

Central Coast Range and Cascades Fire Planning Unit (FPU) Fire Management Plan

Section I: Introduction

Purpose

The intent of this Fire Management Plan (FMP) is to provide a means to achieve resource protection objectives and to provide guidance for fire management activities conducted on federal lands within the Fire Planning Unit (FPU). It incorporates management guidelines and objectives of the Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan, Roseburg District, June 1995 (Roseburg RMP) and the Final Environmental Impact Statement Land and Resource Management Plan, Umpqua National Forest, 1990 (Umpqua RMP), as amended by the NW Forest Plan¹. Throughout this FMP these documents will be collectively referred to as the Land Use Plans (LUP's). Each LUP will be specifically cited where different management direction and guidelines apply.

This FMP also incorporates guidance from the Federal Wildland Fire Policy (1995, updated 2001), A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment: 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy (August 2001), Implementation Plan (2002), The Interagency Fire Management Plan Template and various other agency specific manuals and fire management guidance.

The Federal Wildland Fire Policy requires a description of fire management activities for all burnable acres of federal land that also recognizes the ecological importance of fire's role on the landscape. This FMP also addresses the need and direction for a collaborative approach to fire management issues such as reducing wildland fire risk to communities and the environment, as expressed in the Cohesive Strategy and the implementation plan of the 10 Year Comprehensive Strategy.

This FMP provides firefighting resources, cooperators and administrators with a clear understanding of the appropriate suppression response, resource and management objectives, concerns and constraints, planned actions, and organizational roles and responsibilities in terms of fire management for each FPU.

Resource and fire management specialists will conduct a yearly review of the FMP to:

- Evaluate its effectiveness,
- Ensure that the intent of the plan is being met,
- Confirm that operations and plans are within the framework of the parent documents, and
- Verify that threshold limitations are not being approached or exceeded.

¹ Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl, 1994

This FMP provides information necessary to run the preparedness module of the Fire Program Analysis (FPA) software, a new budget analysis system for federal agency fire organizations. The FPA is scheduled to begin implementation in fiscal year (FY) 2005.

Collaboration

The Central Coast Range and Cascades Fire Planning Unit (FPU) consists of two administrative units, the Umpqua National Forest (Umpqua) and the Roseburg District Office of the Bureau of Land Management (Roseburg BLM). Unique to this FPU, several state and private fire management organizations contribute to the fire management program under cooperative agreement with the federal land management agencies. They are:

- Douglas Unit of the State of Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)
- Eastern Lane Unit of the ODF (Eastern Lane)
- Western Lane Unit of the ODF (Western Lane)
- Coos Bay Forest Protective Association (CFPA)
- Douglas Forest Protective Association (DFPA)

The Roseburg BLM, the DFPA, and the Umpqua are currently studying the feasibility of an interagency Dispatch Center. Future coordination and collaboration needs exist in the areas of fire prevention, fuels planning and implementation, and providing a mix of firefighting resources that are both cost effective and meet the safety needs of agency personnel, adjoining private lands and the public.

Relationship to Environmental Compliance

The FMP is not a decision document. It is based on key components of each LUP, which have previously received extensive internal and public review. This FMP is an implementation plan based on those parent documents.

Program of Action

National and state direction, as well as public and cooperator initiatives, were identified a need to view the fire management activities of the agencies involved as an integrated planning unit.

The need to protect the expanding wildland urban interface led to the creation of the National Fire Plan of 2000 with its mandates, funding sources, and direction as to how those protection needs may be met. The emphasis of these national level programs are based on collaboration and cooperation between all agencies in the planning, project implementation, prevention and education processes, as well as in providing fire fighting resources and the infrastructure necessary to carry out these and other approved fire management activities.

Authorities

Federal and state land management agencies have laws, regulations and policies guiding their fire management programs. As these laws and policies are developed and evolve over time, management plans are written that provide direction or guidance for

implementation. The authorities for these plans, and the delegation of authority to implement planning activities within the FPU, are listed below.

- BLM Manual 9210 describes the authority for fire management activities on Bureau of Land Management Lands.
- Forest Service Manual (FSM) 5101 describes the authority for fire management activities on National Forest System Lands.
- FSM 5108 lists pertinent references for guidance on the minimum standards and procedures for wildland fire management.
- Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 477.005 provides the original framework for policy within the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Protective Associations. This Statute is described in more detail in the next section.

