

BIGHORN NATIONAL FOREST

DRAW DOWN MATRIX/PLANNING LEVELS

Draw down of fire resources during the normal fire season will leave the following organization on the Forest by retaining resources or by replacing absent resources.

Bighorn NF Resource Draw Down Matrix Guide by Planning Level

Resource	I	II	III	IV	V
IA Resource	2	3	4	5	6
Duty Officer	3	3	3	3	3
FMOs	2*	2*	3*	4*	4**

- Exceptions on a case-by-case basis to accommodate critical training needs, IMT assignments, etc.
- Consideration of which resources to retain on the Forest must address ability for timely Initial Attack response.
- These minimums serve only as a guide. Circumstances may warrant deviation from these guidelines. Other factors that must be considered are long range weather forecasts and trends, additional human risk due to holidays or other periods of heavy visitation, etc.
- Minimum IA Resource to include ICT5 plus one FFT2, and are generally viewed as one of the Forest's IA crews (engine or squad) or militia/severity fill-in.
- Duty Officer responsibilities can be covered by an FMO (including Forest FMO). A Duty Officer will be designated for each District (thus 3 total) on a daily/weekly basis. A Duty Officer may cover more than one District depending on fire activity.

* To include either the Forest FMO or Resource Staff Officer for large fire support.

** To include both the Forest FMO and the Resource Staff Officer for large fire support.

Bighorn NF Planning Level/Fire Danger Protocol and Definitions:

Planning level and fire danger rating will be set for the Forest by the Forest FMO or acting considering the following definitions and the fire danger indices posted in WIMS (refer to CDC website – DIDX Observations). Planning levels will be verified on at least a weekly basis by the Forest FMO and communicated to the Duty Officers. Duty Officers will indicate the planning level on the Daily Resource Status summary that is updated on CDC website daily. Fire Danger indices will be similarly set and verified for the Forest by the Forest FMO weekly, and communicated to the Duty Officers, and posted via the Smokey signs on the Forest (5 total) and the Forest's website.

Planning Level	Definition
I	No large fire activity on Forest or adjacent lands. Districts have low to moderate large fire probability and/or danger. Little or no commitment of Forest resources locally or nationally.
II	One or more Districts experiencing moderate to high fire danger. Class A and B fires occurring and a potential exists for escapes to larger (project) fires. Resources on the Forest and local cooperators are handling the situation. The potential exists for requesting additional resources from CDC zone.
III	Two or more Districts and/or cooperators experiencing incidents requiring a major commitment of Forest and local cooperators resources. Additional resources are being requested and mobilized through CDC. Potential for fires becoming Class C or larger. Fire danger indices are high to very high at most of the weather stations.
IV	One or more Districts experiencing incidents requiring Type 1 or 2 IMTs. Potential for numerous incidents exist and/or numerous other incidents being reported or are in progress draining local resources. Mobilization for resources from CDC in progress. Fire danger indices are high to extreme on the Forest. A majority of the local reinforcement resources may also be committed to regional and national responses.
V	Most resources are committed on Forest and from local cooperators to multiple incidents and/or major incidents. Majority of requested resources will take more than 24 hours to fill. Fire danger indices are very high to extreme. A majority of the local reinforcement resources may also be committed to regional and national responses.

This drawdown matrix/planning guide was updated in 7/2009 by J.Warder and all FMOs in response to the new fire organization approved for the Bighorn NF by the FLT, as modified by the vacancy of the Forest AFMO position to be left vacant.