

990 FIRE SEVERITY

991 LAND OFFICE AND EASTERN ZONE SEVERITY PLANNING

- A. Each Land Office within the Department's direct protection, and a Zone comprised of counties within the Central, Eastern, Southern, and Northeastern Land Offices, will develop a plan based on decision points developed from statistical fire occurrence data and past fire indices. This plan should reside in the Land Office.
 - 1. The Land Office or Zone plans need to account for possible types of resources to consider based on the "decision points" and fuel conditions at each Unit Office or the Eastern Fire Zone. This would include fire prevention resources, suppression resources, and overhead resource needs.
 - 2. Specifically, plans will follow the guidelines of the Northern Rockies Coordinating Group Fire Severity Authorization.
- B. Plans should remain flexible, and not state the number and type of resource each Unit will have, but State resources that will be considered at a given level of severity.
- C. Software such as Fire Family Plus, free from the USFS at <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/planning/nist/applicat.htm>, is a useful tool in analyzing statistical fire occurrence and weather/indices data, and assist in determining decision points. Areas may use other tools in determining individual decision points, but should be based on a measurable fire index.