

# TAOS ZONE OPERATING PLAN

**APRIL 1, 2004**

This Operating Plan is between the United States Department of Interior; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS), National Park Service (NPS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the United States Department of Agriculture-Forest Service (USFS), and the State of New Mexico; Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department's Forestry Division (New Mexico Forestry Division).

## I. AUTHORITY

Authority of this Operating Plan is made pursuant to the Joint Powers Agreement Act, Sections 11-1-1 et. Seg., NMSA 1978.

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Forestry Division is responsible for planning and coordinating wildland fire suppression activities on non-federal and non-municipal lands in New Mexico pursuant to Sections 68-2-6, 68-2-8, and 68-2-24 NMSA1978; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service is responsible for wildland fire suppression activities on federal lands in New Mexico pursuant to Section 5, Act of April 24, 1950 (16 U. S. C. 572), the Act of June 30, 1914 (16 U. S. C. 498), Reciprocal Fire Protection Act of 1955 (42 U. S. C. 1856), Economy Act of June 30, 1932 (31 U. S. C. 1535), the Act of December 12, 1975 (16 U. S. C. 565a-1-3) and the Annual Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Acts; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and Fish and Wildlife Service is responsible for wildland fire suppression activities on federal lands in New Mexico pursuant to the Protection Act of September 20, 1922 (42 Stat. 857; 16 U. S. C. 594), Economy Act of June 30, 1932 (47 Stat. 417 as amended; 31 U. S. C. 1535), Taylor Grazing Act of June 28, 1934 (48 Stat. 1269; 43 U. S. C. 315), National Park Service Acts as amended (57 Stat, 495; 16 U. S. C. 1b), Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U. S. C. 471), Reciprocal Fire Protection Act of May 27, 1955 (69 Stat. 66; 42 U. S. C. 1856a), National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 as amended (80 Stat. 927; 16 U. S. C. 668dd thru 668ee), Disaster Relief Act of May 22, 1974 (88 Stat. 143; 42 U. S. C. 51210), Federal Land Policy and management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2743), Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act (96 Stat. 1003; 31 U. S. C.

6301 thru 6308), and Supplemental Appropriation Act of September 10, 1982 (96 Stat. 837).

The Taos Zone Operating Plan is derived from the Joint Powers Act (JPA) and the Initial Attack coordination meeting between the above-mentioned Federal and State agencies, which calls for the preparation and adoption of an Operating Plan and initial attack zones. As adopted and amended this Operating Plan and zones will become part of the current Joint Powers Agreement as exhibits.

## II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Operating Plan is to establish an agreement for wildfire initial attack procedures for the Taos Zone Coordination Center (TAZ), State of New Mexico.

## III. RESPONSIBILITY

It is mutually agreed that each party of this Operating Plan will independently perform initial attack services as defined in Section IV below within those zones for which they have assumed that responsibility. Such initial attack action shall continue until the fire is either declared out, escapes initial attack or is determined to be a management response action.

If for any reason the Protecting Agency (initial attack agency) cannot perform agreed upon initial attack services, the Jurisdictional Agency shall be notified as soon as possible.

It is mutually agreed that each party of this Operating Plan will retain ultimate responsibility for all fire management actions on lands under its administrative jurisdiction.

IV. **Definition of Responsibilities:** The parties hereto shall be distinguished as follows:

- A. **Jurisdictional Agency** – The agency that has overall land and resource management or protection responsibility, as provided by federal or state law. Under no circumstances shall a Jurisdictional Agency abdicate legal requirements as provided by federal or state law.
- B. **Protecting Agency**- The agency responsible for providing direct wildland fire protection to a given area pursuant to this Agreement.
  - ie. Initial Attack agency
- C. **Supporting Agency** - An agency providing fire suppression or other support and resources to the Protecting Agency.

V. DESIGNATED ZONES OF RESPONSIBILITY

- A. Initial attack zones have been established on closest and available fire protection resources and capabilities of the designated Protecting (initial attack) agency. A map of these zones is provided to each agency. The designated initial attack zones are based on historical wildfire incidents and are agreed to by offsetting for Federal and non-Federal expenditures of funds, and thereby mutually beneficial and cost effective. Also, it is agreed that Federal protection (cost) on non-Federal land will not exceed the protection by the State. Conversely, the State will not expend funds to a greater extent in protecting Federal land than would the Federal agencies in protecting Federal lands.
  
- B. The agency responsible for initial attack (Protecting Agency) should make reasonable effort to contact private landowners in advance of fire season. The objective of such contacts is to briefly explain the initial attack responsibilities and obtain gate keys or permission by the landowner to cut fences or gates for access to fires. Any damage to private lands for access should be restored following control of the fire. Local unit personnel who have the assigned initial attack responsibility should make these contacts.
  
- C. For specific management areas designated by the Jurisdictional Agency, the Protecting Agency will perform initial attack services in those areas commensurate with the fire management objectives for that area.

VI. SPECIFIC PROVISIONS

A. Initial Attack

- 1. Communication. Each agency will share information on their agencies initial attack resources for the upcoming fire season by March15. This report shall be updated as changes occur.
  - a. Prompt notification to the responsible agency as soon as practical after the initial dispatch.
  - b. The Protecting Agency will notify zone dispatch when initial attack suppression actions are being conducted.

- c. The notification of the Initial Attack Action Report will be generated by Protecting Agency (Initial Attack), in coordination with the Incident Commander, and relayed to the Jurisdictional Agency and TAZ within 24 hours of the initial dispatch.  
(See Exhibit I).
- d. Authorization has been granted between agencies to exchange radios and radio frequencies for fire suppression and coordination.
- e. The Jurisdictional Agency will provide guidance to the Protecting Agency for special objectives.

2. Coordination

- a. The Protecting Agency shall abide by responsible agency's procedures in dealing with ownership involved.
- b. The responsible agency will provide maps and fire management objectives for the designated management areas to TAZ and affected Protecting Agencies prior to the fire season.
- c. The need for a Resource Advisor will be determined by the Jurisdictional Agency.
- d. TAZ will coordinate all requests for aerial detection.
- e. All requests for air tankers and lead planes will be placed with TAZ. Air tankers will be dispatched in accordance with guidelines issued by each agency. Priorities for air tanker and lead plane use are (1) life and property and (2) new starts. When conflicting priorities exist the affected agencies will coordinate with TAZ.
- f. Given National and Regional priorities, aviation resources can be moved according to Agency needs. All aviation resources will be requested through TAZ and documented on a resource order.

- g. All requests for helicopters will be placed with TAZ. Helicopters will be dispatched in accordance with guidelines set by each agency. (BIA-NPA has 1 contract helicopter)
- h. All requests for Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATS) will be placed with TAZ. SEATS will not be dispatched without a confirmed ground contact and established frequency. SEATS will be dispatched in accordance with guidelines set by each agency. Reference the TAZ Standard Operating Procedures for SEAT dispatching protocols. (BIA-JIA has 1 contract SEAT)
- i. Agencies will report to TAZ by 1000 daily all available initial attack resources and their location.
- j. The use of County, and Municipal Fire Departments must be requested through TAZ and the appropriate New Mexico State Forestry Division District.

3. Payment

- a. Costs for fires that are suppressed under initial attack exchange, shall be borne by the Protecting Agency.

B. Escaped Initial Attack Fire

1. Communication

- a. The initial attack Incident Commander, Protecting Agency, or Jurisdictional agency shall notify TAZ when the fire has escaped or is expected to escape initial attack.
- b. The time of escape, date, from whom, and to whom the report is made, must be documented by TAZ, which must be reported immediately to the Jurisdictional Agency. (See Exhibit II)

2. Coordination

- a. When another agency initial attacks a fire that escapes, the Jurisdictional Agency will initiate an

appropriate management response and assume suppression responsibility for the fire in coordination with the Incident Commander, Protecting Agency and TAZ.

- b. As appropriate, suppression plans shall be negotiated and agreed to by coordinating agencies.

### 3. Payment

- a. Upon notification of an escaped fire, the Jurisdictional Agency assumes fiscal responsibility as per current statewide Joint Powers Agreement for agencies with wildfire protection responsibilities.
- b. Fires that are entirely on lands under State jurisdiction: Upon notification of an escaped fire, the state will designate a comptroller or authorized individual to approve expenditures and fiscal responsibilities.
- c. The Protecting Agency (initial attack agency) shall submit an estimate of reimbursable suppression cost to the responsible agency as soon as possible, but not later than 180 days after the fire is controlled.
- d. If the total cost is not known a partial bill, so identified may be submitted until final cost is established. (See Exhibit III).
- e. Notification of Unpaid obligations- So that the State may encumber funds, the Federal Agencies shall submit an estimate of unpaid obligation figures to the State for the state fiscal year by June 15<sup>th</sup>. So that Federal Agencies may obligate funds, the State shall submit an estimate of unpaid obligation figures to the appropriate Federal Agency for the federal fiscal year by September 15<sup>th</sup>.

## VII. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. News Releases Responsible agencies will coordinate news release items pertaining to the current fire situation to the media.
- B. Fire Status The initial attack agency will be responsible for reporting

fire status and monitoring unless otherwise negotiated.

C. Fire Statistics (Fire Report, Records, etc.)

1. The origin of the fire denotes the responsible agency.
2. The responsible agency has the responsibility of preparing their statistical fire report. Information for this report shall be provided by the initial attack agency.

D. Effective Date This plan is effective when the responsible agency has signed the plan.

E. Review and Revisions

1. This plan will be reviewed annually before March 15th.
2. The term of this agreement shall be five (5) years and coincide with the current statewide JPA. Any party may terminate participation in the Operating Plan by notification in writing to all other parties at least 90 days prior to the intended date of termination. By such termination, no party may nullify obligations already incurred for performance or failure to perform prior to the notice of termination. Interim modifications of this plan may be made subject to agreement by parties concerned to correct unworkable situations.
3. Changes in initial attack jurisdictional areas will be made as attachments to this plan and will be signed only by those parties involved in the jurisdictional changes. Amendments will be submitted to the New Mexico Forestry Division to be placed in the JPA.
4. Copies of the master Joint Powers Operating Plans and maps of initial attack zones will be maintained by the New Mexico Forestry Division.
5. Individual signature sheets by agency will be attached to the final original copy.

## VIII. Multi-Jurisdictional Incidents:

- A.** The parties shall designate, in writing, an Incident Commander or establish a Unified Command in consideration of the lands threatened, and the qualifications of available Incident Commander personnel based on the National Wildland Fire Qualifications System.
- B.** The parties involved in the fire incident shall participate jointly in strategy sessions to reach mutual agreement on strategy and tactics, subject to final decision by the Incident Commander; but within policy guidelines prescribed by the Jurisdictional Agencies.
- C.** The Jurisdictional Agency unit administrators or their authorized representatives shall prepare a Cost Apportionment Agreement (see Exhibit B for recommended Cost Apportionment Agreement).

Failure to comply with conditions stated in A, B and C above, are grounds for denial of payment by the Agency that was not afforded due consideration.

## IX. Cost Apportionment Agreement (Cost Sharing) for Multi- Jurisdictional Fires:

Suppression costs for multi-jurisdictional fires shall be shared based upon the Jurisdictional Agencies' percentage of area (acreage) affected by the fire. Departures to this approach may be made by mutual agreement when the result would be inequitable due to an extraordinary event or extra suppression effort required for the protection of the Jurisdictional Agencies' resources.

The basis for cost apportionment shall be documented by the Agencies, incorporated into the cost share agreement and originals of the agreement provided to each Agency. See Exhibit B for a sample Cost Share Agreement. The State Forester has the authority to enter into cost share agreements on behalf of the State.

On a fire originally attacked by an Agency as a multi-jurisdictional fire but later determined not to be a multi-jurisdictional fire, the Jurisdictional Agency shall pay the Supporting Agency for fire suppression costs.



## **EXHIBITS**

- I. Notification of Initial Attack Action
- II. Notification of an Escaped Fire
- III. NMFD Fire Reimbursement Report
- IV. BIA Fire Cost Estimate
- V. Cost Apportionment Agreement
- VI. Glossary Of Terms
- VII. Signature Pages

## **EXHIBIT I**

### **NOTIFICATION OF INITIAL ATTACK ACTION**

1. TO (Responsible Agency):
2. FROM (I.A. Agency):
3. BY (Dispatcher):
4. INCIDENT NAME:
5. DATE OF DISCOVERY:
6. TIME OF DISCOVERY:
7. LAND STATUS:
8. LEGAL T: R: S:
9. LATITUDE: LONGITUDE:
10. GENERAL LOCATION:
11. SIZE:
12. COVER (Fuels):
13. GENERAL FIRE BEHAVIOR:
14. CAUSE:
15. RESOURCES RESPONDING:
16. DATE OF NOTIFICATION:
17. TIME OF NOTIFICATION:
18. ESTIMATED COST:
19. REMARKS:

## **EXHIBIT II**

### **NOTIFICATION OF AN ESCAPED FIRE**

1. TO (Responsible Agency):
2. FROM (I.A. Agency):
3. BY (Dispatcher):
4. FIRE NAME:
5. LEGAL                    T:                    R:                    S:
6. DATE OF ESCAPE:
7. TIME OF ESCAPE:
8. SIZE:
9. RECEIVED BY (Parent Agency):
10. DATE OF NOTIFICATION:

**EXHIBIT III**

**FIRE REIMBURSEMENT ESTIMATE**

SEND TO:  
State Forester  
New Mexico State Forestry Division  
P.O. Box 1948  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1948  
FAX: 505-476-3330

INCIDENT ORDER NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE FIRE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRE NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
DATES OF INCIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCY REQUESTING REIMBURSEMENT:

\_\_\_\_\_ Billing Date  
\_\_\_\_\_ Date Payment Due

**ESTIMATED REIMBURSABLE SUPPRESSION COSTS**

- I. Payroll..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- II. Travel..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- III. Equipment (Attach copy of Resource Orders/IA Run Card)
  - A. Numbers & Types of Equipment \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- IV. Aircraft (Attach copy of Resource Orders)
  - A. Fixed Wing \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. Rotary \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- V. Retardant (Attach copy of Resource Orders)
  - A. Fire Order Numbers \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. Gallons of Retardant Delivered \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- VI. Supplies (Attach copy of Resource Orders)
  - A. Cost of Supplies Shipped \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- VII. Indirect Cost \_\_\_\_\_ %..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If there are any questions pertaining to this reimbursement request, who should be contacted?

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_



**EXHIBIT IV**

**FIRE COST ESTIMATE**

SEND TO:  
Regional Forester  
BIA New Mexico,  
Southwest Regional Office  
P.O. Box 26567  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125  
FAX: 505-346-7536

INCIDENT ORDER NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE FIRE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRE NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
DATES OF INCIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCY REQUESTING REIMBURSEMENT:

\_\_\_\_\_ Billing Date  
\_\_\_\_\_ Date Payment Due

**ESTIMATED REIMBURSABLE SUPPRESSION COSTS**

- I. Payroll..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- II. Travel..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- III. Equipment (Attach copy of Resource Orders/IA Run Card)
  - A. Numbers & Types of Equipment \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- IV. Aircraft (Attach copy of Resource Orders)
  - A. Fixed Wing \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. Rotary \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- V. Retardant (Attach copy of Resource Orders)
  - A. Fire Order Numbers \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. Gallons of Retardant Delivered \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- VI. Supplies (Attach copy of Resource Orders)
  - A. Cost of Supplies Shipped \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- VII. Indirect Cost \_\_\_\_\_%..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If there are any questions pertaining to this reimbursement request, who should be contacted?

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

## EXHIBIT V

### COST APPORTIONMENT AGREEMENT

The purpose of this Cost Apportionment Agreement is to provide for a coordinated cooperative fire suppression operation on this incident and to describe the cost apportionment. This agreement is entered into as required in the Financial Plan, which is a supplemental document to the New Mexico Joint Powers Agreement for Interagency Wildland Fire Protection, EMNRD No. 03-521-0230-0179.

1. Incident Name \_\_\_\_\_ Origin Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

2. Township \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

3. Estimated Size \_\_\_\_\_ Acres at the time of this Agreement.

4. Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Fire Number \_\_\_\_\_

5. This Agreement becomes effective on \_\_\_\_\_ at

\_\_\_\_\_ and remains in effect until \_\_\_\_\_

or until otherwise amended or terminated.

6. Position \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Incident Commander \_\_\_\_\_

Finance Section Chief \_\_\_\_\_

7. Agency Representatives participating in development of Cost Apportionment Agreement:

Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

8. Unless otherwise justified in item 9 below, the default apportionment shall be as follows: Suppression costs for multi-jurisdictional fires shall be shared based upon the Jurisdictional Agencies percentage of area (acreage) affected by the fire. **It is hereby agreed that the cost on this Incident shall be apportioned as follows:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. Departures to this approach (Item 8) may be made by mutual agreement when the result would be inequitable due to an extraordinary event or extra suppression effort required for the protection of the Jurisdictional Agencies' resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. This Agreement, and the apportionment indicated, are our best judgments of Agency cost responsibilities for this incident on the date/time shown. Future amendments to this Apportionment Agreement may be necessary, as conditions and fire spread change. The State Forester has the authority to enter into a cost share agreement on behalf of the State.

Signature _____	Signature _____
Agency _____	Agency _____
Date _____	Date _____
Telephone _____	Telephone _____
Signature _____	Signature _____
Agency _____	Agency _____
Date _____	Date _____
Telephone _____	Telephone _____

## EXHIBIT VI

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Administrative Costs (Charges) or Indirect Rates for Overhead and Administration:** Any expenses not charged directly to a program, project or fire. They include general overhead personnel and administrative services. For the State, the administrative charge is identified as those charges and expenses used to determine the "indirect rate". All activities that can be identified and charged to specific projects, and not excluded elsewhere in this agreement, are considered direct costs and may be billed with proper documentation.

**Agencies:** The parties to this Agreement.

**Agency Representative:** An individual assigned to an incident with full authority to make decisions on all matters affecting that Agency's participation at the incident.

**Boundary Line Fire:** This includes (i) a fire burning jointly on lands of two or more Agencies or that shall soon burn across the boundary line and the boundary line is known, (ii) where the fire location is known, but the jurisdictional boundary on the ground is uncertain, or (iii) where the location of a reported fire is uncertain in relation to the jurisdictional boundary. Once the exact location of the fire is determined in relation to the jurisdictional boundary, it ceases to be a boundary fire unless falling in category (i) above.

**Closest Forces Concept:** The philosophy of committing the closest available appropriate resources, regardless of agency, for initial attack or for critical need.

**Cooperator:** Organized fire forces of other Agencies or tribal governments, paid or volunteers, public or private, at the local, municipal, state or federal level.

**Cost Share Agreement:** A document prepared between Federal and State Agencies to distribute costs on a multi-jurisdictional incident or an incident, which threatens or burns across boundaries of Jurisdictional Agencies.

**Direct Costs:** All costs associated with direct fireline/fireground operations and incident support ordered by or for the incident. Excludes Overhead Costs.

**Draw Down Level:** A minimal level of resources usually available for initial attack to provide coverage for its area of responsibility. This level can change depending on local conditions. In the event that the required resources become unavailable, move up and cover resources shall be needed to maintain the draw down level.

**Extended Attack:** A wildland fire incident that has exceeded the suppression efforts of the initial attack resources.

**Extended Attack Incident:** A wildland fire that has not been contained or controlled by initial attack forces and for which more firefighting resources are arriving, en route, or being ordered by the initial attack incident commander. Extended attack implies that complexity level of the incident has increased beyond the capabilities of initial attack incident command.

**Fire Management:** Activities and programs that include: the use of fire as a resource management tool, and protection of values from unwanted, uncontrolled wildfire.

**Incident Command System (ICS):** The common emergency incident management system used on any incident or event and tailored to fit the specific management needs of the incident/event.

**Immediate:** Acting without the intervention of another objective or cause. Occurring, acting or

accomplished without loss or interval of time.

**Initial Attack:** An aggressive suppression action consistent with firefighter and public safety and values to be protected.

**Initial Attack Exchange Fire Protection:** When Agencies exchange responsibility for initial attack of wildland fires for lands under their jurisdiction.

**Initial Attack Forces:** Wildfire suppression resources of agencies initially dispatched to a fire in accordance with a pre-existing annual operating plan or mobilization guide.

**Initial Attack Zone:** An identified area in which predetermined resources would normally be the initial resource to respond to an incident.

**Overhead Costs:** Indirect administrative costs that cannot be readily identified with specifically financed programs and functions.

**Protection Area Maps:** Official maps of the annual operating plans.

**Protection Boundaries:** Mutually agreed upon boundaries, which identify areas of direct fire protection responsibility and is shown on maps in the annual operating plans.

**Resources:** All personnel, items of equipment and aircraft available for assignment of tasks.

**Southwest Coordinating Group (SWCG):** A group consisting of the Agency Administrators or their designated representatives to oversee the terms of this Agreement and to provide general oversight for Interagency wildland fire activities in New Mexico.

**State:** The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resource Department of the State of New Mexico, specifically represented by the State Forester.

**Structural Protection:** To protect structures from the threat of damage from advancing wildland fire. This normally does not include an attack on the fire that is inside the structure. It involves the use fire control lines and the extinguishment of spot fires near or on the structure.

**Structural Fire Protection:** Defined as interior and exterior actions to suppress and extinguish a burning structure or improvement associated with standard structure fire protection, equipment and training.

**Suppression:** All the work of confining and extinguishing a fire beginning with its discovery through the conclusion of the incident.

**Tribal Government:** Tribal government is one that is recognized by the U.S. government as an Indian tribe and listed under 25 C.F.R., § 11.100 (A)

**Unit Administrator (Line Officer):** The individual assigned administrative responsibilities for an established organizational unit, such as Forest Supervisors or District Rangers for the Forest Service, District Manager for the Bureau of Land Management, District Forester, or State Forester as designated for the EMNRD-Forestry Division, Agency Superintendent for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Park Superintendent for the National Park Service, and Refuge Manager (Project Leader) for Fish and Wildlife Service and Area Manager for the Department of Energy, Los Alamos Area Office.

**Values to be Protected:** Include property, structures, physical improvements, natural and cultural resources, community infrastructure and economic, environmental and social values.

**Wildfire:** Uncontrolled fire burning in forest, brush, prairie or cropland fuels, or conflagrations

involving such fuels and structures.

**Wildland:** Lands with few or no permanent improvements.

**Wildland Fire:** Any non-structural fire that occurs on wildland.

**Wildland Urban Interface (WUI):** Defined as the line, area or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.

**TAOS ZONE**

**OPERATING PLAN**  
**April 1, 2004**

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_DATE\_\_\_\_\_

Forest Supervisor  
Carson National Forest  
USDA-Forest Service

**TAOS ZONE  
OPERATING PLAN  
April 1, 2004**

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
Farmington Field Office  
USDI-Bureau of Land Management

**TAOS ZONE  
OPERATING PLAN  
April 1, 2004**

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Jicarilla Agency  
USDI-Bureau of Indian Affairs

**OPERATING PLAN**  
**April 1, 2004**

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

District Forester  
Chama District  
EMNRD-New Mexico Forestry Division

**TAOS ZONE  
OPERATING PLAN  
April 1, 2004**

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
Capulin Volcano National Monument  
USDI- National Park Service

**TAOS ZONE  
OPERATING PLAN**  
April 1, 2004

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
Forest Supervisor  
Rio Grande National Forest  
USDA-Forest Service

**TAOS ZONE  
OPERATING PLAN  
April 1, 2004**

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
Field Office Manager  
Taos Field Office  
USDI-Bureau of Land Management

**TAOS ZONE  
OPERATING PLAN  
April 1, 2004**

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Northern Pueblos Agency  
USDI-Bureau of Indian Affairs

**TAOS ZONE  
OPERATING PLAN  
April 1, 2004**

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
Maxwell Refuge  
USDI-Fish & Wildlife Service

**TAOS ZONE  
OPERATING PLAN  
April 1, 2004**

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Southern Ute Agency  
USDI-Bureau of Indian Affairs

**TAOS ZONE  
OPERATING PLAN  
April 1, 2004**

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_DATE\_\_\_\_\_

District Forester  
Cimarron District  
EMNRD-New Mexico Forestry Division

**Exhibit VII.**

Signature Pages