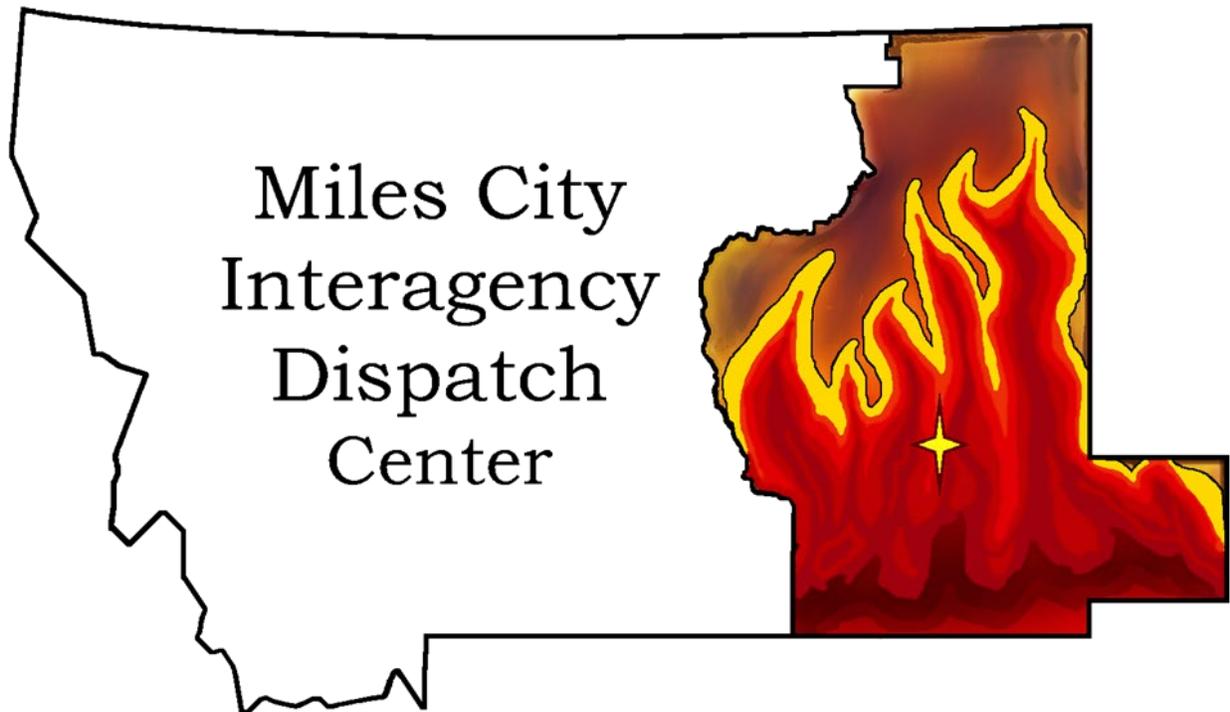


# Eastern Montana Fire Zone

## Initial Attack Response Plan



## **Introduction:**

The Miles City Interagency Dispatch Center (MCC) provides dispatch operations for the Eastern Montana Fire Zone (EMFZ). The EMFZ is divided into two Fire Danger Rating Areas (FDRA), a North FDRA and a South FDRA. The Yellowstone River is primary boundary between the North and South Fire Danger Rating Areas. The North Fire Danger Rating Area primarily consists of short grass prairie interspersed with broken badlands and isolated pockets of timber with the exception being the river break country along the Musselshell River and the Charles M. Russel National Wildlife Refuge. The South Fire Danger Rating Area consists of the Powder River and Tongue River basins, a mix of short grass prairie, Ponderosa and Juniper Forests, badlands and sagebrush steppe.

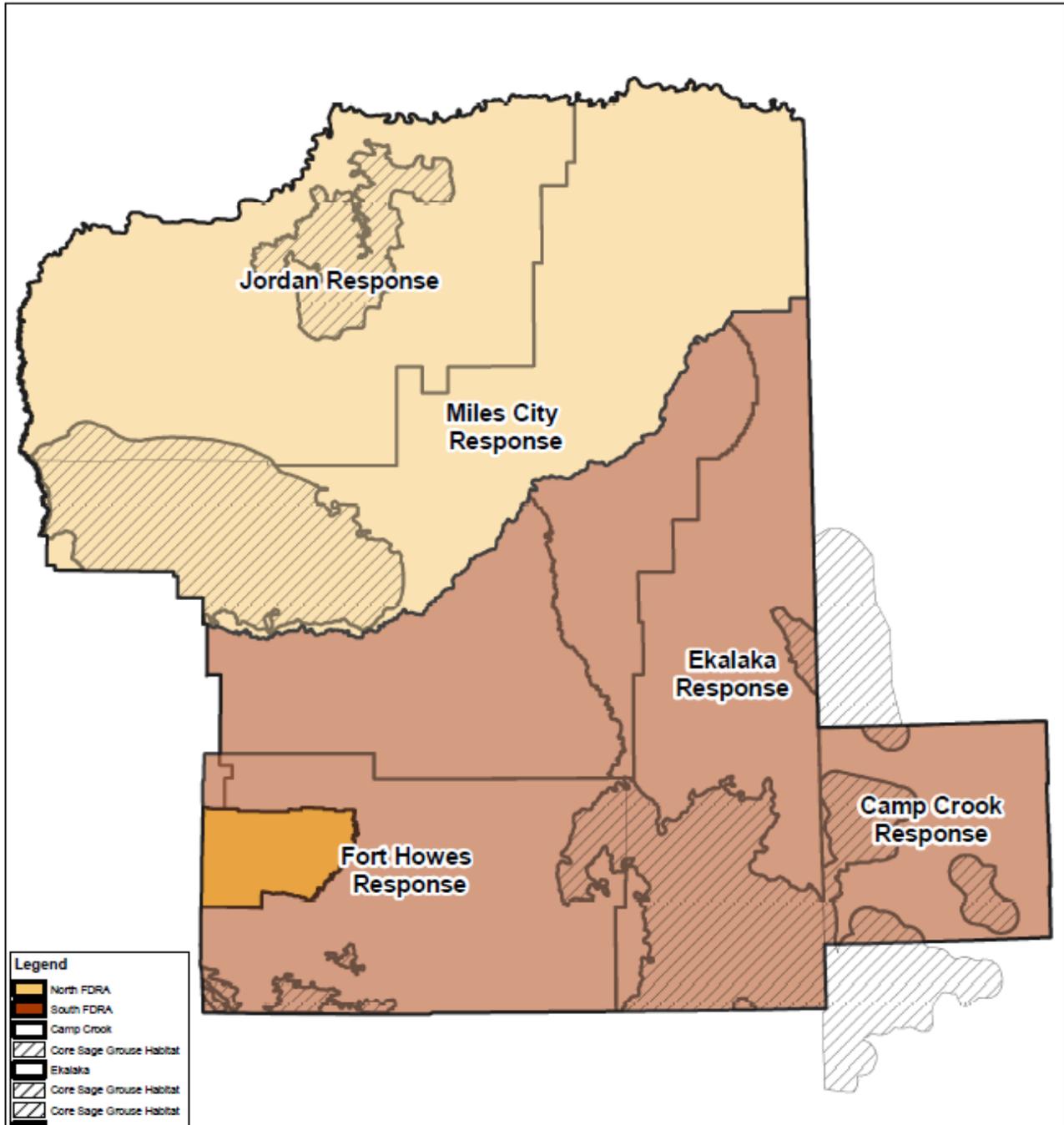
The EMFZ is broken up into twelve Initial Attack response zones. To better meet current resource objectives, core Sage Grouse habitat is identified as their own Initial Attack zones. The Camp Crook and Ekalaka Stations are generally treated as one station with one response zone but were broken out separately to better facilitate initial fire response through the dispatch system.

The EMFZ consists of the following fire stations: BLM; Jordan (JDN), Miles City (MC), Miles City Airbase (MCAIRBASE), Fort Howes (FTH), Ekalaka (EKA), and Camp Crook (CC). FWS; Jordan (CMR). USFS; Ashland Ranger District (ARD), and Sioux Ranger District (SRD).

*\*The response matrixes in this plan show the planned response for each level, they are not cumulative.*



# Fire Danger Rating Areas



Legend	
	North FDRA
	South FDRA
	Camp Crook
	Core Sage Grouse Habitat
	Ekalaka
	Core Sage Grouse Habitat
	Core Sage Grouse Habitat
	Fort Howes
	Jordan
	Core Sage Grouse Habitat
	Core Sage Grouse Habitat
	Miles City North
	Miles City Southeast
	Miles City Southwest
	Northern Cheyenne Agency

0 15 30 60 Miles



Date: 3/19/2020

United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Eastern Montana/Dakotas District

**CAUTION:**  
Land ownership data is derived from less accurate data than the 1:250,000 scale base map. Therefore, land ownership may not be shown for parcels smaller than 40 acres, and land ownership lines may have plotting errors due to source data.  
No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management for the use of the data for purposes not intended by the BLM.

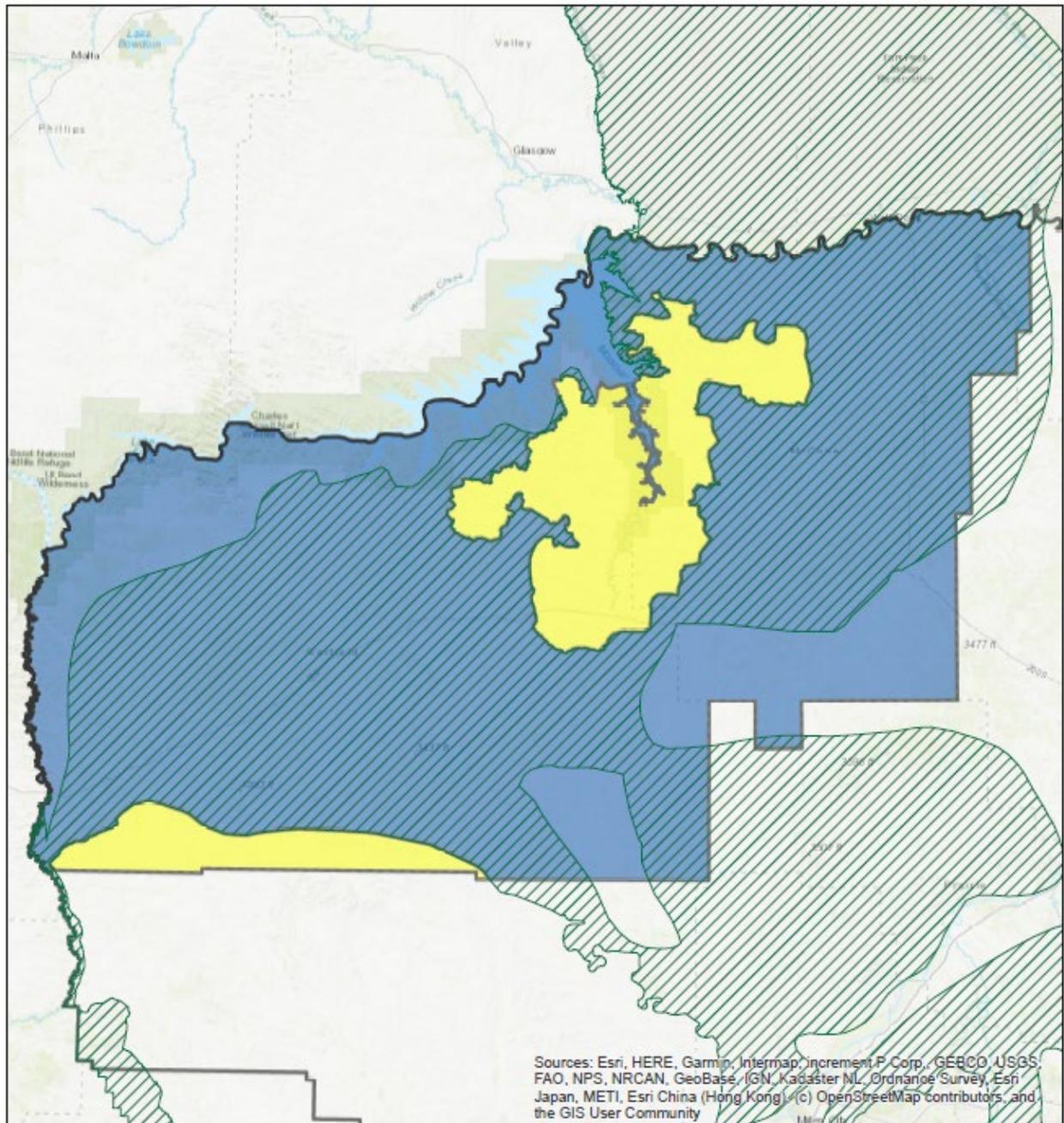
NAD 1983 Albers



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 Albers  
Projection: Albers  
Datum: North American 1983



# Jordan Response Zone



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

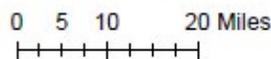
**Jordan Response Zone**

Sage Grouse General Habitat

**Response Type**

Normal Response

Core Sage Grouse



Date: 3/19/2020

United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Eastern Montana/Dakotas District

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BLM 1983-2018

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 Albers  
Projection: Albers  
Datum: North American 1983



**Fire Danger Rating Area:** North

**Response Area:** Jordan

**WildCAD Area Code:** JDN

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** General Sage Grouse habitat 80% of response area

**Primary Response Station:** Jordan BLM and Jordan CMR

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 – 23 LOW</b>	<b>24 – 37 MODERATE</b>	<b>38 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	1 Engine	1 Engine 1 Dozer – if available <i>*Consider Air Attack or Helitack if staffed</i>	2 Engine 1 Dozer – if available <b>Air Attack</b> 1 Helicopter 1 READ  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's Jumpship ICT3</i>

**Station Response Priority:**

JDN, CMR, MC, MCAIRBASE, FTH, EKA, CC, ARD, SRD

**Comments:**

If the initial fire location is on the refuge dispatch the CMR resources in addition to any pre-planned response.

**Fire Danger Rating Area:** North

**Response Area:** Jordan Sage Grouse

**WildCAD Area Code:** JDSG

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** Core habitat

**Primary Response Station:** Jordan BLM and Jordan FWS

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 – 23 LOW</b>	<b>24 – 37 MODERATE</b>	<b>38 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	1 Engine 1 READ	2 Engine 1 READ 1 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's</i>	3 Engine 2 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter 1 READ LAT or SEAT's  <i>*Advise/Standby Jumpship ICT3</i>

**Station Response Priority:**

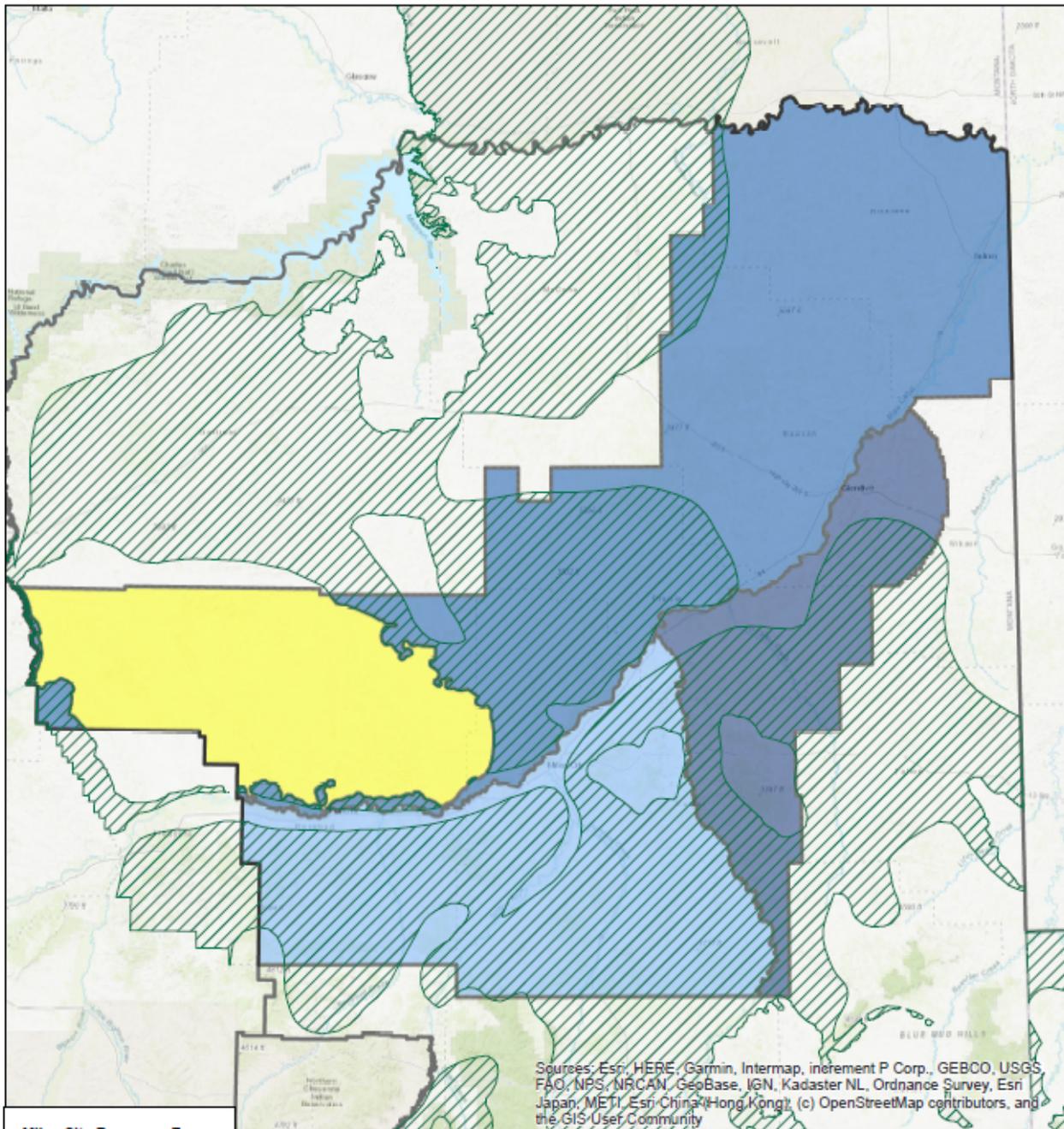
JDN, CMR, MC, MCAIRBASE, FTH, EKA, CC, ARD, SRD

**Comments:**

Response zone is core sage grouse habitat, ensure notifications are made to appropriate district staff and all resources responding are advised on initial dispatch.



# Miles City Response Zones



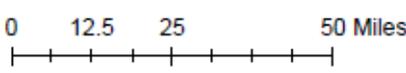
Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

**Miles City Response Zones**

Sage Grouse General Habitat

**Response Type**

- MLS Southwest Normal
- MLS Southeast Normal
- MLS North Normal
- Core Sage Grouse



United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Eastern Montana/Dakotas District



Date: 3/19/2020

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Coordinate System: NAD 1983 Albers  
Projection: Albers  
Datum: North American 1983

**Fire Danger Rating Area:** North

**Response Area:** Miles City

**WildCAD Area Code:** MLSN

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** General habitat about 50% of response area

**Primary Response Station:** Miles City BLM

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 – 23 LOW</b>	<b>24 – 37 MODERATE</b>	<b>38 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	1 Engine	1 Engine 1 Dozer – if available <i>*Consider Air Attack or Helitack if staffed</i>	2 Engine 1 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter 1 READ  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's Jumpship ICT3</i>

**Station Response Priority:**

MC, MCAIRBASE, JDN, FTH, EKA, CC, CMR, ARD, SRD

**Comments:**

**Fire Danger Rating Area:** North

**Response Area:** Miles City Sage Grouse

**WildCAD Area Code:** MCSG

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** Core Habitat

**Primary Response Station:** Miles City BLM

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 – 23 LOW</b>	<b>24 – 37 MODERATE</b>	<b>38 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	1 Engine 1 READ	2 Engine 1 READ 1 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's</i>	3 Engine 2 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter 1 READ SEAT's  <i>*Advise/Standby Jumpship ICT3</i>

**Station Response Priority:**

MC, MCAIRBASE, JDN, FTH, EKA, CC, CMR, ARD, SRD

**Comments:**

Response zone is core sage grouse habitat, ensure notifications are made to appropriate district staff and all resources responding are advised on initial dispatch.

**Fire Danger Rating Area:** South

**Response Area:** Miles City Southwest

**WildCAD Area Code:** MLSSW

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** General habitat about 90% of response area

**Primary Response Station:** Miles City BLM

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 - 21 LOW</b>	<b>22 - 33 MODERATE</b>	<b>34 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	1 Engine	1 Engine 1 Dozer – if available <i>*Consider Air Attack or Helitack if staffed</i>	2 Engine 1 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter 1 READ  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's Jumpship ICT3</i>

**Station Response Priority:**

MC, MCAIRBASE, FTH, JDN, EKA, CC, CMR, ARD, SRD

**Comments:**

**Fire Danger Rating Area:** South

**Response Area:** Miles City South East

**WildCAD Area Code:** MLSSE

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** General habitat about 80% of response area

**Primary Response Station:** Miles City BLM

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 - 21 LOW</b>	<b>22 - 33 MODERATE</b>	<b>34 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	1 Engine	1 Engine 1 Dozer – if available <i>*Consider Air Attack or Helitack if staffed</i>	2 Engine 1 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter 1 READ  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's Jumpship ICT3</i>

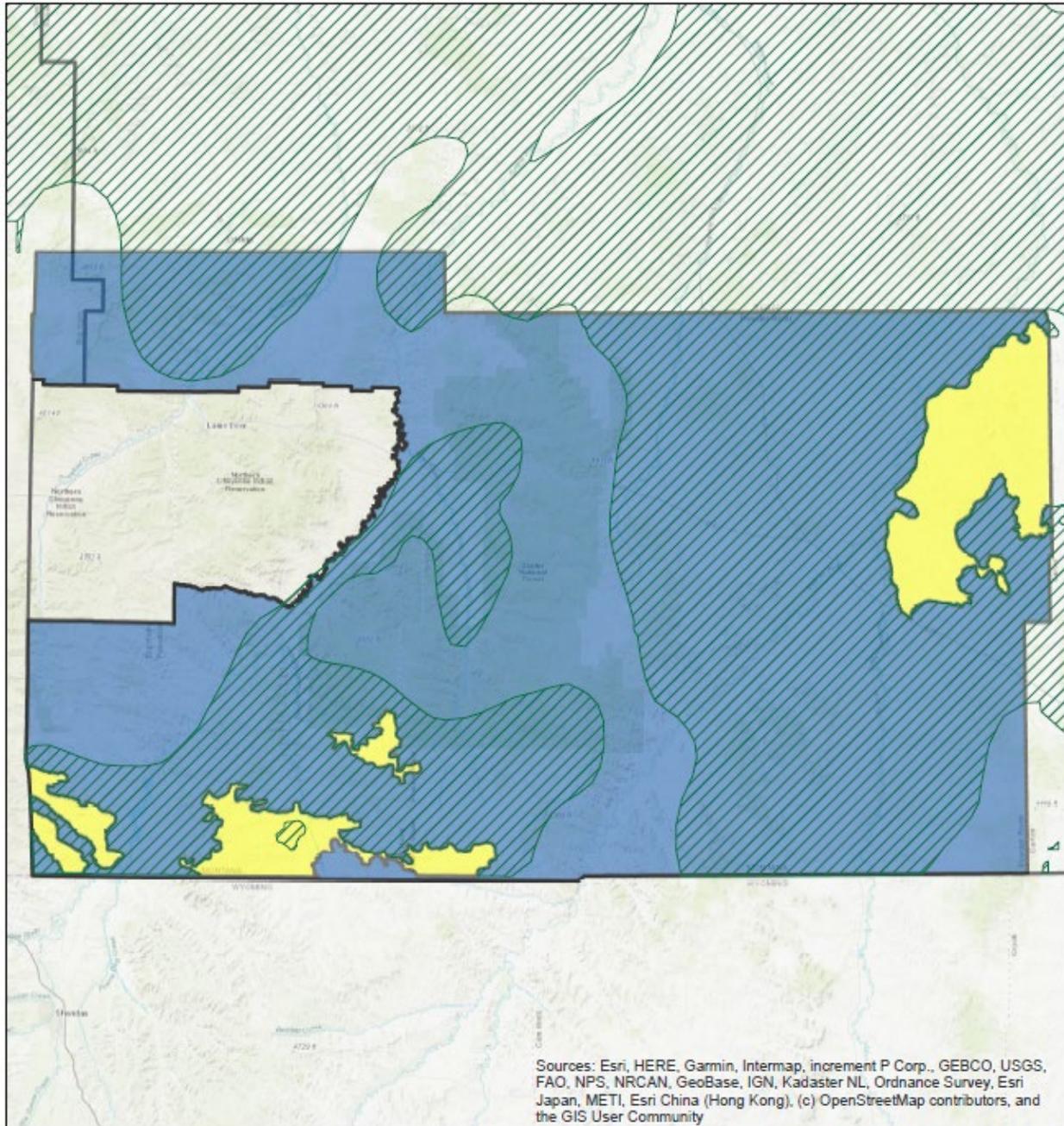
**Station Response Priority:**

MC, MCAIRBASE, EKA, CC, FTH, JDN, CMR, ARD, SRD

**Comments:**



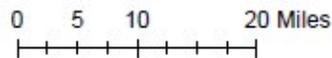
# Fort Howes Response Zone



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

**Fort Howes Response Zone**

Sage Grouse General Habitat  
**Response Type**  
 Normal Response  
 Core Sage Grouse



Date: 3/19/2020

United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Eastern Montana/Dakotas District

**CAUTION:**  
Land ownership data is derived from less accurate data than the 1:24000 scale base map. Therefore, land ownership may not be shown for parcels smaller than 40 acres, and land ownership lines may have plotting errors due to source data.  
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10/1/2013 Albers

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 Albers  
Projection: Albers  
Datum: North American 1983



**Fire Danger Rating Area:** South

**Response Area:** Fort Howes

**WildCAD Area Code:** FTH

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** General habitat about 50% of response area

**Primary Response Station:** Fort Howes BLM

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 - 21 LOW</b>	<b>22 - 33 MODERATE</b>	<b>34 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	1 Engine	1 Engine 1 Dozer – if available <i>*Consider Air Attack or Helitack if staffed</i>	2 Engine 1 Dozer – if available <b>Air Attack</b> 1 Helicopter 1 READ  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's Jumpship ICT3</i>

**Station Response Priority:**

FTH, MC, MCAIRBASE, EKA, CC, JDN, ARD, SRD, CMR

**Comments:**

**Fire Danger Rating Area:** South

**Response Area:** Fort Howes Sage Grouse      **WildCAD Area Code:** FHSG

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** Core Habitat

**Primary Response Station:** Fort Howes BLM

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 – 21 LOW</b>	<b>22 – 33 MODERATE</b>	<b>34 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	1 Engine 1 READ	2 Engine 1 READ 1 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's</i>	3 Engine 2 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter 1 READ LAT or SEAT's  <i>*Advise/Standby Jumpship ICT3</i>

**Station Response Priority:**

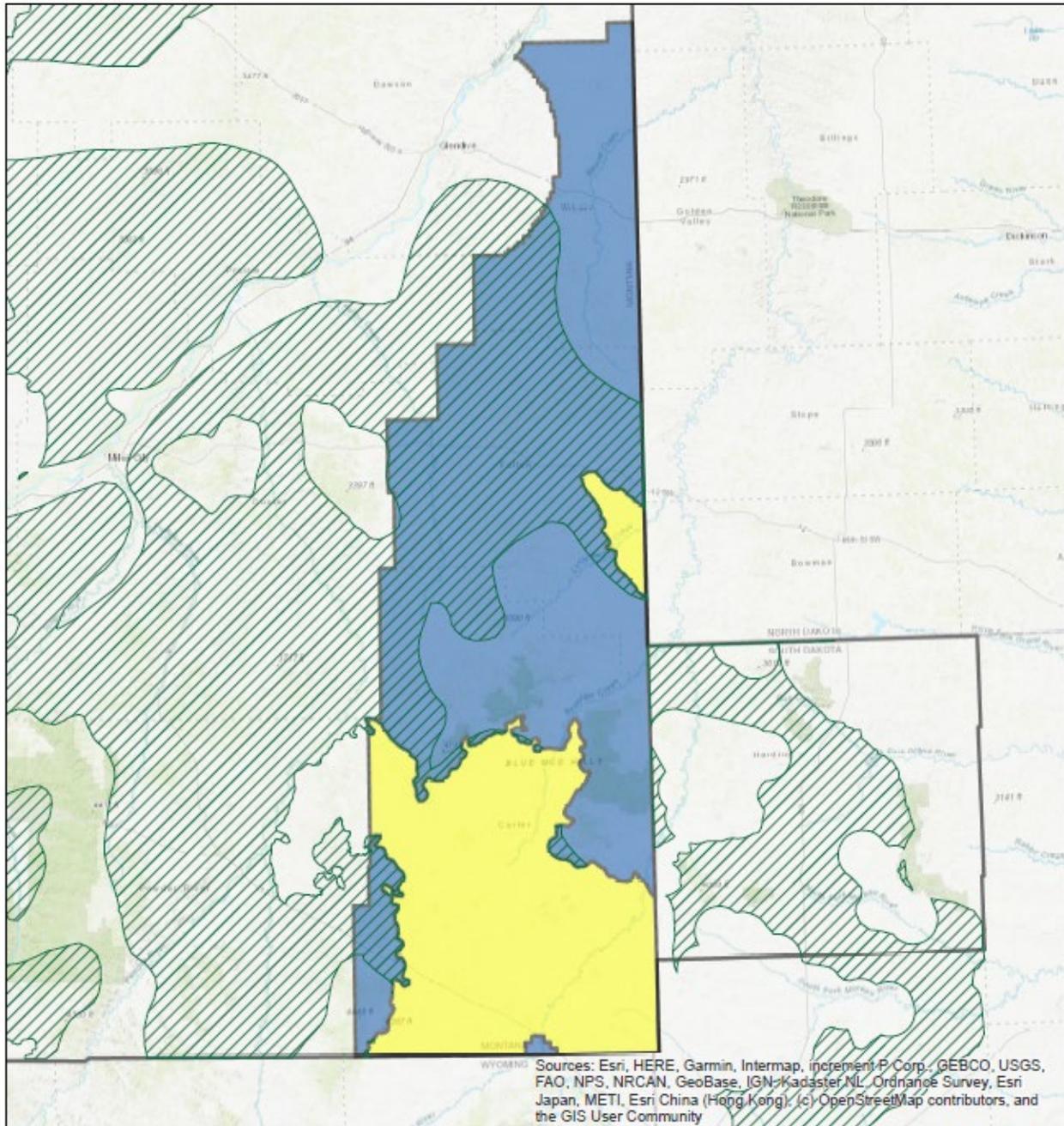
FTH, MC, MCAIRBASE, EKA, CC, JDN, ARD, SRD, CMR

**Comments:**

Response zone is core sage grouse habitat, ensure notifications are made to appropriate district staff and all resources responding are advised on initial dispatch.



# Ekalaka Response Zone



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

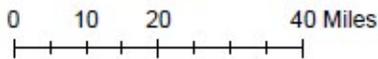
**Ekalaka Response Zone**

Sage Grouse General Habitat

**Response Type**

Normal Response

Core Sage Grouse



United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Eastern Montana/Dakotas District



Date: 3/19/2020

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Coordinate System: NAD 1983 Albers  
Projection: Albers  
Datum: North American 1983

**Fire Danger Rating Area:** South

**Response Area:** Ekalaka

**WildCAD Area Code:** EKA

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** General habitat about 50% of response area

**Primary Response Station:** Ekalaka and Camp Crook BLM

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 – 21 LOW</b>	<b>22 – 33 MODERATE</b>	<b>34 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	1 Engine	1 Engine 1 Dozer – if available <i>*Consider Air Attack or Helitack if staffed</i>	2 Engine 1 Dozer – if available <b>Air Attack</b> 1 Helicopter 1 READ  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's Jumpship ICT3</i>

**Station Response Priority:**

EKA, CC, SRD, MC, MCAIRBASE, FTH, JDN, CMR

**Comments:**

Ekalaka and Camp Crook Response zones are treated as one zone with Ekalaka or Camp Crook station as primary response.

**Fire Danger Rating Area:** South

**Response Area:** Ekalaka Sage Grouse

**WildCAD Area Code:** EKSG

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** Core Habitat

**Primary Response Station:** Ekalaka and Camp Crook BLM

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 – 21 LOW</b>	<b>22 – 33 MODERATE</b>	<b>34 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	1 Engine 1 READ	2 Engine 1 READ 1 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's</i>	3 Engine 2 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter 1 READ LAT or SEAT  <i>*Advise/Standby Jumpship ICT3</i>

**Station Response Priority:**

EKA, CC, SRD, MC, MCAIRBASE, FTH, JDN, CMR

**Comments:**

Ekalaka and Camp Crook Response zones are treated as one zone with Ekalaka or Camp Crook station as primary response.

Response zone is core sage grouse habitat, ensure notifications are made to appropriate district staff and all resources responding are advised on initial dispatch.



**Fire Danger Rating Area:** South

**Response Area:** Camp Crook

**WildCAD Area Code:** CC

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** General habitat about 50% of response area

**Primary Response Station:** Camp Crook and Ekalaka BLM

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 – 21 LOW</b>	<b>22 – 33 MODERATE</b>	<b>34 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	1 Engine	1 Engine 1 Dozer – if available <i>*Consider Air Attack or Helitack if staffed</i>	2 Engine 1 Dozer – if available <b>Air Attack</b> 1 Helicopter 1 READ  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's Jumpship ICT3</i>

**Station Response Priority:**

CC, EKA, SRD, MC, MCAIRBASE, FTH, JDN, CMR

**Comments:**

Ekalaka and Camp Crook Response zones are treated as one zone with Ekalaka or Camp Crook station as primary response.

Response area includes parts of North and South Dakota that are outside of the Miles City Interagency Dispatch Center boundaries but are the responsibility of the Eastern Montana and Dakotas BLM.

**Fire Danger Rating Area:** South

**Response Area:** Camp Crook

**WildCAD Area Code:** CCSG

**Sage Grouse Habitat:** Core Habitat

**Primary Response Station:** Camp Crook and Ekalaka BLM

**Response Matrix:**

<b>BI Range/Response Level →</b>	<b>0 – 21 LOW</b>	<b>22 – 33 MODERATE</b>	<b>34 + HIGH</b>
<b>Resources</b>	<b>1 Engine 1 READ</b>	<b>2 Engine 1 READ 1 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter  <i>*Advise/Standby SEAT's</i></b>	<b>3 Engine 2 Dozer – if available Air Attack 1 Helicopter 1 READ LAT or SEAT  <i>*Advise/Standby Jumpship ICT3</i></b>

**Station Response Priority:**

CC, EKA, SRD, MC, MCAIRBASE, FTH, JDN, CMR

**Comments:**

Ekalaka and Camp Crook Response zones are treated as one zone with Ekalaka or Camp Crook station as primary response.

Response area includes parts of North and South Dakota that are outside of the Miles City Interagency Dispatch Center boundaries but are the responsibility of the Eastern Montana and Dakotas BLM.

Response zone is core sage grouse habitat, ensure notifications are made to appropriate district staff and all resources responding are advised on initial dispatch.