

Delegation of Authority for the Sample Wilderness Fire

XXX is assigned as Incident Commander for the Sample Fire. You have full authority and responsibility for managing the fire suppression activities within the framework of laws, Agency policy, and direction provided through the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS). Your primary responsibility is to organize and direct your assigned resources for efficient and effective suppression of the fire. You are accountable to the Agency Administrators or the representatives below.

Specific directions for this incident, covering management and environmental concerns follow:

1. Protection of life and private property is your highest priority task.
 - Use management tactics that will facilitate efficient and safe achievement of management objectives;
 - Give special consideration to firefighter safety, especially with respect to LCES, work/rest guidelines (2:1 ratio), aviation operations, working around snags and blowdown, and potential entrapments. When in doubt, sacrifice acres in your strategic and tactical decisions;
 - Conduct reconnaissance to locate and protect civilian forest visitors;
 - Ensure compliance with the Thirty Mile Hazard Abatement and Implementation Plan;

2. Our selected WFDSS management strategy calls for a combination of direct and indirect suppression utilizing natural and constructed features such as rock outcroppings, meadows, clearcuts, green aspen, and roads. Wildlife, watershed, and heritage constraints and considerations have been documented in the fire management plan. Please review and consider the pages of this plan pertinent to this fire. I have validated those considerations with specialists, as necessary. USF&WS has been contacted and consulted. No additional mitigations or concerns have been identified at this time.

For fire within the Sample Wilderness, follow guidelines listed in the XX Fire Management Plan to manage the fires, develop mitigation actions to eliminate or mitigate, to the highest degree, threats to the wilderness boundary, and utilize management actions to meet resource management objectives, including MIST standards in the Sample Wilderness.

3. Manage the human resources assigned to the fire in a manner that promotes mutual respect and is consistent with Forest Service policies for preventing discrimination and sexual harassment.

Sample Wilderness Delegation of Authority Letter for Wilderness

4. Be cost effective; guided by the estimated costs of the preferred WFSA alternative and limit costs, commensurate with values at risk. Utilize local vendors and contractors for fire supplies and services, as much as possible.
5. Initial attack responsibilities will remain with the XX protection area through the XX Interagency Dispatch Center. Your team will support local initial attack resources by providing air support, as requested through XX Dispatch.
6. Public information will remain a function of the Forest/District public affairs officer, XX, working with and through the XX Interagency Dispatch Center. Your team will support the information transfer. Notify us of any accidents or unusual events.
7. Authorization to use chainsaws, portable pumps, helicopters and retardant in the Sample Wilderness is approved, and letters are in the transition package. No retardant use should occur within 300 feet of any body of water or stream. Use of water drops by helicopter is preferred.
8. Coordinate aerial resources through the XX Interagency Dispatch Center.
9. Mitigation for threatened and endangered species will be determined through a list provided by the Forest.
10. The resource advisor assigned to this incident is **XX**. The consulting wildlife biologist is **XX**.

XX and XX are assigned to you as wilderness resource advisors and are to be consulted on all strategies, tactical plans, and any camp locations.

11. You should take over management of the incident on or before **1900 August 18, 200X**.

XX, XXXX District Ranger is the designated Agency Administrator. **XX and XX** will be available as agency representatives and reachable unless the need for a designated acting should arise. You will be kept informed of any changes in authority.

XX, or another designated agency representative, will do the necessary review and validation of the WFDSS process and strategy for the Sample Fire.

Agency Administrator

Date

Incident Commander

Date