Beachie Creek
Incident Decision

Published
08/21/20 19:59

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1. Decision

1.1. Decision Summary

Decision Information

NAME	VALUE
Published	08/21/2020 19:59 CDT
Estimated Cost	$10,000,000
Incident Owner(s)	Chris Donaldson, Katherine Reed, Lyn Medley
Editor(s)	brandon coville, Chris Mushrush, Duane Bishop, David Warnack, edward hiatt, Robert Gentry
Reviewer(s)	
Approver(s)	David Warnack
Natl Preparedness Level	5

Decision History

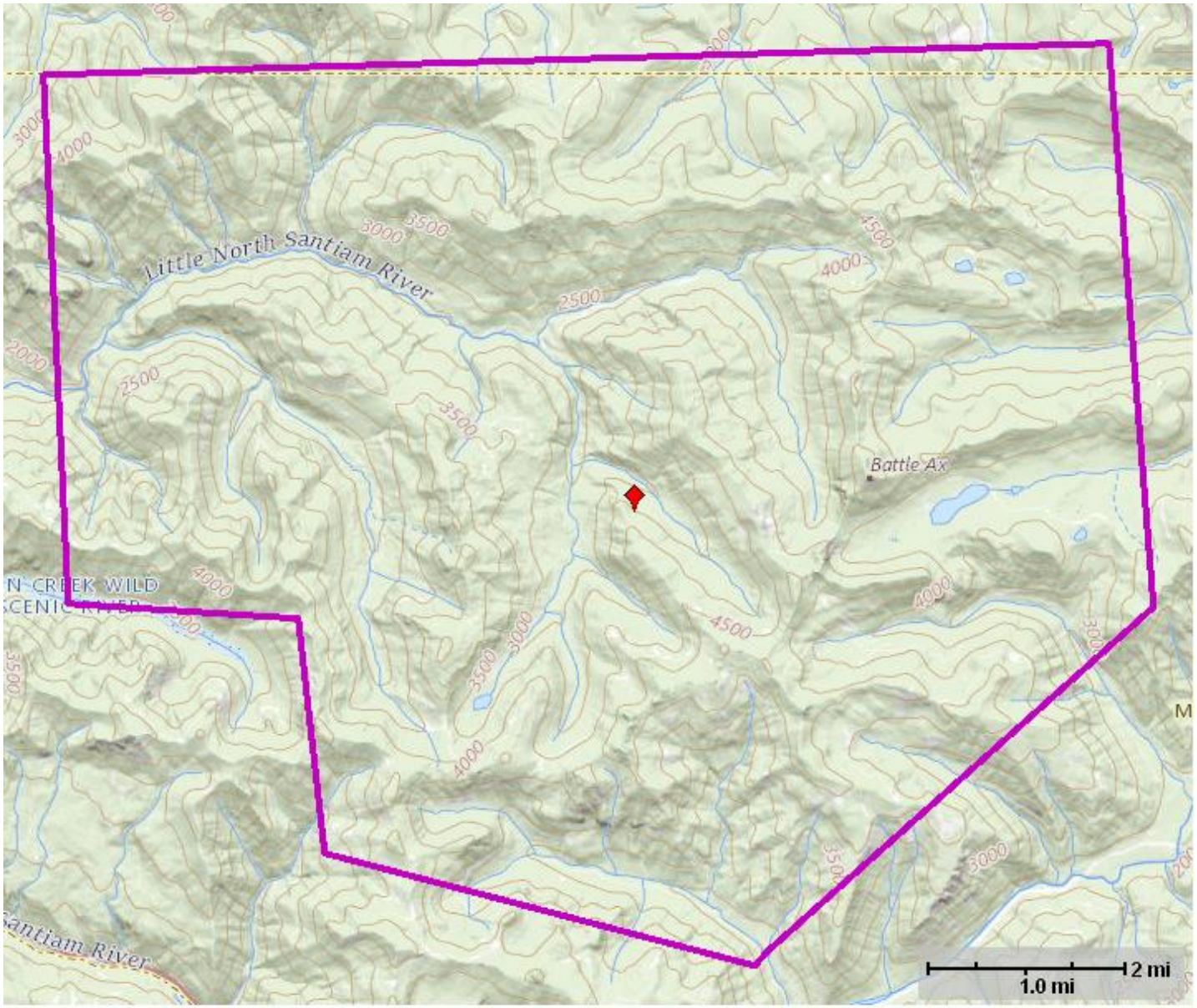
Editor Name	Action	Date (CDT)	Comment
Warnack, David	Published	08/21/2020 19:59	
Warnack, David	Approved	08/21/2020 19:59	
Donaldson, Chris	Review Requested	08/21/2020 18:24	
Donaldson, Chris	Review Requested	08/21/2020 18:24	Complexity analysis has been updated to show the need for the NIMO Type 1 IMT. I couldn't figure out a way to attach the Complexity Analysis that Brandon created within WFDSS, but I can combine the two documents once we have the decision in a PDF. Let myself or Robert know if you see any more needed edits.
Medley, Lyn	Created	08/20/2020 17:24	

1.2. Incident Information

Incident Information

NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Unique Fire Identifier	2020-ORWIF-200299
Responsible Unit Name	Willamette National Forest
FireCode	NFN5
P-Code	P6NFN5
Point of Origin	44.82111N / 122.188 W
Incident Size	10acres
Latest WFDSS Perimeter Size	0acres
Incident Cause	Unknown
Incident Type	Wildfire
Incident Discovery	08/16/2020 11:18
Contained	
Controlled	
Out	
Jurisdictional Unit	ORWIF - Willamette National Forest
Jurisdictional Agency(s)	USFS
Geographic Area (prep level)	Northwest (4)
Owner Name(s)	Chris Donaldson, Katherine Reed, Lyn Medley

Incident Map



1.3. Weather

Fire Weather Zone Forecast

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000
FNUS56 KPQR 212113
FWFPQR
Fire Weather Planning Forecast for NW Oregon and SW Washington
National Weather Service Portland OR
213 PM PDT Fri Aug 21 2020
.BROADCAST DISCUSSION...Areas of rain will dissipate tonight as
the cold front moves inland. Dry and warm weather expected as high
pressure develops Saturday night through the next week.
.DISCUSSION...The cold front continues to move inland this
afternoon bringing rain to much of the forecast area. Radar shows
the wide swath of rain that encompasses much of the fire weather
area. As the cold front pushes eastward this afternoon and
evening, expect the stratiform rain to transition into showers
with all precipitation ceasing by Saturday morning. Winds during
this time have mainly been southerly with periodic gusts with
passing heavier rain.
On Saturday, high pressure will begin to build in over the
Pacific. This high pressure will cause winds to begin to shift
into a more northerly direction. With the influx of continental
air, expect conditions to dry out. Temperatures will begin to
slowly increase on Saturday with high temperatures reaching the
mid 80s through the Willamette Valley and Columbia Gorge while
the Cascades will remain in the mid 70s. With the residual
moisture from the previous day's rain, can expect slightly higher
relative humidity during the day with good recoveries overnight.
Can expect gustier winds in the afternoon as the temperature
gradient increases with the diurnal heating.
Little change in conditions Saturday night through the middle of
next week as the high pressure is anchored over the Pacific. The
high pressure ridge will be reaching its maximum intensity but
temperatures will stay fairly seasonable. Relative humidity and
sustained winds should stay above concerning thresholds through
the week.
Fcstr...Muessle
$$
***Winds are 20-Foot 10 Minute Averages***
***CWR-Chance of Wetting Rain 0.25 or greater***
$$
ORZ608-221815-
Willamette National Forest-
213 PM PDT Fri Aug 21 2020
.TONIGHT...
* Sky/Weather.............Mostly cloudy until 0300, then partly
  cloudy. A chance of showers until midnight.
* Min Temperature.........46-55.
* Max Humidity............90-95%.
* 20-Foot Winds...........
* Valleys/Lwr Slopes.......West 6-8 mph becoming drainage less than
  5 mph.
* Ridges/Upr Slopes........West 7-10 mph with gusts up to 18 mph becoming
  variable less than 5 mph.
* CWR.....................10%.
* LAL.....................1.
* Haines Index (High).....2 (very low).
* Mixing Height...........500 ft agl.
* Transport Winds.........West around 10 mph decreasing to around
  5 mph after midnight.
.SATURDAY...
* Sky/Weather.............Partly cloudy until 1200, then sunny.
* Max Temperature.........73-79, except 67-73 ridges.
* Min Humidity............40-51%.
* 20-Foot Winds...........
* Valleys/Lwr Slopes.......Upslope 2-6 mph becoming northwest 3-6
  mph late afternoon.
* Ridges/Upr Slopes........Variable 2-6 mph.
* CWR.....................0%.
* LAL.....................1.
* Haines Index (High).....4 (low).
* Mixing Height...........6500 ft agl.
* Transport Winds.........Northeast around 5 mph shifting to the
  northwest in the afternoon.
.SATURDAY NIGHT...
* Sky/Weather.............Mostly clear.
* Min Temperature.........49-54.
* Max Humidity............70-80%.
* 20-Foot Winds...........
* Valleys/Lwr Slopes.......Northwest 3-6 mph early evening becoming
  drainage less than 5 mph.
* Ridges/Upr Slopes........Variable less than 5 mph.
* CWR.....................0%.
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* LAL.....................1.
* Haines Index (High).....5 (moderate).
* Mixing Height............Near surface.
* Transport Winds.........Northwest around 5 mph shifting to the
  east after midnight.
.SUNDAY...
* Sky/Weather.............Sunny.
* Max Temperature.........76-84, except 71-77 ridges.
* Min Humidity............33-42%.
* 20-Foot Winds...........
* Valleys/Lwr Slopes.....Upslope 2-6 mph.
* Ridges/Upr Slopes.....Variable 2-6 mph.
* CWR.....................0%.
* LAL.....................1.
* Haines Index (High).....5 (moderate).
* Mixing Height............7500 ft agl.
* Transport Winds.........East around 5 mph shifting to the
  southwest in the afternoon.
.Forecast days 3 through 7......
.SUNDAY EVENING...Mostly clear. Northwest winds 3-5 mph with
gusts up to 15 mph.
.MONDAY THROUGH TUESDAY...Mostly clear. Lows 48-54. Highs 70-80.
Northwest winds 3-6 mph. Minimum humidity 36-45%.
.WEDNESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY...Clear. Lows 47-55. Highs 72-82.
Northwest winds 3-6 mph. Minimum humidity 36-45%.
&&
                  TEMPERATURE         /          HUMIDITY
Pebble       48     77     49     81  /   95     39     75     34
Fields       53     77     53     81  /   95     46     76     36
Emigrant     53     82     56     89  /   88     38     71     29
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1.4. Modeling

1.5. Risk

Relative Risk

NAME	VALUE
Relative Risk	High
Duration	High
Saved By	Donaldson, Chris
Completed	08/20/2020 19:25 CDT

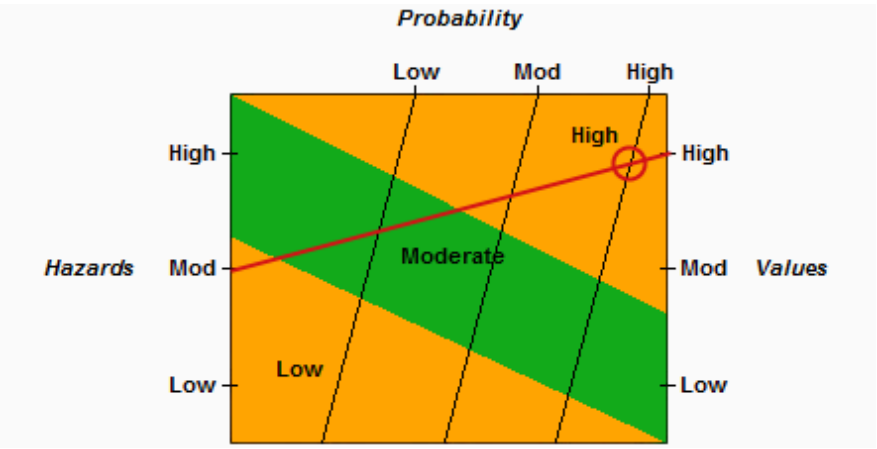
Relative Risk Notes
There is still at least several more weeks of fire season before wetting rain can be expected. There is a moderate potential for the fire to be contained by natural and constructed barriers but in the event weather patterns create the potential for extreme fire behavior these barriers may not prove to be effective.

Values Notes
Fire is located in the Opal Creek Wilderness approximately two miles south of Jawbone Flats. With the current weather forecast the fire is not anticipated to impact any private lands, but impacts to Jawbone Flats and local recreation use on public lands is very high. Proximity to Salem, air quality concerns with COVID 19.
High use recreation area closure is an economical concern.

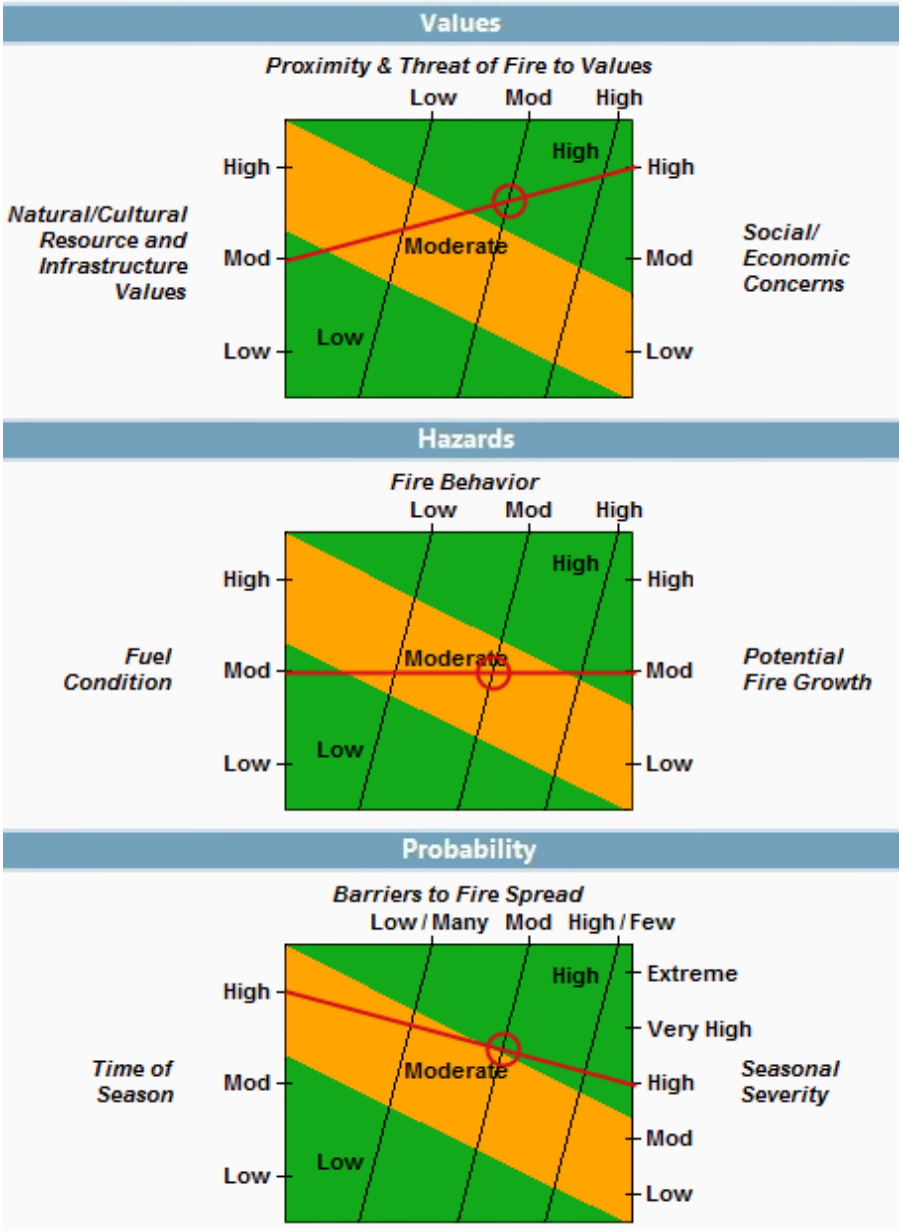
Hazards Notes
ERC's in the fire area are at the 75 percentile and 1000 hours fuels are at 16%. Fire season is at expected to last at least three more weeks, with the potential to continue into late October. FSPro runs show limit potential for growth through the Aug 23rd, but additional long term modelling should be done.

Probability Notes
The Forest is at the height of fire season and weather events conducive to large fire growth days are still possible. There are several creek with adequate water flow to slow fire spread to the north and west of the fire and road systems to the south and east.

Relative Risk Chart



Relative Risk Inputs



Organization Assessment

NAME	VALUE
Unit Recommended Org	Type 1
Saved By	Donaldson, Chris
Completed	08/20/2020 19:27 CDT

Organization Assessment Notes

The current plan is to utilize aviation resources to slow fire spread and identify a series of natural and constructed barriers as containment lines. Additional duties of the management team will need to include a strong public information component, long term fire behavior and spread potential analysis, and strategic planning. The decision is to utilize a NIMO team augmented with local resources to create a long term organization to mange the incident.

Relative Risk Notes

There is still at least several more weeks of fire season before wetting rain can be expected. There is a moderate potential for the fire to be contained by natural and constructed barriers but in the event weather patterns create the potential for extreme fire behavior these barriers may not prove to be effective.

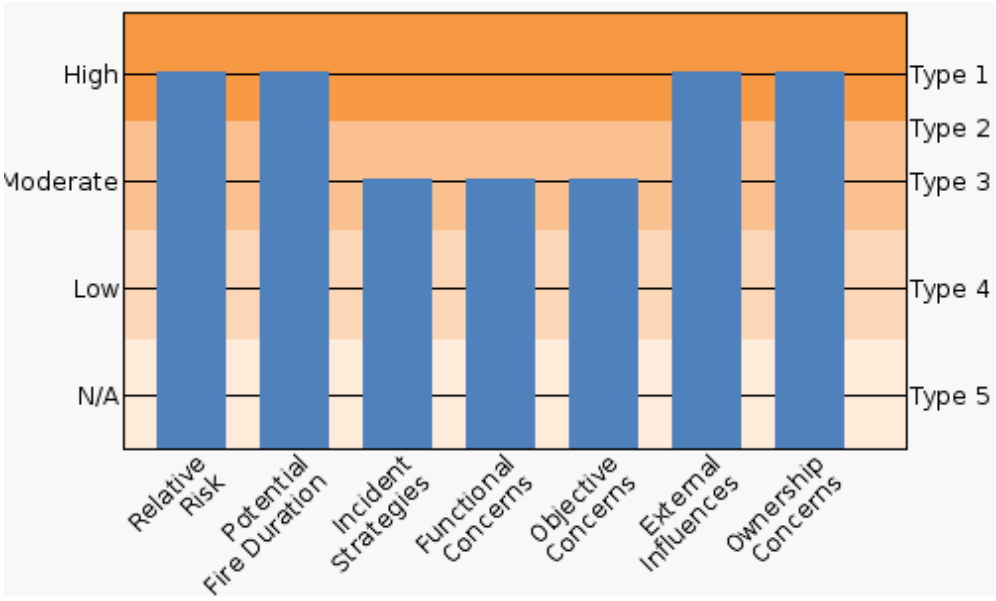
Implementation Difficulty Notes

Access to the fire is challenging due to steep terrain and heavy fuels. Direct attack is not possible and placement of indirect lines is being scouted. Short term weather forecast does not indicate that the fire will exhibit extreme fire behavior for at least the next seven days.

Socio/Political Concerns Notes

Currently threat of fire spreading off FS land is low, but if natural barriers are unable to stop fire spread a larger planning area will be needed and a unified command with ODF established. Jawbone Flats is located approximately two miles north of the fire and may need to be evacuated if fire crosses beachie creek.

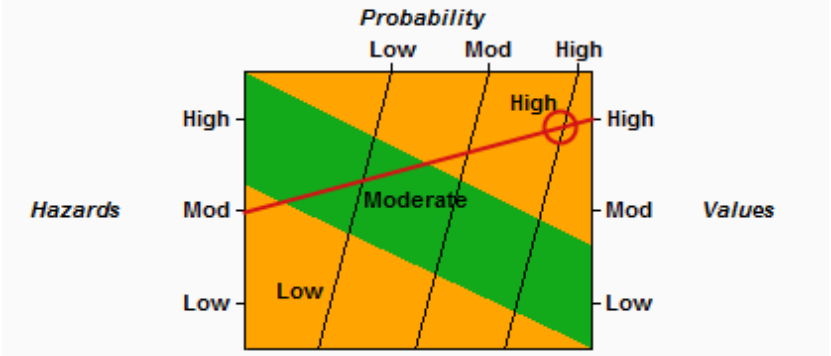
Organization Assessment Chart



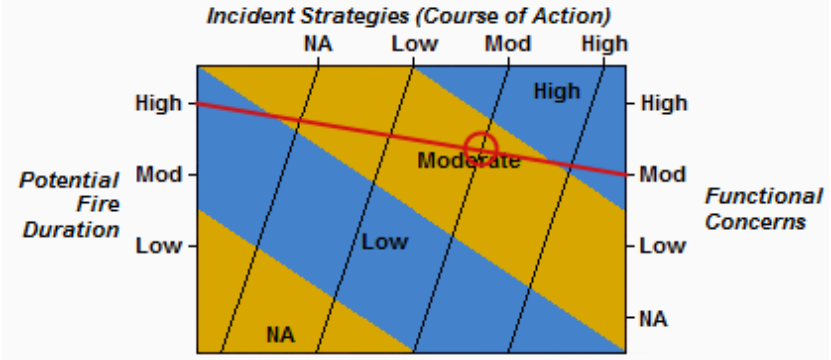
Unit Recommended Org:Type 1

Organization Assessment Inputs

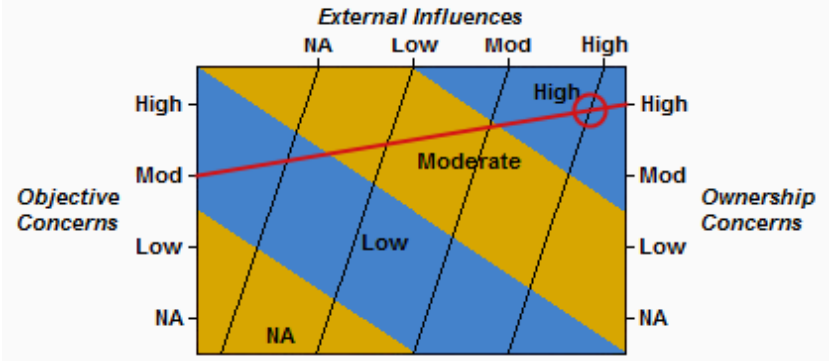
Relative Risk



Implementation Difficulty



Socio/Political Concerns



Planning Area Values Inventory Generated at 08/20/2020 12:31

NAME	VALUE
Planning Area Name	08/21/2020 19:59
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Planning Area Size	52,588 acres

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
Building Clusters: Clackamas, OR	0	Various	Various	Available counties
Building Clusters: Marion, OR	1	Various	Various	Available counties
Campgrounds	1	BLM (FAMS) and USFS INFRA	6/01/2018	National (BLM and USFS only)
Communication Towers	2	HIFLD	02/20/2020	National
County: Clackamas, OR	1,050 acres	USFWS ECOS	2/10/2020	National
County: Marion, OR	51,538 acres	USFWS ECOS	2/10/2020	National
Electric Transmission Lines	3.3 miles	Homeland Security Open Data	9/24/2019	National

Planning Area Values Inventory Generated at 08/20/2020 12:31

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
Est Ground Evac Time: 1-2 Hrs	16,555 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Est Ground Evac Time: 2-4 Hrs	22,716 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Est Ground Evac Time: 4-6 Hrs	9,403 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Est Ground Evac Time: 6+ Hrs	2,307 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Habitat: Northern Spotted Owl	10,008 acres	US Fish and Wildlife Service	02/01/2020	National
IRA: Bull Of The Woods Roadless Area	251 acres	USFS	03/08/2019	National
IRA: Elkhorn Roadless Area	4,697 acres	USFS	03/08/2019	National
IRA: Opal Creek Roadless Area	5,417 acres	USFS	03/08/2019	National
Landowner Category: Private	320 acres	PAD-US 2.0, AICC, BIA/WFDSS, Census	03/12/2020	National
Landowner Category: USFS	52,265 acres	PAD-US 2.0, AICC, BIA/WFDSS, Census	03/12/2020	National
Natl Wild Scenic Rivers	0.5 miles	USDA/USFS/EDW	5/26/2020	National
Other Areas: Elkhorn Creek Segment i	494 acres	USGS PADUS 1.4	03/13/2019	National
Other Areas: Elkhorn Creek, Oregon	191 acres	USGS PADUS 1.4	03/13/2019	National
Other Areas: Opal Creek	8,334 acres	USGS PADUS 1.4	03/13/2019	National
USFS Buildings	3	USFS	2020	National
Wilderness: Bull of the Woods Wilderness	9,952 acres	Wilderness.net	01/31/19	National
Wilderness: Opal Creek Wilderness	17,993 acres	Wilderness.net	01/31/19	National

Coverage of Values Queried that Produced No Results

BLM Buildings (BLM Lands), BLM Horse and Burro (National), BLM Oil / Gas Leases (National), BLM Range Allotments (National), Class 1 Airsheds (National), Electric Power Plants (National), Electric Sub Stations (National), Mines (National), NPS Buildings (National), NRA (National), Natl Historic Trails (National), Natl Recreation Trails (National), Natl Scenic Byways (National), Natl Scenic Trails (National), Oil and Gas Pipelines (National), Ozone Non-Attainment (National), Particulates Non-Attainment (National), Protecting Unit (AK, CA, ID, MT, NM, MN), Roads (National), Sage Grouse Habitat (National), TNC Lands (National), USFWS Trails (National), WSA (National)

1.6. Benefits

Benefits

Last updated by David Warnack on 08/20/2020 15:29

Comments

Fire disturbance to the Opal Creek Wilderness could benefit forest health and wilderness values if the fire behavior remains at a low or moderate intensity. However, given complexities associated with expected duration and the potential for dynamic fire growth during critical fire weather events, and potential impacts to adjacent values at risk, benefits are not commensurate with risk.

1.7. Objectives

Incident FMU/Strategic Objective Code List

Unit	FMU/Strat Obj Code	Acres
ORMHF	Wilderness Area	8,738
ORMHF	Wood Product Emphasis	1,228
ORWIF	MA-1 - Wilderness	19,294
ORWIF	MA-10c - Dispersed Recreation-Semiprimitive Motorized_ No Timber Harvest	968
ORWIF	MA-11a - Scenic-Modification Middleground	115
ORWIF	MA-11d - Scenic-Partial Retention Foreground	306
ORWIF	MA-12a - Developed Recreation-F.S. Site	44
ORWIF	MA-13a - Special Use Permit Areas	106
ORWIF	MA-13b - F.S. Administrative Use Areas	4.6
ORWIF	MA-14a - General Forest-Intensive Timber Management	12,619
ORWIF	MA-2c - Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area	7,696
ORWIF	MA-5a - Special Interest Areas	58
ORWIF	MA-6b - Elkhorn Wild & Scenic River (scenic)	637
ORWIF	MA-9b - Wildlife Habitat-Pileated Woodpecker	301
ORWIF	MA-9c - Wildlife Habitat-Marten	74
ORWIF	MA-9d - Wildlife Habitat-Special Areas	74

Spatial Fire Planning Inventory

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
Aqua Retardant Avoidance	11,670 acres	National - FS Land Only	April 2020	National (USFS Units only)
Mgmt Req: FMU01	23,001 acres	ORWIF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: FMU02	19,291 acres	ORWIF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: IRA	10,154 acres	ORWIF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: Inventoried Roadless	84 acres	ORMHF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: LSR North	3,471 acres	ORWIF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: Late-Successional Reserve	1,223 acres	ORMHF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: NSO CHU North	8,785 acres	ORWIF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: Wilderness Area	8,732 acres	ORMHF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: Wood Product Emphasis	1,223 acres	ORMHF	Current	Unit Level
Retardant Avoidance	8 acres	USDA FS Enterprise Data Warehouse	04/2020	National (USFS Units only)

Incident Objective List

Activated	Incident Objective
08/19/2020	Determine if direct attack is a safe and feasible containment strategy
08/19/2020	Utilize aviation resources to keep the fire south of Beachie Creek and east of Opal Creek

Incident Requirement List

Activated	Incident Requirement
08/19/2020	Provide Agency Administrator and Oregon Department of Forestry updates and briefings on incident status as conditons evolve.

Strategic Objective List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
ORMHF	<Unit>	06/15/2016	All wildfires shall receive an “appropriate suppression response.” Fire management planning should minimize “cost plus net value change”, i.e., costs and changes to inherent resource values of the activity area should be minimized. IV-75

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
			Preference should be given to the most restrictive standards and guidelines or provide the greatest benefits to late-successional forest related species (C-2) Protect and enhance conditions of late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystems, which serve as habitat for late-successional and old-growth related species, including the north spotted owl (C-11) Protect all cultural or heritage sites from damage caused naturally or otherwise.
ORMHF	Wilderness Area	06/17/2016	Goal- Promote, perpetuate, and preserve the wilderness character of the land; protect watersheds and wildlife habitat; preserve scenic and historic resources; and promote scientific research, primitive recreation, solitude, physical and mental challenge, and inspiration IV-136 DFC-May contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value. Generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, evidence of human effects are minimal. IV-137
ORMHF	Wood Product Emphasis	06/17/2016	Goal- Provide lumber, wood fiber, and other forest products on a fully regulated bases based on the capability and suitability of the land. IV-289 DFC- Extensive stands of trees at various stages of development, arranged in a mosaic patter that is somewhat random but shows the clear influence of landform, productivity and management objectives. Many stands have some mature trees held over from previous stands. These trees have specific biological functions. Special sites such as campsites and overlooks are scattered throughout the area. IV-290
ORWIF	<Unit>	06/20/2017	Protection of human life and safety is the first priority for all actions taken on a wildfire and can overrule all other strategic and incident objectives and management and incident requirements.
ORWIF	MA-1	04/14/2016	**MA-1 Wilderness** Goal Statement- MA-1 includes all designated Wilderness on the forest.MA is stratified into 4 subdivisions based on the Wilderness Resource Spectrum (WRS).Each WRS strata are individual MA designations with individual goals. See LRMP for specific goals by strata. Standards and Guidelines- • Fires resulting from human activities shall be prevented, controlled, and suppressed. • Unplanned ignitions from natural causes that occur in Wilderness will be considered wildfire and shall be controlled or suppressed unless the decision is made to declare it a prescribed natural fire. A fire may be declared a prescribed natural fire once the prescribed natural fire direction has been approved in the Fire Management Action Plan. • Suppression practices should have the least physical impact on the land consistent with other management considerations. Preference should be given to the use of natural fuel breaks. • Fire management activities with Wilderness shall be compatible with Wilderness management objectives. Preference should be given to methods and equipment that minimize: alteration of the landscape; disturbance of surface vegetation and soil; disturbance of visitor solitude; reduction of visibility; adverse effects on air quality; disturbance to wildlife habitat or cultural resources. • After the fire is declared out, appropriate actions should be taken to rehabilitate and restore the site to a natural condition. • The need for mechanized equipment (portable pumps, power saws, etc.) in suppression efforts shall be determined by a relative risk assessment. • The use of tractors or ground disturbing mechanized equipment shall be approved by the Regional Forester. • The use of helicopters shall be approved by the Forest Supervisor.
ORWIF	MA-10c	04/14/2016	**MA-10c Dispersed Recreation-Semiprimitive Motorized_ No Timber Harvest**

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
			Goal Statement- • Provide a full spectrum of recreation opportunities meeting the criteria for a Semiprimitive Motorized experience through the management of user activities and natural resource settings. • Provide users the opportunity to experience a sense of solitude, tranquility, self-reliance and closeness to nature. • Provide for the conservation of unique geographic, topographic, biological, and ecological processes, as well as significant scenic, wildlife, recreation, and watershed values. Standards and Guidelines- • Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects on Semiprimitive Motorized recreation values.
ORWIF	MA-11a	04/14/2016	**MA-11a Scenic-Modification Middleground** Goal Statement- • Create and maintain desired visual characteristics of the forest landscape through time and space. • Visually sensitive landscapes will be managed for a modest level of scenic quality. • This area will also be managed for other resource goals including timber production, recreation opportunities, watershed protection, and maintenance of wildlife habitats.
ORWIF	MA-11d	04/14/2016	**MA-11d Scenic-Partial Retention Foreground** Goal Statement- • Create and maintain desired visual characteristics of the forest landscape through time and space. • Visually sensitive landscapes will be managed for a modest level of scenic quality. • This area will also be managed for other resource goals including maintenance of wildlife habitats, recreation opportunities, watershed protection, and timber production.
ORWIF	MA-12a	04/14/2016	**MA-12a Developed Recreation-F.S. Site** Goal Statement- • Provide a safe, healthful, aesthetic, nonurban atmosphere for the pursuit of natural resource based recreation. • Provide facilities and improvements, consistent with resource protection needs and anticipated user demand, where opportunities for meaningful recreation experiences exist. Standards and Guidelines- • Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects on developed recreation values. • Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.
ORWIF	MA-13a	04/14/2016	**MA-13a Special Use Permit Areas** Goal Statement- • Provide safe and efficient sites for permitted facilities and improvements to promote the public welfare in an environmentally sound manner. • Maximize consistency of permitted uses with surrounding land uses.
ORWIF	MA-13b	04/14/2016	**MA-13b F.S. Administrative Use Areas** Goal Statement- • Provide safe, adequate administrative facilities from which to accomplish land and resource management and protection objectives.

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
			• Locate and design administrative facilities in a manner consistent with public needs and to the extent feasible compatible with management area allocation of the occupied site. Standards and Guidelines- • Suppression strategies, practices, and activities shall take into account public and firefighter safety, the relative value of the structure and it like contents, and the objectives of the adjacent management area.
ORWIF	MA-14a	04/14/2016	**MA-14a General Forest-Intensive Timber Management** Goal Statement- • Produce an optimum and sustainable yield of timber based on the growth potential of the land that is compatible with multiple use objectives and meets environmental requirements for soil, water, air and wildlife habitat quality. • Provide many opportunities for public use and enjoyment.
ORWIF	MA-2c	04/14/2016	**MA-2c Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area** Goal Statement- • Protect and provide for the enhancement of the natural, scenic, recreational, historic and cultural resources of the area in the vicinity of Opal Creek. • Protect and support the economy of the communities of Santiam Canyon. • Provide increased protection for an important drinking water source for communities served by the North Santiam River. • Provide for a broad range of land uses, including recreation; harvesting of nontraditional forest products, such as gathering mushrooms and materials to make baskets; and educational and research opportunities. Standards and Guidelines- • Suppression practices within the Opal Creek SRA should have the least physical impact on the land consistent with other management considerations. Minimal Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) should be used during suppression efforts. Preference will be given to the use of natural fire breaks. In some cases direct attack with a minimum width of handline, or wet line using power driven pumps and hose may be more cost-effective and cause the least overall damage to SRA values.
ORWIF	MA-5a	04/14/2016	**MA-5a Special Interest Areas** Goal Statement- • Preserve lands in Special Interest Areas (SIAs) that contain exceptional scenic, cultural, biological, geological or other unusual characteristics. Standards and Guidelines- • Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effect on SIA values. • Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.
ORWIF	MA-6b	04/14/2016	**MA-6b Elkhorn Wild & Scenic River - Scenic** Goal Statement- Scenic River Management Area will be managed to: • Maintain or enhance the condition of the high quality scenery and the largely undeveloped character of the shoreline. • Maintain and improve the quality of water which enters the river. • Maintain and improve fire and wildlife habitat. • Provide opportunities for river-oriented recreation which are consistent with the largely undeveloped nature of the segment and dependent on free-flowing conditions. • Utilize other resources and permit other activities which maintain or enhance the quality of the wildlife habitat, river fisheries, scenic attractions, or recreation values. • Comply with all standards for Scenic Rivers specified in FSH 1909.12, Chapter 8 (1987).

Strategic Objective List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
			Standards and Guidelines- • Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects on Scenic river values. • Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.
ORWIF	MA-9b	04/14/2016	**MA-9b Wildlife Habitat-Pileated Woodpecker** Goal Statement- • Protect mature old-growth habitat for all dependent flora and fauna by providing habitat networks for the pileated woodpecker, an ecological indicator species. Standards and Guidelines- • Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects to PWHA values. • Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.
ORWIF	MA-9c	04/14/2016	**MA-9c Wildlife Habitat-Marten** Goal statement- • Protect mature and old-growth habitat for all dependent flora and fauna by providing habitat networks for the marten, an ecological indicator species. Standards and Guidelines- • Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects of MHA values. • Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.
ORWIF	MA-9d	04/14/2016	**MA-9d Wildlife Habitat-Special Areas** Goal statement- • Protect or enhance unique wildlife habitats and botanical sites which are important components of healthy, biologically diverse ecosystems. Standards and Guidelines- • Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects on special habitat values. • Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.

Management Requirement List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
	Aqua Retardant Avoidance	06/18/2013	The aerial application of fire retardant is allowed for fighting fires. Aerially delivered fire retardant should not be applied to any mapped aquatic avoidance area, waterway or buffer. The only exception to using aerially applied fire retardant in avoidance areas is **for the protection of human life or public safety**. The Incident Commander is the decision maker. Information concerning the Record of Decision for the Aerial Application of Fire Retardant is available at https://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html
	Retardant Avoidance	05/31/2012	The aerial application of fire retardant is allowed for fighting fires. Aerially delivered fire retardant should not be applied to any mapped terrestrial avoidance area, waterway or buffer. The only exception to using aerially applied fire retardant in avoidance areas is **for the protection of human life or public safety**. The Incident Commander is the decision maker. Information concerning the Record of Decision for the Aerial Application of Fire Retardant is available at https://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html
ORMHF	<Unit>	06/15/2016	Resource Advisors shall be assigned when necessary to achieve Management Area management direction IV-77. Cultural- A Cultural resource advisor should be consulted to determine if effects of fire are favored over effects of suppression activities. Visual Resource Mgmt- Fire suppression actions should be planned to achieve the prescribed VQOs IV-115. Riparian Reserves (WFDSS is unable to map these, see GIS data for locations): FM-1- fire suppression strategies should minimize disturbance of riparian ground cover and

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
			vegetation. FM-2-Locate incident bases, camps, helibases, staging areas, helispots and other centers for incident activities outside Riparian Reserves. If the only suitable location for such activities is within the Riparian Reserve, an exemption may be granted following review and recommendation by a resource advisor. FM-3-Minimize delivery of chemical retardant, foam, or additives to surface waters. An exception may be warranted in situations where overriding immediate safety imperatives exist, or, following review and recommendation by a resource advisor, when an escape would cause more long-term damage. FM-5- Immediately establish an emergency team to develop a rehabilitation treatment plan needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives whenever Riparian Reserves are significantly damaged by wildfire. Other - In Riparian Reserves, the goal of wildfire suppression is to limit the size of all fires. In Riparian Reserves, water drafting sites should be located and managed to minimize adverse effects on riparian habitat and water quality, as consistent with Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives (C-35) Locate water drafting sites to minimize adverse effects to stream channel stability, sedimentation, and in-stream flows needed to maintain riparian resources, channel conditions, and fish habitat (C-37)
ORMHF	Inventoried Roadless	06/15/2016	Any necessary timber cutting or removal or any road construction or road reconstruction in emergency situations involving wildfire suppression, search and rescue operations, or other imminent threats to public health and safety in inventoried roadless areas.
ORMHF	Late-Successional Reserve	06/15/2016	The wildfire management goal in LSRs is to keep all stand-replacing events as small as possible while at the same time ensuring that firefighter and public safety is the highest priority. (LSRAs) During actual fire suppression activities, fire managers will consult with resource specialists (e.g., botanists, fisheries and wildlife biologists, hydrologists) familiar with the area, these standards and guidelines, and their objectives, to assure that habitat damage is minimized. Minimize suppression impacts to habitat by using MIST when safe and effective to do so. Retain large woody debris to the extent possible by extinguishing such material. (C18)
ORMHF	Wilderness Area	06/15/2016	Off-road vehicle use shall be prohibited. IV-143 Preference shall be given to those suppression methods and strategies resulting in the least practicable area burned, commensurate with cost effectiveness, and having the least effect on wilderness values. Human caused wildfires shall be suppressed. Naturally occurring ignitions should be managed as prescribed fire unless declared a wildfire. IV-144
ORMHF	Wood Product Emphasis	06/15/2016	See Unit Wide Management Requirements
ORWIF	<Unit>	04/14/2016	**Special Interest Areas** Use methods and equipment that will minimize disturbance to the special features of the area. Locate fire camps, helispots, and other temporary facilities or improvements outside the area if possible.
ORWIF	<Unit>	04/14/2016	**Riparian Reserves- NORTHWEST FOREST PLAN** The goal of wildfire suppression in Riparian Reserves is to limit wildfire size. When Watershed and/or Landscape Analysis are completed and approved, natural fires ignited by lightning may be managed to meet Riparian Reserve resource objectives described therein. [Escaped fire] strategies should recognize the role of fire in ecosystem management and identify those instances where suppression activities could be damaging to long term ecosystem function. Design suppression strategies to minimize the disturbance of ground cover and vegetation. Rapidly extinguishing smoldering coarse woody debris and duff should be considered to preserve these ecosystem elements.To the greatest extent possible, avoid placement of suppression lines in areas where in-stream and floodplain large wood would need to be cut due to subsequent impacts on aquatic organism habitat.

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
			Locate incident bases, camps, helibases, staging areas, helispots and other centers for incident activities outside of the Riparian Reserves. An exemption may be granted by a resource advisor if no other suitable location exists. The advisor will prescribe the location, use condition, and rehabilitation requirements. Water drafting sites should be located and managed to minimize adverse effects on riparian habitat and water quality.Immediately establish an emergency team to develop a rehabilitation plan needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy requirements whenever Riparian Reserves are significantly damaged by wildfire. Minimize delivery of chemical retardant, foam, or additives to surface waters.An exception may be warranted in situations where overriding immediate safety imperatives exist, or, following review and recommendation by a resource advisor, when an escape will cause more long-term damage (amended by the 2008 USFS Aerial Application of fire Retardant Record of Decision, see the Nationwide Management Requirements for Aquatic and Terrestrial Retardant Avoidance). Consult with READ personnel before reopening mid-slope or riparian roads in Riparian Reserves that have been stored or decommissioned for aquatic resource benefit.
ORWIF	<Unit>	04/18/2016	**CULTURAL RESOURCES** Standards and Guidelines- • Measures shall be developed to protect significant sites from adverse effects due to ground disturbing and other activities. • Eligible cultural resources shall be protected from depredation and natural destruction. • Eligible historic sites and historic trails shall be maintained and/or adverse effects shall be mitigated. • Mitigation measures established during the environmental analysis of a given project shall be monitored to maintain a current record of site conditions. Tracking of the mitigation plan is necessary during and following ground-disturbing activities. Consult qualified archaeologist on the unit to determine potential for impacts to cultural resources; Assign a qualified archeologist as a resource advisor to any wildfire where there is a considerable potential for risk to significant cultural resources. Utilize local Heritage specialists, if possible, prior to engagement and in the planning process to identify categories of archaeological sites present and recommend the appropriate level of protection in accordance with Forest Service Manual 2360, (Emergency Undertaking) clauses of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Consult local cultural resource specialists and Native American (tribal) representatives, if possible, prior to engagement and in the planning process to identify Native American traditional cultural areas, and to identify protection measures. Utilize local tribal fire crews and resource advisors when available.

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
ORWIF	FMU01	04/14/2016	**Forest Wide Standards and Guidelines – General Forest** • All wildfires shall receive an Appropriate Suppression Response. The associated strategies and tactics should be the most cost-effective commensurate with the objectives for the management area on which the fire occurs. • An on-site analysis should be utilized to identify the appropriate fire suppression strategy which is most cost-effective and environmentally acceptable. • A control strategy shall be utilized where public or firefighter safety is threatened.
ORWIF	FMU02	04/14/2016	**Forest Wide Standards and Guidelines – Wilderness** • All naturally occurring fires in Wilderness shall be treated as wildfires unless an approved Wilderness Fire Management Implementation Plan exists (FMS 2324). • In suppression of wildfire, preference should be given to those suppression methods and strategies that result in limiting the burned area to within the Wilderness boundary. Other factors to consider include cost-effectiveness, the preservation of the Wilderness values, and the threat to people, other resource values or private property. • All fires that do not meet the standards set forth for prescribed fire shall be suppressed in an appropriate manner • A Control Strategy shall be utilized where public or firefighter safety is threatened. • A WFDSS decision shall be prepared for a wildfire which is not contained/controlled at 10 acres or less in size or any fire if containment is not expected prior to the second burning period. • Suppression practices should have the least physical impact on the land consistent with other management considerations. Preference will be given to use of natural fuel breaks. • Crew camps should be small and located away from popular camping areas. Camps should be rehabilitated after the fire, removing all litter, hose, gas cans, or other evidence of human occupation. • An assessment of the environmental impacts should be made before using retardants to determine if the advantages outweigh the disadvantages. • Helispots requiring no ground disturbance should be utilized first. Construction of helispots will have minimum ground disturbance and not result in an unacceptable impact to the Wilderness. • Felling of snags should be restricted to the absolute minimum for containment and/ or safety purposes. • After the fire is declared out, appropriate actions should be taken to rehabilitate and restore the site to a natural condition. • Where modified suppression practices have been used, care should be taken to ensure that the fire is completely out.
ORWIF	IRA	06/17/2016	**INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA** Inventoried Roadless Area(s) have been identified within the planning area. As a reminder, on May 31, 2012, the Chief of the Forest Service reserved the authority to review all projects involving road construction or reconstruction and the cutting, sale, or removal of timber in Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRAs). The Chief delegated to Regional Foresters the authority to review "***Any necessary timber cutting or removal or any road construction or road reconstruction inemergency situations involving wildfire suppression***, search and rescue operations, or other imminent threats to public health and safety ***in inventoried roadless areas***." In order to comply with the Chief's direction, any forest that is considering timber cutting and/or road construction/reconstruction during emergency situations as described above should ***contact the Regional Forester's Office as soon as practical***. The Regional Forester will review the proposed emergency timber cutting and/or road construction/ reconstruction activities with the appropriate line officer in accordance with the Chief's delegation of authority. Reminder Issued 07/31/2014
ORWIF	LSR North	04/14/2016	**Late Successional Reserves: NORTHWEST FOREST PLAN** Plans for wildfire suppression will emphasize maintaining late successional habitat. During actual fire suppression activities, fire managers will consult with resource specialists familiar with the area. Until a fire management plan is completed for Late Successional

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
			Reserves, suppress all wildfire to avoid the loss of habitat in order to maintain future management options. In Late Successional Reserves, the goal of wildfire suppression is to limit the size of all fires. When planning is completed, some natural fires may be allowed to burn under prescribed conditions. Rapidly extinguishing smoldering coarse woody debris and duff should be considered to preserve these ecosystem elements.
ORWIF	NSO CHU North	04/14/2016	**Northern Spotted Owl Critical Habitat Unit (CHU)** Use suppression methods and equipment that minimize disturbance to the land surface and vegetation. Fell snags and large old live trees only if they either are safety hazards or will hamper control efforts, resulting in further resource damage. Rehabilitate the fire area after suppression actions to return it to a natural condition consistent with Management Area objectives.

1.8. Course of Action

Course of Action

Active	Inactive	Action Item
08/19/2020		Full suppression.

Management Action Point 1

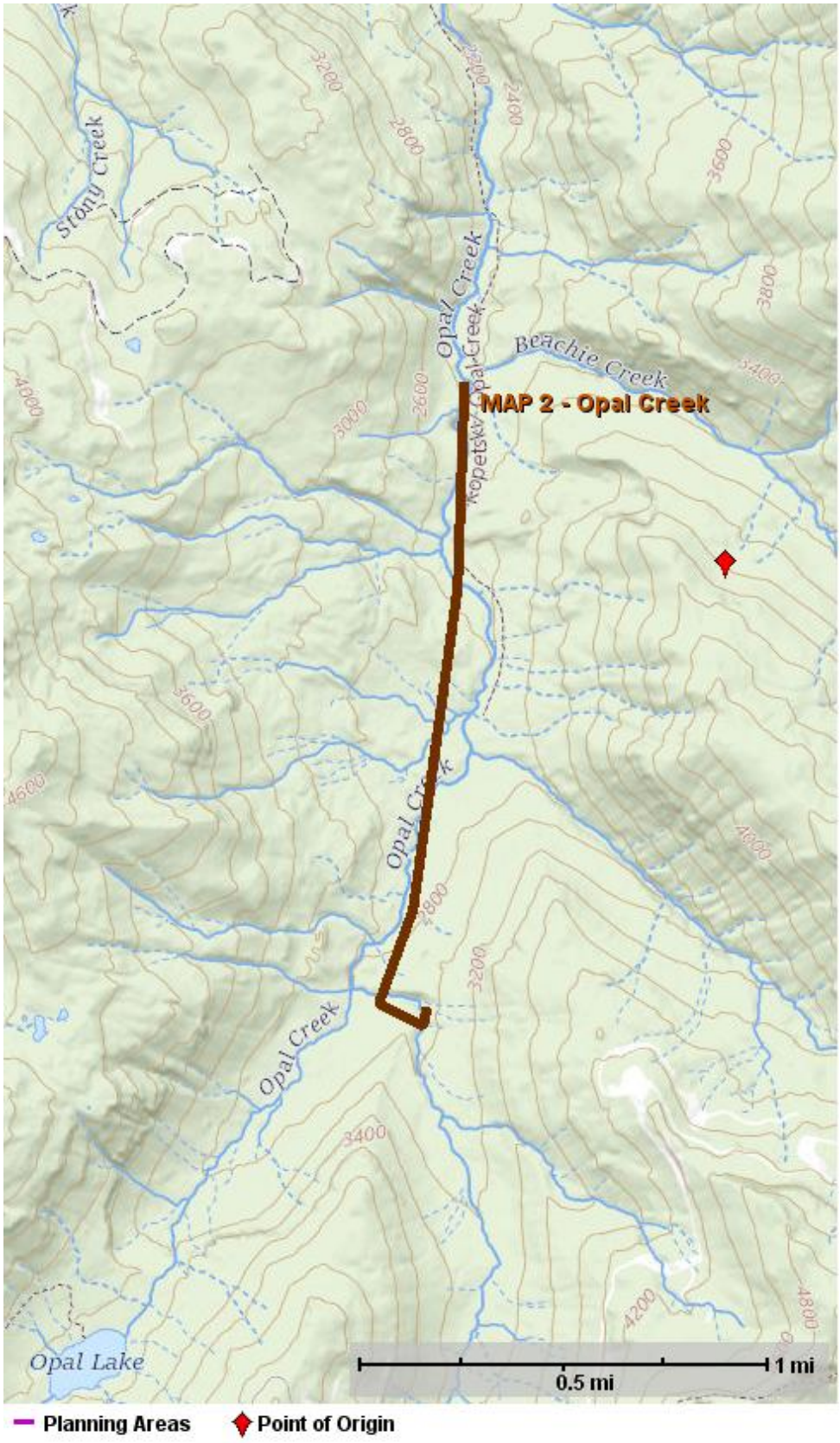
NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Cost	
Shape	
Activated	08/19/2020
Deactivated	
Status	Active

Condition
Keep fire east of Opal Creek.

Actions
If fire reaches Opal Creek consider type 2 organization.

Resources
Type 2 team.

Management Action Point 2



NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Cost	

Shape	Opal Creek
Activated	08/19/2020
Deactivated	
Status	Active

Condition
Keep fire east of Opal Creek and south of Beachie Breek.

Actions
Consider type 2 organization if fire reaches creeks.

Resources
Type 2 team

1.9. Cost

Estimated Final Cost

NAME	VALUE
Estimated Final Cost	$10,000,000
Method(s) Used	Other

Comments

Estimated costs.

1.10. Rationale

Rationale

The Beachie Creek Fire is situated in a very remote and inaccessible section of the Opal Creek Wilderness. The fire was located on 8/16, and initial attack began immediately through the use of Type 1 helicopters and water drops. I also authorized the aerial application of retardant, but the order could not be filled due to higher priorities in the Region. Smokejumpers were dispatched to the incident on 8/16, but could not locate a safe place to jump. Rapellers also attempted to access the fire but safe rapell locations could not be identified. Two heavy helicopters continued work to slow fire spread throughout the evening of 8/16, and air attack was used to coordinate efforts and gain intel. Helicopter water drop operations continued throughout 8/17. As of today, 8/20, aviation resources continue to work the fire to slow and check fire spread.

Concurrent to initial attack efforts, local fire managers and I made the decision on 8/16 to assemble a Type 3 incident management team to manage the incident. The team was assembled throughout the evening of 8/16 and was in-briefed to the incident on 8/17. Command was transferred to a Type 3 Incident Commander at 1700 on 8/17. Incident objectives for the incoming IC and team were to continue utilization of aviation resources to slow fire spread while also assessing the feasibility of ground access that would support a direct attack strategy. Mitigation of exposure to COVID-19, and effective fire information sharing with managers and the public were also objectives for the team.

On 8/18, after substantial effort, Type 1 ground resources achieved access to the fire via road and trail systems and cross-country hiking. Based on the assessment of these very seasoned firefighters, the risks associated with ground ingress and egress could not be mitigated. Additionally, on-the-ground assessment of the nature of the vegetation (large, mature forest with 6-8' trees and dense understory), coupled with very steep slopes (70-90%) makes probabilities of success for direct suppression very low, while risks remain very high.

Given the intelligence gained through ground recon, the Type 3 IC, Agency Administrator, local FMO, and Fire Staff Officer met on 8/19 to discuss strategy. Based on our inability to safely get firefighters on the ground by Smokejumpers, Rapellers, and ground crews, a decision was made to pivot to a longer-term strategy. The new strategy will include continued use of aviation resources to check fire spread while we identify a series of natural and constructed barriers that could possibly serve as containment or check lines. The decision was also made to pursue an Incident Management structure that would best support increased public information, long term fire behavior and spread analysis, and strategic planning.

Conversations with Regional fire managers and leadership, as well as with local Oregon Department of Forestry officials, were had on 8/19 in order to share awareness of the current situation and our intent to pivot to a longer-term strategy. An order for a NIMO team was made after local managers conducted these briefings.

At this time, the current Type 3 organization continues to pursue and meet the initial incident objectives, including checking fire spread using available aviation resources. The fire has not spread beyond the initial up of about 10 acres. The strategy of using aviation resources to check fire spread may be effective for the time being, but the strategy is vulnerable to resource availability and to critical fire weather events (east winds for example). In response to these vulnerabilities, we will work closely with the NIMO team to conduct in-depth forecasting, modelling, and analysis in order to best anticipate, communicate, and prepare for increased fire behavior, including creation of PACE models and coordination with partners and stakeholders.

An updated Complexity Assessment was completed on 8/20/20 and is incorporated into this rationale by reference.