

GRAND COUNTY WILDLAND FIRE OPERATING PLAN

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PREAMBLE

This Operating Plan (OP) is prepared pursuant to the Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement and the Colorado Statewide Wildland Fire Management Annual Operating Plan and the Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection.

PURPOSE

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

Participants in this OP consist of the following:

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

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

AUTHORITIES

- Colorado Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement Between:
 - United States Department of the Interior
 - Bureau of Land Management – Colorado
 - National Park Service – Intermountain Region
 - 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
 - Forest Service – MBRTB
- Agreement Number COLO_COOP_2021-FF06R03000
- Agreement Number 21-FI-11020000-001
- Agreement Number 21-FO-11020600-045
- Grand County Memorandum of Understanding For Participation in the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund (EFF)
- Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Grand County

RECITALS

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

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

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

INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

Jurisdictional Roles

Federal Agency Responsibility

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

Fire Chief and Fire Protection District Responsibility

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

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

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

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

Sheriff Responsibility

The Sheriff is the Fire Warden of the County and is responsible for the planning for, and the

coordination of, efforts to suppress wildland fires occurring in the unincorporated area of the County outside the boundaries of a Fire Protection District or that exceed the capabilities of a Fire Protection District to control or extinguish in accordance with the provisions of C.R.S. §30-10-51. In the case of a wildland fire that exceeds the capabilities of the Fire Protection District to control or extinguish and that requires mutual aid and outside resources, the Sheriff shall direct that a unified command be established to provide the command and management required to manage the fire. Upon the transfer of fire management from the Fire District to the Sheriff, the Sheriff shall upon said transfer assume financial responsibility for firefighting efforts on behalf of the County and the authority for the ordering and monitoring of resources.

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

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

Resolution of Disputes

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

Interagency Dispatch Centers

Initial Attack Dispatch

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

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

Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC) is responsible for dispatching the Initial Attack Resources from the BLM, Routt National Forest and DFPC Northwest Region.

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

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

Extended Attack and Resource Order Process

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

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

Interagency Resources Standards

Incident Command System Use

The Incident Command System (ICS) will be utilized on all wildland fires. ICS is a standardized method of managing emergency incidents. ICS does not infringe on the responsibilities or authority given to each agency by statute. If a transfer of authority is necessary as conditions change, ICS eases the transition since organizational structure and lines of authority are clearly identified.

Qualifications and PPE

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

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

Personnel responding to incidents on BLM Lands must meet the following requirements;

- Be 18 years of age or older;
- Have and use required personal protective equipment (PPE) found in Chapter 7 of the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book); and
- Hold the qualification of NWCG Firefighter Type 2.

Inspection Schedules

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

PREPAREDNESS

Protection Planning

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

Protection Areas and Boundaries

Appropriate agency maps will be used to show jurisdictional boundaries for the purpose of this plan. Agency maps are included in **EXHIBIT A**. Contact information for wildland fire suppression or support are listed by agency or department in **EXHIBIT B**.

Reciprocal (Mutual Aid) Fire Assistance

Mutual Aid Zone:

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

The Jurisdictional Agency will not be required to reimburse the Supporting Agency(s) for costs incurred following the initial dispatch of any ground and aviation resources to the fire for the duration of the mutual aid period. Assistance beyond the Mutual Aid period will be reimbursable assistance, and the Supporting Agency may bill the Jurisdictional Agency for resources assigned to the fire outside the Mutual Aid period. It is understood that no supporting Agency will be required to assist, or expected to commit resources to a Jurisdictional Agency.

Mutual Aid Period:

- The mutual aid period is defined as the time of initial dispatch and ends at either midnight of the first operational period or midnight of the second operational period.
- All mutual aid periods will preferably end at midnight for ease of financial accounting and the development of cost share agreements.
- It is agreed there should be no delay in initial attack pending determination of the precise location of the fire, land ownership, or responsibility

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

Surge resources may be available for up to 72 hours utilizing WIN (Wildfire Immediate Need), to activate WIN, contact your local DFPC BC.

Acquisition of Services

N/A

Joint Projects and Project Plans

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

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

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

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

Fire Prevention

Information and Education

1) Fire Danger

a) Fire Weather Station Locations

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

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

Lower Colorado River. Representative of the piñon/juniper fuel type in western Grand County

b) Data Sharing and Methods

- (1) Weather forecasts, RAWS links and pertinent FTC-Zone information are posted at: https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2ftc/. Resource status is also posted on the website, managed and updated by participating Agencies and Cooperators. To obtain access, call FTC @ 970-295-6800.
- (2) During fire season, FTC holds a conference call every other Wednesday at 0930 for Preparedness Levels 1 and 2 and every Tuesday at 1000 hours for Preparedness Levels 3, 4 and 5. To participate, call 888-844-9904, passcode 1863551#.
- (3) During fire season, CRC prepares a daily briefing that includes weather forecasts, resource status, via Web Status and incident status. This information is available by 1000 hours at: https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2crc/
- (4) During fire season, CRC holds a daily conference call briefing at 1015 daily or earlier if fire activity warrants. The briefing number is: 877-428-9134, passcode 170902.

c) Fire Danger Dissemination

Daily at 1630, FTC broadcasts the fire danger rating with weather forecast and predicted fire danger rating for the next day. These broadcasts will be on the Arapaho – Roosevelt National Forest radio net. CRC will broadcast the fire weather forecast between 1600-1630 daily during fire season. Morning weather and fire danger will be available at Daily Briefing or on the CRC web page.

d) Fire Prevention Signs

FTC-Zone Fire Danger ratings are posted on the FTC web site:
https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2ftc/

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

The Sulphur Ranger District will notify the Grand County Wildfire Council (bewildfireready@gmail.com), East Grand and Grand Lake FPDs of changes in fire danger so that signs may be kept current. Fire Danger Ratings will be provided that are representative to the location in which the sign resides.

CRC-Zone wide Fire Danger ratings are posted on the CRC web site:
https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2crc/.

2) Joint or Single Agency Press Releases

Each agency will prepare and release fire prevention material and media presentations

according to its own prevention plans. When pertinent, all news releases for fire prevention will carry USFS, DFPC, NPS, BLM, Fire District or County Sheriff bylines. During a wildland fire, a Joint Information Center (JIC) may be maintained in order to prevent a conflict in released material, (refer to page 15 for additional Public information guidelines during a fire.)

3) Red Flag Announcements

The National Weather Service periodically issues "FIRE WEATHER WATCH" and "RED FLAG WARNING" bulletins. Grand County Communications Center will page Fire Protection Districts for "RED FLAG WARNING" bulletins only. CRC broadcasts these bulletins on Routt NF and BLM radio frequencies and FTC broadcasts these bulletins over Arapaho - Roosevelt NF radio frequencies.

Public Use Restrictions

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

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

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

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

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

The Arapaho Roosevelt NF and Rocky Mountain NP use the FTC-Zone Fire Restriction and Fire Ban Criteria to determine the need for action.

FTC-Zone Fire Restriction and Fire Ban Criteria can be found on their website at:
https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2ftc/FTCFireRestrictions.htm.

The Craig Interagency Dispatch Fire Restriction Plan can be found on their website at:
https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2crc/index.htm

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

Burning Permits

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

Prescribed Fire (Planned Ignitions) and Fuels Management

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

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

Smoke Management

N/A

OPERATIONS

Fire Notifications

- The responsible jurisdiction must be notified of wildland fire on or threatening its lands as soon as possible. Notification of the jurisdictional agency will be made by the Dispatch Center handling the initial attack fire forces.
- Grand County Communications Center should be notified of all wildland fires in Grand County. GCC should notify CRC and FTC of all wildland fires occurring in their respective dispatch zones.
- DFPC should be notified when 1) non-federal wildland fire escapes initial attack, or 2) threatens structures, or 3) air resources are ordered for non-federal suppression efforts.
- The initial attack incident commander should size up the wildland fire utilizing the Incident Response Pocket Guide, FTC Area Incident Organizer, or CRC IA size-up card, and communicate size up information to the applicable dispatch center. These can be found on the following websites:
 - CRC IA size-up card
https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2crc/dispatch/Forms.html
 - FTC Area Incident Organizer
https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2ftc/FTCmob_guides.htm

Boundary Line Fires

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

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

Response to Wildland Fire

Special Management Considerations

Federal Lands

All unplanned fires on federal land require a response and a decision. This is best communicated with clear objectives and an “incident strategy”. The incident strategy should be based on the following criteria:

- Should lead to meeting the objectives
- Risk to firefighters (Life First Concepts/Risk Management – probability and the consequences of fire impacting values at risk vs. the risk to firefighters put in place to mitigate the risk of fire impacting values.)
- Fuels, Weather and Topography influencing the fire and the anticipated spread of the fire
- Values truly at Risk: Communities, Infrastructure, Watersheds, Social, Ecological, Cultural, etc.
- Partner agencies and their objectives (if the fire is or is expected to be multi-jurisdictional)
- Cost of meeting objectives
- Smoke Management: Coordination with the States and monitoring
- Desired conditions (outlined in a Land Management Plan or other documents)
- Resource Availability
- Fire modelling tools
- Seasonality – duration of fire/change in conditions

Agency Administrators and Fire Managers should assess the criteria above and then develop a strategy to successfully manage the fire, and meet objectives. The strategy may use natural barriers, changes in weather, fuel changes or rely heavily on the efforts of firefighters and aircraft. It could be a combination of all these elements.

Suppression within designated Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, and/or "roadless" areas, will not be conducted without direct involvement from the jurisdictional agency Fire Duty Officer. Travel within Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP) is restricted to designated roads.

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

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

Mechanized Equipment

Use of mechanized equipment, such as bulldozers, will not be permitted on federal lands without the expressed approval of the appropriate federal official. For RMNP, approval must come from the Park Superintendent.

Aerial Fire Retardant

Aerial application of fire retardant will be restricted within 300 feet distance of all lakes or waterways (containing water) on Federal jurisdiction lands. Retardant is further restricted within 600 feet of designated waterways that have critical habitat for Greenback Cutthroat Trout. When a fire is on ARNF or RMNP lands, FTC Dispatch will advise if it is located within a Greenback Cutthroat Trout retardant exclusion area. When a fire is on BLM lands, CRC will advise if it is located within a Greenback Cutthroat Trout retardant exclusion area. In RMNP, the FDO must confirm approval for the use of retardant in the National Park.

Closed Roads

Use of roads on federal lands presently closed to vehicular travel (outside of wilderness areas and wilderness study areas) is hereby authorized to all parties to this OP when said parties are on a wildland detection, prevention, or suppression mission.

Fraser Experimental Forest

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

Denver Water Board Lands

On Lands owned by Denver Water Board, every attempt should be made to accommodate an Agency Rep or Resource Advisor in the ICP to ensure the delivery/continuity of operations of the critical infrastructure.

Northern Water Lands

On Lands owned by Northern Water, every attempt should be made to accommodate an Agency Rep or Resource Advisor in the ICP to ensure the delivery/continuity of operations of the critical infrastructure.

Fire Operations in Beetle Kill Stands

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

Rehabilitation of Wildland Suppression Damage

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

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

the state responsibility period.

Decision Process

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

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

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

Cooperation

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

Communication

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

Air to Ground radio frequencies are only to be utilized by ground resources directing air operations. All Air-to-Ground communications will be on the NIICD assigned A-G frequencies for Colorado. If A-G frequencies are assigned to active incidents, or have excessive traffic, additional A-G frequencies must be ordered through FTC or CRC Dispatch centers.

Public Information

The agency with command of the incident is solely responsible for all official public information sharing during incidents unless relinquished by agreement. This includes information relayed on social media. For incidents that span two or more jurisdictions, the agency with command/delegation of the incident will collaborate with the other agencies to ensure there is

only one official information source for the incident.

Cost Efficiency

N/A

Delegation of Authority

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

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

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

Preservation of Evidence

The jurisdictional agency will determine as soon as possible the fire origin and cause and will have primary responsibility for fire investigation and any civil or criminal follow up actions. Parties to this OP may request assistance from each other's fire investigators. If a fire investigator is not available locally, one may be requested through the interagency dispatch center utilizing normal ordering procedures.

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

STATE EMERGENCY FIRE FUND (EFF)

Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) Procedures:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Grand County minimum commitment is: One dozer or road grader, two water tenders, Law Enforcement Support, and Logistical Support.

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

USE AND REIMBURSEMENT OF INTERAGENCY FIRE RESOURCES

Cost Share Agreement (Cost Share Methodologies)

REIMBURSABLE COSTS

Costs incurred by an assisting agency for services that exceed initial attack, as described in Extended Attack and Resource Order Process section, shall be considered reimbursable. These services must be requested by the jurisdictional agency and resources must check in and check out with appropriate command or documentation personnel. An Emergency Equipment Shift Ticket (OF-297) is required to document equipment time, and an Emergency Firefighter Time Report or Crew Time Report is required to document personnel time. This information may be documented in I-Suite as well. The I-Suite application is a portable, client/server application that can be used at any emergency incident to capture data and help manage resources and costs at remote incident locations. The application is organized into modules based on the Incident

Command System (ICS). Undocumented personnel or equipment will not be compensated. Resources not ordered by the jurisdictional agency or freelance resources sent by any other agency without jurisdictional agency approval will not be compensated.

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

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

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

COST SHARING

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

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

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

Training

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

Communication Systems

N/A

Fire Weather Systems

Fire Weather and Fire Danger are all recorded in each federal agency's Fire Danger Operating Plan.

Aviation Operations

AVIATION REQUESTS AND PROCEDURES

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

- Fire name
- Location
 - Latitude & Longitude in degrees, minutes, decimal minutes (NAD 83 preferred) ~OR~
 - Section, Township, Range
- Elevation
- Ground contact ID or name
- Radio frequency of ground contact
- Other aircraft in the area, including radio frequencies in use
- Aircraft hazards in the area
- Current threats/values at risk

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

- Sheriff
- Undersheriff
- Lieutenants
- Qualified Fire District Personnel

The primary way to order suppression aircraft for initial attack incidents is on the radio through the appropriate interagency dispatch. The order should be made on the federal incident command frequency/channel found in the Craig Field Operations Guide. This will help confirm that ground resources on the incident have communication with incoming aviation resources:

- FTC for RMNP and ARNF lands;
- CRC for all other lands. (An Air Support Request Form should be completed prior to contacting CRC, This form can be found in **EXHIBIT F.**)

The DFPC regional Battalion Chief will be notified by CRC when aircraft is ordered for a County jurisdiction wildland fire.

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

WILDLAND EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND (WERF)

The Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (Ref: §23-31-309, C.R.S.) was created to assist local jurisdictions with initial attack wildland fire response on state and private lands within the state of Colorado. Any County Sheriff, municipal fire department, or fire protection district within Colorado may request WERF as the official Requesting Agency. WERF will reimburse, if funds are available, the Requesting Agency the cost of eligible wildland firefighting resources.

COLORADO FIREFIGHTING AIR CORPS (CFAC)

The Colorado Firefighting Air Corps (Ref: §24-33.5-1228, C.R.S.) program is intended to assist local jurisdictions beyond WERF 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 aviation resources as the official Requesting Agency, utilizing ordering procedures defined in this County Operating Plan. DFPC will pay the cost of eligible

wildland firefighting aviation resources on behalf of the Requesting Agency, in accordance with the funding guidelines and to the extent that funding is available.

MULTI-MISSION AIRCRAFT (MMA)

DFPC manages two State of Colorado owned Pilatus PC-12 fixed wing aircraft equipped with thermal imaging cameras, mapping equipment, interagency radios, and data transfer equipment. The primary mission of these aircraft is to detect and identify fires early enough to prevent them from becoming catastrophic.. To order the MMA, place the request through the appropriate Interagency Dispatch Center.

Billing Procedures

REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES AND CLAIMS

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

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

Cooperator reimbursement procedures and forms can be found on the DFPC website:
<https://www.colorado.gov/dfpc>.

RESOURCE USE RATES

Cooperating agencies must have a completed and approved Cooperative Resource Rate Form (CRRF) to be available in the federal Interagency Resource Ordering Capability (IROC) for out-of-local-area dispatch. Resources assigned to a state responsibility fire from the cooperating agency without a current CRRF will be reimbursed using established standard state cooperator equipment rates. Cooperator equipment should not be signed up using an Emergency Equipment Rental Agreement (EERA).

Fire Protection Districts that choose not to complete a CRRF will be reimbursed at the current established standard state cooperator equipment rates.

Each department using a CRRF will provide workers' compensation insurance for all involved department personnel.

Cost Recovery

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

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Personnel Policy

N/A

Modification

Modifications within the scope of this Operating Plan shall be made by mutual consent of the Parties, through the issuance of a written modification signed and dated by all Parties prior to any changes being performed. Any Party shall have the right to terminate their participation under this Operating Plan by providing six months written notice to the other Parties.

Annual Review

This Operating Plan is reviewed annually by April 1st and revised, as needed. Operating plans will remain current until a revised Operating Plan is signed by all parties.

Duration of Agreement

This Operating Plan is executed as of the date of last signature and remains in effect until March 5, 2026 which is concurrent with the Colorado State Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement expiration date, unless modified or superseded.

If the current Colorado Statewide Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement is superseded by a new Agreement, this Operating Plan may remain in effect to the extent that it does not conflict with provisions of the new Agreement, but only until such time that all activities and conditions can be incorporated into a new Operating Plan.


SIGNATURES

Authorized Representatives


GRAND COUNTY SIGNATURES


Grand County BOCC Chairman

3-22-22
Date


Grand County Sheriff

3-22-22
Date


Attest: Grand County Clerk

3/22/2022
Date

COLORADO DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION & CONTROL SIGNATURE

Headwaters Region Battalion Chief

Date

FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY SIGNATURES

The authority and format of this agreement have been reviewed and approved for signature by FS Grant Management Specialist.

RICHARD MAESTAS

Digitally signed by RICHARD
MAESTAS
Date: 2022.03.03 13:28:33 -07'00'

*Grants Management Specialist
U.S. Forest Service, Region 2*

Date

MONTE WILLIAMS

Digitally signed by MONTE WILLIAMS
Date: 2022.03.24 14:24:48 -06'00'

Arapaho and Roosevelt NF Forest Supervisor

Date

LESLIE CROSSLAND

Digitally signed by LESLIE
CROSSLAND
Date: 2022.03.03 17:07:27 -07'00'

Medicine Bow-Routt NF Forest Supervisor

Date

ELIJAH WATERS

Digitally signed by ELIJAH WATERS
Date: 2022.02.23 11:13:47 -07'00'

Bureau of Land Management Northwest District

Date

DARLA SIDLES

Digitally signed by DARLA SIDLES
Date: 2022.03.30 11:12:35 -06'00'

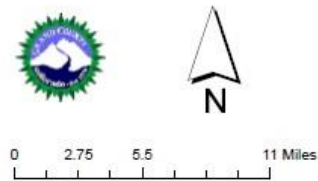
Rocky Mountain National Park Superintendent

Date

EXHIBITS

- A. MAPS
- B. PERSONNEL DIRECTORY
- C. FIRE OPERATIONS GUIDANCE IN BARK BEETLE STANDS
- D. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY
- E. COST SHARING
- F. INTERAGENCY AIRCRAFT REQUEST FORM

EXHIBIT A - MAPS



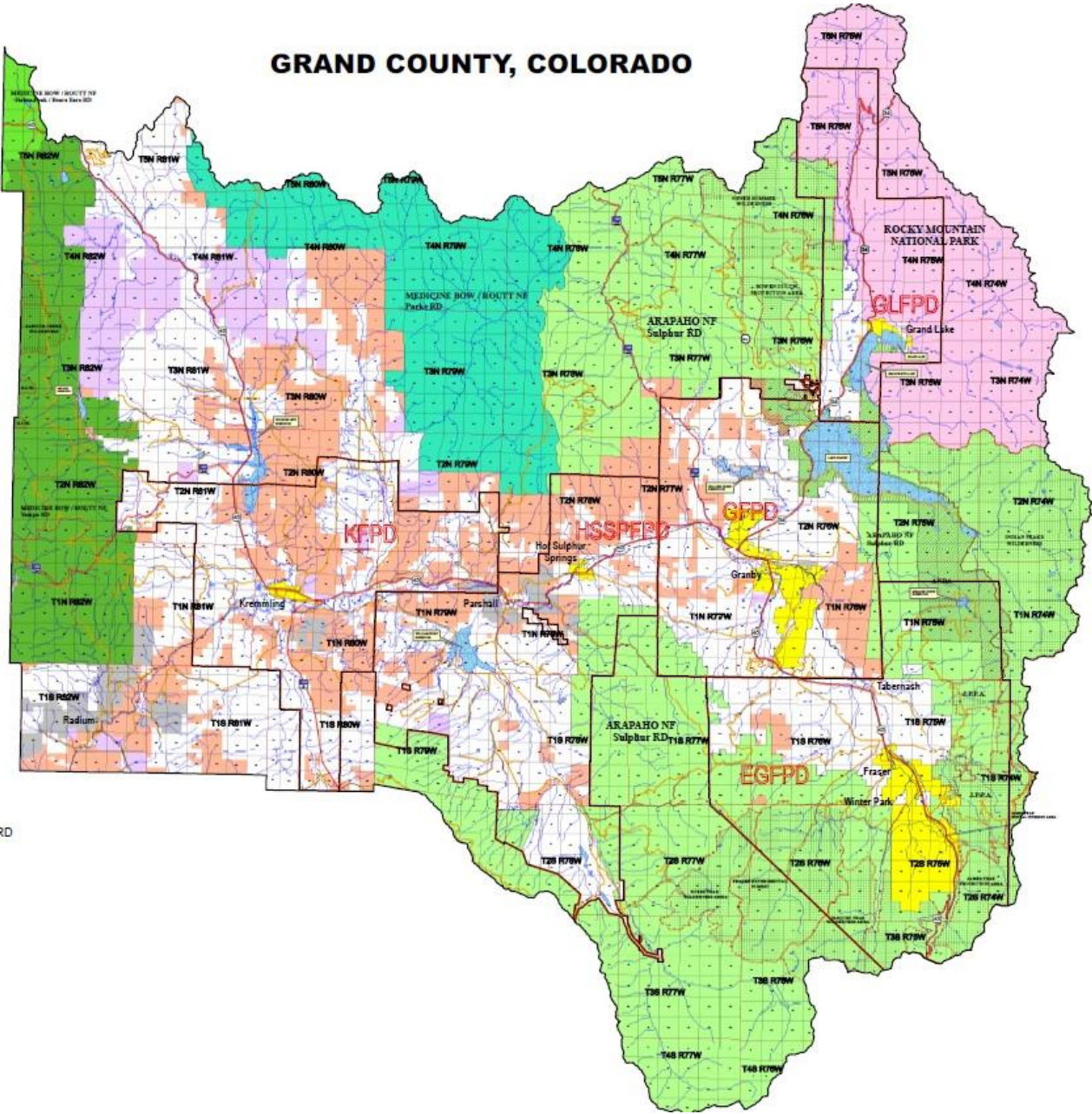
Public Land Ownership
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS

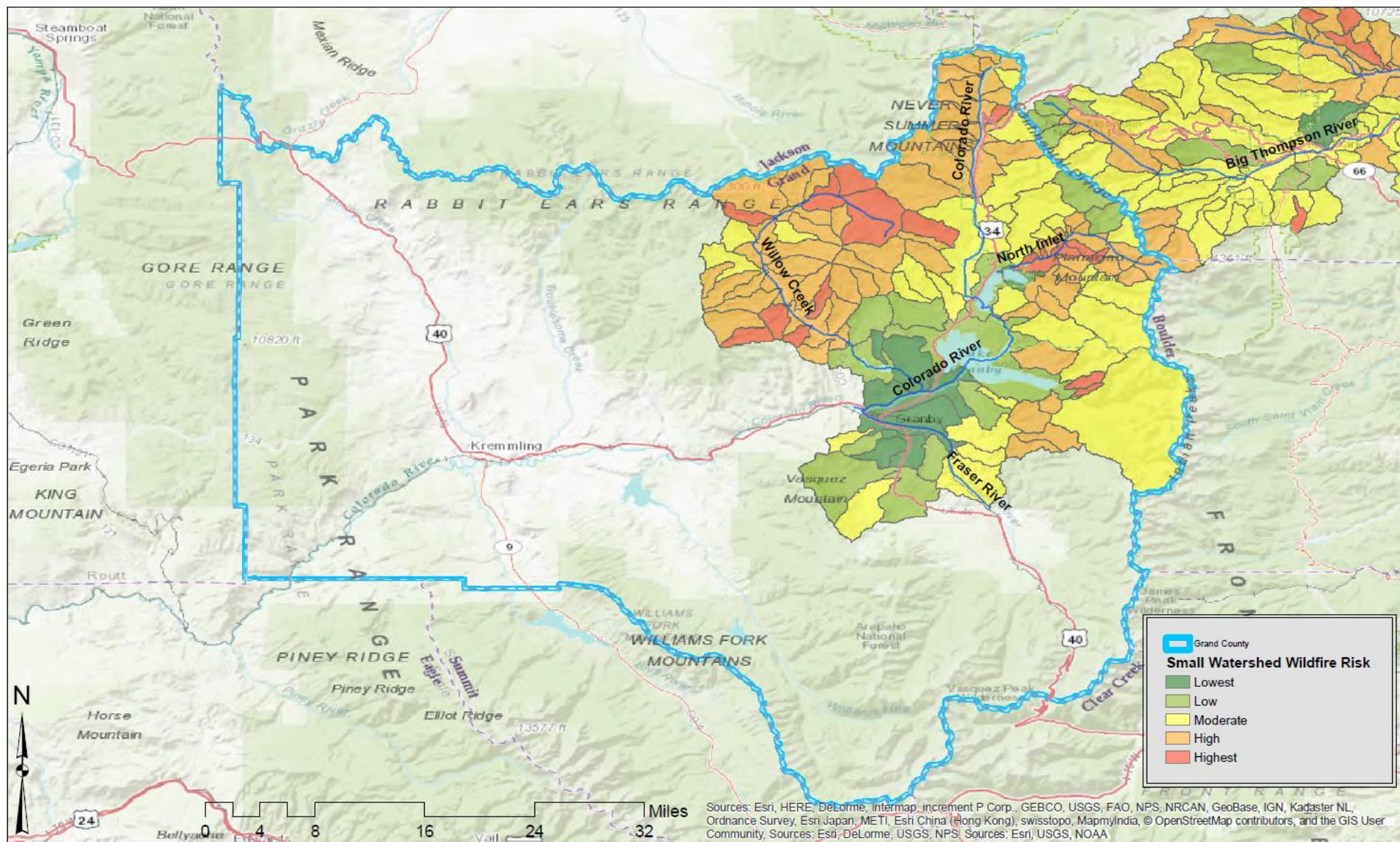
Map Legend

- Fire_PD
- Lakes
- Town Limits
- ANRA
- WILDERNESS AREAS
- ROCKY MTN NATIONAL PARK
- BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
- BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
- STATE LAND BOARD
- DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
- CDOT

FOREST, RANGER DIST

- ARAPAHO_ROOSEVELT, Sulphur_RD
- MEDICINE_BOW_ROUTT, HahnsPeakBearsEars_RD
- MEDICINE_BOW_ROUTT, Parks_RD
- MEDICINE_BOW_ROUTT, Yampa_RD





Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District Watershed Map

Denver Water Property in Grand County

This Geographic Information Systems (GIS) map and information shown is provided "AS IS" with no claim by the Denver Water Board as to the completeness, usefulness or accuracy of its content. Any sale, reproduction or distribution of this information, or products derived therefrom, in any format is expressly prohibited. Copyright 2013 Denver Water

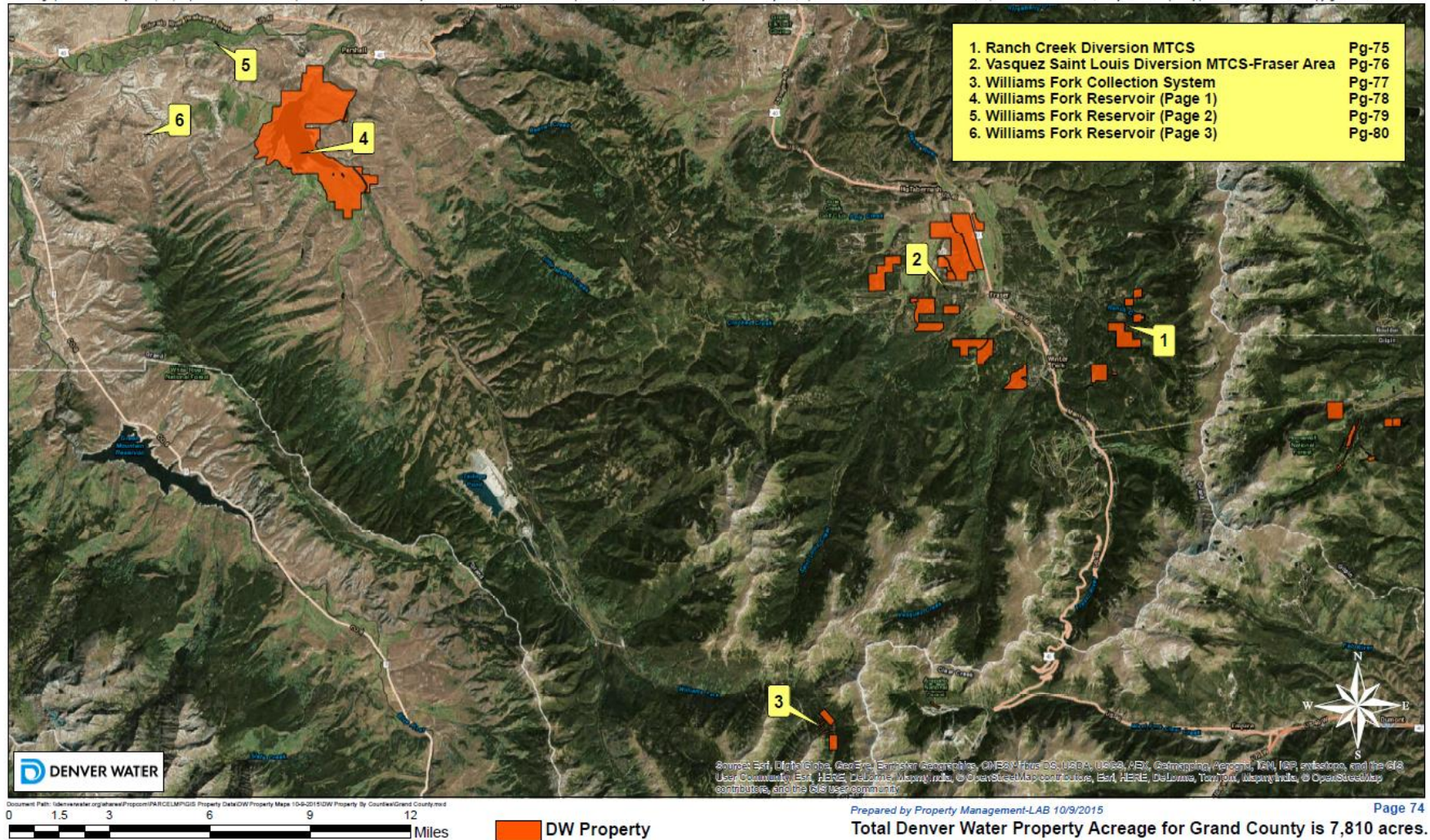


EXHIBIT B - PERSONNEL DIRECTORY

<u>Grand County Communication Center</u>		
Hot Sulphur Springs 24-hour Dispatch	970-725-3311	
FAX	970-725-3227	
<u>Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC)</u>		
24-hour number	970-826-5037	
FAX	970-826-5051	
Nick Janota, Center Manager	970-826-5037	
Website: https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2crc/index.htm		
<u>Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (FTC)</u>		
24-hour number	970-295-6800	
FAX	970-295-6801	
Tracey Kern, Center Manager	970-295-6830 (w)	970-219-9490 (c)
<u>Grand County Sheriff</u>		
County Fire Dispatch (24-hour)	970-725-3311	
Business Office	970-725-3343	
FAX	970-725-3227	
Brett Schroetlin, Sheriff	970-531-2645 (c)	
Wayne Schafer, Undersheriff	970-531-8477 (c)	
Bobby Rauch, Lieutenant	970-531-1878 (c)	
<u>Grand County Government</u>		
District 1 Commissioner Richard Cimino	970-531-8812 (c)	
District 2 Commissioner Merrit Linke	970-531-0438 (c)	
District 3 Commissioner Kristen Manguso	970-531-8283 (c)	
Ed Moyer, County Manager	970-531-7799	
Robert Good, EMS Chief	970-887-2732 (o)	719-332-5985 (c)
Joel Cochran, Emergency Manager	970-631-3709 (c)	
Amy Sidener, Natural Resources Foreman	970-887-0745	970-531-1958 (c)
Micah Benson, Road and Bridge	970-887-2123 (o)	970-509-0021 (h)
Greg Thorne, GIS Coordinator	970-725-3043 (o)	720-505-5687 (c)
<u>Colorado Division of Fire Prevention & Control, NW Region</u>		
Emergency Notification Number (24-hour)	303-279-8855	
Tyler Campbell, Headwaters Region Battalion Chief	970-286-5289 (c)	
Sam Parsons, NW District Chief	720-556-4247 (c)	
<u>Colorado Office of Emergency Management</u>		
Bobbie Lucero, Field Manager	970-663-0201 (c)	
<u>Denver Water Board</u>		
Emergency Notification	303-628-6801	
Ian Oliver, Superintendent of Supply	207-522-0302	
<u>Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District</u>		
Craig Friar, Collections System Manager	970-622-7332 (o)	970-685-1710 (c)
Jim Struble	970-622-2243 (o)	970-593-2074 (c)
Steve Anderson		970-744-9340 (c)
Bernard Lodge, Emergency Manager	970-622-2216 (o)	970-347-7265 (c)

<u>Grand Fire Protection District No. 1</u>		
Business Office (Granby)	970-887-3380	
FAX	970-887-8875	
Brad White, Fire Chief	970-531-6742 (c)	
Ron Thurston, AC Ops Chief	970-531-1244 (c)	
Schelly Olson, Admin Chief/Grand County Wildfire Council/PIO	720-371-9358 (c)	
<u>Grand Lake Fire Protection District No. 2</u>		
Business Office	970-627-8428	
FAX	970-627-9323	
Seth St.Germain, Acting Chief	970-553-9347 (c)	
Duty Officer	970-531-2830 (c)	
<u>Hot Sulphur Springs-Parshall Fire Protection District No. 3</u>		
Business Office	970-725-3414	
FAX	970-725-3530	
Tom Baumgarten, Fire Chief	970-509-9760 (c)	
<u>East Grand Fire Protection District No. 4</u>		
Business Office (Winter Park)	970-726-5824	
Todd Holzwarth, Fire Chief	970-655-8466 (c)	
Asst Chief Dennis Soles	970-758-0009 (c)	
Asst Chief Brad Holzwarth	970-758-0010 (c)	
Asst Chief Steve Waldorf	970-531-4094 (c)	
<u>Kremmling Fire Protection District No. 5</u>		
Business Office	970-724-3795	
Tony Tucker, Fire Chief	970-531-3380 (c)	
Brady Mathis, Assistant Chief	970-406-0208 (c)	
<u>BLM, Kremmling Field Office</u>		
Business Office	970-724-3000	
FAX	970-724-3066	
Steve Leonard ,Field Manager	970-724-3001 (o)	
<u>Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit</u>		
Jim Michels, FMO Operations (Craig Office)	970-826-5012 (o)	
Jim Michels, FMO Operations (Meeker Office)	970-878-3821 (o)	970-749-7399 (c)
Val Kamzalow, BLM Business Office	970-826-5011 (o)	970-749-7399 (c)
<u>Rocky Mountain National Park</u>		
Fire Management / Dispatch Office (<i>Estes Park</i>)	970-586-1204	
FAX	970-586-1318	
Chad Lewis, FMO	970-586-1287 (o)	
Colorado River District Office (<i>Grand Lake</i>)	970-627-3471	970-227-4632 (c)
Jeri Piller, West Side District Ranger	970-342-1744	

USFS-R2 FIRE OPERATIONS GUIDANCE IN BARK BEETLE STANDS

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

Purpose and Intent

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

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

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

The following hazard guidance is provided:

Tactical Hazards

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

Potential Fire Behavior Hazards

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

EXHIBIT D –Example Delegation of Authority

File Code: 5100
Route To: 5100

Date:

Subject: ***** Fire Delegation of Authority

To: ***** , Incident Commander

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

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

Priorities

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

Management Objectives

Include both protection and resource benefits:

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

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

Planning

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

Operations

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

Information

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

Finance

17. Daily documentation of cost management efforts can be completed as a part of the daily WFDSS validation and/or via a Key Decision Log. The Incident Business Management Handbook for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland can provide further guidance. Release surplus overhead and resources in a timely manner.
18. All pending finance issues are to be resolved before responsible team members leave the fire unless negotiated otherwise with the Forest. Key IMT may be required to return to the Forest after close-out to resolve financial issues.

Logistics

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

Resource Protection

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

Agency Representatives

24. Work closely with *name* who is the assigned Agency Administrator Representative for this incident. He/she will attend your daily Planning Meeting.

Turn back Standards

25. Management of the fire should revert back to local forces in 100% 'contained' status (unless transitioned to another IMT).

26. Mop-up standards and the residual management organization will be negotiated prior to turn back, with *name*, the Forest Fire Duty Officer. Standards will be dependent upon fuel type, terrain, burn severity, resource value, and land ownership.
27. Repair of disturbance from suppression actions will be completed with emergency funds. Repair should be completed when doing so will not compromise control efforts. Specific measures for firelines, roads, streams and camp locations will be negotiated with Resource Advisor *name*.

End State

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

Effective Date and Time

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

Arapaho-Roosevelt NF Administrator

Date and Time

***** County Administrator or Sheriff

Date and Time

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention & Control

Date and Time

Incident Commander

Date and Time

EXHIBIT E - COST SHARING

ITEMS TO CONSIDER WHEN NEGOTIATING A COST SHARE AGREEMENT

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

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

General Guidelines:

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

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

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

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

Definitions:

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

Facilities and Administrative Costs (Indirect Costs):

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

SAMPLE COST SHARE AGREEMENT

Cost Share Agreement

xxxxx Fire

Incident #

(Responsibility) Period

Fire Start Date and Time: xx/xx/xxxx @ xxxx hours MDT

Mutual Aid Period: Mutual aid ended on xx/xx/xxxx @ 2400 hours MDT

Location: Lat/Long and general location

Acres: Approximately xxxx acres as of xx/xx/xxxx, include acreage breakdown and ownership if known.

This Cost Share Agreement between the (agency name here) and the (agency name here) was prepared with the following authorities provided by:

1. The Colorado Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement between the State of Colorado; USDA Forest Service; USDI Bureau of Land Management; USDI National Parks Service; USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs; USDI Fish and Wildlife Service.
2. Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection between xxxx County and the State of Colorado.
3. The Colorado Statewide Wildland Fire Management Annual Operating Plan.
4. xxxx County Wildfire Operating Plan

It is agreed that:

- Address costs during the Mutual Aid Period.
- Specify the Cost Share Responsibility Period with date and time it begins. (Fire Department, County, State)
- Clearly specify who is paying for what with the following examples.
 - Percent acreage split
 - Identify specific resources and who pays for which
 - Each agency covers their own costs
 - Etc.
- Include any additional information needed to clearly communicate the terms of this CSA.
- This Agreement does not cover fire rehabilitation. Rehabilitation costs other than on the fireline suppression repair (to repair suppression impacts) will be borne by the jurisdictional agency(s).
- In the event of injury, each Agency will cover their own workman's compensation costs.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____

AGENCY: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS:

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____

AGENCY: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS:

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____

AGENCY: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS:

EXHIBIT F – CRC Aviation Support Request Form
REQUEST FORM

AVIATION SUPPORT

Craig Interagency Dispatch Center (CRC)
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 should be collected. This information will help facilitate a faster, safer and more efficient response. In order to request aviation resources call 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: _____

For Pilot Safety: Must be able to TX/RX on air to ground frequency as assigned by dispatch

Wind Speed/Direction: _____

Values at Risk and estimated time for fire to reach these values (this is used when competition for aerial resources exists): _____

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: **VLAT** ____ **Type I** ____ **Type II** ____ **Type II (Scooper)** ____ **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