

2018 JEFFERSON COUNTY ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN

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1.0 PREAMBLE

This local annual operating plan is prepared pursuant to the state annual operating plan, *2017 Colorado Statewide Wildland Fire Management Annual Operating Plan (State AOP)*. The *State AOP* was prepared pursuant to the *Colorado Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement* signed and dated 6/1/2011, and as amended in 2013.

2.0 PURPOSE

This Annual Fire Operating Plan (AOP) is to set forth standard operating procedures, agreed procedures, and responsibilities to implement cooperative wildfire protection on all lands within Jefferson County.

3.0 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
- UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE – ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION Agreement Number 11-FI-11020000-017
- Memorandum of Understanding For Participation in the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund Between:
 - The Sheriff of Jefferson County
 - The Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners
 - The Colorado Department of Public Safety Division of Fire Prevention and Control
- Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Jefferson County

4.0 RECITALS

C.R.S. § 24-33.5-707.	Local and Inter-jurisdictional Disaster Agencies and Services
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709.	Local Disaster Emergencies
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1201.	Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC)
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1202.	Definitions
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1203.	Duties of Division
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1217.3.	Authority to Permit Controlled Burns During Drought Conditions
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1217.5.	Minimum Prescribed Burning Standards
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1218.	Cooperation with Governmental Units
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1219.	Wildland Fires - Duty of Sheriff to Report
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1220.	Funds Available – Emergency Fire Fund
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1221.	State Responsibility Determined
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1222.	Cooperation by Counties
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1223.	Sheriffs to Enforce
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1224.	Limitation of State Responsibility
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1225.	Emergencies
C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1226.	Wildfire Emergency Response Fund

C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1228.	Colorado Firefighting Air Corps
C.R.S. § 29-1-101, <i>et seq.</i>	Local Government Budget Law
C.R.S. § 29-22.5-101, <i>et seq.</i>	Wildland Fire Planning
C.R.S. § 29-22.5-103.	Chief of Fire Department Wildland Fire Management Responsibilities, Sheriff as the Fire Warden is responsible for planning, coordination efforts to suppress County Responsibilities Fires, Appointing Local Incident Management Teams; DFPC and Sheriff Responsibilities of in the case of State Responsibility Fires; DFPC Lead Colorado State Agency for Wildland Fire Suppression
C.R.S. § 29-22.5-104.	Sheriff may Develop and Update Wildfire Preparedness Plans
C.R.S. § 30-10-512.	Sheriff to Act as Fire Warden
C.R.S. § 30-10-513.	Duties of Sheriff – Coordination of Fire Suppression Efforts
C.R.S. § 30-10-516.	Sheriffs to Preserve Peace – Command Aid
C.R.S. § 30-11-107(1)(o).	Powers of the Board of County Commissioners

The chief of the fire department in each fire protection district is responsible for the management of wildland fires that occur within the boundaries of his or her district and that are within the capability of the fire district to control or extinguish in accordance with the provisions of Section 32-1-1002(3)(a) C.R.S. The Fire Chief may utilize mutual aid agreements and unified command with neighboring fire protection districts to suppress and control fires that cross or threaten to cross the boundaries of the district. The Fire Chief may transfer any duty or responsibility under this section to the County Sheriff with the concurrence of the Sheriff C.R.S. 29-22.5-103(1)(a-c).

5.0 INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

5.1 Interagency Dispatch Centers

Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center (PIDC 719-553-1600) is the dispatch center for federal managed lands in Jefferson County. Jefferson County Communications Center Authority (Jeffcom) (303-980-7300) is the multi-jurisdictional dispatch center for the Sheriff's Office.

Additional Dispatch Centers servicing agencies within Jefferson County include: South Metro Fire, Westminster, Broomfield and Boulder County Dispatch.

Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (FTC), (970) 295-6800, will coordinate with PIDC on extended attack incidents on Arapahoe Roosevelt National Forest lands in Jefferson County.

5.2 Interagency Resources

Interagency resources, as defined here, are aviation, crews, equipment (engines, dozers, etc.), overhead (personnel), and supplies listed in the Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS). Interagency resources meet interagency minimum standards as identified in the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations* also known as the Red Book. Interagency resources will be mobilized through ROSS.

5.3 Standards

Each jurisdictional agency is responsible for establishing standards for wildland fire response. During initial response, all agencies will accept each other's standards. Once jurisdiction is established, then the jurisdiction agency(s) standards will prevail.

Federal agencies meet or exceed the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations.

DPFC resources meet or exceed the NWCG 310-1 minimum standard for qualifications and utilize the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operation* as a guiding document.

County resources assigned to State and Federal incidents beyond the mutual aid period will meet NWCG 310-1 standards per established agreements or as recognized in other pertinent interagency documents, guides or agreements.

6.0 PREPAREDNESS

6.1 Protection Planning

PIDC maintains a resource list in WildCAD of DFPC and federal agency resources. Preparedness Levels are based on indices to determine placement and number of resources available for fire response. Staffing will be commensurate with fire conditions.

6.2 Protection Areas and Boundaries

Fire Protection Districts have primary responsibility for controlling wildfires in their jurisdictions. The Jefferson County Sheriff has primary responsibility for coordination of all fire suppression efforts for wildfires occurring in the unincorporated area of the County outside the boundaries of the Fire Protection District, or wildfires that exceed the capabilities of the fire protection district on all state and private lands within Jefferson County. Federal Agencies are ultimately responsible for fire control on their lands within Jefferson County. (See Appendix A for Protection and Ownership Maps).

6.3 Reciprocal (Mutual Aid) Fire Assistance

MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT: Pursuant to 29-22.5-102(5), a written agreement between or among federal, state, and local agencies in which the agencies agree to assist one another upon request by furnishing such resources as personnel and equipment.

MUTUAL AID PERIOD: The Mutual Aid period shall continue from the time of initial dispatch of the Emergency Incident until twelve (12) consecutive hours later from the time or 2400 (midnight), whichever is sooner, unless extended by an additional agreement between the Parties. The initial dispatch shall be the first notification of the Emergency Incident; a requesting Party may not circumvent the limitation on Mutual Aid by re-toning when Mutual Aid is requested or by using the time of notification of an Assisting Party. Initial attack activities are subject to all existing mutual aid, reciprocal aid, and automatic aid agreements between the involved Agencies, and unless otherwise covered under the Colorado Division Of Fire Prevention and Control Wildland Fire Resource Funding Guidelines.

OBLIGATION UNDER MUTUAL AID: It is understood that no supporting Agency or Fire Protection District will be required to assist, or expected to commit resources to a jurisdictional Agency, if such assistance or resources may jeopardize the security of lands under protection of the supporting Agency or Fire Protection District.

Local DFPC and USFS personnel will respond as needed and available to respond to wildfires on state and private lands when requested by the Jefferson County Emergency Management Section (JCSO EM). Such response will be at no cost to the County, except as provided for by other agreements. DFPC and USFS will provide technical assistance to the County in suppression, logistics, planning, and other necessary duties, upon the County's request

6.4 Acquisition of Services

For Federal and State Interagency resources such as aircraft/crews/equipment, all orders will be placed directly through PIDC, and then supported by documentation from the appropriate local cooperators' dispatch center. Interagency orders, including those resources that may be requested for reimbursement under the Wildland Fire Resource Funding Guidelines, must be approved by one of the designated County officials prior to the order being placed through PIDC. Jefferson County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Management (JCSO EM) Duty Officer will be the primary contact for approval of resource orders. If the Duty Officer is not available, one of the officials listed below can provide approval, in order of preference:

- Fire Management Officer or designee
- Director of Emergency Management
- Support Services Division Chief
- Undersheriff
- Sheriff

All local cooperator orders for interagency wildland fire resources may be at the requesting agency's expense, unless the designated County officials approve the resource orders for County payment.

For local jurisdictional fires (no federal lands involved) the ICP will place resource orders through the appropriate dispatching agency. Fulfillment of orders for locally available resources in CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) is always done through the appropriate dispatch agency. Jefferson County Emergency Management will fulfill orders for resources not available in local CAD when:

- a) the EOC is activated and has received a delegation of resource ordering responsibility from the appropriate dispatching agency,
- b) the EOC is activated and the County has assumed control of the incident, or
- c) the order obligates the use of County funds

Requests for Jefferson County wildland fire resources will be made by local cooperators through the appropriate agency dispatch center. All available mutual aid resources (specific equipment or personnel, wildland task forces, etc.) will be utilized, prior to ordering resources from outside Jefferson County.

Once the incident has met the criteria and been approved as a State Responsibility incident and the DFPC has Assumed Control Duty, all resource ordering will be handled per the Delegation of Authority.

Jefferson County is required to notify the DFPC Regional FMO immediately upon ordering any interagency resources through PIDC, if they are requesting the support of the Wildland Fire Resource Funding for the resource's first use. Without such notification, any such resource use may obligate the County to pay for the costs under the current Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Jefferson County.

6.5 Fire Prevention

Public information regarding fire danger and fire restrictions should be coordinated to the extent possible and issued jointly to the media.

6.6 Public Use Restrictions

Each jurisdiction will communicate all fire bans, restrictions, or closures to all agencies. Fire restrictions will be coordinated and communicated between agencies. Agencies agree to use scientific methods and risk analysis to support decisions regarding issuance and removal of fire restrictions. The *Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Zone, Procedures for Initiation or Rescinding Fire Restrictions* serves as a guide for interagency fire restrictions.

DFPC will assist coordination of restrictions or closures within the DFPC Region, if necessary.

6.7 Burning Permits

Each Agency shall issue and control burning and smoke permits on lands within its jurisdiction. When such permits are issued for lands within the protection boundary of an

Agency having jurisdiction (AHJ), the AHJ shall be informed of the time and location that the permit(s) is issued for. Private landowners may obtain permits from local fire departments for open burning in Jefferson County. Additionally, private landowners must obtain open burn permit from the Jefferson County Public Health Environmental Services Division. Each Agency or department will be responsible for obtaining any burn and smoke permits necessary at the County, State, or Federal levels for their individual burns.

6.8 Prescribed Fire (Planned Ignitions) and Fuels Management

The USFS, BLM, USFWS, DFPC, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, fire service providers, and all other land management agencies agree to cooperate in the development and implementation of prescribed burning programs and projects. Agencies and fire departments conducting prescribed fire activities will report their activities Jeffcom, PIDC, the fire protection district within which the fire is occurring, and to each other. In addition, Jefferson County Public Health Environmental Health Services Division will maintain a record of all controlled burning activities occurring on private lands.

Agencies may enter into project and/or financial plans that define roles and conditions for participating and/or assisting in the planning and implementation of prescribed burns. Such participation and/or assistance will adhere to individual agency authority, policy, and business practices. The host agency (the agency that is jurisdictionally responsible for land management or the agency that has an agreement with the land owning entity to provide for land management) will be responsible for initiating and developing the project and/or financial plans.

Escaped Prescribed Fires - All protocols and procedures pertaining to wildfire response, suppression, and business practices will be followed from the point in time that prescribed fire escapes control and is declared a wildfire.

6.9 Smoke Management

The Colorado Air Pollution Prevention and Control Act (CRS 25-7-102) requires every prescribed fire project to have a smoke permit. Due to changes in policy, procedures, technology and State air quality standards, the smoke permitting process is subject to change. For the most up-to-date process and policy refer to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Air Pollution Control Division website at: <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDPHE-AP/CBON/1251594943171>

7.0 OPERATIONS

7.1 Fire Notifications

The AHJ must be notified of wildfires on or threatening their lands as soon as possible after the arrival of initial attack forces.

The County shall be notified of all fires on or threatening non-federal jurisdiction within the County via Jefferson County Communication Center Authority (Jeffcom).

DFPC shall be notified by the county via the State Emergency Operations Line (303) 279-8855 of all fires beyond the capability of the County.

Federal agencies shall be notified of all fires on or threatening federal jurisdiction via Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center.

Notification of all other agencies that are affected is the responsibility of the responding agency. All notifications shall be made as soon as possible to the jurisdictional agency.

7.2 Boundary Line Fires

Cooperating agencies may, at times, take initial attack action on lands under another agency's jurisdiction. The primary criterion for such initial attack will be which agency is in the best position at the time the fire is reported to take the most rapid and effective action.

A fire adjacent to a protection boundary or located in an area of undetermined jurisdiction will be the initial attack responsibility of all agencies on both sides of the boundary until jurisdiction is determined.

If the fire is confined to a single jurisdiction, that agency will designate an IC during initial response. It shall be the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency to provide or mobilize replacement forces.

If multiple agencies are engaged in a fire on or near common boundaries, the agency representatives shall convene as soon as possible to mutually agree upon the fire strategy, establish a unified command, and delegate an Incident Commander (IC) as soon as possible.

IC designation will be mutually decided by the jurisdictional agencies. Federal and State responsibility fires will assign NWCG qualified Incident Command personnel. When a fire burns on both sides of a protection boundary or threatens another jurisdiction, and is beyond the mutual aid period, a cost share agreement shall be prepared and approved by the Agency Administrator or their designee.

7.3 Response to Wildland Fire

Fires originating on non-Federal land will be suppressed. Fires will be suppressed using commonly accepted suppression tactics including but not limited to direct attack, indirect attack, point protection and combinations of all with consideration to the values at risk and the health and safety of the public and responders.

Cooperating agencies may, at times, take initial attack action on lands under another agency's jurisdiction. The primary criterion for such initial attack will be which agency is in the best position at the time the fire is reported to take the most rapid and effective action.

Personnel and equipment of an assisting agency shall report to the Incident Commander and shall not leave the incident until released by the IC. The IC will release resources when their services are no longer required or when the assisting agency's resources are needed within the area for which it normally provides fire protection.

Structural fire suppression is the responsibility of local governments. DFPC and federal agencies may assist with exterior structural fire protection only unless otherwise specified in other policies or agreements.

7.4 Special Management Considerations

Suppression within designated U.S. Forest Service (USFS) wilderness areas will not be conducted without direct orders from the jurisdictional federal official. Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center (PIDC) must be notified promptly of all fires on or threatening National Forest lands, or Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) must be notified promptly of all fires on or threatening USFWS lands.

Federal Land Managers will use the Wildfire Decision Support System (WFDSS), to guide and document their management decisions in response to a wildland fire. Wildland fires can be managed for more than one objective and objectives can change as fire spreads across the landscape, according to Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy.

With exception of protection for immediate risk of life, all use of mechanized, earthmoving equipment such as bulldozers, graders, etc., will not be permitted on the following lands without the express approval of the appropriate management or land owning Agencies. Jurisdictional Agencies operating on the following lands will make an attempt to contact designated land management representative prior to using mechanized earthmoving equipment on these lands listed below as recognized as Special Management Consideration Areas:

- All federal lands
- Denver Mountain Parks
- Denver Water Board
- Jefferson County Open Space
- Colorado State Parks and Wildlife Areas
- Colorado State Land Board lands

JCSO EM **must** be notified as soon as practical of all fires occurring on the above Special Management Consideration Areas. The initial attack Agency must do this in order to be eligible to receive reimbursement for fire-fighting costs. DFPC should be notified by the County as outlined in any intergovernmental agreement between the

County and Special Management Consideration land management Agencies listed above, if applicable.

Wildland fires within designated wilderness areas will be evaluated and could be managed for multiple objectives. The decision whether to employ any fire management strategy in these areas will be made by the AHJ.

Incident Commanders using fire retardant or heavy equipment to suppress a wildfire will follow the policies and procedures regarding the use of such tactics established by the AHJ over the land on which the wildfire occurs on.

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);
- Attend 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, have completed NWCG Course I-100, Introduction to Incident Command System (ICS)

7.5 Decision Process

As a fire situation evolves and changes, the objectives, strategies and tactics may also change. The process of monitoring, evaluating and determining appropriate objectives will be facilitated through the use of a decision support system (DSS). Wildland fires can be managed for more than one objective and objectives can change as fire spreads across the landscape. All agencies involved in initial attack should assist in the completion of the DSS. In extended attack fires, all jurisdictions shall be invited and involved in the DSS. 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. If multi-jurisdictional fires occur that involve federal jurisdiction, then one DSS should be completed for the fire that includes input from all affected jurisdictions.

DFPC requires a DSS to be completed for all State Responsibility fires (fires funded by Emergency Fire Fund, State Emergency Declaration, or other State funds) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) declaration fires. DFPC is responsible for the completion and review of the DSS for these fires. While there are different DSS available, Wildland Fire Decision Support

System (WFDSS) is the preferred DSS for federal and non-federal jurisdiction fires that have become a State Responsibility fire.

Federal agencies are required to utilize WFDSS for all fires that escape initial attack on federal jurisdiction, to determine the appropriate response. WFDSS is the DSS to document these decisions. If there is a federal jurisdiction and non-federal jurisdiction fire, WFDSS shall incorporate federal, state, county and private land interests.

7.6 Cooperation

It is to the mutual advantage of all agencies to coordinate efforts for the prevention, detection, and suppression of wildfires in and adjacent to their areas of jurisdiction and responsibility to limit duplication as well as improve the effectiveness of wildland fire response. All agencies agree to cooperate, whenever possible, in all areas of wildland fire management.

7.7 Communication

Incidents involving multi jurisdictions, public information will be coordinated with all agencies involved with all information being released. County jurisdiction fires or incidents that DFPC and federal resources respond to are identified as county assist will be handled by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Public Information Officer (PIO). Otherwise PIDC PIO may handle the duties, as requested (federal jurisdiction). If agencies involved determine a Joint Information Center (JIC) is needed, then the agencies will coordinate that staffing and information disseminated.

7.8 Cost efficiency

Cost effectiveness is the most economical use of the suppression resources necessary to accomplish objectives. Accomplishing fire operations 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, including the social, political, economic, and biophysical environments.

7.9 Delegation of Authority

For extended attack fires, a written Delegation of Authority will be issued to the Incident Commander from all affected agencies. All agencies are encouraged to form and participate with appropriate Agency Administrators or Agency Representatives in the Delegation of Authority to the respective Incident Commander.

The delegation does not absolve the authority having jurisdiction from any legally owed responsibility. The delegation provides another agency or individual, the authority and power to act on behalf of the agency delegating the authority. It also lists the parameters of the delegated authority.

7.10 Preservation of Evidence

The agency having jurisdiction is responsible for the fire origin and cause investigation. Agencies may coordinate with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office for investigation if their agency cannot provide its own. The initial attack incident commander should protect and preserve the fire origin area and any evidence associated with the fire cause and origin. The fire origin area should be immediately identified by first responders and protected to preserve any evidence that may help the investigation. Fire cause investigations are required for DFPC and federal agencies, and any FEMA-declaration fire. When a fire involves both federal and non-federal lands, a joint fire investigation is the recommended method.

8.0 STATE EMERGENCY FIRE FUND (EFF)

The Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) may be used to assist counties with whom the DFPC has signed a "MOU to participate in the EFF", and who have paid their latest annual assessment. The fund will be used only for approved wildfire suppression and control activities or as outlined in cost share agreements. The DFPC Director, or designee, is the only person authorized to approve and implement the fund. EFF is intended to be utilized when a fire exceeds the capacity of County resources to manage.

In the event a fire becomes State Responsibility, the County agrees to supply the appropriate type and amount of County resources for the duration of the fire as available and approved.

9.0 USE AND REIMBURSEMENT OF INTERAGENCY FIRE RESOURCES

9.1 Cost Share Agreement (Cost Share Methodologies)

All multi-jurisdictional fires shall have a cost share agreement. Negotiations should consider each agency's values at risk and resources assigned. Cost share agreements will be documented, including the basis or rationale used.

Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (WERF)

The WERF was created to provide funding or reimbursement for resource response at the beginning of a wildfire incident, when ordered at the request of any County Sheriff, municipal fire department, or fire protection district subject to the terms in the current WERF guidelines. The use of WERF applies to the initial attack phase of each incident only to the extent that funds are available as outlined in the DFPC Funding Guidelines.

All requests for the VLAT (Very Large Air Tanker) through WERF must be approved by the DFPC Deputy Chief of Operations or designee.

Colorado Firefighting Air Corp

Senate Bill 13-245 created the Colorado Firefighting Air Corp Aviation Funds under the DFPC, authorized to assist local jurisdictions with initial attack response to the extent that funds are available as outlined in the DFPC Funding Guidelines.

9.2 Training

Each Agency shall be responsible for the training of its own personnel; however, cooperating Agencies will advise each other of planned training sessions and issue invitations to participate. All Agencies and fire departments are encouraged to utilize all available avenues for wildland fire training, be it from federal, state, or local Agencies. Each Agency is responsible for certifying the qualifications of its own personnel, and issuing a Wildland Fire Qualifications card (“red card”) to its personnel.

Safety of personnel involved in an incident is critical. All Agencies in this AOP must have personnel and equipment meet the current NWCG standards during suppression activities of a State or Federal Responsibility wildland fires. Local Fire Department qualification standards will be recognized when actively engaged in suppression efforts on their own district during a State or Federal responsibility incident.

9.3 Communication Systems

All agencies may use the other's radio frequencies as needed to conduct emergency operations. However, no agency will use, or authorize others to use, another agency's radio frequencies for routine day-to-day operations unless otherwise approved. Fire protection districts and fire departments on incidents, under the auspices of the County, are granted permission to use federal radio frequencies, if needed, to assure safety of the operation. All agencies must coordinate interoperable frequencies during initial response wildfire incidents. For extended attack incidents all agencies must request interagency frequency utilization via Pueblo Interagency Dispatch.

9.4 Fire Weather Systems

Rocky Mountain Area Predictive Services (RMAPS) and the National Weather Service (NWS) provide a variety of products that are designed to support strategic and tactical decisions. NWS products are designed for tactical decision support. These products include (but are not limited to), Fire Weather Forecasts, Spot Forecasts and Smoke Management Forecasts. Red Flag Warnings are determined by the National Weather Service-Denver Boulder Office. These forecasters determine Red Flag Warnings from weather data and fuel status data. Fuel Status data is found on the BLM Fuel Status Webpage. The National Weather Service periodically issues "RED FLAG" warning bulletins and fire weather watches.

9.5 Aviation Operations

Aviation assets greatly enhance wildfire suppression capabilities and support ground resources. Through effective communication and sound risk management these assets can be utilized across jurisdictional boundaries.

State Resources

DFPC hosts fixed wing and rotor wing assets, for use on wildland fires within the State of Colorado. These assets have home bases, but frequently move locations to preposition in areas of risk. Requests to have DFPC assets moved to cover a specific area (such as

Jefferson County) should be made by local cooperators through the DFPC Regional FMO. Requests for all state aviation resources for fire suppression or detection will be made through PIDC, or the State Emergency Operation line.

Federal Resources

Requests for Federal and Interagency aviation resources such as Air Tankers or Helicopters will be made through PIDC

Local Resources

Jefferson County has Call When Needed contracts with local aviation companies for the use of helicopters to suppress wildland fires within Jefferson County. All requests for Jefferson County Call-When-Needed aircraft will be placed through the JCSO EM Duty Officer or on-scene agency representative. JCSO EM and the contracted helicopter will notify Pueblo Dispatch when entering airspace over USFS lands for fire response or investigation. Jefferson County aviation assets may also be utilized as air reconnaissance. Jefferson County assets will utilize the full range of Interagency VHF frequencies to provide effective communication with PIDC, other aviation assets and interagency ground resources. Local Cooperators may order interagency aircraft directly through their dispatch center, but may be subject to full equipment cost, if resource is not ordered or approved by the county.

9.6 Billing Procedures

National Wildfire Coordinating Group publication, Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook, NWCG Handbook 2: PMS 902 (NWCG IIBMH) will guide cooperative, exchange, contract/fee basis fire protection services. Federal agencies and DFPC follow NWCG IIBMH, Chapter 50 specifically for cooperative and reimbursable fire protection services.

In addition to NWCG IIBMH, local fire agencies follow the *Colorado Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Prevention & Control and Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHSEM) Cooperator Incident Reimbursement Guidelines* for the reimbursement process.

The Colorado Resource Rate Form (CRRF) is the basis for the reimbursement process. CRRFs within Jefferson County are part of this AOP.

9.7 Cost Recovery

In the event that cost recovery is pursued on an unplanned ignition (regardless of ownership), all costs from the time of initial report of the fire (including mutual aid) may be pursued. Federal policy requires federal agencies to pursue cost recovery for all human caused fires on federal jurisdiction.

10.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS

This AOP is the framework for cooperation between the Federal, State of Colorado and Jefferson County. It does not supersede any other lawful policy, rule, or procedure. This AOP

may be utilized as part of the County's master Emergency Operations Plan. The County is encouraged to create Fire Plans, MOU's and Agreements with their local response agencies.

10.1 Personnel Policy

All agencies shall be subject to the personnel rules, laws and regulations of their respective agencies, unless employed temporarily by another agency to this AOP and the authority under which such temporary employment is authorized provides that such employees shall be subject to the employing agency's personnel rules, laws and regulations.

There are situations when additional support personnel are necessary for national mobilization and the need can be filled by supplemental personnel available to local fire agencies. These supplemental personnel are identified as "Supplemental Resources" defined as: "Overhead tied to a local fire department generally by agreement that are mobilized primarily for response to incidents/wildland fires outside of their district or mutual aid zone. They are not a permanent part of the local fire organization and are not required to attend scheduled training, meetings, etc. of the department staff."

When this situation arises, Supplemental Resources are utilized as identified in the Colorado Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Prevention & Control and Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHSEM) Cooperator Incident Reimbursement Guidelines and documented with the CRRF. While on assignment, Supplemental Resources are considered local fire agency employees and the local fire agency will be reimbursed for their actual costs.

10.2 Modification

Revisions or updates are automatically incorporated into the 2017 Colorado Statewide Wildland Fire Management Annual Operating Plan and Colorado Statewide Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement signed and dated 6/1/2011, and as amended in 2013, as necessary.

10.3 Annual Review

This AOP is reviewed annually and revised as needed.

10.4 Duration of Agreement

This AOP will be effective until superseded.

10.5 Previous Agreements Superseded

2017 Jefferson County AOP.

JEFFERSON COUNTY SIGNATURES

Signature _____ *Date*

Jeff Shrader County Sheriff
Printed Name *Title*

Signature _____ *Date*

Casey Tighe County Commissioner Chair
Printed Name *Title*

COLORADO DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION & CONTROL SIGNATURE

Signature _____ *Date*

Travis Griffin Regional Fire Management
Officer *Title*
Printed Name

**JEFFERSON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE
CONCURRENCE SIGNATURE**

Signature _____ *Date*

Alan Fletcher Representative Fire Chief
Printed Name *Title*

FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY SIGNATURES

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Title

Federal Agency, Unit

Signature

Date

Tom Heinlein

Manager

District

BLM Rocky Mountain District