



Counties

Moffat
Routt
Rio Blanco
Grand
Jackson

CRAIG INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER LOCAL MAC GROUP (LMAC)

Annual Operating Plan

2013

INTRODUCTION

The Craig Interagency Dispatch Center serves three BLM Field Offices, one National Forest, one National Monument, two National Wildlife Refuges, five counties, and the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (CDFPC). The Dispatch Center coordinates the priority setting and allocation of resources for fire management within the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center's sphere of influence in the most cost effective and efficient manner on an ongoing basis. When the number or complexity of fire management activities and competition for resources increases significantly within the dispatch area and/or within the Rocky Mountain Geographic Area, the Craig Local Multi-Agency Coordinating (LMAC) Group may be activated.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Craig LMAC Group is formed in order to establish protection objectives, develop criteria and set priorities for incidents and /or Area Command. The Group will also direct, control, allocate and reallocate resources among or between Area Commands and Incident Management Teams to meet priorities when the character and intensity of the fire management situation significantly impacts the dispatch area.

MEMBERSHIP

The LMAC Group is comprised of managers representing the various agencies within the Craig Interagency Dispatch area. Typically, this would include representation at the Field Office Manager level for the BLM, Forest Supervisor level for the U.S. Forest Service, Project Manager level for the Fish and Wildlife Service, Park Superintendent for the National Park Service, the Northwest Regional FMO for the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, and Commissioner or Sheriff/Emergency Manager level for the counties. Representation may be delegated to the respective Fire Management Officers.

Members must be delegated authority in writing to represent and make commitments on behalf of their agency. A list of current members and advisors is included in Appendix A of this plan.

OPERATING PROCEDURES

LMAC GROUP ACTIVATION

At Preparedness Levels below III, the Dispatch Center Manager or acting serves to help prioritize incidents and facilitate Inter-Agency business on an as needed basis.

At Preparedness Level III and above, the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center Manager and the NWCFMU, National Park Service and Routt NF Duty Officers will discuss and consider the need to activate the LMAC Group. The decision to activate the LMAC will be based on the number of large/complex/IMT incidents, fire use actions, prescribed burns scheduled, predicted weather, percentage of area crews and initial attack resources committed, and the level of competition for resources between units and/or Geographic Areas.

The LMAC will typically meet at the dispatch center or may conduct business via conference calls.

The LMAC Group does not direct the Incident Management Teams or Area Command(s), who retain the authority and responsibility for on-the-ground management of the incident organization.

The roles and responsibilities of the LMAC representatives are as follows:

1. Prioritize fire management incidents.
2. Provide guidance on the allocation or re-allocation of scarce/limited resources among incidents to assure safe, productive, wildland fire management activities commensurate with the priorities identified. The LMAC Group at times may directly re-allocate scarce/limited resources.
3. Interact with Rocky Mountain Area MAC Group to support the Dispatch area's resource needs.

The following are other items that may be appropriate to address within the framework of the LMAC Group, these issues include but are not limited to:

1. Anticipate future resource needs.
2. Review policies and agreements for resource allocation.
3. Recommend staffing extension guidelines for available resources.
4. Review the need for involvement by other agencies.
5. Determine the need for and designate location(s) of mobilization and demobilization centers.
6. Provide information and perspective to agencies wishing to proceed with or implement a wildland fire use or prescribed fire application as indicated on the go/no-go checklist.
7. Provide disaster coordination at the State and Federal levels.
8. Improve political interfaces.

LMAC GROUP COORDINATOR

Duties of the LMAC Coordinator will be carried out by the Craig Interagency Center Manager and/or NWCFCMU Duty Officer. The LMAC Group Coordinator's roles and responsibilities are as follows:

1. Ensures that required information is being provided to the LMAC Group within the time frames specified.
2. Arranges for and manages the facilities and equipment necessary to carry out the LMAC Group functions
3. Assists the LMAC Group decision process by facilitating the group's conference calls and/or meetings.
4. Documents the LMAC Group's decisions and coordinates with agencies and dispatch to assure of implementation.

INTELLIGENCE REQUIREMENTS

1. Resource status (available and committed) by agency (SIT report, ROSS report, 209s)
2. Summary of outstanding resource requests and critical resource needs (ROSS – resource orders, 209s)
3. Resources coming available from reassignment from incidents approaching containment – including from neighbors and within the RMA (SIT report, contact with other centers and RMA)
4. Incident Status Information:
 - Incident Intelligence Summary (ICS-209) for each incident
 - Incident Information report for Geographic Area (SIT Report)
 - Copy of WFDSS for each new large incident
 - Incident Action Plans and maps (if available)
 - Summary of updated information (by incident) collected from calls to Incident Management Teams, Fire Management Officers, Information Officers, etc.
 - GACC list of priorities
 - Press releases and fire closures
5. Assessment of current/potential fuel situation and fire behavior predictions if available.
6. Short and long-range weather forecasts

MEETING/CONFERENCE CALL PROTOCOL

The agenda for the LMAC Group meetings/conference calls will be as follows:

1. Roll Call
2. Situation Report (local, area, and national)
3. Fuels/Fire Behavior Assessment (if available)
4. Weather Briefing
5. Prioritize Incidents
6. Allocate Resources
7. Document Decisions and transmit to the field
8. Issues Discussion
9. Evaluate the need to continue LMAC

See Appendix B for Agenda Outline.

INCIDENT PRIORITIZATION

The initial meeting of the LMAC group will include development of the prioritization criteria by which incidents will be prioritized and scarce resources allocated for the duration of the LMAC function. Currently priorities as outlined in the RMA Mobilization Guide are as follows:

1. Maintaining initial action capability
2. Life safety/threats to life
3. Protecting communities and community infrastructure, other property and improvements, and natural and cultural resources in the following order:
 - a. Community infrastructure (including long term effects to economic sustainability and viability)
 - b. Historically significant cultural resources
 - c. Principal residence (year-round homes)
 - d. Non-principle residence (seasonal homes, cabins, etc)
 - e. Out-buildings (barns, unattached garages, utility buildings, etc.)
 - f. Forest/range improvements
4. Threats to natural resources
5. High value (\$) resources
6. Threatened and endangered species habitat
 - a. Critical habitat
 - b. Key habitat
7. Sensitive species habitat
8. Critical winter range
9. Other
 - a. Limiting costs without compromising safety.
 - b. Meeting agency suppression objectives.
 - c. Support to National Response Framework (NRF) taskings

These priorities can serve as a guideline for the LMAC or be adopted as is for the purpose of prioritization. See Appendix C for Priority/Decision Matrix

LMAC GROUP PRODUCTS

The flow of information regarding the LMAC Group decisions is from the LMAC Coordinator through the dispatch/coordination system or through individual members to their agencies for implementation.

On a daily basis the LMAC Group can be expected to issue an Incident Status Summary that will provide a short overview of the situation within the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center sphere of influence along with the following:

1. Prioritized list of fires and additional resources to be assigned (as they become available). A blank form is included in this plan as Appendix D.
2. Other actions/products that could be considered by the LMAC could include:
 - Activate Aviation Safety Team
 - Require adequate notice before release/reassignment of resources

APPENDIX A

Coordinating Group Directory

****Phone numbers and email addresses are not listed in the web version of this document****

APPENDIX B

AGENDA OUTLINE

Conference Call –Craig Interagency Dispatch Center MAC Group

1. Roll Call
2. Coordination/Dispatch Center Briefing (Situation Report)
3. Fuels and Fire Behavior Briefing
4. Weather Briefing
5. Prioritize/re-prioritize incidents
6. Determine allocations of Resources
7. Document and Distribute Decisions
8. CIGG Issues (Round Robin)
9. Re-evaluate the need to continue MAC

APPENDIX C Priority/Decision Matrix

Incident Name: _____ Unit: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____
 Prescribed Burn () Wildland Fire: Active Suppression () Multiple Management Objectives ()

VA X WF = TP

Element	Value of 1	Value of 3	Value of 5	Value Assigned	Weight Factor	Total Points
Firefighter Safety	Low exposure with simple hazards easily mitigated. One or no aircraft assigned.	Moderate exposure with several hazardous conditions mitigated through the LCES worksheet.	High exposure which requires strategies to mitigate hazards. Multiple aircraft types assigned.		5	
Public Safety	Exposure to hazard can be mitigated through public contact. No known air quality violations at sensitive receptors.	Public must be managed to limit hazard exposure. Air quality is degraded and approaches NAAQ violation thresholds.	Closures of highways and evacuations likely. Air quality at sensitive receptors violates NAAQs. Public exposure to hazard is imminent.		5	
Objectives	Objectives are easily achieved.	Objectives are moderately difficult to achieve.	Objectives are difficult to achieve. Several conflicts between objectives and constraints exist.		5	
Duration of Resource Commitment	1-3 days	4-7 days	>8		4	
Improvements to be Protected	No improvements within or adjacent to the fire.	Several improvements to be protected are within or adjacent to the fire. Mitigation through planning and/or preparation is adequate. May require some commitment of specialized resources.	Numerous improvements within or adjacent to the fire. Severe damage is likely without commitment of significant specialized resources with appropriate skill level.		3	
Cultural and Natural Resource Values	Impacts to resources are acceptable.	Several resource values will be impacted <u>or</u> enhanced.	Resource benefits are significant <u>or</u> the likelihood of negative impacts is great.		3	
Social, Economic, and Political Impacts/Concerns	No controversy or media interest. No impacts to neighbors or visitors.	Some impact to neighbors or visitors generating some controversy. Press releases are issued, but no media presence on fires.	High impacts to neighbors results in media presence during fire operations. High internal and external interests and concerns exist.		3	
Economic Considerations	Values to be protected or treated are less than costs of management.	Values to be protected or treated are equal to costs of management action.	Values to be protected or treated exceed costs of management action.		3	
Threats to Boundaries	Low threats to boundaries. Boundaries are naturally defensible.	Moderate risk of fire escaping established perimeter and active suppression or holding is required.	Fire is certain to exceed established perimeter without aggressive suppression or holding actions and will result in a much more complex situation.		2	
WFDSS				Yes	No	
Critical Resources on Incident				Yes	No	
Total Priority Points						
MAC Group Priority Ranking						

This Priority Decision Matrix form can be completed for each large wildland and prescribed fire during Preparedness Levels IV and V to allow each incident to be given a numerical ranking for each of the following elements:

1. Firefighter safety
2. Public safety
3. Objectives
4. Duration of resource commitment
5. Improvements to be protected
6. Cultural and natural resource values
7. Social, economic and political impacts/concerns
8. Economic considerations
9. Threats to boundaries

Within each ranking element, three different point values can be chosen in order to reflect the complexity of the incident. The total points are derived by multiplying the value assigned by the weighting factor (value assigned x weighting factor = total points).

