

INDIAN AFFAIRS DIRECTIVES TRANSMITTAL SHEET

(modified DI-416)

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EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL TRANSMITTED:

The Bureau manages other fire management programs that cover standardized wildland fire engines, interagency fair share costs and/or funded initiatives, facility construction and improvement, medical standards, miscellaneous costs, interagency cooperation, trespass from wildfire, contracting protection services, and wildland fire program budget formulation.

This is a new chapter.



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Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

Remove: None

Insert: 90 IAM 4

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4.1 Standardized Wildland Fire Engine Program. The Bureau manages a standardized wildland fire engine program. The program is guided by a management board that develops an annual operating plan identifying the business to be accomplished and respective budget to include:

A. Administration, management and funding of the program will be through the Chief, Branch of Fire Management.

B. Trucks and engine pumping units provided through the program will remain property of the Bureau.

4.2 Interagency fair share costs and/or funded initiatives. Interagency fair share costs and or/funded initiatives supporting interagency agreements include, but are not limited to activities in conjunction with the following:

A. National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC),

B. National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG),

C. Alaska Fire Service (AFS),

D. Geographic Area Coordinating Groups (GACG),

E. Local interagency dispatch centers,

F. Aircraft contracts and bases, and

G. Miscellaneous fire preparedness-related capital equipment and training.

4.3 Facility Construction and Improvement. The facility construction and improvement program is also referred to as the Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement Program. There are two funding mechanisms for facility construction: the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Facilities Management and Construction provides funds for all facility construction and maintenance within the Bureau, and the Branch of Fire Management, which has limited funding for facility construction of fire management facilities.

A. All facility construction projects requests that exceed \$10,000, within the fire management program, must be approved and included in the Wildland Fire Management Appropriation to be eligible for funding.

B. Funds under this appropriation may only be used for facilities that have been approved in the appropriation and may not be used for any other purpose.

C. All Bureau owned and managed new or replacement construction projects (buildings, improvements to land, other structures and facilities, including fixed equipment), where costs are anticipated to meet or exceed the real property capitalization threshold (currently \$100,000) will be recorded in the FFS – PCAS, Construction in Progress (CIP) account (General Ledger 1720).

4.4 Medical Standards. The Bureau is a signatory to the Interagency Wildland Firefighter Medical Standards Program, and utilizes the forms and standards of this program. Medical examinations are a diagnostic tool that can give an early warning to employees involved in wildland fire activities about potential health problems. By providing specific guidance in this area, the Bureau will not only provide for the well-being of valued employees, but also meet the Bureau's need to determine an individual's capacity for arduous work. If the employee is determined to be unfit for arduous-level duty based on the results of the examination, they are not allowed to take the work capacity test or participate in wildland fire activities at the arduous level.

4.5 Miscellaneous costs. Miscellaneous costs involving Bureau-specific studies and investigations include:

- A. Aircraft availability guarantees;
- B. Operational research;
- C. Equipment and technology development;
- D. Utilities;
- E. Information resources management;
- F. Supplies;
- G. Training;
- H. Administrative support for personnel;
- I. Procurement;
- J. Budget preparation and execution;
- K. Communications; and
- L. Vehicle availability.

4.6 Interagency Cooperation. As part of the commitment to interagency wildland fire management, Indian Affairs will:

A. Sponsor Indian interagency hotshot crews (IHC) as determined by Geographic Area Coordinating Groups and national needs analyses. Indian IHCs must meet national interagency hotshot crew standards and operate in accordance to the Bureau's National Hotshot Crew Management Guide and the Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook.

(1) The hotshot program will be managed by a Hotshot Crew Management Board with representation from the hotshot crews and the Chief, Branch of Fire Management;

(2) Funding for crews will be requested and administered through the Director, Branch of Fire Management;

(3) Within the scope of their training, experience and qualifications, IHCs can provide additional tribal and local interagency services at other than their home locations while maintaining availability for national mobilization.

B. Sponsor Indian emergency firefighter (EFF) programs as requested by tribes and determined by geographic area and national need. The crews will operate in accordance with the Bureau's Emergency Firefighting Crew Management Guide in conjunction with local/geographical area guides. The sponsoring home unit will provide local oversight and management of the crew(s). Emergency firefighters will be hired by a Federal employee using the DOI Administratively Determined (AD) Pay Plan for Emergency Workers in accordance with Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook and the Bureau's casual payment procedures. Funding for the program will be requested and administered through regional offices.

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C. Provide a representative in each of the Geographic Area Coordinating Groups serving Indian trust or restricted lands.

D. Provide a representative to all NWCG Working Teams and Task Groups, as requested.

4.7 Trespass from Wildfire. Procedures for trespass from wildfire will be carried out in accordance with 25 CFR 163.29 and 53 IAM 7, Forest Trespass, and with any subsequent IAM Parts which supersede 53 IAM.

4.8 Contracting of Protection Services. Contracts may be executed with other federal agencies, tribes, states, local, and private entities for wildfire protection services pursuant to NWCG standards, existing statutes, solicitor's opinions, regulations, and constraints governing utilization of appropriations.

4.9 Department of the Interior Fire Coordinating Committee Budget Team (Budget Team). The Department of the Interior prepares a consolidated budget for fire management which is included in the appropriations for the Bureau of Land Management. The Committee's budget team is the focal point for most of the wildland fire program budget formulation work.

A. The Indian Affairs' member of the budget team works with designated contacts in the Bureau budget office, the budget team, and the Bureau of Land Management budget office to ensure timely responses to Congress and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

B. Each budget team member will maintain budget information for all bureaus, so that a response to questions or the preparation of budget documents can proceed even if a Bureau representative is unavailable.