



# Peer Review Plan

(Reference [Information Quality Act](#))

FS-1400-0003 (V.1.2) 5/16

☒ Influential Scientific Information Peer

☐ Highly Influential Scientific Assessment Peer

Agency

Forest Service; Rocky Mountain Research Station

Agency Contact (name/ email/ phone)

Matthew P Thompson; matthew.p.thompson@usda.gov

Title of Review

COVID-19 impacts on wildland firefighting workforce capacity

Purpose of Review

Ensure analysis of fire assignment data and interpretation of implications for fire operations are accurate

### Type of Review

☐ Panel Review

☒ Individual Review

Policy, statistical, and journal peer review will also be performed

☐ Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review

04/01/2021

Start

04/01/2021

End

05/07/2021

☒ 3 or fewer

Number of Reviewers

☐ 4 to 10

☐ More than 10

Primary Discipline/Types of Expertise Needed for Review

Agency fire databases and information systems  
Wildfire operations  
Risk management

Reviewer Names and Affiliations

Crystal Stonesifer, USDA Forest Service  
Matthew Holmstrom, USDA Forest Service

Expected Publication Outlet (Science or Similar Peer Reviewed Journal)

Nature Scientific Reports, or similar peer reviewed journal with focus on either wildfire management or response to COVID-19

Reviewers Selected by: ☒ Agency

☐ Designated Outside Organization

Organization's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Opportunities for Public Comment? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How: \_\_\_\_\_

When: \_\_\_\_\_

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Commentary

☐ Yes☒ No**Summary of Peer Reviewers' Comments**

Both reviewers found the paper timely and important, and expressed no methodological concerns. One reviewer requested clarification on the role of compliance with prevention and mitigation guidance in terms of how it was captured in model parameters and how changes in future guidance may affect our findings (for instance the update in CDC policy that vaccinated individuals are not required to wear masks). We added language to clarify that we believe our scenarios span a sufficient range of behaviors and conditions that account for some of this uncertainty, and further added language acknowledging this uncertainty around future changes in conditions, behaviors, and policy/guidance. Another reviewer requested better resolution and presentation of figures and more clearly stated conclusions. In response we updated figures and captions and streamlined our abstract and conclusion sections to be more clear and concise with key findings.

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel

☐ Yes☒ No**Other Comments**