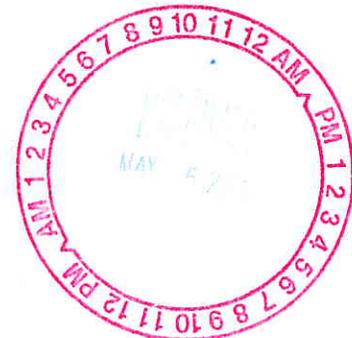


2013
ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN
BETWEEN
THE SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF WILDLAND FIRE
And
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT – EASTERN MONTANA/DAKOTAS DISTRICT
SOUTH DAKOTA FIELD OFFICE
(For The Period of May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014)
(For Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement)
Updated 04/07/2013

Plan Approvals:

USDI – Bureau of Land Management
Date 4/29/13 By *Diane M. Frey*
District Manager
Eastern Montana/Dakotas District Office

State of South Dakota
Date 5-13-13 By *Jay T. ...*
State Wildland Fire Coordinator/Division Director
South Dakota Department of Agriculture,
Division of Wildland Fire



3. Open Burning and Campfire Permits.....	9
4. Restrictions and Closures.....	9
Fuels Management and Prescribed Fire.....	9
Cost Reimbursements	10
1. Appropriated Fund Limitations.....	10
2. SDDWF Reimbursable Fires	10
3. Prescribed Fires and Project Work	10
4. Reimbursable Assistance (Assistance by Hire)	10
5. Wildfire Suppression	11
6. Aviation.....	11
7. Cost Share Plan.....	11
Billing Procedures.....	12
Fire Numbers	12
BLM Billings	12
SDDWF Billings.....	12
State Employees.....	12
Billing Estimates / Time Frames.....	13
Unpaid Obligation Report.....	13
Billing Content.....	13
Disputed Billings	13
Payments	13
Late Payment Charges	13
Billing for Other Fire Activities.....	13
Billing for Escaped Prescribed Fires.....	14
Administrative Charges	14
Billing Addresses.....	14
General Procedures	14
1. Annual Updating of Plan	14
2. Changes During Year.....	14
Authorized Representatives	15
Appendix A – Jurisdictional Boundary Map	16
Appendix B – Guidance for suppression strategies and tactics in sage grouse habitat	17
Appendix C – Sage-Grouse Habitat Map	18

Jurisdictional Agency

The agency that has overall land and resource management and/or protection responsibility as provided by federal or state law is considered the jurisdictional agency. The jurisdictional agency is also defined as the agency responsible for paying the bills for protection of lands under its jurisdiction.

Maps

The map on Appendix A shows jurisdictional boundaries of dispatch centers and counties. The map on Appendix C shows sage-grouse habitat for lands within Butte and Harding counties.

Resources

SDDWF agrees to provide pending availability:

- 1 mobile tool cache
- 2 Type 2 handcrews
- 4 federally certified Type I Blackhawk helicopters with bucket (SD National Guard)
- 2 AMD inspected Single Engine Air Tankers
- 2 AMD certified KA90 Air Attack Platforms
- Type 4 Engines with Compressed Air Foam Systems
- Type 6 engines
- Dozer
- Mobile shower unit
- Department of Corrections Crews (DOC) and overhead.

Reimbursement costs will be for delivery, return, and labor costs to refurbish and replace damaged or lost equipment. Upon written request, the SDDWF may share facilities when determined mutually beneficial to both agencies.

The organization of state crews, fire equipment, air resources, air attack facilities, equipment, and facilities which are available for cooperative use, subject to state regulations and procedures, are shown in the 2013 South Dakota Division of Wildland Fire Fire Action Plan and the GPC 2013 Mobilization Guide.

The organization of BLM crews, fire equipment, air resources, and facilities which are available for cooperative use, subject to BLM regulations, procedures, and availability are shown in the Miles City Dispatch Center (MCC) Annual Operating Plan.

Fire Readiness

1. Wildfire Training Needs and Coordination

The GPC Board of Directors and the Great Plains Zone training representative are responsible for coordinating fire training for agencies within the Great Plains Zone. All 100 and 200 level course offerings are coordinated by local agencies and all upper level 300 and 400 level course offerings are coordinated through the Rocky Mountain Area Training Committee, a subcommittee of the Rocky Mountain Area Coordinating Group (RMCG). The Eastern Montana/Dakotas District Training Coordinator is responsible for training coordination and qualifications of BLM personnel in the SDFO. Training schedules will be shared and when

lands as soon as possible after the arrival of initial attack forces. Contacts within GPC Mob Guide and MCC Annual Operating Plan will be used for notifications.

Initial Attack Dispatch Levels

Initial attack dispatch levels will be determined by the GPC SOP's as approved by the GPC Board of Directors (BOD) for all Response Zones in the Black Hills Forest Fire Protection District. Run Cards have been developed for all response areas and will be validated annually by the GPC Operations Committee of which both BLM and SDDWF are members. Initial attack response levels on Federal lands within Harding County are determined by Miles City Dispatch Center.

Dispatch

The primary Dispatch Center for the SDDWF is located at the Great Plains Interagency Dispatch Center in Rapid City, South Dakota. This Dispatch Center is the Zone Dispatch Center for the area covered in this agreement, except for lands in Harding County, SD, and is a third tier dispatch under the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center in Lakewood, Colorado.

The primary dispatch center for lands within Harding County and all BLM personnel and resources, as well as local Fire Departments within Harding County is the Miles City Dispatch Center (MCC) located in Miles City, MT, and is a zone dispatch center under the Northern Rockies Dispatch Center in Missoula, MT.

Dispatching and Resource Order Process

Dispatching and resource order process will be determined by GPC SOP's in both agencies jurisdictional areas for initial attack except for those federal lands within Harding County, SD. For extended attack in both agencies jurisdictional areas, dispatching and resource order process will be determined by SOP's established by GPC, except for those federal lands within Harding County, SD, which will be determined by MCC SOP's.

Assistance from Rural Fire Departments will be requested through the local County Dispatch Offices and/or GPC. Local fire departments in Harding County are dispatched through MCC.

Request for SDDWF assistance including wildland fire suppression resources covered by this agreement will be made through the GPC on call dispatcher who in turn will notify the SDDWF Duty Officer.

Per South Dakota state law, requests from South Dakota counties for state fire resources on large prairie wildfires will only be made by those authorized and designated by the county commissioners. All resource orders for federal wildland fire suppression resources requested by the county through the SDDWF will be routed through GPC.

Unified Command

Unified Command is highly recommended for all multi-jurisdictional fires. Proper mix of participants in a unified command organization will depend on location, kind of incident, and availability of resources.

specified in a rehabilitation plan approved by the affected agencies.

Burned area rehabilitation will be the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency. Requests for “Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation” (BAER) assessments will be initiated by the jurisdictional agency and be funded according to the requesting agency policy.

Interagency Sharing of Communications Systems and Frequencies

Both agencies signing this AOP agree to share the use of their interagency fire suppression radio frequencies or talk groups per a memorandum of understanding (MOU). MOU’s authorizing use of frequencies or talk groups will be kept on file at both agencies.

Decision Document / Delegation of Authority

The jurisdictional federal agency will assume the lead for development and implementation of the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS). The jurisdictional federal agency will assume the lead for the development of the Delegation of Authority as produced and documented by WFDSS. The BLM agrees to update WFDSS as appropriate when used as an incident management tool. For multi-jurisdictional incidents that require a decision document, one document will be agreed upon and used by all affected agencies for that particular incident.

Special Management Considerations

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, sage-grouse habitat, wetlands, archaeological sites, botanical areas, roadless areas, and other areas identified in land management planning documents, urban interface areas, and areas otherwise requiring special fire management procedures are to be considered. These will be identified by the local agency representatives responding to the incident. BLM Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) include:

- Fort Meade Recreation Area ACEC in Meade County, SD
- Fossil Cycad ACEC in Fall River County, SD.

Guidance for suppression strategies and tactics in sage-grouse habitat is included in Appendix B. Appendix C includes a map of general and preliminary priority sage-grouse habit areas.

Aviation Procedures

Hazards

Updated Aviation Hazard Maps are located at GPC. For Harding County, Aviation Hazard Maps are located at MCC or at MCC website under Aviation.

(http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/fo/miles_city_field_office/fire/aviation.html)

Detection Routes

Detection flights will follow flight paths and check in locations as identified on the GPC flight following map and MCC flight following map for Harding County, SD. Direction/sequence of flight path will be determined by the requesting jurisdiction.

Flight Following/Frequency Management

Aircraft operating within the GPC area will be coordinated by GPC. Aircraft operating within Harding County, SD will be coordinated with MCC. Border fires or transfers will be coordinated between dispatch centers on a case by case basis.

Single Engine Air Tanker Bases managed by SDDWF are staffed with a qualified SEAT manager during operational hours. When using Single Engine Air Tankers at small airports across South Dakota, a qualified SEAT manager must be present or ordered/enroute to the airport. Local fire departments are used to support the Single Engine Air Tanker operation with water and foam. Single Engine Air Tanker operations at small airports are coordinated through GPC.

Leadplane/Air Attack Activation

Requests for leadplanes/air attack are coordinated through GPC. Aircraft requests within Harding County, SD will be coordinated with MCC.

Aviation Requests and Operations

1. Initial Attack

Requests for aviation resources are placed with and managed by GPC for both SDDWF and BLM within GPC Zone.

2. Boundary Fires

All fires within the GPC Zone are coordinated through GPC. Zone boundary fires are coordinated based on agreed to procedures at the time of the incident by the two Zone Centers and respective jurisdictions.

3. Air Space Restrictions

Requests for TFR's will be placed with the GPC for both SDDWF and the BLM for all SD counties except Harding County where TFR's will be placed with MCC.

Inspection Schedules

Through Region 2, SDDWF will coordinate annual inspections of state contracted Single Engine Air Tankers and air attack platform by the DOI OAS. SDDWF will coordinate annual inspections of the South Dakota National Guard Black Hawk helicopters with the United States Forest Service, Regional Helicopter Coordinator. A copy of the inspection approvals will be kept on file at GPC, MCC, and by each agency.

Fire Prevention

SDDWF Fire Management Officers (FMO) and the BLM will be jointly responsible for coordinating annual fire prevention activities within their areas of responsibilities. Coordination and cooperation will be channeled through the Prevention and Education Committee within the GPC Board of Directors according to the GPC and Eastern Montana Fire Zone Fire Danger Operating Plans.

1. Fire Danger Information

Agency RAWS Locations

Name	Station ID	Latitude	Longitude	Agency
Indian Butte	INBS2	45.1394	-103.9128	BLM
Custer State Park	CSPS2	43.7286	-103.3542	SDDWFS

Whenever possible, prescribed burn projects should be planned and responsibilities, costs, and benefits, other than suppression cost responsibility, apportioned so that the project can be conducted with a minimum monetary exchange.

The Prescribed Fire Burn Plan will include all standards and specifications for project execution. Each agency will determine and certify the qualifications of its own personnel and equipment for prescribed fire positions using jointly agreed upon interagency prescribed fire qualification standards. Burn plan requirements of each agency will be incorporated in a joint burn plan.

Cost Reimbursements

1. Appropriated Fund Limitations

Nothing herein shall be interpreted as obligating the BLM or the SDDWF to expend funds, or as involving the United States or the State of South Dakota in any contract or other obligation for the future payment of money in excess of appropriations authorized by law and administratively allocated for the work contemplated in this Agreement.

2. SDDWF Reimbursable Fires

BLM lands protected by the SDDWF in which the BLM will reimburse the SDDWF for costs incurred in suppressing wildfire on these lands.

3. Prescribed Fires and Project Work

Reimbursement procedures will be consistent with the Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement. Rates for contracted resources through the SDDWF will be consistent with those established in the State of South Dakota Fire Suppression Agreement, Appendix A, Work and Payment Plan for fire Suppression Forces. Exception, if a cooperator desires to provide resources to a requesting agency at no cost or reduced cost to the requesting agency, the sending agency must provide the requesting agency a letter of intent stating the limit of resources provided, the rate of reimbursement expected, and the reason for the deviation from the established rates. Reasons may be non-monetary benefits to the sending agency in the form of training, experience, public relations, etc. The letter of intent must be received and acknowledged by the requesting agency prior to the burn.

4. Reimbursable Assistance (Assistance by Hire)

Reimbursable Assistance refers to those fire suppression resources that are to be paid for by the Protecting Agency. Reimbursable assistance must be requested by the Protecting Agency or supplied through automatic or mutual aid systems. Assistance must be recorded by a resource order within the dispatching systems of both the Protecting and Supporting Agencies or documented by the incident commander in a fire report. Resources not documented in this manner are not reimbursable. Except as otherwise provided herein, all costs incurred as the result of an incident and documented as stated above are generally reimbursable, such as but not limited to:

- Costs incurred for suppression and move-up and cover resources.
- Transportation, salary, benefits, and per-diem of individuals assigned to an incident.
- Additional support dispatching services requested through a resource order.
- Cost of equipment in support of the incident. Included in equipment costs are contract

dispatching channels. Loaned equipment becomes the responsibility of the borrower, and shall be returned in the same condition as when received, normal wear accepted. The borrower will repair damages in excess of normal wear and will replace items lost or destroyed.

Billing Procedures

Fire Numbers

Agencies will share their respective individual fire numbers for cross-referencing purposes.

BLM Billings

BLM will submit separate bills, for each incident, to SDDWF whenever South Dakota is the jurisdictional agency.

SDDWF Billings

When SDDWF is the supporting agency and the fire is within the State of South Dakota, SDDWF will bill the BLM.

Services rendered by rural fire departments to suppress wildland fires within the boundaries of the BLM lands will be billed to the Fire Business Accountant at SDDWF. Each rural fire department will itemize department members on a Fire Suppression Cost Statement as the payment document for reimbursement.

SDDWF will send a Fire Suppression Cost Statement to the SD Field Office for reimbursement of costs. The SD Field Office will certify that the billing is correct within 10 days and return the bill to the SDDWF for payment. Payment to the rural fire department will be made by the SDDWF and a final itemized bill will be developed by the SDDWF and submitted to the BLM, Montana/Dakotas State Office along with a copy of the draft itemized bill approved by the SD Field Office. State rates for personnel and equipment will be used for determining reimbursement costs.

Payments to rural departments will be in accordance with the current South Dakota Department of Agriculture Forest Fire Suppression Agreement between SDDWF and rural fire departments. The rate of pay will be at the approved SDDWF rate.

State Employees

The salary and expenses of personnel who remain on the state payroll shall be the actual cost to sending agency for work time from departure until return to official station, including overtime if it is earned under the laws and rules governing the employees of the sending agency.

Any state employee assigned to fire control duties outside this state under this agreement shall be considered to be working within this state for purposes of compensation and other employee benefits under SDCL Chapter 62-4.

Firefighter's unqualified or not meeting physical fitness standards for the position they are filling will not be compensated for costs incurred or services provided.

management activities and administrative charges may be applied. Provisions described above pertaining to suppression billing procedures, addresses, payment due dates, obligation information, and payments also apply to these billings. Billings will be itemized and a copy of the appropriate annual operating plans will be attached or referenced. Agreement # L10AC16291 will be used to reimburse the SDDWF for the above activities.

Billing for Escaped Prescribed Fires

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 agreement for all suppression costs of supporting agencies. If the agencies conduct a cooperative prescribed fire, the responsibility for suppression costs, should an escape occur, shall be agreed upon and documented in the project plan.

Administrative Charges

SDDWF may charge the BLM an administrative charge for all fire suppression activities. This rate will be set by the indirect rate negotiated by the South Dakota Department of Agriculture for federal grants and contracts. If SDDWF charges an administrative fee for a fire, the BLM may charge an appropriate administrative fee. Administrative charges will not exceed 20 percent. All agency expenses not used to calculate an administrative indirect rate are allowable charges to a fire and may be billed without invoking an administrative fee. These charges must be verifiable and supporting documentation must be included with the bill.

Billing Addresses

All bills for services provided to SDDWF will be mailed to the following address for payment:

South Dakota Dept of Agriculture
Wildland Fire Division
Attn: Fire Business Accountant
4250 Fire Station RD, Suite #2
Rapid City, SD 57703

All bills for services provided by SDDWF to the BLM under this agreement will be mailed to the following address:

South Dakota Field Office
310 Roundup Street
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

General Procedures

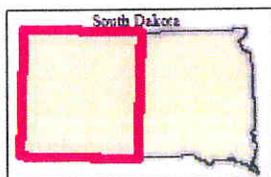
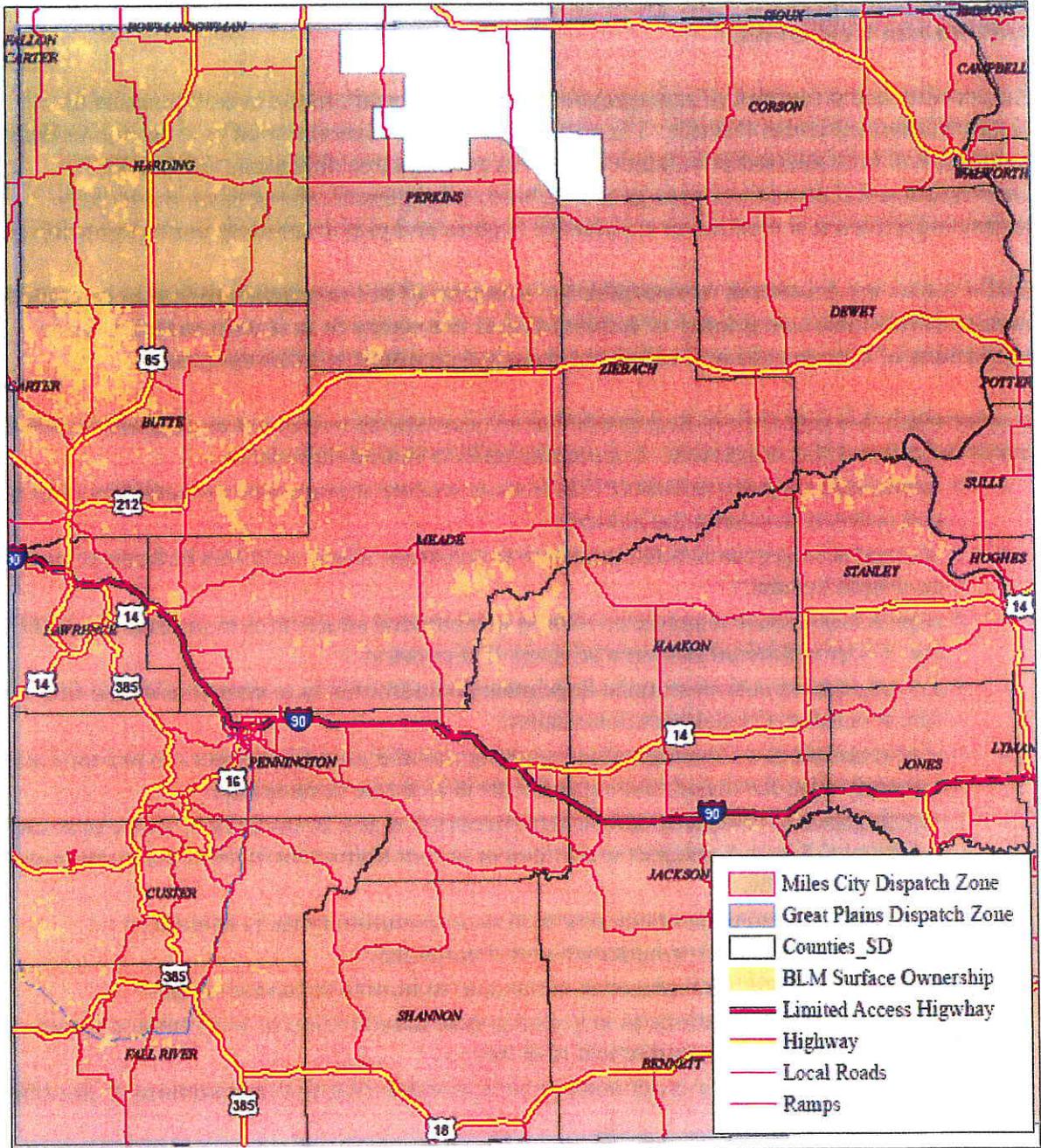
1. Annual Updating of Plans

This Annual Operating Plan will be updated prior to March 31st of each year. The effective date will be May 1st of each year.

2. Changes During Year (due to budget cuts or supplemental funding)

That nothing herein shall be construed as obligating the BLM or SDDWF to expend, or as involving the United States or the State of South Dakota in any contract to other obligation for

APPENDIX A JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARY MAP



Map generated by the South Dakota Field Office in February 2011
 Montana Custer Albers (NAD 1983) Projection
 This map is intended for display purposes. No warranty is made by
 the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or
 completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other
 data, or for purposes not intended by BLM. This map may not meet
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Jurisdictional Boundary Map
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 Bureau of Land Management



South Dakota Field Office

APPENDIX C SAGE-GROUSE HABITAT MAP

