



COST SHARE AGREEMENT
Between the
USFS Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs
And the
MT-DNRC Central Land Office

This cost share agreement is between the agencies identified above, as negotiated for the following incident in accordance with the Montana Statewide Cooperative Fire Management and Stafford Act Agreement (23-FI-11015600-048) executed between the parties on January 23, 2023. The purpose of this agreement is to allocate financial responsibility and to describe the cost division.

General Incident Information:

Incident Name: Bivens Creek
Incident Start Date and Time: August 13, 2025 at 1816
Origin
Township: 4S Range: 3W Section: 28
Estimated Size Acres at the time of this agreement: 2,233.24
Incident Cause: Lightning

Incident Numbers by Protection Agency:

| Agency | Incident # | Accounting Code |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| USFS – Beaverhead- Deerlodge NFs | MT-BDF-256398 | P1S7W5 (0102) |
| MT-DNRC - CLO | | 905479 |

Cost Share Period: This agreement becomes effective on the date indicated below and will remain in effect until amended or terminated.

Start date: August 16, 2025
End date/time: End of incident

Other conditions relative to this agreement:

1. Costs incurred by cooperators not engaged with the host agency or Incident Management Team (IMT) in the fire suppression activities will not be included as a part of this cost share agreement.
2. Responsibility for tort claim costs will not be a part of this agreement. Responsibility for these costs will be determined outside this agreement.
3. Agency-specific costs will not be shared.
4. Costs for accountable, sensitive, and durable property purchased by each agency will be charged directly to that agency and will not be shared.
5. Non-suppression rehabilitation costs are the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency and will not be shared.
6. Each agency (including supporting agencies) will bill for their costs as outlined in the MT Cooperative Fire Management Agreement billing procedures.



Protecting Agencies' Strategies:

Utilize full suppression strategies based on risk management, values at risk, and natural resource concerns, when fire weather conditions and other variables coincide to ensure the highest probability of success.

Cost Share Methodology and Rationale:

The Bivens Creek and Cloudrest incidents were jointly managed by a single CIMT. While each incident has a unique financial code, CIMT members and the majority of the non-operational/logistical support were ordered on the Bivens Creek incident financial code. Through the duration of the incidents these resources were utilized to support both the Bivens Creek and Cloudrest incidents. All operational resources were directed to identify which incident they were supporting daily on their shift tickets and CTRs, and finance reflected the resource time on the incident worked. Operational daily costs are accurately reflected in the e-Isuite database, and the majority of the non-operational/logistical costs are reflected on the Bivens Creek incident financial code.

The agreed upon cost share methodology is based on the percentage of acres burned within each agency's protection responsibility. Due to the situation described above, Agency Administrators agreed that the acreage within the Bivens Creek (2,233.24) and Cloudrest (3,476.35) fire perimeters will be combined for a total acreage (5,709.59) and divided by the percentage of protection responsibility before applied to each individual fire cost summary.

The final acreage split will be based on a GIS map, identifying protecting agency, including both the Bivens Creek and Cloudrest fires final fire footprints. Percentages determined on the final acreage split will be populated to this cost share at the end of the incidents.

Combined acres by protection responsibility:

USFS: 5,667.82

DNRC: 41.77

Final Agency Apportionment:

1. Federal Share:

| | | |
|----|------|--------|
| a. | USFS | 99.27% |
| b. | BLM | % |
| c. | FWS | % |
| d. | NPS | % |
| e. | BIA | % |

2. State Share :

| | | |
|----|------|-------|
| a. | DNRC | 0.73% |
| b. | | % |



Principal Contacts:

The following personnel are the principal contacts:

| Title: | Name: | Agency: |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Agency Administrator | Tim Lahey, Anton Brennick | USFS |
| Agency Representative | Josh Connors | USFS |
| Agency Administrator | Tim Egan | MT-DNRC |
| Agency Representative | | |
| Incident Business Advisor(s) | Heather Good, Elka Erikson | USFS |
| Incident Commander(s) | Rich Cowger, NR 6 Ed Hiatt, NW 8 Mike West, ICT3 | |
| Other IMT members as appropriate | | |

Signatures of Authorized Personnel & Attachments:

This agreement and the apportionment described are our best judgments of fair and equitable agency cost responsibilities.

Signature: Corey Lewellen Date: 2/27/26
Corey Lewellen
Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs, Acting Forest Supervisor

Signature: Hoyt Richards Date: 2-27-26
Hoyt Richards
Area Manager, MT DNRC Central Land Office
Forestry & Trust Lands Division

Addendums to this Document:

Addendums to this document include:

Appendix A – Map of Fire Area including both Bivens Creek and Cloudrest, identifying acreage by protection responsibility

