright, AK 99703

Modifications to agreement

- Modifications shall be made by mutual consent of the parties by the issuance of a written modification, signed and dated by both parties, not less than 30 days prior to the desired implementation date and must be agreed to and approved in writing by both parties.
- Any significant changes to the provisions of this Operating Plan will be made in writing via a formal modification to the plan signed by the AFS and R-1 FAM contacts.
- No verbal statement by any person and no written statement by anyone other than the AFS and R-1 FAM contacts will be interpreted as modifying or otherwise affecting this agreement.

The parties agree that in the event of a dispute between the AFS and R-1 FAM, the following procedures will be employed: The parties will first attempt to resolve the dispute informally at the local level. If this procedure fails, then the Regional Fire Operations will review the matter, meet personally or by telephone, and determine a resolution.

R-1 FAM and AFS Contacts

AFS

Position	Name	Work Phone	Cell Phone
AFS Manager	Kent Slaughter	907-356-5505	907-888-7668
AICC Coordinator	Ray Crowe	907-356-5677	907-590-1403
Ass't AICC Coordinator	Lauren Hickey	907-356-5680	907-888-2964
Chief, Fire Operations	Dave Whitmer	907-356-5642	907-322-3007
State Aviation Manager	Gary Baumgartner	907-356-5523	907-388-0104
Aviation Management Specialist (Helicopter)	Gilbert Garcia	907-356-5525	907-687-0567
Aviation Management Specialist (Fixed Wing)	John Softich	907-356-5520	907-388-0141
Chief, Smokejumpers	Bill Cramer	907-356-5541	907-347-8859
Deputy Chief, Smokejumpers	Jay Wattenbarger	907-356-5536	907-347-0729
Air Attack Program manager	Rick Thompson	907-356-5535	907-750-1800
Chief, Fire Specialists and IHC	John Lyons	907-356-5563	907-750-1770

Region 1

Position	Name	Work Phone	Cell Phone
GAC Coordinator	Kathy Pipkin	(406) 329-4709	
Ass't Coordinator	Judy Heintz	(406) 329-4708	(406) 660-2316
NRCG Operations	Bob Gilman	(406) 329-4961	(406) 691-0380
NRCG Operations Ass't.	Tim Murphy	(406) 829-7324	(406) 544-8466
Aviation Safety Officer	Gary Boyd	(406) 329-3235	(406) 370-9707
HOS	John Harris	(406) 329-4749	(406) 370-3342
Fixed Wing	Ken Wabaunsee	(406) 329-4914	(406) 370-5896
Smokejumper Base Manager	Mike Fritsen	(406) 329-4942	(406) 370-5871
Jumper Operations	Tory Kendrick	(406) 329-4704	(406) 370-5906
Ground Safety	Steve Zachry	(406) 329-3422	(406) 552-2585
Incident Business	Tracey Nimlos	(406) 329-3331	(406) 370-7152
Coop, Fire Prevention	Cathy Scofield	(406) 329-3409	(406) 370-0000
Fuels, Fire Use	Stu Hoyt	(406) 329-3266	(406) 370-5757
Planning, Budget	Shari Miller	(406) 329-3232	(406) 370-3462
Director FAM	Patti Koppenol	(406)329-3402	(406) 241-1136
Deputy Director	Greg Morris	(406) 329-3296	
Regional Aviation Officer	Margret Doherty	(406) 329-4903	(406) 370-3340