

1 Chapter 09

2 Fire Management Planning &
3 [Response](#)

4

5 Policy

6 Planning: Every area with burnable vegetation must have an approved Fire
7 Management Plan (FMP). FMPs are strategic plans that define a program to
8 manage wildland and prescribed fires based on the area's approved Resource
9 Management Plan. FMPs must provide for firefighter and public safety; include
10 fire management strategies, tactics, and alternatives; address values to be
11 protected and public health issues; and be consistent with resource management
12 objectives, activities of the area, and environmental laws and regulations. [For](#)
13 [DOI agencies, FMPs also define fuel management programs and priorities.](#)
14 (2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy).

15

16 Concepts and Definitions

17

18 Land/Resource Management Plan (L/RMP)

19 A document prepared with public participation and approved by the agency
20 administrator that provides general guidance and direction for land and resource
21 management activities for an administrative area. The L/RMP identifies the
22 need for fire's role in a particular area and for a specific benefit. The objectives
23 in the L/RMP provide the basis for the development of fire management
24 objectives and the fire management program in the designated area. (Interagency
25 Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy,
26 June 2003)

27

28 Fire Management Plan (FMP)

29 ~~A plan which identifies~~ [The FMP will identify](#) and integrates all wildland fire
30 management and related activities within the context of the approved L/RMP. It
31 defines a program to manage wildland fires (wildfire, prescribed fire, and
32 wildland fire use). The plan is supplemented by operations plans, including but
33 not limited to preparedness plans, preplanned dispatch plans, prescribed fire
34 burn plans, and prevention plans. Fire Management Plans assure that wildland
35 fire management goals and components are coordinated. (Interagency Strategy
36 for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June
37 2003)

38

39 [Purpose of the FMP](#)

40 [While the fire management planning process and requirements may differ](#)
41 [among agencies, a common purpose of a fire management plan is to provide](#)
42 [decision support to aid managers in making informed decisions on the](#)
43 [appropriate management response \(Interagency Fire Management Planning](#)
44 [Template, 2007\)](#)

45

46

Operational Use of Fire Management Plans

Fire organizations responding to wildland fires must utilize the direction in the FMP to guide the fire management response

Fire Management Unit (FMU)

Any land management area definable by objectives, management constraints, topographic features, access, values to be protected, political boundaries, fuel types, major fire regime groups, and so on, that set it apart ~~from~~ from the management characteristics of an adjacent FMU. The FMU may have dominant management objectives and pre-selected strategies assigned to accomplish these objectives. (Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 2003)

Wildland Fire

Any non-structure fire that occurs in the wildland. Three distinct types of wildland fire have been defined and include wildfire, wildland fire use, and prescribed fire. (Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 2003)

Wildfire - An unplanned, unwanted wildland fire including unauthorized human-caused fires, escaped wildland fire use events, escaped prescribed fire projects, and all other wildland fires where the objective is to put the fire out. (Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 2003)

Prescribed Fire - Any fire ignited by management action to meet specific objectives. (Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 2003)

Wildland Fire Use (WFU) - The application of the appropriate management response to naturally-ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific resource management objectives in predefined designated areas outlined in Fire Management Plans. Operational management is described in the wildland fire implementation plan (WFIP). (Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 2003)

Appropriate Management Response (AMR)

Any specific action suitable to meet fire management unit (FMU) objectives. Typically, the AMR ranges across a spectrum of tactical operations (from monitoring to intensive management actions). The AMR is developed by using fire management unit strategies and objectives identified in the fire management plan. (Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 2003, p. 17). AMR encompasses all the response actions necessary to manage a wildfire or wildland fire use event for the duration of the event. In implementing the AMR, the full spectrum of tactical options, from monitoring a fire at a distance to intensive suppression actions are

1 available to the fire manager. Beginning with the initial response to any
2 wildland fire, decisions will reflect the goal of using available firefighting
3 resources to manage the fire for the most effective, most efficient and safest
4 means available. The AMR strategies and tactics used to manage a wildland fire
5 will be based on objectives identified in the Land/Resource Management Plan
6 and/or Fire Management Plan. (NFAEB Memo, June 20, 2007)

7

8 Initial Action

9 The actions taken by the first resources to arrive at a wildfire. Initial actions may
10 be size up, patrolling, monitoring, holding actions, or aggressive initial attack
11 (NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology, January 2005)

12

13 Initial Attack

14 A planned response to a wildfire given the wildfire's potential behavior. The
15 objective of initial attack to stop the spread of the fire and put it out at least cost.
16 An aggressive suppression action consistent with firefighter and public safety
17 and values to be protected. (NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology,
18 January 2005)

19

20 Extended Attack

21 Suppression activity for a wildfire that has not been contained or controlled by
22 initial attack or contingency forces and for which more firefighting resources are
23 arriving, en route, or being ordered by the initial attack incident commander.
24 (NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology, January 2005)

25

26 Wildfire Suppression

27 An appropriate management response to wildfire, escaped wildland fire use or
28 prescribed fire that results in curtailment of fire spread and eliminates all
29 identified threats from the particular fire. (NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire
30 Terminology, January 2005)

31

32 Wildland Fire Management Objectives

33 Only one management objective will be applied to wildland fire. Wildland fires
34 will either be managed for resource benefits or suppressed. A wildfire cannot be
35 managed for resource benefits and suppression concurrently. If two wildland
36 fires converge they will be managed as a single wildland fire. (2006 Federal
37 Fire & Aviation Operations Action Plan)

38

39 Human caused Wildland fires will be suppressed in every instance and will not
40 be managed for resource benefits.

41

42 Once a Wildland fire has been managed for suppression objectives, it may never
43 be managed for resource benefit objectives.

44

45

46

1 Wildland Fire Responses

2
3 Operational Use of Fire Management Plans

4 Fire organizations responding to wildland fires must utilize the direction in the
5 FMP to guide the fire management response.

6
7 Response Responding to a Wildland Fire

8 Response to wildland fires is based on ecological, social, and legal
9 consequences of the fire. The circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the
10 likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and
11 cultural resources, and, values to be protected, dictate the appropriate response
12 to the fire. (Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, January 2001)

13
14 Determining Type of Fire

15 When a wildland fire is reported, ~~according to~~ the pre-established fire
16 management plan, ~~the fire~~ will be determined whether the wildland fire is
17 designated either a wildfire or a wildland fire use fire. Pre-planned, specific
18 prescription criteria must be established prior to fire occurrence so that the
19 decision to designate the fire either a wildfire or a wildland fire use fire is
20 immediate.

21
22 Responding to a Wildfire

23 ~~When the wildland fire is determined to be a~~ wildfire, ~~it is is defined as~~ “an
24 unplanned, unwanted wildland fire including unauthorized human-caused fires,
25 escaped wildland fire use events, escaped prescribed fire projects, and all other
26 wildland fires where the objective is to put the fire out.” ~~Initial~~ Interagency
27 Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy,
28 June 2003). When the objective is to put the fire out, initial attack suppression
29 is generally the safest and most effective response option ~~to achieve that~~
30 objective.

31
32 Escaped Initial Attack

33 A fire has escaped initial attack when:

34 The fire has not been contained by the initial attack resources dispatched to the
35 fire and there is no estimate of containment or control and;

36 The fire will not have been contained within the initial attack management
37 objectives established for that zone or area.

38
39 Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA)

40 A WFSA is a decision making process that evaluates alternative wildfire
41 suppression strategies against selected environmental, social, political, and
42 economic criteria and provides a record of those decisions.- (Interagency
43 Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy,
44 June 2003). -The WFSA process is used when a wildfire escapes initial attack.

45 This includes prescribed fires and wildland fire use fires that are declared
46 wildfires. The WFSA is ~~a document in which used by~~ the agency administrator

1 or representative ~~describesto describe~~ the wildfire situation, compares several
 2 strategic wildfire management alternatives, evaluates ~~s~~ the expected effects of the
 3 alternatives, establishes objectives and constraints for the management of the
 4 fire, selects the preferred alternative, and ~~documents-document~~ the decision.
 5 ~~The WFSA evaluates alternative suppression strategies against selected~~
 6 ~~environmental, social, political, and economic criteria, provides a record of~~
 7 ~~those decisions, and helps the agency administrator select the appropriate~~
 8 ~~suppression strategy. The level of detail required depends on the specific~~
 9 ~~incident and its complexity. The key is to document the decision made. The~~
 10 ~~agency administrator or representative will complete a WFSA whenever a~~
 11 ~~wildfire escapes initial attack. Multi-jurisdictional incidents will require a~~
 12 ~~collaboratively developed WFSA that is approved and signed by each of the~~
 13 ~~respective agencies~~

14 The WFSA program (WFSA Plus Version 6.26) may be found at:

15 <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/wfsa/>

16 <http://www.wfsaonline.net/>

17 Additional information about the WFSA (as well as the Wildland Fire

18 Implementation Plan) is located at: <http://www.wildlandfireamr.net>

19 <http://www.wildlandfireamr.net/>

20 The previous WFSA version (5.1) is downloadable at:

21 <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/wfsa/>

22 It is acceptable to use this version. -A description of the WFSA Elements with
 23 guidance for the completion can be found in Appendix S.

24
 25 WFSA approval authority levels are stated below. Funding approval levels for
 26 multiple jurisdiction incidents are determined based on each agency's funding
 27 commitment and not upon the total funding. Approval

37 WFSA Approval Authority Limits by Agency

	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	FS
Local	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Approval	Agency	Field/Distrie	Refuge	Park	District
Level	Superintend	t-Manager	Manager/ Project Leader	Superintend	Ranger
	ent			ent	\$2,000,000- 10,000,000 Forest Supervisor

Regional/ State Certification Level	\$2,000,000- \$5,000,000 Regional Director	\$2,000,000- \$5,000,000 State Director	\$2,000,000- \$5,000,000 Regional Director	\$2,000,000- \$5,000,000 Regional Director	\$10,000,000 \$50,000,000 Regional Forester
National Certification Level	>\$5,000,000 Director	>\$5,000,000 Director	>\$5,000,000 Director	>\$5,000,000 Director	>\$50,000,000 θ Chief

The WFSA is always approved by the local agency administrator.
 FS - District Rangers have authority to develop and approve all WFSAs up to \$2M. Forest Supervisors have the authority and responsibility to develop and approve all WFSAs over \$2M, and to certify a WFSA up to \$10M or with a Type I or Area Command Team activation.

WFSA Daily Review

The WFSA is always reviewed and validated daily by the agency administrator. This review and validation is documented in the WFSA.

WFSA Certification

The WFSA is always certified by the appropriate authority. At estimated cost levels below \$2M, the local agency administrator certifies the WFSA. At estimated cost levels above \$2M, the local agency administrator must ensure that the WFSA is certified by the designated certifying authority, through the established chain of command. These estimated cost levels and designated certifying authorities are stated by agency below.

WFSA Certification Requirements, DOI Agencies

<u>WFSA cost estimate</u>	<u>BIA</u>	<u>BLM</u>	<u>FWS</u>	<u>NPS</u>
<u>\$0 - \$2M</u>	<u>Agency Supt.</u>	<u>Field/District Manager</u>	<u>Project Ldr./ Refuge Mgr.</u>	<u>Park Supt.</u>
<u>\$2M - \$5M</u>	<u>Regional Director</u>	<u>State Director</u>	<u>Regional Director</u>	<u>Regional Director</u>
<u>>\$5M</u>	<u>BIA Director</u>	<u>BLM Director</u>	<u>FWS Director</u>	<u>NPS Director</u>

WFSA Certification Requirements, USDA Forest Service

<u>WFSA cost estimate</u>	<u>USFS</u>
<u>\$0 - \$2M</u>	<u>District Ranger</u>
<u>\$2M - \$10M</u>	<u>Forest Supervisor</u>

<u>\$10M - \$50M</u>	<u>Regional Forester</u>
<u>>\$50M</u>	<u>Forest Service Chief</u>

1
2 For multi-jurisdictional incidents, each agency's individual cost estimate, not the
3 total cost estimate, will determine that agency's certification level.

4
5 WFSA Certification Checklist

6 This checklist helps the WFSA certifying authority ensure the accuracy and
7 completeness of the WFSA process. Updates to this list may be made and can
8 be found at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/wfsa/>

<u>Certification Checklist</u>	<u>Y/N</u>
<u>Are key objectives for fire suppression identified and measurable?</u>	
<u>Are there a minimum of two alternatives (with identifiable differences in strategies and/or outcomes) analyzed, and an extreme case considered?</u>	
<u>Are the values at risk adequately displayed and analyzed?</u>	
<u>Do the alternatives have safety issues well documented and risk mitigation identified where needed?</u>	
<u>Is the rationale for the selected alternative, whether or not most cost effective, compelling?</u>	
<u>Were cost estimates derived with current data, are they relevant for this incident, and documented?</u>	
<u>Are the assigned probabilities for success in line with the current and expected situation and documented?</u>	
<u>Are critical resources listed and available to implement alternatives?</u>	
<u>Was the estimated suppression cost used for identifying the certifying official.</u>	
<u>Have managers/owners of adjoining jurisdictions agreed to the selected strategy if it encompasses non-agency lands.</u>	

9
10 Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) Tools - Modeling tools are
11 available to assist fire managers and agency administrators in decisions
12 regarding strategies and tactics.
13 FS - The Chief's Principal Representative (CPR) will provide risk sharing and
14 decision support for Regional Foresters on large fires expected to exceed 10
15 million dollars in costs. The Regional Foresters Representative (RFR) will
16 provide services comparable to the CPR at the regional scale when fires are
17 expected to exceed 5 million dollars in cost. A Decision Support Group (DSG)
18 may accompany either a CPR or RFR. The decision making tools are Fire
19 Spread Probabilities (FS PRO), Stratified Cost Index (SCI), and Rapid

Assessment of Values at Risk (RAVAR). FS PRO and RAVAR assessments are required on fires expected to reach or exceed \$10 million. These decision making tools can also be requested for fires costing less than \$10 million.

Responding to a Wildland Fire Use Event

When the wildland fire is determined to be a wildland fire use event, the required action is “the application of the appropriate management response to naturally-ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific resource management objectives in pre-defined designated areas outlined in the FMP”. Operational management is described in the wildland fire implementation plan (WFIP). (Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 2003)

Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP)

A WFIP is a progressively developed assessment and operational management plan that documents the analysis and describes the appropriate management response for a wildland fire use activity. The WFIP is a plan that guides the management of a Wildland Fire Use fire. (An approved FMP) is required in all cases. The FMP identifies specific resource and fire management objectives, a predefined geographic area, and specific, required prescription criteria that must be met prior to designating a wildland fire for fire use. The WFIP is continually evaluated and tested to ensure that the objectives of the Wildland Fire Use fire are being met. If the objectives are not being met, mitigation actions identified in the WFIP are implemented. Mitigation actions are not presented formally as a distinct plan, but are integrated throughout the short term (WFIP Stage 2) and long term (WFIP Stage 3) implementation actions. If the combined set of mitigation actions is not meeting objectives, the WFU fire is converted to a wildfire, suppression action is taken and a WFSA is prepared. If the mitigation actions are successful in keeping the WFU fire within the parameters of the WFIP, the fire continues to be managed as a WFU fire.

A WFIP will be completed for all naturally ignited wildland fires that are managed for resource benefit. It is an operational plan for assessing, analyzing, and selecting strategies for wildland fire use. It is progressively developed and documents appropriate management responses for any wildland fire managed for resource benefits. The plan will be completed in compliance with the guidance found in the Wildland Fire Use, Implementation Procedures Reference Guide, May 2005 (March/April 2006 revision).

A WFIP consists of three distinct stages:

Stage I - The initial fire assessment, or size-up, is the preliminary information gathering stage. It compares current information to established prescription criteria found in the FMP. This is an initial decision making tool which assists managers in classifying fires for resource benefit or suppression actions. Components include: Strategic Fire Size-Up, Decision Criteria Checklist, Management Actions, and Periodic Fire Assessment.

- 1 Stage II - Defines management actions required in response to a changing fire
- 2 situation as indicated by monitoring information and the periodic fire assessment
- 3 from Stage I. This stage is used to manage larger, more active fires with greater
- 4 potential for geographic extent than Stage I. Components include: Objectives,
- 5 Fire Situation, Management Actions, Estimated Costs, and Periodic Fire
- 6 Assessment.
- 7 Stage III - Defines management actions required in response to an escalating fire
- 8 situation, potential long duration, and increased need for management activity,
- 9 as indicated by the periodic assessment completed in Stage II. Components
- 10 include: Objectives and Risk Assessment Considerations, Maximum
- 11 Manageable Area Definition and Maps, Weather Conditions and Drought
- 12 Prognosis, Long-term Risk Assessment, Threats, Monitoring Actions,
- 13 Mitigation Actions, Resources Needed to Manage the Fire, Contingency
- 14 Actions, Information Plan, Estimated Costs, Post-burn Evaluation, Signatures
- 15 and Date, and Periodic Fire Assessment.

WFIP Completion Timeframes	
WFIP Stage	Maximum Completion Timeframe
Stage I	8 hours after confirmed fire detection and Strategic Fire Size-Up.
Stage II	48 hours after need indicated by Planning Needs Assessment.
Stage III	7 days after need indicated by Planning Needs Assessment
Periodic Fire Assessment	As part of all stages and on assigned frequency thereafter.

- 16
- 17 NPS - Wildland Fire Use Program Oversight. Regional office fire management
- 18 officers are responsible for appraising and surveying all wildland fire use
- 19 activities within their region. The regional office fire staff will review
- 20 implementation plans for fires with a Complex Rating. Direct contact with
- 21 parks may be necessary in order to stay apprised of complex situations. On rare
- 22 occasions, circumstances or situations may exist which require the regional
- 23 director to intervene in the wildland fire use decision process.
- 24 NPS - Review by the regional fire management officer or acting is mandatory
- 25 for Wildland Fire Implementation Plans with a projected cost of greater than
- 26 \$500,000. Review by the NPS National Fire Management Officer at NIFC, or
- 27 Acting, is mandatory for Wildland Fire Implementation Plans with a projected
- 28 cost of greater than \$1,000,000.

29
30
31 **Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response**

32
33 **Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response-Wildland Urban Interface**
34 The operational roles of the federal agencies as a partner in the Wildland Urban
35 Interface are wildland firefighting, hazard reduction, cooperative prevention and
36 education, and technical assistance. Structural fire suppression is the
37 responsibility of tribal, state or local governments. Federal agencies may assist

1 with exterior structural fire protection activities under formal fire protection
2 agreements that specify the mutual responsibilities of the partners, including
3 funding. (Some federal agencies have full structural protection authority for
4 their facilities on lands they administer and may also enter into formal
5 agreements to assist state and local governments with structural protection.)
6 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, page 23.

7
8 Although funding is not provided to prepare for or respond to emergency non-
9 wildland fire response activities such as structure fires, vehicle fires, dump fires,
10 hazardous materials releases, and emergency medical responses, managers must
11 ensure that fire management plans, interagency agreements, and annual
12 operating plans clearly state agency and cooperator roles and responsibilities for
13 non-wildland fire response activities that agency personnel are exposed to as a
14 result of working in the wildland urban interface environment.

15 16 Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response-Management Controls to Mitigate 17 Exposure

18 Agency safety and health policy states that PPE devices will be used only when
19 equipment guards, engineering controls, or management control does not
20 adequately protect employees. To meet this requirement:

21 Managers and supervisors will not knowingly place wildland firefighters in
22 positions where exposure to toxic gases or chemicals would require the use of
23 self-contained breathing apparatus.

24 Managers will not sign cooperative fire protection agreements that would
25 commit wildland firefighters to situations where exposure to toxic gases or
26 chemicals would require the use of self-contained breathing apparatus.

27 Managers will avoid giving the appearance that their wildland fire suppression
28 resources are trained and equipped to perform structure, vehicle, and dump fire
29 suppression, to respond to hazardous materials releases, or to perform
30 emergency medical response.

31
32 Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response-Structure, Vehicle, and Landfill Fires
33 Structure, vehicle, and dump fire suppression is not a functional responsibility of
34 wildland fire suppression resources. These fires have the potential to emit high
35 levels of toxic gases. Firefighters will not be dispatched to structure, vehicle, or
36 dump fires unless there is a significant threat to lands and resources that are
37 under agency protection, including by protection agreement. Firefighters will
38 not take direct suppression action on structure, vehicle, or dump fires. This
39 policy will be reflected in suppression response plans.

40
41 Should firefighters encounter structure, vehicle, or dump fires during the
42 performance of their normal wildland fire suppression duties, firefighting efforts
43 will be limited to areas where the fire has spread onto agency protected lands.
44 Structure protection will be limited to exterior efforts, and only when such
45 actions can be accomplished safely and in accordance with established wildland
46 fire operations standards.

1 FS - FSM-5137 - Structure Fires Structure fire protection activities include
2 suppression of wildfires that are threatening improvements. Exterior structure
3 protection measures include actions such as foam or water application to
4 exterior surfaces of buildings and surrounding fuels, fuel removal, and burning
5 out around buildings.

6 FS - FSM-5137.02 - Objective for Structure Fire Protection. The Forest
7 Service's primary responsibility is to suppress wildfire before it reaches
8 structures. The Forest Service may assist state and local fire departments in
9 exterior structure fire protection when requested under terms of an approved
10 cooperative agreement.

11 FS - FSM-5137.03 - Policy for Structure Fire Suppression. Structure fire
12 suppression, which includes exterior and interior actions on burning structures,
13 is the responsibility of state, tribal, or local fire departments.

14 FS - Forest Service officials shall avoid giving the appearance that the agency is
15 prepared to serve as a structure fire suppression organization.

16 FS - Forest Service employees shall limit fire suppression actions to exterior
17 structure protection measures as described in Section 5137.

18 FS - FSM-5137.03 2 - Structure Fire Protection and Suppression for Forest
19 Service Facilities. At those Forest Service administrative sites, outside the
20 jurisdiction of state and local fire departments, limit fire protection measures to
21 prevention, use of fire extinguishers on incipient stage fires (FSH 6709.11, Sec.
22 6-4c), safe evacuation of personnel, containment by exterior attack, and
23 protection of exposed improvements.

24 FS - At Forest Service administrative sites located within the jurisdiction of state
25 and local structural fire departments, structure fire suppression responsibility
26 must be coordinated with state and local fire departments.

27
28

29 FS - FSM-5137.033 - Vehicle and Dump Fires

30 FS - Do not undertake direct attack on vehicle or dump fires on National Forest
31 System lands unless such action is absolutely necessary to protect life or prevent
32 the spread of fire to the wildlands.

33 FS - For additional fire service and homeowner information regarding
34 wildland/urban fire refer to <http://firewise.org> on the Internet.

35 NPS - Structural Fire (including Vehicle Fires) Response Requirements.
36 Structural fire suppression is a functional responsibility in many NPS units.
37 Any structural fire response shall only be by personnel who have received the
38 required training and are properly equipped. Vehicle fires contain a high level
39 of toxic emissions and must be treated with the same care that structural fires are
40 treated. Firefighters must be in full structural fire personal protective clothing
41 including self-contained breathing apparatus. Situations exist during the
42 incipient phase of a vehicle fire where the fire can be quickly suppressed with
43 the discharge of a handheld fire extinguisher. Discharging a handheld fire
44 extinguisher during this phase of the fire will normally be considered an
45 appropriate action. If the fire has gone beyond the incipient stage, employees
46 are to protect the scene and request the appropriate suppression resources. In

1 order to protect the health and safety of National Park Service personnel, no
2 employee shall be directed, dispatched, (including self-dispatching) to the
3 suppression of structural fires, including vehicle fires, unless they are provided
4 with the required personal protective equipment, firefighting equipment and
5 training. All employees must meet or exceed the standards and regulations
6 identified in Director's Order and Reference Manual #58, Structural Fire.
7 NPS - Training Requirements for Firefighters Responding to Structural Fires
8 (including Vehicle Fires). All wildland firefighters who respond to structural
9 fires will meet the training requirements identified in Director's Order and
10 Reference Manual #58, Structural Fire and will be qualified at least at the
11 Structural Firefighter level.
12 NPS - Medical Examination Requirements for Firefighters Responding to
13 Structure Fires (including Vehicle Fires). All wildland firefighters who respond
14 to structural fires will meet the medical requirements identified in Director's
15 Order and Reference Manual #58, Structural Fire. Medical requirements include
16 respiratory testing and some other components not included in the wildland fire
17 medical examination.
18 NPS - Physical Fitness for Wildland Firefighters Responding to Structure Fires
19 (including Vehicle Fires). The physical fitness requirements as the same as for
20 wildland fire arduous duty.
21
22 **Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response-Hazardous Materials**
23 Wildland firefighters have the potential to be exposed to hazardous materials
24 releases while performing their jobs. Hazardous materials or waste may be
25 found on public lands in a variety of forms (e.g. clandestine drug lab waste,
26 mining waste, illegal dumping, and transportation accidents).
27
28 In order to meet 29 CFR 1910.120, and to ensure familiarity with hazardous
29 materials releases, all wildland firefighters will complete a one-time, two-hour
30 First Responder Awareness training course and an annual refresher course
31 thereafter (First Responders are individuals who are likely to witness or discover
32 a hazardous substance release, and who have been trained to initiate an
33 emergency response sequence by notifying proper authorities of the release).
34 Awareness Class module 1703-07/11 is available from the BLM National
35 Training Center and may be taught in the field office by the Hazardous
36 Materials Coordinator.
37
38 Firefighters who discover any unauthorized waste dump or spill site that
39 contains indicators of potential hazardous substances should take the following
40 precautions:
41 Follow the procedures in the Incident Response Pocket Guide.
42 Treat each site as if it contains harmful materials.
43 Do not handle, move, or open any container, breathe vapors, or make contact
44 with the material.
45 Move a safe distance upwind from the site.

1 Contact appropriate personnel. Generally, this is the Hazardous Materials
2 Coordinator for the local office.

3 FS - FSM-5135.2 - Hazardous Materials Limit actions of Forest Service
4 personnel on incidents involving hazardous material to those emergency
5 measures necessary for the immediate protection of themselves and the public.
6 If the material is a health and safety hazard requiring special measures for
7 control and abatement, promptly notify the appropriate public safety agencies.
8 Provide training in hazardous materials recognition and avoidance to employees
9 whose exposure to such materials is likely (FSM 2160).

10

11 Emergency Non-Wildland Fire Response-Emergency Medical Response
12 Medical emergency response is not a functional responsibility of wildland fire
13 suppression resources. Wildland firefighters are not trained and equipped to
14 perform emergency medical response duties, and should not be part of a
15 preplanned response that requires these duties. When wildland firefighters
16 encounter emergency medical response situations, their efforts should be limited
17 to immediate care (e.g. first aid, first responder) actions that they are trained and
18 qualified to perform.

19 NPS - Emergency Medical Response Requirements. NPS employees who
20 provide emergency medical services will adhere to the requirements contained
21 in Director's Order and Reference Manual #51, Emergency Medical Services,
22 once these directives receive final approval.

23

24 Roadside Response
25 Positioning of vehicles and employee awareness is paramount when responding
26 to incidents in close proximity to roadways. Refer to Appendix V, "Roadside
27 Incident Response" which highlights tactical considerations for roadway
28 responses.