

2015 GRAND COUNTY ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN

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PREAMBLE

This Annual Operating Plan (AOP) is prepared pursuant to the Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (Statewide Agreement) for the State of Colorado signed and dated June 1, 2011 and as amended in 2013, and the 2015 Statewide Annual Fire Operating Plan.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this wildland Annual Operating Plan is to set forth standard operating procedures, agreed upon procedures, and responsibilities to implement cooperative wildland protection on all lands within Grand County.

Participants in this AOP consist of the following:

- Grand County Sheriff, on behalf of the County and FPDs
- Grand County Board of County Commissioners
- Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest (USFS)
- Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest (USFS)
- Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit (BLM)
- Kremmling Field Office (BLM)
- Rocky Mountain National Park (NPS)
- Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC)
-

All participants of this plan agree to coordinate wildland fire management activities as outlined herein.

AUTHORITIES

- Colorado Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement Between:
 - United States Department of the Interior
 - Bureau of Land Management – Colorado Agreement Number BLM-MOU-CO-538
 - National Park Service – Intermountain Region Agreement Number F1249110016
 - Bureau of Indian Affairs – Southwest Region
 - United States Fish and Wildlife Service – Mountain Prairie Region
 - United States Department of Agriculture
 - Forest Service – Rocky Mountain Region Agreement Number 11-FI-11020000-017
- Grand County Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund, CSFS #108
- Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Grand County, CSFS #109

RECITALS

National Response Framework activities will be accomplished utilizing established dispatch coordination concepts. Situation and damage assessments information will be transmitted through established fire suppression intelligence channels.

Jurisdictional Agencies are responsible for all planning documents i.e. land use, resource and fire management plans and decision support documents, for a unit's wildland fire and fuels management program.

Protecting Agencies implement fire management actions according to Jurisdictional Agencies' policies and applicable decision support tools.

INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

Jurisdictional Roles

Federal Agency Responsibility

The United States Forest Service, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Land Management are responsible for all management activities on their respective lands. For this agreement, the primary role of these agencies is wildland fire management, where the protection of human life is the overriding priority. Setting subsequent priorities will be based on human health and safety, values to be protected, and cost of protection. These federal agencies will serve in a support role during structural fire protection operations and may assist in exterior structure protection measures where wildland fire threatens improvements or where structure fires threaten wildland natural resources.

Fire Chief and Fire Protection District Responsibility

The Chief of the Fire Protection District/Department in the state is responsible for the management of wildland fires that occur within the boundaries of his or her district and that are within the capability of the Fire District to control or extinguish in accordance with the provisions of section 32-1-1002 (3) (a), C.R.S.

The Fire Chief/Fire Protection District may utilize mutual aid agreements and unified command with neighboring Fire Protection Districts to suppress and control fires.

The Fire Chief/Fire Protection District may transfer any duty or responsibility the Fire Chief may assume under this section to the County Sheriff with the concurrence of the Sheriff.

The Fire Chief/Fire Protection District shall not seek reimbursement from the County or Federal Agency for expenses incurred by the District for their own apparatus, equipment and personnel used in containing or suppressing a wildland fire occurring on private property within the boundaries of the District, unless negotiated and documented in a cost share agreement.

Sheriff Responsibility

The Sheriff is the Fire Warden of the County and is responsible for the planning for, and the coordination of, efforts to suppress wildland fires occurring in the unincorporated area of the county outside the boundaries of a Fire Protection District or that exceed the capabilities of a Fire Protection District to control or extinguish in accordance with the provisions of section 30-10-513, C.R.S. In the case of a wildland fire that exceeds the capabilities of the Fire Protection District to control or extinguish and that requires mutual aid and outside resources, the Sheriff shall direct that a unified command be established to provide the command and management required to manage the fire. Upon the transfer of fire management from the Fire District to the Sheriff, the Sheriff shall upon said transfer assume financial responsibility for firefighting efforts on behalf of the County and the authority for the ordering and monitoring of resources.

In the case of a wildland fire occurring within the boundaries of one or more Fire Protection Districts and that does not exceed the capabilities of the Fire Protection District to control or extinguish, the Sheriff may assist the Chief of the Fire Protection District in controlling or extinguishing such fires, and, in connection with such assistance, persons as the Sheriff and the Fire Chief deem necessary. The Sheriff may assume command of such incidents with the concurrence of the Fire Chief.

In the case of a wildland fire that exceeds the capability of the County to control or extinguish, the Sheriff shall be responsible for seeking the assistance of the State, by requesting assistance from the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control. The Sheriff and the DFPC Director or designee shall enter into an agreement concerning the transfer of authority and responsibility for fire suppression and the retention of responsibilities under a unified command structure.

Resolution of Disputes

The primary purpose of this operating plan is to ensure appropriate management of wildland fire. Any interagency dispute arising from these procedures will be resolved on site by the local Unified Command. When necessary, following the conclusion of the fire incident, a panel of agency representatives other than the participants in the incident will review and resolve the dispute.

Interagency Dispatch Centers

Initial Attack Dispatch

Grand County Communications Center in Hot Sulphur Springs will act as dispatch for County and Fire Protection District initial attack response.

Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (FTC) is responsible for dispatching the Initial Attack Resources of Rocky Mountain National Park and Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forest resources.

Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC) is responsible for dispatching the Initial Attack

Resources from the BLM, Routt National Forest and DFPC NW Region.

The agency that can take the quickest, most effective suppression action will be dispatched for initial attack. Any Dispatch Center that receives the initial report will also notify the appropriate dispatch centers defined in the Operations Section (Fire Notifications). The jurisdictional agency will assume command of the incident at the earliest possible time.

In the event of a wildland fire burning on lands of two or more jurisdictional agencies that are normally not dispatched by the same dispatch center, Grand County Communications Center, CRC, and FTC will, in consultation with jurisdictional representatives, coordinate and determine which center will handle the dispatching of that particular incident.

Extended Attack and Resource Order Process

Once the incident commander (IC) has determined need for additional resources beyond the scope of county resources, those resources will be ordered through the appropriate Dispatch Center.

The Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement between all Grand County Fire Protection Districts allows resources to be dispatched anywhere in the county, at the request of a Fire Protection District representative acting as incident commander.

Grand County OEM has access to additional resources, therefore, coordination between Grand County OEM and the incident commander is recommended to avoid duplication of resources ordered.

Interagency Resources

Resources available locally for wildland fire suppression or support are listed by agency or department in **EXHIBIT B**.

Standards

Incident Command System Use

The Incident Command System (ICS) will be utilized on all wildland fires. ICS is a standardized method of managing emergency incidents. It is based on:

- Common organizational structure
- Common terminology
- Common operating procedures
- Known qualifications of emergency personnel

ICS does not infringe on the responsibilities or authority given to each agency by statute. If a transfer of authority is necessary as conditions change, ICS eases the transition since organizational structure and lines of authority are clearly identified.

Qualifications and PPE

All fireline personnel at the incident, from initial attack through mutual aid and during extended attack, must be equipped with personal protective equipment that meets standards identified in the Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations-NFES 2724 (Red Book), Chapter 7 (hardhat, eye protection, Nomex shirt and trousers, leather gloves, minimum eight (8) inch high leather boots with lug soles, and a fire shelter).

During the mutual period, if responders are not NWCG qualified for the position assigned, the agency's home unit assumes responsibility for these individuals. All personnel involved in extended attack actions on National Forest lands, BLM-administered lands, and National Park Service lands shall possess some form of documentation of NWCG qualifications (local records, incident qualification card or red card) issued by their host or employing Agency, Fire Protection District or Department, and shall meet the minimum standards set forth in the most current version of NWCG PMS 310-1, *Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System Guide*. Firefighters without qualification documentation will be released by the jurisdictional agency.

Inspection Schedules

All equipment subject to interagency dispatch will be inspected annually by the owning agency to ensure typing and road worthiness.

PREPAREDNESS

Protection Planning

The primary purpose of this AOP is to set agreed upon measures for wildland prevention, readiness, and suppression.

Protection Areas and Boundaries

Appropriate agency maps will be used to show jurisdictional boundaries for the purpose of this plan. A Fire Protection District boundary map is included in **EXHIBIT A**.

Reciprocal (Mutual Aid) Fire Assistance

The mutual aid zone includes all lands within Grand County. Within the mutual aid zone an assisting agency will, upon request or voluntarily, take initial attack action in support of the jurisdictional agency.

The jurisdictional agency will not be required to reimburse the assisting agency for costs incurred during the mutual aid period.

The mutual aid time period is as follows:

- Not to exceed twenty-four (24) hours but may be extended by mutual agreement

- May end at midnight of the first burn period when the incident commander determines that the fire cannot be controlled within twenty-four (24) hours of the original ignition
- May end earlier by mutual agreement

It is agreed there should be no delay in initial attack pending determination of the precise location of the fire, land ownership, or responsibility. All County and Fire Protection District resources are considered mutual aid. All state resources are considered mutual aid with the exception of DFPC SEATs and State inmate crews. Any federal resource positioned within the Craig Dispatch or Fort Collins Dispatch area, including severity resources, are considered mutual aid, with the exception of air tankers, lead planes, Type 1 helicopters and smokejumpers. The BLM Type 3 helicopter stationed in Rifle is also considered a mutual aid resource, and if not assigned to another fire, is available without charge to county fire agencies for the mutual aid period.

No agency will be required or expected to commit resources to assist another agency to the extent of jeopardizing its own responsibilities, or the security of lands it is charged with protecting.

Move-up and cover facilities have not been predetermined; however, the mechanism is in place for Fire Protection Districts to cover each other through the Grand County Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement.

Acquisition of Services

N/A

Joint Projects and Project Plans

Grand County developed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan in 2006 to prioritize and guide fire hazard mitigation efforts through fuels reduction. Localized (Fire District) CWPPs have also been prepared and are guiding community protection efforts on the local level.

The Grand County Wildfire Council, consisting of federal, state and local fire agency professionals, local government officials, businesses, conservation districts, homeowner associations, and citizen stakeholders, was established in 2013 with the following objectives:

- To prioritize, coordinate and guide fire hazard mitigation efforts through fuels reduction projects identified in the Grand County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and in localized (Fire District) CWPPs.
- To voice the concerns of the residents and property owners with regard the prioritization of mitigation actions; to be a clearinghouse for issues
- To assist with grant applications and awards and to pool resources and funds if applicable
- To provide public education and community outreach efforts regarding wildfire prevention, preparedness and survival

Online information about the community-based Grand County Wildfire Council is available at www.BeWildfireReady.org and includes links to NFPA's Firewise Communities USA, Fire Adapted Communities Coalition and Ready, Set, GO! Wildland Fire tools and resources.

Fire Prevention

Information and Education

1) Fire Danger

a) Fire Weather Station Locations

- i) Grand County will use four different RAWS stations for fire weather and fuels information. Data can be obtained through links on FTC or CRC websites.

- (1) Harbison Meadow RAWS id HRBC2 is located near the Kawuneeche Visitors' Center. Representative of lodgepole pine in east Grand County.
- (2) Keyser Creek RAWS is located in the William Fork watershed, 12 miles west of Fraser. Representative of high-elevation beetle-killed lodgepole pine.
- (3) Gunsight Pass RAWS #50404 is located about 11 miles north of Kremmling. Representative of the sagebrush fuel type in Grand County.
- (4) Dry Gulch RAWS #50407 is located on the Eagle/Grand County line near the Lower Colorado River. Representative of the piñon/juniper fuel type in western Grand County

b) Data Sharing and Methods

- i) Weather forecasts, RAWS links and pertinent FTC-Zone information are posted at: http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2ftc/. Resource status is also posted on the website, managed and updated by participating Agencies and Cooperators. To obtain access, call FTC @ 970-295-6800.
- ii) During fire season, FTC holds a conference call every other Tuesday at 1000 for Preparedness Levels 1, 2 and every Tuesday at 1000 hours for Preparedness Levels 3, 4, 5. To participate, call 888-844-9904, pass code 6600742#.
- iii) During fire season, CRC prepares a daily briefing that includes weather forecasts, resource status, via Web Status and incident status. This information is available by 1000 hours at: http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2crc/
- iv) During fire season, CRC holds a daily conference call briefing at 1015 daily or earlier if fire activity warrants. To participate, call in at 1-877-428-9134, passcode 170902.

c) Fire Danger Dissemination

Daily at 1630, FTC broadcasts the fire danger rating with weather forecast and predicted fire danger rating for the next day. These broadcasts will be on the Arapaho – Roosevelt

National Forest radio net. CRC will broadcast the fire weather forecast between 1600-1630 daily during fire season. Morning weather and fire danger will be available at Daily Briefing or on the CRC web page.

d) Fire Prevention Signs

FTC-Zone wide Fire Danger ratings are posted on the FTC web site:

http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2ftc/

Specific indices are also posted for the Harbison RAWS station (representative of the lodgepole pine fuels in Grand County).

The Sulphur Ranger District will notify East Grand, Grand Lake, and Kremmling FPDs of changes in fire danger so that signs may be kept current. Fire Danger Ratings will be provided that are representative to the location in which the sign resides.

CRC-Zone wide Fire Danger ratings are posted on the CRC web site:

http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2crc/

2) Joint or Single Agency Press Releases

Each agency will prepare and release fire prevention material and media presentations according to its own prevention plans. During a wildland fire, a Joint Information Center (JIC) may be maintained in order to prevent a conflict in released material. When pertinent, all news releases for fire prevention will carry USFS, DFPC, NPS, BLM, Fire District or County Sheriff bylines.

3) Red Flag Announcements

The National Weather Service periodically issues "FIRE WEATHER WATCH" and "RED FLAG WARNING" bulletins. When these bulletins are announced, CRC will notify Grand County Communications Center via FAX or electronic notification, and the DFPC FMO via phone or text. Grand County Communications Center will page Fire Protection Districts for "RED FLAG WARNING" bulletins only. CRC broadcasts these bulletins on Routt NF and BLM radio frequencies and FTC broadcasts these bulletins over Arapaho - Roosevelt NF radio frequencies.

Public Use Restrictions

When possible, restrictions and closures should be coordinated among all cooperators with unified restrictions and associated public information distributed accordingly.

All parties to this agreement should be advised of any restrictions and bans on any lands covered by this agreement.

Decisions about open burning restrictions can be made by the county sheriff, federal land management agencies, and the Governor's office. When contemplating placing restrictions on open burning or lifting restrictions, agencies will advise cooperators of the situation and consider coordinating their actions. The agencies issuing restrictions shall jointly prepare and promptly distribute media releases explaining the restrictions.

Fire restrictions are discussed among the Cooperating Agencies each Tuesday on the FTC-Zone conference call during fire season. Fire restriction criteria from the Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit and Routt National Forest and surrounding counties will be used to assist in determining the need for burning restrictions and closures.

The Harbison or Keyser Creek RAWS will be used for the lodgepole pine type, the Gunsight RAWS will be used for the sagebrush type, and the Dry Gulch RAWS will be used of the piñon/juniper fuel type.

The Arapaho Roosevelt NF and Rocky Mountain NP use the FTC-Zone Fire Restriction and Fire Ban Criteria to determine the need for action. FTC-Zone Fire Restriction and Fire Ban Criteria are found in **EXHIBIT E**.

The Sheriff will be responsible for enforcement of burning restrictions and closures on all non-federal lands, and may assist on other lands at the request of the appropriate agency.

Burning Permits

An open burning permit is required by Grand County for prescribed fires on private land. Agencies conducting prescribed fires on other lands will follow the jurisdictional agency's policy and procedures and notify the Grand County Department of Natural Resources at (970) 887-0745. Such notification should include the location, timing, and nature of prescribed burns.

Prescribed Fire (Planned Ignitions) and Fuels Management

Wildland fire resulting from escaped prescribed fires ignited by a party to this Agreement, shall be the responsibility of that party. The party responsible for the prescribed fire will reimburse other parties to this plan consistent with the terms and conditions contained herein for costs incurred in suppression of such wildland fire.

If parties to this agreement conduct a cooperative prescribed fire, details covering cost sharing, reimbursement, and responsibility for suppression costs, should it escape, shall be agreed upon and documented in the burn plan.

Smoke Management

N/A

OPERATIONS

Fire Notifications

- The responsible jurisdiction must be notified of wildland fire on or threatening its lands as soon as possible. **Notification of the jurisdictional agency will be made by the Dispatch Center handling the initial attack fire forces.**
- Grand County Communications Center should be notified of all wildland fires in Grand County.
- DFPC must be notified when 1) non-federal wildland fire escapes initial attack, or 2) threatens structures, or 3) air resources are ordered for non-federal suppression efforts.
- When a wildfire occurs on lands owned by Denver Water, Denver Water must be notified, as soon as practical, through their emergency services number: 303-628-6801.
- The initial attack incident commander should size up the wildland fire utilizing the Incident Response Pocket Guide, Northern Colorado Incident Organizer, or CRC IA size-up card, and communicate size up information to the applicable dispatch center.

Boundary Line Fires

A fire burning on or adjacent to a known or questionable protection boundary will be the initial attack responsibility of the protection agencies on either side of the boundary.

Fires occurring in areas where structures are located near and in areas of multiple jurisdictions can cause significant safety as well as financial concerns. The agencies agree that the public and firefighter safety are the first priority.

Response to Wildland Fire

Special Management Considerations

Denver Water Board Lands

- Notification - When a wildfire occurs on lands owned by Denver Water, Denver Water must be notified, as soon as practical through their emergency services number: 303-628-6801.
- Use of Mechanized Equipment – A reasonable effort will be made to notify Denver Water of the use of mechanized, earthmoving equipment such as bulldozers, graders, etc., on Denver Water lands.
- Aerial Retardant Use - The use of aerial retardants on Denver Water lands is restricted within 300 feet of lakes, rivers and live streams.

Federal Lands

- Suppression within designated Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, and/or "roadless"

areas, will not be conducted without direct involvement from the jurisdictional agency Fire Duty Officer. Travel within Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP) is restricted to designated roads.

- The Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit has a Fire Management Plan. This plan is reviewed and updated annually and outlines appropriate management responses for all ignitions occurring on lands administered by the BLM within Grand County. All agencies involved in fire management shall adhere to direction and operational procedures outlined in the plan. A current version of the Fire Management plan can be obtained via the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC) website:

http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2crc/predictive/fuels_fire_danger/fuels_fire_danger.htm

- Lightning ignited fires on the Arapaho Roosevelt National Forest (ARF), the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests (MBR), and RMNP may be managed for multiple objectives. This may include a broad spectrum of tactics (which range from aggressive suppression to back-firing or simply monitoring), commensurate with current and predicted risk, values to be protected and land management objectives. These tactics may be employed in the extensive beetle-killed timber stands where fire behavior and stand conditions could compromise human life using direct control efforts.
- These tactics may be employed under Resource Benefit Objectives within the Ptarmigan Peak, Byers Peak, Vasquez Peak, Indian Peaks, Knight Ridge (adjacent to Indian Peaks) and Never Summer Wilderness Areas. Conditions under which Resource Benefit Objectives are used are well defined and tightly constrained, and the decision will be made by the Sulphur District Ranger on the ARF, the Yampa and Parks Ranger District of the MBR, and the Park Superintendent or acting, within RMNP.
- Use of mechanized equipment, such as bulldozers, will not be permitted on federal lands without the expressed approval of the appropriate federal official. For RMNP, approval must come from the Park Superintendent.
- Aerial Retardant Use - Aerial application of fire retardant will be restricted within 300 feet distance of all lakes or waterways (containing water) on Federal jurisdiction lands. Retardant is further restricted within 600 feet of designated waterways that have critical habitat for Greenback Cutthroat Trout. When a fire is on ARNF or RMNP lands, FTC Dispatch will advise if it is located within a Greenback Cutthroat Trout retardant exclusion area. When a fire is on BLM lands, CRC will advise if it is located within a Greenback Cutthroat Trout retardant exclusion area. In RMNP, the FDO must confirm approval for the use of retardant in the National Park.
- Use of roads on federal lands presently closed to vehicular travel (outside of wilderness areas and wilderness study areas) is hereby authorized to all parties to this AOP when said parties are on a wildland detection, prevention, or suppression mission.

- Wildland Fires within the Fraser Experimental Forest will be managed by the ARF, and a representative of the Experimental Forest should also be notified as soon as possible.

Fire Operations in Beetle Kill Stands

Due to altered fuel conditions, personnel operating within the bark beetle environment should be aware of the imminent danger presented by dead and dying trees, falling at an increasing rate across a broad forested landscape. Included in **EXHIBIT C** is the *USFS-R2 Fire Operations Guidance in Bark Beetle Stands*.

Rehabilitation of Wildland Suppression Damage

Repair of impacts caused by suppression actions is normally conducted during suppression operations and is covered by a cost-share agreement, if one is in place.

Rehabilitation of natural resources impacted by fire effects is the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency. Rehabilitation of the fire area is not covered under EFF; it may be authorized by the DFPC Agency Administrator only when part of the Incident Action Plan during the EFF period.

Decision Process

Federal Agencies are required to complete an appropriate decision support tool for all wildland fire to support the appropriate response. This is done via the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS). This procedure requires Federal Agency Administrator participation. All Agencies involved in initial attack should assist in the completion of the decision support tool.

A Decision Support System (DSS) may be completed for fires that have the potential to be designated as an EFF fire or affect multiple jurisdictions and have the potential to go into extended attack. DFPC may assist with a non-EFF DSS, but has no authority to sign on non-EFF fires.

DFPC requires that a DSS be completed for all fires that receive a FEMA declaration and recommends a DSS is completed for all EFF fires. All agencies involved in extended attack on private and state lands will provide input to the DSS. The DFPC Agency Administrator will facilitate completion and review of the DSS for these fires. When a fire is burning on or threatens to burn on multiple jurisdictions, one DSS should be prepared that considers all jurisdictions and their interests.

Cooperation

The agencies agree to coordinate suppression management through the use of a Unified Command or with Delegations of Authority from all jurisdictions to an agreed Incident Commander. The initial attack ICs of the involved Agencies shall mutually agree upon fire suppression objectives, strategy, and the commitment and funding of Agency suppression resources.

Communication

For the purposes of conducting business authorized by this cooperative agreement, all parties to this operating plan agree that assisting agencies may use the jurisdictional agency's radio frequencies, as needed, to conduct emergency communications on wildland fire of the jurisdictional agency. No party to this operating plan will use, or authorize others to use, another agency's radio frequencies for routine daily operations. Fire protection districts on incident management missions, under the auspices of the county, are granted permission to use federal radio frequencies, if needed, to assure safety of the operation.

Air to Ground radio frequencies are only to be utilized by ground resources directing air operations. All Air-to-Ground communications will be on the NIICD assigned A-G frequencies for Colorado. Grand County incorporates 3 A-G Frequency Zones (**EXHIBIT B**). If A-G frequencies are assigned to active incidents, or have excessive traffic, additional A-G frequencies must be ordered through FTC or CRC Dispatch centers. Radio frequencies specifically authorized for use are shown in **EXHIBIT B**.

When incidents managed/dispatched by FTC exceed initial attack, the incident should implement the **Fort Collins Zone Type 3 (T3) Incident Communications Plan** for tactical and command radio traffic. The T3 Communication plan uses standardized frequencies available to all Agencies and Departments in the FTC Zone. A resource order should be placed with FTC Dispatch as soon as possible when the portable Command repeater is desired. If the FTC Zone Type 3 Incident Communications Plan is in use on an incident, subsequent tactical and command frequencies must be ordered through FTC Dispatch. The FTC T3 Incident Communications plan is included in **EXHIBIT B**. FTC and CRC frequencies lists are also included in **EXHIBIT B**.

Cost Efficiency

N/A

Delegation of Authority

A written delegation of authority may be used whenever an agency or individual from other than the jurisdictional authority assumes command of an incident. The delegated individual or agency has the authority and power to act on behalf of the jurisdictional agency. A delegation of authority is normally issued to the IC of an incident management team and should identify:

- The jurisdiction delegating the authority
- The individual or agency accepting the authority.
- Specific authorities being delegated.
- Limits to the authority.
- End terms of the authority.

An example Delegation of Authority is located in **Exhibit G**.

Preservation of Evidence

The jurisdictional agency will determine as soon as possible the fire origin and cause and will have primary responsibility for fire investigation, and any civil or criminal follow up actions taken.

Parties to this AOP may request assistance from each other's fire investigators. If a fire investigator is not available locally, one may be requested through the interagency dispatch center utilizing normal ordering procedures.

On federal lands, all suspected human-caused fire should be investigated for possible Trespass. Initial attack resources are reminded to protect the suspected point of origin to facilitate fire investigation, and on federal land, request a fire investigator if fire is possibly human-caused.

STATE EMERGENCY FIRE FUND (EFF)

Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) Procedures:

Grand County and Denver Water are participants in the State Emergency Fire Fund (EFF). DFPC administers this fund. As a participant to this agreement, the State agrees to come to the aid of Grand County should suppression resource needs exceed county capability. Following are the roles and responsibilities under EFF:

DFPC: A DFPC representative must be on site for an EFF evaluation. DFPC will assist the County Sheriff in the analysis of the wildfire's actual or potential condition to exceed the County's suppression capability. This information will be provided to the DFPC Director or designee who will make the final decision on EFF applicability.

Grand County Sheriff: as Fire Warden for the County (CRS 30-10-513), the Sheriff will represent the County in the request for EFF declaration to the DFPC district, and subsequent assumption of control (DFPC 4 Form). The Sheriff will coordinate other County entities in his or her representation.

Grand County Commissioners: are signatories to the DFPC 4 Form "Assumption of Control" for fires the DFPC Director approves for EFF. The Sheriff will facilitate obtaining a signature from the County Commissioners. Delay in signing the DFPC 4 may result in increased costs for the county.

Federal Agencies: are almost always involved even when the fire is entirely on private or state land. Their policies and concerns must be addressed on all fires.

All EFF fires may utilize a Unified Command, if appropriate, and include the County Sheriff and DFPC as Agency Administrators. If land administered by another agency is threatened or involved, that agency may provide a member of the Unified Command.

Implementation of the EFF can be done only by the DFPC Director or designee upon the recommendation of the local DFPC representative, following a request from the County Sheriff. For this reason, it is important that the DFPC FMO be notified immediately of major fires on private/state lands within the county. Should the fire surpass, or threaten to surpass, the ability of county resources to contain it, EFF implementation can occur only with a DFPC representative on scene.

All EFF participating counties must have a minimum county commitment to any incident which has EFF potential. This is not a maximum county resource commitment, and they are not the only resources that may be required by the county to use on the incident in order to request EFF implementation. If tactics of a given incident make some of this equipment inappropriate, alternate resources or combination of resources can be negotiated.

Grand County minimum commitment is:

One dozer or road grader, two water tenders, Law Enforcement Support, and Logistical Support

DFPC will transfer command of an EFF fire back to the County when fire spread has been contained, the Agency Administrator's objectives have been met, and a written plan has been prepared for the next operational period.

USE AND REIMBURSEMENT OF INTERAGENCY FIRE RESOURCES

Cost Share Agreement (Cost Share Methodologies)

REIMBURSABLE COSTS

Costs incurred by an assisting agency for services that exceed initial attack, as described in Extended Attack and Resource Order Process section, shall be considered reimbursable. These services must be requested by the jurisdictional agency and resources must check in and check out with appropriate command or documentation personnel. An Emergency Equipment Shift Ticket (OF-297) is required to document equipment time, and an Emergency Firefighter Time Report or Crew Time Report is required to document personnel time. This information may be documented in I-Suite as well. The I-Suite application is a portable, client/server application that can be used at any emergency incident to capture data and help manage resources and costs at remote incident locations. The application is organized into modules based on the Incident Command System (ICS). Undocumented personnel or equipment will not be compensated. Resources not ordered by the jurisdictional agency or freelance resources sent by any other agency without jurisdictional agency approval will not be compensated.

On Denver Water Board (DWB) lands any costs incurred by agencies for the initial attack period and beyond shall be considered reimbursable, as funds are available from the DWB.

The Fire Chief/Fire Protection District shall not seek reimbursement from the County for expenses incurred by the District for their own apparatus, equipment, and personnel used in containing or suppressing a wildland fire occurring on private property within the boundaries of their District.

Those Fire Districts that are supported by taxes should not expect reimbursement for their resources when performing fire suppression duties in support of an incident within their protection districts, unless stipulated in a cost share agreement among the Jurisdictional Agencies.

COST SHARING

When a fire burns on both sides of a protection boundary or threatens another jurisdiction, and is beyond the mutual aid period, a cost share agreement shall be prepared and approved by each Unit Administrator or their designee.

The intent is to distribute the financial burden based on a method agreed upon by an authorized representative from each affected jurisdiction. A cost share agreement should be negotiated as soon as practical. (See **EXHIBIT F**)

The affected jurisdictions should draft the cost share agreement prior to fire close out. When a fire is accepted by the State as an EFF incident, Cost Share Principles agreed to by State and federal agencies will apply.

For Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) fires involving structures, the distribution of costs should be commensurate with the values protected. Costs of jurisdictional resources are borne whenever possible by the jurisdictional agency or Fire Protection District in which the structures are located.

Training

NWCG approved wildland training courses are provided periodically by USFS, BLM, NPS, BIA, FWS, DFPC and other agencies. As these courses are scheduled, all cooperators will be informed and invited to participate. Formalized zone training committees are in place and all cooperators are encouraged to participate.

Communication Systems

Radio frequency lists are located in **Exhibit B**

Fire Weather Systems

See Fire Prevention section 1.a. Fire Weather and Fire Danger are all recorded in each federal agency's Fire Danger Operating Plan.

Aviation Operations

AVIATION REQUESTS AND PROCEDURES

When aircraft is requested by any agency for suppression efforts, the request must include the following:

- Fire name
- Location
 - Latitude & Longitude in degrees, minutes, seconds (NAD 83 preferred)
 - ~OR~
 - Section, Township, Range
- Elevation
- Ground contact ID or name

- Radio frequency of ground contact
- Other aircraft in the area, including radio frequencies in use
- Aircraft hazards in the area
- Current threats/values at risk

Requests for aircraft on non-federal fires can be made by Authorized County Representatives:

- Sheriff
- Undersheriff
- Lieutenants
- Qualified Fire District Personnel

Aircraft resource orders will be made through the appropriate Interagency Dispatch Center (FTC or CRC):

- FTC for RMNP and ARNF lands
- CRC for all other lands

Air Support Request Form should be completed prior to contacting CRC. This form can be found in **EXHIBIT D**.

The DFPC Northwest Regional FMO will be notified by CRC when aircraft is ordered for a county jurisdiction wildland fire.

The sending interagency dispatch center will notify the other interagency dispatch center of all air resources dispatched to Grand County.

WILDLAND EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

The Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (Ref: Colorado State Statue CRS 23-31-309) was created to assist local jurisdictions with initial attack wildland fire response on state and private lands within the state of Colorado. Any County Sheriff, municipal fire department, or fire protection district within Colorado may request WERF as the official Requesting Agency. WERF will reimburse, if funds are available, the Requesting Agency the cost of eligible wildland firefighting resources. The fund will be utilized as outlined in the attached WERF Guidelines, **EXHIBIT D**.

DFPC SINGLE ENGINE AIR TANKERS

When a combination of factors or events, as agreed to by the Sheriff and DFPC, create a situation that warrants pre-positioning of a SEAT in Grand County, the Sheriff may request pre-positioning through the DFPC NW Regional FMO. Factors may include, but are not limited to, multiple starts within a 24 hour period, high occurrence of dry lightning, or persistent Red Flag Warnings. DFPC will notify participants to this plan when a SEAT is pre-positioned in Grand County. Each agency should follow their normal resource request procedure to request a SEAT for use on an incident, regardless of whether the SEAT is pre-positioned in Grand County or not.

Billing Procedures

REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES AND CLAIMS

The county may aggregate expenses for employees and equipment incurred by the county and/or fire districts to suppress wildland fire on federal jurisdictions, and may present an invoice for such expenses to DFPC, who will then reimburse the county and subsequently bill the jurisdictional federal agencies.

Federal agencies may submit bills and statements for reimbursements from county and/or fire districts for federal suppression on non-federal lands to DFPC. DFPC will make such reimbursement and subsequently invoice the county or fire district as appropriate.

Cooperator reimbursement procedures, and forms can be found on the DFPC website: www.dfs.state.co.us/programs-2/emergency-management/wildland-fire-management/wildland-fire-billing.

RESOURCE USE RATES

Cooperating agencies must have an approved CRRF to be available in ROSS for out of local area dispatch. Resources assigned to an EFF fire from the cooperating agency without a current CRRF will be reimbursed using established standard state cooperator equipment rates. Cooperator equipment should not be signed up using an Emergency Equipment Rental Agreement (EERA).

Fire Protection Districts that choose not to complete the Cooperative Resource Rate Form will be reimbursed at the current established standard state cooperator equipment rates.

Each department using the Cooperative Resource Rate Form will provide workers' compensation insurance for all involved department personnel.

Cost Recovery

The reimbursement process may not be finalized within the fiscal year in which the incident occurred. Agencies may need to carry over funds to cover costs estimated at the time of the fire.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Personnel Policy

N/A

Modification

MID-YEAR CHANGES

Mid-year changes are to be avoided; however, if an agency becomes unable to uphold commitments, it should notify all parties to this agreement.

Annual Review

This AOP must be reviewed annually. If no changes are needed, a new cover page and signature page will be distributed to all parties along with a statement letter indicating no changes have occurred. The updated plan will be circulated for signatures prior to April.

Duration of Agreement

This AOP remains in effect until superseded.

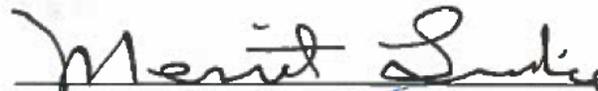
Previous Agreements Superseded

2014 Grand County Annual Operating Plan

SIGNATURES

Authorized Representatives

GRAND COUNTY SIGNATURES


BOCC Grand County, Merrit Linke, Chairman

4/7/15
Date

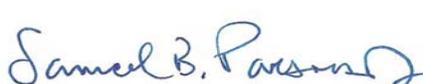

Grand County Sheriff, Brett Schroetlin

4-7-15
Date


Attest: County Clerk Sara Rosene

4/7/15
Date

COLORADO DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION & CONTROL SIGNATURE


Regional Fire Management Officer, Sam Parsons

3/12/2015
Date

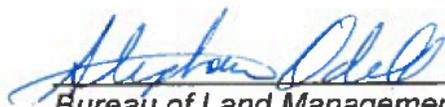
FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY SIGNATURES


for Arapaho and Roosevelt NF Forest Supervisor

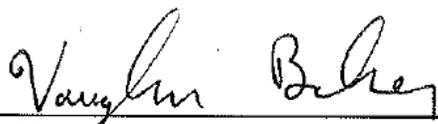
3/10/15
Date


Medicine Bow-Routt NF Forest Supervisor Deputy

3/13/15
Date


Bureau of Land Management Kremmling Field Office

3/9/15
Date

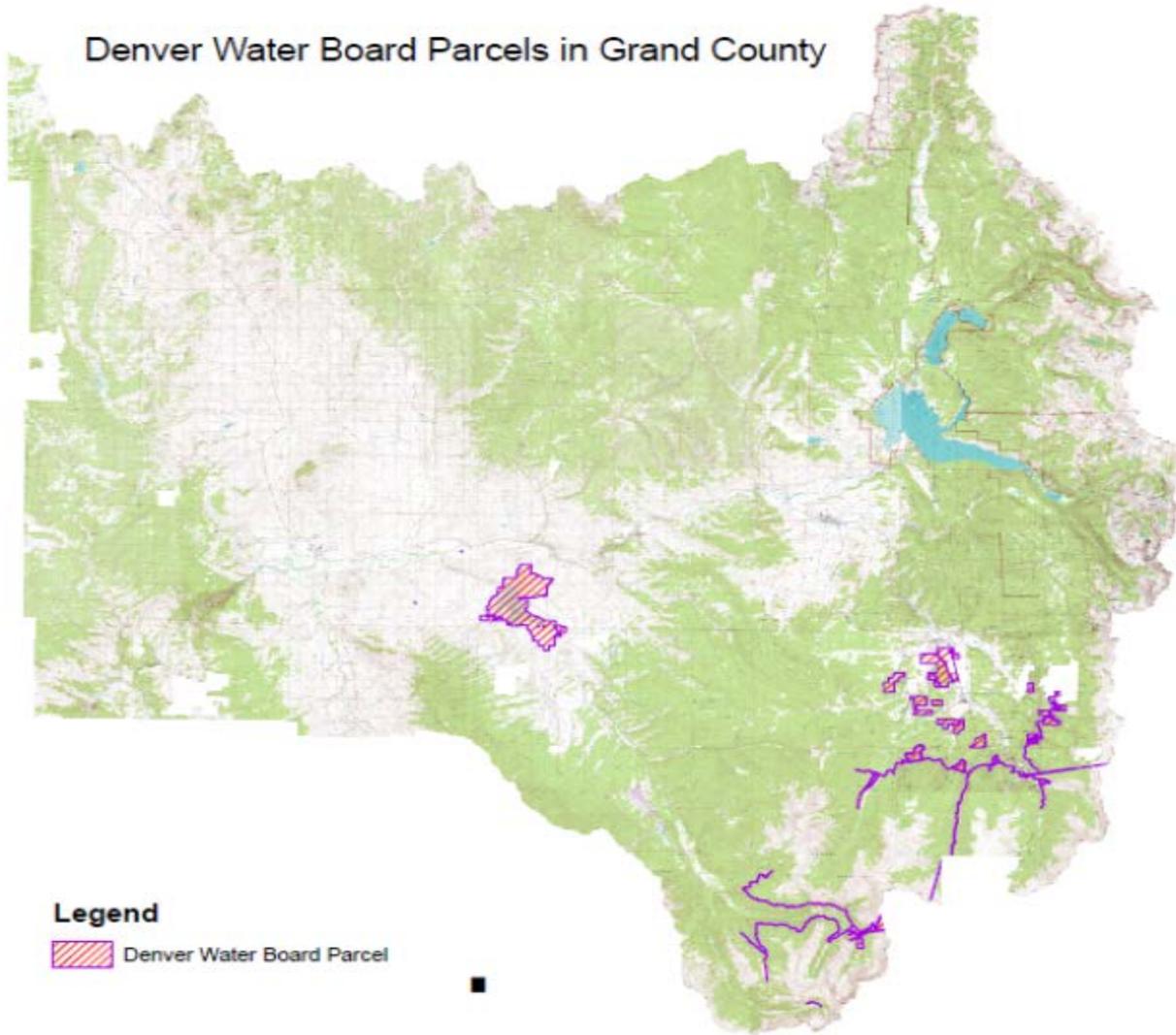

Rocky Mountain National Park Superintendent

3-13-15
Date

EXHIBITS

- A. Maps
- B. Personnel Directory and Radio Frequencies
- C. Fire Operations Guidance in Bark Beetle Stands
- D. Wildland Emergency Response Fund (WERF) & Aircraft Request Form
- E. Fire Ban Criteria
- F. Cost Sharing
- G. Delegation of Authority

Denver Water Board Parcels in Grand County



Legend

 Denver Water Board Parcel

RMNP RADIO FREQUENCIES

ZONE 8 - RMNP INCIDENT - Wildland Fire (All-Risk) - CHANNEL SELECT									
Channel	Label	Rx Freq	Mode	Rx CG	Tx Freq	Mode	Tx CG	BW	Comments
1	USFS TWIN	169.1750	A	0.0	169.9750	A	131.8	N	FTC Dispatch - East Side
2	USFS CTNWD	169.8750	A	0.0	170.4750	A	131.8	N	FTC Dispatch - West Side
3	USFS DEADMN	169.8750	A	0.0	170.4750	A	110.9	N	FTC Dispatch - North Side
4	RM FIRE RPT	164.4250	A	110.9	168.3750	A	103.5	N	COMMAND - East Side
5	RM TWIN RPT	166.3500	A	110.9	166.9700	A	100.0	N	
6	RM MEAD RPT	170.3875	A	110.9	165.1750	A	131.8	N	
7	RM HAG RPT	172.4000	A	110.9	165.1750	A	123.0	N	
8	RM RED RPT	166.3000	A	127.3	166.9000	A	156.7	N	
9	RM SHAD RPT	166.3000	A	127.3	166.9000	A	103.5	N	COMMAND - West Side
10	RM PRSPCT RPT	164.4750	A	110.9	168.5625	A	103.5	N	Logistics - Authorized Use Only - IC Approval
11	PORTABLE RPT	167.1375	A	0.0	173.6250	A	136.5	N	Place Holder for Portable RPT
12	FIRE TAC 1	173.8250	A	0.0	173.8250	A	0.0	N	Line of Sight - RMNP Fire Tactical
13	FIRE TAC 2	163.5750	A	0.0	163.5750	A	0.0	N	Line of Sight - RMNP Fire Tactical
14	FIRE TAC 3	163.7125	A	0.0	163.7125	A	0.0	N	Line of Sight - RMNP Fire Tactical
15	NIFC A/G 1	166.8500	A	0.0	166.8500	A	0.0	N	Air to Ground
16	OPEN	0.0000	A	0.0	0.0000	A	0.0	N	

INITIAL ATTACK AIRCRAFT MAP

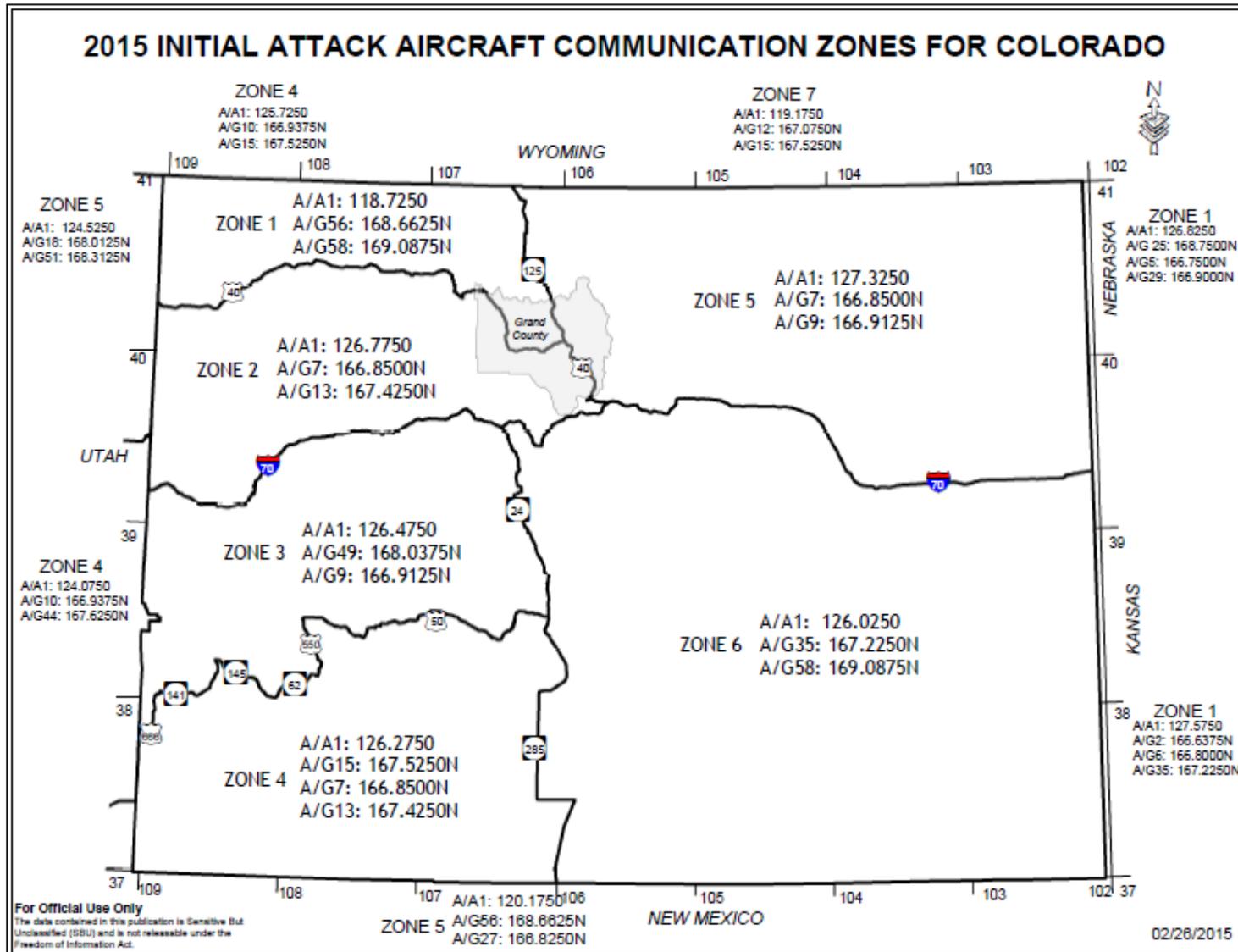


EXHIBIT C - BARK BEETLE

USFS-R2

Fire Operations Guidance in Bark Beetle Stands

Due to altered fuel conditions, personnel operating within the bark beetle environment should be aware of the imminent danger presented by dead and dying trees, falling at an increasing rate across a broad forested landscape.

Purpose and Intent

Fire Operations Guidance is mindful of Foundational Fire Suppression Doctrine in the Forest Service. The first principle is: No resource or facility is worth the loss of human life, however, the wildland fire suppression environment is complex and possesses inherent hazards that can---even with reasonable mitigation---result in harm to fire fighters engaged in fire suppression operations. In recognition of this fact, we are committed to the aggressive management of risk.

This guidance provides a collection of potential hazards unique to bark beetle forests, including appropriate practices that have evolved over time within the wildland fire service. It does not provide absolute solutions to the unlimited number of situations that could occur.

This guidance within bark beetle stands was provided with the intention of being used in conjunction with existing fire risk management documents. No further protocols or rules are necessary to make informed risk management decisions for fire operations in bark beetle stands.

The following hazard guidance is provided:

Tactical Hazards

- Withdrawal and/or reassessment should be considered if any of the following are present:
 - Thunderstorms in the immediate vicinity.
 - Wind speeds are strong enough that canopy movement is observed (consider that wind speeds at eye level in sheltered areas may not indicate the much greater winds aloft).
 - Reliable communication cannot be established with the appropriate Dispatch Center and remain in place 24/7 when resources are engaged.
- Due to limited ingress or egress in remote areas or in terrain without vantage points, consider using an aerial platform for risk assessment and size up.

Potential Fire Behavior Hazards

- Due to increased potential of extreme fire behavior, when ERCs approach the 90th percentile, air reconnaissance should be on scene within 1 hour of detection.
- The following situations, though possible on any wildfire, may be accentuated in bark beetle stands:
 - Accelerated transition to crown fire (when needles are present)
 - Increased rate of spread (surface fire)
 - Resistance to control (heavy dead and down)
 - Frequent spotting, including long range (>.25 miles)

EXHIBIT D – WERF GUIDELINES & CRC AIR REQUEST FORM

**Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (WERF)
2015 Guidelines**

The Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (Ref: CRS §24-33.5-1226) was created to assist local jurisdictions with initial attack wildland fire response on state and private lands within the state of Colorado. Any County Sheriff, municipal fire department, or fire protection district within Colorado may request WERF reimbursement as the official Requesting Agency. If funds are available, WERF will reimburse the Requesting Agency the cost of eligible wildland firefighting resources.

ELIGIBLE FOR WERF REIMBURSEMENT	
Both aerial resource use and hand crew use on the same incident.	
AERIAL RESOURCES	First hour of firefighting helicopter rotor time + pilot time OR First aerial tanker flight + drop + retardant*
	OAS-carded & USFS-carded pilots, if federal resources are involved.
HAND CREW	Up to 2 hand crew days within the first 2 calendar days of an incident beginning from time of departure to fire.
	<i>Type 1, Type 2 Initial Attack, or Type 2 NWCG-qualified crews.</i>
	Hand crews should be ordered based on incident needs, crew Type and capabilities, and proximity to incident. There is a preference for the use and reimbursement of State of Colorado inmate crews.
	Different crews may be used, but only for a total of 2 hand crew days.

There are often additional costs associated with the use of aircraft and hand crews that are not reimbursable.

NOT ELIGIBLE FOR WERF REIMBURSEMENT	
AERIAL RESOURCES	Fixed wing aircraft reimbursement does not include lead plane or aerial observer aircraft.
	Additional helicopter personnel (helicopter crew).
	Ferry time/flight time to bring aerial resource to Colorado.
	Fuel truck.
	Chase truck.
HAND CREW	Travel time to bring hand crews from outside Colorado.
	Hand crew logistics costs of lodging, camping, transportation/fuel, & per diem.

Consult the County Annual Operating Plan for the local, state, and federal dispatch procedures to order resources eligible for WERF reimbursement. The Requesting Agency must notify the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) of each WERF reimbursement request. Requests should be emailed to DFPC at wildlandfire@state.co.us within 7 days of resource use and include the following information: who requested the resource (name of Sheriff, fire chief, etc.), fire name, incident number (whenever available), resource name, date(s) of use, and copies of resource orders (whenever available). Since the DFPC has been tasked by the Colorado State Legislature to administer and manage this fund, it is critical that DFPC receives notification of any and all WERF requests to maintain an accurate balance for the fund.

**Any request for a Very Large Air Tanker (VLAT) must be approved by the DFPC Branch Chief of Operations or their designee prior to use.*

Aviation Support Request Form
Craig Interagency Fire Dispatch
970-826-5037
craiginteragency@gmail.com

The County Sheriff or designee, local Fire Department Chief or designee or the Incident Commander will contact Craig Interagency Dispatch Center **directly** with their request for aviation resources. Prior to making that request the following information must be collected. This information will help facilitate a faster, safer and more efficient response. In order to request aviation resources call 970-826-5037 and ask to talk with the Aircraft Dispatcher or Floor Coordinator.

IC Name and Agency:

Fire Name/Jurisdiction:

Fire Location: _____ Elevation: _____
(Lat/Long or geographic location) **no addresses.**

Ground Contact: _____
(Must be able to TX/RX on air to ground frequency as assigned by Dispatch. **This is for pilot safety.**)

Wind Speed/Direction: _____

Values at Risk: _____

Known or Possible Flight Hazards: _____
(Including but not limited to: power lines, other wires, other aircraft, paragliders, etc.)

Time and Date Requested: _____

Resource(s) Requested: (next page)

HELICOPTER

Type/Qty: **Type I:** Bucket ____ Tank ____ **Type II:** Bucket ____ Tank ____ **Type III** ____

Location of closest adequate dip site: _____

AIRTANKER

Type/Qty: **Type I** ____ **Type II** ____ **Type III (SEAT)** ____

Loaded with: Retardant ____ Water ____ Foam ____

HELICOPTER

Type/Qty: **Type I:** Bucket ____ Tank ____ **Type II:** Bucket ____ Tank ____ **Type III** ____

Location of closest adequate dip site: _____

AIRTANKER

Type/Qty: **Type I** ____ **Type II** ____ **Type III (SEAT)** ____

Loaded with: Retardant ____ Water ____ Foam ____

SUPERVISION/SMOKEJUMPERS

Type/Qty: **ATGS** ____ **ASM** ____ **HLCO** ____ **ATCO** ____ **SMKJ** ____ **PARACARGO** ____

Considerations When Ordering Aviation Resources

HELICOPTERS

Please specify helicopter type and intended use when ordering

- **Limited**
 - No government personnel/passenger or internal cargo transport, lift only
- **Exclusive Use**
 - Government personnel/passenger and cargo hauling
 - Comes with a manager assigned
- **Type 1 (Heavy)**
 - Standard staffing = Manager + 4 Crewmember minimum
 - May be tanked or carry external buckets
 - Maximum wind speed for safe operations
 - >500' AGL: <50 knots (57.6 mph)
 - <500' AGL: Steady winds < 40 knots (46.1 mph) or a maximum gust spread of 15 knots (17.3 mph)
- **Type 2 (Medium)**
 - Standard staffing = Manager + 3 Crewmember minimum
 - Maximum wind speed for safe operations
 - >500' AGL: <50 knots (57.6 mph)
 - <500' AGL: Steady winds < 40 knots (46.1 mph) or a maximum gust spread of 15 knots (17.3 mph)
- **Type 3 (Light)**
 - Standard staffing = Manager + 2 Crewmember minimum
 - Maximum wind speed for safe operations
 - >500' AGL: <50 knots (57.6 mph)
 - <500' AGL: Steady winds < 30 knots (34.6 mph) or a maximum gust spread of 15 knots (17.3 mph)
- **General Helicopter Considerations**
 - Operating altitude and temperature affects type of aircraft required
 - If you are requesting a helicopter for bucket drops, be prepared with an adequate dip site location identified with a lat/long or easily identifiable geographic location
 - Advise dispatch if you think the dip site may be on private land; they will need to get authorization from the land owner
 - If you are requesting a helicopter with crew, it's helpful to have an adequate landing zone location identified with a lat/long close to the incident
 - Helicopters may not fly with buckets over major highways or congested areas

SINGLE ENGINE AIR TANKERS (SEATS)

- Consider turn-around time from the nearest reload base to your location
- May be appropriate for remote areas or areas that require overflight of busy road or congested areas
- After each drop provide feedback to the pilot concerning its accuracy and effectiveness
- Air tankers cannot drop retardant near open water; it is highly toxic to aquatic life so if your mission is near a river, creek, lake or ponds consider asking the aircraft to be loaded with water

HEAVY AIR TANKERS

- May be appropriate for remote areas or areas that require overflight of busy road or congested areas
- After each drop provide feedback to the pilot concerning its accuracy and effectiveness
- Air tankers cannot drop retardant near open water; it is highly toxic to aquatic life so if your mission is near a river, creek, lake or ponds consider asking the aircraft to be loaded with water

AIR ATTACK

- Order an Air Attack to enhance efficiency and safety of ground and aerial operations
- Consists of an aircraft with a specialized radio platform, a pilot and an Air Tactical Group Supervisor (ATGS)

AERIAL SUPERVISION MODULE (ASM)

- A two-person crew function as the Lead and Air Tactical Group Supervisor from the same aircraft
 - The Air Tactical Pilot (ATP) is a qualified Lead Plane Pilot and is also qualified to evaluate and share the incident workload
 - The Air Tactical Supervisor (ATS) is a qualified ATGS who has also received specialized training and shares the incident workload.
- Calls signs initiate with B "Bravo"

TEMPORARY FLIGHT RESTRICTION (TFR)

- If you anticipate using air tankers over your incident for an extended period of time, you will want to order a TFR to assure clear airspace over your incident
- When you discontinue air tanker use for your incident, cancel the TFR

FREQUENCIES AND COMMUNICATIONS

- It is important to get ground and air resources operational on a designated Air to Ground frequency
- If you are unable to contact an aircraft on Air to Ground, let dispatch know immediately

GENERAL

- Telephone lines and other wires create aviation hazards which are difficult to see from the air; advise all aircraft of these or other hazards in the fire area
- Fire aircraft do not operate after dark. Most operational aircraft need to be on the ground one half hour after sunset (“pumpkin time”). Be aware of sunset time at your location, or check with dispatch to make sure there is enough daylight to fly the mission

EXHIBIT E - FIRE BAN CRITERIA

Fort Collins Dispatch Zone Fire Restriction & Fire Ban Criteria

The following criteria are used to determine the need for fire restrictions or fire bans. These criteria are based on calculated, quantifiable variables designed to be used within the typical wildfire season; April through October. Local political influences may also need to be considered.

Instructions: (Reference the Fire Restriction – Fire Ban Matrix):

1. Select Weather Stations (or representative locations of concern).
2. Obtain the following criteria information from the following sources:
 - **Energy Release Component:** National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) or Fort Collins (FTC) Interagency Dispatch.
 - **1000 hour fuel moisture:** NFDRS, or FTC Dispatch.
 - **Live fuel moisture:** NFDRS and field sampled results from Arapaho-Roosevelt NF.
 - **FTC-Area Preparedness Level:** Daily afternoon radio broadcast or FTC web page; <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/arnf/fire/FTCDailyStaffing.htm>
 - **Rocky Mountain Region Preparedness Level:** RMACC web page; <http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/predictive/rmasit.htm>
 - **Weather Trend** to determine if short and long-range trends are improving, stable or deteriorating: National Weather Service Fire Weather Forecasts from local Dispatch Center or http://www.crh.noaa.gov/bou/firewx/fire_mainmap.php
3. From the Matrix, determine the critical thresholds for each criterion.
4. From the charts below; determine the number of criteria that have reached or exceeded the threshold for either fire restriction or fire ban.

# of Criteria beyond threshold	Fire Restrictions
0 to 1	None
2 to 3	Consider
4 or More	Implement

# of Criteria beyond threshold	Fire Ban
0 to 2	None
3 to 4	Consider
5 or More	Implement

5. Coordinate with all applicable Agencies to initiate actions.
6. Continue to monitor conditions to evaluate status of fire restriction or fire ban, and elevate or suspend as necessary.

*• The need for fire restrictions or bans outside the typical fire season will be determined through consensus of cooperating Agencies. This requires judgment based on qualitative input, along with weather trends and historical patterns. Portions of the matrix are based on NFDRS data, and the fuels criteria are unavailable during the winter due to the nature of wildland fuels models in the western U.S. **

Fort Collins Dispatch Zone Fire Restriction & Fire Ban Criteria

Weather Station <i>(Representative Location)</i>	Elevation	Category	Energy Release Component	1000 hr. Fuel Moisture	Live Fuel Moisture	FTC - Area Preparedness Level	Rocky Mtn. Region Preparedness Level	Weather Trend
Red Feather (North Larimer County)	8214'	Restriction	60	<12%	<120%	3	4	5-7 days
		Ban	68	< 9%	<100%	4	5	7-14 days
Estes Park (Rocky Mountain NP)	7820'	Restriction	54	<12%	<120%	3	4	5-7 days
		Ban	66	<10%	<100%	4	5	7-14 days
Redstone Canyon (Larimer County foothills)	6160'	Restriction	68	<10%	<120%	3	4	5-7 days
		Ban	76	< 8%	<100%	4	5	7-14 days
Sugarloaf (Boulder County)	6775'	Restriction	64	<10%	<120%	3	4	5-7 days
		Ban	73	< 8%	<100%	4	5	7-14 days
Pickle Gulch (Clear Creek & Gilpin Counties)	9380'	Restriction	58	<13%	<120%	3	4	5-7 days
		Ban	63	<11%	<100%	4	5	7-14 days
Harbison (Grand County)	8640'	Restriction	48	<14%	<120%	3	4	5-7 days
		Ban	54	<12%	<100%	4	5	7-14 days
Corral Creek (Clear Creek & Gilpin Counties)	8080'	Restriction	63	<11%	<120%	3	4	5-7 days
		Ban	74	< 9%	<100%	4	5	7-14 days

EXHIBIT F - COST SHARING

ITEMS TO CONSIDER WHEN NEGOTIATING A COST SHARE AGREEMENT

Negotiating cost share agreements within the State of Colorado has been delegated to the respective unit administrators in the Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement. County officials must also be included. Cost share agreements are to be documented, including the basis or rationale used. The following guidelines should be considered when negotiating a cost share agreement. These are intended to help field personnel in negotiating an equitable agreement and are not intended to be mandatory.

Agency Administrator: the individual assigned administrative responsibilities for an established organizational unit, such as Forest Supervisors or District Rangers (USFS), District or Area Manager (BLM), Area Forester or Colorado DFPC Director or Designee (State), Regional Director or Refuge Manager (USFWS), Park Superintendent (NPS), and Agency Superintendent (BIA), and may include a County commissioner at the local level.

General Guidelines:

1. Agency budgeted costs normally are not shared.
2. Responsibility for claims is considered to be outside the scope of the cost share agreement.
3. Rehabilitation costs other than on the fireline are the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency.
4. All cost share negotiations should include consideration to each Agency's values at risk and resources assigned.
5. Cost share agreements should normally be reviewed at the end of each burning period and documented with review date and time.

Method 1: Cost can be shared proportionately based upon the acreage burned.

Method 2: Costs between the Agencies can be based on a summary of daily estimated incident costs and each Agency's proportionate share thereof. If this method is used, daily cost sharing should be properly documented by the Incident Commander. Aircraft and retardant should be on an actual use basis.

Method 3: Costs can be shared based upon direct fireline resources assigned basis. Aviation resources, retardant, etc. should be on an actual use basis. Indirect costs are then shared proportional to direct costs. This is the most equitable method and should be utilized on incidents when a Type I team is assigned.

Definitions:

Direct Costs: All costs associated with direct fireline/fireground and operations including aircraft, except airtankers and their retardant, and incident support ordered by or for the incident prior to completion of the cost share agreement. Airtanker costs and associated retardant costs are direct costs but normally are calculated at a separate cost share rate.

Facilities and Administrative Costs (Indirect Costs):

Costs that are incurred for common or joint objectives and therefore cannot be identified readily and specifically with a particular sponsored project, and instructional activity, or any other institutional activity. These costs may include office support personnel, mobilization/demobilization centers, dispatching, airbase operations, transportation from home base to camp, and minor or major equipment repairs to incident-assigned and damaged equipment (except those costs included in equipment rental rates). Facilities and administrative costs can be shared proportionately with direct costs except where identified to be shared differently in the cost share agreement.

SAMPLE COST SHARE AGREEMENT

Following is the Cost Share Agreement between the Agencies identified below as negotiated for the following incident.

INCIDENT NAME: _____

INCIDENT NUMBERS BY AGENCY: _____

START TIME AND DATE: _____

JURISDICTIONS: _____

CAUSE: _____

INCIDENT COMMANDER(S): _____

This Cost Share Agreement between _____

and with the cooperation of _____, was prepared under the following authorities provided by:

1. The Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement between the State of Colorado; USDA Forest Service; USDI Bureau of Land Management; USDI National Park Service; USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs; USDI Fish and Wildlife Service.
2. Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Management between _____ County and the State of Colorado.
3. _____

Agency Representatives participating in development of the Cost Share Agreement.

Agency: _____ Agency: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Title: _____ Title: _____

Agency: _____ Agency: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Title: _____ Title: _____

COST SHARE AGREEMENT FOR THE _____ INCIDENT:

It is hereby agreed that the cost basis on this incident will be shared as follows

Rationale used in developing this cost agreement:

The following section is optional, but will be used only if costs are calculated on a percentage basis and a computer-based incident cost accounting system is not available:

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>DIRECT COSTS</u>	<u>AIR/RETARDANT COSTS</u>
_____	_____ %	_____ %
_____	_____ %	_____ %
_____	_____ %	_____ %
_____	_____ %	_____ %
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>100</u> %	<u>100</u> %

This Agreement and the apportionment contained are our best judgments of Agency cost responsibilities on the date/time shown. Additional Cost Share Agreements for this incident may be approved for future time periods, as conditions and fire spread change.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____

AGENCY: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____

AGENCY: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____

AGENCY: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

SAMPLE COST SHARE AGREEMENT

INCIDENT NAME:

INCIDENT NUMBER:

START TIME AND DATE: @ (estimated)

JURISDICTIONS:

CAUSE:

INCIDENT COMMANDER(s):

This Cost Share Agreement between the _____ and _____ was prepared under the following authorities and guidelines:

4. The Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement between the State of Colorado; USDA Forest Service; USDI Bureau of Land Management; USDI National Park Service; USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs; USDI Fish and Wildlife Service, 6/01/2011,
5. Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Management between ----- County and the State of Colorado,
6. The 2014 _____ County Annual Operating Plan.

Agency Representatives participating in development of the Cost Share Agreement:

Agency: _____	Agency: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Title: _____	Title: _____

It is hereby agreed that the cost basis on the _____ incident will be shared as follows
Select applicable clauses or language below:

1. For all suppression costs, including Aircraft, outside of mutual aid:
 - %,
 - %
2. For all suppression costs, excluding Aircraft, outside of mutual aid:
 - %,
 - %
3. For all aircraft costs:
 - %,
 - %
4. Direct salary costs for employees of the _____ and _____ will be borne by the respective Agencies.

Rationale used in developing this cost agreement:

To use the simplest and most equitable method of cost sharing for the duration of the incident until declared out.

Select applicable clauses or language below:

- The Mutual Aid period expired at _____ hours on ___ / ___ / ___
- Mutual Aid *included* or *did not include* costs for aircraft ordered by the _____.

- This incident was in the urban interface and posed a direct threat to structures and primary residences, which influenced the strategy.
- This incident was in a remote area and posed little threat to human life/safety or structures, which influenced the strategy.
- The fire perimeter is --- acres. This included --- acres of private land (---jurisdiction) and --- acres of public (National Forest System) land under _____ jurisdiction.
- The division of all costs is equal to the percentage of acres burned according to the land jurisdiction.
- Aircraft costs were shared % - %
- The division of costs for other resources is equal to the percentage of acres burned according to land ownership.
- Personnel (firefighters, dispatchers, overhead, law enforcement, etc.) assigned to the incident from the Agencies were approximately equal in number, so all costs were borne by the employing Agencies.
- Post-fire replacement expenditures will require approval from the primary Jurisdictional Fire Duty Officer or Agency representative.
- Rehabilitation costs other than on the fireline (to repair suppression impacts) will be borne by the jurisdictional agency.

This Agreement and the apportionment contained are our best judgments of Agency cost responsibilities on the date/time shown. This Cost Share Agreement will remain in force until:

Select applicable clause below:

- **Month/day/Year.**
- **Complexity is elevated to the next level (T3, T2, T1).**
- **The fire is declared out / controlled / contained / placed in monitor status.**
- **Amended.**

Additional Cost Share Agreements for this incident may be approved for future time periods, as conditions and fire spread change.

NAME: _____ TITLE: Forest Supervisor

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____

AGENCY: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

NAME: _____ TITLE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____

AGENCY: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

EXHIBIT G – EXAMPLE DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

File Code: 5100

Date:

Route To: 5100

Subject: ***** Fire Delegation of Authority

To: ***** , Incident Commander

Management of the ***** Fire is delegated to *****. This delegation includes the jurisdictions of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland, **the Colorado State Forest Service and ***** County, Colorado. The fire is also burning inside the ***** Wilderness.** You have full authority and responsibility for managing the fire within the framework of laws, agency policy and agency administrator direction. This delegation includes the authority to obligate agency funds necessary to manage this incident in a safe and cost-effective manner.

Please Coordinate your transition with the current IC, ***** as smoothly and rapidly as possible. Ideally, the transition can be completed between operational periods. The Line Officer In-Briefing will provide additional information to all your Section Chiefs.

Priorities

1. Protection of human life of firefighters and the public.
2. Protection of natural resources and human improvements (structures).
3. Containment of costs and expenditures, commensurate with values.
4. Consideration for the needs of the local residents and communities.

Management Objectives

include both protection and resource benefits:

1. Give special consideration to manage risks associated with aviation operations; work in the areas of extensive tree mortality and near snags, and during transitions. When in doubt, life safety shall take priority over acres burned in your strategic and tactical decisions.
2. Protect Forest developments, structures, and utilities in ***** **area/ drainage/ valley, etc.** and other identified areas that may be threatened.
3. Allow fire to play its natural role as a process of ecological change in the ***** **area/ drainage/ valley, etc.**
4. Ensure safe passage of traffic on **Highway/ Road #, etc.** Minimize the duration of Highway closures and coordinate closely with **the Colorado State Patrol, Colorado Department of Transportation, and the ***** County Sheriff.**
5. Maintain or enhance relationships with the private landowners, other agencies, volunteer fire departments, and elected officials, as appropriate. Local line officers expect to be actively involved in public meetings and in dialogue with local governments.

6. Manage the human resources assigned in a manner that promotes mutual respect and is consistent with the Department of Agriculture policy for preventing harassment.

Planning

7. The DAR Stage III has been completed. You will be responsible for updating the WFDSS and long-term analysis of fire growth.
8. Limit the number and duration of area closures. Maintain public access where the public is not at risk from (or does not interfere with) fire operations or fire traffic.
9. Provide opportunities for local trainees to complete or enhance ICS qualifications where possible.
10. Release local resources first, in accordance with standard de-mobilization procedures.

Operations

11. Keep fire within the established maximum manageable area (MMA). Use the WFDSS as a guide to develop appropriate strategies and tactics.
12. Structure protection is primarily the responsibility of ***** County and the ***** Fire Protection District. Work with ***** County Emergency Services and Chief *name* on structure protection plans. These resources should be included in your organization, strategic planning, daily briefings, and identified in the Incident Action Plans. Track resource costs in accordance with the cost share agreement which has been developed for this incident.
13. Your resources have responsibility for initial attack in the area defined by *****. Fort Collins Dispatch should be notified of all IA managed by your IMT. Requests for aircraft (assigned to your incident) to assist with other local IA will be directed to your Operations Section Chief or Air Operations Branch Director.
14. Minimize the duration and scope of evacuations.

Information

15. Colorado Front Range fires provide additional challenges for information and large-market media interaction. Work jointly with our Forest PAO *name* to disseminate information through the Joint Information Center to ensure that frequent fire information updates are communicated to all agencies, adjacent land owners, public officials and the media.
16. Key messages from the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests include:
 - Firefighter and public safety are the number one priorities for the fire.
 - Fire is a natural part of this ecosystem.
 - Homeowners must continue to take personal responsibility for defensible space.

Finance

17. Daily documentation of cost management efforts can be completed as a part of the daily WFDSS validation **and/or** via a Key Decision Log. The Incident Business Management Handbook for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland can provide further guidance. Release surplus overhead and resources in a timely manner.

18. All pending finance issues are to be resolved before responsible team members leave the fire unless negotiated otherwise with the Forest. Key IMT may be required to return to the Forest after close-out to resolve financial issues.

Logistics

19. Travel should be minimized whenever possible. Spike camps are preferred over long trips or frequent moving of personnel.
20. Use sustainable practices such as carpooling and use of canteens rather than bottled water where feasible. Recycle materials when possible.
21. Closely monitor the ordering and storage of hazardous material. You will be responsible for arranging for the disposal of surplus material and waste.
22. Provide an accurate inventory of all accountable property and equipment prior to closeout or transition to the next team. Loss / tolerance should be within acceptable levels established through the National Cache system.

Resource Protection

23. Your Resource Advisor will be *name*.
24. Implement the appropriate resource protection measures for all fire operations and support activities. Key items to be aware of include the following.
 - Ensure that Wilderness values are not compromised and that minimum impact techniques are employed where possible. **The landing and use of helicopters, retardant, mechanical equipment (such as chainsaws and pumps) are authorized in the ***** Wilderness. Use of these tools in wilderness is to be utilized only when necessary, in accordance with the management objectives outlined in this delegation. See the attached table which clarifies the uses and areas authorized for aircraft operations.**
 - Use of heavy equipment in the Wilderness must be authorized by the Regional Forester. If the risk to life or property is imminent and authorization is not immediately available, you may use these resources.
 - Protect Greenback Cutthroat Trout habitat by avoiding retardant and foam use within 600' of stream courses identified in the document and map provided.
 - **Protect Preble's Mouse habitat by *******
 - **Protect Lynx habitat by *******
 - **Cultural features and mitigation dependent on fire location.**
 - **Noxious weed issues dependent on fire location; mitigation or rehabilitation.**

Agency Representatives

24. Work closely with *name* who is the assigned Agency Administrator Representative for this incident. **He/she** will attend your daily Planning Meeting. The following personnel can provide additional guidance and support as needed:

<i>Agency/ Jurisdiction</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Office</i>	<i>Cell</i>	<i>Home</i>
Arapaho–Roosevelt NF	Administrator	Glenn Casamassa	970-295-6601	970-219-3114	970-689-3180
Arapaho–Roosevelt NF	<i>Alternate</i>	Jackie Parks	970-295-6602	970556-3848	970-223-8246
Arapaho–Roosevelt NF	AA Representative	<i>Name (DR?)</i>			
Arapaho–Roosevelt NF	Forest Fire Duty Officer	<i>Name</i>	970-	970-	
Arapaho–Roosevelt NF	Resource Advisor	<i>Name</i>			
* <i>All</i> *	IA Dispatch	Fort Collins	970-295-6800		
***** County	Administrator	<i>Name</i>			
Colorado State Forest Service	Administrator	<i>Name</i>			

Turn back Standards

- 25. Management of the fire should revert back to local forces in 100% ‘contained’ status (unless transitioned to another IMT).
- 26. Mop-up standards and the residual management organization will be negotiated prior to turn back, with *name*, the Forest Fire Duty Officer. Standards will be dependent upon fuel type, terrain, burn severity, resource value, and land ownership.
- 27. Repair of disturbance from suppression actions will be completed with emergency funds. Repair should be completed when doing so will not compromise control efforts. Specific measures for firelines, roads, streams and camp locations will be negotiated with Resource Advisor *name*.

End State

The ***** Fire is managed until all the incident objectives have been obtained, or a season-ending (weather) event has occurred. The fire is suppressed using the appropriate resources to implement tactics with reasonable probabilities for success. When the last IMT leaves, there will be favorable results to the land and natural resources after a prudent investment of taxpayer assets.

Effective Date and Time

This delegation becomes effective at ***** hours on ***** until you release this delegation as documented by a return memorandum from you to me, or my designated alternate.

Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest Administrator

Date and Time

***** County Administrator or Sheriff

Date and Time

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention & Control

Date and Time

Incident Commander

Date and Time