

INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR USE OF THE COMPLEXITY DESCRIPTORS

The process to determine program complexity ratings for units with wildland fire responsibilities is accomplished by reviewing eight major program elements. These elements are composed of sub-elements, each of which are individually evaluated. These eight elements and their sub-elements are:

Program Management: (ten sub-elements)

- Fire Season
- Budget
- Logistics
- Workforce Management
- Program Objectives
- Planning
- Contracts
- Agreements/Cooperators
- Multi-Unit Responsibility
- Social/Political/Economic Concerns

Preparedness: (six sub-elements)

- Training and Qualifications
- Initial Attack Dispatch Office
- Caches
- Support to Other Units
- Fuels and Fire Danger
- Fire Resource Modules

Program Interdependence: (one sub-element)

- Consequences of the Outcome of One Program Activity on Another

Land Management Base: (four sub-elements)

- Total Acres Managed
- Ownership Pattern
- Wildland/Urban
- Cultural/Natural Resources

Wildland Fire: (seven sub-elements)

- Average Annual Wildland Fire Occurrence
- Average Annual Wildland Fire Acres Burned
- Length of Wildland Fire Season
- Values to Be Protected
- Wildland Fire Management
- Firefighter and Public Safety
- Fuels and Fire Behavior

Prescribed Fire/Fuels Management: (six sub-elements)***Prescribed Fire*** (three sub-elements)

Prescribed Fire
 Multiple Ownership/Multiple Jurisdictions
 Burn Season Length

Mechanical (three sub-elements)

Treatment Objectives
 Implementation
 Values to Be Protected

Aviation: (one sub-element)

Aviation

Prevention and Education: (two sub-elements)

Prevention
 Wildland Fire Education

Elements and sub-elements are given weighted values, depending on:

An element's importance to the overall program, and its subordinate sub-elements' relative importance within that element.

When evaluating the complexity of a unit's program, a manager identifies the most accurate of the appropriate narrative descriptors, then assigns numerical ratings of 0-5 to each sub-element.

- A "0" indicates that the sub-element doesn't apply.
- Scores of "1", "3" and "5" are assigned when the unit falls squarely within the narrative descriptors.
- Scores of "2" and "4" are assigned only when it is clear that a unit's accurate description would more reasonably fall between the narrative complexity descriptors.

Using the Excel spreadsheet greatly simplifies the calculations. Entering the sub-element scores onto the spreadsheet automatically calculates the total raw score. The raw score then determines the program complexity level. Complexity score ranges are as follows:

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----|---|-------------|
| Low Complexity | (1) | = | 10 - 2995 |
| Moderate Complexity | (2) | = | 2996 - 5991 |
| High Complexity | (3) | = | 5992 - 7490 |

Manual Calculation Instructions

- Step 1. Assign a score, 0-5, to each sub-element within an element.
- Step 2. Multiply the sub-element score for each sub-element by the Sub-element Weighting Value.
- Step 3. Add the sum of all products obtained in Step 2, for a total sub-element score.
- Step 4. Multiply the total sub-element score obtained in Step 3 by the Element Weighting Value. This product is the sub-total score for that element.

- Step 5. Perform Steps 1-4 for all eight elements.
- Step 6. Add the sum of all eight element total scores for the Grand Total Points.
- Step 7. Compare the Grand Total Points to the above complexity score ranges to determine the complexity level of the unit being evaluated.

See example, pp 7 & 8

NOTE:

Determination of program complexity in turn determines the complexity of the Fire Program Manager's position (and resultant grade, competencies, etc.). It does NOT necessarily determine the complexity of subordinate positions that have variable complexity, such as the Prescribed Fire/Fuels Specialist, Fire Prevention & Education Specialist, and Operations Specialist. Those complexities (and resultant grades, competencies, etc.) are determined by the relative complexity of that sub-program within the overall fire management program. The appropriate complexity elements identified in the Complexity Descriptors may assist in making those determinations, but in and of themselves may not be the sole determinants, if, for example other fire duties are included in a Specialist's position description.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

There were numerous assumptions that became guiding principles in the development of the complexity descriptors. It is imperative that these be fully understood prior to completing an analysis of a unit's fire program complexity!

The listing of guiding principles below is not in priority order- each are equally important.

1. Descriptors are worded such that the maximum level of complexity for the "low" category is described, and the minimum level of complexity for the "high" category is described.
2. Strong effort was made to be consistent with the 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Policy and Program Review terminology and philosophy.
3. Appropriations language (DOI and Related Agencies Appropriations Act) guided direction of what sub-elements were included in which elements.
4. Numbers, where indicated in the descriptors, are initial best guess "thresholds" and likely require normal distribution adjustments.
5. The complexity descriptors only address the "fire job", not collateral or multi-functional duties.
6. These descriptors only address fire management program activities, not other resource activities, such as timber, range, or recreation etc.
7. Sub-element description statements are indicators only and may not be all encompassing; the preponderance of descriptors within a specific complexity level should be met to apply.
8. While an effort was made to reduce redundancy, some sub-elements correctly overlap or are repeated in several elements.
9. Competency and qualification standards must be commensurate with identified program complexity levels.
10. Complexity is evaluated based upon the area of responsibility (geographic or otherwise) for the unit being rated. For example, in the Lower Colorado River, BIA, FWS, and BLM share fire management responsibilities. All provide fire management resources, but the BLM provides program management oversight, i.e. the BLM fire program manager reports to the three agency administrators. So, when the three agencies evaluate their respective programs, BLM's area of responsibility would be greater than the other two agencies'.
11. For the purposes of this document the term "program activities" refers specifically to the following seven management areas: wildland fire management, prescribed fire management, fuels management, wildfire prevention/wildland fire education, preparedness, aviation management, and interagency operations. Do not confuse these with the eight

program elements that define program complexity.

12. Element weighting values reflect the importance of the eight elements that determine program complexity. For example, "Program Management" is rated a "10" element weighting value, and "Prevention/Education" is rated a "2", reflecting the relative importance of program management activities over prevention/education activities when determining the overall program complexity.
13. While not a stand-alone element or sub-element, "safety" is captured in relevant program sub-elements throughout the document.
14. Element weighting values do not reflect the importance of the sub-elements, but rather the complexity associated with that sub-element. For instance, safety is of extreme importance, but as a sub-element in the "Wildland Fire" element, "Firefighter and Public Safety" as described is of less complexity than the "Values to be Protected" sub-element. In other words, it is assumed that safety is built into all the elements as appropriate, but this sub-element in the above example deals with the extra complexity posed by safety issues.
15. Program staffing and complexity ratings should be based upon Most Efficient/Effective Levels (MEL), not the reduced funding levels which are based upon a percentage of MEL. This is because the funding calculation varies annually, while MEL should remain constant over a period of time.
16. Complexity assignments should be based upon approved management plans (land/resource/fire/et al), not upon future program desires. This statement is not intended to be in conflict with #15 above.
17. A strong attempt was made at consistency in philosophy and content with the Federal Fire & Aviation Leadership Council (FFALC) preparedness/planning ad hoc group, and other agency position management task groups, such as the Forest Service R-5 Standard Position Description Task Group.
18. Intent of these complexity descriptors is to address the broadest spectrum of program complexities on an interagency basis, not simply from the perspective of any one agency.
19. The distribution of these interagency program complexities (L, M, H) is measured on an interagency basis, not on an individual agency basis. It is assumed that most programs on an interagency basis will fall into the "Moderate" program complexity level.
20. Each individual fire program unit should be evaluated on its own merit against the interagency complexity standards.
21. The planning function is included in the "Program Management" element.
22. The training function is included in the "Preparedness" element.

| Ranking Scheme | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| | Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 | Column 4 | |
| | <i>EWV</i> | | Agency A | Agency A | |
| Program Management | 10 | SWV | Unit | Unit | |
| Fire Season | | 5 | 3 | 15 | |
| Budget | | 10 | 4 | 40 | |
| Logistics | | 5 | 3 | 15 | |
| Workforce Management | | 10 | 4 | 40 | |
| Program Objectives | | 10 | 4 | 40 | |
| Planning | | 2 | 3 | 6 | |
| Contracts | | 2 | 3 | 6 | |
| Agreements, Cooperators | | 5 | 3 | 15 | |
| Multi-Unit Responsibility | | 10 | 4 | 40 | |
| Social, Political, Economic | | 10 | 5 | 50 | |
| | | | | 267 | <i>Total Points</i> |
| | | | | 2670 | <i>Total Points * EWV</i> |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | <i>EWV</i> | | Agency A | Agency A | |
| Preparedness | 10 | SWV | Unit | Unit | |
| Training, Quals | | 5 | 1 | 5 | |
| Initial Attack Dispatch Office | | 2 | 3 | 6 | |
| Caches | | 2 | 1 | 2 | |
| Support to other Units | | 5 | 1 | 5 | |
| Fuels and Fire Danger | | 10 | 3 | 30 | |
| Fire Resource Modules | | 10 | 2 | 20 | |
| | | | | 68 | <i>Total Points</i> |
| | | | | 680 | <i>Total Points * EWV</i> |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | <i>EWV</i> | | Agency A | Agency A | |
| Program Interdependence | 10 | SWV | Unit | Unit | |
| Consequence of Outcomes of 1 Program Activity on Another | | 5 | 3 | 15 | |
| | | | | 15 | <i>Total Points</i> |
| | | | | 150 | <i>Total Points * EWV</i> |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | <i>EWV</i> | | Agency A | Agency A | |
| Land Management Base | 5 | SWV | Unit | Unit | |
| Total Acres Managed | | 5 | 4 | 20 | |
| Ownership Patterns | | 10 | 5 | 50 | |
| Wildland/Urban | | 10 | 5 | 50 | |
| Cultural, Natural Resources | | 5 | 3 | 15 | |
| | | | | 135 | <i>Total Points</i> |
| | | | | 675 | <i>Total Points * EWV</i> |
| | | | | | |

| | <i>EWV</i> | | Agency A | Agency A | |
|--|------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| Wildland Fire | 5 | SWV | Unit | Unit | |
| Average Annual Wildland Fire Occurrence | | 5 | 3 | 15 | |
| Average Annual Wildland fire Acres Burned | | 5 | 3 | 15 | |
| Length of Wildland Fire Season | | 5 | 3 | 15 | |
| Values to be Protected | | 5 | 4 | 20 | |
| Wildland Fire Management | | 5 | 3 | 15 | |
| Firefighter and Public Safety | | 2 | 5 | 10 | |
| Fuels and Fire Behavior | | 2 | 5 | 10 | |
| | | | | 100 | <i>Total Points</i> |
| | | | | 500 | <i>Total Points * EWV</i> |
| | | | | | |
| | <i>EWV</i> | | Agency A | Agency A | |
| Prescribed Fire/Fuels | 5 | SWV | Unit | Unit | |
| Prescribed Fire | | 5 | 2 | 10 | |
| Prescribed Fire Multiple Ownership/Jurisdiction | | 2 | 4 | 8 | |
| Prescribe Fire Burn Season Length | | 2 | 5 | 10 | |
| Mechanical Treatment Objectives | | 5 | 3 | 15 | |
| Mechanical Implementation | | 2 | 3 | 6 | |
| Mechanical Values to be Protected | | 2 | 3 | 6 | |
| | | | | 55 | <i>Total Points</i> |
| | | | | 275 | <i>Total Points * EWV</i> |
| | | | | | |
| | <i>EWV</i> | | Agency A | Agency A | |
| Aviation | 5 | SWV | Unit | Unit | |
| Aviation | | 5 | 1 | 5 | |
| | | | | 5 | <i>Total Points</i> |
| | | | | 25 | <i>Total Points * EWV</i> |
| | | | | | |
| | <i>EWV</i> | | Agency A | Agency A | |
| Prevention | 2 | SWV | Unit | Unit | |
| Prevention | | 2 | 3 | 6 | |
| Wildland Fire Education | | 2 | 1 | 2 | |
| | | | | 8 | <i>Total Points</i> |
| | | | | 16 | <i>Total Points * EWV</i> |
| | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | | 4991 | <i>Grand Total Points * EWV</i> |
| | | | | 0 | <i>Lowest Possible Grand Total Points * EWV</i> |
| EWV = Element Weighting Value | | | | 7490 | <i>Highest Possible Grand Total Points * EWV</i> |
| SWV = Sub-Element Weighting Value | | | | 2 | <i>Overall Element Complexity Score on a 1 (Low), 2 (Medium), and 3 (High) scale</i> |

COMPLEXITY RATING FOR PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

EWV = 10

This element addresses the components of managing a wildland fire program on a unit. Sub-elements addressed are fire season, budget, logistics, workforce management, program objectives, planning, contracts, agreements/cooperators, multi-unit responsibility, and social/political/economic concerns.

| PROGRAM MANAGEMENT | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|--|----------------------|---|---|--|--------------|
| Sub-Element | | | | | |
| <p>Fire Season: <i>This sub-element refers to the length of season, but primarily focuses on the presence or absence of overlapping wildland and prescribed fire seasons, including rehabilitation.</i></p> | 5 | <p>Single or split season covering wildland fire or prescribed fire activities, but not both at the same time.</p> <p>No overlapping seasons.</p> <p>The fire program manager may be a collateral duty.</p> | <p>Single or split season with both wildland and prescribed activities at the same time possible, but resource allocation is not a concern. Total season length less than 6 months.</p> <p>Seasons may overlap, but not significantly enough to create resource allocation conflicts.</p> <p>Fire program management requires a full time dedicated position, with fire management as the primary responsibility.</p> | <p>Prolonged seasons (more than 6 months) with prescribed fire and wildland fire incidents occurring at the same time, necessitating careful resource allocation.</p> <p>Seasons overlap and create resource allocation conflicts.</p> <p>Fire program management requires a full time dedicated position, with fire management as the primary responsibility.</p> | |
| <p>Budget: <i>This sub-element describes the complexity of managing a program budget. The overall size of the budget is not considered to be a factor. Complexity factors are the number of program activities managed, the number of</i></p> | 10 | <p>Budget managed includes only one activity area such as wildland fire or prescribed fire.</p> <p>Low risk of fraud and abuse in the payment process.</p> <p>Incidental use of ADO or payment teams may occur, but</p> | <p>Budget managed includes 2 activity areas, plus management of 1-2 contracts.</p> <p>Moderate risk of fraud and abuse in the payment process.</p> <p>Regular, local use of ADO, buying, or payment teams</p> | <p>Budget managed includes over 2 activity areas, plus management of over 2 contracts.</p> <p>High risk of fraud and abuse in the payment process.</p> <p>Regular local and regional use of ADO, buying, or payment</p> | |

| PROGRAM MANAGEMENT Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|--|----------------------|---|--|--|--------------|
| <i>contracts, and the risk of fraud and abuse.</i> | | expertise is not required to be on the unit. | occurs. ADO expertise is located off the unit. | teams occurs. ADO expertise is located on the unit. | |
| Logistics: <i>This sub-element describes the factors which affect many of the operational aspects of a program: access, ability to meet predetermined response times, communication, facilities, fire cache, and support requirements.</i> | 5 | <p>Access and proximity allows time efficiency of operations on a one-day basis (e.g. travel within unit can be achieved within one day.)</p> <p>Ninety percent of unit lands are accessible with common forms of transportation/equipment (e.g. engines, pickups, dozers, tractor/plows).</p> <p>Initial response times to meet management objectives are easily met with available resources located at permanent work stations. Very little, if any, reliance on outside support to meet unit objectives for wildland and/or prescribed fire needs.</p> <p>No unusual communication problems. Single frequency radio communications with permanent repeaters provides adequate radio coverage.</p> <p>No fixed detection lookouts on the unit. Detection needs met by regularly scheduled aerial observation during periods of high fire danger.</p> | <p>Access and proximity allows time efficiency of operations on a one-day basis (e.g. travel to/from units can be achieved within one day.)</p> <p>Eleven to 25 percent of the unit is not accessible with common forms of transportation/equipment, necessitating the use of aerial delivery systems and/or long hikes to incident sites (over 2 hour hikes).</p> <p>Competition for available resources results in the potential for some unit objectives in wildland and/or prescribed fire to not be met. Outside support required to meet unit objectives.</p> <p>Single frequency radio communication with permanent repeaters provides radio coverage over 80% of the unit. "Dead spots" require use of additional radio communication equipment.</p> <p>1-2 Detection lookouts. Detection needs met by a combination of fixed lookouts and aerial observation.</p> | <p>Access and proximity disallows time efficiency of operations on a one-day basis (e.g. travel to/from units cannot be achieved within one day.)</p> <p>Over 25 percent of unit lands only accessible by aerial delivery systems, or long hikes to incident sites (over 2 hour hikes.)</p> <p>Initial response times to meet management objectives are difficult to meet. During "fire busts", resource allocation to wildland fire starts is based upon incident prioritization, with some incidents not receiving resources for up to 24 hours.</p> <p>Unit requires 3 or more radio frequencies to accommodate normal radio traffic. Numerous dead spots in radio coverage require additional radio communication equipment.</p> <p>More than 2 staffed detection lookouts. Detection needs met by a combination of fixed lookouts and aerial observation.</p> | |

| PROGRAM MANAGEMENT Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|-------------|---|---|--|-------|
| Logistics: continued | 5 | <p>No remote work stations.</p> <p>Fire cache stocked to supply normal unit strength.</p> <p>Duration of fire support personnel is less than one week.</p> | <p>1-2 remote work stations</p> <p>Fire cache stocked to normal unit strength, plus additional 20 persons.</p> <p>Duration of fire support personnel is between 1 and 2 weeks. Logistical position may be assigned</p> | <p>More than 2 work sites/stations require support. Permanent aviation facilities located on the unit, (e.g. helibase or fixed wing base. Do not count helispots).</p> <p>100 person fire cache permanently located on the unit, or a mobile fire cache is located on the unit during periods of high fire danger.</p> <p>Duration of support personnel is greater than 2 weeks. Multiple logistical positions assigned.</p> | |
| <p>Workforce Management: <i>This sub-element includes supervision, coaching, training, motivation, evaluation, qualification/certification, etc. of the workforce. It is described in terms of number and type of employees supervised and whether or not they are working in one or more program activities. It is assumed that if one is</i></p> | 10 | <p>First line supervision of up to 7 employees.</p> <p>Employees limited to single program activity. This does not include aviation.</p> <p>May manage larger number of employees for less than 90 days, for specific</p> | <p>First line supervision of up to 7 employees.</p> <p>Employees work in 2-3 program activities. This may include aviation.</p> <p>May manage larger number of employees for 90 to 180 days, for specific projects/incidents,</p> | <p>Provides leadership to at least 2 program supervisors in addition to directly supervising other non-supervisory employees.</p> <p>Employees work in more than 3 program activities.</p> <p>May manage larger numbers of employees for more than 180 days, for numerous projects/</p> | |

| PROGRAM MANAGEMENT Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|----------------------|--|---|--|--------------|
| <i>supervising a number of employees in a single program activity, that necessary coaching, training, motivation evaluation, qualification/certification, etc. will be less “complex” than if the same number of employees are working in more than one program activity.</i> | | projects/incidents, e.g. temporary employees assigned to the unit, or firefighters detailed in for a wildland or prescribed fire project. No union involvement on the unit. | e.g. temporary employees assigned to the unit, or firefighters detailed in for a wildland or prescribed fire project. May have a non-active union on the unit. | incidents, e.g. temporary employees assigned to the unit, or firefighters detailed in for a wildland or prescribed fire project. An active union is on the unit. | |
| Program Objectives: <i>This sub-element describes the nature of program objectives, (e.g. simple, non-conflicting objectives, or complex objectives which may conflict with one another), and their influence on the program complexity.</i> | 10 | Few program objectives, e.g. simple suppression or prescribed fire program. Non-complex objectives, e.g. not controversial in nature, easily implemented. Non-conflicting objectives, e.g. objectives mutually supportive. | Several program objectives. Objectives are complex, and may be externally or internally controversial, but not both. Few objectives in direct conflict. | Numerous program objectives. Objectives are complex in nature, e.g. externally and internally controversial; require many, varied, expensive resources to implement. Several objectives are in direct conflict, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • air quality vs. implementation of prescribed fire projects, or • endangered species habitat protection vs. hazard fuel reduction, or • hazard fuel reduction vs. watershed protection. | |

| PROGRAM MANAGEMENT Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|----------------------|---|--|---|--------------|
| <p>Planning: <i>This sub-element refers to the level of planning required to meet agency/interagency requirements: the number of program activities involved within the planning process, the relation of the planning process to the unit objectives, and the potential conflicts which may affect the planning process.</i></p> | <p>2</p> | <p>Program planning confined to one activity, such as prescribed fire. Fire program manager provides input into overall land management process, but not as a part of the interdisciplinary team.</p> <p>Unit fire management plan is based on non-conflicting objectives, with little or no social/political/economic concerns.</p> <p>The wildland or prescribed fire portion of the program is non-controversial. Public involvement is supportive of the affected activity.</p> | <p>Program planning covers two activities.</p> <p>Does not meet the criteria for either low or high.</p> <p>Does not meet the criteria for either low or high.</p> | <p>Program planning covers 3 or more program activity areas. Unit level land management planning, including NEPA requirements, require participation of the fire program manager as a member of the interdisciplinary team.</p> <p>Due to the complexity of numerous conflicting objectives, and high social/political/economic concerns, the unit fire management plan is very detailed. Especially with regard to identification of fire management units, and appropriate management response to wildland fire ignitions.</p> <p>The wildland and prescribed fire portions of the program are under intense scrutiny. Numerous attempts at public involvement are required to arrive at consensus.</p> | |

| PROGRAM MANAGEMENT Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|-------------|--|--|---|-------|
| <p>Planning: continued</p> | | <p>Individual project plans are rated as low to moderate in complexity, using the agency approved method of project evaluation. No more than 25% of the project plans are rated at moderate complexity.</p> <p>Appropriate management responses, described within the approved fire management plan, are easily determined due to the non-conflicting objectives for the unit.</p> <p>NEPA process simple, leading to Categorical Exclusion or EA/FONSI.</p> | <p>Does not meet the criteria for either low or high.</p> <p>Does not meet the criteria for either low or high.</p> <p>NEPA process requires the completion of an EA most of the time, but rarely requires an EIS.</p> | <p>Individual project plans are rated at moderate to high in complexity, using the agency approved method of project evaluation. More than 25% of the project plans are rated as high complexity.</p> <p>Appropriate management responses, described in the approved fire management plan, are difficult to determine, due to the nature of the multidirectional, (maybe) conflicting objectives. Once implemented, the approved AMR will require intense monitoring to ensure that program objectives are met.</p> <p>NEPA process requires the completion of an EIS most of the time.</p> | |
| <p>Contracts: <i>This sub-element references financial contracts, but does not include financial exchange resulting from Memoranda of Agreement.</i></p> | 2 | <p>None or very few emergency equipment rental agreements (EERAs) exist. If some are in place, they are seldom used on an annual basis, and are very simple in nature, e.g. no call-when-needed contracts are</p> | <p>Several emergency equipment rental agreements used annually. Call-when-needed (CWN) contracts are used annually.</p> | <p>Numerous EERAs are used annually, some or many of which are complex in nature (e.g. combination resource type for extended emergency operations). Call-when-needed contracts are used annually.</p> | |

| PROGRAM MANAGEMENT Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|--|-------------|--|---|--|-------|
| | | <p>used.</p> <p>One fixed wing point-to-point and/or detection contract may be in place. No other exclusive use contracts are present.</p> <p>No contracts with other fed/state/tribal/local jurisdiction to provide fire management services for them (e.g. preparedness, suppression, prescribed fire, aviation)</p> <p>May receive and manage a limited number of contracted services annually, (e.g. suppression or hazard fuels reduction), usually of the same type.</p> | <p>One exclusive use aviation contract, either fixed or rotor wing. This contract would be in addition to a fixed wing point-to-point/detection contract. One contract with point-to-point/detection services, plus additional services meets the intent of this criteria.</p> <p>May contract with other fed/state/tribal/local jurisdiction to provide fire management services for them, usually only one type of service.</p> <p>May receive and manage several contracted services annually, often not of the same type (e.g. mechanical thinning, crew and/or engine, prescribed fire planning or implementation, aerial reconnaissance).</p> | <p>Manage two or more exclusive use aviation contracts.</p> <p>Frequently contracts with other federal/state/tribal/local jurisdictions to provide fire management services for them, often for multiple types of services.</p> <p>Annually receives and manages numerous contracted services, often of multiple types (e.g. mechanical thinning, prescribed fire, aerial reconnaissance).</p> | |
| <p>Agreements/Cooperators: This sub-element addresses agreements to include financial</p> | 5 | Occasional informal operations with cooperators; may have formal agreements established | Frequent operations with cooperators under formal agreements, some of which may | Frequent continual operations with cooperators under formal agreements, many of which are | |

| PROGRAM MANAGEMENT Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|-------------|---|---|---|-------|
| exchanges resulting from Memoranda of Understanding and cooperators. Does not include contracted services. | | <p>such as mutual aid agreements. Usually have no formal Memoranda of Agreement established which requires exchange of funds for services.</p> <p>Agreements are simple in nature, e.g. a single payment at the beginning of a year for a service.</p> <p>Memoranda of Understanding are simple in nature, limited to initial attack or prescribed fire operations.</p> | <p>be Memoranda of Agreements requiring exchange of funds.</p> <p>Agreements are not complex and fairly limited in scope, e.g., mutual aid for one operational period only, or assist in prescribed fire operations periodically.</p> <p>Memoranda of Understanding include both prescribed fire and initial attack operations.</p> | <p>Memoranda of Agreement requiring exchanges of funds.</p> <p>Agreements are complex and/or have high degree of breadth of scope, e.g. agreements cover initial and extended attack, or extended prescribed fire and prescriptive wildland fire use operations.</p> <p>Memoranda of Understanding cover the full range of wildland and prescribed fire operations.</p> | |
| <p>Multi-Unit Responsibility: This sub-element addresses complexity incurred from having to manage more than one "piece of ground", possibly under more than one jurisdiction.</p> | 10 | Responsible for single continuous land base, all of one jurisdiction. | Responsible for multiple units, all within the same jurisdiction | Responsible for multiple units within multiple jurisdiction. | |
| <p>Social/Political/Economic: This sub-element addresses the outside influences which affect the complexity of a fire program. Outside influences,</p> | 10 | Program not controversial in nature (internally or externally). | Program not controversial in nature. May be internal or external conflicts, but they are easily resolved. | Program has potential to be controversial in nature, due to internal and/or external conflicts. Conflicts are not easily resolved. | |

| PROGRAM MANAGEMENT Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|--|----------------------|--|---|--|--------------|
| <p>especially those that are in conflict with program objectives and/or each other, raise the complexity of the overall program.</p> | | <p>Low or restricted visitor use during normal operating season. No wildland/urban intermix. Few opportunities for public safety to be compromised.</p> <p>Minimal air quality issues, or similar issues, such as T&E species, high value watersheds, etc.</p> <p>None or very few influences involved that would constrain or add complexity to the program.</p> <p>News media coverage is limited to infrequent prepared news statements and releases.</p> | <p>Public access and safety may be a concern during short periods of time when fire danger indices exceed very high.</p> <p>Sensitive issues such as air quality, T&E species, high value watersheds, wildland/urban intermix, etc. may be present, but provide only minor constraints or complexity to the program.</p> <p>Some political activity present related to the burning program.</p> <p>News media coverage limited to frequent or regularly scheduled prepared statements and releases.</p> | <p>Public access and safety are a major concern, due to very high visitor use, and/or wildland/urban intermix.</p> <p>Sensitive issues such as air quality, T&E species, high value watersheds, wildland/urban intermix, cultural resources, etc. may combine to add extreme constraints or complexity to the program.</p> <p>Political activity related to the total fire management program is present, and potentially affects day to day operations.</p> <p>Considerable media interest exists. News media coverage includes prepared statements and releases, and taped or live interviews.</p> | |
| <p>Social/Political/Economic: continued</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>Public contacts consist of the establishment and maintenance of a “visitor” bulletin board, with handout brochures, etc. An occasional individual</p> | <p>Public contacts consist of individual contacts and an occasional public presentation at (as an example) a school.</p> | <p>Public contacts consist of individual and group contacts (e.g. a town meeting). Due to the controversy surrounding the program, many contacts may be</p> | |

| PROGRAM MANAGEMENT Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|---|--|-------|
| | | <p>contact may be made, but these occur infrequently.</p> <p>Program operations have little impact on local economy.</p> | <p>Program operations will provide a net benefit to the local economy, although the value of the benefit (in total dollars) may be small.</p> | <p>classified as adversarial, as opposing views are expressed.</p> <p>Program operations have the potential of severely negatively affecting the local economy, (e.g. high use developed recreational areas shut down due to wildland fire activity which produces a significant threat to public safety).</p> | |
| Subtotal = | | | | | |

COMPLEXITY RATING FOR PREPAREDNESS

EWV = 10

This element addresses components of wildland fire readiness, incorporating fire resources, training and qualifications of personnel, management of local dispatch offices, maintenance of caches, and management of fire danger rating programs.

| PREPAREDNESS Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|----------------------|---|---|---|--------------|
| <p>Training and Qualifications: <i>This sub-element addresses the diversity of work required to develop staff personnel to predetermined levels of the qualification system. This does not include ADs or EFF personnel.</i></p> | 5 | <p>Less than 25 unit personnel to meet local and interagency needs.</p> <p>Qualifications oversight would include 1-2 program activities.</p> | <p>25 to 100 unit personnel to meet local, interagency and geographic area needs.</p> <p>Qualifications oversight would include 3-6 program activities.</p> | <p>More than 100 unit personnel to meet local, interagency, geographic area and national needs.</p> <p>Qualifications oversight would include 7 program activities.</p> | |
| <p>Initial Attack Dispatch Office: <i>This sub-element addresses the workload generated by management of local dispatch offices.</i></p> | 2 | <p>The dispatch function is carried out on a collateral duty basis.</p> | <p>The dispatch function (single agency only) during the established fire season staffed by a full-time dispatcher.</p> | <p>The unit hosts an interagency dispatch center.</p> <p>Several dedicated staff people serve in this function.</p> | |
| <p>Caches: <i>This sub-element relates to the workload generated by management of fire equipment caches for local support. The assumption is made that stocks are not routinely utilized by local, dedicated firefighters who have their own issued equipment.</i></p> | 2 | <p>Cache inventory is small, enough to fully equip 10 to 25 incidental firefighters. The cache is infrequently used.</p> | <p>Cache inventory is large enough to fully equip 26 to 100 incidental firefighters. The cache is used frequently, and occasionally to fill local interagency orders.</p> | <p>Cache inventory exceeds 100-person size and unit may have several 100-person caches, or combinations thereof. Cache(s) is (are) used frequently, often to fill local interagency orders.</p> | |
| <p>Support to Other Units: <i>This sub-element describes</i></p> | 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home unit supports one of the following: | <p>Home unit supports 2-3 of the following:</p> | <p>Home unit supports/hosts four or more of the following:</p> | |

| PREPAREDNESS Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|----------------------|---|---|--|--------------|
| workload generated by providing intra-and interagency support. | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographic Area Coordination • Interagency Training • Multi-crew EFF program • Interagency caches as part of the national cache system or geographic area • Interagency coordination/dispatch center • Smokejumper base • Type 1 Crew • Retardant Base | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographic Area Coordination • Interagency Training • Multi-crew EFF program • Interagency caches as part of the national cache system or geographic area • Interagency coordination/dispatch center • Smokejumper base • Type 1 Crew • Retardant Base | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographic Area Coordination • Interagency Training • Multi-crew EFF program • Interagency caches as part of the national cache system or geographic area • Interagency coordination/dispatch center • Smokejumper base • Type 1 Crew • Retardant Base | |
| <p>Fuels and Fire Danger: <i>This sub-element reflects workload generated by the fuels on a unit (in fuel groupings of grass, brush, timber, and slash) and by ignition frequency; resistance to control is strongly considered.</i></p> | 10 | <p>Only grass group of fuels are represented and resistance to control is low.</p> <p>There are no management activity fuels.</p> <p>Unplanned ignition frequency is low (less than 10 per season).</p> <p>Visitation is not a factor in ignition sources.</p> <p>The value of the Burning Index (BI) for highest staffing level (95 or 97%) is equal to or less than 40.</p> | <p>Other fuel groups are represented, but limited amount of slash.</p> <p>Management activity fuels are limited, or heavily mitigated.</p> <p>Unplanned ignition frequency between 11-100 per season.</p> <p>Visitation is a factor in ignition sources.</p> <p>The value of the Burning Index (BI) for highest staffing level (95 or 97%) is between 40 and 80.</p> | <p>Other fuel groups represented; heavy preponderance of brush and timber types; slash often a significant factor. Resistance to control is high.</p> <p>Management activity fuels prevalent, with limited mitigation controls.</p> <p>Unplanned ignition frequency is greater than 100 per season.</p> <p>Visitation is a significant factor in ignition sources.</p> <p>The value of the Burning Index (BI) for highest staffing level (95 or 97%) is greater than 80.</p> | |
| Fire Resource Modules: | 10 | Module Types: (A module is defined as a wildland fire or support resource.) | | | |

| PREPAREDNESS Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|-------------|---|---------------|-----------|-------|
| <p><i>*(See description below) Complexity is based on both type and quantity of fire resources.</i></p> | | <p>1) Air Tanker 2) Single Engine Air Tankers 3) Helicopters/Helitack Crews 4) Type II and EFF Crews 5) Interagency Hotshot Crews 6) Smokejumper Module 7) Engines and Water Tenders (includes personnel) 8) Dozers and Tractor Plows (includes personnel) 9) Prescribed Fire Modules (5-7 personnel) 10) Local ADO/CO Payment Teams 11) Interagency Dispatch/Coordination Centers 12) Air Tactical Modules (pilot + aircraft + Air Tactical Group Supervisor = managed locally)</p> <p>Complexity is based upon both type and quantity of fire resource modules. The matrix below combines type and quantity of fire resource module units, thereby determining fire program complexity.</p> <p>Example: A unit has 4 engines and 2 helicopters. The number of module types is 2 and the number of module units is 6. Reading the matrix, the complexity is Moderate.</p> | | | |
| Subtotal = | | | | | |

| | | Individual Number of Fire Resource Module Units at MEL | | |
|------------------------|--------|--|----------|----------|
| | | 1 - 5 | 6 - 10 | 11+ |
| Number of Module Types | 5 - 12 | Moderate | High | High |
| | 2 - 4 | Low | Moderate | High |
| | 1 | Low | Low | Moderate |

COMPLEXITY RATING FOR PROGRAM INTERDEPENDENCE

EWV = 10

This element evaluates the complexity of the program resulting from managing mutually dependant, or independent, fire and aviation activities (wildland fire, prescribed fire and fuels management, wildfire prevention/wildland fire education, preparedness, and aviation). It includes considerations for the diversity of fire activities managed, overlapping seasons of work between those activities, the likeness or uniqueness of skills needed to safely accomplish the different activities, and the impact of success or failure of one activity on another.

| PROGRAM INTERDEPENDENCE Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|--|-------------|---|--|---|-------|
| <p>Consequences of the Outcome of One Program Activity on Another:</p> <p><i>This sub-element describes the extent to which effectiveness or ineffectiveness in one program activity may reduce or increase the complexity of another program activity.</i></p> | 5 | <p>The consequence or outcome of one program activity has little or no effect on the accomplishment or success of other program activities. For example, an aviation constraint would not impact a prescribed fire.</p> | <p>The consequence or outcome of one program activity can have a short term effect (one year or less) on the success, or lack of success, of other program activities. For example, a highly successful fire prevention program reduces the wildland fire response workload for the current fire season or, conversely, a poorly managed aviation program results in a helicopter needed for igniting a prescribed burn to be unavailable during a critical prescription window.</p> | <p>Several program activities are interactive and dependent on each other for success. There exist few opportunities to remedy failures and require skilled and coordinated actions to be taken for success. The consequence or outcome of one program activity can have a long term effect (more than the current year) on the success, or lack of success, of other program activities. For example, a successful landscape prescribed fire program reduces the need for fire prevention patrols for several years in a critical watershed or, conversely, a wildland fire which escapes and subjects a community to several days of dense, unhealthy levels of smoke may adversely affect, for several years, public opinion and tolerance for smoke resulting from future prescribed fire projects.</p> | |
| Subtotal = | | | | | |

COMPLEXITY RATING FOR LAND MANAGEMENT BASE

EWV = 5

This element references the degree of complexity established from land base size, ownership patterns, and the extent of wildland/urban interface or intermix upon the planning and operational components of the fire program manager’s job.

| LAND MANAGEMENT BASE Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|----------------------|---|---|--|--------------|
| Total Acres Managed: <i>This sub-element addresses relative land base size and (dis)continuity.</i> | 5 | Smaller land unit acreage (less than 100,000 acres). Rapid response/reaction times; distances relatively short. Single land unit. | Moderately sized land unit (more than 100,000 acres, less than 1,000,000 acres). Response times and distances are longer. May be multiple, non-contiguous land units. | Large land unit (more than 1,000,000 acres). Often requiring long response times due to long distances and/or inaccessible terrain. Multiple, non-contiguous land units. | |
| Ownership Pattern: <i>This sub-element describes jurisdiction and ownership situations.</i> | 10 | Fire program manager has only one agency jurisdiction in a single jurisdiction/single ownership situation. Single ownership. | In a multiple jurisdictions/multiple ownership situation, the fire program manager has authority over only the one agency jurisdiction. Single or multiple ownerships. | A single delegated fire management authority over more than one jurisdiction/ownership, wherein the fire program manager has to implement more than one agency’s policies. Multiple ownerships. | |
| Wildland/Urban: <i>This sub-element describes the amount of interface/intermix</i> | 10 | Simple “wildlands” situation, with very limited interface or intermix. | Contained, limited interface and/or intermix. | Significant amount of interface and dispersed intermix situations. | |

| LAND MANAGEMENT BASE Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|--|----------------------|---|--|---|--------------|
| <p><i>and the degree of coordination required with other responsible fire management entities.</i></p> <p><i>NOTE: If the fire program manager has structural responsibilities within his/her Position Description, this sub-element will automatically be rated as "HIGH".</i></p> | | <p>Has no coordination with other fire departments (volunteer or paid).</p> <p>No structural fire responsibilities.</p> | <p>Coordinates with 1-4 other fire departments (volunteer or paid).</p> <p>No structural fire responsibilities.</p> | <p>Coordinates with numerous other fire departments (volunteer and/or paid).</p> <p>Agency has structural fire responsibility, as well as wildland fire management.</p> | |
| <p>Cultural/Natural Resources: <i>This sub-element describes those cultural and natural resources that require protection from wildland fire. Only cultural and/or natural resources to be considered are those whose great uniqueness make them regionally or nationally significant. Those resources of significance only to local constituencies are not to be considered.</i></p> | 5 | <p>No resources of regional or national significance exist on the unit.</p> | <p>Agency lands may have cultural and/or natural resources of regional or national significance, but they would not be negatively impacted permanently by wildland fire, or in fact, may be enhanced by wildland and/or prescribed fire. In this category cultural and/or natural resources are likely adapted to frequent fire intervals.</p> | <p>Agency lands have cultural and/or natural resources of national significance, which would be negatively impacted by stand-replacement wildland fires.</p> | |
| Subtotal = | | | | | |

COMPLEXITY RATING FOR WILDLAND FIRE

EWV = 5

This element defines the relative variations in programs through a discussion of applicable operational factors. The factors are described to three levels of increasing complexity. All statements within the complexity levels need to be considered in the total context. All statements need not apply to a unit in order for it to acquire ranking. The factors shown are pertinent to the wildland fire program only.

| WILDLAND FIRE Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score | | |
|--|-------------|---|--|---|-----------|-------------|----------|
| Average Annual Wildland Fire Occurrence: <i>This sub-element describes the unit's ten-year average fire occurrence as determined by the agency approved fire planning process.</i> | 5 | Average annual fire occurrence is 10 fires or less. Episodes of multiple fire occurrence include 5 or less fires per day at the Type 5 management level. | Average annual fire occurrence is between 10 and 100. Episodes of multiple fire occurrence include 6-19 fires per day at the Type 4 and 5 management level. | Average annual fire occurrence equals or exceeds 100. Episodes of multiple fire occurrence include 20 or more fires per day and include Type 3 and greater management level fires. | | | |
| Average Annual Wildland Fire Acres Burned: <i>This sub-element describes the ten-year average acres burned as determined by the agency approved fire planning process.</i> | 5 | <u>Average Annual Acres Burned</u> | | | | | |
| | | Fuel Model | 0-2500 | 2501-5000 | 5001-7500 | 7501-10,000 | 10,000 + |
| | | 1-3 | Low | Low | Low | Moderate | High |
| | | 4-7 | Low | Low | Moderate | High | High |
| | | 8-13 | Low | Moderate | High | High | High |

| WILDLAND FIRE Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|----------------------|---|--|--|--------------|
| Length of Wildland Fire Season: <i>This sub-element describes the length of fire season as determined by the agency approved fire planning process.</i> | 5 | Season is limited to less than 4 months. | Season is four to six months. | Season exceeds six months. | |
| Values to be Protected: <i>This sub-element describes the relative risk to life, property, and natural resources.</i> | 5 | Very little risk to people, property, and resources. Fires usually occur in remote areas where visits by people are infrequent and of short duration. Natural resources are adapted to fire; frequent fire return intervals. Potential total commodity value one-time loss per acre is less than \$500. | Risk to people, property, and resources is limited to a few areas. Wildland fire may impact recreation use or degrade air quality and visibility of downwind communities but it does not threaten life or property. Natural resources are threatened. Fire exclusion has resulted in unnatural fuels buildup and higher intensity fires. Potential total commodity value one-time loss per acre is \$500 to \$5,000. | Extensive risk to people, property, and resources. Area has high visitation use or wildland urban interface. Wildfires annually threaten life or property and severely impact air quality of communities. Natural resources are severely threatened with stand-replacement wildland fires. Potential total commodity value one-time loss exceeds \$5,000 per acre. | |
| Wildland Fire Management: <i>This sub-element describes the</i> | 5 | Less than 5% of all fires require extended attack. | Between 5% and 10% of all fires require extended attack. | More than 10% of all fires require extended attack. | |

| WILDLAND FIRE Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|----------------------|---|---|--|--------------|
| <i>level of organization and skills required to manage the unit wildland fire program.</i> | | <p>The unit averages less than one type I or two type II fires per year.</p> <p>The duration of most suppression action fires (to control status) is normally less than one day.</p> <p>The unit wildland fire management plan does not allow unplanned wildland fire to be managed for resource benefit.</p> | <p>The unit averages one type I or two type II fires per year.</p> <p>The duration of most suppression action fires (to control status) is normally less than three days.</p> <p>The unit wildland fire management plan allows unplanned wildland fire to be managed for resource benefit but the unit averages less than one per year.</p> | <p>The unit averages more than one type I or two type II fires per year.</p> <p>The duration of most suppression action fires (to control status) often exceeds four days.</p> <p>The unit wildland fire management plan allows unplanned wildland fire to be managed for resource benefit and the unit averages more than one per year.</p> | |
| <p>Firefighter and Public Safety: <i>This sub-element describes the level of hazard and risk to human safety while conducting wildland fire management and wildfire suppression activities. It considers both fire behavior and protection priorities.</i></p> | <p>2</p> | <p>Safety issues easily identified and mitigated. Routine safety briefings are adequate. Elementary level considerations normally mitigated through standard training.</p> <p>Typically only ground resources are deployed.</p> <p>Public safety issues are</p> | <p>Detailed briefings are needed to raise safety awareness. All safety hazards have been identified using the Risk Management System and mitigated, but some require special cautions.</p> <p>Multiple air and ground resources are deployed.</p> <p>A number of significant public</p> | <p>Significant safety issues have been identified. Detailed interagency briefings are required to identify and mitigate safety concerns. Strategy and tactics must be altered to mitigate safety risk.</p> <p>Multiple interagency air and ground resources are deployed.</p> <p>Public safety is of prime</p> | |

| WILDLAND FIRE Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|----------------------|---|--|--|--------------|
| | | minimal or do not exist. Flame lengths usually less than four feet safely allowing direct attack most of the time. | safety issues have been identified. Flame lengths are usually greater than 4 feet but less than 8 feet. A combination of direct and indirect attack is used most of the time. | concern due to high visitor use or wildland interface/intermix areas. Flame lengths are usually greater than 8 feet requiring indirect attack most of the time. | |
| Fuels and Fire Behavior: <i>This sub-element describes the fuels and fire behavior characteristics typical of most of the unit.</i> | 2 | Fuel characteristics are mostly uniform and only one fuel type exists (grass, brush, timber or slash). Fire behavior prediction can be accomplished using only one fire behavior fuel model. | Considerable variation exists in fuel characteristics but only one of the four fuel types exist in significant abundance. Fire behavior predictions generally require the use of two fuel models. | Highly variable fuel characteristics exist throughout the unit and three or four fuel types exist in significant abundance. More than two fuel models are involved in predicting fire behavior. | |
| Subtotal = | | | | | |

COMPLEXITY RATING FOR PRESCRIBED FIRE/FUELS MANAGEMENT EWV = 5

This element describes fire program complexity resulting from unit prescribed fire and mechanical fuel treatment programs. It considers the number, complexity level and concurrency of prescribed fire projects and the size and variety of mechanical fuel treatment projects conducted annually on the unit.

A critical requirement for determining program complexity is that the rater first complete required individual prescribed fire complexity ratings, using the “NWCG Prescribed Fire Complexity Rating System Guide,” or other approved agency rating systems. Results are used as impacts to the “workload” sub-element.

| PRESCRIBED FIRE Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|----------------------|---|---|--|--------------|
| Prescribed Fire: <i>This sub-element describes the number and complexity level of prescribed fire projects conducted annually on the unit. Complexity level is determined by using the NWCG Prescribed Fire Complexity Rating System Guide (NFES 2474) or other approved agency complexity rating system.</i> | 5 | No prescribed fires conducted that rate at the HIGH complexity level. Less than 5 prescribed fires conducted annually at the MODERATE complexity level. No concurrent prescribed fire projects are conducted. No aviation activities are involved in conducting prescribed fires. | Numbers and complexity of prescribed fires conducted annually is greater than described in “LOW” and less than that described in “HIGH”. Episodes of concurrent ignitions do not include HIGH complexity level burns. Prescribed fires occasionally include aviation operations or support. | More than 10 prescribed fires are conducted annually that rate at MODERATE complexity or higher with at least 3 of those rated at the HIGH complexity level. Episodes of concurrent ignitions include HIGH complexity level burns. Prescribed fires frequently include aviation operations or support. | |
| Multiple Ownership/Multiple Jurisdictions: <i>This sub-element addresses multiple ownership/multiple jurisdiction prescribed fire situations.</i> | 2 | Prescribed fires conducted on agency lands only. No prescribed fires conducted on other ownership/jurisdiction. | One to five prescribed fires which involve multiple ownership/multiple jurisdictions are conducted annually. | More than five prescribed fires which involve multiple ownerships/multiple jurisdictions are conducted annually. | |

| PRESCRIBED FIRE Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|----------------------|---|---|---|--------------|
| Burn Season Length: <i>This sub-element addresses the length of the burn season as it affects program complexity.</i> | 2 | Fire season permits prescribed fires within prescription most of the year. Burns are easily planned and implemented with respect to burning window. | Conditions limit burning season to about six months of the year. Burn planning and implementation with respect to burn windows are somewhat more constrained but burning needs can usually be accomplished with one burn block per day. | Conditions severely limit length of burn season. Conditions to meet prescriptions limited to a very few months per year and in some years may not have a burn season at all. Burn planning and implementation severely constrained with respect to burn windows. Requires rapid expansion of burn program and multiple burn blocks each day in order to meet burning needs. | |
| Subtotal = | | | | | |

| MECHANICAL Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|--|-------------|--|---|---|-------|
| <p>Treatment Objectives: <i>This sub-element describes the ease or difficulty in accomplishing unit fuel treatment objectives resulting from environmental constraints, property boundary issues, and/or the variety of equipment needed to achieve the desired results</i></p> | 5 | <p>Mechanical project use is small and treatment objectives are non-controversial and easily accomplished.</p> <p>Treatment units are usually surrounded by agency controlled land.</p> <p>Environmental constraints cause no change in operating season and do not require special mitigation measures.</p> | <p>Use of mechanical fuel treatment method is extensive but treatment units only require a single mechanical entry after which the fuel profile is maintained with prescribed fire.</p> <p>Property boundaries are clearly marked and do not cause problems for project layout and mapping.</p> <p>Environmental constraints exist and mitigation measures and limited operating seasons are implemented but do not generally interfere with the accomplishment of fuel treatment objectives.</p> | <p>Use of mechanical fuel treatment method is extensive and treatment units require several mechanical entries before the fuel profile can be maintained with prescribed fire. Mechanical maintenance activities to existing treatments are required on a frequent, periodic basis.</p> <p>Property boundary definitions are complicated by mixed ownership and are not well-marked causing difficulty in project layout and mapping.</p> <p>Environmental constraints impose operating season and mitigation restrictions which severely compromise the ability to accomplish fuel treatment objectives.</p> | |
| <p>Implementation: <i>This sub-element described the extent of mechanical fuel treatment activities conducted on the unit, the environmental sensitivity of conducting those activities and the kind and</i></p> | 2 | <p>Simple implementation techniques and hand-operated tools are utilized to accomplish projects.</p> | <p>Multiple implementation techniques and tools are involved. The use of one type of heavy equipment is required to accomplish fuel treatment objectives.</p> | <p>Multiple, complex implementation techniques and tools are involved. Several types of heavy equipment are used to achieve fuel treatment objectives.</p> | |

| MECHANICAL Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|--|----------------------|--|---|--|--------------|
| <i>type of post-sale slash disposal methods which are required.</i> | | Opportunity for causing project related environmental damage is very low. Generally no post-sale fuel treatment activities are conducted. | Opportunity for causing project related environmental damage is related to the use of heavy equipment and can be mitigated. Post-sale activities are limited to the disposal of landing and road construction/maintenance slash. | Detail planning and implementation administration is required to avoid environmental damage. Several methods of post-sale treatments are conducted throughout the timber sale area and include activities such as dozer, grapple or excavator piling, whip-felling/thinning, chipping or small log yarding. | |
| Values to be Protected: <i>This sub-element describes the relative risk to life property and natural resources in the areas requiring treatment.</i> | 2 | Very little risk to people, property, and resources. | Risk to people, property, and resources is limited to a few isolated areas of high visitor use or development. | Great risk to people, property, and resources exists throughout much of the management unit. High visitor use or urban interface areas are adjacent to planned treatment areas. | |
| Subtotal= | | | | | |

COMPLEXITY RATING FOR AVIATION

EWV = 5

This element references the degree of complexity associated with the presence of an aviation program on the unit. Program complexity is described in terms of the number of program activities which use aviation, the necessity of having aviation expertise on the unit, the number and nature of aviation contracts managed, and the logistics involved in managing the aviation program, such as airspace coordination and permanent or temporary aviation bases.

| AVIATION Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|--|----------------------|--|--|---|--------------|
| Aviation: <i>(see description above)</i> | 5 | <p>Occasional demand for aviation resources met by cooperating agency, use of call-when-needed aircraft, or another unit.</p> <p>All aviation resources and management expertise is imported.</p> <p>A single aviation contract for point-to-point and/or detection services may be in place. No other exclusive use contracts are in place.</p> <p>No temporary aviation bases are established. Remote airstrips may be maintained.</p> <p>No unit aviation program exists. Support to other programs comes from outside sources.</p> | <p>Aviation program confined to one program activity, such as prescribed fire.</p> <p>Aviation expertise is on the unit (e.g. helicopter manager or fixed wing base manager, sufficient to manage exclusive use and/or call-when-needed aircraft).</p> <p>One exclusive use aviation contract, either fixed or rotor wing is in place. This would be other than a fixed wing point-to-point/detection contract.</p> <p>Temporary aviation bases for specific project needs may be established.</p> <p>The aviation program may provide support to non-fire related resource programs, such as wildlife surveys. This support involves up to 10% of the total aviation use.</p> | <p>Aviation program covers 2 or more program activities.</p> <p>The unit requires more than two personnel qualified to manage a mixture of aviation resources in exclusive use and/or call-when-needed contracts.</p> <p>Two or more exclusive use aviation contracts in place.</p> <p>Multiple aviation bases such as helibases are maintained.</p> <p>The aviation program provides support to non-fire related programs. This support involves greater than 10% of the total aviation use.</p> | |

| AVIATION Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|--------------|
| Aviation, continued | 5 | Airspace management is not a concern. Any military training route over the unit is well defined and does not create airspace conflicts. Fire operations do not take place in congested or controlled airspace. | Airspace management may be a concern, but careful planning prevents airspace conflicts. Fire operations may take place in the vicinity of congested or controlled airspace, requiring the issuance of a TFR. | Airspace management requires careful planning to avoid potential conflicts due to the presence of congested airspace in the vicinity of the unit. Numerous TFRs are issued annually. | |
| Subtotal = | | | | | |

COMPLEXITY RATING FOR WILDFIRE PREVENTION/WILDLAND FIRE EDUCATION **EWV = 2**

Wildfire Prevention

This element describes the complexity of a unit wildfire prevention program and is based on two major factors as determined in the unit Wildfire Prevention Analysis and Plan Process; 1) the “potential” of an area to incur suppression costs and natural, cultural or property loss or damage from wildland fires, and 2) an area’s history of suppression costs and resource/property loss or damage from both naturally ignited and human-caused wildland fires.

Wildland Fire Education

This element also describes the complexity of a wildland fire educational program and is directly related to the number of program objectives relating to wildland fire, including resource management, fire prevention, fuels management and fire suppression. The appropriate program level of wildland fire education can be determined by the need to develop and share the knowledge of wildland fire management and the related resource program information to an agency’s audiences.

| PREVENTION Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|--|-------------|--|---|---|-------|
| <p>Prevention: <i>This sub-element describes the extent of the wildfire prevention problem as a function of ignition risk, fuel hazard rating, the cost of fire suppression and wildfire damage potential. Ratings referenced are from the unit Wildfire Prevention and Analysis and Plan.</i></p> | 2 | At least 75% of the area’s prevention analysis ratings are low with no more than 20% rated as “moderate” and no more than 5% rated as “high”. Historical fires have not been expensive to suppress, do not create significant exposure to the public or firefighters and do not regularly cause resource, cultural or property loss or damage. | The area’s prevention analysis ratings are primarily “moderate” or “low”, with few rated as “high”. Historical fires occasionally are expensive to suppress, can create significant exposure to the public or firefighters and regularly cause resource, cultural or property loss or damage. | At least 75% of the area’s prevention analysis ratings are “moderate” or “high”, or the area contains concentrated political, social or economic values at risk. Historical fires are regularly expensive to suppress, create significant exposure to the public or firefighters and often cause resource, cultural or property loss or damage. | |
| Subtotal = | | | | | |

| EDUCATION Sub-Element | S W V | Low 1 | Moderate 3 | High 5 | Score |
|---|----------------------|--|---|--|--------------|
| <p>Wildland Fire Education: <i>This sub-element describes the diversity of audiences, the complexity of the message, the sophistication of the delivery system and the skill level necessary for implementation of a successful wildland fire education program.</i></p> | <p>2</p> | <p>Very few agency managers, staff, non-fire and fire specialists have a need for wildland fire knowledge.</p> <p>Very few groups or key individuals require information regarding wildland fire and its applications.</p> <p>Public interest is generally low and non-controversial. Few messages with simple content are needed.</p> <p>Message delivery involves one method of educating local audiences such as pamphlets.</p> <p>Includes agency individuals with little formal communication training or experience.</p> | <p>Many agency managers, staff, non-fire and fire specialists have a need for wildland fire knowledge in order to support fire program objectives.</p> <p>Groups or key individuals that are sensitive to wildland management decisions require information regarding wildland fire and its applications.</p> <p>An interested public demands continuous attention but the messages are general in nature and may be mass-produced and distributed.</p> <p>Message delivery involves a combination of methods to successfully educate audiences locally and regionally.</p> <p>Includes agency individuals with formal communication training, experience and skills.</p> | <p>All agency managers, staff, non-fire and fire specialists have an extensive need for wildland fire knowledge in order to effectively perform their duties.</p> <p>Several or many groups with diverse interests, active in or sensitive to wildland management decisions, require an education regarding wildland fire and its applications.</p> <p>Conflicting viewpoints of a variety of individuals and groups require carefully tailored messages.</p> <p>Message delivery involves implementation of several sophisticated methods and delivery vehicles that successfully educate audiences locally and over a large geographical area with a large population base.</p> <p>Include agency and non-agency individuals accomplished and experienced in developing and applying sophisticated communication strategies and methods.</p> | |

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| Subtotal = | |
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