

2021 FREMONT COUNTY OPERATING PLAN

2021 Fremont County Annual Operating Plan

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PREAMBLE

This local operating plan is prepared pursuant to the *Colorado Statewide Wildland Fire Management Operating Plan (State OP)*. The *State OP* was prepared pursuant to the *Colorado Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement*.

PURPOSE

This local operating plan is applicable to all signatory parties (Fremont County, Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region, and USDI Colorado Bureau of Land Management) within the State of Colorado. It addresses how signatories will implement cooperation, interagency working relationships and protocols, financial arrangements, and joint fire management activities within Fremont County, Colorado.

AUTHORITIES

- *Colorado Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement Between:*
 - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT – COLORADO
 - NATIONAL PARK SERVICE – INTERMOUNTAIN REGION
 - BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS – SOUTHWEST REGION
 - UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE – MOUNTAIN PRAIRIE REGION
 - UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE – ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION Agreement Number 21-FI-11020000-001
- *The State of Colorado, Department of Public Safety, Intergovernmental Agreement with the Board of County Commissioners for the County of Fremont*
- *Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Fremont County*

RECITALS

This local operating plan is promulgated to provide guidance to Local, State, Tribal, and Federal Agencies in the prevention and suppression of wildland fire.

The following abbreviations will be used throughout:

OP - this local operating plan

County - Fremont County

DFPC - Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control

Federal agencies - Federal land management agency signatory to this OP:

BLM - United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management

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USFS - United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service

All agencies - County, DFPC and Federal agencies that are signatory to this OP

INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

Interagency Dispatch Centers

The Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center (PIDC) is primarily funded by the federal land management agencies with some support from DFPC. PIDC is the primary dispatch center for federal agencies and DFPC. PIDC will dispatch interagency resources through the national interagency dispatch system, Interagency Resource Ordering Capability (IROC). The *Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center Mobilization Guide* details mobilization of interagency resources.

The County Dispatch Center is the primary dispatch center for local resources. PIDC and County Dispatch Center will cooperate and coordinate resource response.

Upon receiving the report of a fire PIDC or the County Dispatch Center will dispatch initial response forces. Once jurisdiction is determined, the responsible agency shall relieve the personnel of the assisting agency at the earliest possible time.

Interagency Resources

Interagency resources, as defined here, are aviation, crews, equipment (engines, dozers, etc.), overhead (personnel), and supplies in IROC. Interagency resources meet interagency standards. Only interagency resources will be mobilized through IROC.

Standards

Each jurisdictional agency is responsible for establishing standards for wildland fire response. During initial action, all agencies will accept each other's standards. Once jurisdiction is established, then the jurisdiction agency(s) standards will prevail.

Overhead resources must meet the interagency standard in the *National Wildfire Coordinating Group publication PMS 310-1: National Incident Management System, Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide* (NWCG 310-1) to be considered an interagency resource.

Equipment resources must meet the interagency standard in *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations, Chapter 14-Firefighting Equipment* (Red Book, Chap 14) to be considered an interagency resource. Nonfederal equipment resources must also meet the State of Colorado standard in *Colorado Resource Rate Form (CRRF), Colorado Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Prevention and Control, Division*

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of Homeland Security and Emergency Management-Use and Conditions to be considered an interagency resource.

Aviation resources must meet the interagency standard in United States, Department of Interior, Office of Aviation Services (OAS) and United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Fire and Aviation Management (USFS FAS) to be considered an interagency resource.

The County is encouraged to adopt the interagency standards referenced above for better coordination during response, emerging complex wildfires, and status in IROC.

DFPC overhead meet the NWCG 310-1 standard. DFPC equipment meets the Red Book, Chap14 standard. DFPC-contracted and DFPC-owned aviation meet the OAS and USFS FAS standard.

Federal agencies meet and exceed the all the NWCG interagency standards.

PREPAREDNESS

Protection Planning

PIDC maintains a resource list in WildCAD of DFPC and federal agency resources. Preparedness Levels are based on indices to determine placement and number of resources available for fire response. Staffing will be commensurate with fire conditions.

Protection Areas and Boundaries

County land ownership, Private land ownership, and State land ownership is under the County Sheriff fire jurisdiction. DFPC has no land ownership or fire jurisdiction. BLM land ownership is BLM fire jurisdiction. USFS land ownership is USFS fire jurisdiction. These maps will be used for determining jurisdiction boundaries (Attachment B).

Methods of Fire Protection and Suppression

Mutual Aid is the initial attack assistance provided by a supporting agency at no cost to the jurisdictional (protecting) agency for the Mutual Aid Period within the Mutual Aid Area. Supporting agencies may, upon request (or voluntarily) take initial attack action in support of the jurisdictional agency, and should notify the jurisdictional agency of lands involved or threatened. The jurisdictional agency is not obligated to reimburse a supporting agency for cost incurred during the Mutual Aid Period. It is understood that no supporting agency will be required to assist, or commit resources to a jurisdictional agency, if doing so may jeopardize the security of lands or the responsibilities of the supporting agency.

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The closest forces concept of the appropriate wildland fire resource will be used. There should be no delay in response pending determination of the precise location of the fire, land ownership, fire jurisdiction, or responsibility. The jurisdictional agency will assume command of the suppression action at the earliest possible time.

Reciprocal (Mutual Aid) Fire Assistance

The Jurisdictional Agency will not be required to reimburse the Supporting Agency(s) for costs incurred following the initial dispatch of any ground and aviation resources to the fire for the duration of the mutual aid period. Assistance beyond the Mutual Aid period will be reimbursable assistance, and the Supporting Agency may bill the Jurisdictional Agency for resources assigned to the fire outside the Mutual Aid period. It is understood that no supporting Agency will be required to assist, or expected to commit resources to a Jurisdictional Agency.

The mutual aid period is defined as the time of initial dispatch and ends at either midnight of the first operational period or midnight of the second operational period. All mutual aid periods will preferably end at midnight for ease of financial accounting and the development of cost share agreements.

Unless stated below, the mutual Aid Area will be one (1) mile either side of the jurisdictional boundary between the jurisdictional agency's land and the nearest jurisdictional agency's land.

The Rocky Mountain District will provide mutual aid countywide.

Mutual Aid Resources by agency:

- All County resources.
- DFPC equipment, overhead, and aviation resources.
- Federal crews, equipment, overhead, and aviation resources.

Acquisition of Services

Following mutual aid, the National Wildfire Coordinating Group publication, Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook, NWCG Handbook 2: PMS 902 (NWCG IIBMH) will guide cooperative, exchange, contract/fee basis fire protection services. Federal agencies and DFPC follow NWCG IIBMH, Chapter 50 specifically for cooperative and reimbursable fire protection services.

In addition to NWCG IIBMH, local fire agencies follow the *Colorado Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Prevention & Control and Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHSEM) Cooperator Incident Reimbursement Guidelines* for the reimbursement process. The Colorado Resource Rate Form (CRRF) is the basis

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for the reimbursement process. CRRFs within this County are part of this OP and officially referenced in Attachment C.

Joint Projects and Project Plans

All agencies may jointly conduct cooperative projects, within their authority and as authorized by law, to maintain or improve their fire management services and activities.

Fire Prevention

Fire prevention signs, including fire danger rating signs, are located and maintained by various jurisdictional agencies/departments. Agencies maintaining signs are encouraged to cooperate with other local agencies when updating signs as needed to reflect accurate fire danger ratings.

Public Use Restrictions

Fire restrictions should be coordinated and communicated between agencies. Agencies agree to use scientific methods and risk analysis to support decisions regarding issuance and removal of fire restrictions. The *Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Zone, Procedures for Initiation or Rescinding Fire Restrictions* serves as a guide for interagency fire restrictions. The procedures can be found on the PIDC website under the Fire Restrictions tab.

DFPC will assist coordination in any fire restrictions or closure within this DFPC Region, if necessary or requested.

Burning Permits

Property owners should contact their local fire department, fire protection district or the county for information about how and when to obtain a burn permit.

Prescribed Fire (Planned Ignitions) and Fuels Management

Prescribed Fire Management: Agencies may enter into project and/or financial plans that define roles and conditions for participating and/or assisting in the planning and implementation of prescribed burns. Such participation and/or assistance will adhere to individual agency authority, policy, and business practices. The host agency (the agency that is jurisdictionally responsible for land management or the agency that has an agreement with the land owning entity to provide for land management) will be responsible for initiating and developing the project and/or financial plans.

Escaped Prescribed Fires - All protocols and procedures pertaining to wildfire response, suppression, and business practices will be followed from the point in time that a prescribed fire escapes control and is declared a wildfire.

Smoke Management

Smoke permits are under the jurisdiction of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Air Pollution Control Division (APCD). APCD enforces both state and

federal air quality regulations. APCD administers smoke permits for two types of outdoor burning in Colorado: Open Burn Smoke Permit, Smoke Management Permit Burn Day Tools, permit applications, and other smoke guides are on the APCD website (Attachment A).

OPERATIONS

Fire Notifications

The County shall be notified of all fires on or threatening non-federal jurisdiction within the County via the County Dispatch Center (Attachment A).

DFPC shall be notified via the State Emergency Operations Line (Attachment A) of all fires beyond the capability of the County by the County.

Federal agencies shall be notified of all fires on or threatening federal jurisdiction via Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center (Attachment A).

Notification of all other agencies that are affected is the responsibility of the responding agency. All notifications shall be made as soon as possible to the jurisdictional agency.

Mutual Sharing of Information

In the event of a multi-jurisdictional fire and/or pre-attack planning each affected party can provide; maps, pertinent documents, GIS data, instructions, fire investigation reports e.g., upon request and to the extent that their policies, law permits and the statewide master fire agreement will allow. In the event a party is required by Federal or State law to release any shared material, the releasing party agrees to provide advance notice to the party who provided the material.

Boundary Line Fires

A fire adjacent to a protection boundary or located in an area of undetermined jurisdiction will be the initial attack responsibility of all agencies on both sides of the boundary until jurisdiction is determined.

If the fire is confined to a single jurisdiction, that agency will designate an IC. It shall be the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency to provide or mobilize replacement forces.

If multiple agencies are engaged in a fire on or near common boundaries, the agency representatives shall convene as soon as possible to mutually agree upon the fire strategy, establish a unified command, and delegate an Incident Commander (IC) as soon as possible. IC designation will be mutually decided by the jurisdictional agencies. Federal jurisdictions will assign a NWCG qualified Incident Commander.

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When a fire burns on both sides of a protection boundary or threatens another jurisdiction, and is beyond the mutual aid period, a cost share agreement shall be prepared and approved by the Unit Administrator or their designee for all actions as outlined in a Cost Share Agreement.

Response to Wildland Fire

Fires originating on non-Federal land will be suppressed. Fires will be suppressed using commonly accepted suppression tactics including but not limited to direct attack, indirect attack, point protection and combinations of all with consideration to the values at risk and the health and safety of the public and firefighters.

Suppression strategy within federal jurisdiction will generally not be conducted without direction from the federal agency. Lightning caused fires have potential for multiple objectives and managed for resource benefit. The appropriate federal jurisdiction will assume management responsibility for these fires.

The County and DFPC will generally limit initial attack to size up and reporting locations of fires within these areas and reporting to the jurisdictional agency.

Structure Protection

Structural fire suppression is the responsibility of local governments. DFPC and federal agencies may assist with exterior structural fire protection only.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

All agencies will adhere to the minimum required fireline PPE outlined in the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book), Chapter 7 Safety*:

- Wildland fire boots
- Fire shelter (M-2002)
- Hard hat with chinstrap
- Goggles/safety glasses
- Ear plugs/hearing protection
- Yellow long-sleeved flame resistant shirt
- Flame resistant trousers
- Leather or leather/flame resistant combination gloves.

Special Management Considerations

Mechanized equipment (bulldozers, graders, etc.) is not permitted on federal jurisdiction without the expressed approval of the federal agency.

Human caused fires on federal jurisdiction will be managed to meet suppression objectives that emphasize safety and cost effectiveness. Initial action on human caused

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fires will be to suppress the fire at the lowest cost with the fewest negative consequences with respect to firefighter and public safety.

Lightning caused fires on federal jurisdiction may initially be managed to achieve natural resource objectives. Lightning caused fires will be considered and evaluated for potential natural resource benefits, but only when the risks to values, firefighter and public safety can be effectively mitigated. Lightning caused fires on federal jurisdiction that could threaten private or state lands are managed by methods agreed upon by all potentially affected jurisdictions. Within the County, the following locations are considered for possible lightning caused fire to be managed for resource benefit are displayed by maps in Attachment B.

By Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, a wildfire may be concurrently managed for one or more objectives and objectives can change as the fire spreads across the landscape. Objectives are affected by changes in fuels, weather, topography; varying social understanding and tolerance, and risk management processes; and involvement of other governmental jurisdictions having different missions and objectives. When a wildland fire that is being managed for benefit spreads to a neighboring jurisdiction because of strategic decisions, and in a location where fire is not wanted, the managing jurisdiction may be responsible for wildfire suppression costs. Neighboring jurisdictions may enter into cost share agreements with the managing jurisdiction. This will be the case whether Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) is involved or not.

Personnel responding to incidents on BLM lands must be 18 years of age or older and hold the qualification of NWCG Firefighter Type 2.

Decision Process

As a fire situation evolves and changes, the objectives, strategies and tactics may also change. The process of monitoring, evaluating and determining appropriate objectives will be facilitated through the use of a decision support system (DSS). Wildland fires can be managed for more than one objective and objectives can change as fire spreads across the landscape. All agencies involved in initial attack should assist in the completion of the DSS. In extended attack fires, all jurisdictions shall be invited and involved in the DSS. When a fire is burning on or threatens to burn on multiple jurisdictions, one DSS should be prepared that considers all jurisdictions and their interests. If multi-jurisdictional fires occur that involve federal jurisdiction, then one DSS should be completed for the fire that includes input from all affected jurisdictions.

DFPC requires a DSS to be completed for all State Responsibility fires (fires funded by Emergency Fire Fund, State Emergency Declaration, or other State funds) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) declaration fires. DFPC is responsible for the completion and review of the DSS for these fires. While there are different DDS available, Wildland Fire Decision Support

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System (WFDSS) is the preferred DDS for federal and non-federal jurisdiction fires that have become a State Responsibility fire.

Federal agencies are required to utilize WFDSS for all fires that escape initial attack on federal jurisdiction, to determine the appropriate response. Depending on the location and situation, these objectives will include consideration for firefighter and public safety, protecting values and natural resources or appropriately managing suppression costs relative to the values at risk. WFDSS is the DSS to document these decisions. If there is a federal jurisdiction and non-federal jurisdiction fire, WFDSS shall incorporate federal, state, county and private land interests.

Cooperation

It is to the mutual advantage of all agencies to coordinate efforts for the prevention, detection, and suppression of wildfires in and adjacent to their areas of jurisdiction and responsibility to limit duplication as well as improve the effectiveness of wildland fire response. All agencies agree to cooperate, whenever possible, in all areas of wildland fire management.

If a fire threatens to cross-jurisdictions and could become a multi-jurisdiction fire, a local multi-agency coordination group (LMAC Group) may be formed. The LMAC Group will meet as a group to identify policies, objectives, and strategy, resulting in one common set of objectives given to a single incident commander for tactical implementation. It will also be the responsibility of the LMAC Group to determine cost sharing for multi-jurisdictional fires.

Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center Multi-Agency Coordination Group may be mobilized to coordinate all the affected agencies.

Communication

Public information will be coordinated with all media news releases on multi jurisdiction fires with all agencies involved. Media news releases on fire danger, fire restrictions and prescribed fire should be coordinated to the extent possible and issued jointly to the media.

A Joint Information Center (JIC) serves a unified information function and creates a unified message on multi-jurisdiction fires. If agencies involved determine a JIC is needed, these agencies will coordinate JIC staffing and JIC media news releases. Joint media news releases should reduce public confusion and help substantiate the message being issued.

Public Information Officer (PIO)

County jurisdiction fires or incidents that DFPC and federal resources respond to are identified as county assist will be handled by the County. PIDC PIO may handle these PIO duties, as requested by the County. An agency may decide that there are special information needs and may request that an agency or more qualified PIO to take over

information for a particular fire. If this occurs, be prepared to transition that fire to the new PIO and support the new PIO as necessary.

Cost efficiency

Cost effectiveness is the most economical use of the suppression resources necessary to accomplish objectives. Accomplishing fire operations objectives safely and efficiently will not be sacrificed for the sole purpose of “cost savings”. Care will be taken to ensure that suppression expenditures are commensurate with values to be protected, while understanding that other factors may influence spending decisions, including the social, political, economic, and biophysical environments.

Delegation of Authority

For extended attack fires, a written Delegation of Authority will be issued to the Incident Commander from all affected agencies. All agencies are encouraged to form and participate in a Unified Command in the Delegation of Authority to the respective Incident Commander.

Preservation of Evidence

The agency having jurisdiction is responsible for the fire origin and cause investigation. The initial attack incident commander should protect and preserve the fire origin area and any evidence associated with the fire cause and origin. The fire origin area should be immediately identified by first responders and protected to preserve any evidence that may help the investigation. Fire cause investigations are required for DFPC and federal agencies, and any FEMA-declaration fire. When a fire involves both federal and non-federal lands, a joint fire investigation is the recommended method.

STATE EMERGENCY FIRE FUND (EFF)

In the event of a fire that qualifies for assistance from the Emergency Fire Fund, the County agrees to supply these County resources for the duration of the fire:

County Sheriff's Office Representative,

County Commissioner Representative,

County Dispatch Center,

County Emergency Operations Center (County EOC),

County-owned property (fairgrounds, park, open space, airport, school, etc.),

County Road and Bridge/Public Works, water tender(s) with operator(s),

County Road and Bridge/Public Works, heavy equipment with operator(s), and

County Road and Bridge/Public Works electric roadway signs.

USE AND REIMBURSEMENT OF INTERAGENCY FIRE RESOURCES

Cost Share Agreement (Cost Share Methodologies)

All multi-jurisdictional fires shall have a cost share agreement. Negotiations should consider each agency's values at risk and resources assigned. Cost share agreements

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will be documented, including the basis or rationale used (State OP). These options are intended to help agencies negotiate an equitable agreement:

- Each jurisdiction pays for its own resources – fire suppression efforts are primarily on jurisdictional responsibility lands,
- Each jurisdiction pays for its own resources – services rendered approximate the percentage of jurisdictional responsibility, but not necessarily performed on those lands, cost share by percentage of ownership,
- Cost is apportioned by geographic division. Examples of geographic divisions are: Divisions A and B (using a map as an attachment); privately owned property with structures; or specific locations such as campgrounds, or
- Reconciliation of daily estimates (for larger, multi-day incidents). This method relies upon daily agreed to cost estimates, using Incident Action Plans or other means to determine multi-Agency contributions. Reimbursements can be made upon estimates instead of actual bill receipts.
- Aircraft resource costs will be negotiated on an incident by incident basis.
- When a fire that is being managed for benefit spreads to a neighboring jurisdiction because of strategic decisions, and in a location where fire is not wanted, the managing jurisdiction shall be responsible for wildfire suppression costs.

Training

All agencies should advise each other of planned training sessions as well as encourage participation from other agencies.

Communication Systems

All agencies may use the other's radio frequencies as needed to conduct emergency operations. However, no agency will use, or authorize others to use, another agency's radio frequencies for routine day-to-day operations. Fire protection districts and fire departments on incidents, under the auspices of the County, are granted permission to use federal radio frequencies, if needed, to assure safety of the operation. All agencies are authorized to transmit on Interagency Air-to-Ground frequencies during wildfire incidents. All agencies, fire protection districts and fire departments which use USFS and DOI frequencies for tactical or command purposes must have radios programmed with narrow band mode to facilitate clear transmission and reception. Incidents that exceed initial attack may utilize PIDC Zone plans for tactical or command radio traffic. The Type 3 Incident Communication Plan uses standardized frequencies available to all agencies and departments in each PIDC Zone. The established communication system for wildfire suppression is narrow-banded VHF frequency system. The County's primary communication system is DTR 800mHz frequencies, or digital trunk radio. DFPC may communicate on both VHF and DTR communication systems. Federal agencies utilize narrow band VHF frequencies. (Attachment D).

Fire Weather Systems

Rocky Mountain Area Predictive Services and the National Weather Service (NWS) provide a variety of products that are designed to support strategic and tactical decisions: Fire Weather Forecasts, Spot Forecasts, Smoke Management Forecasts, Fire Weather Watches, and Red Flag warnings. The National Weather Service has a website that can be used to set up weather information alerts and have them sent by email or phone. All agencies are encouraged to set up an account. Fuel Status data is found on the BLM Fuel Status Webpage. Data from remote automated weather stations (RAWStation) in the County will be considered when determining any fire restrictions, fire bans, etc. within the County (Attachment A).

Aviation Operations

Aviation resource use will follow procedural guidelines in *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations-Chapter 16, Aviation Operations and Resources*.

* On federal jurisdiction, the Interagency Guide for Aerial Application of Fire Retardant is mandatory and will be implemented except in cases where human life or public safety is threatened and retardant use within avoidance areas could be reasonably expected to alleviate that threat.

Aviation Ordering

Federal aviation resources and DFPC-contracted aviation resources are ordered through the PIDC and IROC.

DFPC-owned aviation resources are the multi-mission, fixed-wing aircraft available for infrared fire detection, intelligence gathering, and limited Air Attack Capability; are ordered through DFPC Emergency Operations Line (Attachment A). If not ordered for support of Federal incidents, the Attachment F must be completed and submitted to DFPC Duty Officer. MMA 328 (Tail number, N328SF) and MMA 327 (Tail number, N327SF). MMA 328 and MMA 327 fly at 18-30,000ft elevation well above the Fire Traffic Area (FTA) of 5,000ft and below.

Before responding, all aviation resources will coordinate with PIDC for radio frequencies, air space coordination (i.e. Air Attack), and hazards.

According to National Interagency Airspace Coordination Guide, federal aviation resources will not engage in fire activity with other aviation or ground resources till positive communication is established and air space hazards have been mitigated. All aviation resources responding to a fire shall use the Fire Traffic Area (FTA) protocol (Attachment E).

If radio communication problems develop, PIDC will coordinate with adjacent Interagency Dispatch Centers to provide flight following. If no communication is established between the overhead on the fire and aircraft, any aircraft dispatched or flight followed by PIDC will return to base and/or not engage the fire.

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All requests for aviation resources follow standard NMG and RMG guidelines for ordering Tactical Aircraft, to include the following information:

- a. Fire Name – (should describe geographical landmarks of the incident area).
- b. Incident Location - Latitude and Longitude of Incident (in degrees, minutes, seconds preferably)
- c. Name of ground contact (usually the IC of fire).
- d. Describe & Report any hazards/weather conditions within area (power lines, towers, other aircraft, etc.).
- e. Air to Ground Frequency – Provided by PIDC.
- f. Values at Risk/Sensitive Areas
- g. Type and kind aviation resource (consider need for high density altitude capable aircraft).

Aviation resources may be eligible for reimbursement according to current guidelines (Attachment E).

Billing Procedures

DFPC serves as the clearinghouse for fire business billing in the State of Colorado for County, State, and federal agencies for wildland fire incidents. The County may aggregate expenses incurred and present an invoice for such expenses to DFPC, who will then reimburse the County and subsequently bill the federal agency.

All invoices will have a payment due date 30 days after the date of issuance. If payment cannot be made before the 30 days expire, then a 30-day extension, with written justification, may be requested. Written notice that an invoice is contested will be mailed to the billing agency within 30 days of issuance of the final invoice, and will fully explain the area of dispute. Contested items will be resolved within the designated waiver period.

Invoices will be identified by fire name, fire number, date, Mutual Aid, location, jurisdictional unit, and supported by documentation to include but not limited to: separate invoice by Mutual Aid; list of personnel expenses including base, overtime, and travel; and supplies/services procured by vendor name and dollar amount. Invoices and payments shall be sent to the appropriate billing address (Attachment A)

Cost Recovery

In the event that cost recovery is pursued on a trespass fire (regardless of ownership), all costs from the time of initial report of the fire (including mutual aid) may be pursued. Federal policy requires federal agencies to pursue cost recovery for all human caused fires on federal jurisdiction.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Personnel Policy

All agencies shall be subject to the personnel rules, laws and regulations of their respective agencies, unless employed temporarily by another agency to this OP and the authority under which such temporary employment is authorized provides that such employees shall be subject to the employing agency's personnel rules, laws and regulations.

There are situations when additional support personnel are necessary for national mobilization and the need can be filled by supplemental personnel available to local fire agencies. These supplemental personnel are identified as "Supplemental Resources" defined as: Overhead tied to a local fire department generally by agreement who are mobilized primarily for response to incidents/wildland fires outside of their district or mutual aid zone. They are not a permanent part of the local fire organization and are not required to attend scheduled training, meetings, etc. of the department staff."

When this situation arises, Supplemental Resources are utilized as identified in the *Colorado Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Prevention & Control and Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHSEM) Cooperator Incident Reimbursement Guidelines* and documented with the CRRF. While on assignment, Supplemental Resources are considered local fire agency employees and the local fire agency will be reimbursed for their actual costs.

Modification

Modifications within the scope of this Operating Plan shall be made by mutual consent of the Parties, through the issuance of a written modification signed and dated by all Parties prior to any changes being performed. Any Party shall have the right to terminate their participation under this Operating Plan by providing six months written notice to the other Parties.

Annual Review

This Operating Plan will be reviewed annually and revised as needed. Operating plans will remain current until a revised Operating Plan is signed by all parties.

Duration of Agreement

This Operating Plan is executed as of the date of last signature and remains in effect for five years unless modified or superseded. If the current *Colorado Statewide Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement* is superseded by a new Agreement, this Operating Plan may remain in effect to the extent that it does not conflict with provisions of the new Agreement, but only until such time that all activities and conditions can be incorporated into a new Operating Plan.

Previous Agreements Superseded

2020 Fremont County AOP

2021 Fremont County Annual Operating Plan

SIGNATURES

Authorized Representatives

Fremont County

Allen Cooper
Signature

02/03/2022
Date

Allen Cooper
Printed Name

County Sheriff
Title

Dobson Bell
Signature

02/03/22
Date

Printed Name

County Commissioner
Title

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control

Signature

Date

Joe LoBiondo
Printed Name

Battalion Chief
Title

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Federal Land Management Agencies

Signature

Date

Diana M Trujillo
Printed Name

Forest Supervisor
Title

USDA Forest Service, Pike/San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron/Comanche National Grasslands, PSICC
Federal Agency, Unit

Signature

Date

Rick Maestas
Printed Name

Grants Management Specialist
Title

USDA Forest Service, Pike/San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron/Comanche National Grasslands, PSICC
Federal Agency, Unit

FS Agreement #21-FO-11021200-021

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Signature

Date

Catherine Cook
Printed Name

Rocky Mountain District Manager
Title

USDI Bureau of Land Management,
Federal Agency, Unit

ATTACHMENT A, Contact Information

Fremont County

Official billing address and phone

Fremont County Department/Office

Attn: Fire billing

Address: 615 Macon Ave. Room 101

Canon City, CO 81212

Phone: 719-276-7352

Fremont County Commissioners

615 Macon Ave. Room 101

Canon City, CO 81212

Office: 719-276-7300

Fax: 719-276-7412

Fremont County Dispatch Center

136 Justice Center Rd.

Canon City, CO 81212

Office: 719-792-6411

Fremont County Sheriff

Allen Cooper

100 Justice Center Road

Cañon City, CO 81212

Business (719) 276-5555

Emergency (719) 431-9966

Fremont County Emergency Manager

Mykel Kroll

1901 East Main Street (EOC as well)

Cañon City, CO 81212

Business (719) 276-7422

Emergency (719) 240-1608

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control

Colorado Emergency Operations Line (24 hour)
303-279-8855

Colorado Fire Bans and Danger (with links to each county in Colorado)

<http://www.coemergency.com/p/fire-bans-danger.html>

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Air Pollution Control Division

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/categories/services-and-information/environment/air-quality/outdoor-burning>

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control

<https://www.colorado.gov/dfpc>

Headquarters

690 Kipling Parkway, Suite 2000
Denver, CO 80215
Office: 303-239-4600
Fax: 303-239-5887

Official billing address and phone

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control
7385 Greendale Road - #102
Windsor, CO 80550
Phone: (720) 544-2269
dfpcfireadmin@state.co.us

Battalion Chief

Joe LoBiondo
Arkansas River Region
Address 515 McDaniel Blvd.
Canon City, CO 81212
Mobile: 719-466-3341

District Chief

Ty Webb
Southeast District
Mobile: 719-301-8286

Federal Land Management Agencies

Bureau of Land Management

Official billing address and phone

Bureau of Land Management

Attn: Fire Business

2850 Youngfield Street

Lakewood, CO 80215

Phone: (303) 239-3958

Fax: (303) 239-3811

Rocky Mountain District

3028 E. Main St.

Canon City, CO 81212

Office: 719-269-8500

Fax: 719-269-8599

<https://www.blm.gov/office/rocky-mountain-district>

Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center

2840 Kachina Drive

Pueblo, CO 81008

24 hour dispatch: 719-553-1600

Fax: 719-553-1616

<https://copbc@firenet.gov>

United States Forest Service

Official billing address and phone

USDA Forest Service – Region 2

Attn: Fire/Incident Business Manager

740 Simms Street

Golden, CO 80401-4720

Phone: (303) 275-5316

Fax: (303) 275-5754

Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands

Supervisor's Office

2840 Kachina Drive

Pueblo, CO 81008

Office: 719-553-1400

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/psicc>

2021 Fremont County Annual Operating Plan

Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands
San Carlos Ranger District
3028 East Main Street
Canon City, CO 81212
Office: 719-269-8500
Fax: 719-269-8599
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/psicc>

Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center

<http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/>

- 7-Day Fire Weather Outlook
- National Large Fire Potential Outlook
- Seasonal Fire Potential Outlooks
- Morning Intelligence Report

Rocky Mountain Area Fuels Status

https://www.blm.gov/colorado/rmafwx/fuel_status/public/index.php

Energy Release Component Graph

https://gacc.nifc.gov/gbcc/predictive/ERCMap/RMA/RAWS_ERC.html

National Weather Service (NWS)

Four Mile – 053903 RAWStation located near Oil Well Flats

Copper Gulch - 053904 RAWStation located just south of the intersection of Iron Mountain Road and McDonnell Drive.

National Weather Service, Pueblo Office

<https://www.weather.gov/pub/>

- Fire Weather Forecasts
- Red Flag Warnings
- Fire Weather Watch
- Spot Forecasts
- Smoke Management Forecasts.

**Fire Departments, Fire Protection Districts, and Volunteer Fire Departments
in Fremont County**

Canon City Fire Protection District

Chief: David DelVecchio (C) 719-371-7919

Station 1 (719) 275-8666

Station 2 (719) 275-0601

FAX: (719) 275-1486

Western Fremont Fire Protection District

Chief: John Walker

(719) 942-3333 (Station House not staffed)

(719) 942-3687 (Home/Work)

(719) 285-3030 (cell)

Deer Mtn. Volunteer Fire Department

Chief: JR Niblett

Station House; (719) 942-9610

FAX: (719) 942-4099

Cotopaxi Fire Rescue

(Member DMFPD)

(719) 942-9611 (Station House) unmanned

(719) 942-4299 (S.O. substation)

Florence Fire Protection District

District Chief: Bill Ritter

Cell (719) 429-6054

Florence Volunteer Fire Department (Station 1)

Station Chief: Bill Ritter

Station House (719) 784-3611

Penrose Volunteer Fire Department (Station 2)

Station Chief: John Dison

Station House; (719) 372-3001

Rockvale Volunteer Fire Department (Station 3)

Station Chief: Larry Todd

(719) 252-4362 (cell)

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Howard Volunteer Fire Department

Chief: Dan Ogden

(719) 942-3045 (Work)

(719) 942-3352 (Home)

(719) 942-4833 (Local Dispatch)

South Arkansas FPD

Chief: Doug Bess

(719) 539-2212 station

(719) 539-2596 dispatch

(719) 539-8075 cell

Tallahassee Volunteer Fire Protection

Chief: Mark Norris

(719) 371-0064 (primary)

800-316-8233 (message/fax)

Local Dispatch - (719) 275-3058

Royal Gorge Bridge and Park (within CC FPD)

Chief: Bob Clement

(719) 276-8361 Office

(719) 275-7507 Dispatch

Wet Mountain FPD

Chief: Matt Nolting

Cell: 719-369-1370

Admin: Teri Munson

Office: 719-783-9245

FRECOM Dispatch

Director: William Bill Duggan

(719) 276-5565

ATTACHMENT B, Maps

BLM, Colorado Surface Management map, Canon City – 2009, Pueblo – 2002 Colorado Springs – 2001 and Pikes Peak – 2010.

USFS, (Pike San Isabel) National Forest map (2010)

Map of areas for potential Fire Managed for Resource Benefit

USFS Retardant Avoidance Map

All maps are available from the USFS/BLM Canon City office.

ATTACHMENT C, Finance

There are 5 CRRFs involving local fire agencies within Fremont County. These documents are available upon request from the DFPC Regional FMO.

(List CRRF name and unit identifier here as an official reference like example below)

1. CCIX – Canon City FPD
2. CLDX – Western Fremont FPD
3. DEMX – Deer Mountain VFD
4. FLOX – Florence FPD
5. TALX – Tallahassee FPD

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, 2021 Colorado Wildland Fire Resource Funding Guidelines (Version: 12/14/2020)

**ATTACHMENT D, Radio
Non-federal Jurisdiction Frequencies**

Channel Name	RX	TX	Tone
FRE MAC 1	Fremont MAC 1	800MHz	
FRE MAC 2	Fremont MAC2	800MHz	

Federal Jurisdiction VHF Frequencies

Common Radio Frequencies

Channel Name	RX	TX	Tone
Pike Direct	171.1375	171.1375	110.9
Pike NF Repeaters	171.1375	164.9875	See guide below
San Isabel Direct	169.9000	169.9000	110.9
San Is NF Repeaters	169.9000	164.9124	See guide below
Grassland Direct	170.5000	170.5000	110.9
Grasslands Repeaters	170.5000	164.8000	See guide below
BLM Twin Direct	173.6750	173.6750	156.7
BLM Repeaters	173.6750	164.6250	See guide below
RGF Direct	172.2500	172.2500	123.0
RGF Repeaters	172.2500	164.1500	See guide below

Initial Attack Air Frequencies

CO 07 – Pueblo Dispatch		KS 01 – Pueblo Dispatch		CO 06 – Fort Collins Dispatch		CO 05 – Durango Dispatch	
A/G 35:	167.2250	A/G 02:	166.6375	A/G 09:	166.9125	A/G 09:	169.9125
A/G 10:	166.9375	A/G 06:	166.8000	A/G 58:	169.0875	A/G 07:	166.8500

Forest/ BLM Repeaters

Tone	Pike	San Isabel	Grasslands	BLM	Rio Grande
110.9		Quail			Boot Mtn.
123.0	N Twin Cone	Deer Peak	Picketwire		Circus Rock
131.8	Indian Creek	FS Twin	Timpas		Whale Hill
136.5	Mt Evans	12 Mile	Springfield		Bristol
146.2	Long Water Gulch	Cordova	Campo		Grey Back
156.7	Devils Head	Adobe Peak	Tater Butte	Methodist	San Antonio
167.9	Almagre	Badito Cone	Elkhart		Zapata
103.5	Stanley	Methodist			
100.0	Cheyenne Creek				
107.2	Lake George	Bristol Cone			
114.8	Topaz Mtn.	<i>Coal Camp</i>			
127.3	Dicks Peak	Basam		Canyon Portable	
141.3	Sheep Ridge	Falls Gulch		Pisgah	
151.4	Mt. Baily	South Peak			
162.2	Badger Mtn.	Zion			
192.8	Portable	Portable	Portable		

ATTACHMENT E, Aviation



- DFPC Multi-Mission Aircraft Request Order Form (Version: 2019)

- 2021 Wildland Fire Resource Funding Guidelines

