**2021 Alaska Interagency Wildland Fire Management Plan**

**Statewide Management Requirements**

* Weigh the cost and environmental impacts of suppression actions against the value of resources warranting protection. Consider risk to firefighters and the public in all fire management decisions.
* To the extent possible, minimum impact suppression tactics should be used. Firelines will be constructed in a manner that minimizes erosion and will follow natural contours wherever possible. Indirect attack will be used to the extent practical. A suppression repair plan for wildfire suppression activity damage, as approved by the Jurisdictional Agency(ies), must be completed before the final demobilization occurs.
* Jurisdictional Agencies will be made aware of all support areas such as camps, staging areas, and helispots located on their lands.
* If a game animal is killed in defense of life or property (DLP) on an incident, an Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) DLP report will be filed and Jurisdictional Agencies will be notified.
* Base camps, spike camps, helispots and other support areas should be located in natural clearings if possible. The construction of helispots should be minimized. Any opening created for support areas will be cut with an irregular perimeter. Such areas will be kept clean so as not to attract animals and will be cleaned up before departure of the last suppression personnel.
* Support areas on private lands or Native Allotments require a land-use agreement. No resources (e.g. firewood) will be removed from private lands or Native Allotments without an approved agreement. Agreements involving Native Allotments must be prepared by the BIA or the local BIA service provider.
* The use of tracked or off-road vehicles requires approval by the Jurisdictional Agency(ies) prior to use.
* When withdrawing water from a fish-bearing stream with portable pumps, scooper aircraft, or aerial buckets; or when crossing it with a vehicle or heavy equipment, comply with the stipulations and notification requirements in the ADF&G statewide *Fish Habitat Permit FH20-SW-0001 Amendment 1*.
* Protecting and Jurisdictional Agencies will coordinate with state land managers if wildland fire or wildland fire management activities have the potential to affect public access to public waters or impact state resources. Protecting and Jurisdictional Agencies will coordinate if wildland fire or wildland fire management activities may result in fire area public access closures or may adversely impact values at risk.
* Take measures to prevent the introduction and spread of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species during fire operations. Waterbodies known to harbor invasive species will not be used as dip sites unless needed to protect property or life. If used, equipment will be cleaned and sanitized before its next use. Communicate concerns, questions, and needs regarding invasive species to jurisdictional resource advisors in a timely manner.
* Application of aerial fire retardant near lakes, wetlands, streams, rivers, and sources of human water consumption or areas adjacent to water sources should be avoided. A minimum of 300 feet is identified in the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations* (Red Book). Individual Jurisdictional Agencies may have more restrictive retardant use guidelines.
* Suppression activities including flight patterns on or near cultural sites or sites designated as “Avoid” must be coordinated with the Jurisdictional Agency.
* Jurisdictional Agencies should be consulted concerning any operational restrictions in designated wilderness areas.
* Jurisdictional Agencies will communicate planned fuels treatment locations to incident management organizations for consideration when locating firelines.
* Wildland firefighters will not take direct suppression action on structure, vehicle, dumpster, trash, or landfill fires. Structure, vehicle, and landfill fire suppression is not a functional responsibility of wildland fire resources. These fires have the potential to emit high levels of toxic gases. Wildland firefighters who encounter structure, vehicle, or landfill fires will not engage in direct suppression action. Structure protection (not suppression) activities will be limited to exterior efforts, and only when such actions can be accomplished safely and in accordance with agency policy and established wildland fire operations standards.
* Any discovery by firefighters of potential unexploded ordnance (UXO) or other potentially hazardous materials (e.g., mining sites) will be immediately reported through proper channels. Firefighters will remain clear of the area until the threat has been evaluated and mitigated.