# **2018 CONEJOS COUNTY**

# **ANNUAL FIRE OPERATING PLAN**

## Table of Contents

Preamble	4
Purpose	4
Authorities	4
Recitals	4
Interagency Cooperation	5
Interagency Dispatch Centers	5
Local Dispatch Centers	5
Interagency Resources	5
Standards	5
Preparedness	5
Protection Planning	5
Protection Areas and Boundaries	5
Methods of Fire Protectionand Suppression	6
Joint Projects and Project Plans	6
Fire Prevention	7
General Cooperative Activities	7
Information and Education	7
Public Use Restrictions	7
Burning Permits	7
Prescribed Fire (Planned Ignitions) and Fuels Management	8
Smoke Management	8
Operations	
Fire Notifications	8
Boundary Line Fires	8
Response to Wildland Fire	9
Cost efficiency	11
Delegation of Authority	11
Preservation of Evidence	
State Funded Fires	11
Use and Reimbursement of Interagency Resources	12
Cost Share Agreement (CostShare Methodologies)	12
Training	12

Communication Systems	13
Fire Weather Systems	13
Aviation Operations	13
Billing Procedures	14
Cost Recovery	14
Signatures	16
Division of Fire Prevention and Control	16
Exhibit A: Maps	18
Exhibit B	19
Exhibit D	22

## CC AOP – (FIRE) - Preamble

This annual operating plan is prepared pursuant to the Colorado Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (Statewide Agreement) for the State of Colorado signed and dated June 1, 2011 and as amended in 2013.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this Annual Fire Operating Plan (AOP) is to set forth the standard operating procedures and responsibilities to implement cooperative wildfire protection on all lands within Conejos County. The use of "County" in this plan will refer to Conejos County.

#### **Authorities**

- Colorado Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement Between:
  - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT COLORADO Agreement Number BLM-MOU-CO-538
  - NATIONAL PARK SERVICE INTERMOUNTAIN REGION Agreement Number F1249110016
  - BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS SOUTHWEST REGION (no agreement number)
  - UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE MOUNTAIN PRAIRIE REGION o
  - UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION Agreement Number 11-FI-11020000-017
- Conejos County, Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund, CSFS #108
- Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Conejos County, CSFS#109

#### Recitals

The Conejos County Annual Operating Plan is promulgated to provide guidance to Local, State, and Federal Agencies in the prevention and suppression of wildland fire. The Conejos County Annual Operating Plan is required by the Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund and the Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Conejos County.

Federal and non-federal lands in Conejos County are intermingled or adjacent in some areas. Wildland fires on these intermingled or adjacent lands may present a threat to the lands of the other. Wildland fire protection responsibilities on non-federal lands follow a hierarchy of local jurisdiction from Fire Protection District to County Sheriff to State of Colorado with the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control being the lead state agency for wildland fire management.

It is to the mutual advantage of the Parties to this Plan to coordinate efforts for the prevention, detection, and suppression of wildfires in and adjacent to their areas of responsibility, and to limit duplication and improve the effectiveness of wildland fire response.

## **Interagency Cooperation**

### **Interagency Dispatch Centers**

Conejos County is served by Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center.

#### **Local Dispatch Centers**

Colorado State Patrol is the primary dispatch for county and fire protection districts initial attack response in Conejos County.

#### **Interagency Resources**

See "DFPC Phone List" section for resource and contact information in Exhibit C.

#### **Standards**

Each jurisdictional agency is responsible for establishing standards for wildland fire response.

As per the NWCG memorandum Qualification Standards during Initial Action, March 22, 2004 and the PMS 310-1 Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide:

- The 310-1 qualification/certification standards are mandatory only for national mobilization of wildland firefighting resources.
- During initial action, all agencies (federal, state, local and tribal) accept each other's standards. Once jurisdiction is clearly established, then the standards of the agency(s) with jurisdiction prevail.

## **Preparedness**

## **Protection Planning**

All Fire Protection Districts within Conejos County have completed Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs). Fire Management Plans are in place for all federal lands in the SLV. SLV Counties are in the process of creating County Fire Plans or CWPPs authorized by HB-1283. Local CWPPs may be viewed at:

http://csfs.colostate.edu/wildfire-mitigation/Community-Wildfire-Protection-Plans

#### **Protection Areas and Boundaries**

Each jurisdictional agency has ultimate responsibility for wildland fire protection and management on its own lands. The County Sheriff is responsible for wildland fire protection on all non-federal lands in each County, including State Lands (CRS-30-10-513).

For all non-wildland fire emergencies, such as automobile accidents, medical, aircraft accidents, search & rescue, etc., notification should be to the County Sheriff's Office Dispatch and/or Colorado State Patrol Dispatch and to the agency with land management responsibility or nearest fire department.

#### **Methods of Fire Protection and Suppression**

The agency that can take the quickest effective fire suppression action will be dispatched for initial attack. The jurisdictional agency will assume command of the suppression action at the earliest possible time. Notification of all other agencies that are affected is the responsibility of the responding agency.

#### Reciprocal (Mutual Aid) Fire Assistance

The mechanism in place for fire departments to cover each other is through the San Luis Valley Fire Fighters Association mutual aid agreement. Federal agencies provide additional coverage through the Interagency Dispatch System.

The mutual aid protection area will be one (1) mile either side of the boundary between the jurisdictional agency's land and the nearest cooperating agency's land. No resources from other jurisdictions will reimburse each other from time of dispatch until midnight of the same day. Mutual aid will continue until midnight, unless commonly agreed upon at the discretion of the cooperating entities, that reimbursement should take place due to a fast moving and complex fire that could be cost shared for reimbursement. Any commonly agreed upon reimbursement will be documented.

At that time, the responsible agency will send the cooperator back to their home base or will request the cooperator to stay and pay will begin in accordance with the pay scales described in Cooperative Resource Rate Form or Federal pay scale found in the Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook (IIBMH). Therefore, initial attack expenses are not reimbursable for mutual aid unless the above conditions are met.

Mutual aid fire protection zones are defined for initial attack purposes only. Assisting agencies will make initial attack on fires within the mutual aid zone based on which agency is in the best position at the time the fire is reported to take the most rapid and effective action. Each agency may make resources available upon request to the other agencies for fires. For such fires, the jurisdictional agency will reimburse the assisting agency for costs. It is understood, however, that no agency will be required or expected to commit its forces to assist another agency to the extent of jeopardizing coverage of their own lands.

The county may pay for suppression cost incurred beyond the mutual aid period. Notification will clearly state what agency has command of the incident. Responsibility for wildland fire suppression on private and state land within a fire protection district (FPD) is shared jointly by the county and the FPD, and reimbursable costs shall be covered as mutually agreed upon by the county and district involved. The County Sheriff is limited in making financial obligations beyond initial attack. In order to have continuous fire suppression activities, the Board of County Commissioners will be notified as soon as County resources have been committed. A County Commissioner, or designee, shall be immediately available to the Sheriff.

#### Acquisition of Services

Not Applicable within Conejos County.

## **Joint Projects and Project Plans**

Not applicable within Conejos County.

## **Fire Prevention**

## **General Cooperative Activities**

Cooperating agencies may determine that the fire danger warrants fire prevention and suppression patrols. Expenses for these patrols are the responsibility of the home unit.

#### Information and Education

#### Fire Danger Information

Information on Fire Weather Stations, Fire Danger, Current Fire Situation, and more can be seen at the following websites:

http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch centers/r2pbc/

Fire Weather Station Locations - remote automated weather stations or RAWS data is available to the public at:

http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/obs\_weather.php

Fire Prevention Signs - each agency will determine when and where to place fire prevention signs.

#### Joint or Single Agency Press Releases

Each agency will prepare and release fire prevention material and media presentations according to its own prevention plans. Coordination with other agencies should be maintained in order to prevent a conflict in released material. Where pertinent, all news releases for fire prevention will carry a USFS, DFPC, BLM, fire district, or county sheriff by-line.

#### **Public Use Restrictions**

The purpose of fire restrictions and closures is to reduce the risk of human caused fires during high fire danger and/or burning conditions, and for the protection of human life and property. Fire restrictions and closures are invoked on federal, state, county, and private lands under federal and state laws.

Public information about restrictions must be broad-based, clear, and coordinated.

All agencies may consult the "Pueblo Zone Procedures for Initiation or Rescinding Fire Restrictions and Purpose of Fire Restrictions & Emergency Closures" document when considering fire restrictions or closures found in

Fire ban information in Colorado may be found at:

http://www.coemergency.com/p/fire-bans-

danger.html

In the case of any restrictions on burning or public movements because of extreme fire danger, either by Governor's proclamation or by local issue, the county sheriff will be responsible for enforcement on all non-federal lands, and may assist on other lands at the request of the appropriate agency.

## **Burning Permits**

Not applicable within Conejos County

#### Prescribed Fire (Planned Ignitions) and Fuels Management

Wildfires resulting from escaped prescribed fires ignited by a party to this Agreement on lands it manages shall be the responsibility of that party. The party responsible for the prescribed fire will reimburse other parties to this Plan consistent with the terms and conditions contained herein for costs incurred in suppression of such fires. If parties to this Agreement conduct a cooperative prescribed fire, details covering cost sharing, reimbursement, and responsibility for suppression costs, should it escape, shall be agreed upon and documented in the burn plan.

#### **Smoke Management**

Colorado Air Quality Control Commission requires that most outdoor burning have an air quality (smoke) permit. For a description of the exemptions for agriculture, backyard cooking fires, etc., and for other information about smoke permits, see:

http://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/smoke-management-permits

Smoke permits are separate from and in addition to burning permits that county agencies may require.

## **Operations**

#### **Fire Notifications**

Assisting agencies making initial attack on fires within the mutual aid zone will ensure that the adjacent jurisdictional agency and County Sheriff are promptly notified of the fire through their primary Dispatch. If the fire is on or threatening state or private land, and is expected to exceed the control capabilities of the county, the DFPC fire duty officer should be notified. If the fire is on or within 1 mile of land managed by the National Forest Service, BLM, US Fish and Wildlife Service or National Park Service, then the initial attack dispatch will notify Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center (719-553-1600).

#### **Boundary Line Fires**

If a fire crosses, or threatens to cross, jurisdictional boundaries and becomes a boundary fire (see definition below) a Unified Command will be formed. The purpose of the Unified Command will be to meet as a group and identify one common set of objectives for implementation by the suppression forces. The Unified Command will also determine reimbursement responsibilities and resource sharing between the agencies.

The Unified Command will include representatives from those entities that have financial responsibilities for the fire. In the event of a fire burning on lands of two or more jurisdictional agencies that are normally not dispatched by the same dispatch center, the Unified Command will coordinate and determine which center will do all dispatching.

### Boundary Fires include:

- A fire burning in two or more agency jurisdictions, or will soon burn across the boundary, when the boundary line is known
- The fire location is known, but the jurisdictional boundary on the ground isunknown, or
- The location of a reported fire is uncertain in relation to the jurisdictional boundary.

## **Response to Wildland Fire**

#### Establishing Incident Command

During initial attack, a single responder will establish incident command. This is most often done by the first resource to arrive in the area of the incident, regardless of jurisdiction. In extreme situations, command may be established by a resource in route for the purpose of ordering resources. In either case, it is imperative that all responding units and involved dispatch centers know command has been established. The establishing resource should, at minimum, provide a command name. This is generally based on the perceived geographic location of the fire. If known, the establishing resource should also provide a communications channel, staging area, and brief size up.

If the initial incident commander is not a representative of a jurisdictional or protecting agency for the location of the fire, command should be offered to an appropriate representative when they arrive. The offer may or may not be implemented depending on the situation. Should a transfer of command occur, all involved resources and dispatch centers should be notified.

#### Resource Ordering

All orders placed for extended attack should go through PIDC as the single ordering point for fire ordering in the Conejos County. These orders will be documented on Resource Orders. It is understood that the agency requesting the resource shall also be responsible for payment.

PIDC will coordinate with federal and county dispatch centers as well as local emergency managers and EOCs to mobilize requested resources for incident response. All requests for federal resources are processed through PIDC.

#### After Action Review (AAR)

An After Action Review (AAR) of incidents will be conducted at a level commensurate with the complexity of the incident. The jurisdictional agency will be responsible for conducting the AAR. Local agencies/entities that were not directly involved in the incident but could potentially benefit from participating in the post-incident action analysis will be invited to attend.

#### Special Management Considerations

Suppression activities within designated wilderness areas will not be conducted without specific direction from the jurisdictional federal agency. Use of roads on federal lands presently closed to vehicular travel (outside of wilderness areas) is hereby authorized to all parties to this AOP, when said parties are on a fire detection, prevention, or suppression mission. Use of mechanized equipment such as bulldozers, graders, etc. will not be permitted on federal lands without the expressed approval of the appropriate federal official.

Retardant avoidance areas are shown on the maps located at this web address: <a href="https://ftp.nifc.gov/public/base">https://ftp.nifc.gov/public/base</a> info/retardant avoidance areas/maps/region 2/riogrande/

Personnel responding to incidents on BLM Lands must meet the following requirements;

- Be 18 years of age or older;
- Have and use required personal protective equipment (PPE) found in chapter 7 of the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book); and
- attended basic wildland fire annual refresher training, that covers each of the following topic areas,
  - Entrapment avoidance;
  - Current issues;
  - Fire Shelter deployment;
  - Other hazards and safety issues; and
  - o NWCG Course I-100, Introduction to Incident Command System

BLM District/Unit FMOs will coordinate with local fire departments to provide qualified instructors if needed.

#### **Decision Process**

A Decision Support System (DSS) may be completed for fires that have the potential to be designated as a State Funded fire or that affects multiple jurisdictions and has the potential to go into extended attack. DFPC may assist with a non-EFF DSS, but has no authority to sign on non-EFF fires.

DFPC requires that a DSS be completed for all fires that receive a FEMA declaration and recommends a DSS is completed for all State Funded fires. All agencies involved in extended attack on private and state lands will provide input to the DSS. The DFPC Line Officer will facilitate completion and review of the DSS for these fires. When a fire is burning on or threatens to burn on multiple jurisdictions, one DSS should be prepared that considers all jurisdictions and their interests.

Federal agencies are required to utilize the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) for fires on their lands. If multi-jurisdictional fires occur that involve federal lands, then one WFDSS should be completed for the incident that includes input from all affected jurisdictional agencies.

#### Cooperation

All of the fire protection agencies within Conejos County have current mutual aid agreements in place and agree to cooperate to the extent possible to bring rapid stabilization of wildland fires occurring in, near, and around Conejos County.

The County, State, and Federal agencies agree to cooperate to the extent possible to plan for and respond to fire incidents within the county.

#### Communication

All parties agree that a common communications plan is essential during a wildland fire event. As such, a common "Command" talk group or channel will be established that all responders

can operate on, and that can be monitored by the Interagency Dispatch Center(s) and Conejos Sheriff's Dispatch.

Separate "Tactical" talk groups should be established for each division of the fire. These need to be accessible to all responders assigned to that division as well as the Incident Commander.

See Exhibit D for an SLV-wide listing of local, state, federal, and common use frequencies.

### **Cost efficiency**

Maximizing cost effectiveness of any fire operation is the responsibility of all involved, including those that authorize, direct, or implement those operations. Cost effectiveness is the most economical use of suppression resources necessary to accomplish mission objectives.

Accomplishing fire objectives safely and efficiently will not be sacrificed for the sole purpose of "cost savings". Care will be taken to ensure that suppression expenditures are commensurate with values to be protected while understanding that other factors may influence spending decisions.

#### **Delegation of Authority**

The agency administrator(s) shall furnish a Delegation of Authority to the Incident Commander or team for all fires that escape initial attack. Public safety cannot be delegated away from the County Sheriff (CRS-30-10-513)

#### Preservation of Evidence

The jurisdictional agency will have primary responsibility for fire cause investigation and any civil or criminal follow-up actions taken. The follow-up actions will list all agencies involved in the suppression effort. When initial attack is made by other than the jurisdictional agency, the protecting agency will immediately preserve information and evidence pertaining to the cause and origin of the fire for the jurisdictional agency. Fire cause determination is required for both EFF and FEMA incidents.

In the case of human-caused fires with a known suspected trespasser, each party to the AOP agrees to pursue cost recovery on behalf of all agencies involved with the fire suppression when the fire originates on lands within their jurisdiction. All costs of fire suppression and rehabilitation from the time of initial report will be included in the cost recovery effort regardless of mutual aid assistance. If the jurisdictional agency responsible for the fire chooses not to pursue cost recovery, the other parties to this AOP may pursue cost recovery on their own, through the procedures available to them to do so.

#### **State Funded Fires**

Conejos County is a participant in the EFF Agreement with DFPC. As a participant to this agreement, the State agrees to come to the aid of the County should suppression resource needs exceed County capability.

State Funding can only be implemented upon request of the County with mutual agreement by DFPC. The County must notify DFPC immediately should an incident occur which has the potential to Exceed County capability. This will allow time for a DFPC representative to travel to the scene.

Minimum County Commitment: In the event that an incident that qualifies, the County agrees to supply and pay for the following resources, if necessary for suppression, for the duration of the fire:

- One (1) Sheriff's Office representative, 24-hour staffing if necessary
- One (1) water tender with operator, 24-hour staffing if necessary
- One (1) dozer or grader with operator, 24-hour staffing if necessary
- One (1) engine, fully staffed, 24-hour staffing if necessary

The resources listed should serve as a starting point, if resources do not fit incident needs alternate resources may be substituted with approval from DFPC Agency Representative. These changes will be documented in the Cost Share Agreement. DFPC#108A: The criteria utilized for evaluating wildfires for possible EFF funding are listed in the form DFPC #108A. This evaluation is also used to determine the return of control to the County.

## **Use and Reimbursement of Interagency Resources**

#### **Cost Share Agreement (Cost Share Methodologies)**

Written cost share agreements should be prepared when a wildfire burns across or threatens jurisdictional boundaries, and/or exceeds the mutual aid period. The intent is to appropriately distribute the financial burden based on a method agreed upon by a representative from each affected jurisdiction. A cost share agreement should be negotiated as soon as practical.

When a wildfire occurs on lands of more than one agency and costs are incurred beyond the mutual aid period, one of the following three options may be used to determine reimbursable costs to the agencies involved:

- Each agency assumes its own costs as expended by it in the fire control effort.
- Fire costs may be divided based upon ownership and acreage percentages.
- Costs may be divided as mutually agreed upon by agency representatives as soon as possible after the mutual aid period.

When a fire is accepted by the State as a State Funded incident, the Fire Cost Share Principles agreed to by the State and Federal agencies may be used as a foundation of discussion. On incidents that are State Funded, the value of work done by local fire districts will be tracked but may be included as the County's minimum contribution.

## **Training**

National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) wildfire training courses, meeting the Field Managers Coordinators Guide, are provided periodically by DFPC, Rio Grande NF, BLM, NPS, Fire Departments and other agencies. The Colorado Wildland Fire and Incident Management Academy is another option for training. <a href="www.cwfima.com">www.cwfima.com</a>. As these courses are scheduled, all cooperators will be informed and invited to participate. Non NWCG courses may be scheduled as appropriate. DFPC will attempt to provide specific training opportunities for fire district personnel and other private organizations as requested, and as time allows.

The Pueblo Zone Training Committee (a sub-group to the Pueblo Interagency Fire Board) exists to promote wildland fire training throughout the Pueblo Zone. Contact your local DFPC Zone Fire Management Officer to be included in the Pueblo Zone Training email distribution list to receive information regarding local to national wildland fire training information.

#### **Communication Systems**

For the purposes of conducting business authorized by this plan, all parties to this operating plan agree that assisting agencies may use the jurisdictional agency's radio frequencies as needed to conduct emergency communications on fires of the jurisdictional agency. No party to this operating plan will use, or authorize others to use, another agency's radio frequencies for routine day to day operations.

Conejos County currently utilizes the state 800Mhz Digital Trunked Radio System for its daily operations. A State Mutual Aid Channel (MAC) may be assigned by dispatch for out of area resources responding within the county.

Federal land management agencies use a VHF Radio system for their daily operations. Please see Exhibit D.

#### **Fire Weather Systems**

#### Red Flag/Fire Weather Announcements

The National Weather Service in Pueblo periodically issues "FIRE WEATHER" watch and "RED FLAG" warning bulletins. The Colorado State Patrol Dispatch in Denver will alert the County Sheriff's Offices when a Red Flag Warning is in effect. It is therefore the responsibility of the County Sheriff's office to relay this warning to their local Fire Departments.

RED FLAG WARNING: This warning is issued by the National Weather Service when weather conditions that will cause erratic fire behavior are predicted. These conditions may include very low humidity, high temperatures, high winds and the occurrence of dry lightning. Initial attack may require additional forces or air support under these conditions. This warning is issued to advise agencies of the imminent or actual occurrence of these weather conditions.

A "Fire Weather Watch" is issued to advise agencies of the possible development of red flag conditions in the near future. It will be issued by the fire weather forecaster for any part of or all of the Colorado fire weather zones. A watch shall be issued when the forecaster is reasonably confident that a Red Flag Event will occur within the next 12 to 72 hours. The Fire Weather Watch shall remain in effect until the forecaster determines that the critical weather conditions are imminent or are occurring (then upgrade to a warning), or until it can be determined that the expected event will not occur, and thus the watch will be canceled or allowed to expire.

#### **Aviation Operations**

#### **Aviation Map**

The Interagency Dispatch Centers (Pueblo, Montrose, Durango, and Taos) have mapped aviation hazards, flight routes, and other information. They are on file with their agency Aviation Plans and Fire Management Action Plans. All air resources go through the appropriate interagency dispatch center.

## Flight Following/Frequency Management

The Interagency Dispatch Centers (Pueblo, Montrose, Durango, and Taos) will flight follow per national direction for aircraft ordered through them.

#### Aviation Ordering Procedure

Aircraft are ordered through normal dispatching procedures. The appropriate Federal Interagency Dispatch Center will receive Aircraft orders from the Incident Commander or their designee.

### Lead Plane/Air Attack Activation

Aviation orders are accepted as to what is available and is the closest resource. A lead plane may be necessary and activated. Be as specific as possible when ordering an air resource and be aware that other requirements and expenses may be necessary.

#### *Aviation Requests and Operations*

Aircraft orders will be made through the appropriate Federal Interagency Dispatch Center and will only be accepted from the Incident Commander or designee. Each County will establish ordering procedures. The following information will be included in the aircraft request:

- Incident name
- Location (latitude and longitude) degrees, decimal minutes
- Jurisdiction
- Air contact with air to air radio frequency (if other aircraft present)
- Any other aircraft in the area.
- Values at risk (structures, type, etc)
- Hazards (power lines, towers, etc)
- Ground Contact with air to ground radio frequency
  - o Zone CO-07, A/G (35) 167.2250 or A/G (10) 166.9375

#### Inspection Schedules

No aircraft inspections are scheduled as part of this AOP.

#### **Billing Procedures**

The procedure for reimbursement for local agencies through DFPC will occur via the Cooperative Resource Rate Form (CRRF). Billing may be made for equipment and/or personnel listed on the CRRF with the corresponding documentation. Current procedures and forms can found at the DFPC website:

## http://dfs.state.co.u

s/

#### **Cost Recovery**

Both the County and the State reserve the right to pursue reasonable cost recovery efforts for equipment, personnel, and supplies utilized in response to a wildland fire that extends beyond the mutual aid period. This includes the facilities and administrative fee, also known as indirect rate. This includes pursuing legal action against any party determined to be responsible for the cause of the fire.

## General Provisions

This AOP is the framework for cooperation between the State and the County. It does not supersede any other lawful policy, rule, or procedure. This AOP may be utilized as part of the Counties master

emergency operations plan. The County is encouraged to create AOP's, MOU's and Agreements with their local response agencies.

#### Personnel Policy

All government employees shall be employed at their regular salary rate. All non-government employees will be paid at agency department rates. If no agency department rates have been set, then DFPC established rates will be used. These can be found at the DFPC website:

http://dfs.state.co.us/

#### Modification

Changes may be made to this plan at any time during the plan cycle as needed. These changes must have the concurrence of all parties before being placed into the plan document.

#### Annual Review

The annual operating plan must be reviewed annually. If no changes are made, a statement letter with signatures of all parties to this AOP will be distributed. A meeting of cooperating agencies will be held each year. The updated plan will be circulated for signatures prior to May.

## Duration of Agreement

This plan is to be considered in full effect upon the date of the signatures. This plan will remain in effect until rescinded by the parties, or until April 1, 2019, whichever occurs first.

#### Previous Agreements Superseded

Any and all previously dated Annual Operating Plans pertaining to wildland fire within Conejos County are hereby null and void upon the date of the signatures on this current plan

## Signatures

Authorized Re pre ntatives

Rohert, c; urulr

Dote

Conejos County Sheriff

3/02/18

3/02/18

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Jottn Sandoval.

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Cone;os County Commiss;aner

Son Luis Valley Regional F.M.O.

**Division of Fire Pre11, ntion and Control** 

03/27/18

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Don Dallas
Forest Supervisor, Saguache National Forest

02/28/2018

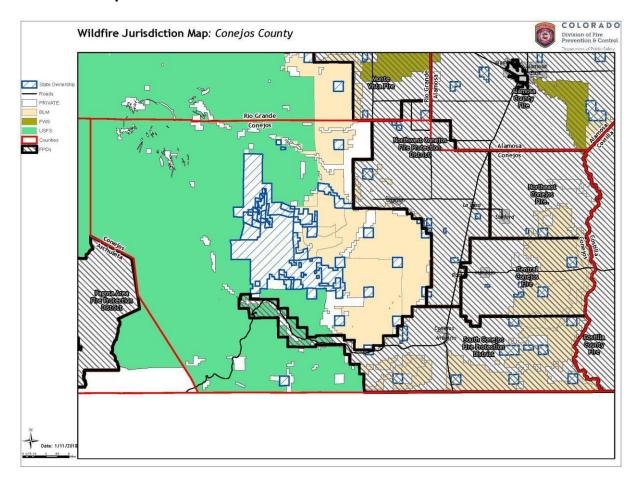
Domas Atbirlein

2-27-18

Date

Thomas Heinlein Rocky Mountain District Manager, Bureau of Land Management

## **Exhibit A: Maps**



#### Exhibit B

# Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control 2018 Wildland Fire Resource Funding Guidelines



The Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) is required by State Law to administer and manage programs to assist local jurisdictions with safe and effective wildland fire response. Funding for wildland firefighting resources under these various programs are eligible for reimbursement to any Colorado County Sheriff, fire protection district, or municipal fire department in accordance with the following guidelines. Funding and reimbursement will occur to the extent that program funds are available.

Summary of Eligible Resources						
Resource -1	Initial Attack Period (Not to Exceed 24 hours)  2nd Operational Period		3+ Operational Periods			
Hand Crew	Yes - 2	Yes -2	No			
DFPC Engines	Yes - 3	Yes – <sup>3</sup>	Yes – 4			
DFPC Overhead	Yes – <sup>4</sup>	Yes - 4	Yes – 4			
Type 3 Helicopter	Yes	Yes - 4	Yes – 4			
Type 2 Helicopter	Yes	Yes -4	Yes – 4			
Type 1 Helicopter	Yes	No	No			
Single Engine Air Tanker	Yes	Yes – <sup>4</sup>	Yes – 4			
Large Air Tanker	Yes	No	No			
Very Large Air Tanker	Yes – 4	No	No			
Multi-Mission Aircraft Yes		Yes	Yes – 4			
Aerial Supervision	Yes	Yes – <sup>4</sup>	Yes - 4			

#### Notes:

- DFPC must be notified as soon as possible via State Emergency Line (303-239-8855) for usage that exceeds either 1 hour of rotor time for any helicopter and/or 1 drop from any air tanker.
- 2 hand crew days allowed if ordered within the first 2 days of the incident.
- 3 Use of DFPC Engines is allowed during the first 48 hours of an incident with no charge to local government.
- 4 Resource use must be pre-approved by DFPC Operations Chief or designee.

#### **Funding Requests and Notifications**

- As stated in Note 1 above, <u>notification to DFPC must occur as soon as possible via the State Emergency Line (303-239-8855)</u> if there are multiple hours of helicopter time or multiple air tanker drops on an incident. If the requesting agency is expecting the State of Colorado to pay for any amount of resource use, that agency <u>must formally notify DFPC</u> after the incident as indicated below.
- All funding and reimbursement requests must be made to DFPC within 7 days of resource use. All requests should be documented on the DFPC Wildfire Funding Notification and Request form, and must include the following information: Who requested the resource (Sheriff, fire chief, etc.); Fire Name; Incident Number (whenever available); Resource Name(s); Dates of Use; and Copies of Resource Orders (whenever available). Formal funding and reimbursement requests can be made either via email to: <a href="wildlandfire@state.co.us">wildlandfire@state.co.us</a> with a carbon copy to the DFPC Regional FMO, or by using the online form that can be accessed at: <a href="https://goo.gl/forms/HWEYDjTXxE5iG4F33">https://goo.gl/forms/HWEYDjTXxE5iG4F33</a>

Page 1 of 2 Version: 1/10/2018

Additional Details – Hand Crews				
	Hand crew logistics costs of lodging, camping, transportation/fuel and per diem.			
Eligible	Crews must be qualified in accordance with applicable NWCG standard.			
	Different crews may be used, but only for a total of 2 hand crew days per incident.			
	Travel time to bring hand crews from outside Colorado.			
Not Eligible	Crews utilized within their jurisdiction or utilized in accordance with pre- established Mutual Aid agreements.			
	Additional Details – Aviation Resources			
Eligible	Resource (s) utilized on state and private land fires, and for fires that occur within the federal mutual aid areas as defined in the County AOP.			
	A combination of fixed and rotor wing resources may be funded on the same incident, subject to pre-approvals outlined above.			
	Resource (s) beyond the first operational period may be approved by DFPC, based on factors such as fire potential, values at risk, defined mutual aid periods, boundary line fires, availability of funds, etc.			
	Additional government helicopter personnel, support equipment and apparatus (helitack crew), as outlined in Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook and appropriate supplements.			
	Fuel and support trucks assigned to aviation resources. Contracted vendor support crew, relief crew and other expenses to maintain aircraft availability.			
	Daily availability costs of aircraft.			
	Only OAS or USFS interagency FIRE carded pilots and aircraft, ordered through the procedures outlined in the County AOP.			
Not Eligible	Non-operational flight time costs (ferry time, point to point etc.) to bring aerial resources to Colorado.			
Process	<ol> <li>Requesting agency orders appropriate Kind and Type of resource(s). Consult the County AOP for the local, state, and interagency dispatch procedures to order aviation resources.</li> </ol>			
	<ol><li>The Closest Forces concept will be utilized meaning that the closest available resource of the Kind and Type requested will be dispatched to the incident.</li></ol>			
	<ol> <li>DFPC must be notified via the State Emergency Operations Line (303-279-8855) if multiple aviation resources are ordered on an incident.</li> </ol>			
	<ol> <li>Costs for resources utilized outside of these guidelines, will be charged to the requesting agency(ies). Actual costs vary by resource used.</li> </ol>			
Questions concerning this guidance should be directed to your DFPC Regional FMO.				

Page 2 of 2 Version: 2/1/2018