

2012

**SOUTHWEST COLORADO
ANNUAL FIRE OPERATING PLAN**

Between

THE WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION AGENCIES

Within

ARCHULETA COUNTY (AUX)

DOLORES COUNTY (DLX)

LA PLATA COUNTY (LPX)

MONTEZUMA COUNTY (MNX)

SAN JUAN COUNTY (SJX)

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APPENDICES	
A	Protection Zone Map
B	Cooperator Resource Rate Form (CRRF) (Blank)
C	CSFS #108A EFF Analysis Form (Blank)
D	2012 Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (WERF) Guidelines
E	Fire Cost Share Principles (CSFS)
F	Interagency Fire Restriction Criteria and Restriction Descriptions
G	Glossary of SW Colorado AOP Acronyms
H	<i>Local Fire Departments & DRC Wildland Fire Communications SOPs</i>
ATTACHMENTS (Counties should attach their current documents/forms.)	
Current County CSFS #108 and #109 forms	
Current County Cooperator Resource Rates Forms	
REFERENCES	
Mobilization Guides (Durango, Rocky Mountain Area & National)	
Interagency Standards for Fire & Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book) – USFS, BLM, NPS, FWS	
Wildland Fire & Aviation Program Management and Operations Guide (Blue Book) – BIA	
NWCG Interagency Fireline Handbook	
NWCG Wildland Fire Qualifications Systems Guide (PMS-310-1)	
Colorado Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement	
DRC Area Interagency Frequency Guide	
CSFS AOP Supplement: AOP Template, Cooperator Reimbursement Guidelines & Forms, EFF Guidelines & Forms, WERF Guidelines, CSFS Equipment Rates	

I. SOUTHWEST COLORADO (SW CO) ANNUAL FIRE OPERATING PLAN APPROVALS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

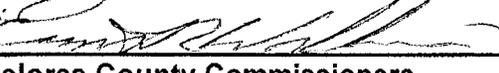
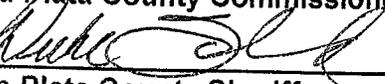
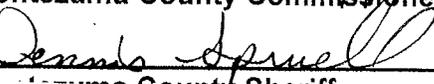
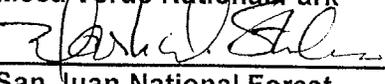
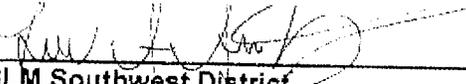
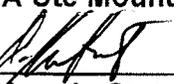
Participants of the AOP consist of the following:

- Archuleta County: Board of County Commissioners, Archuleta County
Archuleta County Sheriff
Pagosa Fire Protection District
Los Pinos Fire Protection District
Archuleta County Combined Dispatch
- Dolores County: Board of County Commissioners, Dolores County
Dolores County Sheriff
Dove Creek Fire Protection District
Rico Fire Protection District
- La Plata County: Board of County Commissioners, La Plata County
La Plata County Sheriff
Durango Fire & Rescue Authority
Fort Lewis Mesa Fire Protection District
Los Pinos Fire Protection District
Upper Pine River Fire Protection District
- Montezuma County: Board of County Commissioners, Montezuma County
Montezuma County Sheriff
Cortez Fire Protection District
Dolores Fire Protection District
Mancos Fire Protection District
Lewis-Arriola Fire Protection District
Pleasant View Fire Protection District
Ute Mountain Ute Fire & Safety
- San Juan County: Board of County Commissioners, San Juan County
San Juan County Sheriff
Silverton San Juan Fire & Rescue Authority
Durango Fire & Rescue Authority
- State Agencies: Colorado State Forest Service – Durango District
Colorado Division of Emergency Management
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- Federal Agencies: USDA Forest Service, San Juan National Forest
USDI Bureau of Land Management, Southwest District
Tres Rios Field Office
Canyons of the Ancients National Monument
USDI National Park Service, Mesa Verde National Park
USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern Ute Agency
USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs, Ute Mountain Agency

All participants of this AOP agree to coordinate their wildfire protection activities as outlined herein. The parties agree to the procedures contained in this Annual Fire Operating Plan to be effective on the dates shown below.

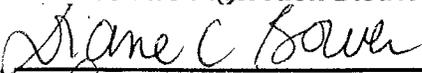
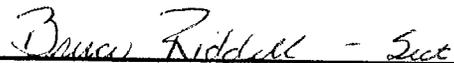
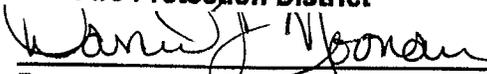
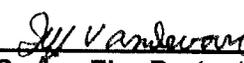
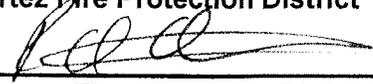
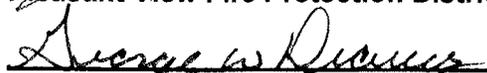
**2012 Southwest Colorado Annual Fire Operating Plan
(Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, and San Juan Counties)**

Plan Approval – The parties below agree to the procedures contained in this Annual Fire Operating Plan to be effective on May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013.

	4-23-12
Archuleta County Commissioners	Date
	4-25-12
Archuleta County Sheriff	Date
	4-26-12
Dolores County Commissioners	Date
	4-26-12
Dolores County Sheriff	Date
	4/24/12
La Plata County Commissioners	Date
	4-27-2012
La Plata County Sheriff	Date
	3-26-12
Montezuma County Commissioners	Date
	3/29/2012
Montezuma County Sheriff	Date
	4-11-12
San Juan County Commissioners	Date
	4-3-12
San Juan County Sheriff	Date
	3/29/12
Mesa Verde National Park	Date
	3/26/2012
San Juan National Forest	Date
	4/1/2012
BLM Southwest District	Date
	April 16, 2012
BIA Southern Ute Agency	Date
	03/26/12
BIA Ute Mountain Agency	Date
	4/27/12
Colorado State Forest Service	Date

**2012 Southwest Colorado Annual Fire Operating Plan
(Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, and San Juan Counties)**

Plan Acknowledgement – The parties below are in acknowledgement of the Annual Fire Operating Plan to be effective on May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013.

	4-4-12
Dolores Fire Protection District	Date
	3-28-12
Pagosa Fire Protection District	Date
	3-27-12
Los Pinos Fire Protection District	Date
	4-26-12
Dove Creek Fire Protection District	Date
	4-10-12
Rico Fire Protection District	Date
	3/28/12
Durango Fire & Rescue Authority	Date
	3-28-12
Fort Lewis Mesa Fire Protection District	Date
	28 MARCH 12
Upper Pine River Fire Protection District	Date
	4-4-12
Cortez Fire Protection District	Date
	4-4-12
Mancos Fire Protection District	Date
	4-4-12
Pleasant View Fire Protection District	Date
	4-4-12
Lewis-Argolla Fire Protection District	Date
	4-4-12
Ute Mountain Ute Fire & Safety	Date
	4-27-2012
Silverton San Juan Fire and Rescue Authority	Date

2012 Southwest Colorado Annual Fire Operating Plan
(Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, and San Juan Counties)

Plan Acknowledgement (page 2) – The parties below are in acknowledgement of the Annual Fire Operating Plan to be effective on May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013.

<u>Carl Nevitt</u>	<u>1/30/12</u>
Archuleta County Combined Dispatch	Date
<u>Patricia L. Bavelde</u>	<u>3/28/12</u>
Colorado Division of Emergency Management	Date
<u>Pat Day</u>	<u>4/27/12</u>
Colorado Parks & Wildlife Area 15	Date
<u>Doug Smith</u>	<u>4-20-12</u>
Navajo Lake State Park	Date
<u>Sam Elden</u>	<u>3/27/2012</u>
Lone Mesa/Mancos State Parks	Date

II. JURISDICTIONS FOR FIRE MANAGEMENT

Wildfire jurisdictions for USDA Forest Service (USFS), USDI Bureau of Land Management (BLM), USDI National Park Service (NPS), USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the County Sheriff (private and state) lands are shown on the BLM 1:100,000 scale color surface management status maps.

III. AUTHORITY

Authorities for this plan are:

- ❖ Colorado Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (06/01/2011)

Agency Agreement #s:

BLM:	BLM-MOU-CO-538
NPS:	F1249110016
BIA:	AG06M000002
FWS:	14-48-60139-K001
BOR:	06AG9602140 (Great Plains) 06LM4002740 (Upper Colorado)
USFS:	FS 11-FI-11020000-017
CSFS:	No Agreement Number Used

- ❖ Archuleta County: Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Archuleta County (CSFS #109)
Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund with Archuleta County (CSFS #108)
- ❖ Dolores County: Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Dolores County (CSFS #109)
Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund with Dolores County (CSFS #108)
- ❖ La Plata County: Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in La Plata County (CSFS #109)
Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund with La Plata County (CSFS #108)
- ❖ Montezuma County: Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Montezuma County (CSFS #109)
Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund with Montezuma County (CSFS #108)
- ❖ San Juan County: Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in San Juan County (CSFS #109)
Note: San Juan County does not participate in the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund.

IV. PLAN PURPOSE

The purpose of this Annual Fire Operating Plan (AOP) is to set forth the standard operating procedures, agreed procedures, and responsibilities to implement cooperative wildland fire protection on all lands within Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, and San Juan Counties. All participants of this plan agree to coordinate their wildland fire management activities as outlined herein.

V. 2012 SOUTHWEST COLORADO AOP SUMMARY

The following table summarizes information of particular importance from within this Operating Plan.

	LA PLATA COUNTY	ARCHULETA COUNTY	MONTEZUMA COUNTY	DOLORES COUNTY	SAN JUAN COUNTY
Sheriff & Others in County Government with Authority to Order Aircraft	Duke Schirard Butch Knowlton David Griggs Dan Noonan Rich Graeber Larry Behrens Steve Ebner	Pete Gonzalez Jim Saunders Drew Petersen Christina Marquart Larry Behrens Diane Bower Rich Graeber AUX EOC ESF4	Dennis Spruell Robin Cronk Jeff Vandevoorde George Deavers Jeff Yoder Mike Zion Tony Aspromonte John Trocheck Paul Hollar	Jerry Martin Tim Rowell Julie Kibel Doug Stowe Ernie Williams Dwayne Garchar Todd Jones	Sue Kurtz Kris Burns Gilbert Archuleta Ernie Kuhlman Michael Maxfield
Fire Contacts	Central Dispatch	Archuleta County Combined Dispatch	Cortez Dispatch	Dove Creek Dispatch	San Juan Dispatch
Phone #	970-385-2900 Butch 382-6274 Cell 749-8122	970-731-2160	970-565-8454 Cell 759-9383	970-677-2257	970-387-5531
Fax#	970-385-2908	970-731-2168	970-565-3991	970-677-2880	970-387-0251
EOC (if activated)		970-731-2222 fax: 970-731-4800			
Mutual Aid Period	4 hours	4 hours	4 hours	4 hours	4 hours
Mutual Aid Zone	1 mile	1 mile	1 mile	1 mile	1 mile
Minimum County Commitment For EFF Incident	4 engines 4 tenders 1 dozer w/DZOP & Lowboy	2 engines 1 tender 1 dozer w/DZOP & Lowboy	2 engines 1 tender 1 dozer w/DZOP & Lowboy	1 engine 1 tender 1 dozer w/DZOP & Lowboy	N/A

* Water tender with operator, 24 hour staffing if necessary

* Dozer with operator and lowboy, 24 hour staffing if necessary

* Engine, staffed to NWCG Standards, 24 hour staffing if necessary

CSFS - Durango Office NOTIFICATION (970-247-5250): The Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) fire duty officer will be notified of any fire that is on or threatening state or private lands which is expected to exceed the control capabilities of the county or is threatening multiple homes and/or other structures.

VI. GENERAL

A. FIRE MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Each jurisdictional agency has ultimate responsibility for wildland fire protection on its own lands. The County Sheriff is responsible for wildland fire protection on all non-federal lands in their County (CRS-30-10-513).

The parties to this agreement shall be distinguished as follows:

Protecting Agency

The agency responsible for providing direct wildland fire protection to a given area pursuant to this Agreement.

Supporting Agency

An agency providing fire suppression or other support and resources to the Protecting Agency.

Jurisdictional Agency

The agency that has overall land and resource management and/or protection responsibility as provided by Federal or State law.

B. MOBILIZATION GUIDES

Interagency Incident Mobilization Guides identify policies and procedures that establish standard operating procedures to guide the operations of incident support activities, as well as maintain references of information and resources. The DRC Mob Guide compliments this SW CO Annual Fire Operating Plan.

Directory of Personnel

A directory of personnel and participants to this AOP is found in the DRC Mobilization Guide.

Resource List

County, Fire Protection District, Fire Department, and Colorado State Forest Service resources are listed on Cooperator Resource Rates Forms which are attached to this document by each county. The blank form can be found in Appendix B.

A variety of federal, state and local resources are identified in the Durango Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapters 60 – 80.

C. MUTUAL AID FIRE PROTECTION ZONES

(Protection Zone Maps can be found in Appendix A)

Dispatching

Each county dispatch center, dispatches for wildfires on state/private lands. DRC will support the county dispatch and dispatch for all other Wildland fires and dispatch all available resources as requested. DRC should be notified of response to all wildland fires (federal, state, or private). DRC will notify the appropriate county dispatch centers of all wildland fires on federal or tribal lands. In addition, the ordering of all aircraft (or other high risk resources) will be communicated by the ordering party to the appropriate dispatch centers. (See section VIII. for specific details.)

Mutual aid zones are defined for initial attack purposes only. For fires within the reciprocal zone, each agency will assume responsibility for its own expenses only during the initial attack period. The mutual aid protection area will be one (1) mile either side of the boundary between the jurisdictional agency's land and the nearest cooperating agency's land. The mutual aid assistance period between jurisdictional agencies will be from arrival on the fire, during initial attack, and continue for a four (4) hour period, unless commonly agreed upon. Mutual aid period is not applicable to any aircraft, fire personnel, or modules that come with the aircraft or national resources.

It shall be the responsibility of the responding agency to make notification to the jurisdictional agency if other agencies lands are involved or threatened.

Replacement resources to relieve initial attack resources should be sent at the earliest possible time or negotiate continued suppression activities by the initial responding unit.

The incident's responsible agency will release resources if not needed beyond initial attack or will request the cooperator to remain at which time pay will begin. Supporting agency resources requested beyond the initial attack period will need a resource order request processed through Durango Interagency Dispatch Center (DRC) for reimbursement.

Incident qualification cards for county or FPD personnel are not required for initial attack. Wildland fires on federal or interagency lands or utilizing federal resources requires that all resources are required to meet NWCG and incident qualification (PMS 310-1) standards beyond the initial attack period.

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) which includes the Incident Command System (ICS) will be utilized on all fires. ICS does not infringe on the responsibility or authority given each agency by statute, but if a transfer of authority is necessary as conditions change, ICS eases the transition since organizational structure and lines of authority are clearly identified.

If a wildfire crosses, or threatens to cross, jurisdictional boundaries and becomes multi-agency, a Unified Command will be formed that will consist of all involved agencies, including the County Sheriff if a county is involved, and CSFS if the fire is declared an Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) fire. The purpose of Unified Command will be to meet as a group to identify policies, priorities, and strategies, resulting in a common set of objectives to be given to one single Incident Commander (IC) for tactical implementation. In addition, one delegation of authority will be mutually developed and will be signed by all agencies and the Incident Commander.

The County Sheriff, or their designated officer, may request help from local federal agencies with the understanding that the county may have to pay for suppression cost incurred beyond the mutual aid period. Firefighters will be notified of the incident jurisdiction, when it is known, and the Incident Commander's name.

Responsibility for wildland fire suppression on private land within a fire protection district (FPD) is shared jointly by the county and the FPD. Reimbursable costs shall be covered as mutually agreed upon by the county and district involved.

The County Sheriff and ordering authorities are limited in making financial obligations beyond initial attack. It is essential that the Board of County Commissioners be notified when fires go beyond initial attack and become a significant size. Developing fire of this type may require the commitment of additional resources that may be an additional cost to the county. A County Commissioner, or designee, shall be immediately available to the Sheriff, appropriate official, or the county emergency operations center, if activated.

Should an incident command team (IMT) be mobilized for an incident, the IMT should coordinate with both DRC and the local Emergency Operations Center (EOC), if activated. The Sheriff's Office should provide the IMT with an accessible agency representative, and the IMT should provide the local EOC with a liaison officer, or similar. The IMT should also direct their public information officer to coordinate with the county's joint information center/system, if it is activated.

ADDITIONAL COUNTY INFORMATION

Archuleta County (AUX):

If the Archuleta EOC is activated, the Archuleta County Sheriff, and the Archuleta County Commissioners, will be accessible to an incident commander through coordination with the EOC.

Archuleta County Response/Dispatch Boundaries: Archuleta County Combined Dispatch provides local dispatch services to the Archuleta County Response Zone which includes all of Archuleta County, Hinsdale and Mineral Counties south of the Continental Divide, with an inclusion of Wolf Creek Ski Area and Wolf Creek Pass west of the U. S. Highway 160 snow shed.

D. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Suppression within designated Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, and/or "roadless" areas will not be conducted without specific direction from the jurisdictional agency.

Action on BIA, USFS, NPS or BLM lands beyond the one-mile reciprocal zone will be evaluated by the respective agency for appropriate management response.

Use of mechanized equipment, such as bulldozers, graders, etc., will not be permitted on federal lands without the expressed approval of the jurisdictional agency.

On county fires, requests for federal resources must be placed with Durango Interagency Dispatch (DRC). Aircraft requests must be approved by authorized county individuals.

E. RESPONSIBILITY FOR NON-WILDLAND FIRE EMERGENCIES

For all non-wildland fire emergencies, such as automobile accidents, medical, aircraft accidents, etc., notification should be to the county dispatch and/or Colorado State Patrol Dispatch and to the agency with land management responsibility or nearest fire department.

F. REPAIR OF WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION DAMAGE

Repair of resources/improvements damaged by fire suppression actions is at the discretion of the jurisdictional entity.

Rehabilitation of damage caused by fire suppression actions is not covered under EFF.

VII. FIRE READINESS

A. FIRE PLANNING

Some communities have completed Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs). Fire Management Plans are in place or are being developed for all federal lands in the southwest Colorado (SW CO). SW CO counties are in the process of creating County CWPPs as authorized by the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 and encouraged by 23-31-312 C.R.S. 30-15-401.7 C.R.S. requires Colorado counties to develop CWPPs for unincorporated areas.

DRC will notify the CSFS duty officer of any fires on or threatening county lands, that are of significant size or requesting aviation resources. When wildland fires occur on county/private lands, the county should notify the State District office at the earliest practical time of all fires which have the potential to exceed the capabilities of routinely available mutual aid.

B. WILDFIRE TRAINING NEEDS AND COORDINATION

Each agency shall be responsible for the training of its own personnel. National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) wildfire training courses, meeting the Field Managers Coordinators Guide, are provided by all cooperators and offered to all cooperators. The DRC area has an Interagency Training Committee which is part of the Area and National training community. Local area and national training schedules can be found through the DRC website.

C. COOPERATOR USE RATES

The Cooperator Resource Rate Form (CRRF) is the mechanism for Cooperator reimbursement for reimbursable assignments as described in Section XIII Cost Reimbursements. The form will be completed by each non-federal agency listing all resources to be made available for local, statewide, and national assignments.

Cooperator Resource Rates for non-federal agencies are attached as part of this AOP. This information shall be provided to CSFS by March 1 of each year.

D. INSPECTION SCHEDULES

All CSFS and cooperator engines and equipment subject to interagency dispatch may be inspected prior to fire season to ensure use and roadworthiness.

VIII. WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION PROCEDURES

A. NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS)

NIMS has five major components:

- Preparedness
- Command and management
- Resource management
- Communications and information management
- Ongoing management and maintenance

Command and management includes:

- Incident Command System (ICS)
- Multiagency Coordination Systems (referred to as EOCs in this plan)
- Public Information (the joint information system)

The Incident Command System will be utilized on all 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 responsibility or authority given 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.

The Multiagency Coordination (MAC) System defines business practices, standard operating procedures, and protocols by which participating agencies will coordinate their interactions. It provides support, coordination, and assistance with policy-level decisions to the ICS structure managing an incident. It can provide coordinated decisions regarding resource allocation and harmonizing agency policies.

Multiagency coordination:

- Is a process that allows all levels of government and all disciplines to work together more efficiently and effectively
- It occurs across the different disciplines involved in incident management, across jurisdictional lines, and across all levels of government
- It can, and does, occur on a regular basis whenever personnel from different agencies interact in such activities as preparedness, prevention, response, recovery, and mitigation.

In this plan, multiagency coordination is referred to by the use of the term EOC.

Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) are one of several system elements included within the MAC System. EOCs are intended to facilitate MAC system functions. If activated, their primary role is to support the needs of the incident(s). During a full activation, an EOC may be staffed by representatives of all governmental functions, and a policy group. The policy group will be agency administrators with jurisdiction. They have the ability to define/change policy for the needs of the incident. They may also set policy for the incidents. An EOC may also set priorities between multiple incidents. Traditionally, fire management resources coordinate through Emergency Support Function (ESF) 4, Fire Management.

The Joint Information System provides the mechanism to organize, integrate, and coordinate information to ensure timely, accurate, accessible, and consistent messaging across multiple jurisdictions and/or disciplines with nongovernmental organizations and the private sector. This provides the public with timely and accurate incident information and unified public messages. This system employs Joint Information Centers (JICs) and brings incident communicators together during an incident to develop, coordinate, and deliver a unified message. This will ensure all agencies and organizations whether federal, state, tribal, or local are releasing the same information during an incident or incidents. The system should use common public information practices, as well as monitor social media. It should utilize multiple distribution platforms: TV, radio, web, social media, print, etc.

B. DETECTION

The most common points where fires are reported are county, state, and federal dispatch centers, and FAA. The office receiving the wildland fire report will notify the jurisdictional agency.

All detection activities involving aerial flights shall be coordinated through DRC so as to avoid duplication of effort, to ensure there are no gaps in coverage, and to provide for air safety. Information obtained from detection activities will be shared with the appropriate cooperators, via DRC.

C. NOTIFICATION OF FIRES

DRC will notify county dispatch centers of all fires and smoke reports (regardless of land ownership) within their respective counties or designated dispatch areas. This notification should occur by phone or on DTRS (800) MAC13.

All responding agencies will notify DRC when their agency is in route to a new start or smoke report (regardless of land ownership). This notification should be provided via radio first and phone (970-385-1324) as a backup.

Assisting agencies making initial attack on fires within a mutual aid zone will ensure that the adjacent jurisdictional agency is promptly notified of the fire through their primary Dispatch.

If the fire is on or threatening state or private land, and is expected to exceed the control capabilities of the county, the CSFS fire duty officer will be notified.

The entity providing the new fire or smoke information should provide the following:

- Report type (wildland fire, smoke report, lightning strike, etc), include size if reported
- Approximate location (exact location when known in degrees/decimal minutes or state what it is given in)
- Resources responding
- And the need for additional resources

D. INITIAL ATTACK DISPATCH LEVELS

Initial attack dispatch levels are not predetermined but are based on the closest available resource availability of personnel at the time of dispatch.

E. DISPATCHING AND RESOURCE ORDER PROCESS

Any Dispatch Center, upon receiving notice of fire in the county from any source, will notify the appropriate agencies and or dispatch the necessary initial attack forces available or requested to manage the incident.

County Dispatch Centers will act as the primary dispatch for County and Fire Protection District's initial attack response.

Durango Interagency Dispatch Center (DRC) is responsible for dispatching and coordination of all resources within the SW CO counties beyond the County Sheriff's and Fire Protection District's initial attack response. All orders placed for extended attack should go through DRC as the single ordering point for fire response in SW CO.

DRC will coordinate with federal and county dispatch centers as well as local emergency managers and EOCs to mobilize requested resources for incident response.

All requests for federal resources are processed through DRC.

DRC will provide assistance and support to all wildland fire resources within the SW CO area and be the conduit for national resource requests.

For reimbursement, county resources are required to be documented on a resource order. As required, DRC will acquire or create resource orders for requested resources.

DRC has also agreed to be responsible for tracking the number of fires in the zone.

The county fire entities and counties agree to keep DRC informed of:

- Wildland fire resource availability
- Agency response to smoke reports and new starts to include location and basic dispatch information (regardless of land ownership)
- Fire size-up, once on scene, including: IC name, size, character of fire, location, structures threatened, and anticipated resources needs. If the fire is on, or near, federal or tribal land a full size-up.
- And, on going fire status

This notification should occur primarily by radio. Phone should only be used as a backup, if the radio is too busy or DRC in out of service.

DRC agrees to keep the appropriate dispatch centers informed of:

- Federal agency response to smoke reports and new starts to include location and basic dispatch information (regardless of land ownership)
- Fire size-up, once on scene, including: IC name, size, character of fire, location, structures threatened, and anticipated resources needs

This notification should occur by phone or on DTRS (800) MAC13.

All dispatch centers agree to follow their internal notification procedures when notified of any wildland fire, smoke report, or prescribed fire from any source.

ADDITIONAL COUNTY INFORMATION

Archuleta County (AUX):

Upon receiving information on a new fire, smoke report, or prescribed Archuleta County Combined Dispatch will send a brief information page via the text paging system to fire managers with the information received. The notification should be sent out as a wildland fire, smoke report, or prescribe fire as appropriate. If county resources are not being requested, the notification should be sent to emergency management as an information only page. If county resources are being requested to respond, the notification should be sent to emergency management as a primary respond page. Note all wildland fire, smoke report, and prescribe fire notifications go to all fire managers in the Archuleta County Digital Paging System, not only county emergency management personnel.

F. REINFORCEMENT AND SUPPORT

All requests for additional resources beyond initial attack will be placed with DRC and documented on Resource Orders. It is understood that the agency requesting the resource shall also be responsible for payment.

G. WILDFIRE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND (WERF)

Colorado's Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (WERF) is intended to encourage early utilization of supplemental fire suppression resources on fires involving private and state lands. It reimburses the local/county non-federal agency (i.e., County Sheriff, Fire Protection District, etc.) for specific responding resources as stated in the WERF guidelines. The county or DRC must notify CSFS if any WERF resource is ordered. Refer to the most current Wildfire Emergency Response Fund Operating Procedures in Appendix D, for more details.

H. INTERAGENCY PROCUREMENT

Non-federal participants in this plan may purchase fire suppression supplies from GSA through CSFS. Any other loaning, sharing, exchanging, or maintenance of facilities, equipment, or support services will be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be mutually agreed upon by the concerned parties.

I. COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND FREQUENCIES

VHF will be used as the primary coordination system on all wildland fires.

See the Durango Interagency Frequency Guide for a detailed list of specific agency and unit frequencies. Within this guide are interagency communications plans created by the cooperators within Archuleta, La Plata and Montezuma Counties.

Also see the US Department of Homeland Security, Colorado Division of Emergency Management, Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan for the Southwest Region. This plan documents the interoperable communications resources that are available with the Southwest Homeland Security Region of Colorado*, who controls each resource, and what rules of use or operation procedures exist for the activation or deactivation of each resource. The plan also establishes interoperable radio channels for field use and dispatch center use. It further suggests interoperable channel use and priority.

*The Southwest Homeland Security Region of Colorado is made up of Archuleta, County, Dolores County, La Plata County, Montezuma County, San Juan County and the Sovereign Nations of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe.

Authorization is given by each of the Durango Dispatch Area participating agencies to allow the utilization and sharing of specific radio frequencies that are authorized / licensed to each agency, as identified in the Annual DRC Area Frequency Guide. This is required to provide efficient, cost effective interagency radio communications support in protecting life and property under the management of the agencies participating in this agreement. Frequencies must be utilized as licensed (i.e. USFS frequencies are narrowband and cannot be operated wideband). The authority to share certain frequencies is entered under the NTIA Manual of Regulations Sections 3.2.1, 8.2.2, and 8.2.4 and FCC Rules and regulations, Part 90, Section 90.405 and 90.407.

All Federal wildland firefighting agencies (USFS/BLM/NPS/BIA) have narrow banded. This means that federal VHF systems have converted to 12.5 kHz bandwidth.

J. WILDLAND FIRE DECISION SUPPORT TOOLS

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

CSFS requires that a DSS be completed for all fires that receive a FEMA declaration and recommends a DSS be completed for all EFF fires. All agencies involved in extended attack on private and state lands will provide input to the DSS. The CSFS Line Officer 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.

Federal agencies are required to utilize the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) for fires on their lands. If multijurisdictional fires occur that involve federal lands, then one WFDSS should be completed for the incident that includes input from all affected jurisdictional agencies.

K. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

The agency administrator(s) shall furnish a Delegation of Authority to the Incident Commander for all fires that escape initial attack.

L. DISPATCH CENTERS

Durango Interagency Dispatch center's area of responsibility is identified as the southwest corner of Colorado, the boundaries are roughly defined as: the East boundary is at the top of the Continental Divide (Wolf Creek), South boundary is NM border, West boundary is UT border and the North boundary is the northern extent of lands under San Juan National Forest and Tres Rios Field Office jurisdiction.

Each SW CO county has a 911 Dispatch Center (County Dispatch).

ADDITIONAL COUNTY INFORMATION

Archuleta County (AUX):

Archuleta County Combined Dispatch's area of responsibility includes all of Archuleta County, Hinsdale and Mineral Counties south of the Continental Divide; with an inclusion of Wolf Creek Ski Area and Wolf Creek Pass west of the U. S. Highway 160 snow shed.

M. POST INCIDENT ACTION ANALYSIS (AFTER ACTION REVIEW–AAR)

Analysis of incidents will be conducted at a level commensurate with the complexity of the incident. The jurisdictional agency will be responsible for conducting this post-incident analysis. Local agencies/entities that were not directly involved in the incident but could potentially benefit from participating in the post-incident action analysis will be invited to attend.

N. FIRE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Each responding resource is responsible for completing the jurisdictional agency's designated fire report. Contact the incidents' unit for details and support with the completion of their forms. Federal agency Fire Reports are due into the reporting system, within 10 days of the Fire being declared "Out".

O. OUT OF JURISDICTION ASSIGNMENTS

1. Standards

Local agency policy may be followed for county or FPD personnel on initial attack incidents, but responders without appropriate incident qualification cards may be released by the jurisdictional agency after the mutual aid period. Adequate personal protective equipment (as per Fireline Handbook standards) will be required for all wildland firefighters. NWCG standards for equipment and personnel qualifications (PMS 310-1) will be met.

Non-federal equipment will only be dispatched if on an approved Cooperator Resource Rate Form.

Non-federal personnel dispatched as a "single resource" must be prepared to cover incidental expense incurred with personal funds or credit cards. Reimbursement will be made by the benefiting agency through CSFS. See Section XIII Cost Reimbursement.

2. Procedures

Requests for resources by jurisdictions outside the Durango Interagency Dispatch Center (DRC) service area will be processed through DRC.

Request for assistance outside of mutual aid areas and timeframes described in this agreement must be through the appropriate dispatch centers for tracking and reimbursement. Personnel responding to a non-mutual aid incident must have been dispatched by their jurisdiction and have a resource order.

IX. COUNTY EMERGENCY FIRE FUND (EFF)

- ❖ Four of the five SW CO counties are participants in the Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) Agreement with CSFS (San Juan County is not an EFF member).
- ❖ As participants in the EFF, counties may request the State Forester assume the management of a wildfire that exceeds the county's wildfire management ability.
- ❖ A request to implement EFF must be initiated by the County Sheriff.
- ❖ The State Forester decides whether to accept or reject the request based on EFF committee guidelines.
- ❖ The County is responsible for notifying CSFS immediately should an incident occur which has the potential to exceed County capability. This will allow time for a CSFS representative to travel to the scene.
- ❖ All EFF declared fires require a fire investigation to determine cause.
- ❖ EFF Analysis Form (CSFS #108A), Appendix C, lists the criteria utilized for evaluating wildfires for possible EFF funding. This evaluation is also used to determine the return of fire control responsibility to the County.
- ❖ The County must maintain a minimum level of participation after EFF implementation. In the event of an EFF fire, the County agrees to supply and pay for the following resources (minimum county commitment) for the duration of the EFF incident: (see next page)

Minimum County Commitment For EFF Incident	LA PLATA COUNTY	ARCHULETA COUNTY	MONTEZUMA COUNTY	DOLORES COUNTY	SAN JUAN COUNTY
	Sheriff's representative 4 engines 4 tenders 1 dozer w/DZOP & lowboy	Sheriff's representative 2 engines 1 tender 1 dozer w/DZOP & lowboy	Sheriff's representative 2 engines 1 tender 1 dozer w/DZOP & lowboy	Sheriff's representative 1 engine 1 tender 1 dozer w/DZOP & lowboy	N/A

* Water tender with operator, 24 hour staffing if necessary

* Dozer with operator and lowboy, 24 hour staffing if necessary

* Engine, fully staffed, 24 hour staffing if necessary

A. INTENT

Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, and Montezuma Counties are all participants in the EFF Agreement with CSFS. As a participant to this agreement, the State agrees to come to the aid of these Counties should suppression resource needs exceed county capability. When EFF is implemented, CSFS 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 earlier in this section.

B. FUNDING

Member counties contribute money to the EFF annually, based on a CSFS assessment that considers the number of forested acres and valuation of private land. This fund balance is subject to change as the fire season progresses and the EFF is utilized.

C. ROLES

1. CSFS District Forester

The CSFS District Forester will act for the State Forester in the absence of an assigned Incident Line Officer or CSFS FMO; assist Sheriff in completing EFF Analysis Form (CSFS #108A) for each operational period; prepare CSFS Fire Funding Request (CSFS #164); assure Incident Line Officer is aware of local situations and procedures.

2. County Sheriff

Prepare EFF Analysis Form (CSFS #108A) for potential EFF fires; sign Assumption of Fire Control Duty form (CSFS #168) for fires that the State Forester approves for EFF; serve as county representative on Unified Command group.

3. County Commissioners

Approve Assumption of Fire Control Duty Form (CSFS #168) for fires that the State Forester approves for EFF.

4. Other Agencies

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

D. UNIFIED COMMAND

All EFF fires will utilize a Unified Command consisting of, at a minimum, the County Sheriff and CSFS. If land administered by another agency is threatened or involved, that agency will also provide a member to the Unified Command. ***The purpose of Unified Command will be to meet as a group to identify policies, priorities, and strategies, resulting in a common set of objectives to be given to one single Incident Commander (IC) for tactical implementation. In addition, one delegation of authority will be mutually developed and will be signed by all agencies and the Incident Commander.***

E. EFF ACTIVATION

Implementation of the EFF can be done only by the Colorado State Forester upon the recommendation of the local CSFS District Forester, following a request from the county. For this reason it is important that the CSFS Fire Duty Officer be notified immediately of fires on private/state lands within the county which have the potential to exceed the capabilities of routinely available mutual aid. Should the fire exceed, or threaten to exceed, the ability of county resources to contain it, EFF implementation can occur only with a CSFS representative on-scene.

1. CSFS Forms

- EFF Analysis Form (CSFS #108A) prepared by County Sheriff and CSFS District Forester.
- Assumption of Fire Control Duty Form (CSFS #168), prepared by CSFS District Forester with input from County Sheriff.
- Wildland Fire Decision Support Tool, as appropriate, prepared by Incident Line Officer with input from CSFS District Forester and Sheriff.

2. County Responsibility

Upon request, the County Sheriff, or his/her designee, will provide traffic control to expedite the routing of vehicles and personnel to/from the fire area. The sheriff shall have the primary responsibility for evacuation of residents.

3. CSFS Responsibility

CSFS will provide a District Representative and an Incident Line Officer for each EFF fire. CSFS is the fund administrator for all EFF fires.

F. EFF DEACTIVATION

1. 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 CSFS.

X. AVIATION PROCEDURES

DRC needs to be notified of any aviation resource that has been ordered for fires in SW CO. Aviation resources may be pre-positioned as deemed necessary for SW CO. Contact your line manager or CSFS.

A. AVIATION MAP

The Durango Interagency Dispatch Center has an aviation hazard map available for SW Colorado.

B. FLIGHT FOLLOWING/FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT

The Durango Interagency Dispatch Center will flight follow per national direction for aviation resources.

DRC will coordinate the assignment of aircraft to incidents. If multiple aircraft are assigned, DRC will advise all aircraft and/or ordering agencies of common air-to-air and air-to-ground frequencies to be used over the incident. All aircraft will flight follow with DRC on frequencies assigned by DRC.

Incident Commanders shall make contact with arriving tactical aircraft on the pre-assigned Air-to-Ground Initial Attack Aircraft Frequency, DRC will establish which frequency will be assigned. If these frequencies are not available to Incident Commanders then contact will be established on FERN1 (VFIRE21) 154.2800 RX/TX.

See the DRC Area Interagency Frequency Guide for a complete list of southwest CO unit frequencies.

C. AIR TANKER AND SINGLE ENGINE AIR TANKER (SEAT) BASES

A permanent air tanker base is available at Durango-La Plata County Airport. A permanent SEAT base is available at Cortez-Montezuma County Airport. A temporary SEAT base is operated by the BIA Jicarilla Agency in Dulce, New Mexico.

D. AERIAL SUPERVISION

Aerial supervision (lead plane or air attack) is required when:

- Multiple aviation resources are working the incident.
- During periods of marginal weather, poor visibility, or turbulence.

- Fixed wing aircraft over a fire 30 minutes before sunrise and 30 minutes after sunset.
- Working an incident within an urban interface area.
- Pilots are not rated for initial attack.

E. AVIATION REQUESTS AND OPERATIONS

DRC will be notified of all requests for aircraft. DRC will notify CSFS when aircraft is used on a county or state fire.

	LA PLATA	ARCHULETA	MONTEZUMA	DOLORES	SAN JUAN
Sheriff & Others in County Government with Authority to Order Aircraft	Duke Schirard	Pete Gonzalez	Dennis Spruell	Jerry Martin	Sue Kurtz
	Butch Knowlton	Jim Saunders	Robin Cronk	Tim Rowell	Kris Burns
	David Griggs	Drew Petersen	Jeff Vandevoorde	Julie Kibel	Gilbert Archuleta
	Dan Noonan	Christina Marquart	George Deavers	Doug Stowe	Ernie Kuhlman
	Rich Graeber	Larry Behrens	Jeff Yoder	Ernie Williams	Michael Maxfield
	Larry Behrens	Diane Bower	Mike Zion	Dwayne Garchar	
	Steve Ebner	Rich Graeber AUX MAC ESF4	Tony Aspromonte John Trocheck Paul Hollar	Todd Jones	

The following information will be included in the aircraft request:

- Authorizing county official's name (If none, DRC will acquire authorization prior to placing order)
- Incident name
- Location (legal description and/or latitude and longitude)
- Jurisdiction
- Air contact with air to air radio frequency (DRC)
- Ground contact with air to ground radio frequency
- Any other aircraft in the area (DRC)
- Values at risk (structures, type, etc)
- Hazards (power lines, towers, etc)

Requests by the county or FPDs for aviation resources and/or other specialized or non-local resources will be made through DRC. Requests for aircraft must be approved by authorized individuals. If an undesignated person requests aviation resources, that person, the county dispatch center or DRC will make appropriate contact for approvals. DRC must emphasize to the GACC/NICC that the request is for a county fire.

ADDITIONAL COUNTY INFORMATION

Archuleta County (AUX):

It is preferred that requests for aircraft come directly from the Director of Emergency Management or a Deputy Director of Emergency Management, the Sheriff or a Sheriff's Designee, a County Commissioner, County Manager, a Pagosa FPD Chief, a Los Pinos FPD Chief, or an Upper Pine PFD Chief. The Archuleta Combined Dispatch Center should be notified as soon as possible that an aircraft has been ordered. Aircraft

orders made through Archuleta Combined Dispatch to DRC will be considered a valid request, as long as the request originates with an individual that is authorized. Unless otherwise specified, such aircraft orders from the county shall be considered a request for any appropriate state funding assistance, as well as obligation of county funds for that aircraft.

Dolores County (DLX):

All aircraft orders made from the County Communications Center to DRC 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, the request may come directly from the Sheriff, Undersheriff, County Commissioners, Dove Creek FPD Chief, or Rico FPD Chief. Unless specified otherwise, such aircraft orders from the county shall be considered a request for any appropriate state funding assistance, as well as obligation of county funds for that aircraft.

Montezuma County (MNX):

Individuals in Montezuma County authorized to order fire aircraft are the Sheriff, Undersheriff, and the Montezuma County Fire Chiefs. Although it is preferred that requests for aircraft be made to DRC by the Cortez Dispatch Center, they can be made directly to DRC by one of the individuals listed above when it is more expedient to do so. Unless specified otherwise, only aircraft orders initiated by the Sheriff, Undersheriff, or a Montezuma County Fire Chief shall be considered a valid request for any appropriate state funding assistance, as well as an obligation of County funds for that aircraft.

XI. INCIDENT INFORMATION AND FIRE PREVENTION

A. INCIDENT INFORMATION

Public information officers should coordinate through the Joint Information System. Use of joint press releases is encouraged as well as the use common public information practices. These should include use of/monitoring social media outlets. Public information officers should utilize existing local emergency information websites whenever possible:

- Archuleta County Emergency Website: www.acemergency.org
- La Plata County Website: www.co.laplata.co.us/

B. GENERAL COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

It is agreed and understood that all agencies will cooperate and share in the task of fire prevention education. Expenses for patrols are the responsibility of the home unit.

C. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

1. Intelligence and Training

Weather, resource training, incident and much more Fire related information can be found on the DRC website:

http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2drc/

DRC broadcasts resource availability and fire situation information daily at 1000 hours, and weather, fire danger rating with weather forecast and predicted fire danger rating for the next day between 1500 and 1600 hours via federal agency radio frequencies.

2. Joint or Single Agency Press Releases

News releases on fire danger and prescribed burning will be coordinated and, when practical, issued jointly to the newspaper, television and radio media by the cooperating agencies. This effort will reduce public confusion on the subject and direct attention to fire danger at all elevations and ownerships.

3. Smokey Bear Program

Distribution of Cooperative Fire Prevention material (Smokey Bear material) and school contacts will also be coordinated to prevent duplication of effort. Cooperating non-federal agencies can purchase Smokey Bear materials through CSFS.

4. Are You FireWise? Program

This homeowner education program was developed by the Colorado State Forest Service in conjunction with Larimer County, Poudre Fire Authority, and the Loveland Fire Protection District. The program's how-to manual for homeowner's to create defensible space around their homes has been widely distributed and facilitated around the state, and remains CSFS' centerpiece for wildfire prevention education for individual homeowners. This program is available from the CSFS.

5. Firewise Council of Southwest Colorado

The Firewise Council of Southwest Colorado seeks to keep homes, properties, and lives from being damaged by wildfire. It does so through neighborhood-based citizen-driven approaches including overseeing a Neighborhood Ambassador program, completing public education projects, encouraging and facilitating homeowners to undertake mitigation, and changing public opinion so as to improve community safety.

The Firewise Council is a grassroots organization and collaboratively involves a wide variety of partners, including home and property owner associations, subdivisions, high risk roads and neighborhoods;

government (San Juan Public Lands – USFS/BLM, Colorado State Forest Service, and local fire departments and districts); non-profit organizations and educational institutions (San Juan Mountains Association, Southwest Conservation Corps, and Fort Lewis College – Office of Community Services); private businesses and additional networks (wildfire mitigation companies, realtors, architects, insurance agents, and the La Plata Electric Association).

The Firewise Council’s Neighborhood Ambassador Program

recruits, trains, and utilizes volunteers who serve as Firewise Ambassadors for their subdivisions/communities. Ambassador roles include public education/mitigation; pre-wildfire planning with local fire department/district; and communication. In addition, Ambassadors often take the lead in developing Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) for their subdivision/community.

6. Southwest Colorado Fire Information Clearinghouse Website

The purpose of this website (<http://www.southwestcoloradofires.org>) is to inform citizens, government agencies, and leaders, and any interested people about current efforts to prevent unwanted damage from wildfire on private and public lands. The Website also provides detailed information for property owners regarding fuels reduction, creating defensible space, and forest insect or disease management.

7. Red Flag & Fire Weather Announcements

The National Weather Service periodically issues “FIRE WEATHER WATCH” and “RED FLAG” warning bulletins. Durango Dispatch will read these bulletins over the radio and fax them to the county dispatch offices who in turn will promptly forward to all FPDs as well as all local law enforcement agencies.

Fire Weather Watch: This is issued to advise agencies of the possible development of red flag conditions in the near future. It will be issued by the fire weather forecaster for any part of or all of the Colorado fire weather zones. A watch shall be issued when the forecaster is reasonably confident that a Red Flag Event will occur within the next 12 to 72 hours. The Fire Weather Watch shall remain in effect until the forecaster determines that the critical weather conditions are imminent or are occurring (then upgrade to a warning), or until it can be determined that the expected event will not occur, and thus the watch will be canceled or allowed to expire.

Red Flag Warning: This warning is issued by the National Weather Service when weather conditions that will cause erratic fire behavior are predicted. These conditions may include very low humidity, high temperatures, high winds and the occurrence of dry lightning. Initial

attack may require additional forces or air support under these conditions. This warning is issued to advise agencies of the imminent or actual occurrence of these weather conditions.

D. ENGINEERING

1. Land Use Planning (Wildland Urban Interface)

All Four SW CO counties require that a wildfire hazard review be conducted by CSFS and the FPD on all proposed subdivisions. Implementation of recommended wildfire hazard mitigation measures mandatory for Montezuma County and is voluntary for the other SW CO counties.

2. Defensible space and Fuels Treatment

The County Fire Chiefs Associations and the Sheriffs in cooperation with CSFS provides interested homeowners with defensible space literature. In all Colorado counties, homeowners can contract with CSFS to mark trees to be cut to create defensible space.

3. Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)

CWPP is an effective way of subdivisions and other communities, along with their counties, becoming actively involved in fire prevention, fuels mitigation, preparedness, and just plain wildfire awareness. Many grant programs have qualifying requirements that projects requesting funding assistance be identified in a CWPP.

E. ENFORCEMENT

1. Open Burning Permits

Some areas in SW CO require burning permits. Landowners are encouraged to contact their County Dispatch Center or local fire department to inquire if a permit is needed. The County Dispatch Center should also be notified when open burning is planned.

2. Fire Investigations

The jurisdictional agency will have primary responsibility for fire cause investigation and any civil or criminal follow-up actions taken. When initial attack is made by other than the jurisdictional agency, the protecting agency will immediately preserve information and evidence pertaining to the cause and origin of the fire for the jurisdictional agency. Fire cause determination is required for both EFF and FEMA incidents.

3. Restrictions and Closures

The purpose of fire restrictions and closures is to reduce the risk of human-caused fires during high fire danger and/or burning conditions,

and for the protection of human life and property. Fire restrictions and closures are invoked on federal, state, county, and private lands under federal and state laws. Public information about restrictions must be broad-based, clear and coordinated.

The procedures for initiation and rescinding fire restrictions and emergency closures are described in Appendix F – Interagency Fire Restriction Criteria and Restriction Descriptions.

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.

When weather factors and fuel conditions indicate an increased risk to public safety and fire fighting personnel, the following criteria should be used to determine if fire restrictions should be considered by area personnel. Throughout the fire season, appropriate responsible area personnel will review these evaluation guidelines to help determine threshold levels that may trigger a need for different levels of restriction. It is essential that the restrictions and closures are easily understood by the public and that implementation should be seamless across all lands and jurisdictions involved in the county.

4. Smoke Permits

The Colorado Air Quality Control Commission requires that most outdoor burning have an air quality (smoke) permit. For a description of the exemptions for agriculture, backyard cooking fires, etc., and for other information about smoke permits, see <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/ap/smoke/>. Smoke permits are separate from and in addition to burning permits that county **agencies** may require.

XII. FUELS MANAGEMENT AND PRESCRIBED FIRE CONSIDERATIONS

The signatories to this AOP all agree to cooperate in the development and implementation of prescribed burning programs, and will report all prescribed fire activities to DRC. DRC will in turn notify SW CO state and federal units, county and tribal dispatch centers, as appropriate. Private burns will be reported to their county dispatch office.

Wildfires resulting from escaped prescribed fires, ignited by, or at the direction of, or under the supervision of any party to this agreement shall be the responsibility

of that party. The party responsible for the prescribed fire will reimburse other parties to this AOP consistent with the terms and conditions contained herein for costs incurred in suppression of such fires.

If parties to this Agreement conduct a cooperative multi-jurisdictional 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.

Normally, non-federal resources will be paid at a lower "project rate" for fuels treatment projects. Costs should be negotiated and documented prior to project implementation.

XIII. COST REIMBURSEMENTS

A. NON-REIMBURSABLE ITEMS

Resources not documented by a resource order number or by the Incident Commander may not be reimbursable.

B. REIMBURSABLE ITEMS

Costs incurred by an assisting agency for services that exceed initial attack, shall be considered reimbursable. These services must be requested by the jurisdictional agency or IC and processed through DRC on a resource order. Each agency will make its personnel and equipment available, upon request, to the other agencies for fires outside reciprocal zones. For such fires, the protecting agency will reimburse the supporting agency for its costs. It is understood, however, that no agency will be required or expected to commit its forces to assisting another agency to the extent of jeopardizing the security of its own lands.

When a wildfire occurs on lands of more than one agency and costs are incurred beyond the initial attack period, one of the following three options may be used to determine reimbursable costs to the agencies involved:

- Each agency assumes its own costs as expended by it in the fire control effort.
- Division of fire costs based upon ownership and acreage percentages.
- Costs may be divided as mutually agreed upon by agency representatives as soon as possible after the initial attack period.

When a fire is accepted by the State as an EFF incident, the Fire Cost Share Principles agreed to by the State and Federal agencies may be used as a foundation of discussion. A copy of the Fire Cost Share Principles is attached as Appendix E.

Suppression costs will be determined on an operational period basis utilizing the Incident Action Plan (IAP), when a fire is accepted by the State as an EFF incident.

Each agency is responsible to supply a person to negotiate a method of division of costs and it should be determined as early as possible.

Responsibility for wildland fire suppression on private land within a FPD is shared by the county and the FPD, and reimbursable costs shall be covered as mutually agreed upon by the county and FPD involved.

Reimbursable costs include, but are not limited to the following:

Personnel: The salary and wages of regular fire related personnel shall be at the actual cost to the assisting agency for work time from the time of departure until return to official station, including overtime, plus any additional administrative and maintenance time chargeable to the incident. The Emergency Firefighter Time Report (OF 288) and the Crew Time Report (SF-261) will be used to document personnel time for reimbursement.

On incidents where the costs are to be shared through a cost share agreement, the value of work done by local fire districts will be tracked but may be included as the County or State contribution to the overall suppression costs.

Equipment: The assisting agency will be reimbursed by the jurisdictional agency for the use of agency-owned equipment at the current rate listed on the CRRF. Such rates shall cover operation, repair, and depreciation. Reimbursement for hired equipment shall be at the actual cost of the equipment hired for the fire. Approval for the use of heavy equipment, such as dozers, must be obtained from the jurisdictional agency.

Equipment use for all equipment (both federal and non-federal) will be documented on an Equipment Use Record for all equipment when there is a potential for reimbursement. If there are any damaged, lost, or used supplies (such as hose left on the fireline for mop-up), first try to have it replaced on the fire. If unable to do so, then acquire a Resource Replacement Requisition form from your fire supervisor and document it on the final invoice. The Finance Section Chief or IC can make a determination if the item is to be replaced from a local, area, or national cache inventory or if the final payment will include payment for repair/replacement.

The Emergency Equipment Shift Ticket (OF 297) and the Emergency Equipment Use Invoice (OF-286) will be used to document equipment time for reimbursement.

Fire Cooperator Resource Rates will be reviewed annually and become a part of this AOP. Costs for equipment not covered by such an agreement may not be reimbursed by the jurisdictional and/or protecting agency unless rates are mutually agreed to, in writing, at the time of hire.

Supplies and Materials: Supplies and materials will be provided by the jurisdictional agency. If the jurisdictional agency has ordered an item, and a supporting agency can provide that item from its inventory, that agency may be asked to fill the order. If the item order is a non-expendable item (hand tools, etc.), the items will either be returned or replaced if lost or damaged. If the item is expendable (batteries, etc.), the jurisdictional agency may either replace the item or reimburse the assisting agency for actual costs.

Any orders placed by a supporting agency for supplies and materials directly to a vendor will be the responsibility of the supporting agency unless prior approval is received from the jurisdictional agency.

C. BILLING PROCEDURES

All CSFS cooperators subject to CSFS reimbursement will have invoices sent to CSFS State office by 30 days after incident resources are released. The CSFS State Office will attempt to make payment as soon as possible after receiving the invoice. Invoices are required to have proper documentation supporting expenses before the process for payment can be completed.

D. REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES

The procedure for reimbursement through CSFS will occur via the CRRF. Billing may be made for equipment listed on the CRRF with the corresponding documentation. Counties, Fire Protection Districts, and Fire Departments may aggregate expenses incurred to suppress fires on federal jurisdictions, and may present an invoice for such expense to CSFS, who will then reimburse the county and subsequently bill the jurisdictional federal agency or agencies.

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

To receive payment, at a minimum, cooperators must submit:

- Original Emergency Equipment Use Invoice
- Original Shift Tickets
- Original Emergency Firefighter Time Report
- Copy of Resource Order(s)
- Copy of CRRF with equipment highlighted

Reimbursement Verification: All reimbursements need approval by jurisdictional agency representative before billing submission. Each Letter of Invoice should have the incident name, appropriate management account code, dates on the incident, location, summary of costs (equipment, personnel, travel, supplies, etc.) with original documentation attached. All requests for reimbursement should be accompanied by the agency incident report and submitted within 30 days following the incident. Contact the CSFS Durango District Office if further information is needed about processing procedure.

XIV. GENERAL PROCEDURES

A. PERIODIC PROGRAM REVIEWS

Program reviews will be conducted at the Annual Fire Operating Plan Meeting in February.

B. ANNUAL UPDATING OF PLAN

This Annual Fire Operating Plan will be reviewed annually. A meeting of cooperating agencies will generally be held in February each year. The updated plan will be circulated for signatures in March. If no changes are made, a statement letter with signatures of all parties to this AOP will be distributed.

C. MIDYEAR CHANGES

Midyear changes are to be avoided; however, if an agency becomes unable to uphold commitments, it should notify all parties to this plan.

D. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

The primary purpose of this operating plan is to ensure prompt suppression of wildland fires. Any interagency dispute arising from these procedures will be resolved on site by the Unified Command 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.

XV. EXPIRATION OF ANNUAL FIRE OPERATING PLAN

This Annual Fire Operating Plan will remain in effect *through* April 30, 2013.