

Recommended Format

Long-Term Plan

Purpose

This plan is intended to validate and implement the selected Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) alternative to meet objectives from the LRMP, FMP and those plans developed by the Agency Administrator specific to current local socio political and economic concerns.

It is a compilation of information pertinent to the long term management of a fire. This information includes values at risk from the fire as well as a preliminary plan for their protection. These preliminary plans must be validated prior to implementation to account for weather, fire spread, resource availability, recent experience with similar actions and anything else that may alter or negate the need for action.

It is essential that this plan be updated continually as weather changes, fire spread continues, new information comes to light and time passes.

The intended outcome of implementing this plan is to protect values identified that are at risk, at a commensurate cost, by the appropriate protection agency while protecting firefighter and public safety.

A Relative risk Assessment will be completed as described in Wildland Fire Use Implementation - Procedures Reference Guide (Stage I).

Components of a Long Term Implementation Plan (LTIP)

Objectives

- + They link the fire with the Land and Resource Management Plan(s) objectives described by the appropriate Fire Management Plan (FMP).*
- + Objectives are short, concise statements that provide direction for the management of a long-term wildland fire.*
- + They must include a metric for success.*
 - o Costs for Management Action Points should be identified for the values to protect. A standard format is included in the Appendix.*
 - o Cost share agreement should be developed and updated based on the validation of the plan, if this is appropriate.*
- + Objectives may change over the life of a long-term wildland fire, and when they do, the plan may need to be changed.*
- + Objectives should be the same as those in the WFSA*
- + They should be described in a manner that would compel the decision maker to develop WFSA alternatives.*

Summary of the Fire Risk Assessment

- ✦ This component should provide an executive summary of the risk assessment from the appendix. Description of the fires expected duration (season ending Event), extent (acres), expected fire behavior and management implications. Management implications can describe potential impacts to communities, improvements or other resource objectives. These implications should be described without any management actions.

Compile **inventory of values** within and adjacent to the WFSA boundary that may require protection

- ✦ *Anything that may be adversely impacted by the fire or management actions taken to mitigate fire effects*
- ✦ *Identify Heritage resources*
- ✦ *Agency owned structures and improvements (lookouts, guard stations, campgrounds, RAWs, repeater sites, etc.)*
- ✦ *Private owned structures and improvements*
- ✦ *Permitted uses and structures (outfitters, special use cabins, range allotment improvements, etc.)*
- ✦ *Utility infrastructure, dams, powerlines, electronic sites, etc*
- ✦ *Threatened or endangered species habitat and sensitive plant habitat.*
- ✦ *Any other value at risk known by the hosting agency.*

Validation of the Selected WFSA Alternative Boundary

Validating the selected WFSA alternative boundary considers defensibility, LRMP objectives for the location of the boundary, Land Management boundaries and related agreements, expected fire duration and extent along with social and political concerns. Information for this assessment should be found in the FMP, LRMP and local agreements.

- ✦ *If the boundary can't be validated, the analysis should suggest an alternative boundary that would have a higher probability of success. This suggested alternative should have a foundation based in the objectives section of the plan. . This boundary must be coordinated with adjacent protection agencies for fire protection and county sheriff for evacuation purposes.*

Determine the **responsible fire protection agencies** or governmental entities that will or may be involved during the life of this event.

- ✦ *Contact each entity to inform them of the situation*
- ✦ *Develop a plan for a meeting with all entities*
- ✦ *Involve in further planning those entities with responsibility or a vested interest in the management of this fire*

Develop mitigation actions to protect the WFSA boundary and identified values at risk

- ✦ *Determine the appropriate mitigation method*
 - *reduce the hazard (fuels reduction)*
 - *reduce the probability of the hazardous event occurring*
 - *reduce the value of potential losses*

- ✚ *Mitigation actions can include on-the-ground actions as well as administrative actions*
 - *check, direct or delaying actions to affect fire spread*
 - *road/area closures, public notification of impending smoke impact*
 - *evacuations*
 - *Private structure protection by a cooperator by agreement?*

Establish management action points for each of the mitigation (management) actions

- ✚ *Management Action Points are not necessarily "points" but most often lines*
- ✚ *the associated management action is triggered by the fire touching any point on the line*
- ✚ *Management Action Points can have one to many associated planned management actions*
- ✚ *Management actions are not automatically implemented when the MAP is reached*
- ✚ *Management actions are screened prior to implementation to make sure:*
 - *it can be done safely*
 - *it will be effective*
 - *resources are available*
 - *it is truly necessary*
 - *the cost of the action is justified by the value at risk*
 - *the action is practical and practicable*
- ✚ *Knowing the effort required to implement the management action will help determine when it should be implemented*
 - *low or no effort actions should be done as soon as possible, for instance removing light surface fuels around a bridge*
 - *high effort actions should be taken only when it is very likely they will be needed, mechanical fireline in a wilderness area for instance*

Determine the **resources needed** to implement planned management actions

- ✚ *consider logistics of people and supplies*
- ✚ *determine how much time is available and needed to implement*
- ✚ *determine the number of resources needed to meet the time available*
- ✚ *consider the recent success of similar actions*

Determine who is responsible for structure protection on private property

Signature and Dates

- ✚ *Could include all jurisdictions that may be affected with implementation of this plan. At a minimum all jurisdictions need to be involved in planning, implementation, and updating these plans.*

Monitoring

- ✚ *Plans will be monitored and updated. When changed conditions or unforeseen events occur. Relative Risk Assessments will be updated when appropriate.*

Appendix

Risk Assessment

The focus of the risk assessment is to assess the risk for the agency.

Tools that may help your administrator assess risk so actions can be developed are the following:

- + Current drought monitoring maps. There are several to choose from and some that may conflict so choose the one you want and document why. An explanation of annual precipitation by month would be useful. Remember, a forecast return to normal precipitation pattern for August may sound great but if normal for August is 0.0", not so much.*
- + Most current extended weather forecasts. Include current fire weather forecast, 6 to 10 day forecast, 8 to 14 day forecast, 30 day forecast and 90 day forecast. Include a synopsis of these forecasts and relate it to expected fire behavior for the rest of the fire season.*
- + Current, selected NFDRS indices. State why they were selected, why they are important. Use Fire Family Plus to graph the current year against high, low and a year you have selected for comparison. State why you selected the comparison year. These are to inform the decision maker so be prepared to explain why it's bad for some indices to chart on the upper margin (like BI) while it's bad when other indices chart and the bottom of the chart (like 1000 Hour Fuel Moisture). The "so-what" is how these indices relate to what the season has been like thus far and what it may be from now to the end.*
- + Historic analysis of fire spread events correlated with NFDRS index with estimate of likely number of similar spread events this season, with likely wind direction. This will help focus the spread direction of concern and provide an estimate of the number of probable spread events. This is also useful for smoke impacts analysis. The "so-what" is giving an estimate of spread and smoke events. Like "there will likely be 5 to 7 major spread events over the next 65 days (number of days to the 95% probability of season ending date) with 4-6 spread events to the north east. These spread events will result in smoke impacts to downwind communities less than 100 miles distance.*
- + Season ending/slowing event waiting time. Display the average, maximum and minimum days to wait for these events. Explain that a 90% certainty of something occurring has an associate 10% probability that it will not. The "so-what" is the decision maker will likely have to live with this fire for that many days.*
- + Fire history analysis. The key outcomes of this analysis are to identify the likely direction of fire spread for the current event and to identify where, if and how fuel conditions resulting from recent fires will affect fire spread.*
- + Fuel continuity analysis. This is a simple analysis that can be done using spatial fuels data, aerial photography or satellite images. Identify where there are barriers to fire spread, barren ground, rock or water. The "so-what" is, knowing where it will not go*

narrows down where it will go. Also, knowing there are no barriers to spread and that the fuels are conducive to fire spread under even moderate conditions will also help focus management actions.

- + Decision support tools. RAVAR, FSPRO, RERAP, FARSITE, FLAMMAP etc are in this category. These models can be used early in the process but also can be used to game out specific strategic alternatives. These are decision support tools, not decision making tools. They have to be interpreted to be of value. They are not the end product of an analysis, but a part of it.*