

COPY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – OPERATIONS GUIDELINES

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS, BOISE COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, and LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATORS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this operating plan is to provide a basis for cooperative wildland fire suppression and multi-risk incident management on adjoining Fire Department (District) and Southwest Idaho Forest Protective District (SWIFPD) lands. This operating plan is in conjunction with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and provides the basis for annual discussion and review of protection areas, overlapping jurisdiction, mode of operation, command and control of incidents, and tactical aspects of fire suppression operations.

II. GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are an attachment to the MOU agreed upon by the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and the Boise County Fire Fighters Association (BCFFA) for wildland fires within District boundaries on the SWIFPD.

- 1) Jurisdictional responsibilities for fire control on wildland fires are a combination of Joint Jurisdiction and Sole IDL Jurisdiction. Joint Jurisdiction will apply for all parcels which are included in the BCFFA District boundaries, to include parts of Gem County #2, within the SWIFPD.
- 2) All other wildland parcels outside District boundaries within SWIFPD are Sole IDL Jurisdiction. Mutual aid assistance in wildland fire suppression will be as per the MOU. IDL recognizes that Districts have limited resources for fire control on forestlands. On Joint Jurisdiction fires District resources will be released from the incident as soon as it is recommended by Incident Commander or Unified Command. On Sole SWIFPD fires the IDL/Agency Incident Commander will release District resources as soon as reasonably possible.
- 3) On wildland interface/intermix fires the District will provide structure protection as resources allow. Charges may or may not be incurred by IDL depending on the complexity and duration of the incident as stated in the MOU.
- 4) On Joint Jurisdiction fires ordering of resources will be the responsibility of the Unified Command. On Sole IDL Jurisdiction fires, IDL will be responsible for ordering resources.
- 5) On Joint Jurisdiction fires, initial attack costs will not be charged to the other party. After containment, charges will not be required from either party. All other payments and costs will be as per the MOU.
- 6) On Joint Jurisdiction fires, aviation and investigation costs will be the responsibility of IDL.

III. NOTIFICATION AND ACTION

Upon discovery, or report, and through coordination of each Dispatch Center, respond the necessary firefighting resources to wildland or structure fires within or threatening the District or SWIFPD area. Upon receiving a report of any wildfire or fire threat, each party will transmit the report to the other party without delay.

IV. COMMAND AND ORGANIZATION

The Incident Command System (ICS) will be utilized on all fires. The first qualified District/Agency responder on-scene will be the Incident Commander (IC) until relieved by a qualified IDL/Agency Incident Commander. Assisting units will fall under the established ICS organization as directed. Responders from assisting Districts/Agencies will report to the Incident Command Post (ICP) and jointly coordinate resources with the Incident Commander. Respective Dispatch Centers will advise incoming resources on incident radio frequencies, field contacts, and instructions. Qualified overhead will determine and implement suppression objectives, brief incoming resources on tactical assignments, relay fire behavior and weather information, and jointly coordinate field activities.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

All responding resources will utilize a **Wildland Agency RPT frequency (IDL, FS, BLM)** for initial contact to Boise Dispatch Center (BDC). Tactical or alternate frequencies will be assigned by the Incident Commander from designated frequencies in either Group 9 or 14 (**IDL North / IDL South**) outlined in the Interagency Group line-up. Qualified overhead will provide a communication link for any resources that do not have designated radio frequency capability. Dispatch Centers will coordinate resources and assure Incident Commander communication and contact has been established.

Interagency Groups 9 & 14 (IDL North and IDL South) are reviewed annually to accommodate Interagency / Boise and Gem County frequencies needed for all wildland fires within the SWIFPD. See attached Radio Line-up.

VI. MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

A qualified Information Officer will be dispatched as needed to coordinate with the incident command structure and media. The information section can be expanded at BDC to serve as the focal point for all media inquiries. When the information function has been expanded at BDC, news releases from all participating agencies should be coordinated through the Center.

VII. SECURITY AND ACCESS

Incident access routes identified need to be secured by local law enforcement at the request of the Incident Commander. Local law enforcement will be requested as needed to support incident operations.

VIII. MUTUAL-AID AND ASSISTANCE-BY-HIRE

Upon request, provide fire suppression equipment and mutual-aid assistance within IDL or District protection guidelines, safety limitations, and availability of resources. If fire duration or special equipment needs dictate, the IDL/Agency Incident Commander has the discretion to put equipment in pay status within the SWIFPD; provide processing and reimbursement for fire department resources requested outside the District area in accordance with the Certification of Local Government Fire Services Equipment process identified within the **Idaho Department of Lands Fire Service Organization (FSO) Rate Book**; to include the following:

1. Agency prepared resource order, documenting order and request number.
2. Completion of FSO Rate Book Certification and Personnel Roster.
3. Inspection of ordered equipment.
4. Completion of Equipment Use Shift Ticket with approving official's signature/s.
5. Completion of Equipment Use Invoice.
6. Submission of paperwork for processing.

IX. QUALIFICATIONS/MINIMUM RECOMMENDATIONS

Minimum wildland fire training and qualification is required, as identified in the Idaho Department of Lands FSO Rate Book. Annual wildland firefighter recurrent training is required; Standards for Survival, Fire Shelter Use, Fire Behavior, and wildland fire suppression tactics.

X. PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND PHYSICAL FITNESS

Minimum standards for personal protective equipment (PPE) are required as identified by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG) for wildland fire suppression. Physical fitness requirements are identified by the Idaho Department of Lands FSO Rate Book.

XI. COOPERATION OF RESOURCES

It is mutually agreed that on a recurring basis each party will share Departmental expertise; coordinate training opportunities, combine fire prevention efforts, maintain fire investigation coordination, and stress safety awareness throughout all field operations.

XII. CAPABILITIES AND LIMITATIONS

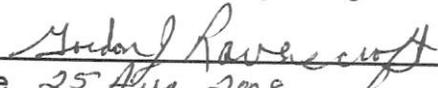
1. IDL Resources:
 - a.) IDL resources will not be planned, nor dispatched as normal response for structure or vehicle fires, except in those cases where these fires pose significant threat to IDL protection. In those situations, resources should only be used in wildland protection.
 - b.) IDL personnel agree to meet with local Fire Department/District fire suppression personnel on an annual basis to discuss joint capabilities and limitations of equipment and personnel.

2. District Resources:

- a.) No District employee should respond to a wildland fire prior to receiving specialized training in wildland suppression tactics and unique safety considerations associated with wildland fire behavior.
- b.) District resources placed in wildland fire suppression operations will be assigned based on training, experience level, and capability of equipment. If comfort level for safety is not maintained or if personnel are outside of their department policies and procedures an action to relocate to a safe zone or an adjustment of duties must be initiated.
- c.) District personnel agree to meet with IDL fire suppression personnel on an annual basis to discuss joint capabilities and limitations of equipment and personnel. Refer to the capabilities and limitations checklist for annual review of joint suppression operations.

By: 
Date 7-31-08

President – Boise County Firefighters Association

By: 
Date 25 Aug 2008

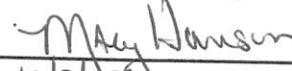
Supervisor – Boise County Dispatch

By: 
Date 27 Aug 2008

Sheriff – Boise County Sheriff Department

By: 
Date 27 Aug 2008

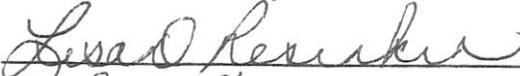
Police Chief - Idaho City Police Department

By: 
Date 10/8/08

City Mayor – Horseshoe Bend

By: 
Date 9-14-08

Fire Chief - Gem County Fire District #2

By: 
Date 9-11-08

Supervisor - Gem County Dispatch

By: Clint Short
Date 9-10-08

Sheriff - Gem County Sheriff Department

By: Steve T. Taylor
Date 10/14/08

Area Manager - Idaho Department of Lands