

Chapter 10

FWS Specific Developing a Response to Wildland Fire Information

[Link to Redbook Chapter 10](#)

10-6-30 Wildland Fire Situation Analysis

- [WFSA web site](#) for latest WFSA information and program download
- A downloadable [Wildland Fire Situation Analysis form](#) (Wordperfect format)
- [Sample WFSA](#)

Air Quality and Smoke Management

Clean air is a primary natural resource value in all Fish and Wildlife Service units. Fire management activities which result in the discharge of air pollutants (e.g., particulates, carbon monoxide, and other pollutants from fires) are subject to, and must comply with, all applicable Federal, state, interstate, and local air pollution control requirements, as specified by Section 118 of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 USC 7418). These requirements are the same substantive, procedural, and administrative requirements (See [561 FW 2](#)) that apply to a private person or other non-governmental entity. The protection of these resources must be given full consideration in fire management planning and operations.

Coordination with a state or states air regulatory office is required during the development of resource and fire management plans in order to determine procedures for compliance with state air quality regulations. The FWS Air Quality Branch (AQB) should be contacted on the proper procedures for obtaining coordination with the state or states in which the refuge is located, or when notified by the state that an air pollution violation has occurred.

At the time the draft Fire Management Plan is sent to the regional office for review, the regional office will determine if the smoke management portions of the plan will be sent to the AQB for review and comment. A copy of the comments from the AQB will be returned to the region and will be forwarded to the refuge with the regional comments. When the draft Fire Management Plan is in the region for review, the Regional Fire Management Coordinator will ensure that the air quality coordinator reviews the smoke management portion of the plan and the comments from AQB before they are returned to the refuge. A copy of the air quality section(s) of the approved Fire Management Plan will be sent to the AQB.

The [Smoke Management Guide for Prescribed and Wildland Fire 2001 Edition](#) (NFES 1279) is the FWS primary technical reference and should be referenced when developing and implementing wildland fire management plans. Other useful geographical and activity specific publications are:

- [Southern Forestry Smoke Management Guidebook](#), Mobley et.al., USDA Forest Service GTR SE-10, December, 1976. A very detailed and comprehensive book but

written specifically for the Southern States. It is an excellent reference for principles of smoke management. The abbreviated principles listed below are from this publication.

- Principles of Smoke Dispersion from Prescribed Fires in Northern Rocky Mountain Forests. W.R. Beaufait and O.P. Cramer, USDA Forest Service, Division of Fire Control, Northern Region, Missoula, Montana, August 5, 1969 (revised January 15, 1972). This publication covers the subject well but is confined to the Northern Rocky Mountains.
- Slash Smoke Management Guidelines. Office of the State Forester, Salem, Oregon, September 11, 1969. An excellent publication, though limited to slash burning and to the State of Oregon.