

# COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2005

Prepared By

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cathie Zettler, Assistant Fire Staff Officer

Reviewed By

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce Greco, Fire Staff Officer

Approved By

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nora B. Rasure, Forest Supervisor

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

## **SECTION I - INTRODUCTION**

**Purpose**

**Objective**

**Compliance with National Environmental Policy Act**

**Authorities**

## **SECTION II - CURRENT POLICY AND FOREST LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN DIRECTION**

**Current Policy and Plan Direction Fire and Fuels Management Strategy**

**Forest-Wide Management Direction, Goals and Objectives, Standards and Guidelines**

**Desired Condition and Standards and Guidelines Relating to Fire and Fuels Management**

**Fire Management Plan and LRMP Objectives**

## **SECTION III - SCOPE OF FIRE MANAGEMENT**

**Ten Year Comprehensive Strategy**

**Fire Management Goals**

**Fire Program Elements**

**Wildland Fire**

**Wildland Fire Suppression / Wildland Fire Use**

**Fuels Management**

**Prescribed Fire / Non-Fire Applications**

**Weather Patterns Influencing Fire**

**Description of Fire Management Units (FMU's)**

**FMU 01 - Ponderosa Pine / Mixed Conifer**

**FMU 02 - Pinyon/Juniper Woodland**

**FMU 03 - Desert Shrub/Grassland**

**FMU 04 - Wilderness**

**FMU 1U - Ponderosa Pine Urban Interface**

**FMU 3U - Desert Shrub Urban Interface**

## **SECTION IV - WILDLAND FIRE AND FUELS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM COMPONENTS**

### **General Management Considerations**

#### **Fire Prevention**

- Restrictions and Closures (General Information)**
- Industrial Fire Precautions**
- Criteria for Determining Restrictions and Closures**
- Smoking and Campfire Restrictions**
- Powersaw Restrictions and Industrial Fire Plan C**
- Special Permits or Waivers**
- Area Closure**
- Forest Closure**
- Rescission of Restriction or Closure**

#### **Fire Preparedness**

- Detection**
- Dispatch**
- Forest and Zone Fire Preparedness**
- Fire Reviews and Readiness Inspections**
- Weather Services**
- Spot Weather Forecasts**
- Training**
- Aviation Plans**
- Safety**
- Fire Safety Training and Work Capacity Testing**
- Qualifications and Red Cards**
- Policy Direction on Module and Crew Size, Qualifications, and Leadership**
- Internet WEB Addresses**
- Coconino National Forest Preparedness Plan**
- Northern Arizona Zone Preparedness Plan**
- Coconino National Forest Task Book Guidelines**
- Fire Management Training Course Coordinator/Lead Instructor/Student Obligation**

## **Fire Suppression**

**Responsibilities**

**Delegations**

**Appropriate Management Response Direction**

**Wildland Fire Suppression**

**Range of Potential Fire Behavior**

**Suppression Strategies**

**Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP) Direction**

**Initial Action / Initial Attack**

**Suppression Strategies**

**Response Times for Initial Attack**

**Restrictions or Special Concerns**

**Direction for Fire Management Units Based on Fire Season and ERC**

**Extended Attack and Escaped Wildland Fires**

**Procedural Checklist for Fire Response Decisions and Documentation**

**Briefing Package for Transition and Delegation to an Incident Management Team**

**Line Officer Direction / Responsibilities and Authorities**

**Wildland Fire Situation Analysis**

**Complexity Analysis**

**Line Officer Direction and Team Briefing**

**Multiple Fire Situations**

**Responsibilities and Authority**

**Location of Forms**

**Briefing Package Forms**

**Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP)**

**Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA)**

**Net Value Change / Resource Damage (2002 NFMAS)**

**Average Acre Suppression Costs (2002 NFMAS)**

**Incident Complexity Analysis**

**Agency Administrator Direction to Incoming Team**

**OSHA Abatement Plan for Incident Management Teams**

**Delegation of Authority**

**Initial / Extended Attack to IMT Transition Checklist**

**Agency Administrator Team Evaluation Form**

**Agency Administrator Team Closeout Form**

## **Fire Suppression (continued)**

### **Coconino National Forest Suppression Resources**

#### **Prescribed Fire**

**Planning and Documentation**

**Long Term Prescribed Fire Program Based on Fire Management Unit**

**Personnel Qualifications**

**Weather, Fire Behavior, Fire Effects Monitoring**

**Prescribed Fire Critiques**

**Documentation Requirements**

**Exceeding the Existing Prescribed Fire Burn Plan**

**Air Quality and Smoke Management**

#### **Non-Fire Applications**

**Mechanical Treatment and Other Applications**

**Annual Activities to Prepare for and Implement the Mechanical Treatments**

**Equipment and Seasonal Restrictions as They Relate to Each FMU**

**Documentation Required for Monitoring**

**Reporting and Documentation for Accomplishments**

## **SECTION V - ORGANIZATIONAL AND BUDGETARY PARAMETERS**

**Current Fiscal Year Budget and the Ability to Support Planned and Unplanned Actions**

**Organization**

**Cooperative Agreements and Interagency Contacts**

**Equipment and Rental Agreements**

## **SECTION VI - MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

**Monitoring Requirements**

**Wildland Fire Suppression**

**National Thirtymile Hazard Abatement Monitoring Plan**

**Thirtymile Hazard Abatement Monitoring Checklist**

**Fuels Management  
Annual Monitoring Requirements  
Reporting Requirements**

## **APPENDIX DIRECTORY**

- Appendix 1 Coconino National Forest Fire Prevention Plan**
- Appendix 2 Current Work/Rest Guidelines**
- Appendix 3 MIST Requirements**
- Appendix 4 Fuels Management**
  - 2005 Program of Work**
  - FSM 5100 - Chapter 5140**
  - R-3 Prescribed Fire Burn Plan Format**
  - Prescribed Fire Complexity Rating System Guide**
  - Complexity Rating Worksheet**
  - ADEQ Annual Prescribed Burn Registration**
  - ADEQ Prescribed Fire Burn Plan Form**
  - ADEQ Daily Burn Form**
  - Hourly Plume Observation Report**
  - Arizona Smoke Management Map / Airsheds / Class I Areas**
  - Notice of Final Rulemaking / Title 18 / Environmental Quality**
  - Coconino National Forest Prescribed Fire Qualifications**
  - Standards and Guidelines for Mexican Spotted Owl and Northern Goshawk**
- Appendix 5 Fire Planning Information**
- Appendix 6 Cooperative Agreements**
- Appendix 7 Entrapment Guidelines**
- Appendix 8 Northern Arizona Integrated Weed Management Practices (BMP's)**

## **SECTION I - INTRODUCTION**

**Purpose** **Page 9**

**Objective** **Page 9**

**Compliance with National Environmental Policy Act** **Page 9**

**Authorities** **Page 9**

## **Section I - Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Program Review (USDI/USDA 1995) requires development of a Fire Management Plan (FMP) for all areas subject to wildland fires. The policy requires such plans to recognize both Wildland Fire Use and fire protection as inherent parts of natural resource management, and to include a full range of fire management actions consistent with the Coconino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan to ensure adequate fire suppression capability and support fire reintroduction efforts.

This plan was developed for all areas subject to wildland fires on the Coconino National Forest in compliance with the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Program Review, the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Management Policy and Implementation Procedures Reference Guide (FSM 5101, 5103, 5108) and to meet the requirements of FSM 5121.2 and FSH 5109.19, 50.3.

### **B. Objective**

This plan is a detailed strategic program of action to carry out fire management policies and will help achieve resource management objectives as defined in the Coconino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan through Amendment 17, December 2002.

### **C. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act**

The Fire Management Plan formally documents the fire program approved through the Coconino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, and will assist in achieving Forest resource management objectives. The FMP provides specific details of the fire program that most efficiently meet fire management direction and needs for the geographic area encompassed by the plan. The FMP is not a decision document; rather it provides the operational parameters needed to implement the Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP). The LRMP provides the foundation for wildland and prescribed fire management programs on the Forest.

### **D. Authorities**

Authorities for implementing this plan are found in the Forest Service Manual (FSM) 5101 and 5108. FSM 5101 identifies acts that authorize and guide fire management activities for the protection of National Forest system lands and resources. FSM 5108 cites publications containing guidance on the minimum standards and procedures in various aspects of wildland fire management.



**SECTION II - CURRENT POLICY AND FOREST LAND AND RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT PLAN DIRECTION**

<b>Current Policy and Plan Direction for Fire</b>	<b>Page 10</b>
<b>Fuels Management Strategy</b>	<b>Page 11</b>
<b>Forest-Wide Management Direction, Goals and Objectives, Standards and Guidelines</b>	<b>Page 11</b>
<b>Desired Condition and Standards and Guidelines Relating to Fire and Fuels Management</b>	<b>Page 11</b>
<b>Fire Management Plan and Land and Resource Management Plan Objectives</b>	<b>Page 11</b>

## **Section II - Current Policy and Forest Land and Resource Management Plan Direction**

### **A. Current Policy and Plan Direction**

Current policy is to manage fire and fuels in a consistent manner across the national forests, coordinate management strategies with other ownerships, and integrates fire and fuels management objectives with other natural resource objectives. The 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy adjusts goals and objectives to reflect the role and consequence of wildland fire and to achieve consistency with other federal agencies. The LRMP and Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy set priorities for fire management actions to balance the need to restore fire as a key ecosystem process while minimizing the threat fire poses to life, property, and resources. Direction documents used in the completion of this plan include:

- Wildland and Prescribed Fire Management Policy, Implementation Procedures and Reference Guide, August 1998
- Review and Update of the 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, 1/2001
- Land and Resource Management Plan, 1987 (Amendments Through December, 2002)
- Final Environmental Impact Statement, August 1987 Coconino National Forest
- Forest Service Manual (FSM) 5100
- Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 5109
- Coconino National Forest, NFMAS Analysis, 1998 (updated December, 2002)
- Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations ("The Red Book" - 2004)
- Thirtymile Accident Prevention Plan and Thirtymile Hazard Abatement Plan

The 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy provides nine guiding principles that are fundamental to the success of the Federal wildland fire management program:

- Firefighter and public safety is the first priority in every fire management activity.
- The role of wildland fire as an essential ecological process and natural change agent will be incorporated into the planning process.
- Fire Management Plans, programs, and activities support land and resource management plans and their implementation.
- Sound risk management is a foundation for all fire management activities.
- Fire management programs and activities are economically viable based upon values to be protected, costs, and land and resource management objectives.
- Fire Management Plans and activities are based upon the best available science.
- Fire Management Plans and activities incorporate public health and environmental quality considerations.
- Federal, State, tribal, local, interagency, and international coordination and cooperation are essential.
- Standardization of policies and procedures among federal agencies is an ongoing objective.

## **B. Fire and Fuels Management Strategy**

- Fire Management Plan - The Coconino National Forest Fire Management Plan defines a program to manage wildland and prescribed fires with the appropriate management response or range of response strategies.
- Wildland Fire Management - Special resource concerns will be considered in all fire management activities.
- Provide a cost effective fire management program to protect life, property, and Forest resources from the damaging effects of wildfire.
- Maintain natural and activity-created fuels at levels commensurate with minimizing resource losses from wildfire.
- Provide opportunities for the use of fire in its natural ecological role.

Fire and fuels management strategies are further discussed in Section III of this plan.

## **C. Forest-wide Management Direction, Goals and Objectives, Standards and Guidelines**

The management direction and goals in the Coconino National Forest LRMP describe the land and resource conditions across the Forest, and the planning, analysis, monitoring, and adjustments that must be done to make these goals a reality. Full attainment of these goals and objectives can be influenced by Congressional budget allocations, changed circumstances, or new information. Fire size objectives are identified for each management area within the LRMP and carried through to each Fire Management Unit within the Fire Management Plan.

## **D. Desired Condition and Standards and Guidelines Relating to Fire and Fuels Management**

Desired condition describes the condition of the land that management will be designed to maintain or move toward. Key desired conditions relating to fire and fuels management include:

1. Allow for efficient and safe suppression of all wildland fire ignitions in the wildland urban intermix and provide a buffer between developed areas and wildlands.
2. In non-WUI portions of the Forest, reduce the spread and intensity of wildland fire to minimize adverse fire effects across the landscape.
3. Enhance or maintain suitable wildlife habitat, forage, and cover conditions.
4. Allow a natural range of conditions to develop, especially in old growth forest areas, wilderness, and wild and scenic river areas.

## **E. Fire Management Plan and LRMP Objectives**

The FMP formally documents the fire program based on LRMP direction in one single source document. The fire management program strategies compliment one another in support of an ecological approach to resource management.

### **SECTION III - SCOPE OF FIRE MANAGEMENT**

<b>Ten Year Comprehensive Strategy</b>	<b>Page 13</b>
<b>Fire Management Goals</b>	<b>Page 14</b>
<b>Fire Program Elements</b>	<b>Page 14</b>
<b>Wildland Fire</b>	<b>Page 14</b>
<b>Wildland Fire Suppression</b>	<b>Page 14</b>
<b>Wildland Fire Use</b>	<b>Page 15</b>
<b>Fuels Management</b>	<b>Page 15</b>
<b>Prescribed Fire</b>	<b>Page 15</b>
<b>Non-Fire Applications</b>	<b>Page 15</b>
<b>Weather Patterns Influencing Fire</b>	<b>Page 15</b>
<b>Description of Fire Management Units (Characteristics, Management Emphasis, Fire Management Objectives)</b>	<b>Page 16</b>
<b>FMU 01 - Ponderosa Pine / Mixed Conifer</b>	<b>Pages 16</b>
<b>FMU 02 - Pinyon/Juniper Woodland</b>	<b>Pages 17-18</b>
<b>FMU 03 - Desert Shrub/Grassland</b>	<b>Page 18</b>
<b>FMU 04 - Wilderness</b>	<b>Pages 18-19</b>
<b>FMU 1U - Ponderosa Pine / Urban Interface</b>	<b>Page 20</b>
<b>FMU 3U - Desert Shrub / Urban Interface</b>	<b>Page 20-21</b>

## **Section III - Scope of Fire Management**

### **10 -Year Comprehensive Strategy**

The Coconino National Forest will recognize and implement the goals, guiding principals, and performance measures as outlined in the Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment: 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy, May 2003.

The four goals of the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy include:

1. Improve Fire Prevention and Suppression
2. Reduce Hazardous Fuels
3. Restore Fire Adapted Ecosystems
4. Promote Community Assistance

The three guiding principles of the Strategy include:

1. Priority setting that emphasizes the protection of communities and other high-priority watersheds at risk.
2. Collaboration among governments and broadly representative stakeholders.
3. Accountability through performance measures and monitoring for results.

To reduce the threat of wildland fire to people, communities, and ecosystems, the following is essential:

- Firefighter and public safety continuing as the highest priority.
- A sustained, long-term and cost-effective investment of resources by all public and private parties, recognizing overall budget parameters affecting Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments.
- A unified effort to implement the collaborative framework called for in the Strategy in a manner that ensures timely decisions at each level.
- Accountability for measuring and monitoring performance and outcomes, and a commitment to factoring findings into future decision making activities.
- The achievement of national goals through action at the local level with particular attention on the unique needs of cross-boundary efforts and the importance of funding on-the-ground activities.
- Communities and individuals in the wildland urban interface and in at-risk areas initiate personnel stewardship and volunteer actions that will reduce wildland fire risks.
- Management active, both in wildland-urban interface and in at-risk areas across the border landscape.
- Active forest and rangeland management, including thinning that produces commercial or pre-commercial products, biomass removal and utilization, prescribed fire and other fuels reduction tools to simultaneously meet long-term ecological, economic, and community objectives.

## **A. Fire Management Goals**

The goals for fire management have been expanded from those outlined in the LRMP. The goals tier from and are closely aligned with both national and regional fire management goals and federal fire policy direction. The fire management goals include:

- Every fire management activity is undertaken with firefighter and public safety as the primary consideration.
- Fire management program activities are aligned to fully compliment one another in support of an ecological approach to resource management.
- Fire related considerations are integrated into land management planning alternatives, goals, and objectives.
- Fire managers use the full range of wildland and prescribed fire options to protect, enhance, and restore resources, and to protect developments with and adjacent to the Coconino National Forest.
- Fire managers collaborate with other federal and state land management agencies, air regulators, local cooperators, and the public to coordinate fire management activities that may impact private or non-Forest lands and/or public health. Partners with the Coconino National Forest include the Arizona State Land Department, Kaibab, Apache/Sitgreaves, Tonto, and Prescott National Forests, and the Wupatki, Sunset Crater Volcano, Walnut Canyon, Tuzigoot, and Montezuma Well and Montezuma Castle National Monuments. In the greater Flagstaff and Verde Valley areas, the Forest is a key player in the Ponderosa Fire Advisory Council (PFAC) and the Verde Valley Fire Chiefs Association (VVFCA) respectively, and the Greater Flagstaff Forest Partnership (GFFP) whose membership includes federal, state, and local agencies, conservation and environmental organizations, academics, private individuals, business organizations, and research entities.

## **B. Fire Program Elements**

Fire program elements include all options authorized under current policy and with the foundation being set in the Coconino Land and Resource Management Plan.

### **1. Wildland Fire**

Wildland fire is defined as any vegetation fire, other than prescribed fire, that occurs in the wildland. Current policy allows for a full spectrum of response to wildland fire based on objectives, environmental and fuel conditions, constraints, safety, ability to accomplish objectives, and cost effectiveness. The Forest averages 501 wildland fires per year (both human caused and lightning).

#### **a. Wildland Fire Suppression**

A suppression strategy will be adopted on all known human caused fires. The appropriate management response for these fires can range from initial attack to a combination of strategies to confine the fire. All wildland fire suppression activities provide for firefighter and public safety as the highest consideration, but minimize loss of resource values, economic expenditures, and/or the use of critical firefighting resources.

## **b. Wildland Fire Use**

Wildland Fire Use is defined as the management of naturally ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific pre-stated resource management objectives in predefined geographic areas outlined in the Fire Management Plan. Operational management of a WFU fire is described in the Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP).

## **2. Fuels Management**

Fuels management will be used to re-introduce fire, reduce fuel levels, and to mitigate consequences of large damaging wildfires. The treatments over the landscape are strategically designed so that wildland fire spread and intensity are reduced. Fuels management will also be used to protect habitats, enhance old-forest ecosystems, and re-introduce fire into fire dependant ecosystems. Treatments are designed to re-establish fuel profiles or vegetative conditions more characteristic of historic fire regimes, eventually allowing fire to function as a natural process. Forest actions are in context with the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy, Five Year Fuels Plan, the National Fire Plan, and the Forest Service Strategic Plan.

### **a. Prescribed Fire**

Prescribed fire will be used to manage natural and activity fuels for the establishment of fuel profiles that contribute to cost-effective fire suppression, aid in meeting resource management objectives, and sustain ecosystem values. Prescribed fire is the preferred treatment method in areas sensitive to impacts of mechanical treatment such as Mexican Spotted Owl and Northern Goshawk habitats, and on slopes greater than 40% as outlined in the LRMP. Prescribed fire can also be used to mimic naturally occurring fire, enhance native plant species, provide forage and habitat for wildlife species, contribute to soil nutrient cycling, and create diversity in vegetation structure and distribution. Prescribed fires will meet specific objectives, and will have a written approved prescribed fire plan and meet all NEPA requirements prior to ignition. All prescribed fire activities will be coordinated with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to ensure air quality and smoke monitoring standards are met.

### **b. Non-Fire Applications**

Non-fire treatments will be designed to remove or rearrange fuels, mitigate the consequences of wildfire, and allow for efficient and safe appropriate management responses to wildland fire ignitions. These treatments are especially useful in areas where prescribed fire is not feasible. Non-fire treatments can also be used to prepare areas for future fire applications by removing excessive ladder and surface fuels. Mechanical treatments are effective in disrupting horizontal and vertical continuity of fuels, removing larger size-class fuels, and selectively treating large areas with a defined prescription.

## **Weather Patterns Influencing Fire**

Dominant weather patterns are much the same across each Fire Management Unit on the Coconino National Forest. Specific precipitation amounts are described under FMU Characteristics. Precipitation typically comes in the form of rain or snow from November through April. High winds associated with low pressure systems move through the area often in April and May. Winds are generally from south to southwest, and can lead to extreme fire behavior during red flag conditions. High pressure generally begins to establish in May and June with hot, dry, and unstable conditions occurring throughout June into July. Historically,

most large fires on the Forest have occurred during May and June. The onset of the monsoon flow may begin in early July, but more typically arrives around July 10th. Wide-ranging thunderstorms, sometimes dry, indicate the arrival of the monsoon. The critical fire season is usually terminated after the first 1 - 2" of precipitation once a continuous moisture pattern is established. Portions of the Mogollon Rim (FMU 01) are among the highest lightning occurrences in the world. The afternoon storms last through early September, with drier air being the norm from mid September through October.

### **C. Description of Fire Management Units (FMU's)**

The Forest has established six Fire Management Units. Each FMU is definable by objectives, topographic features, access, values to be protected, political boundaries, fuel types, or major fire regimes that set it apart from management characteristics of an adjacent unit. Each FMU is tied to specific management objectives outlined in the LRMP.

**01 - Ponderosa Pine / Mixed Conifer**

**02 - Pinyon/Juniper**

**03 - Desert Shrub / Grassland**

**04 - Wilderness**

**1U - Ponderosa Pine Urban Interface**

**3U - Desert Shrub Urban Interface**

#### **FMU 01 - Ponderosa Pine / Mixed Conifer**

##### **Characteristics of FMU 01**

The FMU is primarily represented by Ponderosa Pine with some mixed conifer on slopes greater and less than 40 percent outside of urban interface areas above the Mogollon Rim, a prominent topographical feature in this FMU that separates the Tonto and Coconino National Forests. This vegetative type is the Forest's largest timber zone. There are three major vegetation associations that occur in this management unit. They include Ponderosa Pine with a Gamble Oak understory, Ponderosa Pine with intermingled groups of Aspen, and Ponderosa Pine with a Ponderosa Pine understory. The woody vegetative composition of the mixed conifer is variable, and consists of overstories and understories of Ponderosa Pine, Douglas Fir, White Fir, and Aspen. Average elevation is 7000 feet with Baker Butte being just over 8000 feet.

Logging, grazing, firewood gathering, and recreation are historic uses. There are many roads that are often utilized for access to fires. Natural fuel accumulations are moderate; roughly 15 tons per acre and mechanical treatments can add an additional 10 to 30 tons per acre for periods of time until the fuel is treated. Wildfires can produce sufficient heat and flame length to kill residual trees, although a total kill of all vegetation may take place on fires during periods of drought and extreme fire danger. There is a history and potential of large fire occurrences throughout this FMU. Dispersed recreation use is heavy, and the risk of person caused fires is high. A protection analysis has been completed and is utilized for the various compartments identified in the FMU. The area receives 20 to 36 inches of precipitation annually. The FMU is represented by Fire Regime 1 and Condition Classes 2 and 3. Some areas have extensive surface, ladder, and crown fuels. This FMU represents part of one of the largest contiguous Ponderosa Pine stands in the world, and one of the highest fire occurrences in the nation.



## **Management Emphasis of FMU 01**

Emphasis is comprised of a combination of multiple-uses including a sustained yield of timber and firewood production, wildlife habitat, livestock grazing, high quality water, and dispersed recreation. Indicator species include turkey, Northern Goshawk, Pygmy Nuthatch, elk, Abert Squirrel, Red Squirrel, Hairy Woodpecker, and Mexican Spotted Owl. Standards and guidelines specific to habitat management of the Mexican Spotted Owl and the Northern Goshawk are included in Appendix D of this plan. Emphasis is placed on minimizing unacceptable impacts to T&E species. The FMU contains priorities for non-WUI fuels treatments to meet objectives for hazardous fuels reduction and restoration of fire adaptive ecosystems. Standards and guidelines specific to this FMU are described in the LRMP under Management Areas 3, 4, 5, and 6.

## **Fire Management Objectives of FMU 01**

The suppression objective is to hold fires to 100 acres or less per fire start. Suppression tactics give top priority to protecting life and property, including protection of private in-holdings and other land ownerships. Annual wildfire acreage burned should not exceed 750 acres per year on the average over a 10-year period. Prescribed fire is often used to accomplish fuel treatments and meet resource management objectives. All prescribed fire activities are coordinated with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to ensure optimum smoke management objectives are met. This FMU is composed of areas where there is currently no provision for Wildland Fire Use or where complicating factors make this impractical at this time.

## **FMU 02 - Pinyon/Juniper Woodland**

### **Characteristics of the FMU 02**

The FMU includes Pinyon/Juniper Woodlands on slopes greater and less than 40 percent. There are a wide variety of grass, forbs, and shrubs in the understory where juniper is present. The area is also comprised of stringers of Ponderosa Pine. Portions of this FMU are marked with steep canyons and volcanic slopes (greater than 40 percent) making the area unsuitable for uses such as firewood gathering and some kinds of recreation, which has contributed to the old-growth vegetation that is commonly found there. In woodland areas with less than 40 percent slopes, traditional uses have included hunting, firewood gathering, pinyon nut gathering, Christmas tree and juniper post cutting, big game winter range including elk and Pronghorn Antelope, and livestock grazing.

There are numerous two track roads throughout this area. Fire occurrence and the potential for large fires has been low in the past, however, drought conditions throughout the area have resulted in large areas of dead and dying trees and shrubs resulting in an increase in large fire potential. This is especially true in stands inhabited by Pinyon Pine trees. Generally, ground fuels are less than five tons per acre. The area receives 16 to 24 inches of precipitation annually. This FMU is also characterized by a substantial number of archeological sites. The area is represented by Fire Regimes 1 and 2, and Condition Classes 2 and 3.

### **Management Emphasis of FMU 02**

Emphasis is placed on fuelwood production, watershed condition, wildlife habitat, and livestock grazing. The primary indicator species for this FMU include Pronghorn Antelope, Plain Titmouse, Mule Deer, and elk. Standards and guidelines specific to this FMU can be found in the LRMP under Management Areas 7, 8, 9, and 10.

## **Fire Management Objectives of FMU 02**

The suppression objective is to hold fires to 1000 acres or less with the goal of minimizing suppression costs and providing for maximum personnel safety. In Ponderosa Pine stringers or other identified important wildlife habitat, the suppression objective is 300 acres per fire start or less. Appropriate management responses utilizing contain and confine strategies are often employed in this FMU. Prescribed fire is used to accomplish fuels treatment and other resource management objectives, and is coordinated with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) for smoke management considerations. Emphasis is placed on minimizing unacceptable impacts to T&E species and cultural resources. Currently the FMU has no provision for Wildland Fire Use.

## **FMU 03 - Desert Shrub/Grassland**

### **Characteristics of FMU 03**

Fire Management Unit 03 is located on lands below the Mogollon Rim to the east, south, and northwest of the Verde Valley and Sedona, but outside of urban interface areas. Vegetation is comprised of Pinyon/Juniper Woodland, Arizona Cypress, grassland, and desert vegetation types including Black Gramma Tobosa, Creosote Bush, and Mesquite. Fire occurrence is low and there is very little history of large fires. The area receives 12 to 20 inches of precipitation annually. The FMU is represented by Fire Regime 3 and Condition Classes 2 and 3. There are an abundance of cultural resources including prehistoric dwellings and ruins throughout the area.

### **Management Emphasis of FMU 03**

Emphasis is place primarily on watershed conditions, range management, wildlife habitat for upland game birds, and dispersed recreation. Indicator species include the antelope. Standards and guidelines for this FMU are further discussed in the LRMP, Management Area 11.

## **Fire Management Objectives of FMU 03**

The suppression objective is to minimize costs and provide for maximum personnel safety while holding fires to 1000 acres or less per start. Prescribed fire using planned ignitions is used to accomplish resource objectives, and is coordinated with ADEQ for optimum smoke management considerations. Emphasis is place on minimizing any impacts to cultural resources. Currently there are no provisions for Wildland Fire Use in this Fire Management Unit.

## **FMU 04 - Wilderness**

### **Characteristics of FMU 04**

The Wilderness Fire Management Unit on the Coconino is extremely diverse in that it covers ten wilderness areas ranging from the tundra at the top of the San Francisco Peaks to the upper Sonoran Desert fuel types found in the Fossil Springs Wilderness. Standards and guidelines for each wilderness can be found in the LRMP on pages 98 through 115. The FMU represents all of the fuel types found on the Forest and Fire Regimes include 1, 2, and 3 with Condition Classes 2 and 3. All of the wilderness areas are rich in archeological resources both prehistoric and historic. Topography ranges from high mountain peaks to extremely rugged and steep canyons and can pose significant challenges in implementing suppression or fire use strategies.

The Sycamore Canyon and Kachina Peaks areas both have a history of large fire occurrences; however there are numerous smaller fires throughout all of the Wilderness FMU each year. The Wilderness FMU receives 12 to 36 inches of precipitation annually depending on location.

**Management Emphasis of FMU 04**

Enhancing wilderness recreation and watershed conditions while maintaining wilderness resource values are the major emphasis points. Primary uses of wilderness areas include hiking, fishing, river running, hunting, photography, and solitude. The wide variety of vegetative types provides habitat for equally diverse wildlife populations.

**Fire Management Objectives of FMU 04**

Fires in the wilderness will be managed in accordance with approved wilderness implementation plans where they exist. The Kachina Peaks Wilderness is the only area on the Forest that currently allows for Wildland Fire Use under an approved plan. Air quality is of paramount importance throughout wilderness areas. Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) will be used, as well as strategies that minimize impacts to T&E species and cultural resources.

Size objectives for fires in each wilderness for suppression actions vary and are as follows:

Kachina Peaks	100 acres to 500 acres (see Kachina Wildland Fire Use Plan for specific information on size objectives by zone)
Strawberry Crater	300 acres
Red Rock/Secret Mountain	300 acres
West Clear Creek	300 acres
Fossil Springs	300 acres
Sycamore Canyon	1000 acres
Munds Mountain	300 acres
Wet Beaver Creek	300 acres

In addition, there are two wilderness areas on the Forest that overlap onto the adjacent Kaibab and Tonto National Forests. Specific prescriptions for management of the Kendrick Mountain Wilderness and the Mazatzal Wilderness are covered by the Kaibab and Tonto National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans respectively. The Coconino collaborates with those Forests when fires occur in these areas within the Forest boundaries.

Kendrick Mountain	10 acres
Mazatzal	Managed by the Tonto National Forest

## **FMU 1U - Ponderosa Pine Urban Interface**

### **Characteristics of FMU 1U**

This FMU represents all Ponderosa Pine vegetative types on the Forest within the urban interface. The communities identified in the FMU include the greater Flagstaff area, Munds Park, Mormon Lake, and Happy Jack/Blue Ridge. All communities are above the Mogollon Rim. Vegetation in this unit is primarily Ponderosa Pine with some areas containing a pine/oak component. There are numerous roads and urban trails throughout these areas.

The FMU has a very high risk for human caused fires. A complete protection analysis has been completed for this FMU and identifies risks, hazards, and values. The analysis is part of the Coconino National Forest Fire Prevention Plan contained in Appendix 1 of this plan. This area is a priority for Fire Prevention and Public Education measures, and the primary causes of fires in this area are campfires and lightning. The FMU is represented by Fire Regime 1 and Condition Classes 2 and 3.

Cooperation and coordination with local fire departments including Flagstaff, Summit, Highlands, Munds Park, Mormon Lake, and Blue Ridge are essential. Other partners include law enforcement agencies and the Arizona State Land Department. The Ponderosa Fire Advisory Council (PFAC) fosters an interagency approach to wildland fire within the urban interface of the greater Flagstaff area, Munds Park, and Mormon Lake.

### **Management Emphasis of FMU 1U**

Management emphasis for FMU 1U are primarily the same as those for FMU 01. Areas included in this FMU have the highest priority for intensive hazardous fuels reduction treatments. Protection of people and property has been the primary fire management objective for decades, and nearly all fires have received a full suppression/control response.

### **Fire Management Objectives of FMU 1U**

The suppression objective is to hold fires to 10 acres or less per fire start. In this FMU the urban interface is included as well as an area up to ten miles long in a southwesterly direction from these urban areas. Fires may pose an immediate threat to life and property. Prescribed fire using planned ignitions is used to accomplish fuels treatment and resource management objectives. During critical fire season (May 1 - July 15) all fires are controlled. Suppression tactics are selected that have the least impact on the land while meeting the suppression objective.

## **FMU 3U - Desert Shrub Urban Interface**

### **Characteristics of FMU 3U**

This FMU is comprised of urban interface areas within the desert shrub, grassland, and riparian fuel types. There are substantial riparian areas and wetland ecosystems including Oak Creek, Beaver Creek, a portion of West Clear Creek, and the Verde River which is considered wild and scenic. The area covering the Oak Creek Canyon Scenic Area is included, and is nationally known. Thousands of visitors visit the Sedona and Oak Creek Canyon areas each year. Vegetation throughout the FMU includes Pinyon/Juniper Woodlands, Arizona Cypress groves, grasslands, Creosote Bush, Mesquite, Sycamore trees, and chaparral. The area receives 12 to 20 inches of precipitation annually. The canyon along Oak Creek and into Sedona is extensively developed as is the Verde River through the community of Camp Verde.

The area has been inhabited since prehistoric times evidenced by the abundance of ruins and prehistoric dwellings. Fire occurrence is moderate and there is some history of large fires in Oak Creek Canyon proper. There is potential in the Oak Creek Canyon area for a large and disastrous conflagration due to existing fuels, steep rugged topography, and prevailing winds. Access in and out of this area is primarily through State Highway 89; a slow and sometimes very crowded highway winding up the canyon. During peak visitation periods, quick access to fires can be difficult due to the extensive use of the highway. The area also has inherent hazards for aircraft use which are addressed in the Sedona/Oak Creek Canyon Aviation and Safety Management Plan in a separate document. The FMU is represented by Fire Regime 3 and Condition Classes 2 and 3. Smoke management is paramount in both the Sedona / Oak Creek and Verde Valley areas that are currently identified as Class I Areas.

### **Management Emphasis of FMU 3U**

The major emphasis points for this FMU are water and visual qualities, wildlife habitat, and recreation. The largest number of developed recreation sites on the Forest can be found in Oak Creek Canyon. Use is concentrated and heavy. Campfires are allowed in campgrounds only which is an aid in the prevention of human caused fires. Standards and guidelines for this FMU may be found in the LRMP under Management Areas 11, 12, and 14, and Amendment 12.

### **Fire Management Objectives of FMU 3U**

The suppression objective is to keep fires at 10 acres or less and to minimize the threat to life and property when fires pose a threat. Fires that are not a threat to life and/or property are managed to minimize cost and provide for maximum personnel safety. The threat to life and/or improvements is determined by the District Ranger, the District Fire Management Officer, or the Initial Attack Incident Commander. When fires are not a threat to life and/or property, the size criteria of the suppression objective may be increased to 300 acres.

Priority for control action is given to the bottom and lower flanks of a fire when such action is necessary to reduce or eliminate a threat to improvements. On the upper slopes of the Oak Creek Canyon, suppression methods are selected to maximize personnel safety and minimize damage to soil, water, and other resources. Prescribed fire using planned ignitions is used to accomplish fuel treatment and other resource management objectives. There are no provisions for Wildland Fire Use in this FMU at the current time.

## **SECTION IV - WILDLAND FIRE AND FUELS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM COMPONENTS**

**General Management Considerations** **Page 25**

### **Fire Prevention**

<b>Overview</b>	<b>Page 25-26</b>
<b>Restrictions and Closures (General Information)</b>	<b>Pages 26-27</b>
<b>Smoking and Campfire Restrictions</b>	<b>Pages 27-28</b>
<b>Powersaw Restrictions and Industrial Fire Plan C</b>	<b>Pages 28-29</b>
<b>Special Permits or Waivers</b>	<b>Page 29</b>
<b>Area Closure</b>	<b>Page 29</b>
<b>Forest Closure</b>	<b>Pages 29-30</b>
<b>Rescission of Restriction or Closure</b>	<b>Page 30</b>

### **Fire Preparedness** **Page 31**

<b>Detection</b>	<b>Page 31</b>
<b>Dispatch</b>	<b>Page 33</b>
<b>Forest and Zone Preparedness</b>	<b>Pages 32-33</b>
<b>Fire Reviews and Readiness Inspections</b>	<b>Page 33</b>
<b>Weather Services</b>	<b>Page 33</b>
<b>Spot Weather Forecasts</b>	<b>Page 33</b>
<b>Training</b>	<b>Page 33</b>
<b>Aviation Plans</b>	<b>Page 34</b>
<b>Safety</b>	<b>Page 34</b>
<b>Fire Safety Training and Work Capacity Testing</b>	<b>Pages 34-35</b>
<b>Qualifications and Red Cards</b>	<b>Page 35</b>
<b>Policy Direction on Module Crew Size, Qualifications, and Leadership</b>	<b>Page 35</b>
<b>Internet WEB Addresses</b>	<b>Page 35</b>
<b>Coconino National Forest Preparedness Plan</b>	<b>Pages 36-41</b>
<b>Northern Arizona Zone Preparedness Plan</b>	<b>Pages 42-44</b>
<b>Coconino National Forest Task Book Guidelines</b>	<b>Pages 45-48</b>
<b>Fire Management Training Course Coordinator, Lead Instructor/Student Obligation</b>	<b>Pages 49-50</b>

## **Fire Suppression**

<b>Responsibilities</b>	<b>Page 51</b>
<b>Delegations</b>	<b>Page 52</b>
<b>Appropriate Management Response Direction</b>	<b>Page 53</b>
<b>Wildland Fire Suppression</b>	<b>Page 53</b>
<b>Range of Potential Fire Behavior</b>	<b>Page 53</b>
<b>Fire Suppression Policies</b>	<b>Page 54</b>
<b>Initial Action / Initial Attack</b>	<b>Page 54</b>
<b>Appropriate Management Response Options</b>	<b>Pages 55</b>
<b>Response Times for Initial Attack</b>	<b>Page 56</b>
<b>Restrictions or Special Concerns</b>	<b>Page 56</b>
<b>Direction for Fire Management Units Based on Fire Season and ERC</b>	<b>Pages 56-57</b>
<b>Extended Attack and Escaped Wildland Fires</b>	<b>Page 57</b>
<b>Incident Management Team Protocol and Selection</b>	<b>Page 58</b>
<b>Expectations of Employees Reporting Fires</b>	<b>Page 58</b>
<b>Procedural Checklist for Fire Response Decisions</b>	<b>Page 59</b>
<b>Line Officer Direction / WFSA and Complexity Analysis</b>	<b>Page 61</b>
<b>Wildland Fire Situation Analysis Direction</b>	<b>Page 61</b>
<b>Complexity Analysis Direction</b>	<b>Page 61</b>
<b>Line Officer Direction and Team Briefing</b>	<b>Page 61</b>
<b>Multiple Fire Situations</b>	<b>Page 61</b>
<b>Location of Forms</b>	<b>Page 61</b>
<b>Briefing Package Forms</b>	
<b>Wildland Fire Implementation Form (WFIP)</b>	
<b>Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA)</b>	
<b>Average Acre Suppression Cost (2002 NFMAS)</b>	
<b>Net Value Change / Resource Damage (2002 NFMAS)</b>	
<b>Incident Complexity Analysis</b>	
<b>Agency Administrator Direction to Incoming Team</b>	
<b>OSHA Abatement Plan for Incident Management Teams</b>	
<b>Delegation of Authority</b>	
<b>Initial / Extended Attack to IMT Transition Checklist</b>	
<b>Agency Administrator Team Evaluation Form</b>	
<b>Agency Administrator Team Closeout Form</b>	

**Fire Suppression** (continued)

**Coconino National Forest Suppression Resources** **Pages 80-81**

**Prescribed Fire** **Page 82**

**Planning and Documentation** **Page 82**  
**Long Term Prescribed Fire Program Based on Fire Management Unit** **Pages 82**  
**Personnel Qualifications** **Page 83**  
**Weather, Fire Behavior, Fire Effects Monitoring** **Page 83**  
**Prescribed Fire Critiques** **Page 84**  
**Documentation Requirements** **Page 84**  
**Exceeding the Existing Prescribed Fire Burn Plan** **Page 84**  
**Air Quality and Smoke Management** **Pages 84-85**

**Non-Fire Applications** **Page 85**

**Mechanical Treatment and Other Applications** **Page 85**  
**Annual Activities to Prepare for and Implement the** **Page 85**  
**Mechanical Treatments**  
**Equipment and Seasonal Restrictions as They Relate to Each FMU** **Page 86**  
**Documentation Required for Monitoring** **Page 86**  
**Reporting and Documentation for Accomplishments** **Page 86**  
**General Fuels Information** **Page 86**



## **Section IV - Wildland Fire and Fuels Management Program Components**

### **General Management Considerations / How Wildland Fire Will Be Managed**

The Coconino National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan and amendments identify priorities to be considered when determining the fire management objectives and appropriate management response for wildland fires. Fire management is a support function integrated and responsive to the management direction established in the LRMP. Strategic priorities for wildland fire on the Forest will be based on:

1. Firefighter and public safety.
2. Location of the fire and objectives outlined in the Fire Management Unit.
3. Current and predicted weather and fire behavior.
4. National and Regional preparedness levels, local fire activity, and availability of resources.
5. Direction provided by a Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP) for fires managed under Wildland Fire Use or Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA).

All resource programs affected by the role of fire will consider these basic concepts in the formulation of plans, decisions, and actions:

1. Fires have been an integral part of all ecosystems in the Coconino National Forest and the exclusion of fire may cause effects that are undesirable.
2. As a result of fire protection, natural fuels in some areas have increased in amount and continuity to a hazardous level.
3. Prescribed fire and Wildland Fire Use can be used to achieve land management objectives.
4. Permit fire in the wilderness to the maximum extent possible to meet wilderness objectives.

#### **A. Fire Prevention**

The Coconino National Forest Wildfire Prevention Plan can be found in Appendix 1 of this plan. The plan identifies wildfire prevention priority areas, actions, and responsibilities across the Forest. The Forest operates and functions as three geographic areas including the Verde Valley (1 million acres), Flagstaff (960,000 acres), and the Mogollon Rim (500,000 acres). Identifying and recognizing the unique characteristics of each area achieves a more effective effort across the Forest as a whole to reduce human caused fires. The Prevention Plan provides a complete protection analysis of each compartment identified in the various Fire Management Units across the Forest.

Wildfire prevention activities generally fall within one of the following categories:

- Education - Education is aimed at changing people's behavior by awareness and knowledge.
- Engineering - Engineering is an activity designed to shield an ignition source (e.g. spark arrester) or fuels management activities designed to remove hazardous fuel build-ups.
- Enforcement - Enforcement is used to gain compliance with orders and restrictions.
- Administration - This includes planning, budgeting, and training.

To properly direct wildfire prevention efforts, it is important to accurately identify problems or potential problems. To identify these areas an individual assessment was conducted of the following components:

1. Risk - Risks are defined as the potential for ignition.
2. Hazard - Hazards are defined as the fuels and topography of an area.
3. Value - Values are defined as natural or developed areas where loss or destruction by wildfire would be unacceptable.

The Prevention Plan is also based on and used in conjunction with the following:

1. Five year history of human caused fires on the Forest.
2. Current and anticipated staffing and budget levels.
3. Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.
4. Forest Fire Management Plan.

### Restrictions and Closures

The Forest Supervisor retains the authority to issue campfire/smoking and chainsaw restrictions and will recommend issuance of area closures to the Regional Forester when conditions warrant. Examples of fire restriction and closure orders are included in the Restriction and Closure Toolbox available for use by the Forest. Districts should make recommendations or requests for restrictions and closures at least five working days prior to the recommended execution date.

Restrictions and closures will be coordinated with all adjacent Forests (Kaibab, Tonto, Prescott, and Apache/Sitgreaves National Forests).

### Industrial Fire Precautions

Industrial operations on the Forest should be inspected for compliance with all fire precautionary measures detailed in the contract.

Industrial Fire Precaution Plan changes are based on the application of the 5 day average Energy Release Component (ERC), short and long term weather forecasts, and professional judgment. Aids for assisting in the determination can be found in FSM 5100-10 and in specific contract "C" clauses. The ERC graphs are maintained in the Flagstaff Zone Dispatch Center.

### Restriction and Closure Criteria

The Forest uses restrictions and closures as an aid in wildland fire prevention. Implementation normally occurs in four stages based upon the Fire Preparedness Level, current fire occurrence, and projected fire season duration and severity. The usual order will be:

1. Smoking and Campfire Restrictions
2. Powersaw Restrictions and Industrial Fire Plan "C" (Hoot Owl)
3. Area Closures
4. Forest Closure

### Smoking and Campfire Restrictions

Smoking and Campfire Restrictions limit smoking and building of open fires to designated areas. Criteria for implementing Smoking and Campfire Restrictions are:

1. The Coconino NF is in Fire Preparedness Level III.
2. The following weather and fuel conditions exist and are expected to continue:
  - Temperature >70 by 1300 hours weather observation
  - Relative humidity <30% by 1300 hours weather observation
  - Fine fuel moisture < 5% by 1300 hours weather observation
  - 10 hour fuel moisture <8% by 1300 hours weather observation
  - 1000 hour fuel moisture <10% by 1300 hours weather observation
3. The following field conditions exist and are expected to continue:
  - Fires that start are beginning to spot.
  - There are increasing numbers of people using the Forest.
  - The Forest may experience numerous starts of fires.
  - There is highly flammable slash adjacent to high use areas.

4. The following coordination will be completed:

- The District Ranger(s) and the Forest Fire Staff will consult when either feels the criterion for implementing Smoking and Campfire Restrictions has been reached on a Ranger District.
  - If the District Ranger(s) and Forest Fire Staff agree that the restrictions should be implemented, the Forest Fire Staff will call and coordinate the application of the restrictions on the Forest with other District Rangers and adjacent Forests.
  - The Forest Fire Staff will notify the Forest Supervisor of the need for implementation of the restrictions.
  - The Forest Fire Staff will coordinate the implementation of restrictions with adjacent Forests and cooperators.
5. When all coordination has been completed, the Forest Supervisor will sign an order implementing the restrictions on the Forest. The Public Affairs Office will issue a news release informing the public. The Dispatch Center will notify the Districts.

#### Powersaw Restrictions and Industrial Fire Plan C (Hoot Owl)

The Powersaw Order limits the use of powersaws. By this order we are able to prevent powersaw use during critical fire danger days.

The Hoot Owl shift is a very effective prevention tool because it allows industrial woods operations during early morning hours when temperatures are down and relative humidities are higher.

Hoot Owl is the implementation of Industrial fire Plan "C" and can be declared by the Forest Supervisor in Preparedness Level IV and above.

Some additional criteria for implementation of powersaw restriction and Hoot Owl shifts are:

1. The Coconino NF is in Preparedness Level IV.
2. The following weather and fuel conditions exist and are expected to continue:
  - Temperature >75 degrees by 1300 hours weather observation
  - Relative humidity <25% by 1300 hours weather observation
  - Fine fuel moisture <4% by 1300 hours weather observation
  - 10 hour fuel moisture <7% by 1300 hours weather observation
  - 1000 hour fuel moisture <9% by 1300 hours weather observation

3. The following coordination will be completed:
  - The District Ranger(s) and Forest Fire Staff will consult when either feels the criteria for implementing the powersaw restrictions and Hoot Owl shift have been reached on the Ranger District.
  - If the District Ranger(s) and Forest Fire Staff agree that powersaw restrictions and Hoot Owl shift should be implemented, the Forest Fire Staff will call and coordinate with the other District Ranger and adjacent Forests.
4. When all coordination has been completed, the Forest Supervisor will sign an order implementing the powersaw restrictions. The PAO's will issue a media release and the Dispatch Center will notify the Districts.
5. Hoot Owl shift (Plan "C" Industrial Fire Plan) will be implemented for all industrial operations including commercial fuelwood sales except timber sale contracts 2400-3 and 2400-6. These two sale contracts have specific contract clauses that deal with Industrial Fire Plan based on ERC.

#### Special Permits or Waivers for Smoking and Campfire Restriction, Powersaw Restrictions, and Hoot Owl Shift

District Rangers are delegated authority to grant special permits or waivers for Smoking and Campfire Restrictions, powersaw restrictions, and hoot owl shifts in writing on an individual case by case basis. This authority may not be re-delegated.

#### Area or Forest Closures

There are two types of closures for the Forest:

##### Area Closure

A specific area of the Forest is closed to public entry due to the risk of a wildfire starting with the potential of causing severe damage.

##### Forest Closure

This is rare and used only when severe fire conditions exist, there are multiple large fires on the Forest or in the Region, and nearly all suppression forces available to the Region are committed to going fires.

Closures are an important fire prevention tool. They will be implemented whenever needed to help prevent large fires and their accompanying damage and high suppression costs.

Some additional criteria for implementing Area Closures are:

1. The Coconino NF is in Fire Preparedness Level IV.
2. The following weather and fuel conditions exist and are expected to continue:
  - Temperature >75 degrees by 1300 hour weather observations
  - Relative humidity <10% by 1300 hour weather observations
  - Fine fuel moisture <3% by 1300 hour weather observations
  - 10 hour fuel moisture <6% by 1300 hour weather observations
  - 1000 hour fuel moisture <8% by 1300 hour weather observations

3. The following coordination will be completed:

The District Ranger(s) and the Fire Staff will consult when either feels the criteria for implementing an Area Closure have been reached within a specified area.

If the District Ranger(s) and the Forest Fire Staff agree that an Area Closure should be implemented, the Forest Fire Staff coordinates the application with all Rangers involved, adjacent Forests, and cooperators.

The Forest Fire Staff notifies the Forest Supervisor of the need for implementation of the Area Closure.

4. When all coordination has been completed, the Forest Administrative Officer will send the Area Closure Notice to the Regional Forester for approval prior to signing by the Forest Supervisors.

The criteria for implementing a Forest Closure include:

1. The Coconino National Forest is in Preparedness Level V.
2. Fuel and weather conditions are the same as for an Area Closure.
3. Nearly all fire suppression forces available to the Region are committed to going fires.
4. Coordination and implementation actions are the same for Area Closures with the addition of implementation of "Plan D" in the Industrial Fire Plan level.
5. Approval for a Forest Closure is the same as for an Area Closure and rests at the Regional Forester level.

#### Special Permits or Waivers for Area/Forest Closures

District Rangers are delegated authority to grant special permits or waivers for closures in writing on an individual case basis. Special requirements will normally be a part of any permit or waiver. The District Ranger must be sure that granting an entry permit or waiver does not cause an excessive risk of wildfire and it is in the best interest of the Forest to grant such a waiver or permit. The District Ranger may not re-delegate this authority.

#### Rescission of Restriction and Closure Orders

The same level of coordination between Districts, adjacent Forests, and the Forest Fire Staff should occur when deciding to rescind any signed orders. A general guideline is that 2/3 of the Area Closure/Forest Closure must receive 1/10th" of rain prior to rescinding a closure and 1/2" of rain prior to rescinding Smoking and Campfire Restrictions.

The rescission order is signed by the Forest Supervisor. The Public Affairs office will notify the media and the Dispatch Center will notify the Districts.

## **B. Fire Preparedness**

Preparedness and the specific staffing guides for the Coconino National Forest consists of seasonal staffing periods based on historical fire danger as measured by NFDRS Energy Release Component and historical fire occurrence. The staffing guide defines four staffing levels or time periods that are established in the 1998 National Fire Management Analysis and the 2002 update:

- 1) Basic Management – Management Personnel
- 2) Reduced Staffing – Management Personnel and Key Supervisory Personnel
- 3) Normal Staffing – All Modules Staffed 5 Days per Week
- 4) Maximum Staffing – All Modules Staffed 7 Days per Week

The intended use of this staffing guide is a planning tool, recognizing that daily weather, financial priorities, and resource priorities will change from year to year. It is intended that daily staffing needs be established by district fire managers after considering all priorities. Requests for additional staffing through fire severity funding requests will be submitted through Forest channels to the Regional Office as needed.

### **Detection**

The Forest staffs a total of ten lookouts (based on budget allocations) as the primary method to detect fires. Aerial detection flight may supplement when conditions warrant or as requested. Lookouts are staffed from May through September as needs and budgets will allow. Lookouts on the Forest include:

Peaks Ranger District	O-Leary Elden Woody Mountain Turkey Butte East Pocket
Red Rock Ranger District	Apache Maid
Mogollon Ranger District	Baker Butte Hutch Mountain Buck Mountain Moqui

## **Dispatch**

The Flagstaff Zone Dispatch Center provides initial attack and/or support dispatching for the following government agencies:

Coconino National Forest  
Arizona State Lands within the Zone boundary  
Walnut Canyon National Monument  
Hubble Trading Post  
Canyon DeChelly National Monument  
Wupatki National Monument  
Sunset Crater National Monument  
Hopi Agency

The Flagstaff Zone Dispatch Center is also the lead dispatch center for one subordinate dispatch center at the Navajo Agency.

Mobilization guidelines are contained in the Southwest Area and National Mobilization Guides.

## **Forest and Zone Fire Preparedness**

The Forest Preparedness Plan and Northern Arizona Zone Preparedness Plan provide the basis for making preplanned adjustments in the Forests program to insure that the “level of readiness” is appropriate to respond to impending situations at the local, regional, and national levels.

## **Responsibilities**

### **District Rangers / District Fire Management Officers**

- Manage suppression resources to support designated or anticipated preparedness needs.
- Provide intelligence to Flagstaff Zone Dispatch
  - 1) Current and anticipated suppression situation
  - 2) Resource commitment and availability
  - 3) Potential resource shortages or suppression problems

### **Flagstaff Zone Center Manager**

- Gather intelligence and maintain a system to track and display
  - 1) Status of all fires until they are declared out
  - 2) Resource commitment within their responsible area
  - 3) Resource availability within their responsible area
  - 4) Five-day average Energy Release Component
  - 5) Southwest Area Preparedness Level



### Forest Fire Staff Officer / Assistant Fire Staff Officer

- Monitor ERC trend, fire activity, resource commitment/availability, and Southwest Area Preparedness Level.
- Initiate appropriate changes in the Forest Preparedness Level
- Coordinate preparedness planning with adjacent Forests and Agencies
- Assess and coordinate the need for severity funding of additional resources

### **Fire Reviews and Readiness Inspections**

Fire readiness inspections will be completed annually on each District by Supervisor's Office fire staff personnel. IHC Preparedness Review Checklists for Hotshot Crews will be reviewed and approved by the Line Officer and Forest Fire Staff Officer prior to crew availability. Additional reviews will be scheduled by SO Staff to review specific District Fire Management activities to include fuels management, prescribed fire, suppression activities, fiscal accountability, training, and qualifications programs, etc. Fire Danger Pocket Cards will be provided for all fireline supervisors by SO Staff at these inspections. The Dispatch Office will be responsible for preparing the cards by April 1st annually.

### **Weather Services**

The Forest maintains one Class I weather station at Flagstaff Pulliam Airport. Weather is taken year long at this station. In addition, the Forest has several portable RAWs stations for special project needs. National Fire Danger Rating indices are generated through WIMS for all Stations.

### **Spot Weather Forecasts**

Spot weather forecasts are available by request through the Dispatch Center using the automated NWS entry system. District offices are also able to request direct to the NWS using the automated NWS entry system. The Flagstaff Office of the NWS (Bellemont) needs a 7.5 minute topographic map of the burn area along with the ADEQ burn permit which provides the Lat and Long, legal, and burn parameters. Generally spot forecasts are returned within 30 minutes. It is important that field personnel verbally verify accuracy of spot forecasts with the National Weather Service each time one is requested.

### **Training**

Fire training is coordinated by the Forest Training Coordinator (Zone Center Manager). The Training Coordinator coordinates training with the Northern Arizona Zone Training Coordinator for approval by the Northern Arizona Zone Board. Training and qualification guidelines will be followed as described in the Fire Qualifications Handbook, FSH 5109.17. Fire training course schedules can also be found on the internet at the Southwest Area web site.

### **Southwest Forest Fire Fighter Program (SWFF)**

The Hopi Agency and Navajo Area provide training and recruitment for SWFF crew from the Hopi and Navajo tribes. The Zone can generally field 8-10 crews from the agencies.

## Aviation Plans

The Forest Aviation and Safety Management Plan provide specific instructions and guidelines for conducting safe and efficient air operations on the Forest. The plan is a separate document containing the National Aviation Operations Plan, Forest Aviation Safety and Management Plan, Project Aviation Operations Plan, DPS Helicopter Operating Plan, Guidelines for Delivery of Retardant or Foam Near Waterways, the Coconino National Forest Incident/Accident Response Guide, Air Operations Plan for Sedona and Oak Creek Canyon, Guidelines for Use of Aircraft in Wilderness Areas, and the Forest Flight Hazard Map.

## Safety

**Safety is the number one priority for all personnel engaged in or supporting fire management activities on the Forest.**

Fire management work is one of the most hazardous jobs encountered by Forest Service personnel. The Incident Commander and all supervisors will always put the safety of their personnel first. **There is no fire situation so serious that the life of anyone should be risked in order to get to the fire sooner, get the fire out quicker, or to keep burned areas smaller.** All employees will abide by the "Safety First" policy. Each employee has a responsibility for their personal safety and that of fellow employees. It is everyone's responsibility to call attention to any unsafe practice that is observed. The following practices will be adhered to in wildland and/or prescribed fire operations on the Coconino National Forest:

1. All fire personnel will follow the 10 Standard Firefighting Orders, the 18 Situations That Shout Watch Out, and the principles of Lookouts, Communications, Escape Routes, and Safety Zones (LCES). These basics of fire fighting will be utilized on every fire and as a source for other fireline personnel in evaluating the safety of their respective assignment.
2. All Type 3 and more complex incidents will be staffed with a qualified Safety Officer.
3. All Type 3 and more complex incidents will be staffed with a dedicated Incident Commander with no collateral duties (except for those of unfilled Command/General Staff positions).
4. All Type 3 Incidents will have a written Incident Action Plan by the second operational period.
5. Required PPE will be worn at all times.
6. A Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) will be completed for all fire and fuels management related activities and projects.
7. Fire shelters will be worn by all firefighters at all times on wildland fires and RX activities.
8. Personnel will be fully qualified and current for the position they fill.
9. All firefighters will carry and utilize the Incident Response Pocket Guide.
10. After Action Reviews (AAR's) will be completed for all Type 3 incidents and selected Type 4 and 5 incidents.

## Fire Safety Training and Work Capacity Testing

FSM 5135.5 requires all personnel who may receive a wildland fireline assignment to attend an annual 8-hour fire Safety Refresher Training annually. Chapter 5 of the Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations 2003 (Red Book) requires that the following core topics are included: Entrapment, Current Issues, Fire Shelters, and Other Hazards and Safety Issues. Each individual will also receive training in the Forest Service Code of Conduct for Fire Suppression, Incident Complexity Analysis, and the Incident Pocket Response Guide. Refer to

the Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher site ([www.nifc.gov](http://www.nifc.gov)) for materials to assist in putting on this training. For non-wildland fire positions, individuals must meet the requirements set forth in The Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations (Red Book).

All Red Carded personnel will pass the Work Capacity Test at the level appropriate to their qualifications and maintain those standards throughout the fire season. Only qualified and carded Work Capacity Test Administrators will administer the test. Test results will be provided to the Flagstaff Dispatch Center prior to Red Cards being issued.

All employees are responsible for submitting their experience records through their respective Fire Management Officers to the Dispatch Center at the end of each fire season.

All fire related training courses need to be documented in each employee's training file. When an employee completes a training course, a copy will be sent to the Dispatch Center for inclusion into their training file in the qualifications system.

### **Qualifications and Red Cards**

The Forest Fire Staff Officer, Assistant Fire Staff, and Center Manager comprise the Red Card committee. Annually this group will meet with District staff to update and validate qualifications of personnel for Red Card approval. Red cards are valid from **January 1 to March 31** of the following year. District Fire Management Officers will issue Red Cards to temporary personnel through the Firefighter rating. All temporary personnel qualified at the Squad Boss level and above will be included in the Forest Red Card System.

The Forest policy on issuing and certifying Task Books may be found on Page 46 of this plan.

### **Policy Direction on Engine & Crew Module Qualifications, Size, and Leadership**

Module Leader/Supervisor - The Forest Service policy (Red Book, Chapter 8-4) is a Single Resource Boss will be with every Engine (ENGB) or Crew (CRWB). **If no qualified Single Resource Boss is present, the module is not available for fire dispatch. All fires regardless of size will have a qualified Incident Commander** (Red Book, Chapter 10-3).

- **Engine Module** - Qualified supervisor (**Engine Boss**), Engine Operator, trained crew. The recommended staffing for a Type 3 Engine crew is five-person effective. A minimum of three persons is allowed for reasons such as limited funding, extended staffing, drawdown, or available seats (Model 70). A Type 6 Engine crew is three-person effective.
- **Handcrew** - Qualified supervisor (**Crew Boss**), assistant supervisor, trained crew, with a maximum of twenty-one people including a trainee. Interagency Hotshot Crews will follow standards outlined in the National IHC Operations Guide in regards to staffing, qualifications, and tours.
- **Initial Attack Handcrew Module** - Initial Attack Handcrew Modules must include a qualified **Incident Commander Type 5** (ICT5) with the module at a minimum.

### **Internet Web Addresses**

The Coconino National Forest intranet site contains information on work capacity testing, refresher training dates, local ERC graphs, 1300 hour weather observations, fire weather forecasts, RX burn approvals, etc. (**[fsweb.coconino.r3.fs.fed.us](http://fsweb.coconino.r3.fs.fed.us)**). The Southwest Area Fire Operations website also provides related information at (**[www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire/)**).

## **COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST PREPAREDNESS PLAN**

### **Purpose:**

- To identify the level of wildland fire activity, severity, and resource commitment on the Coconino National Forest.
- To identify actions to be taken on the Forest to assure an appropriate level of preparedness/readiness for the existing and potential situation.
- To manage Geographic Area fire management activities to assure Forest preparedness and response to the potential situation.

### **Forest Preparedness Levels:**

The primary Forest Fire Preparedness level is based on local fire potential and resource commitment; however this level may be increased to assure that sufficient resources are available to respond to the Zone, Area, or National situation.

Using the following criteria, the Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff or Assistant Fire Staff will determine appropriate changes in the forest preparedness level and will ensure that Forest Line Officers, Flagstaff Zone members, and the Southwest Area Coordination Center are advised of such changes.

- 1) Current and long range forecasted weather affecting fire behavior and potential.
- 2) Current value and trend of 5-day average ERC on the Forest
- 3) Comparison of current year ERC and historical average ERC on the Coconino National Forest.
- 4) Fire occurrence on the Forest, Zone and neighboring Forests.
- 5) Fire suppression resource availability including Incident Management Teams.
- 6) Resource commitments to non-suppression activities.
- 7) Northern Arizona Zone and Southwest Area preparedness levels.

Management direction/considerations have not been duplicated unnecessarily. Actions with "up" trend marks should be continued through higher levels.

### **Responsibilities**

The positions listed in the responsibility column are based upon the lowest level that can be delegated to. If the delegations are not documented in writing or through this Fire Management Plan, then the next level up is the responsible position.

## Coconino National Forest Preparedness Plan Responsibilities

### Preparedness Level I

Preparedness Level	Description	Trend UP	Management Direction	Responsibility
I	5 day average ERC is less than 35 and little or no fire activity on the Forest	X	Maximize use of project financing for preparedness personnel	District FMO's
		X	Review and update cooperative agreements	Forest Fire Staff or Assistant Fire Staff
		X	Insure equipment rental agreements are adequate for potential fire situations	Zone Center Manager
	Southwest Area Preparedness Level from I - II	X	Monitor ERC for the Forest	Zone Center Manager
		X	Monitor SW Area Preparedness Level	Zone Center Manager
		X	Evaluate preparedness guidelines and make appropriate changes in Forest preparedness level	Forest Fire Staff or Assistant Fire Staff
		X	Implement Prescribed Burns	District FMO
		X	Industrial Plan A in effect	Forest Fire Staff or Assistant Fire Staff
		X	Update annual operating plans	District FMO
		X	Update Red Cards	Zone Center Manager
		X	Select Zone Type 2 Team	Zone Board
		X	Approval for Wildland Fire Use	District Ranger
		X	Approval for Monitor or Confine AMR	District FMO

**Preparedness Level II**

Preparedness Level	Description	Trend		Management Direction	Responsibility
		UP	DOWN		
II	5-day average ERC is 35 - 53 with moderate fire activity on the Forest and Zone	X	X	Use project financing for preparedness personnel	District FMO
		X		Insure the planned staffing is available for assignments	District FMO
		X		Assess seasonal severity trend and potential need for severity funding	Forest Fire Staff or Assistant Fire Staff
	Southwest Area Preparedness Level from I - III	X	X	Display ERC trend and fire activity	Zone Center Manager
		X	X	Monitor ERC and fire activity for SW Area, Zone, Forest	Zone Center Manager
		X	X	Insure that the NAZ Type 2 Team is organized and prepared to mobilize	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff, Zone Center Manager, Type 2 IC
			X	Implement prescribed burns	District FMO
		X	X	Analyze and consider instituting Industrial Fire Plan B	Forest Fire Staff or Assistant Fire Staff
		X	X	Approval for Wildland Fire Use	District Ranger
		X	X	Approval for Monitor or Confine AMR	District FMO

**Preparedness Level III**

Preparedness Level	Description	Trend		Management Direction	Responsibility
		UP	DOWN		
III	5-day average ERC is 53 - 70 Fires are occurring regularly on the Forest and the Zone agencies	X		Ensure that Planned Maximum staffing is in place and prepared for response	District FMO
		X	X	Coordinate prepositioning of resources	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff
		X	X	Approval to implement prescribed burns	District FMO
	Southwest Area Preparedness Level From I - III	X	X	Conduct Preparedness Inspections	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff
		X	X	Assess resource availability from adjacent Forests and Zone agencies	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff
		X	X	Evaluate need to implement/terminate severity funding	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff
		X	X	Type 2 Team ready to mobilize within 2 hours	Team Incident Commander
		X	X	Monitor need to implement/rescind restrictions / closure	District FMO
		X	X	Coordinate the implementation or rescission of restrictions / closure	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff
		X	X	Industrial Plan B in effect	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff
		X	X	Intelligence functions are being accomplished and reported to the field	Zone Center Manager
		X	X	Approval for Wildland Fire Use	District Ranger
		X	X	Approval for Monitor or Confine AMR	District FMO

**Preparedness Level IV**

Preparedness Level	Description	Trend		Management Direction	Responsibility
		UP	DOWN		
IV	5-day average ERC is 71-81	X	X	Approval for monitor/confine AMR	District Ranger
		X		Availability of Forest resources for off Forest assignments	District Ranger, Forest Fire Staff Officer
		X		Establish scheduled situation briefings between Zone fire managers	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff, Zone Center Manager
		X		Analyze and consider implementing Industrial Fire Plan C and/or area closures	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff
		X	X	Approval to implement prescribed burns	Forest Fire Staff, District Ranger
	Moderate to heavy resource commitment in the Zone or adjacent agencies	X		Preposition suppression modules to achieve maximum effectiveness	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff, District FMO
		X	X	Maximize prevention and public information efforts.	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff, District FMO, Forest PAO
		X	X	Approval for Wildland Fire Use	Forest Supervisor
		X	X	Approval for Monitor or Confine AMR	District Ranger



**Preparedness Level V**

Preparedness Level	Description	Trend		Management Direction	Responsibility
		UP	DOWN		
V	5-day average ERC exceeds 81	X	X	Mobilize maximum suppression capability utilizing other functional personnel and cooperators	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff, District Ranger, District FMO
		X		Availability of Forest resources for off Forest assignments	District Ranger, Forest Fire Staff
	Extra period fires are common	X		Mobilize additional severity resources as necessary (dozers, aircraft, crews, engines, etc.)	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff
	Type 2 Incidents on Forest or Type 1 Incident within the Flagstaff Zone	X		Maximize prevention and public information efforts	District FMO, Forest PAO
		X	X	Approval to implement prescribed burns	Forest Supervisor District Ranger
		X		Analyze and consider implementing Industrial Fire Plan D	Forest Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff
	Extremely high commitment of IA resources	X	X	Promptly control and Extinguish all fires	District FMO

## **NORTHERN ARIZONA ZONE AREA PREPAREDNESS PLAN**

### **PURPOSE:**

To guide the actions of the member agencies of the Northern Arizona Fire Management Area to assure an appropriate level of preparedness/readiness for any existing or potential wild land fire situation.

Actions guided by the plan include dispatch, intelligence, operating plans, selection of Type II Team members, training, severity requests, restrictions/closures, expanded dispatch, public information, nominations to Type I Teams and S-520/620, and multi-agency coordination.

### **PREPAREDNESS LEVELS:**

Preparedness levels for the Northern Arizona Area will be determined as follows:

The Area will consist of five (5) units which will report preparedness or staffing levels on a scale of 1-5 to the Zone Dispatch Centers in Flagstaff or Williams, Arizona. These units are:

1. Coconino National Forest
2. Kaibab National Forest
3. Grand Canyon National Park
4. Navajo Regional Office, BIA
5. Truxton Canyon Agency, BIA

A simple majority of the units will guide the area preparedness level. For instance, when three units begin reporting in Level III, the Northern Arizona Zone will automatically move to Level III.

**Zone Preparedness Levels and Responsibilities**

<b>PREPAREDNESS LEVEL</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT DIRECTION / CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>
<b>I</b>	No more than 2 of the NAZ units are in Level II or higher	<p>Review Area dispatch procedures and intelligence network</p> <p>Review Area Operating Plan, Preparedness Plan and Financial Agreement.</p> <p>Select Type II Team</p> <p>Nominate Type I Team candidates</p> <p>Nominate S-520/620 candidates.</p> <p>Coordinate Zone sponsored training.</p>	<p>Zone Board</p> <p>Zone Board</p> <p>Zone Board</p> <p>Zone Board</p> <p>Zone Board</p> <p>Zone Training Coordinator</p>

<b>PREPAREDNESS LEVEL</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT DIRECTION / CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>
<b>II</b>	3 or more NAZ units are in Level II	<p>Agencies/Units begin daily situation reports to the Zone Dispatch offices</p> <p>Zone Dispatch offices in 7-day coverage</p> <p>Assess &amp; coordinate prevention activities</p>	<p>Agency FMO's</p> <p>Zone Center Managers</p> <p>Zone Board</p>

<b>PREPAREDNESS LEVEL</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT DIRECTION / CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>
<b>III</b>	3 or more NAZ units are in Level III  or  NAZ Units are regularly mobilizing for multiple incidents	Zone Dispatch Centers in 7-day staffing and prepared to go to 24 hour operation  Begin coordination of restrictions and closures  Confirm availability of expanded dispatch personnel.  Confirm Type II Team availability  Ensure coordination of aerial detection  Assess & coordinate severity requests	Zone Center Managers  Agency FMO's  Zone Center Managers  IC/Zone Center Managers  Zone Center Managers  Zone Board

<b>PREPAREDNESS LEVEL</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT DIRECTION / CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>
<b>IV</b>	3 or more NAZ units are in Level IV  or  NAZ units are regularly mobilizing for multiple incidents	Establish Zone press coordination (Each agency may continue individual releases, but will coordinate news releases with other Public Affairs Officers).  Weekly conference calls to coordinate board contacts and area activities. Determine the need to establish a MAC Group to review Area activities and priorities.	Agency FMO's/PAO's/Zone Center Managers  Zone Chair/Board, Zone Center Managers, Kingman Area Fire Group

<b>PREPAREDNESS LEVEL</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>MANAGEMENT DIRECTION / CONSIDERATION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>
<b>V</b>	3 or more NAZ units are in Level V  or  Extremely high commitment of Area resources	Same as Level IV	Same as Level IV

## Coconino National Forest Task Book Guidelines

The following tables indicate which level of initiation and certification is required for all suppression and prescribed fire Task Books. All covers of initiated Task Books will be sent to the Flagstaff Zone Center Manager. Once a Task Book is completed, final certification is made by the Forest Fire Staff Officer or the Assistant Fire Staff Officer. District Fire Management Officers may certify Task Books as shown in the following tables. District FMO's will initial all Task Books on the cover page sent in for SO certification. Task Books should be sent to the Center Manager who will make SO file copies and obtain certification signatures from SO Fire.

For Task Book completion and qualification, two training assignments must be taken with two different evaluators signing on the evaluation record portion of the book. Qualifying assignments may be local or off-Forest. After certification, the employee must complete two assignments as qualified in the position prior to moving to the next level of qualification. Documentation for the two assignments once qualified will be in the form of a performance rating for each assignment that will be sent to the Zone Center Manager.

**ALL TASK BOOKS ISSUED WILL FOLLOW THE GUIDANCE SET FORTH IN FSH 5109.17, FIRE QUALIFICATIONS HANDBOOK.**

**C**                    **Flagstaff Zone Center Manager**  
**DFMO**            **District Fire Management Officer**  
**SO**                 **Supervisor Office (Forest Fire Staff Officer, Assistant Fire Staff Officer)**

**NOTE: The following is not an inclusive list of ALL Red Card positions.**

### COMMAND & GENERAL STAFF POSITIONS

POSITION	TASK BOOK INITIATION	TASK BOOK CERTIFICATION
ICT1, IC Type 1	SO	SO
ICT2, IC Type 2	SO	SO
ICT3, IC Type 3	SO	SO
ICT4, IC Type 4	SO	SO
ICT5, IC Type 5	C, DFMO	SO
SOF1, Safety Officer, Type 1	SO	SO
SOF2, Safety Officer, Type 2	SO	SO
SOF3, Safety Officer, Type 3	SO	SO
LOFR, Liaison Officer	SO	SO
IOF1, Information Officer, Type 1	SO	SO
IOF2, Information Officer, Type 2	SO	SO
IOF3, Information Officer, Type 3	SO	SO

## **OPERATIONS SECTION POSITIONS**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK INITIATION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK CERTIFICATION</b>
OSC1, Operations Chief Type 1	SO	SO
OSC2, Operations Chief Type 2	SO	SO
OPBD, Operation Branch Director	SO	SO
DIVS, Division/Group Supervisor	SO	SO
TFLD, Task Force Leader	SO	SO
STDZ, STEN, STCR, Strike Team Leaders	SO	SO
CREP, Crew Representative	SO	SO
CRWB, DOZB, FELB, FIRB, HELB, Single Resource Boss	C, DFMO	SO
FFT1, Squad Boss	C, DFMO	C,DFMO
FFT2, Firefighter	C, DFMO	C,DFMO

## **AIR OPERATIONS POSITIONS**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK INITIATION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK CERTIFICATION</b>
ACAC, Area Command Aviation Coordinator	SO	SO
AOBD, Air Operations Branch Director	SO	SO
ASGS, Air Support Group Supervisor	SO	SO
HEB1, Helibase Manager 1	SO	SO
HEB2, Helibase Manager 2	SO	SO
HEMG, Helicopter Manager	SO	SO
HECM, Helicopter Crewmember	C, DFMO	SO
ATGS, Air Tactical Group Supervisor	SO	SO
HLCO, Helicopter Coordinator	SO	SO
DECK, Deck Coordinator	C, DFMO	SO
TOLC, Take-off & Landing Coordinator	C, DFMO	SO
ABRO, Aircraft Base Radio Operator	C, DFMO	SO

**PLANNING SECTION POSITIONS**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK INITIATION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK CERTIFICATION</b>
ACPC, Area Commander Plans	SO	SO
PSC1, Planning Section Chief 1	SO	SO
PSC2, Planning Section Chief 2	SO	SO
SITL, Situation Unit Leader	SO	SO
RESL, Resource Unit Leader	SO	SO
SCKN, Status/Check In Recorder	C, DFMO	SO
DOCL, Documentation Unit Leader	SO	SO
DMOB, Demobilization Unit Leader	SO	SO
FBAN, Fire Behavior Analyst	SO	SO
FOBS, Field Observer	SO	SO
TNSP, Training Specialist	SO	SO
IRIN, Infrared Interpreter	SO	SO
Display Processor	SO	SO
Technical Specialist	SO	SO

**LOGISTICS SECTION POSITIONS**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK INITIATION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK CERTIFICATION</b>
ACLC, Area Command Logistics	SO	SO
LSC1, Logistics Section Chief 1	SO	SO
LSC2, Logistics Section Chief 2	SO	SO
SVBD, Service Branch Director	SO	SO
SUBD, Support Branch Director	SO	SO
MEDL, Medical Unit Leader	SO	SO
COML, Communications Unit Leader	SO	SO
COMT, Communications Technician	SO	SO
INCM, Incident Comm. Center Mngr.	SO	SO
RADO, Radio Operator	SO	SO
SUPL, Supply Unit Leader	SO	SO
ORDM, Ordering Manager	SO	SO
RCDM, Receiving/Distribution Mngr.	SO	SO
FACL, Facilities Unit Leader	SO	SO
SECM, Security Manager	SO	SO
BCMG, Base Camp Manager	SO	SO
GSUL, Ground Support Unit Leader	SO	SO
STAM, Staging Area Manager	SO	SO

**FINANCE SECTION POSITIONS**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK INITIATION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK CERTIFICATION</b>
FSC1, Finance Chief, Type 1	SO	SO
FSC2, Finance Chief, Type 2	SO	SO
TIME, Time Unit Leader	SO	SO
PTRC, Personnel Time Recorder	SO	SO
COST, Cost Unit Leader	SO	SO
CMSY, Commissary Manager	SO	SO
COMP, Comp/Claims Unit Leader	SO	SO
INJR, Comp for Injury Specialist	SO	SO
CLMS, Claims Specialist	SO	SO
PROC, Procurement Unit Leader	SO	SO
EQTR, Equipment Time Recorder	SO	SO

**EXPANDED DISPATCH POSITIONS**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK INITIATION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK CERTIFICATION</b>
CORD, Coordinator	SO	SO
EDSP, Supervisory Dispatcher	SO	SO
EDSD, Support Dispatcher	SO	SO
EDRC, Dispatch Recorder	SO	SO

**PRESCRIBED FIRE POSITIONS**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK INITIATION</b>	<b>TASK BOOK CERTIFICATION</b>
RXM1, Rx Fire Manager, Type 1	SO	SO
RXM2, Rx Fire Manager, Type 2	SO	SO
FUMA, Fire Use Manager	SO	SO
RXB1, Rx Burn Boss, Type 1	SO	SO
RXB2, Rx Burn Boss, Type 2	C, DFMO	SO
RXB3, Rx Burn Boss, Type 3	C, DFMO	SO
LTAN, Long Term Fire Analyst	SO	SO
FEMO, Fire Effects Monitor	SO	SO
RXPL, Prescribed Fire Planner	SO	SO
RXI1, Rx Ignition Specialist, Type 1	SO	SO
RXI2, Rx Ignition Specialist, Type 2	C, DFMO	SO
RXCM, Prescribed Fire Crewmember	C, DFMO	C



## **COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST FIRE MANAGEMENT TRAINING COURSE COORDINATION DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **FOREST TRAINING COORDINATOR**

1. Pass course announcements on to Forest FMO's, all Zone FMO's, State Coordinators, Regional Office, and region-wide dispatch offices.
2. Pass Northern Arizona Area nominations on to appropriate agencies for fire training begin conducted outside this zone. Keep FMO's advised of training within the Region and assist with nominations to fire training courses sponsored in other Regions.
3. Receive and forward all nominations for national and regional level courses.
4. Notify course coordinator of nomination status and provide the list when nominations are closed.
5. Assist course coordinators, when feasible, with facility arrangements, instructor scheduling, and purchasing of materials.
6. Facilitate all course scheduling to insure that conflicts are avoided. Example: Two courses the same week for the same target audience.
7. Assist with course instruction when possible.

### **COURSE COORDINATOR & LEAD INSTRUCTOR DUTIES**

1. Write the announcement, Include course number and title, dates, location, nomination deadline, course description and objectives, prerequisites, target audience, and number of students allowed.
2. Receive nominations and respond to them.
3. Prepare and distribute any pre-work to nominees including due date and who to return material to.
4. Grade paperwork and notify trainees of selection, course dates and time, location, recommended lodging, required materials, etc.
5. Arrange for all instructors and insure they have all materials for their unit(s). It's preferable that instructors have the entire course in order to know how their unit(s) fit into the course.
6. Arrange for training facilities and all required audio-visual equipment.
7. Assist course instructor(s) with assembling necessary view graphs, slide, videotapes, etc.
8. Develop course agenda. Rearrange agenda based on feedback from instructors) on time allotted for their unit(s).
9. Attend the entire course to facilitate the training process. Includes: necessary scheduling changes, material clarification, assisting, instructors, and facility and audio-visual requirements.
10. Determine test-grading procedures. Either personally grade tests or tabulate test scores graded by instructors to determine final grade of each student. Prepare completion certificates.
11. Notify students of completion of course along with completion certificate.
12. Notify students who failed with specifics on deficiencies. Always notify supervisor of students tailing and actions needed to improve.
13. Reassemble entire training package, including audio-visual materials, and return to the training library locations from which they were borrowed.
14. Complete Record of Formalized Training with names and home units of passing students and return to the Forest training coordinator.

## **INSTRUCTOR DUTIES**

1. Assemble all materials, handouts, and audio-visual aids for your unit. Confer with course coordinator or lead instructor as to the availability of such material.
2. Receive agenda and unit information for instruction from the course coordinator and notify him/her if the time allotted for your unit is sufficient.
3. Provide ample time to prepare and become familiar with your unit for instruction and notify supervisor of your commitment.
4. Recommend to the course coordinator any changes, elections, or addition to material to be covered.

## **STUDENT OBLIGATIONS**

1. Ensure all appropriate information is correctly filled out on the nomination form (NWCG Nomination Form).
2. Ensure immediate supervisor is aware of your intended training and his/her signature is on nomination form.
3. See that nomination is sent to the appropriate person by the deadline indicated for specific training (All fire training nominations must be submitted to the Forest Training Coordinator (Zone Center Manager), who will forward to the appropriate course coordinator,

## **C. Fire Suppression**

- Conduct fire suppression, Wildland Fire Use, and prescribed fire actions in a timely, effective, and efficient manner, giving the first priority to firefighter and public safety.
- Respond to each wildland fire ignition in a timely manner with appropriate forces, based upon established fire management direction and cost efficiency. Maintain an adequate fire organization to support land management objectives through appropriate management response, prescribed fire, and Wildland Fire Use programs.
- Ensure sound risk management policies and procedures are integrated to the fire management program and implemented in all suppression activities.
- This plan summarizes fire response decision and documentation procedures for fire suppression, Wildland Fire Use, and prescribed fire.
- Suppression strategies appropriate to meet management direction range from direct control, minimizing acreage burned, to more indirect tactics of confinement and containment. Wildland fire is not managed to accomplish resource objectives unless specifically covered under an approved plan. Currently, the only approved plan for WFU on the Coconino encompasses the Kachina Peaks Wilderness.

### **Responsibilities**

#### **Forest Supervisor**

The Forest Supervisor has the ultimate responsibility for the implementation of this plan. This includes all delegations of authority.

#### **Fire Staff Officer**

The Forest Fire Staff Officer or acting will monitor and evaluate the implementation of this plan and provide staff input to the decision making process. The FFSO will monitor weather conditions, the number of uncontrolled and Wildland Fire Use fires, and the available resources to assure Forest capabilities are not exceeded. The FFSO will keep the Forest Supervisor informed of the current fire situation.

#### **Forest Dispatcher/Zone Center Manager**

The Zone Center Manager will maintain records on the status and location of all fires until the District declares them out. The dispatchers may implement decisions that are preplanned and submitted by the Districts. Preplanning must include action to be taken by vegetation type, preparedness level, and expected actions on evening or early morning fires. The dispatchers will monitor the potential cumulative effects of smoke on communities and advise the Fire Staff, Assistant Fire Staff, or Forest Fuels Specialist.

#### **District Ranger**

District Rangers will implement this plan on their Districts. Rangers will evaluate the effects of the implementation of alternative suppression strategies. It is highly recommended that District Rangers / Line Officers attend Local Fire Management Training for Line Officers and a course refresher once every five years. The Line Officers Guide to Wildland fire Decision Making also provides information regarding decision making, terminology, firefighter safety, policy, WFSA,

complexity analysis, use of IMT's, delegation of authority, line officer briefing, incident information, and responsibilities.

#### District FMO

District Fire Management Officers will provide expertise to the Ranger and provide leadership to the Fire Management organization engaged in the implementation of this plan on their District.

### **Delegations**

#### Forest Fire Staff Officer

The Forest Fire Staff Officer or acting will serve as the Acting Forest Supervisor in matters pertaining to the implementation of this plan. The Fire Staff will consult with the Forest Supervisor as necessary.

#### Forest Dispatchers / Zone Center Manager

The Forest Dispatchers will implement any actions submitted by the District Ranger or FMO, or implement control actions on all fires when District personnel with delegated authority cannot be reached and any preplanning decisions do not cover the fire situation. The dispatcher will notify the District of the action taken. The dispatcher will keep a record of all uncontrolled (contain/confine) fires and keep the FFSO informed on Forest-wide status of fires.

#### District Ranger

The District Ranger is delegated authority to implement an appropriate suppression response or management response in accordance with this plan. **The District Ranger is delegated authority to approve District personnel who may make suppression decisions of less than full control and extinguishments. Those delegated authority under this plan include the District Fire Management Officer, the ADFMO, or other individuals identified in a Letter of Delegation signed by the District Ranger. The letter should be submitted by April 1st each year to the Forest Fire Staff Officer.**

#### District FMO

The District Fire Management Officer may be delegated the authority as Acting District Ranger in writing by the District Ranger to implement this plan. The delegation may include additional limits or conditions imposed by the District Ranger. The District Ranger or Acting must sign Stage II and III Wildland Fire Implementation Plan decisions.

## **APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT RESPONSE DIRECTION FOR WILDLAND FIRES**

A Wildland Fire Implementation Plan shall be initiated for all wildland fires, and all wildland fires will receive an appropriate management response. The AMR is defined as the specific actions taken in response to a wildland fire to implement protection and/or Wildland Fire Use objectives. It allows the manager the full range of responses that are listed further in this chapter.

The development of an AMR should include an evaluation of the following factors:

1. Risks to firefighter and public health and safety
2. Land and Resource Management Objectives
3. Weather
4. Fuel Conditions
5. Threats and values to be protected
6. Cost efficiencies

The implementation of this plan requires the highest level of professional management by line officers and fire management personnel. It places a high level of responsibility on each person making suppression and/or management decisions.

## **WILDLAND FIRE SUPPRESSION**

### **Range of Potential Behavior on the Coconino National Forest**

The majority of the Forest consists of Ponderosa Pine and mixed conifer. The Ponderosa Pine is the dominant tree species, however there is often a mixture of Gambel Oak along with an understory of grass and shrubs. At higher elevations the dominant species are mixed conifer, and at lower elevations Pinyon/Juniper woodland moving into a desert shrub/grassland can be found. The greatest potential for large catastrophic fires lies predominantly within the Ponderosa Pine above the Mogollon Rim. This area has a history of these types of fires. Fires in this fuel type can be characterized by active crown fire behavior during very high to extreme conditions that may be present during the critical fire season. The potential for plume dominated fire behavior exists during this period of time as well. Outside of these conditions, most fires are surface fires with low to moderate resistance to control.

Generally, areas having crown closures less than 60 percent will have a low to moderate fire potential, although potential may be higher on steeper slopes or in areas with heavy fuel loading. Fire behavior in these areas will be limited to passive-type crown fires. Under the average worse case burning conditions, fires in stands with less than 60 percent crown closure will have moderate rates of spread and moderate resistance to control. Areas having crown closures greater than 60 percent are more susceptible to active and independent type crown fires. In such areas, fires will have higher rates of spread and resistance to control.

The Forest averages 501 fires per year, with 300 of these being lightning caused. There is a strong history of large fires on the north half of the Forest in the Ponderosa Pine fuel type as well as the Mogollon Rim proper. Large fire potential is more likely during critical fire season, although several have occurred under wind driven conditions during the fall months.

## **Fire Suppression Policies**

All wildland fires that are not managed for resource benefits under an approved Wildland Fire Use Plan will require an appropriate management response. The AMR can vary from aggressive initial attack to a more defensive posture based on fuels, weather, topography, health and safety issues, fire behavior, cost plus loss, and other considerations between the Agency Administrator and Incident Commander. No human caused wildland fires, including any escaped Wildland Fire Use fires, will be managed for resource benefits. If the fire is a natural ignition but not covered within an approved Wildland Fire Use Plan, a suppression response will also be utilized.

Forest Service policy requires that a Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP) be initiated through Stage 1 for all wildland fires. The Incident Dispatch Log completed on all actions by the Flagstaff Zone Dispatch Office will meet this intent. If the fire is managed for resource benefits through an approved Wildland Fire Use Plan, the WFIP will be further developed through the necessary stages based on the objectives outlined in the WFU Plan. The WFIP has three stages and information in regards to the requirements and completion of the document may be found in the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Management Policy Implementation Procedures and Reference Guide.

All incidents with a selected appropriate management response of monitor or confine will complete a Stage 2 WFIP with staff input and signed by the District Ranger once the fire reaches **10 acres**. The purpose of this is to document the Incident Commander's decision making process in implementing less than a control and extinguishment AMR, and to reflect the interdisciplinary involvement on the incident.

The size objective for all wildland fires will be limited to the suppression objective size limit for each Fire Management Unit. A decision that calls for larger acreage must be supported by a completed Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA), or Stage 3 Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP) with staff input and approved by the District Ranger. The decision on which document to use will rest with the District Ranger, and either is acceptable. **The Forest Land and Resource Management Plan size objectives are based on the assumption that the fire is causing unacceptable resource damage.**

A WFSA will also be completed when a fire exceeds initial attack capabilities on fires under a control and extinguishment AMR, followed by an additional complexity analysis to determine the level of management needed. An ICS 209 will be completed and submitted to the Flagstaff Zone Dispatch when any fire reaches 100 acres.

## **Initial Action / Initial Attack**

**A complexity analysis will be completed for every fire as part of the size-up prior to engagement. Every fire will have an Incident Commander and all responding units will be given the name of the IC by the Dispatch Center, as well as any changes in IC.**

**Multiple Type 5 incidents may be managed by a Type 3 or Type 4 Incident Commander.**

## **The Eight Appropriate Management Response Options**

1. Monitoring from a Distance - Fire situations where inactive fire behavior and low threats require only periodic monitoring from a nearby location or aircraft.
2. Monitoring on Site - Fire situations that require the physical placement of monitors on the fire site to track the fire's spread, intensity, and or/or characteristics.
3. Confinement - Actions taken when fires are not likely to have resource benefit and an analysis of strategic alternatives indicates threats from the fire do not require costly deployment of large numbers of suppression resources for mitigation or suppression. Typically these fires will have little on-the-ground activity and fire movement remains confined within a pre-determined area bounded by natural barriers or fuel changes.
4. Monitoring Plus Contingency Actions - Monitoring is carried out on fires managed for resource benefits but circumstances necessitate preparation of contingency actions to satisfy external influences and ensure adequate preparation for possible undesirable developments.
5. Monitoring Plus Mitigation Actions - Actions on fire managed for resource benefit that either pose real, but not necessarily immediate, threats or do not have a totally naturally defensible boundary. These fires are monitored by operational actions are developed and implemented to delay, direct, or check fire spread, or to contain the fire to a defined area, and/or to ensure public safety (through signing, information, and trail/area closures).
6. Initial Attack - Action where an initial response is taken to suppress wildland fires, consistent with firefighter and public safety and values to be protected.
7. Large Fire Suppression with Multiple Strategies - This action categorizes fires where a combination of tactics such as direct attack, indirect attack, and confinement by natural barriers are utilized to accomplish protection objectives as directed in a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA).
8. Control and Extinguishment - Actions taken on a fire when the selected WFSA alternative indicates a control strategy using direct attack. Sufficient resources are assigned to achieve control of the fire with a minimum of acres burned.

The primary criteria for choosing fire suppression strategies are to maximize safety and to minimize suppression costs, resource loss, and environmental damage. In making decisions about how to implement suppression operations, both suppression costs and resource loss should be consistent with resource management objectives for the values to be protected. Consider fire behavior, the availability of fire suppression resources, the values of the natural resources and property at risk, direction in the LRMP and Forest Fire Management Plan, and the potential cost of fire suppression. When a potentially life threatening event exists, action shall be taken to provide for the safety of firefighters, other personnel, and the public, regardless of suppression costs or resource loss.

Guidelines for determining incident complexity may be found in FSH 5109.17, Chapter 21.2, however an Incident Complexity Analysis must be physically completed prior to every initial attack. The analysis for Type 3, 4, and 5 incidents may found in the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations, Appendix 10-5 and for Type 1 and 2 fires, Appendix 10-4.

### **Response Times for Initial Attack**

Response times for IA were derived from the most recent NFMAS revision (1998, 2002) for the Coconino National Forest. Response times are calculated for each Fire Management Analysis Zone (FMAZ) and Representative Location (RL) on the Forest. Resources are combined where engines and squads are co-located. Response times for ground resources include a walk-in delay of 100 minutes for representative locations lacking road access. Where road access is limited, a walk-in delay of 30 minutes is used. Average response times can be expected to be in the 20-45 minute range depending on specific location of the fire.

### **Restrictions or Special Concerns**

There are no current restrictions on the Coconino NF in regards to the use of fire retardants and foam. The Forest Supervisor has delegated authority to the District Rangers for approval of mechanized equipment in wilderness areas. Approval to utilize dozers in a wilderness area rests with the Regional Forester. The Guidelines for Aerial Delivery of Retardant or Foam Near Waterways may be found in the Coconino NF Aviation Management and Safety Plan.

### **Direction for FMU's Based on Fire Season and Energy Release Components**

Districts will make decisions for an appropriate management response to wildland fires within the following Fire Management Units and their associated Subunits.

**Critical fire season is defined as May 1 through July 15.**

#### **FMU 01 - Ponderosa Pine / Mixed Conifer - Size Objective 100 Acres**

<b><u>ERC</u></b>	<b><u>Critical Fire Season</u></b>	<b><u>Rest of Year</u></b>
<b>&lt;52</b>	<b>AMR</b>	<b>AMR</b>
<b>53-70</b>	<b>AMR</b>	<b>AMR</b>
<b>&gt;71</b>	<b>control</b>	<b>AMR</b>

#### **FMU 1U and FMU 3U - Ponderosa Pine and Desert Shrub Urban Interface - Size Objective 10 Acres / 300 Acres in Oak Creek Canyon in Designated Areas**

<b><u>ERC</u></b>	<b><u>Critical Fire Season</u></b>	<b><u>Rest of Year</u></b>
<b>&lt;52</b>	<b>control</b>	<b>AMR</b>
<b>53-70</b>	<b>control</b>	<b>AMR</b>
<b>&gt;71</b>	<b>control</b>	<b>control</b>

**NOTE: In FMU 3U, fires that do not pose a threat to life and property in Oak Creek Canyon, may have the size objective increased to 300 acres. The District Ranger, DFMO, or Initial Attack Incident Commander will make that decision as to the AMR selected. All areas within FMU 1U have a size objective of 10 acres.**



**FMU 02 - Pinyon/Juniper - Size Objective 1000 Acres**

<b><u>ERC</u></b>	<b><u>Critical Fire Season</u></b>	<b><u>Rest of Year</u></b>
<b>0-90+</b>	<b>AMR</b>	<b>AMR</b>

**FMU 03 - Desert Shrub - Size Objective 1000 Acres**

<b><u>ERC</u></b>	<b><u>Critical Fire Season</u></b>	<b><u>Rest of Year</u></b>
<b>0-90+</b>	<b>AMR</b>	<b>AMR</b>

**FMU 04 - Wilderness - Size Objective Varies Based on Wilderness Area, See Description of FMU 04 for Size Objectives**

<b><u>ERC</u></b>	<b><u>Critical Fire Season</u></b>	<b><u>Rest of Year</u></b>
<b>0-90+</b>	<b>AMR</b>	<b>AMR</b>

**Extended Attack and Escaped Wildland Fires**

Extended attack and escaped wildland fires will have a completed Complexity Analysis to determine the level of management the fire will require (Type 1,2, or 3). All fires at the Type 3 level and above will have a dedicated Incident Commander with no collateral duties except those of unfilled Command and General Staff positions. A wildland fire will be considered in extended attack status when:

- Containment is not expected prior to the second burning period on a fire under a control and extinguishment appropriate management response.
- The Initial Attack IC requests additional resources that result in the fire attaining a complexity rating at the Type 3 level.
- The Initial Attack IC requests that the fire be elevated to the extended attack level.

The responsible Line Officer shall promptly organize and implement a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis for each wildland fire meeting the above criteria in order to determine the appropriate management response. The WFSA and associated documents provide management direction, constraints, and economic considerations. Once the WFSA is prepared, an additional complexity analysis will also be prepared to determine the appropriate level of incident management.

Documents to assist Agency Administrators with this process can be found in the Documents and Information Briefing Package contained in this plan.

### **Incident Management Team Protocol and Selection**

The Forest will maintain one Type 3 Incident Management Team as possible during critical fire season. The Team will manage incidents through to completion or until transition to a Type 1 or 2 Incident Management Team is complete.

The Northern Arizona Zone Board annually selects and organizes the Northern Arizona Area Type II Incident Management Team. Nominations are solicited in November. Type II selections are generally made after selection of the Southwest Area Type 1 Teams in late January.

The Southwest Area Coordination Group annually selects the Type I Incident Management Team. Nominations are solicited in November and early December. Nominations for both the Type 1 and Type 2 Teams are submitted to the Forest Fire Staff Officer for review by the Forest Supervisor prior to submission to the Northern Arizona Zone Board Chair (Type 2) or the Southwest Area Coordination Group (Type 1).

### **Expectations of Employees in Reporting Fires and Participating in Suppression Actions**

All employees are expected to promptly report wildland fires to the nearest unit. Employees who discover wildland fires are expected to take initial action consistent with their wildland fire qualifications. Employees without wildland fire qualifications are not expected to take initial action.

## **PROCEDURAL CHECKLIST FIRE RESPONSE DECISIONS AND DOCUMENTATION**

### **WILDLAND FIRE**

#### **FIRST OPERATIONAL PERIOD:**

- Complexity analysis completed as part of size up, appropriate management response selected, Incident Commander determined and relayed to Flagstaff Zone Dispatch.
- If a fire under a Control and Extinguishment AMR will not be contained during this burning period, or if the level of complexity reaches Type 3, a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis will be completed along with an additional Complexity Analysis to determine the level of management needed for the fire (Type 1, 2, 3).
- Fires being managed under a monitor or confine AMR documented through a Stage 2 WFIP with staff input and signed by the District Ranger once the fire reaches 10 acres. If the fire reaches the size objective based on the Fire Management Unit, either Stage 3 of the WFIP or a WFSA completed, again with Staff input and signed by the District Ranger. If the fire is being managed for resource benefits (Wildland Fire Use) under an approved plan, complete appropriate Wildland Fire Implementation Plan stage(s).

#### **SECOND OPERATIONAL PERIOD:**

- Complete the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (if not already completed) for any fires under a Control and Extinguishment AMR.
- Validate WFIP/WFSA daily until declared controlled

### **PRESCRIBED FIRE**

#### **PRE-IGNITION:**

- Burn plan approved
- Burn Boss designated
- Prescription compliance verified
- Organization identified and briefed

#### **POST-IGNITION:**

- Continually insure that all prescription parameters are met
- Insure that objectives are being met
- Follow burn plan guidance until burn is declared out
- Declare an escaped wildland fire if out of prescription and cannot be returned to prescription using project funds

**DOCUMENTS & INFORMATION BRIEFING PACKAGE  
FOR  
TRANSITION & DELEGATION TO AN  
INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM  
  
COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST**

\*\*\*\*\*

**RESPONSIBILITIES & AUTHORITIES  
WILDLAND FIRE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (WFIP)  
WILDLAND FIRE SITUATION ANALYSIS  
AVERAGE ACRE SUPPRESSION COSTS (2002 NFMAS)  
NET VALUE CHANGE, RESOURCE DAMAGE (2002 NFMAS)  
INCIDENT COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS  
AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR DIRECTION TO INCOMING TEAM  
OSHA ABATEMENT PLAN FOR INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAMS  
DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY  
INITIAL/EXTENDED ATTACK TO INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM TRANSITION  
CHECKLIST  
  
AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR TEAM EVALUATION FORM  
AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR TEAM CLOSEOUT FORMAT**

## **WILDLAND FIRE SITUATION ANALYSIS / COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS**

### **LINE OFFICER DIRECTION**

#### **Wildland Fire Situation Analysis**

When there is a probability an escaped fire will extend into the next burning period or when reasonable alternatives for suppression action cannot be identified and before large expenditures will be incurred, the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) will be prepared.

The District Ranger and District Fire Management Officer will prepare the WFSA with input from the initial/extended attack Incident Commander along with District and SO resource specialists whose input is vital to making strategic suppression decisions, and determining potential resource damages.

#### **Complexity Analysis**

Once the WFSA is completed and an alternative is selected, a complexity analysis will be completed by the District Ranger and District Fire Management Officer to determine the appropriate level of Incident Management Team (Type 1,2, or 3).

#### **Line Officer Direction and Team Briefing**

The responsible line officer will complete the Line Officer Direction package, sign the Delegation of Authority, and facilitate the team briefing.

#### **Multiple Fire Situations**

During multiple fire situations (large fires), priorities must be established based on the greatest potential of cost plus loss. The Forest Fire Staff Officer will meet with the Incident Commanders, and the District Ranger(s) to determine Forest priorities.

#### **Responsibilities and Authority**

The District Ranger and District Fire Management Officer are responsible for preparation of the WFSA and Complexity Analysis for all escaped wildland or prescribed fires.

For Type II incidents, the District Ranger will approve the WFSA and Complexity Analysis and complete the Line Officer Direction, sign the Delegation of Authority, and facilitate the briefing of the incoming Type 2 Incident Management Team.

For Type I incidents, the Forest Supervisor will approve the WFSA and complexity Analysis prepared by the District Ranger. The Forest Supervisor will complete the Line Officer Direction, sign the Delegation of Authority, and facilitate the briefing of the Type 1 Incident Management Team.

#### **Location of Forms**

The Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA), Complexity Analysis, Agency Administrator Briefing, Incident Business Management Guidelines, Transition Checklists, and Delegation of Authority forms can all be found in the Forest Fire Management Plan (hard copy), or the electronic version of the WFSA is available through the internet.

### Current Net Value Changes for the Coconino National Forest

When the Forest Fire Management Analysis was completed in 2002, analysts chose to use Regional averages for the Net Value Change and they include:

Forage	\$7.34
Water Use and Storage	\$58.40
Wilderness Use	\$23.49
Dispersed Recreation	\$14.64
Big Game Hunting	\$54.74
Fishing Cold/Warm Water	\$104.76
Other Wildlife	\$42.81
Fuel Wood (FMAZ 02)	\$25.88

Timber values for mature/immature used the 1996 values, as these are the most current and accurate timber values available. This value is \$188.84 MBF.

Average Acre Costs for Fires Are:

Class A	\$14,855 per acre
Class B	\$4,623 per acre
Class C	\$2,281 per acre
Class D	\$2,192 per acre
Class E	\$1,447 per acre
Class F	\$463 per acre
Class G	\$313 per acre

These costs are based on the Regional averages with the exception of B, C, D, and E fires that are based on historical Coconino National Forest data.

**AGENCY BRIEFING PACKAGE FOR INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM**

FOREST \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Agency Direction to the Incident Management Team**

INCIDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

As Agency Administrator (or acting), I am providing the following information, objectives, and guidelines for your use in managing this incident.

Attached you will find a completed Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) to assist you in formulating strategy. I will expect you to work closely with the assigned Resource Advisor(s) and my representative (indicated in the Delegation of Authority) in preparing updates to the analysis.

---

**CURRENT INFORMATION - GENERAL**

**INCIDENT**

Approximate Size \_\_\_\_\_

Management Code \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel Type \_\_\_\_\_

Elevation \_\_\_\_\_

Slope \_\_\_\_\_

Aspect \_\_\_\_\_

Cause \_\_\_\_\_

Origin Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

**GENERAL WEATHER:**

**GENERAL FIRE BEHAVIOR:**

**LEGAL LOCATION** TOWNSHIP \_\_\_\_\_ RANGE \_\_\_\_\_ SECTION \_\_\_\_\_

**VALUES AT RISK:** (Private Property, Resource/Land Values, T&E Species, Wilderness, etc.)

**CURRENT INCIDENT MANAGEMENT:**

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

Organization Type 1 2 3

Jurisdiction(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Cooperator(s) / Liaison(s)

**NAME**

**AGENCY**

**PHONE**

**INCIDENT AIR OPERATIONS**

Air Tactical Group Supervisor

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Airtanker Base

Location(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Temporary Flight Restrictions: In Place \_\_\_\_\_ On Order \_\_\_\_\_

Notam#: \_\_\_\_\_

Altitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Radius: \_\_\_\_\_

Known Aircraft Hazards: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: You will also be provided with a Flight Hazard Map for the Coconino National Forest

Infrared Photography: \_\_\_\_\_

Effectiveness of Airtankers: \_\_\_\_\_

Safety and Technical Assistance Team Needed: \_\_\_\_\_ Ordered: \_\_\_\_\_



**AIRCRAFT CURRENTLY ASSIGNED**

**AIR TACTICAL:**

**HELICOPTER:**

**TYPE 1:**

**TYPE 2:**

**TYPE 3:**

**AIRTANKER(S):**

**LEAD PLANE(S):**

**HELIBASE ESTABLISHED:**      Yes \_\_\_\_\_      No \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VHF FREQUENCIES:** Fixed Wing \_\_\_\_\_      Rotorwing \_\_\_\_\_

**AIR TO GROUND FREQUENCY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INCIDENT RESOURCES**

**RESOURCE                      TYPE                      ON SCENE      ON ORDER                      ETA**

---

**CREWS:**

**ENGINES:**

**DOZERS:**

**WATERTENDERS:**

**CATERER/SHOWER:**

**LOGISTICS**

**FACILITIES AND GROUND SUPPORT**

ICP / Incident Base Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Nearest Potable Water: \_\_\_\_\_

Transportation Routes / Limitations: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLY**

Two supply plans for your Logistics and Finance Sections will be provided.

EXPANDED DISPATCH LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EXPANDED DISPATCH COORDINATOR: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Expanded Dispatch will assign all resource order numbers except the IMT will assign resource order numbers for all fire replacement and medical treatment orders.

PRESCOTT FIRE CACHE:

ORDER DIRECT \_\_\_\_\_ ORDER THROUGH EXPANDED \_\_\_\_\_

LOCAL PURCHASING / HIRING PROCEDURES \_\_\_\_\_

BUYING TEAM: IN PLACE \_\_\_\_\_ ON ORDER \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

BUYING UNIT TEAM: ORDER DIRECT \_\_\_\_\_

ORDER THROUGH EXPANDED \_\_\_\_\_

The Incident Management Team will be responsible for supply accountability and to return all unused items to the appropriate fire cache. Fire crews should be re-supplied from fire camp if feasible, prior to their release.

RECYCLING REQUIREMENTS:

RECYCLING COORDINATOR ASSIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS: (Considerations, Concerns, Recommendations, Repeater Locations)

**FINANCE**

Business Management Briefing or Briefing Packet will be provided to the Team.

COMPTROLLER: IN PLACE \_\_\_\_\_ ORDERED \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CONTRACTING OFFICER: NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CLAIMS / POTENTIAL CLAIMS: (Type, Who is Investigating, Phone)

Type / Description Status

**FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS AND OBJECTIVES** (See attached Business Management Guidelines)

**PLANS**

ICS - 209 Reporting Instructions Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
Method: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone/FAX#: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX IAP Daily to: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Weather Forecaster and ATMU: On Order \_\_\_\_\_ On Scene \_\_\_\_\_

Infrared Flights / Interpreter On Order \_\_\_\_\_ On Scene \_\_\_\_\_



**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

Law Enforcement

Cooperators / Liaisons:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>Phone</u>
-------------	---------------	--------------

**POLITICAL ISSUES:**

**MEDIA RELATIONS:** The Incident Management Team may handle all media relations within the following constraints (provide media contact list to Team)

**HUMAN RELATIONS:** Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated on this incident. The Team should make every effort to ensure a harassment free workplace at all facilities and work sites.

**TRAINING:** Inclusion of local personnel into the overhead Team organization

( ) is ( ) is not encouraged.

<u>Trainee Name</u>	<u>Training Assignment Needed</u>
---------------------	-----------------------------------

**NATURAL RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS AND CONSTRAINTS**

**ASSIGNED RESOURCE ADVISOR(S)**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICABLE STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR SUPPRESSION**

**Management Area \_\_\_\_\_ Standards and Guidelines**

**SPECIAL RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS (T&E Species, cultural resources, etc.)**

**Resource**

**Considerations**

*In wilderness areas, mechanized equipment (chainsaws, helicopters, portable pumps) are \_\_\_\_\_ are not \_\_\_\_\_ permitted to be used.*

*In wilderness areas, permission to use mechanized line building equipment has been \_\_\_\_\_ has not been \_\_\_\_\_ requested from the Regional Forester.*

**REHABILITATION REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Rehab to be performed:

Rehab Team Leader Assigned: \_\_\_\_\_

## **INITIAL ATTACK RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Incident Management Team will provide the following initial attack and/or support for all initial attack. Define geographic area of responsibility, ordering procedures, etc. Identify on a map that is provided to the Initial Attack Dispatch and the IMT Operations Section Chief.

## **RELEASE OF THE INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM**

**REQUIREMENTS:** The Incident Management Team will not be released until:

1. Team Transition Plan and Checklist has been completed and authority is re-delegated to another team, OR
2. Activity is at a level and workload that local forces and/or a local team can assume responsibility, AND
3. All resources not needed for patrol and mop-up have been released, AND
4. Incident Base is shut down or reduced to a level acceptable to the Agency Administrator (or acting), AND
5. Incident package is completed and submitted to and accepted by the Agency Administrator (or acting), AND
6. Specific financial or other problems are brought to the direct attention of appropriate agency personnel or local team, AND
7. Your Team is expected to arrange your own demobilization including travel, motels, meals, etc.
8. Suppression activity rehabilitation work has been completed or performed to the satisfaction of the Agency Administrator (or acting), AND
9. A close-out and debriefing, including the Incident Management Team and the Agency Administrator (or acting), has been held, AND
10. The Agency Administrator (or acting), will provide a written performance evaluation to the Incident Commander using the IMT Evaluation Form.

## **Agency Liaison to the Incident Management Team**

The following individual is designated as my representative and Liaison to the Incident Management Team. This individual will remain with the Team to provide assistance and advice, and is delegated the responsibility to speak in my behalf (See Delegation of Authority):

Forest Supervisor / District Ranger Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUMMARY AND SIGNATURE**

My objectives and constraints for the management of this incident are listed on the Delegation of Authority. This document, as well as the information included within the approved Wildland Fire Situation Analysis and Delegation of Authority, serve as my direction to you.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Forest Supervisor/District Ranger (or acting)

Copies of Agency Briefing Package, WFSA, and Delegation of Authority will be provided to:

- 20 Incident Management Team
- 2 Expanded Dispatch
- 2 Initial Attack Dispatch
- 2 Buying Unit Team
- 1 Agency Administrator Representative
- 1 Resource Advisor



**DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY  
ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY AND INCIDENT OBJECTIVES**

I hereby delegate to you full authority and responsibility for managing the \_\_\_\_\_ incident within the framework of legal statute, agency policy, and broad direction provided in the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis and Agency Administrator direction to the Incident Commander. If any critical incidents should occur during your management of this incident, you have my delegated authority to manage the critical incident within Agency jurisdiction.

Your primary responsibility is to organize and direct your assigned and ordered resources for the effective, efficient, and safe management of the incident. You are directly accountable to me or my representative as indicated below.

On any occasion that I am not immediately available, \_\_\_\_\_ has full authority to represent me.

**MY OBJECTIVES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THIS INCIDENT ARE:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

This authority is effective and transition will occur on: DATE \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency/Unit Line Officer (or acting)

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECEIVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Incident Commander

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TRANSITION CHECKLIST**  
**AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES FOR**  
**INITIAL / EXTENDED ATTACK TO INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAMS**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Complete WFSA using interdisciplinary team.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Approve selected alternative and complexity rating.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Call incoming IC to:
  - Brief on general situation, selected strategy and objectives.
  - Approve teams initial orders needed prior to arrival.
  - Agency Administrator briefing. Set time, location, and required attendance at briefing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Complete Agency Administrator briefing package & incident objectives.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Identify base camp location and establish check-in for incoming Team and resource.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Recommended attendees at Agency Administrator Briefing:
  - Agency Administrator and representative
  - Resource Advisor(s) assigned to Team
  - Team Command and General Staff, Air Operations Branch Director
  - Initial / Extended Attack Incident Commander
  - Agency Fire Management Officer
  - Comptroller (Agency Administrative Personnel)
  - Dispatch Center Manager
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide ICS-201 including:
  - Resources assigned and ordered
  - 30 agency maps
  - 20 7.5' topographic maps (black line)
  - Aerial photos / GIS maps
  - Weather and fire behavior forecasts
  - ICS-209 and Zone, Area, National Situation Reports
  - Copies of all resource orders to date
  - Forest Supply Plan
  - Coconino Fire Management Plan
  - Coconino Aviation Safety and Management Plan / Flight Hazard Map
  - Key public affairs contacts
  - Delegation of Authority
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prepare travel route maps for team & incoming resources. FAX as needed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Determine communications requirements until radio cache is operational.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Arrange for transportation as necessary.

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM PERFORMANCE RATING**

(To be used with Agency Administrator Direction / Delegation of Authority)

1. Incident Mgmt. Team: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Fire Name: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Incident Commander: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Location of Fire:  
     Agency: \_\_\_\_\_  
     Administrative Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
     Sub Unit: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Dates of Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Acres Burned: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Evaluation: \_\_\_\_\_

(Enter an X under appropriate rating number for each rating factor)

- 0 - Deficient. Did not meet objectives identified in either the briefing, EFSA, or other documents. DESCRIBE DEFICIENCIES IN REMARKS SECTION.
- 1 - Needed improvement. Met some or most of the objectives/requirements.
- 2 - Satisfactory. Met all of the objectives or requirements.
- 3 - Superior. Consistently exceeded all objectives and/or requirements.

RATING FACTOR	0	1	2	3
A. Safety was the #1 priority and managed by the Team effectively.				
B. Worked in a team environment with other IMT's and Area Command.				
C. Human Resources were managed appropriately and all people were treated with respect.				
D. Efficient and cost effective wildfire suppression.				
E. Accomplishment of protection/suppression priorities.				
F. Met socio/political considerations.				
G. Effectively used Resource Specialist input and/or Industry Representative.				
H. Met environmental concerns as specified in the WFSA.				
I. Met Initial Attack agreements as specified.				
J. Used Incident Support Organization effectively.				
K. Transportation (road/trails) used and protected effectively.				

L. Provided appropriate public information.				
RATING FACTOR	0	1	2	3
M. Accountability and cost objectives were met.				
N. The Incident Base, ICP, and other related sites were managed appropriately.				
O. Law Enforcement objectives were met.				
P. Demobilization was orderly and efficient.				
Q. Fire suppression rehabilitation was accomplished.				
R. R& R was accomplished efficiently.				
S. Adequate documentation of incident and quality of final fire package.				
T. Professional and courteous attitude shown towards local employees and the public.				
U. Acceptable Fire Equipment Loss/Use Rate.				
V. Other (specify):				

Remarks:

8. Incident Commander's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

9. I.C. Home Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Rated By (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST**  
**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM CLOSEOUT**

Fire Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Evaluate policy, procedures, and management of fire actions occurring from Incident Management Team mobilization through demobilization.
2. Identify needed changes or corrections with the objective of improving management and not the assignment of blame.
3. Review sensitivity to resource values, land ethics, and local public concerns.
4. Discuss interface with cooperators, adjacent Forests, Southwest Area.
5. Discuss any military operations / improvements instituted on incident as suggestions for future joint operations.

**AGENDA**

**A. Summary of Initial Actions**

**B. Alert Period**

**C. Team Mobilization Period**

**D. Interaction with Forest Including District Resource Advisor**

**E. Agency Administrator Briefing, WFSA, and Transition**

**F. Support of Fire**

1. Pre-Arrival Orders
2. Initial Camp Location Set-Up
3. Communications

**G. Fire Suppression Period (This may be chronologically or functionally)**

1. Strategy / Tactics
2. Safety
3. Costs
4. Aviation Concerns
5. Military Operations
6. Incident Information
7. Logistical Challenges
8. R&R Policy and Procedures

**H. Access and Travel Management, Road and Highway Closures / Restrictions**

**I. Rehabilitation**

**J. Outgoing Transition with New Incoming Team**

**K. Demobilization**

**L. Closing Remarks**

## Coconino National Forest Suppression Resources

### Supervisors Office

Forest Supervisor	Nora Rasure	527-3500	Coconino 1
Fire Staff Officer	Bruce Greco	527-3550	Coconino 3
Assistant Fire Staff	Cathie Zettler	527-3557	Coconino 3-1
Forest Fuels Specialist	Russ Copp	527-3556	Coconino 3-2
Center Manager	Amos Coochyouma	527-3551	Flagstaff
Asst. Center Manager	Christina McKerracher	527-3552	Flagstaff
Forest Dispatcher	Tracy Fifarek	527-3553	Flagstaff
Dispatcher	Vacant	527-3553	Flagstaff

### Peaks Ranger District

District Ranger	Gene Waldrip	526-0866	2-1
District FMO	Buck Wickham	527-8233	2-3
Asst. DFMO	Clyde Benally	527-8245	2-3-1
Fuels Specialist	Walker Thornton	527-8227	2-3-2
Fuels Technician	Paul Wakeford	527-8204	2-3-5
Flagstaff IHC	Paul Musser	527-8243	Crew 2
Superintendent			
Type 3 Engine	Alanna Thornley	527-8255	Engine 2-1
Type 3 Engine	Beale Monday	527-8255	Engine 2-2
Type 6 Engine	James Burton	527-8255	Engine 2-3
Type 6 Engine	Brian Blanchard	527-8255	Engine 2-4
Type 3 Watertender	Wayne Dumez	527-8255	Watertender 2

### Mormon Lake Ranger District

District Ranger	Terri Marceron	774-1147	5-1
District FMO	Denny Nelson	214-2440	5-3
Asst. DFMO	Lowell Kendall	214-2445	5-3-1
Prevention Officer	Suzanne Romero	214-2439	5-3-3
Engine Specialist	Bob Ogden	214-2449	5-3-4
Mormon Lake IHC	Robert Auza	214-2458	Crew 5
Superintendent			



### **Mormon Lake Ranger District (continued)**

Type 3 Engine	David Bales	214-2424	Engine 5-1
Type 6 Engine	Eric True	354-2480	Engine 5-2
Type 6 Engine	Bob Pedersen	286-1038	Engine 5-4
Type 3 Dozer	Dave Dicob	214-2431	Dozer 5
Type 2 Watertender	VACANT	214-2424	Watertender 5
Prevention/Patrol	Karen Carswell	214-2443	Patrol 5-1
Prevention/Patrol	Paul Shaw	214-2443	Patrol 5-2

\*\* There are up to six additional Fire Prevention Patrol Resources zoned between the Peaks and Mormon Lake Districts during critical fire season.

### **Red Rock District / Verde Valley**

District Ranger	Ken Anderson	203-7501	6-1
District FMO	Dan Derrick	567-1156	6-3
Asst. DFMO	Dave Coryn	203-7504	6-3-1
Fuels Specialist	Scott Spleiss	567-1156	6-3-2
Type 6 Engine	Jeff Walther	203-7524	Engine 6-1
Type 3 Engine	VACANT	203-7524	Engine 6-2
Prevention/Patrol	Anthony Montiel	203-7523	Patrol 6-1

### **Mogollon Rim District**

District Ranger	Larry Sears	477-2255	7-1
District FMO	Van Bateman	354-2216	7-3
Asst. District FMO	Rick Miller	354-2216	7-3-1
Fuels Specialist	Jeff Thumm	354-2216	7-3-2
Prevention Officer	Darryl Atchison	477-2255	7-3-3
Blue Ridge IHC	Ryan Peacock	477-2255	Crew 5
Superintendent			
Type 3 Engine	David Savage	477-2255	Engine 7-1
Type 6 Engine	Keith Halloren	477-2255	Engine 7-3
Type 3 Engine	Tom Giesemann	354-2216	Engine 7-4

There are up to four Fire Prevention/Patrol resources during critical fire season.

## **D. Prescribed Fire**

The Forest's prescribed fire program treats natural fuel accumulations to meet resource management objectives as outlined and supported by the Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. Treatments have traditionally included wildlife habitat enhancement, range habitat improvement, hazardous fuels reduction, and restoring fire adapted ecosystems.

Project level analysis through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents the purpose and need for treatment and identifies the goals and objectives of prescribed fire. Most of the direction for management areas identified in the LRMP permits the use of management ignited fire as outlined in the Description of Fire Management Units within this plan.

### **1. Planning and Documentation**

a) Annual activities that are necessary to prepare and implement the prescribed fire program are listed below:

- Inventory and identify fuel treatment units
- Meet annually with partners identified in the Ponderosa Fire Advisory Council and adjacent Forests to coordinate and collaborate
- Update the Five Year Fuels Plan and the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy
- Participate in interdisciplinary teams (ID Teams)
- Complete required NEPA documentation
- Prepare project plans and layout
- Prioritize proposed projects based on current year budget allocations
- Prepare and approve burn plans
- Obtain burn permits
- Implement projects
- Award contracts
- Complete monitoring requirements
- Report accomplishments
- Maintain the National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS)

The development of treatment proposals is typically accomplished one to three years in advance of planned treatments. Field reconnaissance and interdisciplinary analysis are completed one to two years in advance of project implementation. Ranger Districts maintain and coordinate fuels management activities through the Five Year Fuels Plan.

A collaborative effort exists between the fuels and vegetative management analysis process to enhance the protection of the wildland/urban interface and other valuable Forest resources in the most efficient and cost effective manner. District personnel provide planning and implementation recommendations on the current year program of work to the Coconino Leadership Team for their approval.

#### b) Long Term Prescribed Fire Program Based on Fire Management Unit

FMU 01 Ponderosa Pine - This Fire Management Unit represents Non-WUI prescribed fire. Landscape scale burning took place in this FMU throughout the 1990 decade. With the focus on hazardous fuels reduction shifting primarily to urban interface areas, burning continues throughout the FMU, with smaller acreages accomplished. The objective is to continue to reduce hazardous fuels, enhance Forest health, and restore fire adapted ecosystems.

FMU 1U Ponderosa Pine / Urban Interface - This Fire Management Unit represents prescribed fire within the wildland urban interface. Since 2001, this has been the top priority and focal point for prescribed burning as well as mechanical hazardous fuels reduction projects. The objective is to enhance firefighting capability, lower or maintain fuel profiles to reduce the damaging effects of fire, and provide a buffer around the wildland urban interface areas.

FMU 3U Desert Shrub / Urban Interface - Prescribed fire in this Fire Management Unit is minimal at this time with mechanical treatment being the priority. The objective is hazardous fuels reduction and all treatment is taking place in Oak Creek Canyon.

At the present time there is no prescribed fire planned within Fire Management Units 02 (Pinyon/Juniper), 03 (Desert Shrub), and 04 (Wilderness). Wildland Fire Use under an approved plan is allowed in the Kachina Peaks Wilderness portion of FMU 04.

c) Personnel Qualifications

The prescribed fire program is managed at the Ranger District level by the District Fire Management Officer with oversight provided by the Forest Fire Staff Officer. A Fuels Specialist at the District level is responsible for project level planning and may act as an interdisciplinary team member/leader or subject matter specialist on assigned projects.

District Rangers are delegated the authority to approve prescribed burn plans on their units. This authority may not be re-delegated. It is the responsibility of the District Ranger to obtain necessary input from qualified Staff Specialists to insure that management objectives are defined and met by prescribed fire activities. The District shall also insure that all personnel involved in planning and execution of burns are qualified to perform their specific jobs according to **FSM 5100, R-3 FSM 5140 Supplement, and FSH 5109.17.**

Level I and II Burn Bosses (RXB1 and RXB2) are required for project implementation depending on the complexity of the burn. The Forest and District will maintain a pool of qualified personnel to fill all subordinate positions. The current 5109.17 prescribed fire training course key is Chapter 20 and shows the required training for each position. Task Books for prescribed fire will follow the same process as outlined for wildland fire.

d) Weather, Fire Behavior, Fire Effects Monitoring

Short term monitoring requirements may include pre-burn fuel moisture sampling or monitoring of the daily NFDRS indices and components as necessary to indicate the potential for success of meeting burn objectives. Daily Documentation of burn-day conditions, fire behavior, smoke dispersal, fire order fire effects, and cost per acre of treatment is necessary for post burn evaluation. Spot weather and smoke dispersal forecasts will be requested for all burn plans that meet medium or complex rating criteria. In addition to short-term monitoring to document the immediate results of a burn, long-term monitoring is strongly recommended. Permanent photo points, transects, or plots that are revisited in years following a treatment will provide information on successional trends that result from the burn. Longer term monitoring may be necessary to determine if objectives were met.

e) Prescribed Fire Critiques

The Burn Boss, key subordinate personnel, and the District Fire Management Officer should conduct and document an informal post burn critique. Formal project reviews are not required except in the instance of an escaped fire.

f) Documentation Requirements

Burn Bosses must submit prescribed fire accomplishments using the ADEQ Accomplishment Report according to the ADEQ guidelines.

Should a fire be declared escaped, the Dispatch Log will be used to document the time, associated activities, and actions taken. Those actions will be commensurate with the actions identified in the Escape Fire Contingency Plan as outlined in the burn plan.

For prescribed fire, a Prescribed Fire Burn Plan must be prepared for every burn unit regardless of the size or complexity of the project. Each Prescribed Fire Burn Plan (RXBP) must meet the minimum Regional requirements. Before a prescribed fire may be implemented, the Prescribed Fire Burn Plan must be approved in writing by the appropriate Line Officer. Each prescribed burn must be conducted by a qualified Burn Boss. When the knowledge base, experience, and staff are available at the District level to plan, develop, and execute prescribed fire in the complexity ratings of Low, Moderate, or High, then approval authority may be delegated to the District Ranger. If the knowledge base, experience, and staff are not available, then the approval authority shall be retained at the Forest Supervisor's Office. On high complexity prescribed burns, the RXBP is developed by the Prescribed Fire Planning Specialist (FSM 5145.21). On less complex fires, a Prescribed Fire Burn Boss, Type 2 may develop the RXBP. Each RXBP should be reviewed and recommended for Line Officer approval by a qualified and experienced manager.

## **2. Exceeding Existing Prescribed Fire Burn Plan**

The burn plan identifies resources needed to safely and successfully ignite, execute, and hold prescribed fire throughout the range of prescriptive parameters identified. The contingency resources identified within the prescribed fire plan are identified for those rare events that occur creating or leading to a situation where the burn may become unsuccessful, considering capabilities of existing on-site resources. If a prescribed fire exceeds the parameters within the written prescription, the "available resources" identified within contingency plans may be used to bring the prescribed fire back within written prescription guidelines during the 48 hour timeframe, as directed in FSM 5140-31. Any prescribed fire that exceeds burn plan prescriptions and cannot be brought under control within this time frame will be declared a wildfire and a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis will be prepared as described in the fire suppression section of this plan. Once a prescribed fire has been reclassified as an unwanted wildland fire, it cannot revert back to a prescribed fire status.

## **3. Air Quality and Smoke Management**

As specified in Section 118 of the Clean Air Act (42 USC 7418), amended in 1992, USDA Forest Service fire management activities that result in the discharge of air pollutants (e.g. smoke, carbon monoxide, and other pollutants from fire) are subject to and must comply with all

applicable Federal, state, interstate, and local air pollution control requirements. The Coconino National Forest is required to obtain necessary permits for prescribed fire, comply with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards both inside and outside Forest boundaries, and protect visibility according to its congressionally mandated Class I area status.

The Forest policy will be to meet the State requirements for smoke management by adhering to the ADEQ Smoke Management Regulations. Additional actions may be taken in cases of adverse smoke impacts to populated areas.

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality burn plan will be prepared along with supporting smoke modeling as required. All ADEQ burn plans must be submitted to the Forest Fuels Specialist so that the Annual Prescribed Burn Registration can be completed by August 1st of each year. Prior to any execution, a daily burn request must be submitted to the Dispatch Center by 1330 the day prior to the burn. The Dispatch Center will then forward the request to ADEQ.

A map of potential Wildland Fire Use areas will be submitted annually to ADEQ. The Forest will notify ADEQ of any potential Wildland Fire Use fire that is expected to attain a size of 50 acres in timber fuels.

## **E. Non-Fire Applications**

All non-fire applications will comply with NEPA standards. Non-fire treatment may include thinning, lop and scatter, hand or machine piling, chipping, and fuel-wood removal by the public. A primary objective of non-fire fuel treatment is prescribed fire unit preparation, such as establishing control lines, clearing around values at risk, or treatment of selective areas to reduce fire intensity which may threaten control lines or result in undesirable fire intensity or severity within the treatment unit.

The emphasis for the hazardous fuels reduction program on the Coconino NF is the treatment of heavy fuel load areas in the wildland urban interface, high resource value areas, and ecosystems currently at risk from catastrophic fire. Development of partnerships such as the Greater Flagstaff Forest Partnership is a priority established by the Regional Forester.

### **1. Mechanical Treatment and Other Applications**

The Forest utilizes a variety of non-fire fuel treatment applications. Some of the methods used include:

- Thinning followed by lop and scatter
- Thinning followed by pile/windrowing
- Thinning followed by handpiling
- Thinning followed by dozer piling
- Chipping

Sometimes treatments are a combination of all of the above. These treatments are useful in areas where prescribed fire is not feasible or in smoke-sensitive areas.

Mechanical or hand treatments are a viable treatment alternative in interface settings where the risk of an escaped prescribed fire is unacceptable or the impacts to viewsheds are unacceptable to the public. They are often the preferred method of treating slash generated from thinning treatments before the introduction of prescribed fire.

a) Annual Activities to Prepare for and Implement the Mechanical Treatment Program

- Inventory and identify fuel treatment units
- Participate in interdisciplinary teams (IDT)
- Complete required NEPA documentation
- Prepare project plans and layout
- Prioritize proposed projects based on current year budget allocation
- Implement projects
- Award contracts
- Complete monitoring requirements
- Report accomplishments

b) Equipment and Seasonal Restrictions as They Relate to Each FMU

Restrictions are outlined and identified through the NEPA analysis portion of each project.

c) Documentation Required for Monitoring

All projects that include non-fire treatment will include specific prescriptions to meet the desired resource objective. Included monitoring plans should address short-term monitoring, immediate results, long term effectiveness monitoring objectives, and any issues or concerns identified in the related NEPA documents. Permanent photo points, transects, or plots that are revisited in years following a treatment will provide information on successional trends as a result from a project. Longer term monitoring may be necessary to determine if objectives were met. However, the monitoring plan contained in each project will describe the protocols and criteria needed to determine if objectives have been met.

d) Reporting and Documentation for Accomplishments

All accomplishments are reported through the National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFORS) on a monthly basis. The Districts are responsible for providing data to the Forest Fuels Specialist for input into the database.

e) General Fuels Management Information

Appendix D of this plan contains the following:

1. 2005 Program of Work for Fuels Management
2. FSM 5100 - Chapter 5140
3. R-3 Prescribed Fire Burn Plan Format
4. ADEQ Prescribed Fire Burn Plan Form
5. ADEQ Smoke Management Regulations
6. ADEQ Annual Prescribed Burn Registration
7. ADEQ Daily Burn Form
8. ADEQ Daily Accomplishment Form
9. Coconino National Forest Prescribed Fire Qualifications
10. Standards and Guidelines for Mexican Spotted Owl and Northern Goshawk

## **SECTION V - ORGANIZATIONAL AND BUDGETARY PARAMETERS**

<b>Current Fiscal Year Budget and the Ability to Support Planned and Unplanned Ignitions</b>	<b>Page 88</b>
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Page 88</b>
<b>Cooperative Agreements and Interagency Contacts</b>	<b>Pages 88-89</b>
<b>Equipment and Rental Agreements</b>	<b>Page 89</b>

## **Section V - Organizational and Budgetary Parameters**

### **A. Current Fiscal Year Budget and the Ability to Support Planned and Unplanned Actions**

The primary objective in fire program development is to efficiently implement Forest Land and Resource Management Plan direction within the budget limitations of the current year. For FY 2005, the Forest Preparedness budget was formulated by the Regional Office budgeting process that used the FY 2004 budget and added 10%. Nationally, the Forest Service fire preparedness budget is in a transition period moving from the National Fire Management Analysis System (NFMAS) toward the implementation of Fire Program Analysis in FY 2007. The three Interagency Hotshot Crews and the National Type 2 Helicopter stationed on the Coconino National Forest are not part of the analysis at this time, and are funded at the Washington Office level.

Fuels Management - The fuels management program is largely accomplished as a collateral duty by the permanent fire management staff. Each District is staffed with a Fuels Specialist with the exception of the Peaks and Mormon Lake Districts that share a Specialist position.

### **B. Organization**

#### **Program Leadership**

The Forest Fire Management program is managed by a Forest Fire Staff Officer with assistance from the Assistant Fire Staff and the Forest Fuels Management Specialist. The Zone Center Manager provides direct oversight to the Dispatch Center including the Forest Dispatcher and two additional Dispatchers. A District Fire Management Officer provides staff input to a District Ranger and direct oversight to the Fire and Fuels Management programs with assistance from an Assistant District Fire Management Officer.

In addition, local cooperators are used on urban interface incidents within their respective fire districts. Additional resources from the area and national levels are utilized as necessary and appropriate. Supplemental resources will be ordered to provide increased firefighting capability during periods of high fire danger as well as during periods where ongoing and anticipated levels of initial attack would result in a draw down of local resources. Administratively determined (AD) hiring authority is used on a discretionary basis to supplement agency resources with those staffed by local cooperators outside the parameters of existing agreements.

### **C. Cooperative Agreements and Interagency Contacts**

The Forest has active agreements or memorandums of understanding with several fire protection agencies. Plans are prepared under the direction of the Joint Powers Agreement between the State of Arizona and the Federal Land Management Agencies of the Department of the Interior and USDA Forest Service.



The purpose of the agreements is to:

- Provide a basis for cooperation among the agencies on all aspects of wildland fire management and as authorized in non-fire emergencies.
- To facilitate the exchange of resources and to provide prompt and efficient dispatching of the quickest, initial attack, suppression personnel, equipment (including aircraft), supplies, services, and funds among the agencies.
- To serve as a limited delegation of authority for mutual-aid initial response actions between all agencies signatory to the operating plan.
- To establish operating procedures and services for fire management and protection.

#### **D. Equipment and Rental Agreements**

Agreements are located in the Coconino Forest Supply Plan that is maintained by the Contracting Officer.

## **SECTION VI - MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

<b>Monitoring Requirements</b>	<b>Page 91</b>
<b>Fire Management</b>	<b>Page 91</b>
<b>Reporting Requirements for Fire Management</b>	<b>Page 91</b>
<b>Annual Monitoring Requirements for Fuels Management</b>	<b>Page 92</b>
<b>National Thirtymile Hazard Abatement Monitoring Plan</b>	
<b>Thirtymile Hazard Abatement Monitoring Checklist</b>	

## **Section VI: Monitoring and Evaluation**

Monitoring and evaluations will take place for both fire and fuels management activities on the Forest.

### **Fire Management**

The National Thirtymile Hazard Abatement Monitoring Plan will be followed by the responsible individual as outlined in the Plan. The Thirtymile Hazard Abatement Monitoring Checklist will also be followed.

#### **Reporting Requirements for Fire Management**

Individual Fire Reports (5100-29) are electronically entered into the FIRESTAT database within ten days of the fire being declared out. The Dispatch Center will transfer that information to National FIRESTAT database in Kansas City.

A Wildland Fire Situation Analysis may also be used to provide direction and documentation for wildland fires exceeding the size objective of the Fire Management Unit or fires under extended attack. The decision rational and documentation for these fires will be filed with the 5100-29 in the official District files.

All fires greater than 100 acres require that an ICS-209 Incident Status Summary be completed. The ICS-209 will be submitted to the Dispatch Center by 1800.

Prescribed Fire Reports are completed using the information from the ADEQ Burn Plan and the ADEQ Daily Accomplishment Report. The National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFORS) will be used to maintain accurate records of historical burn accomplishments. The Forest Fuels Officer will be responsible for maintaining this database.

#### **Annual Monitoring Requirements for Fuels Management**

Monitoring is accomplished on hazardous fuels projects as well as treatments completed in support of resource management activities on the Forest such as wildlife habitat improvement, site preparation, etc. Monitoring plans for projects are developed during the project planning phase and re included in prescribed fire burn plans or project records. Monitoring requirements are outlined in the Land and Resource Management Plan.

## **APPENDIX DIRECTORY**

- Appendix 1**    **Coconino National Forest Fire Prevention Plan**
- Appendix 2**    **Current Work/Rest and Travel Guidelines**
- Appendix 3**    **MIST Requirements**
- Appendix 4**    **Fuels Management**
- 2005 Program of Work**  
                  **FSM 5100 - Chapter 5140**  
                  **R-3 Prescribed Fire Burn Plan Format**  
                  **Prescribed Fire Complexity Rating System Guide**  
                  **Complexity Rating Worksheet**  
                  **NWCG Prescribed Fire Go/No-Go Checklist**  
                  **ADEQ Annual Prescribed Burn Registration**  
                  **ADEQ Prescribed Fire Burn Plan Form**  
                  **ADEQ Daily Burn Form**  
                  **ADEQ Daily Accomplishment Form**  
                  **Hourly Plume Observation Report**  
                  **Arizona Smoke Management Map / Airsheds / Class I Areas**  
                  **Notice of Final Rulemaking / Title 18 / Environmental Quality**  
                  **Coconino National Forest Prescribed Fire Qualifications**  
                  **Standards and Guidelines for Mexican Spotted Owl**  
                  **and Northern Goshawk**
- Appendix 5**    **Cooperative Agreements, Joint Powers Agreement Between the State of Arizona and the Federal Land Management Agencies of the Department of the Interior and the USDA Forest Service**
- Appendix 6**    **Entrapment Guidelines**
- Appendix 7**    **Northern Arizona Integrated Weed Management Practices (BMP's)**

Mitigations to meet wildlife management objectives include pre-treatment of prescribed fire areas followed by monitoring. All fuels management activities will be implemented in accordance with the terms and conditions identified in the Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, project Environmental Analysis, Project Biological Assessment and Evaluations, and Biological Opinions. Specific guidelines in regards to the Mexican Spotted Owl and the Northern Goshawk habitats are addressed as follows:

## **Standards and Guidelines for the Mexican Spotted Owl**

### **Mexican Spotted Owl - Standards**

Allow no timber harvest except for fuelwood and fire risk abatement in established protected activity centers. For protected activity centers destroyed by fire, windstorm, or other natural disaster, salvage timber harvest or declassification may be allowed after evaluation on a case-by-case basis in consultation with US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Allow no timber harvest except for fire risk abatement in mixed conifer and pine-oak forests on slopes greater than 40% where timber harvest has not occurred in the last 20 years.

### **Mexican Spotted Owl - Guidelines for Protected Areas**

Treat fuel accumulations to abate fire risk.

- Select for treatment 10% of the protected activity centers where nest sites are known in each recovery unit having high fire risk conditions. Also select another 10% of the protected activity centers where nest sites are known as a paired sample to serve as control areas.
- Designate a 100 acre "no treatment" area around the known nest site of each selected protected activity center. Habitat in the no treatment area should be as similar as possible in structure and composition as that found in the activity center.
- Use combinations of thinning trees less than 9 inches in diameter, mechanical fuel treatment and prescribed fire to abate fire risk in the remainder of the selected protected activity center outside the 100 acre "no treatment" area.
- Retain woody debris larger than 12 inches in diameter, snags, clumps of broad-leaved woody vegetation, and hardwood trees larger than 10 inches in diameter at the root collar.
- Select and treat additional protected activity centers in 10% increments if monitoring of the initial sample shows there were no negative impacts or there were negative impacts which can be mitigated by modifying treatment methods.
- Use light prescribed burns in non-selected protected activity centers on a case-by-case basis. Burning should avoid a 100 acre "no treatment" area around the activity center. Large woody debris, snags, clumps of broad-leaved woody vegetation should be retained and hardwood trees larger than 10 inches diameter at the root collar.
- Pre and post treatment monitoring should be conducted in all protected activity centers treated for fire risk abatement. (See monitoring guidelines)

**Mexican Spotted Owl Guidelines- Steep Slopes (Mixed Conifer and Pine-Oak Forests Outside Protected Activity Centers With Slopes Greater Than 40% That Have not Been Logged Within the Past 20 Years): No seasonal restrictions apply.**

- Use combinations of thinning trees less than 9 inches in diameter, mechanical fuel removal, and prescribed fire.
- Retain woody debris larger than 12 inches in diameter, snags, clumps of broad-leaved woody vegetation, and hardwood trees larger than 10 inches in diameter at the root collar.
- Pre and post treatment monitoring should occur within all steep slopes treated for fire risk abatement. (See monitoring guidelines).

**Mexican Spotted Owl Guidelines - Reserved Lands (Wilderness, Research Natural Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, and Congressionally Recognized Wilderness Study Areas):**

Allow prescribed fire where appropriate.

**Mexican Spotted Owl Guidelines - Restricted Areas (Mixed Conifer, Pine-Oak, and Riparian Forests)**

Encourage prescribed and prescribed natural fire to reduce hazardous fuel accumulation. Thinning from below may be desirable or necessary before burning to reduce ladder fuels and the risk of crown fire.

**Mexican Spotted Owl Guidelines - Domestic Livestock Grazing:**

Implement forest plan forage utilization standards and guidelines to maintain owl prey availability, maintain potential for beneficial fire while inhibiting potential destructive fire, maintain and restore riparian ecosystems, and promote development of owl habitat. Strive to attain good to excellent range conditions.

**Mexican Spotted Owl Guidelines Other Forest and Woodland Types**

Apply ecosystem approaches to manage for landscape diversity mimicking natural disturbance patterns, incorporating natural variation in stand conditions and retaining special features such as snags and large trees, utilizing appropriate fires, and retention of existing old-growth in accordance with forest plan old-growth standards and guidelines.

**Mexican Spotted Owl - Monitoring Guidelines**

In protected and restricted areas where silvicultural or fire abatement treatments are planned, monitor treated stands pre and post treatment to determine changes and trajectories in fuel levels; snag basal areas; live tree basal areas; volume of down logs over 12 inches in diameter; and basal area of hardwood trees over 10 inches in diameter at the root crown.

## **Standards and Guidelines for the Northern Goshawk**

### **Ecosystem Management in Northern Goshawk Habitats – Guidelines - Vegetation Management – Landscapes Outside Goshawk Post-Fledging Family Area's**

The order of preferred treatment for woody debris is:

1. Prescribed Burning
2. Lopping and Scattering
3. Hand Piling or Machine Grapple Piling
4. Dozer Piling

### **Northern Goshawk Habitats – Guidelines Vegetation Management – Within Nesting Areas**

Preferred treatments to maintain the desired structure are to thin from below with non-uniform spacing and use of handtools and fire to reduce fuel loads. Lopping and scattering of thinning debris is preferred if prescribed fire cannot be used. Piling of debris should be limited. When necessary, hand piling should be used to minimize compaction within piles and to minimize displacement and destruction of the forest floor and the herbaceous layer. Do not grapple or Dozer pile debris. Manage road densities at the lowest level possible to minimize disturbance in the nest area. Use small, permanent skid trails in lieu of roads for timber harvesting.

#### **Human Disturbance**

Low intensity ground fires are allowed at any time in all forested cover types, but high intensity crown fires are not acceptable in the post-fledging family area or nest areas. Avoid burning the entire home range of a goshawk pair in a single year. For fires planned in the occupied nest area, a fire management plan should be prepared. The fire management plan should minimize the risk of goshawk abandonment while low intensity ground fire burns in the nesting area. Prescribed fire within nesting areas should be planned to move with prevailing winds away from the nest tree to minimize smoke and risk of crown fire developing and driving the adults off or consuming the nest tree.

#### **Northern Goshawk Habitats – Guidelines - Nonstructural Wildlife Habitat Improvement**

Improve forage conditions by using prescribed fire where environmental analysis shows beneficial effects and in line with approved burning.

## Forest Service Suppression Response Guidelines for Fires Within the City of Flagstaff

**DEFINITIONS:** Forest Service Liaison Officer could be the District FMO, AFMO, or Duty Officer that represents the Forest Service and works directly with the City Incident Commander. FLAGSTAFF is the Forest Service Dispatch Center.

**BOUNDARY FIRE:** Any fire within one mile of Forest Service land, that may or may not pose a threat to National Forest lands.

Forest Service Fires: Any fire on Forest Service lands.

**PURPOSE:** These guidelines provide for a safe, effective, and efficient suppression response in the protection of national forest lands, and in assisting our cooperators in the protection of life, property, and resources from wildland fire.

**DISPATCHING:** Flagstaff will dispatch Forest Service resources based on fire danger levels. These are L = Low, M = Moderate, H = High, VH = Very High, E = Extreme. Targeted minimum resources that may be dispatched based on availability include:

Boundary Fire:	L – M 1 Officer, 1 engine	H – E 1 Officer, 2 Engines
FS Fire:	L – M 1 Engine	
	H 1 Officer, 1 Engine, 1 Watertender	
	VH – E 1 Officer, 2 Engines, 1 Watertender, Dozer, Handcrew (if available) Forest Service Air Attack platform, when available will be dispatched.	

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Command 171.550, TAC 3 168.600, Air to Ground 171.575 will be utilized. VHF frequencies will be assigned to aircraft by FLAGSTAFF.

**AIRCRAFT MANAGEMENT:** Agency policy requires a Lead Plane to be on order prior to retardant drops over a congested area. Operations may proceed before the Lead Plane arrives if communications are established between the aircraft and Incident Commander, authorization is granted from the IC, and the line is cleared prior to commencing retardant operations.

Aerial supervision is recommended when there are more than two aircraft or a mix of aircraft (fixed/rotorwing) over the incident at the same time.

An AOBD will be ordered for any fire requiring airtanker or helicopter operations within the city boundary to coordinate with the Flagstaff Airport Control Tower in managing the assigned air resources and temporary flight restrictions as needed.

**FINANCE:** Jurisdictional agencies will assume command of their incidents. For fires on City or State lands where the City requests assistance, the request will be noted on the fire log and a P number will be assigned for Forest Service resources that will be used to bill the State to recover their costs. For boundary fires, the Forest Service Officer will coordinate with the City IC in ordering additional resources other than those shown above. Additional resources will be paid for by the agency/agencies threatened by the fire. Agencies will not bill each other for the initial attack resources shown above, but only for additional resources ordered by the IC in conjunction with the Agency Officer/Liaison based on what agency lands are threatened.







