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## Chapter 09 Fire Management Planning & Response

### **Policy**

Planning: Every area with burnable vegetation must have an approved Fire Management Plan (FMP). FMPs are strategic plans that define a program to manage wildland and prescribed fires based on the area's approved Resource Management Plan. FMPs must provide for firefighter and public safety; include fire management strategies, tactics, and alternatives; address values to be protected and public health issues; and be consistent with resource management objectives, activities of the area, and environmental laws and regulations. For DOI agencies, FMPs also define fuel management programs and priorities. (*2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy*).

### **Concepts and Definitions**

#### **Land/Resource Management Plan (L/RMP)**

A document prepared with public participation and approved by the agency administrator that provides general guidance and direction for land and resource management activities for an administrative area. The L/RMP identifies the need for fire's role in a particular area and for a specific benefit. The objectives in the L/RMP provide the basis for the development of fire management objectives and the fire management program in the designated area. (*Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 2003*)

#### **Fire Management Plan (FMP)**

The FMP will identify and integrate all wildland fire management and related activities within the context of the approved L/RMP. It defines a program to manage wildland fires (wildfire, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use). The plan is supplemented by operations plans, including but not limited to preparedness plans, preplanned dispatch plans, prescribed fire burn plans, and prevention plans. Fire Management Plans assure that wildland fire management goals and components are coordinated. (*Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 2003*)

#### **Purpose of the FMP**

While the fire management planning process and requirements may differ among agencies, a common purpose of a fire management plan is to provide decision support to aid managers in making informed decisions on the appropriate management response (*Interagency Fire Management Planning Template, 2007*)

1 **Operational Use of Fire Management Plans**

2 Fire organizations responding to wildland fires must utilize the direction in the  
3 FMP to guide the fire management response

4  
5 **Fire Management Unit (FMU)**

6 Any land management area definable by objectives, management constraints,  
7 topographic features, access, values to be protected, political boundaries, fuel  
8 types, major fire regime groups, and so on, that set it apart from the management  
9 characteristics of an adjacent FMU. The FMU may have dominant management  
10 objectives and pre-selected strategies assigned to accomplish these objectives.  
11 (*Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire*  
12 *Management Policy, June 2003*)

13  
14 **Wildland Fire**

15 Any non-structure fire that occurs in the wildland. Three distinct types of  
16 wildland fire have been defined and include wildfire, wildland fire use, and  
17 prescribed fire. (*Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal*  
18 *Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 2003*)

- 19 • **Wildfire** - An unplanned, unwanted wildland fire including unauthorized  
20 human-caused fires, escaped wildland fire use events, escaped prescribed  
21 fire projects, and all other wildland fires where the objective is to put the  
22 fire out. (*Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland*  
23 *Fire Management Policy, June 2003*)
- 24 • **Prescribed Fire** - Any fire ignited by management action to meet specific  
25 objectives. (*Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal*  
26 *Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 2003*)
- 27 • **Wildland Fire Use (WFU)** - The application of the appropriate  
28 management response to naturally-ignited wildland fires to accomplish  
29 specific resource management objectives in predefined designated areas  
30 outlined in Fire Management Plans. Operational management is described  
31 in the wildland fire implementation plan (WFIP). (*Interagency Strategy for*  
32 *the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June*  
33 *2003*)

34  
35 **Appropriate Management Response (AMR)**

36 Any specific action suitable to meet fire management unit (FMU) objectives.  
37 Typically, the AMR ranges across a spectrum of tactical operations (from  
38 monitoring to intensive management actions). The AMR is developed by using  
39 fire management unit strategies and objectives identified in the fire management  
40 plan. (*Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire*  
41 *Management Policy, June 2003, p. 17*). AMR encompasses all the response  
42 actions necessary to manage a wildfire or wildland fire use event for the  
43 duration of the event. In implementing the AMR, the full spectrum of tactical  
44 options, from monitoring a fire at a distance to intensive suppression actions are  
45 available to the fire manager. Beginning with the initial response to any  
46 wildland fire, decisions will reflect the goal of using available firefighting

1 resources to manage the fire for the most effective, most efficient and safest  
2 means available. The AMR strategies and tactics used to manage a wildland fire  
3 will be based on objectives identified in the Land/Resource Management Plan  
4 and/or Fire Management Plan. (*NFAEB Memo, June 20, 2007*)

5

#### 6 **Initial Action**

7 The actions taken by the first resources to arrive at a wildfire. Initial actions may  
8 be size up, patrolling, monitoring, holding actions, or aggressive initial attack  
9 (*NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology, January 2005*)

10

#### 11 **Initial Attack**

12 A planned response to a wildfire given the wildfire's potential behavior. The  
13 objective of initial attack to stop the spread of the fire and put it out at least cost.  
14 An aggressive suppression action consistent with firefighter and public safety  
15 and values to be protected. (*NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology,*  
16 *January 2005*)

17

#### 18 **Extended Attack**

19 Suppression activity for a wildfire that has not been contained or controlled by  
20 initial attack or contingency forces and for which more firefighting resources are  
21 arriving, en route, or being ordered by the initial attack incident commander.  
22 (*NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology, January 2005*)

23

#### 24 **Wildfire Suppression**

25 An appropriate management response to wildfire, escaped wildland fire use or  
26 prescribed fire that results in curtailment of fire spread and eliminates all  
27 identified threats from the particular fire. (*NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire*  
28 *Terminology, January 2005*)

29

#### 30 **Wildland Fire Management Objectives**

31 Only one management objective will be applied to wildland fire. Wildland fires  
32 will either be managed for resource benefits or suppressed. A wildfire cannot be  
33 managed for resource benefits and suppression concurrently. If two wildland  
34 fires converge they will be managed as a single wildland fire. (*2006 Federal*  
35 *Fire & Aviation Operations Action Plan*)

36

37 Human caused Wildland fires will be suppressed in every instance and will not  
38 be managed for resource benefits.

39

40 Once a Wildland fire has been managed for suppression objectives, it may never  
41 be managed for resource benefit objectives.

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1 **Wildland Fire Responses**

2

3 **Operational Use of Fire Management Plans**

4 Fire organizations responding to wildland fires must utilize the direction in the  
5 FMP to guide the fire management response.

6

7 **Responding to a Wildland Fire**

8 Response to wildland fires is based on ecological, social, and legal  
9 consequences of the fire. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the  
10 likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and  
11 cultural resources, and, values to be protected, dictate the appropriate response  
12 to the fire. (*Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, January 2001*)

13

14 **Determining Type of Fire**

15 When a wildland fire is reported, the pre established fire management plan will  
16 determined whether the wildland fire is designated a wildfire or a wildland fire  
17 use fire. Pre-planned, specific prescription criteria must be established prior to  
18 fire occurrence so that the decision to designate the fire either a wildfire or a  
19 wildland fire use fire is immediate.

20

21 **Responding to a Wildfire**

22 A wildfire is defined as “an unplanned, unwanted wildland fire including  
23 unauthorized human-caused fires, escaped wildland fire use events, escaped  
24 prescribed fire projects, and all other wildland fires where the objective is to put  
25 the fire out.” (*Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland  
26 Fire Management Policy, June 2003*). When the objective is to put the fire out,  
27 initial attack suppression is generally the safest and most effective response  
28 option.

29

30 **Escaped Initial Attack**

31 A fire has escaped initial attack when:

- 32 • The fire has not been contained by the initial attack resources dispatched to  
33 the fire and there is no estimate of containment or control and;
- 34 • The fire will not have been contained within the initial attack management  
35 objectives established for that zone or area.

36

37 **Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA)**

38 A WFSA is a decision making process that evaluates alternative wildfire  
39 suppression strategies against selected environmental, social, political, and  
40 economic criteria and provides a record of those decisions. (*Interagency  
41 Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy,  
42 June 2003*). The WFSA process is used when a wildfire escapes initial attack.  
43 This includes prescribed fires and wildland fire use fires that are declared  
44 wildfires. The WFSA is used by the agency administrator or representative to  
45 describe the wildfire situation, compare several strategic wildfire management  
46 alternatives, evaluate the expected effects of the alternatives, establish objectives

1 and constraints for the management of the fire, select the preferred alternative,  
 2 and document the decision. Multi-jurisdictional incidents will require a  
 3 collaboratively developed WFSA that is approved and signed by each of the  
 4 respective agencies

- 5 • The WFSA program (WFSA Plus Version 6.6) may be found at:  
 6 <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/wfsa/>.
- 7 • Additional information about the WFSA (as well as the Wildland Fire  
 8 Implementation Plan) is located at: <http://www.wildlandfireamr.net>.
- 9 • It is acceptable to use this version. A description of the WFSA Elements  
 10 with guidance for the completion can be found in Appendix S.

11  
 12 **WFSA Approval**

13 The WFSA is always approved by the local agency administrator.

- 14 • *FS - District Rangers have authority to develop and approve all WFSAs up  
 15 to \$2M. Forest Supervisors have the authority and responsibility to  
 16 develop and approve all WFSAs over \$2M, and to certify a WFSA up to  
 17 \$10M or with a Type I or Area Command Team activation.*

18  
 19 **WFSA Daily Review**

20 The WFSA is always reviewed and validated daily by the agency administrator.  
 21 This review and validation is documented in the WFSA.

22  
 23 **WFSA Certification**

24 The WFSA is always certified by the appropriate authority. At estimated cost  
 25 levels below \$2M, the local agency administrator certifies the WFSA. At  
 26 estimated cost levels above \$2M, the local agency administrator must ensure  
 27 that the WFSA is certified by the designated certifying authority, through the  
 28 established chain of command. These estimated cost levels and designated  
 29 certifying authorities are stated by agency below.

30  
 31 **WFSA Certification Requirements, DOI Agencies**

WFSA cost estimate	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS
\$0 - \$2M	Agency Supt.	Field/District Manager	Project Ldr./ Refuge Mgr.	Park Supt.
\$2M - \$5M	Regional Director	State Director	Regional Director	Regional Director
>\$5M	BIA Director	BLM Director	FWS Director	NPS Director

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1 **WFSA Certification Requirements, USDA Forest Service**

WFSA cost estimate	USFS
\$0 - \$2M	District Ranger
\$2M - \$10M	Forest Supervisor
\$10M - \$50M	Regional Forester
>\$50M	Forest Service Chief

2

3 For multi-jurisdictional incidents, each agency's individual cost estimate, not the  
4 total cost estimate, will determine that agency's certification level.

5

6 **WFSA Certification Checklist**

7 This checklist helps the WFSA certifying authority ensure the accuracy and  
8 completeness of the WFSA process. Updates to this list may be made and can  
9 be found at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/wfsa/>

<b>Certification Checklist</b>	<b>Y/N</b>
Are key objectives for fire suppression identified and measurable?	
Are there a minimum of two alternatives (with identifiable differences in strategies and/or outcomes) analyzed, and an extreme case considered?	
Are the values at risk adequately displayed and analyzed?	
Do the alternatives have safety issues well documented and risk mitigation identified where needed?	
Is the rationale for the selected alternative, whether or not most cost effective, compelling?	
Were cost estimates derived with current data, are they relevant for this incident, and documented?	
Are the assigned probabilities for success in line with the current and expected situation and documented?	
Are critical resources listed and available to implement alternatives?	
Was the estimated suppression cost used for identifying the certifying official.	
Have managers/owners of adjoining jurisdictions agreed to the selected strategy if it encompasses non-agency lands.	

10

11 **Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) Tools** - Modeling tools are  
12 available to assist fire managers and agency administrators in decisions  
13 regarding strategies and tactics.

- 14 • *FS - The Chief's Principal Representative (CPR) will provide risk sharing  
15 and decision support for Regional Foresters on large fires expected to*

1 exceed 10 million dollars in costs. The Regional Foresters Representative  
2 (RFR) will provide services comparable to the CPR at the regional scale  
3 when fires are expected to exceed 5 million dollars in cost. A Decision  
4 Support Group (DSG) may accompany either a CPR or RFR. The decision  
5 making tools are Fire Spread Probabilities (FS PRO), Stratified Cost Index  
6 (SCI), and Rapid Assessment of Values at Risk (RAVAR). FS PRO and  
7 RAVAR assessments are required on fires expected to reach or exceed \$10  
8 million. These decision making tools can also be requested for fires costing  
9 less than \$10 million.

10

#### 11 **Responding to a Wildland Fire Use Event**

12 When the wildland fire is determined to be a wildland fire use event, the  
13 required action is “the application of the appropriate management response to  
14 naturally-ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific resource management  
15 objectives in pre-defined designated areas outlined in the FMP”. Operational  
16 management is described in the wildland fire implementation plan (WFIP).  
17 (*Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire*  
18 *Management Policy, June 2003*)

19

#### 20 **Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP)**

21 A WFIP is a progressively developed assessment and operational management  
22 plan that documents the analysis and describes the appropriate management  
23 response for a wildland fire use activity. The WFIP is a plan that guides the  
24 management of a Wildland Fire Use fire. An approved FMP is required in all  
25 cases. The FMP identifies specific resource and fire management objectives, a  
26 predefined geographic area, and specific, required prescription criteria that must  
27 be met prior to designating a wildland fire for fire use. The WFIP is continually  
28 evaluated and tested to ensure that the objectives of the Wildland Fire Use fire  
29 are being met. If the objectives are not being met, mitigation actions identified  
30 in the WFIP are implemented. Mitigation actions are not presented formally as  
31 a distinct plan, but are integrated throughout the short term (WFIP Stage 2) and  
32 long term (WFIP Stage 3) implementation actions. If the combined set of  
33 mitigation actions is not meeting objectives, the WFU fire is converted to a  
34 wildfire, suppression action is taken and a WFSA is prepared. If the mitigation  
35 actions are successful in keeping the WFU fire within the parameters of the  
36 WFIP, the fire continues to be managed as a WFU fire.

37

38 A WFIP will be completed for all naturally ignited wildland fires that are  
39 managed for resource benefit. It is an operational plan for assessing, analyzing,  
40 and selecting strategies for wildland fire use. It is progressively developed and  
41 documents appropriate management responses for any wildland fire managed  
42 for resource benefits. The plan will be completed in compliance with the  
43 guidance found in the *Wildland Fire Use, Implementation Procedures Reference*  
44 *Guide*, May 2005 (March/April 2006 revision).

45 A WFIP consists of three distinct stages:

46

- 1 • **Stage I** - The initial fire assessment, or size-up, is the preliminary  
2 information gathering stage. It compares current information to  
3 established prescription criteria found in the FMP. This is an initial  
4 decision making tool which assists managers in classifying fires for  
5 resource benefit or suppression actions. Components include: Strategic  
6 Fire Size-Up, Decision Criteria Checklist, Management Actions, and  
7 Periodic Fire Assessment.
- 8 • **Stage II** - Defines management actions required in response to a changing  
9 fire situation as indicated by monitoring information and the periodic fire  
10 assessment from Stage I. This stage is used to manage larger, more active  
11 fires with greater potential for geographic extent than Stage I. Components  
12 include: Objectives, Fire Situation, Management Actions, Estimated  
13 Costs, and Periodic Fire Assessment.
- 14 • **Stage III** - Defines management actions required in response to an  
15 escalating fire situation, potential long duration, and increased need for  
16 management activity, as indicated by the periodic assessment completed in  
17 Stage II. Components include: Objectives and Risk Assessment  
18 Considerations, Maximum Manageable Area Definition and Maps,  
19 Weather Conditions and Drought Prognosis, Long-term Risk Assessment,  
20 Threats, Monitoring Actions, Mitigation Actions, Resources Needed to  
21 Manage the Fire, Contingency Actions, Information Plan, Estimated Costs,  
22 Post-burn Evaluation, Signatures and Date, and Periodic Fire Assessment.

WFIP Completion Timeframes	
WFIP Stage	Maximum Completion Timeframe
Stage I	8 hours after confirmed fire detection and Strategic Fire Size-Up.
Stage II	48 hours after need indicated by Planning Needs Assessment.
Stage III	7 days after need indicated by Planning Needs Assessment
Periodic Fire Assessment	As part of all stages and on assigned frequency thereafter.

- 23 • *NPS - Wildland Fire Use Program Oversight. Regional office fire  
24 management officers are responsible for appraising and surveying all  
25 wildland fire use activities within their region. The regional office fire  
26 staff will review implementation plans for fires with a Complex Rating.  
27 Direct contact with parks may be necessary in order to stay apprised of  
28 complex situations. On rare occasions, circumstances or situations may  
29 exist which require the regional director to intervene in the wildland fire  
30 use decision process.*
- 31 • *NPS - Review by the regional fire management officer or acting is  
32 mandatory for Wildland Fire Implementation Plans with a projected cost  
33 of greater than \$500,000. Review by the NPS National Fire Management  
34 Officer at NIFC, or Acting, is mandatory for Wildland Fire Implementation  
35 Plans with a projected cost of greater than \$1,000,000.*



**1 Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response**

2

**3 Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response-Wildland Urban Interface**

4 The operational roles of the federal agencies as a partner in the Wildland Urban  
5 Interface are wildland firefighting, hazard reduction, cooperative prevention and  
6 education, and technical assistance. Structural fire suppression is the  
7 responsibility of tribal, state or local governments. Federal agencies may assist  
8 with exterior structural fire protection activities under formal fire protection  
9 agreements that specify the mutual responsibilities of the partners, including  
10 funding. (Some federal agencies have full structural protection authority for  
11 their facilities on lands they administer and may also enter into formal  
12 agreements to assist state and local governments with structural protection.)  
13 *2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, page 23.*

14

15 Although funding is not provided to prepare for or respond to emergency non-  
16 wildland fire response activities such as structure fires, vehicle fires, dump fires,  
17 hazardous materials releases, and emergency medical responses, managers must  
18 ensure that fire management plans, interagency agreements, and annual  
19 operating plans clearly state agency and cooperators roles and responsibilities for  
20 non-wildland fire response activities that agency personnel are exposed to as a  
21 result of working in the wildland urban interface environment.

22

**23 Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response-Management Controls to Mitigate  
24 Exposure**

25 Agency safety and health policy states that PPE devices will be used only when  
26 equipment guards, engineering controls, or management control does not  
27 adequately protect employees. To meet this requirement:

28

- 29 • Managers and supervisors will not knowingly place wildland firefighters in  
30 positions where exposure to toxic gases or chemicals would require the use  
31 of self-contained breathing apparatus.
- 32 • Managers will not sign cooperative fire protection agreements that would  
33 commit wildland firefighters to situations where exposure to toxic gases or  
34 chemicals would require the use of self-contained breathing apparatus.
- 35 • Managers will avoid giving the appearance that their wildland fire  
36 suppression resources are trained and equipped to perform structure,  
37 vehicle, and dump fire suppression, to respond to hazardous materials  
38 releases, or to perform emergency medical response.

38

**39 Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response-Structure, Vehicle, and Landfill  
40 Fires**

41 Structure, vehicle, and dump fire suppression is not a functional responsibility of  
42 wildland fire suppression resources. These fires have the potential to emit high  
43 levels of toxic gases. Firefighters will not be dispatched to structure, vehicle, or  
44 dump fires unless there is a significant threat to lands and resources that are  
45 under agency protection, including by protection agreement. Firefighters will

- 1 not take direct suppression action on structure, vehicle, or dump fires. This  
2 policy will be reflected in suppression response plans.  
3
- 4 Should firefighters encounter structure, vehicle, or dump fires during the  
5 performance of their normal wildland fire suppression duties, firefighting efforts  
6 will be limited to areas where the fire has spread onto agency protected lands.  
7 Structure protection will be limited to exterior efforts, and only when such  
8 actions can be accomplished safely and in accordance with established wildland  
9 fire operations standards.
- 10 • **FS - FSM-5137 - Structure Fires** Structure fire protection activities  
11 include suppression of wildfires that are threatening improvements.  
12 Exterior structure protection measures include actions such as foam or  
13 water application to exterior surfaces of buildings and surrounding fuels,  
14 fuel removal, and burning out around buildings.
  - 15 • **FS - FSM-5137.02 - Objective for Structure Fire Protection.** The Forest  
16 Service's primary responsibility is to suppress wildfire before it reaches  
17 structures. The Forest Service may assist state and local fire departments  
18 in exterior structure fire protection when requested under terms of an  
19 approved cooperative agreement.
  - 20 • **FS - FSM-5137.03 - Policy for Structure Fire Suppression.** Structure fire  
21 suppression, which includes exterior and interior actions on burning  
22 structures, is the responsibility of state, tribal, or local fire departments.
    - 23 ➤ **FS - Forest Service officials shall avoid giving the appearance that**  
24 **the agency is prepared to serve as a structure fire suppression**  
25 **organization.**
    - 26 ➤ **FS - Forest Service employees shall limit fire suppression actions to**  
27 **exterior structure protection measures as described in Section 5137.**
  - 28 • **FS - FSM-5137.03 2 - Structure Fire Protection and Suppression for**  
29 **Forest Service Facilities.** At those Forest Service administrative sites,  
30 outside the jurisdiction of state and local fire departments, limit fire  
31 protection measures to prevention, use of fire extinguishers on incipient  
32 stage fires (FSH 6709.11, Sec. 6-4c), safe evacuation of personnel,  
33 containment by exterior attack, and protection of exposed improvements.
    - 34 ➤ **FS - At Forest Service administrative sites located within the**  
35 **jurisdiction of state and local structural fire departments, structure**  
36 **fire suppression responsibility must be coordinated with state and**  
37 **local fire departments.**
  - 38 • **FS - FSM-5137.033 - Vehicle and Dump Fires**
    - 39 ➤ **FS - Do not undertake direct attack on vehicle or dump fires on**  
40 **National Forest System lands unless such action is absolutely**  
41 **necessary to protect life or prevent the spread of fire to the wildlands.**
    - 42 ➤ **FS - For additional fire service and homeowner information**  
43 **regarding wildland/urban fire refer to <http://firewise.org> on the**  
44 **Internet.**
  - 45 • **NPS - Structural Fire (including Vehicle Fires) Response Requirements.**  
46 **Structural fire suppression is a functional responsibility in many NPS**

1 units. Any structural fire response shall only be by personnel who have  
2 received the required training and are properly equipped. Vehicle fires  
3 contain a high level of toxic emissions and must be treated with the same  
4 care that structural fires are treated. Firefighters must be in full structural  
5 fire personal protective clothing including self-contained breathing  
6 apparatus. Situations exist during the incipient phase of a vehicle fire  
7 where the fire can be quickly suppressed with the discharge of a handheld  
8 fire extinguisher. Discharging a handheld fire extinguisher during this  
9 phase of the fire will normally be considered an appropriate action. If the  
10 fire has gone beyond the incipient stage, employees are to protect the  
11 scene and request the appropriate suppression resources. In order to  
12 protect the health and safety of National Park Service personnel, no  
13 employee shall be directed, dispatched, (including self-dispatching) to the  
14 suppression of structural fires, including vehicle fires, unless they are  
15 provided with the required personal protective equipment, firefighting  
16 equipment and training. All employees must meet or exceed the standards  
17 and regulations identified in Director's Order and Reference Manual #58,  
18 Structural Fire.

- 19 • **NPS - Training Requirements for Firefighters Responding to Structural  
20 Fires (including Vehicle Fires).** All wildland firefighters who respond to  
21 structural fires will meet the training requirements identified in Director's  
22 Order and Reference Manual #58, Structural Fire and will be qualified at  
23 least at the Structural Firefighter level.
- 24 • **NPS - Medical Examination Requirements for Firefighters Responding  
25 to Structure Fires (including Vehicle Fires).** All wildland firefighters who  
26 respond to structural fires will meet the medical requirements identified in  
27 Director's Order and Reference Manual #58, Structural Fire. Medical  
28 requirements include respiratory testing and some other components not  
29 included in the wildland fire medical examination.
- 30 • **NPS - Physical Fitness for Wildland Firefighters Responding to  
31 Structure Fires (including Vehicle Fires).** The physical fitness  
32 requirements as the same as for wildland fire arduous duty.

#### 34 **Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response-Hazardous Materials**

35 Wildland firefighters have the potential to be exposed to hazardous materials  
36 releases while performing their jobs. Hazardous materials or waste may be  
37 found on public lands in a variety of forms (e.g. clandestine drug lab waste,  
38 mining waste, illegal dumping, and transportation accidents).

39  
40 In order to meet 29 CFR 1910.120, and to ensure familiarity with hazardous  
41 materials releases, all wildland firefighters will complete a one-time, two-hour  
42 First Responder Awareness training course and an annual refresher course  
43 thereafter (First Responders are individuals who are likely to witness or discover  
44 a hazardous substance release, and who have been trained to initiate an  
45 emergency response sequence by notifying proper authorities of the release).  
46 Awareness Class module 1703-07/11 is available from the BLM National

- 1 Training Center and may be taught in the field office by the Hazardous  
2 Materials Coordinator.  
3  
4 Firefighters who discover any unauthorized waste dump or spill site that  
5 contains indicators of potential hazardous substances should take the following  
6 precautions:
- 7 • Follow the procedures in the *Incident Response Pocket Guide*.
  - 8 • Treat each site as if it contains harmful materials.
  - 9 • Do not handle, move, or open any container, breathe vapors, or make  
10 contact with the material.
  - 11 • Move a safe distance upwind from the site.
  - 12 • Contact appropriate personnel. Generally, this is the Hazardous Materials  
13 Coordinator for the local office.
  - 14 • ***FS - FSM-5135.2 - Hazardous Materials*** Limit actions of Forest Service  
15 personnel on incidents involving hazardous material to those emergency  
16 measures necessary for the immediate protection of themselves and the  
17 public. If the material is a health and safety hazard requiring special  
18 measures for control and abatement, promptly notify the appropriate  
19 public safety agencies. Provide training in hazardous materials  
20 recognition and avoidance to employees whose exposure to such materials  
21 is likely (FSM 2160).

### 23 **Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response-Emergency Medical Response**

24 Medical emergency response is not a functional responsibility of wildland fire  
25 suppression resources. Wildland firefighters are not trained and equipped to  
26 perform emergency medical response duties, and should not be part of a  
27 preplanned response that requires these duties. When wildland firefighters  
28 encounter emergency medical response situations, their efforts should be limited  
29 to immediate care (e.g. first aid, first responder) actions that they are trained and  
30 qualified to perform.

- 31 • ***NPS - Emergency Medical Response Requirements.*** *NPS employees who*  
32 *provide emergency medical services will adhere to the requirements*  
33 *contained in Director's Order and Reference Manual #51, Emergency*  
34 *Medical Services, once these directives receive final approval.*

### 36 **Roadside Response**

37 Positioning of vehicles and employee awareness is paramount when responding  
38 to incidents in close proximity to roadways. Refer to Appendix V, "Roadside  
39 Incident Response" which highlights tactical considerations for roadway  
40 responses.