



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

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Date: JAN 6 2004

Subject: Accident Review Board Action Plan, Cramer Fire, Region 4, North Fork Ranger District, Salmon-Challis National Forest, July 22, 2003

To: Regional Forester, R-4, Deputy Chief for Business Operations, Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry

A Chief's Office Accident Review Board (ARB) was convened on December 5, 2003, on a multiple fatality mishap involving a fire on the North Fork Ranger District, Salmon-Challis National Forest, Region 4.

The Chief's Office Accident Investigation Team presented the Factual Report and Management and Evaluative Report at the ARB. These reports were reviewed and approved after some revision. An action plan was developed by the Board of Review to focus on key actions that, when implemented, would best prevent similar mishaps in the future.

I approve the Board's recommended action plan for implementation as stated for responsible units. Please review the enclosed action plan and take the appropriate steps to ensure completion of each respective action by the assigned date.

  
SALLY D. COLLINS  
Associate Chief

Enclosure

cc:  
Dir, FAM  
Dir, OSOH



## ACCIDENT PREVENTION PLAN

Cramer Fire  
July 22, 2003  
North Fork/Middle Fork Ranger District  
Salmon-Challis National Forest  
Salmon, ID

**ACTION 1:** Assess current decision making and leadership training programs for all prospective Type III, IV and V IC's that has been developed under the direction of NWCG to determine if they are sufficiently comprehensive and simulation based. Adopt and fully integrate the NWCG program or develop and implement a new decision making and leadership training program. Candidates should be certified by the trainers as to whether they are qualified to be an IC based on real time, high stress simulations that require demonstrated capacity to correctly analyze multiple, complex inputs and make timely, sound decisions.

**LEAD RESPONSIBILITIES:** Director FAM

**COLLABORATING PARTIES:**

**COMPLETION DATE FOR ASSESSMENT:** February 2004

**COMPLETION DATE FOR TRAINING IMPLEMENTATION AND CERTIFICATION:**

- If existing training is sufficient, implement by March 2004
- If existing training is not sufficient, develop new class and implement by January 2005

**ACTION 2:** Develop an interim certification process that is simulation based for existing Type III IC's for fire season 2004.

**LEAD RESPONSIBILITIES:** Director FAM

**COLLABORATING PARTIES:**

**COMPLETION DATE FOR INTERIM CERTIFICATION:** April 2004

**ACTION 3:** Develop and implement a procedure to periodically re-certify the qualifications of Type III IC's.

**LEAD RESPONSIBILITIES:** Director FAM

**COLLABORATING PARTIES:**

**COMPLETION DATE:** November 2004

**ACTION 4:** Assess the organizational structure and staffing of the Salmon-Challis National Forest to ensure that the allocation of authorities and management oversight of fire management actions is effective. Make adjustments in the structure and staffing as appropriate.

**LEAD RESPONSIBILITIES:** Regional Forester, Intermountain Region

**COMPLETION DATE FOR ASSESSMENT:** January 2004

**COMPLETION DATE FOR STAFFING:** May 2004

**ACTION 5:** The preparation of this plan has been influenced by the accident prevention plan prepared in response to the Thirtymile Fire Accident. That plan contains a number of actions that are responsive to the causal factors identified in the Cramer Fire Accident Investigation Report. The specific Thirtymile action items are:

A1, A2, A3a, A3b, A3c, A4, A8a, A8b, A9, A10, A11, A13, A14, A15, A16, A18, A21, A22, A23, A25, A26

Rather than repeat these action items, a critical review of the Thirtymile Fire Accident Prevention Plan must be done ensure that substantive progress has been made and that accomplishments to date are appropriate.

**LEAD RESPONSIBILITIES:** DEPUTY CHIEF S&PF

**COLLABORATING PARTIES:**

**COMPLETION DATE:** March 2004