

## Chapter 70 - Incidents

### Incident Record Creation

Local dispatch centers are the focal point for the report of, and initial response to wildland fires, and under appropriate authorities, other emergency incidents at the local level. Dispatch centers have the responsibility and authority to create incidents, process requests, coordinate response, and track resources and information under the delegation of the benefiting agency(s). The acceptable business practice is one ignition, one record, one authoritative data source, one centralized ordering point per incident.

Local Dispatch Centers have the primary responsibility for incident creation within an integrated system.

Incidents will be created by the dispatch center with delegated authority for the benefiting agency(s) and associated Protecting Unit based on the point of origin (POO) of the incident.

### **Potential Conflicts/Duplicate Records**

Potential conflicting incidents in IRWIN are identified when they plot less than a half mile from each other, the discovery time is within 6 hours, AND are either reported by different a Dispatch Center or different application. When two Duplicate incidents are entered and these criteria are met, the first incident in, will be in Potential Conflict and the second incident will be in Potential Conflict and Quarantine in IRWIN. Users need to determine which incident is the correct incident.

When Center(s)/Users are aware of duplicate records within the system, they need to work in coordination with each other to determine which incident is correct following recommended business practices. See Initial Attack Dispatching within Chapter 19 in the [Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations | National Interagency Fire Center \(nifc.gov\)](#) or [Chapter 70 National Interagency Mobilization Guide \(nifc.gov\)](#) for additional direction.

Multiple Event/records will not be created when an incident burns onto or crosses jurisdictional boundaries. When duplicate records are inadvertently created, every effort will be made to rectify by aligning incident and resource data associated with multiple records to the correct record.

In some cases, an exception may be made to create an additional non-Wildfire event record. These cases very are limited and will require close coordination with the GACC Duty Chief (Federal), Duty Officer (State), as well as State and Regional Incident Business Leads/CIBC.

### **Notify the GACC when the following applies:**

- Changes/corrections are made to initial Point-of-Origin (POO)
- Changes/corrections in Unified Ordering Point (UOP)
- Entering/exiting Unified Command
- Entering/exiting Cost Share
- Incident transitions back to local unit
- Incident complexing/merges or splits

**Unprotected Lands**

Unprotected Lands are defined as areas for which no fire organization has responsibility for management of a wildfire authorized by law, contract, or personal interest of the fire organization (e.g., a timber or rangeland association).

In the event a Protecting Unit has not been determined for the POO, i.e., Unprotected Lands, there are two acceptable rationales for incident creation.

1. The responding organization determines threat to protected lands
2. The responding organization determines incident has already burned onto protected lands.

In this circumstance, fire management direction/Duty Officer will determine if either criterion is met resulting in incident creation and associated response. In this instance, the responding organization assumes responsibility for the incident and their respective Unit ID will be used for Protecting Unit.

**Cost Coding****Interagency Fire and Severity Activities**

The five (5) Federal agencies with Wildland Fire Management funds (BLM, BIA, NPS, FWS, and USFS) have an Interagency Agreement for Wildfire Management which provides a basis for cooperation on all aspects of wildfire activities. Included in this agreement is the direction to NOT bill for services rendered for emergency fire suppression, including severity activities.

Regardless of benefitting jurisdiction, GACCs can preposition resources using their assigned support FireCode in advance of predicted significant wildland fire potential; to meet ongoing fire activity needs when the resource assignment is not yet known; or for resources supporting multiple incidents.

For Severity, the BLM, FWS, NPS and BIA will use a four-digit interagency FireCode to track and compile costs for all severity activities; the ordering office must include the word “severity” within the resource order incident name. These DOI agencies will use FireCode D0YY when supporting FS severity activities. Information on the interagency FireCode can be found at

[Microsoft Word - FireCode UserGuide 2018Jun20.doc](#)

**Guidance for Use of Incident Job Codes**

The following direction and procedures will be used to establish and charge to wildfire, severity, support and non-fire incident job codes:

[Use of Incident Job Codes for Fiscal Year 2023 \(usda.gov\)](#)

**Federal:** For questions regarding the use of incident job codes, contact your Agency’s Incident Business Lead.