

Appendix B
Fire Policy Background Regarding Fire Management Plans

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The 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy (1995 Federal Fire Policy) requires Fire Management Plans (FMPs) on all areas with burnable vegetation. Fire Management Plans are integrated with the underlying forest land and resource management plan. Fire Management Plans address all aspects of fire management activities and are the foundation for implementing the Federal Fire Policy (updated 2001). The 2001 Federal Fire Policy clearly states that response to wildland fire is based on the Fire Management Plan, not the ignition source or the location of the fire. Fire Management Plans are strategic plans that define a program to manage wildland fires based on the Forest's approved land and resource management plan.

Fire Management Plans address a full range of fire management activities that support ecosystem sustainability, values to be protected, protection of firefighter and public safety, public health and environmental issues, and must be consistent with the resource management objectives and activities of the Forest's land management plan. Fire management activities include fire planning, fire management strategies, tactics, and alternatives, prevention; preparedness, education, and address the role of mitigation, post-fire rehabilitation, fuels reduction and restoration in fire management.

Forest Plan Language: FMPs cite the appropriate language from the LRMP that addresses the natural role of fire and fire management activities and considers the full range of appropriate management response (AMR) to wildland fire. The AMR is the response to wildland fire based on an evaluation of risks to firefighter and public safety, the circumstances under which the fire occurs, including weather and fuel conditions, natural and cultural resource management objectives, protection priorities, and values to be protected. The evaluation also includes an analysis of the context of the specific fire within the overall local, geographic area or national wildland fire situation. The FMP goals are consistent with the desired condition in the LRMP/Theme area. The FMP directs fire management actions in a manner compatible with overall LRMP/Theme management objectives. FMPs discuss the effects of fire management activities and natural fire on the five factors of the environment (e.g. soil, air, water, vegetation and wildlife) and also include discussion of the biological, physical, social, and economic inter-relationships. FMPs are reviewed and revised annually.