



United States Department of the Interior




BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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Memorandum

To: Type 3, Type 4, and Type 5 Incident Commanders

From: Deputy State Director, Fire and Aviation 

Subject: Type 3, Type 4, and Type 5 Incident Commander Delegation of Authority

I am hereby delegating you authority to act on my behalf for the management of wildland fire incidents on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Alaska. I am also delegating you authority to act on my behalf for the management of wildland fire incidents where the Departmental Manual 620 Chapter 5 authorizes BLM to provide wildland fire response. This delegation of authority carries with it the full responsibility for management of fires with Type 3, Type 4, or Type 5 complexity ratings within your qualification level. All activities in the management of these fires must be accomplished within the framework of agency policy and direction, approved fire management plans, or mutually agreed upon standards established by the respective land managers or owners, as provided for in the Alaska Interagency Fire Management Plan or Agency Administrator briefing. You will report directly to the respective Protection Agency Duty Officer or Fire Management Officer.

The following expectations and responsibilities will help you in that task:

- Firefighter and public safety is your highest priority on every fire.
- Ensure only trained and qualified personnel are assigned to the incident.
- Ensure that all individuals assigned to or in proximity of the fireline are correctly using all appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Communicate with the Dispatch Office, the Duty Officer and or Agency Administrator on incident status.
- Develop and implement appropriate strategies and tactics for the incident in accordance with direction in the Fire Management Plan or from the Duty Officer and or Agency Administrator.
- Consider suppression costs commensurate with the values at risk.
- Brief all assigned personnel and document the briefing(s).

- **Maintain command and control of the incident.**
- **Monitor effectiveness of the planned strategy and tactics.**
- **Disengage suppression activities immediately if strategies and tactics cannot be implemented safely.**
- **Implement the Risk Management Process as outlined in the Incident Response Pocket Guide.**
- **Inform all personnel on the incident and the respective Dispatch Office of any transfer or change of Incident Commander.**
- **Ensure that work rest guidelines and length of assignment policies are followed.**
- **Provide input for the preparation and daily review of a Wildland Fire Decision Support System decision when an incident extends beyond initial attack.**
- **Locate, protect, and preserve ignition location; initiate cause determinations; and notify the local dispatch office of potential human caused fire.**
- **This delegation is a temporary one for Type 3 ICs for the purpose of initial attack. All extended attack fires Type 3 and higher will have a separate written delegation of authority developed by the Fire Management Officer and Agency Administrator(s). This separate delegation will provide additional specific direction and authority for each incident.**