

2015 JACKSON COUNTY ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN

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PREAMBLE

This annual operating plan 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 Annual Fire Operating Plan (AOP) is to set forth standard operating procedures, agreed upon procedures, and responsibilities to implement cooperative wildfire protection on all lands within Jackson County.

Participants in this AOP consist of the following:

- Jackson County Sheriff, on behalf of the County and North Park Fire Rescue (NPFR)
- Jackson County Board of County Commissioners
- Medicine Bow - Routt National Forest and Thunder Basin National Grassland (USFS)
- Bureau of Land Management - Kremmling Field Office (BLM)
- Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC)
- Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge (NWR, USFWS)

All participants of this plan agree to coordinate their wildfire protection 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
- Jackson County Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund, CSFS #108
- Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Jackson 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 implements the actions documented and directed by the appropriate planning documents and decision support documents for initial and extended attack on wildfire incidents. They provide the supervision and support including operational oversight, direction and logistical support to Incident Management Teams.

INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

Interagency Dispatch Centers

Jackson County Sheriff's Office will act as dispatch for County and fire department initial attack response. The jurisdictional agency will assume command of the suppression action at the earliest possible time. Craig Interagency Dispatch (CRC) shall be notified by the responding agency in order to coordinate any needed interagency response.

Craig Interagency Dispatch is responsible for dispatching and coordination, through Jackson County Dispatch, of all other resources within Jackson County, beyond the County sheriff's initial attack response. CRC will contact individuals directly. It is the individual's responsibility to notify their respective supervisor of assignment to an incident.

REINFORCEMENTS AND SUPPORT

All requests for additional resources beyond initial attack will be made by the applicable agency representative through CRC.

MOVE UP AND COVER PROCEDURES

Move up and cover procedures are determined in the initial assessment of the fire, and coordinated with local dispatch and the affected duty officers.

Interagency Resources

Resources available for wildland fire response can vary from year to year. A list of currently available resources is located in Exhibit A.

Standards

Incident Command System Use

The Incident Command System (ICS) will be utilized on all wildland fire. 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.

OUT-OF-JURISDICTION ASSIGNMENTS

NWCG qualifications are not required for initial attack, but firefighters without NWCG qualifications will be the first ones released by the jurisdictional agency. During the mutual period, if responders are not NWCG qualified for the position assigned, the agency's home unit assumes responsibility for these individuals. Beyond the mutual aid period only NWCG qualified personnel can be used on federal jurisdiction fires. County resources need to show available in ROSS via IQS to be available for out-of-jurisdiction assignments.

INSPECTION SCHEDULES

Equipment will be inspected based on need as determined by the agency responsible for such equipment. All DFPC and cooperator engines subject to interagency fire use will be inspected, both engine and equipment, to ensure use and roadworthiness.

PREPAREDNESS

Protection Planning

This AOP is the coordinating document for all fire management in Jackson County.

Protection Areas and Boundaries

The Routt National Forest map, (1/2"= 1 mile), is used to show jurisdictional boundaries for the purpose of this plan. The Jackson County Sheriff is responsible for fire management on all state and private lands within Jackson County. On federal lands, the agency charged with managing those lands is responsible for fire management.

Jurisdictional boundary lines for USFS, BLM, USFWS, NPS, and Jackson County (private and state) lands are as shown on the USFS map.

Methods of Fire Protection and Suppression

Each jurisdictional agency has ultimate responsibility for wildland fire protection on its own lands. The Sheriff is responsible for fire protection on all non-federal lands in Jackson County.

Reciprocal (Mutual Aid) Fire Assistance

All dispatches will be made based on the closest forces capable of responding to the incident.

Mutual aid will not exceed 24 hours from the time of initial response (arrival) on scene. Mutual aid period will end at midnight of the first burn period if the incident commander determines that the fire cannot be controlled within 24 hours of its original ignition. The mutual aid period may end earlier by mutual agreement.

Each agency will make its personnel and equipment available upon request to the other agencies. It is understood that no agency will be required or expected to commit its forces to assisting another agency to the extent of jeopardizing its own responsibilities, or the security of lands it is charged with protecting.

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 North Park Fire Authority resources are considered mutual aid. All state resources are considered mutual aid with the exception of DFPC SEATs and State inmate crews. Any federal resources positioned within the Craig Dispatch area 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 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. Severity resources are also considered mutual aid.

RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

The primary purpose of this operating plan is to ensure appropriate management response (AMR) on wildland fires. Any interagency dispute arising from these procedures will be resolved on site by the Local Multi Agency Coordination (LMAC) Group. 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.

Acquisition of Services

N/A

Joint Projects and Project Plans

LAND USE PLANNING (WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE)

Jackson County requires that a wildfire hazard review be conducted by the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) on all proposed subdivisions when appropriate.

Community Wildfire Protection Plans have been completed for communities in Jackson County. The completed plans include: Meadow Creek, Gould Area, Grizzly Creek, Rand Area, North End, Rainbow Lakes and Wade Tamlin. Reference the Colorado State Forest Service's website (<http://csfs.colostate.edu/pages/community-wf-protection-planning.html>) for copies of the plans.

UTILITIES

No formal inspections or requirements.

Fire Prevention

GENERAL COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

Cooperating agencies may determine that fire danger warrants fire prevention/suppression patrols be initiated. If prevention patrol personnel are signed up as AD's, they could be required to respond anywhere on the administrative unit. Volunteer patrol personnel will not be required to respond.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

1. FIRE DANGER

a. FIRE WEATHER STATION LOCATIONS

USFS maintains remote automatic weather stations (RAWS) at Willow Creek (Willow Creek RAWS # 50304). BLM maintains Independence Mountain (Independence RAWS # 50305). Fire weather and fuels information from this station should be similar to most of the lodgepole pine type in Jackson County. An automated weather observation system can be accessed by calling the Jackson County Airport 970-723-4513, radio KXGH 118.625.

- b. DAILY BRIEFINGS
During fire season, CRC prepares a daily briefing that includes weather forecasts, resource status, and incident status. Participation in the daily briefing via conference call can be made by calling 1-877-428-9134 and the passcode is 170902. This is available by 10 A.M. on the internet at:
http://qacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2crc/
 - c. FIRE PREVENTION/RESTRICTION SIGNS
Each agency will determine when and where to place fire prevention/restriction signs.
 - d. JOINT OR SINGLE AGENCY PRESS RELEASES
Each agency will prepare and release fire prevention material and media presentations according to its own prevention plans. Coordination with other agencies should be maintained in order to prevent a conflict in released material. When pertinent, all news releases for fire prevention will carry USFS, DFPC, BLM, fire department or County sheriff by-line.
2. "FIREWISE" PROGRAM
This program is currently being used in Jackson County. When possible, an interagency approach will be used to schedule and present programs.
3. RED FLAG ANNOUNCEMENTS
The National Weather Service in Denver periodically issues "RED FLAG" warning bulletins. When these bulletins are announced, CRC will notify the Jackson County Sheriff's Office and the DFPC. Red flag warnings are broadcast on USFS and BLM radio frequencies as well.

Public Use Restrictions

Fire restrictions and closures should be coordinated to include private, state, and federal lands when possible. The current mechanism for coordinating restrictions and closures consists of a weekly conference call during the fire season coordinated and initiated by the Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit. The Jurisdictional Agency(ies) should jointly prepare and promptly distribute media releases concerning the closure. In the case of any restrictions on burning or public movements because of extreme fire danger, either by Governor's proclamation or by local issue, the County sheriff will be responsible for enforcement on all non-federal lands, and may assist on other lands at the request of the appropriate agency. Burning Restrictions/Fire Bans website: <http://www.cofireban.info/>.

Burning Permits

OPEN BURNING PERMITS

No burn permit is required in Jackson County for open burning within the County. For prescribed burns the jurisdictional agency will follow agency prescribed fire policy and procedures, and notify Jackson County Sheriff's Department and CRC. Such notification should include the location, timing, and nature of prescribed burns.

Prescribed Fire (Planned Ignitions) and Fuels Management

Wildfires resulting from escaped prescribed fires, ignited by, or at the direction of, or under the

supervision of any party to this agreement, on lands it manages 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 fires.

If parties to this Plan 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

Agencies making initial attack on wildfires within the County will ensure that the jurisdictional agency is promptly notified of the fire through CRC. The County Sheriff (911) and CRC (970-826-5037) will be notified of all wildland fires. If the fire is on or threatening state or private land, and is expected to exceed the control capabilities of the County, the DFPC should be notified. Jackson County has a reverse 911 system which can be utilized for evacuations.

Boundary Line Fires

LMAC Group (Local Multi Agency Coordination)

If a fire crosses jurisdictional boundaries and becomes a multi-agency fire, a LMAC group will be formed if necessary. The purpose of LMAC group will be to meet as a group and identify policies, objectives, and strategy, resulting in one common set of objectives given to a single incident commander for tactical implementation. It will also be the responsibility of LMAC group to determine cost sharing for multi-jurisdictional fires.

LMAC group may consist of:

- Jackson County Commissioner or designee
- Jackson County - Sheriff or designee.
- Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control – FMO or designee.
- Federal land agency involved - Forest Supervisor (USFS) or designee, or Field Office Manager (BLM) or designee, Complex Project Leader (USFWS) or designee.

Response to Wildland Fire

Special Management Considerations

BLM and USFWS lands operate under the Northwest Colorado Fire Management Plan. USFS lands operate Medicine Bow/Routt National Forest Fire Plan. These plans outline various management responses to wildland fire. The management response within designated Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, "roadless" areas, and/or other areas may be less than direct full suppression and will be conducted under the direction of the jurisdictional federal official.

EVACUATIONS AND STRUCTURE PROTECTION

Emergency evacuation plans and preplanning for structure protection will be considered in current and future County fire planning efforts as resources allow. Evacuations will be the responsibility of the County Sheriff.

REHABILITATION OF WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION ACTION

Rehabilitation actions are the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency, unless otherwise agreed to by the unified command at the time of fire close out. Rehabilitation 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 wildfires that escape initial attack on federally managed lands to determine the appropriate response. This is done via the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS). This procedure requires Federal Agency Administrator participation. Affected jurisdictional agencies should assist in the completion of the decision support tool. If there is a multiple ownership non-EFF fire with federal lands involved, the appropriate federal decision support tool will be prepared that incorporates federal, state, county and private land interests.

DFPC requires an Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) Analysis Form (DFPC Form 1) to be prepared on non-federal fires that have the potential to exceed County control capabilities. The Sheriff may use this form to help determine if a fire might be eligible for EFF. The DFPC FMO is responsible for filling out this complexity analysis form with input from the Sheriff for all requests.

Cooperation

DETECTION

Jackson County Sheriff's Office in Walden will normally receive reports of wildland fires from the public and they or the Jackson County unit responding will notify the CRC. When CRC receives reports they will notify Jackson County.

INITIAL ATTACK DISPATCH LEVELS

Initial attack dispatch levels are not predetermined for non-federal resources Jackson County, but are based on the availability of personnel at the time of dispatch. BLM and USFS levels are predetermined in their respective Operating Plans. The BLM plan can be found on the Craig Interagency Dispatch website located at the following address:

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

The USFS Operating Plan will be finalized and available in the near future.

MOBILIZATION GUIDES

Federal land management agencies that are party to this AOP maintain mobilization guides. These guides may be useful to the County for obtaining private sector wildland fire resources.

POST-INCIDENT ACTION ANALYSIS

Analysis of incidents will be conducted at a level commensurate with the complexity of the incident.

Communication

On scene, VFIRE21 (154.2800) will be used for inter-agency communication on wildland fires.

To contact CRC agencies should use federal frequencies listed below.

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 fires of the jurisdictional agency. No party to this operating plan will use, or authorize others to use, another agency's radio frequencies for routine day-to-day 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. Following are radio frequencies specifically authorized for use:

ON SCENE USE VFIRE21 (154.2800) FOR INTER-AGENCY COMMUNICATION

Other Important Local Frequencies are listed In Exhibit B

Cost efficiency

N/A

Delegation of Authority

A written delegation of authority should 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 (Type 3 and above) 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

Preservation of Evidence

The jurisdictional agency will have primary responsibility for fire investigation, and any civil or criminal follow up actions taken.

Fire cause determination is required for both EFF and FEMA incidents. Additionally, however, the jurisdictional agency will keep other responding agencies informed of the status of its investigations and legal actions.

STATE EMERGENCY FIRE FUND (EFF)

INTENT

Jackson County is a member of the State EFF agreement. The purpose of the EFF agreement is to provide funds to cover costs associated with a large fire or multiple fires on non-federal lands that the resources of the county cannot handle.

When EFF is implemented, DFPC assumes responsibility and authority for all suppression activity until the fire is returned to county responsibility; however, the county must maintain a minimum level of participation after EFF is implemented as outlined in EFF Activation section.

FUNDING

Member counties contribute money annually, based on an assessment that considers the number of forested acres and valuation of private land.

ROLES

1. DFPC REGIONAL FMO

Act for DFPC Director or designee; complete EFF Analysis Form (DFPC Form 1) for each shift, with input from the Sheriff; prepare DFPC Fire Funding Request (DFPC Form 3); ensure DFPC Director or designee is aware of local situations and procedures.

2. JACKSON COUNTY SHERIFF

Give input to Regional FMO for EFF Analysis Form (DFPC Form 1) for potential EFF fires; sign Assumption of Control Form (DFPC Form 4) for fires that the DFPC Director or designee approves for EFF; serve as County representative in Unified Command.

3. JACKSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Approve Assumption of Control Form (DFPC Form 4) for fires that the DFPC Director or designee approves for EFF.

4. OTHER AGENCIES

Provide Sheriff with personnel and equipment necessary to meet minimum county resource commitment.

LMAC GROUP

All EFF fires will utilize a LMAC Group consisting of, at a minimum, Jackson County Commissioner or designee, Jackson County Sheriff and DFPC. If land administered by another agency is threatened or involved, that agency will provide a member of the LMAC Group as outlined in Operations section.

EFF ACTIVATION

Implementation of the Emergency Fire Fund can be done only by the DFPC Director or designee upon the recommendation of the DFPC Regional FMO, following a request from the county. For this reason, it is important that the DFPC Regional 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.

1. DFPC FORMS

- a. DFPC 1 prepared by DFPC Regional FMO with input from Jackson County Sheriff
- b. DFPC 4 prepared by DFPC Regional FMO with input from Jackson County Sheriff.
- c. WFDSS or appropriate decision support tool prepared by DFPC with input from the Sheriff.

2. COUNTY RESPONSIBILITY

The minimum Jackson County resource commitment for an on-going EFF fire is two

wildland engines, one structural engine, one water tender, and two line production pieces of equipment all with operators. Additionally Jackson County will provide an incident command post and traffic control. It is understood that if the tactics of a given incident do not require some of this equipment, it will not be required on scene.

3. EFF/DFPC RESPONSIBILITY

DFPC will provide an Agency Administrator for each EFF fire. DFPC will act as the fund administrator for all EFF fires.

EFF DEACTIVATION

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

MOP-UP AND PATROL

The County will be responsible for mop-up and patrol, after control of an EFF fire has been transferred back to the County from DFPC, according to an extended incident action plan.

USE AND REIMBURSEMENT OF INTERAGENCY FIRE RESOURCES

Cost Share Agreement (Cost Share Methodologies)

Exhibit E contains information regarding cost shares.

Training

Standard approved fire training courses are provided periodically by DFPC, USFS, BLM, NPS, and other agencies. As these courses are scheduled, all cooperators will be informed and invited to participate. Training needs of all agencies within the County should be considered and priorities identified.

Communication Systems

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

Fire Weather Systems

See Fire Prevention section 1.a.

Aviation Operations

AVIATION MAP AND NARRATIVE

Aviation hazard maps are completed for Jackson County and are in CRC.

FLIGHT FOLLOWING/FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT

CRC will flight follow for aircraft ordered through them. If radio communication problems develop, CRC will coordinate with adjacent dispatch centers to provide flight following.

CWN AIRCRAFT (CALL WHEN NEEDED)

CWN is beyond the scope of this plan.

FIXED WING BASE MANAGEMENT

There are no permanent air tanker bases in Jackson County.

SINGLE ENGINE AIR TANKER (SEAT) BASES

When a combination of factors or events, as agreed to by the Sheriff and DFPC, creates a situation that warrants pre-positioning of a SEAT in Jackson County, the Sheriff should request pre-positioning through the DFPC 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 Jackson 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 Jackson County or not.

LEAD PLANE/AIR ATTACK ACTIVATION

The determination to use a lead plane or air attack will be made in accordance with policy.

AVIATION REQUESTS AND OPERATIONS

Requests for aircraft will be made only by the incident commander with approval of the jurisdictional agency. For fires on state or private lands, aircraft orders will be made through CRC, and will only be accepted from the County Sheriff, Undersheriff, County Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, County Commissioner, or County Administrator. Current and potential threats and values at risk will be prioritized when ordering aircraft.

Aircraft identified in section VI may be available as initial attack resources. These aircraft and others are on national contracts. It should be realized that if ordered, aircraft might come from out of state, which could incur costs well beyond those that could be expected when aircraft are located at Grand Junction or Lakewood. An Initial Attack Aircraft Zone Map for Colorado listing important air-ground frequencies is located in **Exhibit C**.

The Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (WERF) is in place for the upcoming fire season. Please see **Exhibit D** for complete operating procedures. Jackson County is required to provide state notification immediately upon ordering aircraft. The method for ordering aircraft and/or implementing WERF is via the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC). An aircraft ordering form is included in **Exhibit F** as a reference to assist in ordering, if needed. All aircraft orders made from the County Communications Center to the CRC will be considered a valid request from the County and obligation of county funds for that aircraft. It is preferred that such requests come from the County Communications Center, however, if more expedient, after consulting with the County Commissioners the request may come directly from the Sheriff, Undersheriff, Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, County Commissioner or County Administrator. The CRC shall immediately notify the appropriate DFPC FMO whenever a county requests aircraft assistance.

INSPECTION SCHEDULE

No aircraft inspections are scheduled.

AIRPORT WEATHER

An automated weather observation system at the Jackson County Airport can be accessed by calling 970-723-4513, radio KXGH 118.625

Billing Procedures

The County may aggregate expenses incurred by the county and fire districts to suppress fires on federal jurisdictions, and may present an invoice for such expenses to the Finance office of

the DFPC, who will then reimburse the County and subsequently bill the jurisdictional federal agency or agencies.

REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES

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.

All DFPC reimbursement (non-Federal Agencies) will have invoices sent to the DFPC Finance office within 30 days after incident resources are released. The DFPC Finance office will attempt to make payment as soon as possible after receiving the invoice. Invoices are required to have proper documentation before the process for payment can be completed. This will include information on personnel time, equipment time, rates of pay and resource order.

In order for the Fire Department to get paid by the USFS, BLM or USFWS (for reimbursable federal fires) the following must be submitted to the DFPC within 30 days of the end of the incident 1) invoice, 2) shift tickets for equipment, 3) firefighter time reports, 4) resource order copy, 5) salary expense documentation, and 6) travel expense documentation.

RESOURCE USE RATES

DFPC equipment use rates are computed annually. These rates apply to DFPC equipment, including that currently assigned to individual fire districts and that contracted with fire districts. A state wide Fire Equipment Rental Agreement is in place for all DFPC equipment.

Cooperators wishing to make equipment available for use on federal incidents must have completed a Cooperative Resource Rate Form (CRRF). CRRFs are managed by the DFPC and valid for 3 years. Costs for equipment not listed on a CRRF may not be reimbursed by the jurisdictional agency.

Cost Recovery

Costs incurred by an assisting agency for services that exceed initial attack, as described in the Reciprocal (Mutual Aid) Fire Assistance section shall be considered reimbursable. These services must be requested by the jurisdictional agency through their dispatch center or documented by the incident commander in the fire report. Resources not documented by a resource order number or by the incident commander may not be reimbursable. A written cost-share agreement on multi-jurisdictional incidents will be completed as soon as possible. A cost share agreement reference is located in **Exhibit E**.

When a fire is accepted by the State as an EFF incident, all affected jurisdictional agencies shall mutually agree upon Cost Share Principles unless otherwise agreed to by the parties. When a wildfire occurs on lands of more than one agency, and costs are incurred in addition to the initial attack, reimbursement will usually be based on acres burned within jurisdictions, unless otherwise agreed to by the Unified Command or LMAC before demobilization.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Personnel Policy

N/A

Modification

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

The annual fire operating plan will be reviewed annually. If no changes are needed, a new cover page with the updated year and signature page will be distributed to all parties along with a statement letter indicating no changes have occurred.

A meeting of cooperating agencies will be held each year. 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 Jackson County Annual Operating Plan

SIGNATURES

Authorized Representatives

JACKSON COUNTY SIGNATURES



Jackson County Commissioners

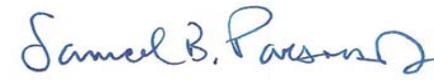
3/9/15
Date



Jackson County Sheriff, Gary Cure

3-9-2015
Date

COLORADO DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION & CONTROL SIGNATURE



Regional Fire Management Officer, Sam Parsons

3/7/2015
Date

FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY SIGNATURES

Carolyn Upton
Medicine Bow-Routt NF Forest Supervisor - Deputy

03/09/15
Date

Stephen Odell
Bureau of Land Management Field Office Manager

3/6/15
Date

Ann Timben
Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge Complex Project Leader

3/9/15
Date

EXHIBITS

- A. RESOURCE LIST
- B. RADIO FREQUENCIES
- C. INITIAL ATTACK AIRCRAFT ZONE MAP
- D. WERF GUIDELINES
- E. COST SHARE AGREEMENT REFERENCE
- F. AIR SUPPORT REQUEST FORM

EXHIBIT A – RESOURCE LIST

County Equipment

1988 Dresser TD20G Dozer Type 2, s/n 35155
2009 D6T Dozer Type 2, s/n WFH00500
1997 JD 772CH Grader, s/n DW772CH561194
1997 JD 772CH Grader, s/n DW772CH560983
2003 JD 772CH Grader, s/n DW772CH589010
2001 Cat 143H grader, s/n 1AL01198
2001 Cat 143H grader, s/n 1AL01199
1973 Cat 613B Scraper, s/n 71M2612
Freightliner tractor and lowboy
7000 – gal. Semi-tractor trailer with pump

North Park Fire Rescue

Walden Fire Station (Apparatus call sign in parenthesis)

1000 – gal engine type 4X (308) w/foam
4x4 rescue truck-will be upgraded June 1 (305), 2500 gal. Type1 engine (304), 4x4 engine type 6 (303) foam
Type 6X with compressed air foam (301)
Type 6X with foam (343)
2 – 1000 gal. Portable tanks
1 Type 7 engine (911)

Gould Fire Station

300 – Gal. Engine type 6 (311)
1000 – Gal. Engine type 4X (309) w/foam
1200 – Gal. Engine type 1 (310)

Cowdrey Fire Station

4x4 scat truck, type 7 (300)
Misc. hand tools and hose

Rand Fire Station

1-1000 gal. Engine type 4X (306) w/foam
1-1000 gal. 4x2 engine type 1 (307)
Misc. hand tools and hose

Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge

None

Northwest Colorado Fire Management Area

4 – Type 6 Engines w/foam	2-Mark III pumps
1 – Type 4 Engine w/foam	1000 gal. Fold-a-tank
1 – 5 person IA Squad	
1 – 22 person IHC	

Med/Bow Routt National Forest-Routt Zone Fire Management Area

1- Type 6 Engine w/foam (Walden/Parks RD)
1- Type 6 Engine w/foam (Yampa/Yampa RD)

1- 7 person Wildland Fire Module (Steamboat/Hahn's Peak Bears Ears RD)

Aircraft

Requests for air support must include (i) name of individual acting as ground contact (to be identified by Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC)) (ii) radio frequency for ground contact (to be identified by CRC) (iii) nearest base of operations. (See Exhibit C for map of frequencies)

Rifle Air Center

1-Type 3 Helicopter

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control

2- Single Engine Air Tankers

2 -Type 3 Helicopters

1- Type 2 Helicopter

Rawlins Station

1-Type 3 Helicopter

EXHIBIT D – WERF GUIDELINES - 2015

**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.
	Type 1, Type 2 Initial Attack, or Type 2 NWCG-qualified crews.
	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.
HAND CREW	Chase truck.
	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.*

Rev. 3/2015

EXHIBIT E – COST SHARE AGREEMENT REFERENCE

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.

Unit Administrator (Line Officer): the individual assigned administrative responsibilities for an established organizational unit, such as Forest Supervisors or District Rangers (USFS), District or Area Manager (BLM), DFPC Director or Designate (State), Regional Director or Refuge Manager (USFWS), Park Superintendent (NPS), and Agency Superintendent (BIA), County Sheriff or his designee, 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.

The cost centers that should be considered in this agreement:

Fireline Resources: Maintainers, dozers, engines, tenders, hand crews, line or overhead

Air support: Air tankers, helicopters, lead planes, air operations.

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.

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.

Cost Share Agreement Documentation (Example)

Incident Name: _____ **IA Number:** _____
Start date & time: _____ **Incident cause:** _____
Incident jurisdiction: _____

Cost share documentation between _____ and Jackson County, and with the cooperation of the Colorado State Forest Service, was prepared with the following authorities provided by:

1. The Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement between the State of Colorado; USDA Forest Service; UDSI 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 Jackson County and the State of Colorado.
3. Annual Fire Operating Plan for Jackson County.

Agency Representatives participating in the development of the Cost Share Agreement:

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

Date/time agreement starts: _____ **Date/time agreement ends:** _____

It is hereby agreed that the cost basis on this incident will be shared as follows:
(List any special conditions or resource objectives, i.e. aircraft ordering, mechanized restrictions or specific conditions. Operational responsibility will be defined in this section.)

No cost to either agency per AOP Mutual Aid period. Period is Start Date/Time until Ending Date/Time. Mutual Aid extended by agreement of both agencies until further notice.

Agency Authorized Signature

Agency Authorized Signature

EXHIBIT F

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 970-257-4800 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:

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