

INDIAN AFFAIRS DIRECTIVES TRANSMITTAL SHEET

(modified DI-416)

DOCUMENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 90 IAM 2	SUBJECT Wildland Fire Management, Fire Management Plans	RELEASE NUMBER #84
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION Office of Trust Services		DATE January 19, 2006

EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL TRANSMITTED:

Fire management plans are strategic document that describe how a program will manage wildland fires, fuels and wildland fire prevention. Plans complement approved land or resource management plans and address the full range of fire management activities, such as ecosystem sustainability, environmental and social values, protection of fire fighter and public safety, public health, and environmental issues. Plans must also be consistent with resource management objectives and activities identified by tribal land owners.

This chapter replaces 90 IAM 2, Release #99-04, 5/25/99.



William Pat Ragsdale
Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

Remove: 90 IAM 2 Release #99-04, 5/25/99

Insert: 90 IAM 2

2.1 Fire Management Plans (FMP).

A. An FMP is a strategic document that describes how a program will manage wildland fires, fuels and wildland fire prevention. An FMP must also complement an area's approved land or resource management plan. FMP's must address a full range of fire management activities that include, but are not limited to: ecosystem sustainability, environmental and social values to be protected, protection of fire fighter and public safety, public health and environmental issues, and must be consistent with resource management objectives and activities identified by tribal land owners.

B. FMP's on Indian Trust lands with historic large fire occurrence or potential for significant wildland fires that could result in costly fire suppression should consider wildland fire cost containment issues. The overall goal is the establishment of an effective linkage between land/resource management planning, fire management planning, project planning, and the preparation of Wildland Fire Situation Analyses (WFSAs) for alternative management responses to large fires. The desired outcome is for land/resource management planning to provide a transparent, broad foundation that guides appropriate management responses to large fire, with the inclusion of historical and foreseeable suppression costs of large fires as a consideration in decision making.

C. Wildfires must be suppressed in areas lacking an approved FMP or in which FMPs are not consistent with Federal Fire Policy.

D. Scope and Content.

(1) FMP's can encompass a full range of management responses, from aggressive suppression of a wildfire to allowing the wildfire to take a natural role within the ecosystem, provided that prescriptive criteria and language exist; and

(2) Within the framework of tribal land use objectives, FMP's will document management strategies based on resource values to be protected or enhanced, while:

- (a) Minimizing expenditure of public funds for effective suppression;
- (b) Minimizing damage to resources and the environment;
- (c) Implementing timely emergency rehabilitation and emergency stabilization treatments;
- (d) Implementing rehabilitation treatments; and
- (e) Implementing hazardous fuels reduction treatments;

(3) FMP's should be a section of a land-use plan or natural resource plan, but in the absence of one of these integrated plans, it may stand alone; and

(4) FMP's must be covered by an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement unless incorporated into a land-use plan already covered by a National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) document.

E. Approval.

FMP's will be prepared and approved by the agency administrator and where applicable, concurred by the appropriate tribe.