SOUTHERN AREA COORDINATION CENTER OPERATING PLAN

FOR INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
NUMBER
24-IA-11083150-004
Between

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service
(Region 8) UEI: G2EGL5TJE6N3

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service
(Region 1, Region 2, Region 3/4/5, Region 6/7/8) UEI: ZK1LYM6WE3C4

Fish and Wildlife Service
(Region 2, Region 4, Region 5) UEI: MYTDK1R5BBQ6

Bureau of Indian Affairs
(Southern Plains Region, Eastern Region, Eastern Oklahoma Region) UEI: FAEQN3LV59K3

Bureau of Land Management
(Eastern States) UEI: LWKLJKSQQNA8

This Operating Plan is hereby made and entered into by and between the parties pursuant to the Master Interagency Agreement (FS Agreement # **24-IA-11083150-002**) signed and dated **03/01/2024.** This Operating Plan, inclusive of any referenced attachments or exhibits, is tiered to the Agreement. A formal modification to the Agreement is unnecessary but shall not contradict the Agreement.

I. PURPOSE

This is the Southern Area Coordination Center Operating Plan applicable to all signatory parties within Southern Area. Its purpose is to set forth agreed upon services to be provided to the federal and state wildland fire management agencies within the Southern Area, through the Southern Area Coordination Center (SACC) and responsibilities of each participating member in the operation of the SACC.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT

The Southern Area Coordination Center is managed by the Southern Area Coordinating Group (SACG). The SACG will provide direction and guidance to the SACC as needed.

III. SERVICES

A. SACC will conduct, but is not limited to, the following activities:
   1. Establish incident priorities and resource allocation during periods of competition or depletion of resources. The Center Manager or Acting will manage prioritization and allocation at lower preparedness levels and will be assisted by the Southern Area Multi-

Agency Group during higher preparedness levels.

2. Develop and implement a system for maintaining cost effective and timely coordination of interagency emergency response for wildland fire and all hazard incidents. This will be accomplished by identifying, positioning and utilizing established procedures and resources to meet anticipated and existing wildland fire and all-hazard incident needs through the use the closest available resources regardless of location and agency affiliation.
3. SACC will establish standard procedures, which guide the operations of multi-agency logistical support activity in the Southern Area. These procedures will be described in the Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide prepared annually by SACC and approved by the SACG. This guide is intended to facilitate the interagency mobilization and coordination of resources, ensuring that the most timely and cost effective incident support services are provided.
4. When staffed, SACC will provide daily weather and intelligence briefings, situation reporting and will keep the SACC website current and accurate.
5. SACC will track, roster and mobilize the Southern Area Incident Management Teams.

B. All federal and state wildland fire management members in the Southern Area will:
   1. Provide SACC with accurate status of agency resources in the Interagency Resource Ordering Capability system (IROC)
   2. Advise SACC if restrictions must be placed on member resources due to wildland fire member policy.
   3. Provide appropriate funding codes for all requested resources.

IV. INTERAGENCY RESOURCES

A. The Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide is considered part of this Operating Plan and outlines interagency resource movement and commitment.

V. SOUTHERN AREA MULTI-AGENCY COORDINATING GROUP (SAMAC)

A. The Southern Multi-Agency Coordination Group will be activated by the SACG and may meet on a daily basis to establish priorities and provide direction to SACC at a PL-3 or greater.

B. The Southern Multi-Agency Coordination Group consists of a representative from the following: Forest Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Southern Group of State Foresters (SGSF).

C. Delegated Authorities include:
   1. Establish priorities of fire and all-hazard management activities.
   2. Direct, control and allocate regional and national resources within the Southern Area
   3. Implement decisions of the NMAC/SACG.
   4. Develop geographic area strategies, including safety, risk management, and contingency plans.
   5. Provide financial management coordination and oversight.
   6. Provide for internal and external communication protocols.

VI. ADMINISTRATION

The SACC is an interagency effort and the Center Manager or acting Center Manager will:

A. Be delegated authority for day-to-day operational needs, including supervision.

B. Initiate Performance Evaluations/Appraisals, Individual Development Plans, and Travel and Training Plans of employees within the office in conjunction with the supervisor of record.

C. Meet bi-annually (or as often as needed) with the official supervisor of record and the employee for Performance Evaluations/Appraisals.

D. Additional meetings may be called by any party to this Agreement after consultation with other parties, at such time and place as agreed upon to discuss any problems arising under this Agreement.

VII. FUNDING (Attachment A)

A. SACC will operate on an annual budget supported and approved by SACG.

B. The current fiscal year budget and the proportionate agency costs are outlined in the SACC Financial Plan.

C. The SACC Financial Plan will be approved for a five year period, providing an annual. The next fiscal year budget will be submitted to and approved by SACG prior to March 15th annually.

D. The plan will include salary, fixed costs and non-fixed cost for SACC operations. The agreed upon percentage share will be applied to the total planned budget for each agency.

E. The SACC Center Manager is responsible for tracking the reimbursable funds of each agency. At the end of the fiscal year the Center Manager will reconcile the budget with each agency based on the actual amount spent.

F. The Center Manager is responsible for reviewing the budget periodically to determine if adjustments are needed. Requests for additional funds will be presented to the SACG for final decision.

G. Financial obligations of each contributing agency are payable at end of each fiscal year for the upcoming year.

H. Transfer of funds will be conducted using the Interagency Agreement (IA) mechanism.

I. Specific contribution amounts and breakdowns are listed in the SACC Financial Plan.

VIII. AGENCY OFFICERS

SACG members are delegated responsibility for carrying out this Agreement by their administrators. Those individuals will review, modify, and approve the Operating Plan by close of business at the annual winter SACG meeting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the last date written below:

USDOI FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
REGION 4

for

USDOI FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
REGION 2

USDOI FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
REGION 5

Daffny Pitchford Digitally signed by DAFFNY PITCHFORD Date: 2023.11.30 14:04:58 -05'00'

Acting Regional Director

Date: 11/30/2023

USDOI NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION 1

USDOI NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION 2

USDOI NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION 3/4/5

USDOI NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION 6/7/8

MARK FOUST Digitally signed by MARK FOUST
Date: 2024.02.23 16:02:02 -05'00'

Regional Director, Interior Region 2

Date: _____

USDOI BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
SOUTHERN PLAINS REGION

Regional Director

Date: FEB 21 2024

USDOI BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
EASTERN REGION

Regional Director

Date: 4/27/23

USDOI BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
EASTERN OKLAHOMA REGION

EDDIE STREATER

Digitally signed by EDDIE STREATER
Date: 2023.10.25 10:03:20 -05'00'

Regional Director

Date: _____

USDOI BUREAU OF LAND MANAGMENT
EASTERN STATES

Associate State Director

Date: 2023 NOV 30

USDA FOREST SERVICE
REGION 8

Plez West Digitally signed by Plez West
Date: 2024.03.01 10:42:44 -05'00'

Director, Grants and Agreements

Date: _____

VICKI TAYLOR Digitally signed by VICKI TAYLOR
Date: 2023.10.20 12:10:23 -05'00'

U.S. Forest Service Grants and Agreements

Date: 10/20/2023