

**United States  
Department of  
Agriculture**

**Forest  
Service**

**R-6**

**OR/WA**

**Bureau of Land  
Management**

**United States  
Department of  
the Interior**

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**Reply Refer To:** 5100(FS)/ 9210(BLM) (OR-934) P

**Date:** May 15, 2006

**EMS TRANSMISSION 05/18/2006**

**FS-Memorandum**

**BLM-Information Bulletin No. OR-2006-115**

**To:** Forest Service Forest Supervisor and Bureau of Land Management District Managers

**Subject:** Wildland Fire Situation Analysis

Fire pre-season preparation includes updating your Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSAs) preparation (Prep) file. The WFSAs analysis provides an opportunity to design a suppression strategy to safely and efficiently suppress an escaped fire. To effectively use the WFSAs software during an escaped fire situation, the Prep file containing suppression costs, Net Value Change (NVC) costs, Land Management Plan (LMP) objectives, etc must be developed prior to the fire season.

The investment of 1-2 days to prepare or update the WFSAs Prep file for the 2006 Fire season will pay dividends in the eventuality of an escaped fire on your Unit. Please make sure the WFSAs Prep files have been created (Enclosure 1) and are readily available to those that might be doing WFSAs on your Unit this summer.

As directed in FSM 5131.04 and the Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations, "Redbook", Chapter 10, certification of a WFSAs by a Line Officer is required. Line Officer certification thresholds are shown in Enclosure 2. The State Office/Regional Office (SORO) and the National Offices will use the checklist shown in Enclosure 3 to certify a WFSAs. The checklist is also shown on the following web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/wfsa/checklist.pdf>

Certification for multiple jurisdictional incidents are determined based on each agency's funding commitment for a WFSAs and **not** the total estimated costs. For example, if a multi-jurisdictional incident has a selected WFSAs alternative of \$50 million, but the USDA-FS share is only 10% (equals \$5 million), then certification authority would remain at the Forest Supervisor level. The same concept applies to BLM Units, however different thresholds would apply. There will be written guidance inserted in the 2006 Fire Operations Plan that will clarify this issue (see Enclosure 4).

In the event your unit has an escaped fire with an estimated suppression cost that exceeds local thresholds for certification, contact the Regional Duty Officer (503-808-2775) as soon as possible so the Regional Forester and/or State Director can be notified that a WFSAs is being prepared that will need certification. With good communication between your unit and SORO, we should be able to certify a WFSAs within 24 hours. Remember, management of the incident

should not wait for pending certification. The local Line Officer has the authority to approve the WFSAs, and work should proceed once approved. Issues highlighted during certification will be handled outside Fire Management Operations.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Ken Snell at 503-808-2136.

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/s/ Karyn L. Wood  
KARYN L. WOOD  
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4 Attachment(s)

- 1 – [Creating the WFSAs Prep File](#) (1p)
- 2 – [WFSAs Approval and Certification Thresholds](#) (1p)
- 3 – [Regional and National WFSAs Certification Checklist](#) (1p)
- 4 – [Letter from National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group](#) (1p)

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cc:  
WO – Fire and Aviation