**Delegation of Authority**

Harris Mountain

Cascade County, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Central Land Office,

Effective at hours on July 26, 2021, we hereby delegate authority for the management of the Harris Mtn Fire to Northern Rockies Team 7, John Thompson, Incident Commander. You have full authority and responsibility for managing the fire suppression activities within the framework of law and Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Policy. This incident is a wildland fire burning approximately 7miles Southeast of Cascade, Montana in Cascade County.

**Specific Objectives for this incident are:**

Firefighter and Public safety should be given the highest priority in your management of this incident. This should be analyzed through each of your planning processes and whenever tactics may change during the operational period.

Protect all threatened structures and private property if it can be done safely. Our expectation is for you to aggressively fight fire using the appropriate tools to SAFELY engage the fire on your terms.

Please consider any fires under your TFR as your Initial Attack area. Fires outside the TFR, please coordinate with Helena Unit Duty Officer.

Work with local county health officials and agency protocols to limit the spread of COVID19. We expect you to support those staff whom are required to use COVID mitigation measure and make recommendations to all staff to minimize the potential spread of COVID.

We expect you and your crews to implement an aggressive suppression strategy utilizing direct attack where and whenever safe to do so. Giving the short history of this fire, indirect tactics may be the tactic of choice. Take advantage of natural features such as breaks in fuels, topographic features, or changes in weather. Decisions that utilize strategies or tactics that deviate from direct attack must be made with firefighter safety as the foremost consideration. Indirect attack methods involving large burnout operations should be coordinated with the landowner(s) and/or obtain line officer approval.

It is imperative that good anchor points be established from the start so resources committed to the incident may continue with successful suppression efforts.

Maintain close coordination with the DNRC agency administrator/ or reps and maintain contact with appropriate agencies, elected officials, business leaders and members of the public. Your personnel must be sensitive to the impacts to private property and other agency owned lands ( BLM & DNRC). Utilize local businesses and individuals when feasible to achieve incident objectives. Our relationships are strong in this area and please help us maintain and strengthen all relationships.

Cost containment is a high priority for the responsible Agency. Provide justification for keeping any “high dollar” resources assigned to the incident that have not been utilized over the course of one operation period. DNRC’s business advisor will be Sue Clark (Jennifer Coulter Trainee) CLO staff will assist you with securing contracts if needed for additional facilities, resources, or supplies. We will review your daily expenditure reports and provide guidance to you concerning cost efficiency measures. We will review your finance documentation and provide guidance to ensure your records are current, complete, and accurate.

Property and equipment accountability standards must be followed according to State policy. The loss tolerance ratio that you are directed to achieve for accountable property is no more than 6%. You are also expected to track miscellaneous fire equipment to ensure that items delivered to drop points or locations on the fire line are accounted for and not misplaced or lost. You are expected to track property loaned to cooperators and recover the property when the cooperator is demobilized from the incident. I encourage you to document cost efficiency measures you considered and implemented during the course of the incident.

The criteria for turning the incident back to the County would include the following:

- Fire contained and controlled through one operational burning period

- Mopped up 3 chains in from control lines

- Spot fires mopped up 100% and verified by cold trailing

All equipment used on the incident is to have a current inspection and complete documentation of the inspection will be a part of the final fire package.

Public information will be handled by the incident PIO and coordinated with the DNRC CLO.

You may be requested to rehabilitate fire suppression related damages. If this occurs, a rehabilitation plan will be provided to you.

Manage the human resources assigned to the fire in a manner that promotes a positive and harassment free work environment and creates a “no tolerance” atmosphere for harassment, alcohol, or illegal drug use. All personnel assigned shall be treated with dignity and respect.

Aviation safety is a high priority. Risk Assessments (weighing the risk against the benefit of the mission and deciding whether the risks are acceptable) will be completed on all aviation missions in support of this suppression effort.

The final fire package should follow the NRCG standard format. Any items that are missing or incomplete should be listed on a separate document for the DNRC.

Trainees are encouraged.

We are pleased to have you working on this incident.

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- Area Manager Manager Date:

 Central Land Office, DNRC

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Lewiston Field Manager Date:

BLM

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John Thompson Incident Commander Date:

Northern Rockies Team 7

I accept this delegation:

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John Thompson

Incident Commander Date

Contact information:

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