

Chapter 2. POLICY, LAND MANAGEMENT PLANNING, AND PARTNERSHIPS

The regulations and policy in the following documents guide the fire management as outlined in this FMP.

2.1. National and Regional Fire Management Policy

Forest Service policy and direction that are relevant to this plan include:

-  **National Fire Plan**
-  **The Implementation Plan for the 10 year Comprehensive Strategy and Collaborative Memorandum of Understanding**
-  **Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement**
-  **Protecting People and Sustaining Resources in Fire Adapted Ecosystems – A Cohesive Strategy**
-  **1995 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Program Review (January 2001)**
-  **A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment: 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy, August 2001, May 2002, December 2006**
-  **Guidance for Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy (February, 2009)**
-  **Interagency Standards for Fire & Aviation Operations 2011 (Redbook)**
-  **Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG) 2009**
-  **Interagency SEAT Operations Guide 2009**
-  **Pacific Northwest Aviation Plan**
-  **The Healthy Forests Initiative and Healthy Forests Restoration Act**
-  **Interagency Special Status / Sensitive Species Program**
-  **Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife - Threatened, Endangered, and Candidate Fish and Wildlife Species in Oregon**
-  **Forest Service Manual 5100 (Fire Management)**
-  **Forest Service Manual 2320 (Wilderness Management)**
-  **Forest Service Handbook 5109 (Fire Management)**
-  **Aerial Application of Fire Retardant, ROD Dec 2011**
- **Inland Native Fish Strategy (INFISH), 1995**
- **Northwest Forest Plan**

- ▼ BLM Manual 9200-9218 described the authority for fire management activities on Bureau of Land Management Lands
- 🏞️ **National Park Service Reference Manual – 18**
- 📜 **Senate Bill 360 (Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protective Act of 1997)**

2.2. Interagency Land and Resource Management Plan

- 📜 **Rogue River National Forests , Land and Resource Management Plan(1990 as amended)**
- 📜 **Siskiyou National Forests, Land and Resource Management Plan (1989 as amended)**
- 📜 **Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest Fire Use Amendment Environmental Assessment**
- 📜 **Record of Decision to Remove or Modify the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines in Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (March 2004)**
- ▼ **Medford District BLM Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision (1995)**
- ▼ *Record of Decision (ROD) for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl” and associated “Standards and Guidelines for Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl” (Northwest Forest Plan, 1994)*
- ▼ Record of Decision Amending Resource Management Plans for Seven Bureau of Land Management Districts and Land and Resource Management Plans for Nineteen National Forests Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl Decision to Clarify Provisions Relating to the Aquatic Conservation Strategy (March 2004)
- 🏞️ **Resource Management Plan and General Management Plan for Oregon Caves National Monument (1998)**
- **Interagency Special Status Species EIS (2007)**

- Record of Decision to the Northwest Forest Plan, Decision to Clarify Provisions Relating to the Aquatic Conservation Strategy (March 2004)
- **Record of Decision and Land and Resource Management Plan Amendment for Management of Port-Orford-Cedar in Southwest Oregon (March 2004)**

Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP)

The NWFP contains direction for *survey and management* of potentially rare and/or isolated species. The latest direction (released in May 2008) and can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/pacific/ecoservices/endangered/recovery/NSORRecoveryPlanning.htm>

The NWFP addresses wildland fire in Appendix B8: Fire Management Standards and Guidelines, Pages B133-B136 (1994). These standards include:

- Fire managers will respond to all wildland fires by taking appropriate suppression (management) responses. In most cases, responses will consist of aggressive initial attack.
- Fire management plans will be written or revised for all areas, as necessary, consistent with existing guidance. The plans will be developed in an interdisciplinary manner.
- The use of prescribed fire for ecosystem management will restore processes that have been limited by relatively effective fire exclusion.
- The goal is to reduce the risk of large scale, high intensity wildland fires which will prevent land managers from meeting resource management objectives.
- Resource experts should be involved in project level (prescribed fire) plans.
- Adhere to air quality Standards & Guidelines (S&G's). Fire should be used to restore or maintain ecosystem processes or structures.

2.3. Partnership

The Southwest Oregon FPU consists of 4 primary administrative jurisdictions that provide much of the wildland fire protection response, fuels management, and other wildland fire management activity for the planning area. These primary jurisdictions include:

-  U.S. Forest Service, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest
-  Bureau of Land Management, Medford District
-  Oregon Department of Forestry, Southwest Oregon District
-  National Park Service, Oregon Caves National Monument

The group's mission is to promote safe, effective fire management through interagency cooperation. Because many wildland fires are of a multi-jurisdictional nature, interagency cooperation provides an ideal background for cohesive ecological, social, political and ecological considerations for land management.

The primary jurisdictions of SWOFPU have had cooperative agreements and close working relationships with local and county organizations for well over a decade. Community capacity is very high in some places, and localized efforts have taken place in developing community fire plans. All Counties with land within the FPU have been required by the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) to compile emergency management systems for natural disasters (including wildland fire). In the development and updating of these Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP), the federal agencies have provided expertise in fire and fuels analysis in order to more accurately assess a strategic hazard and risk reduction outlook with all stakeholders involved.