

FORT COLLINS DISPATCH CENTER MULTI-AGENCY COORDINATION GROUP ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Fort Collins Dispatch Center Multi-Agency Coordination Group is intended to for use on Wildland Fire Incidents. It can also be implemented for other needs as requested.

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Fort Collins Dispatch Center Multi-Agency Coordinating Group is primarily to:

- Make timely decisions so appropriate actions can be taken.
- Improve the information flow and interface among involved agencies when numerous incidents occur at one time or when large incidents are rapidly depleting resources.
- Develop a single, collective approach to establishing priorities regardless of functional or geographic responsibilities.

The Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center MAC Group will have member agency authority to make necessary decisions in a timely manner.

It is imperative that Fort Collins Dispatch Center MAC participants have a fundamental knowledge of the issues and be able to listen, comprehend, and decide.

They must understand their agencies' standard operating procedures, work well in a team setting, be dedicated to a consensus approach to problem solving, and be open to all agency needs.

The Fort Collins MAC Group participants must have well-established credibility so their decisions are respected.

The Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center MAC Group will work within normal dispatching channels and will not be responsible for the management of, nor the tactics on, individual incidents. They will function within existing authorities and agreements.

The Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center MAC Group is formed to improve top-level interagency coordination. No new tasks are created.

The two functions of a MAC Group are decision making and providing direction. This information is distributed in the form of new or modified policies, procedures, standards, methods and/or guidelines.

MAC Groups should function at the level respective to that of the incident activity. For example, if several local jurisdictions are being heavily impacted, a local MAC Group should be established to set priorities and allocate resources. If an Area Command is established to handle a particularly complex incident or a number of incidents, the local MAC Group would set priorities and allocate, or reallocate, resources between Area Command and other incidents. Area Interagency Mobilization Guides specify responsibilities and conditions for MAC Group activation.

Refer to Chapter 30, 2001, Rocky Mountain Area Interagency Mobilization Guide for additional guidance.

2. Membership

Standing members of the Fort Collins Dispatch Center Multi-Agency Coordinating Group will be:

Arapaho Roosevelt National Forest Supervisor
Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center Manager
Bureau of Land Management (USFS will represent BLM, unless BLM has a specific need to participate)
Rocky Mountain National Park Superintendent
Colorado State Forest Service Area Forester
Boulder County Sheriff
Clear Creek County Sheriff
Gilpin County Sheriff
Grand County Sheriff
Larimer County Sheriff
Rocky Mountain Coordination Center Representative (Advisor)

The FTC MAC Coordinator will be selected by the membership in January and will host the Annual May Training session.

Each member may designate a representative. Representatives must have the authority to make critical decisions. Representatives will not be involved with operations during the time the MAC is in place.

The MAC will expand to include other agencies and organizations as conditions warrant. Sheriffs are encouraged to include local fire departments and emergency agencies as needed.

The MAC always has the ability to revise actions, schedule meetings and calls as they determine.

In the event of multiple incident the Priority Decision Matrix will be used to assist with allocation of resources

3. Implementation

MAC implementation and actions are identified in Table 1. Primary weather reporting stations for Action Class determinations are Red Feather, Estes, Larimer, Sulphur, Boulder, and Pickle Gulch.

4. MAC Group Roles and Responsibilities

- Ensure that the collective situation status is provided and current, by agency.
- Prioritize incidents.
- Determine specific resource requirements, by agency
- Determine resource availability by agency and the need for gathering resources in a mobilization center.
- Determine need and designate mobilization and demobilization centers.
- Allocate scarce/limited resources to incidents based on priorities.
- Anticipate future conditions and resource needs.
- Review policies/agreements for resource allocation.
- Review need for other agencies involvement.
- Provide necessary liaison with out-of-area facilities and agencies as appropriate.
- Critique and recommend improvements.
- Identify fiscal issues/concerns.
- Select a MAC Coordinator in January and reconvene April 1, unless an agency determines a need to meet earlier.

**Fort Collins Dispatch Center Preparedness Levels
with MAC Group Actions**

| LEVEL | DESCRIPTION | ACTION | RESPONSIBILITY | Management Direction Consideration | RESPONSIBILITY |
|--------------|---|--|-----------------------|---|---|
| I | Most primary stations indicate Action Class of 1-2; or most units have LOW to MODERATE fire severity adjective. Little or no activity occurring within the dispatch area. Little or no commitment of FTC resources locally or nationally. | <p>Select FTC MAC Coordinator in January.</p> <p>Monthly Conference Call.</p> <p>Schedule MAC training prior to May 1.</p> | FTC MAC Coordinator | <p>Analyze Preparedness Parameters</p> <p>Dispatch Systems Functional</p> <p>Daily Weather via radio at 10:00 am and 4:00 pm</p> <p>Spot Weather Forecasts</p> <p>Suppression Strategy Acceptable</p> | <p>Agency</p> <p>Dispatch</p> <p>Dispatch</p> <p>Dispatch</p> <p>Agency</p> |

| LEVEL | DESCRIPTION | ACTION | RESPONSIBILITY | Management Direction Consideration | Responsibility |
|--------------|---|--|---|--|-----------------------|
| II | <p>Most primary stations indicate Action Class 2-3; or most units experiencing MODERATE to HIGH fire severity adjective. Class A, B, fires occurring. Resources within FTC area are handling the situation.</p> | <p>Monthly Conference Call. MAC may determine a need for more frequent communications</p> <p>FTC ensures morning report is complete for all cooperators.</p> | <p>MAC Coordinator</p> <p>Agency representatives</p> <p>FTC</p> | <p>Work with PAO's, review plans and process</p> | <p>Agency</p> |

| LEVEL | DESCRIPTION | ACTION | RESPONSIBILITY | Management Direction Consideration | Responsibility |
|-------|--|---|---|--|---|
| III | Most primary stations indicate Action Class 3-4 or; HIGH to VERY HIGH fire severity adjective. Additional resources are being considered or requested through RMACC. Potential for fires becoming Class C or larger. The majority of the local resources are committed | <p>Weekly Conference Call. MAC may adjust as needed.</p> <p>Consider MAC meeting.</p> <p>Consider filling positions to support MAC. (see RMACC MOB Guide for guidance).¹</p> <p>FTC ensures morning report is complete for all cooperators.</p> | <p>MAC Coordinator</p> <p>Agency representatives</p> <p>Agency representatives</p> <p>FTC</p> | <p>Evaluate Fire Restriction need.</p> <p>Severity Funding</p> <p>Availability Lists updated</p> <p>Preposition Resources</p> <p>Extended Shifts and Coverage</p> <p>Monitor Work Rest Ratio</p> | <p>Agencies per AOP</p> <p>Agency</p> <p>Dispatch</p> <p>Agency</p> <p>Agency</p> <p>Agency</p> |

¹ MAC must negotiate process to provide funding of support positions.

**Fort Collins Dispatch Center Preparedness Levels
with MAC Group Actions (cont)**

| LEVEL | DESCRIPTION | ACTION | RESPONSIBILITY | Management Direction Consideration | Responsibility |
|--------------|--|--|--|---|---------------------------------|
| IV | <p>Most primary stations indicate Action Class 4-5 or; VERY HIGH to EXTREME fire severity adjective. Numerous incidents occurring are draining local resources. Mobilization for resources from RMACC in progress.</p> | <p>Daily MAC call.</p> <p>Consider filling positions to support MAC. (see RMACC MOB Guide for guidance).¹</p> <p>FTC ensures morning report is complete for all cooperators.</p> <p>Expand MAC to include local agencies</p> | <p>MAC Coordinator</p> <p>Agency representatives</p> <p>FTC</p> <p>MAC</p> | <p>Revisit state of readiness of I.A. resources</p> <p>Resource Advisors on call(2hr)</p> | <p>Agencies</p> <p>Agencies</p> |

¹ MAC must negotiate process to provide funding of support positions.

| LEVEL | DESCRIPTION | ACTION | RESPONSIBILITY | Management Direction Consideration | Responsibility |
|--------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| V | Most primary stations indicate Action Class 5 or; EXTREME fire severity adjective. Multiple Incidents are occurring. | <p>Minimum daily MAC call. Schedule times to support regional MAC and Area command as needed.</p> <p>Fill positions to support MAC. (see RMACC MOB Guide for guidance)¹</p> <p>FTC provides resource information to MAC as required.</p> | <p>MAC Coordinator</p> <p>Agency representatives</p> <p>FTC</p> | <p>Consider Type II Team for IA management</p> <p>Consider Implementing Highest Level of Burn Restrictions</p> | <p>MAC, Agencies</p> <p>Agencies per AOP</p> |

¹ MAC must negotiate process to provide funding of support positions.

Approved by:

Forest Supervisor
Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forest

Date

Park Superintendent
Rocky Mountain National Park

Date

Fire Division Supervisor
Colorado State Forest Service

Date

Sheriff
Boulder County Sheriff's Department

Date

Sheriff
Clear Creek County Sheriff's Department

Date

Sheriff
Gilpin County Sheriff's Department

Date

Sheriff
Grand County Sheriff's Department

Date

PRIORITY DECISION MATRIX

Adjusted for FTCMAC 7/9/01

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|--|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Incident Name | | | | Unit | | |
| Date | | Time | | Prescribed Burn | | Wildland Fire |
| Active Suppression | | Selective Holding | | Monitoring | VA x WF = TP | |

| Ranking Element | Value of 1 | Value of 3 | Value of 5 | Value Assigned | Weight Factor | Total Points |
|---|---|---|--|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Firefighter Safety | Low exposure with simple hazards easily migrated. One or no aircraft assigned. | Moderate exposure with several hazardous conditions mitigated through the LCES worksheet. | High exposure which requires multiple strategies to mitigate hazards. Multiple aircraft types assigned. | | 5 | |
| Public Safety | Exposure to hazard can be mitigated through public contact. No known air quality violations at sensitive receptors. | Public must be managed to limit hazard exposure. Air quality is degraded and approaches NAAQ violation thresholds. | Closures of highways and evacuations likely. Air quality at sensitive receptors violates NAAQs. Public exposure to hazard is imminent. | | 5 | |
| Objectives | Objectives are easily achieved. | Objectives are moderately difficult to achieve. | Objectives are difficult to achieve. Several conflicts between objectives and constraints exist. | | 4 | |
| Duration of Resource Commitment | One to Three Days | Four to Seven Days | Eight Days or more | | 4 | |
| Improvements to be Protected | No improvements within or adjacent to the fire. | Several improvements to be protected are within or adjacent to the fire. Mitigation through planning and/or preparation is adequate. May require some commitment of specialized resources | Numerous improvements within or adjacent to the fire. Severe damage is likely without commitment of significant specialized resources with appropriate skill level | | 5 | |
| Cultural and Natural Resource Values | Impacts to resources are acceptable. | Several resource values will be impacted <u>or</u> enhanced. | Resource benefits are significant <u>or</u> the likelihood of negative impacts is great. | | 2 | |
| Social, Economic, and Political Impacts/ concerns | No controversy or media interest. No impacts to neighbors or visitors. | Some impact to neighbors or visitors generating some controversy. Press releases are issued, but no media presence on fires. | High impacts to neighbors results in media presence during fire operations. High internal and external interests and concerns exist. | | 3 | |
| Economic Considerations | Values to be protected or treated are less than costs of management action. | Values to be protected or treated are equal to costs of management action. | Values to be protected or treated exceed costs of management action. | | 2 | |
| Threats to Boundaries | Low risk of fire escaping established perimeter and active suppression or holding is required. | Moderate risk of fire escaping established perimeter and active suppression or holding is required. | Fire is certain to exceed established perimeter without aggressive suppression or holding actions and will result in a much more complex situation. | | 3 | |
| | WFSA / WIFP Stage I / II / III | | | Yes | No | |
| | Critical Resources on Incident | | | Yes | No | |
| | TOTAL PRIORITY POINTS | | | | | |
| | MAC Group Priority Ranking | | | | | |