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Date: July 16, 2021

Route To:

Subject: Delegation of Authority and Leader's Intent for the Goose Lake Fire Madison Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation-Dillon Unit, Madison County

To: Mr. Joe Sampson, Incident Commander (Team 5)

Welcome to the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest and the community of Ennis, Montana. The letter serves as your updated delegation for authority to manage the Goose Lake Fire as the Incident Commander. Initial attack response to new ignitions will remain with the forest/districts.

This delegation carries the full responsibility for all aspects of management including the assigned firefighting resources, tactical and logistical equipment, facilities, costs, and the rehabilitation of suppression impacts as a result of suppression actions.

We have attached our *Leader's Intent Statement* and the following documents:

- WFDSS Decision
- Medical Emergency Evacuation Plan
- Mop-up/Rehabilitation Guidelines
- Northern Rockies Coordinating Group Community & Structure Protection Guidelines

Key contacts for the Madison Ranger District fire: Phone numbers are in the *IMT Briefing Document*

Cheri Ford	Forest Supervisor USFS (B-DNF)
Dale Olson	Agency Administrator Representative USFS (B-DNF)
Hoyt Richards	Agency Administrator Montana DNRC
Tim Egan	Agency Administrator's Representative Montana DNRC
Jim King	Acting Forest Fire Staff Officer
Brian Anderson	Deputy Forest Fire Staff Officer & Forest Duty Officer USFS
Mike King	Acting District FMO
Jake Stewart/Gene Hardin/Patrick Luckenbill/Monica Berreman/Justin Stoddard (USFS) Chuck Maddox (DNRC)	Resource Advisor(s) (READ/REAF)
Catherine Mcrae	Forest Public Affairs Officer (PAO)
Jamie Parks	Incident Business Advisor (IBA)
Charlie Wilson	Forest Law Enforcement Patrol Captain (LEO) USFS
Noah Pieprzyca	Law Enforcement Officer (LEO)
Don Hammack	Forest Safety Officer
Joe Brummell	Madison County Fire Warden
Phil Fortner	Madison County Sheriff
Shawn Christensen	Ennis Volunteer Fire Department Chief



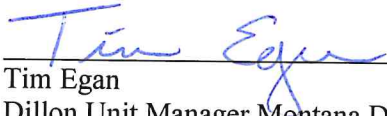
Our Agency Administrators will be available to you throughout your time on these incidents. A daily meeting between you and the AAs before the Planning meeting would be appreciated. A time can be identified that works for both parties.

We very much look forward to working with you on this fire and expect you to actively discuss strategies and tactics with us or our representatives. Thank you for taking this on, and for jointly working for a safe and successful assignment.



Cheri Ford
Forest Supervisor, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

7/15/2021
Date



Tim Egan
Dillon Unit Manager Montana DNRC

7/15/2021
Date



Jim Hart
Madison County Commissioner

7-16-2021
Date

I accept this delegation of authority:



Joe Sampson, Incident Commander

7/16/2021
Date

Enclosures: Leader's Intent, WFDSS Decision, Medical Emergency Evacuation Plan, Mop-up/Rehabilitation Guidelines, Northern Rockies Coordinating Group Community & Structure Protection Guidelines

Leader's Intent
For Sampson's IMT on the Goose Lake Fire
Madison Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest and Montana Department of Natural Resources
and Conservation, Dillon Unit
Ennis, Montana

General Expectations for the IMT:

- ✓ ***Our core value is human safety.*** As the Incident Commander, you are responsible for the overall safety of all firefighters assigned to the incident and we expect that every decision you make takes into account long and short-term risk of exposure without creating unnecessary risks.
- ✓ Be diligent with your efforts to minimize exposure of COVID 19 amongst the Team and resources. Keep in mind that working this fire and managing the risks of COVID are not separate, but rather integrated into all safety and risk conversations.
 - Explore all options for virtual meetings including public meetings.
 - Per CDC guidance, any individual not fully vaccinated will need to be wearing a mask.
 - As practical, isolate all resources in module units to prevent cross contamination between resources.
- ✓ Firefighter and public safety will be of the utmost importance in the management of this incident.
- ✓ This fire will be safely, efficiently, and mindfully managed until all of the incident objectives are successfully obtained.
- ✓ Minimize exposure to firefighters and the public, to reduce potential of serious accidents or injuries.
- ✓ Values at risk will be protected by using the appropriate resources to implement tactics in locations with reasonable probabilities for success.
- ✓ Minimize suppression damage to the land and natural resources.
- ✓ Maintain and improve relationships by communicating & listening to local partners, landowners, and community leaders.
- ✓ Wise investments of taxpayer assets.

Incident Objective and Requirements:

- *Incident Objectives/Requirements* and courses of actions items related to safety will be prioritized over the other critical values at risk.
- Base all your actions on the *Incident Objectives and Requirements* and *Course of Action* as stated in the published Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) decision.
- If a new WFDSS Decision is required, we will discuss the new strategy and corresponding tactics and document any key decisions within the WFDSS program.
- **Objectives:** Current objectives are: to minimize impact/threats to infrastructure at Cliff and Wade Lakes, private property (particularly structures), and public recreation sites.
- Engage the fires in areas that have the highest probability of success of protecting life, property, and other identified values at risk commiserate with confine and containment objectives.
- **Strategy – WFDSS Course of Action**
 - Use direct, indirect & point source suppression strategies to suppress and/or guide the fire into natural and man-made barriers.
 - Ensure strategic & safety conditions are such to ensure the highest probability of success.

Prioritized Highly Valued Resources and Assets in the Goose Fire Area – Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Montana DNRC, Madison County, Beaverhead County

Priority	Value/Asset Category	Value/Asset Subcategory	Contact
1	Public safety, Firefighter safety		
2	Private Structures	Wilderness Edge	Madison County
		Conklin Trout Lodge	Beaverhead County
		Madison River Ranches	Madison County
		Sundance Subdivision	Madison County
		Wade Lake Lodge	Madison County
	Elk Lake Lodge	USFS – Madison Ranger District	
3	Infrastructure and Built Assets	Highway 287 and 87	Montana DOT & U.S. DOT
4	Forest Service Recreation Infrastructure and Range Improvements	Wade, Cliff and Hilltop Campgrounds. Range improvements and stock tank	USFS – Madison Ranger District
5	Montana DNRC Timber Sale	Snow Teepee timber sale west of fire area	Montana DNRC

- **Values at Risk: Resources**

- Prevent Spread of Aquatic Invasive: dip buckets using one water source at a time on National Forest lands to minimize chances of cross-contamination of minnows. If you must use multiple sources, disinfect between sources. For State protection, dip sources may be utilized in the same watershed as long as buckets are disinfected between watersheds.
- Multiple cultural resources are located across the Forest and DNRC ownership in and near the fire. In the event cultural sites are found, threatened, or damaged, contact the READ as soon as practicable.
- Fully inform and coordinate with range permittees through Jake Stewart (B-DNF) and Chuck Maddox (DNRC).
- Fully inform and coordinate with all ranch operations on adjacent private land.
- Discuss and receive permission for planned burn out operations on State or County protection with the DNRC line officer or representative. At the time of the discussion be prepared to discuss landowner or permittee engagement strategy prior to the operation.

- **Safety**

- Follow the policy for national work/rest guidelines for shift and assignment lengths for all incident personnel.
- Document on the ICS-215R the use of LCES, ensuring all personnel comply with the 10 Standard Fire Orders and mitigate the 18 Watch-Out Situations.
- If appropriate, ensure the use of night tactical operations are thoroughly assessed including the risk and benefits of conducting two operational periods per day, and documented on the ICS-215R.
- Follow CDC Covid guidelines.

- **Coordination (*individual/agency names & phone #s in IMT In-Briefing*)**

- Work with the Madison County Sheriff, Fire Warden, B-D FMO, County DES Coordinators, and DNRC FMO, and Western District BLM FMO to develop operational plans and, if needed, evacuation plans.
- Work closely with the assigned Resource Advisors, to ensure fire suppression impacts to natural and cultural resources are minimized. Consult with them regarding the use of heavy equipment, retardant avoidance areas, noxious weed best management practices, aquatic invasives, and threatened and endangered species.

- Ensure trash and recycling are kept orderly. Adhere to the B-D Bear Food Storage Order.
- Develop a public information plan for the incident within 24 hours. Additionally, consider internal staff, external partners, and interested publics in the following communities:
 - Cliff / Wade Lake area homeowners
 - Ennis, MT (library & Madison Foods)
 - Cameron, MT
- In the event of an accident, until your IMT communications are in place, implement the Medical Emergency Evacuation Plan, working through Dillon Interagency Dispatch Center. Once the IMT communications are in place, follow your Team procedure. In the event of an accident immediately notify us and our representative, the Forest Safety Officer, and the Forest Duty Officer. If an accident takes place on state protection, immediately notify DNRC Line Officer. Also notify the Forest IBA to coordinate medical paperwork for any injured employees. *If there is a serious accident or injury, please notify all Agency Administrators directly.*
- **Human Resources:**
 - Take quick and decisive action to address disciplinary problems that could jeopardize firefighter or public safety in or around camp or on the incident.
 - Ensure all personnel understand they have the right to reasonable accommodation and to work in a work environment free of discrimination and harassment.
 - If the number of assigned personnel reaches 300, assign a Human Resources Specialist (HRSP).
 - Ensure the HRSP documents any corrective actions regarding civil rights and employee conduct, listing any follow-up actions required. *If there is a serious CR/HR incident, please notify all Agency Administrators directly.*
- **Recordkeeping:**
 - Create and maintain incident folders on the FTP site per Regional Protocols on a daily basis. Daily IAP and Map updates need to be posted on this site.
 - Ensure your accurate records and locations for all accountable property ordered and deployed on this incident.
- **Cost Management:**
 - Evaluate all management actions on a cost-vs-benefit basis to achieve objective of containing the fire.
 - If necessary, implement cost share agreements and document decisions related to cost sharing, keeping the IBA informed on decisions affecting the agreements developed by the applicable agency. Cost share will be managed by acreage from the date fire enters Montana DNRC jurisdiction.
 - Monitor incident costs, maintain a cost summary, and keep us informed for inclusion in the Periodic Assessment.
 - Be responsive to changing conditions such as right sizing your IMT and organization as appropriate.
 - Cache and Buying Team orders will be accounted for and returned to the cache or Forest. If fire crosses protection boundaries, engage in conversations with applicable line officer or representative to discuss returning ordered items.
 - If the fire crosses protection boundaries assure that costs are tracked in such a manner that a cost share agreement can be accommodated.
- **Structure Protection:**
 - Follow the *2021 Northern Rockies Coordinating Group Community & Structure Protection Guidelines* on federal lands.