

INTERAGENCY Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Between

EASTERN AREA COORDINATING GROUP

And

SOUTHERN AREA COORDINATING GROUP

I. Purpose.

The purpose of this MOU is to set out in general terms the process for the sharing of resources between the Eastern and Southern Geographic Areas.

II. Introduction.

Fire management in the Eastern and Southern Geographic Area's wildlands continues to be a matter of concern to the public and to the land management Bureaus of the Department of Interior; the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service; State of Arkansas Department of Natural Resources; and State of Missouri Department of Conservation; hereafter called the "agencies". Considerable progress has been made in fire management planning and prescribed fire and fire suppression by all agencies. More progress can be made by closer cooperation and coordination among the agencies.

III. Authority.

- a. Master Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement
- b. Interagency Agreement for Fire Management between the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the United States, Department of the Interior and the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture
- c. National Interagency Mobilization Guide
- d. Geographic Area Interagency Mobilization Guides
 - Eastern Area Coordination Center, Milwaukee, WI
 - Southern Area Coordination Center, Atlanta, GA

IV. Objectives.

It is the desire of the Eastern Area (EACG) and Southern Area (SACG) Coordinating Groups to improve the efficiency and cost effectiveness of firefighting efforts by increasing the availability and mobility of firefighting resources across the boundary between the two geographic areas. This MOU provides the authority to directly utilize the resources of adjoining units across the Eastern/Southern geographical areas boundaries for suppression needs and prescribed fire activity. Adjoining Units include:

- Missouri-Iowa Interagency Coordination Center (MO-MOCC)
- Arkansas-Oklahoma Interagency Coordination Center (AR-AOICC)

- a. Utilization of the MOU is valuable when resources may not be able to commit to a 14-day assignment but can assist neighbors for a negotiated shorter period of time.
- b. During the performance of this MOU, the participants agree to abide by the terms of Executive Order 11246 on non-discrimination and will not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin. The participants will take affirmative action to ensure the applicants area employed without regard to their race, color religion, sex, or national origin.
- c. Each party to this MOU does hereby expressly waive all claims against the other party for compensation for any loss, damage, personal injury or death occurring in consequence in the performance of this MOU.

V. Signatures.

Chair, Eastern Area Coordinating Group	Date
Chair, Southern Area Coordinating Group	Date
Center Manager, Eastern Area Coordination Center	Date
Center Manager, Southern Area Coordination Center	Date
Center Manager, Missouri-Iowa Coordination Center	Date
Center Manager, Arkansas-Oklahoma Interagency Coordination Center	Date