

2016 Operating Agreement between the Northern Rockies and Eastern Area Geographic Areas

April 22, 2016

The Northern Rockies (NR) and the Eastern (EA) Geographic Areas have a long history of working together and sharing resources in support of wildland fire management. A number of personnel from the EA are members of the NR Incident Management Teams and fill critical positions. In continuing this working relationship for 2016, the Northern Rockies and Eastern Geographic Areas agree to pilot the utilization of their geographic Incident Management Teams (IMT) in managing wildfire incidents.

The EA Type 2 IMT will be added to the rotation of the NR to form a 6 team rotation schedule for the NR. This rotation will have one team in 2-hour call up and two teams in 8-hour call up with the other three teams off. Once a team is dispatched, the first team in 8-hour call up will move in to 2-hour call up and the first team in the off category will move into 8-hour call up status. A weekly team rotation will occur every Monday morning.

In the EA, the Type 2 team rotation is 3 weeks on and 1 week off. While the EA team is on 2-hour call up, the NR team that is in 2-hour call up will be the second team available for use in the EA. When the EA team is off, the NR team in 2-hour call up will cover the EA needs.

The NR Type 1 IMTs will be available to the EA if there is a need for a Type 1 team on wildfire incidents. The NR Type 1 rotation will remain the same, but the team up will be available for wildfire assignments in the EA.

During the year, close communication will occur between the NR and EA Coordination Centers. At the end of the season, the two Geographic Area board of directors will meet and review how this worked and discuss any changes needed.

/s/ Ken Schmid

Ken Schmid
North Rockies Coordinating Group Chair

/s/ Larry Himanga

Larry Himanga
Eastern Area Coordinating Group Chair