

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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3833 South Development Avenue  
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November 24, 1998

In Reply Refer To:  
9211 (FA-130) P

EMS Transmission 11/25/98  
Information Bulletin No. OF&A 99-014

To: State Directors  
  
From: Director, Office of Fire and Aviation  
  
Subject: National Fire Management Plan Summary

Attached is the summary of the Fire Management Plans submitted by the State and Field Offices. It includes the National Interagency Fire Center, other centers and the National Office. This will be the basis for budget allocations within the fire program.

Under separate cover, each Field Office which completed a plan will receive a copy of the summary.

Any questions regarding this document may be addressed to Ron Dunton, 208-387-5154, or Bill Mitchell, 208-387-5420.

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1 - Attachment  
1 - Fire Management Plans Summary (43 pp.)

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# NATIONAL FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN SUMMARY

**Bureau of Land Management**

**October 19, 1998**

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# **National Fire Management Plan Summary**

## **Executive Summary**

The Bureau of Land Management's National Fire Management Plan Summary is the result of a cooperative effort between Field, State and National Office resource management and fire management personnel. The goal of the plan is to identify the most efficient organization (personnel, equipment and facilities) that collectively meets the Bureau's mission to "sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations." Approved Fire Management Plans are considered contracts between management levels of the Bureau.

### **BACKGROUND**

The plan is developed around an economic analysis that determines the most effective organization meeting land management objectives, while also being the most economically efficient organization accomplishing the task at the least cost. Least cost is defined as the lowest presuppression and suppression cost plus resources losses. The least cost alternative is called the Least Cost Level(LCL). The least cost alternative which meets management objectives is called the Most Efficient Level (MEL). This is a comprehensive plan addressing the total fire management program and covers fire use and management, preparedness and suppression.

This is the latest iteration in the Bureau fire programs planning process and is used as a basis for budget justifications and allocations. Periodic recalculation of MEL is necessary due to changing resource objectives, values at risk, protection responsibilities, costs associated with wildland/urban interface, and increasing human caused fire occurrence associated with population growth.

The process begins with development of fire management objectives (Phase 1), based upon resource management objectives, as specified in appropriate Bureau planning documents and related management criteria as specified by local managers. Local fire histories covering the period from 1980 through 1996, and the factors such as weather and suppression resources that influenced that history are analyzed to allow predictions based upon changes in suppression resources, and prevention and prescribed fire activities. The outcome of the process (MEL) is the level that produced the lowest total expenditures plus resource values lost, while meeting the objectives derived from Phase 1.

The plan places emphasis upon initial attack activities. Putting a wildfire out when it is small has proven to be the safest, most effective, and cost efficient way of providing fire protection. Large fires have proven to do the most resource damage and be the most expensive to suppress. This National Fire Plan Summary focuses on the resources necessary to conduct the fire program required by Field Office managers, and consolidates the resources brought forward in the State Fire Management Plans.

### **USE OF THE NATIONAL FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN SUMMARY**

The National Fire Management Plan Summary will be used to prepare budget justifications and estimates; to allocate fire use, preparedness, and special construction funds; and to perform management analysis and evaluations. It establishes the optimum number of personnel, equipment and facilities by office for a normal workload at the most efficient funding level. Funds will be allocated based upon national priorities, an office's MEL and the efficiencies in each office's fire plan.

## **FIRE PLAN REVISIONS, EVALUATIONS, AND MODIFICATIONS**

The Field Office's Fire Management Plans, State and National Office plans and the National Fire Management Plan Summary are based on land management plans, the Bureau's mission, strategic goals and policy, protection responsibilities, and values at risk. Changes in the elements, upon which the fire plans are based, will require modification and revision of existing plans.

- ▶ Evaluation: Each Field Office FMP, and State and National Office Plan will be evaluated every year to ensure currency with land use plans, national direction, costs, and actual practices. In addition these fire plans will be a major element of Technical Procedure Reviews (TPRs), fire preparedness reviews and other program reviews to ensure compliance with other Bureau plans, policies, procedures, standards and accepted practices.
- ▶ Modifications: Each Field Office FMP and State Plan can be modified to improve efficiencies without Director approval, provided that: (a) National Resources are not affected, and (b) no increase in funding or personnel is required. Modifications of Field Office FMPs and State Plans require approval of the State Director. Copies of modifications must be forwarded to the National Office of Fire and Aviation to ensure that the National Fire Management Plan Summary, which is a consolidation of the State plans, remains current.
- ▶ Revision: Changes in Field Office FMPs and State Fire Management plans that (a) affect national resources, (b) require increases in the number of personnel, or, (c) require increases in funding, must be justified through the fire planning process. The revision should be submitted by the State Director to the Director, Fire and Aviation for review and approval. The National Office of Fire and Aviation may require that all plans be updated on a periodic basis using the most recent 10 years or more fire historical data base.

Approved revised fire plans must be submitted in a timely manner to coincide with the budget justification process. For example: Revised fire plans approved before the Bureau's MEL is determined for budget justification purposes will be included in the MEL figure for the target year. Approved revisions received after the MEL figure has been submitted with the budget justification will wait until the following year. An approved revised MEL for a state that was not part of the budget year's MEL will receive consideration during the allocation process based on the critical nature of the change.

## **RESULTS**

The Most Efficient Level for funding based upon the plans submitted by September 30, 1998 is \$110,452,563. The FY 2000 budget justification process used a MEL figure based upon this number and the new number will be inflated and input for 2001. This number is a composite of all submissions, and the details may be found in the State/Office summaries. To fully implement this alternative, \$15,278,263 would be required in one-time costs for equipment and approximately \$56,044,905 for construction requests (\$33,400,000 in Alaska). The Bureau is allocated a share of the Department of Interior fire construction project dollars. These funds are distributed based upon a Department of Interior wide prioritization of construction needs identified in approved fire plans.

The new MEL figure represents an increase of 9.43% over the 1998 MEL inflated to year 2000 dollars.

10/19/98

National Consolidated Totals	MEL
Heavy Engines	182
Light Engines	139
Tenders	30
Dozers	16
Helicopters	26
Fixed Wing - A/T	21
Fixed Wing - Other	30
No. of PFT	712
No. of Career-Seasonal LT	840
No. of Temps	1,393
FTE (1 PFT, .66 CS, .4 T)	1,823
Labor Costs	\$58,038,785
Equipment Costs	\$3,127,523
Travel/Trng Costs	\$3,921,991
Contract Costs	\$17,135,387
Procurement Costs	\$4,788,822
FOR	\$6,026,451
Aviation	\$553,825
Administrative Surcharge	\$16,883,954
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$15,278,263
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$56,044,905
BLM \$s 2810 (MEL)	\$110,452,563
BLM \$s 2823	\$18,995,549

## Alaska

## Protection Responsibility

The protection area for which AFS is responsible is predominantly in the interior of Alaska commonly defined as the tundra/taiga land mass situated south of the Brooks Range, north of the Brooks Range, extending easterly to the Alaska/Canada border and westerly to the Bering Sea. The area is typified by long severe winters (-50 degrees F), short mild summers, summer sunlight in excess of 16 hours/day, minimal precipitation (average 12 inches/year) and extensive summer lightning.

AFS is responsible for fire suppression on 241.3 million acres of Federal and Native Lands. Of these 241.3 million acres are classified as having fire history. Included in the 241.3 are 77 million acres in National Wildlife refuges, 52 million acres in National Parks and Preserves, 65 million in BLM lands and 47 million acres of Alaska Native interest lands. Approximately 2.1 million acres of Department of Defense lands are protected by AFS under cooperative agreement.

BLM/AFS and the State of Alaska have entered into an agreement to exchange and consolidate fire protection areas in the interest of efficient and least cost presuppression and suppression management. No funding has been obligated. This agreement allows AFS to protect remote State lands in a trade-off that has the State protecting Federal lands closer to the road system. Currently AFS protects 181.2 million acres of Federal, Native Corporation and State of Alaska Lands. The State of Alaska Suppression organization protects 162.1 million acres.

## Fire Season

The fire season extends from mid-April to mid-August with a peak lightning occurrence from mid-May to the end of July. Human caused fires account for the majority of the spring (April/May) fire activity. In June, in the Eastern Interior, lightning plays the major role in fire occurrence. Lightning activity moves west as June progresses. Lightning becomes widespread throughout the Interior late in June and continues through July, tapering off in August. Most fire occurrence after mid August is human caused. Season averages are: lightning caused = 70% of total ignitions, human caused = 30%.

## Fire History

## Average Annual Fire Occurrence by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
33.7	72.3	30.1	11	40.5	187.6

## Average Annual Acres Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
.6	44.3	367.8	579.9	169,505.1	170,497.7

## Average Annual Prescribed Fires 1987 -1996

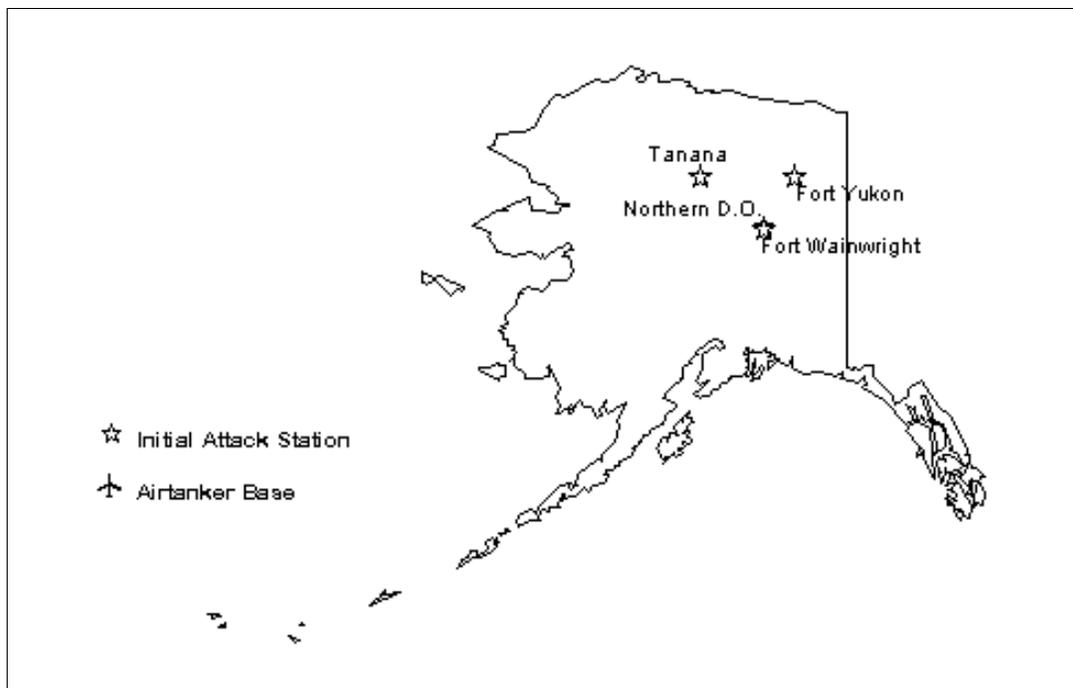
.2

## Average Annual Prescribed Fire Acres Burned 1987 - 1996

605

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ALASKA	MEL
Type 1 Crews	3
Smokejumpers	68
Helicopters	8
Fixed Wing - A/T	2
Fixed Wing - Other	15
No. of PFT	98
No. of Career-Seasonal	233
No. of Temps	147
FTE (1, .66, .4)	310.6
2810 \$s (millions)	\$18.597
2823 \$s (millions)	\$.044
Planned Rx Fires	5
Planned Rx Acres	25,000
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$0
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$33,404,311
2000 MEL	\$18,596,761



Arizona

Protection Responsibility

Arizona BLM is responsible for fire protection on approximately 13.2 million acres of public lands. The Arizona Strip and the Yuma /Lake Havasu Zones are interagency in organizational makeup. The Arizona Strip is combined with the Dixie National Forest, Pine Valley Ranger District. The Yuma /Lake Havasu Zone is combined with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Colorado and Fort Yuma Agencies. The Safford /Tucson and Phoenix / Kingman are BLM zones only.

Arizona has four major agreements. The Joint Powers Agreement establishes suppression cooperation between Federal Agencies and Arizona State. Operating procedures to the Joint Powers Agreement are further defined in Zone Operating Agreements developed at the Field Office level. The Four State Agreement (AZ, UT, NV, CA) establishes initial attack assignments for the four corners areas.

Fire Season

Arizona has nearly a year round fire season. October, November, December, and January are the only months in which the potential for a fire occurring within a 10 day period is at or below the activation line. Lightning fires are the major problem in the Arizona Strip, Safford and Phoenix F.O.s (90% ,67% and 67% respectively) while human caused fires are the largest contributor to the fire problem in

Fire History

Average Annual Occurrence by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
88.4	58.3	29.2	9	13	197.9

Average Annual Acres Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
8.8	117.8	834.4	1,181.1	18,038	20,180.9

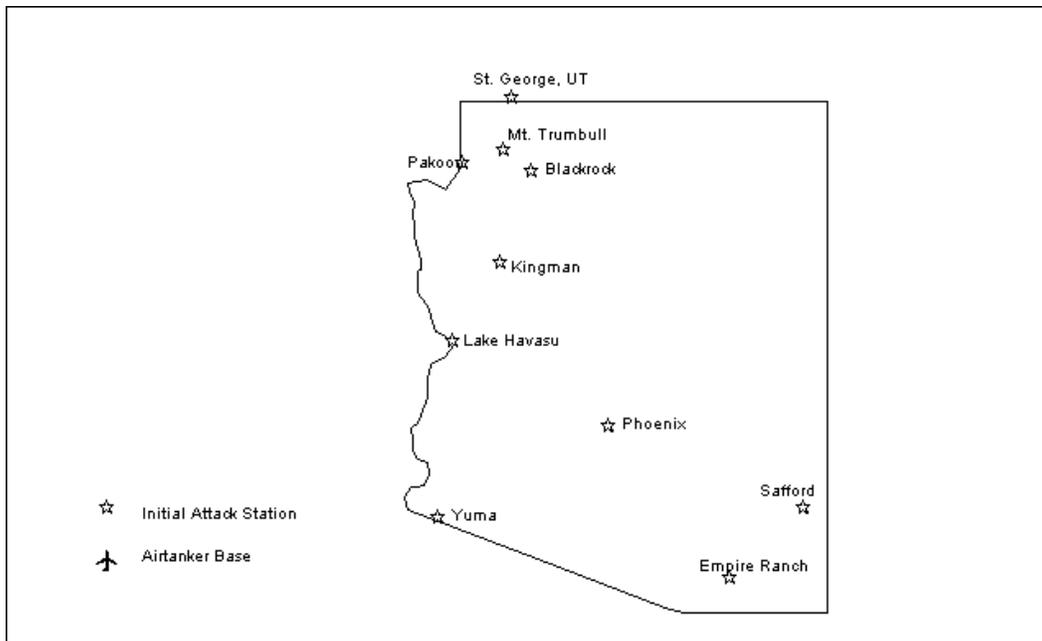
Average Annual Prescribed Fires, 1987 - 1996

2.9

Average Annual Prescribed Fire Acres Burned, 1987 - 1996

2,564.7

ARIZONA	MEL
Heavy Engines	5
Light Engines	9
Tenders	1
Dozers	0
Helicopters	2
Fixed Wing - A/T	5
Fixed Wing - Other	1
No. of PFT	34
No. of Career-Seasonal	28
No. of Temps	67
FTE (1, .66, .4)	79.3
2810 \$s (millions)	\$3.693
2823 \$s (millions)	\$1.604
Planned Rx Fires	39
Planned Rx Acres	56,375
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$182,149
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$1,716,400
2000 MEL	\$3,693,000



California

Protection Responsibility

Fire protection of California wildlands by four major land management agencies (BLM, Forest Service, CDF & FP, and NPS) has become one of the most complex wildland protection programs in the Bureau. Land management responsibilities in California are patterns of intermixed agency jurisdictions. Agency parcels range in size from a few acres to hundreds of thousands of acres. For these reasons, BLM California exchanges fire protection with other wildland fire protection agencies, which allows identified parcels to be protected by another agency. The four major wildland fire protection agencies have the responsibility to manage all wildland fires in their respective Direct Protection Area (DPA). BLM, FS, NPS and CDF account for the wildland fire protection of three fourths of all the acres in California and are the major players in the exchange of fire suppression responsibilities (the remainder is protected primarily by the BIA, USFWS, DoD, and county and local government fire protection entities). The following statistical information reflects the overall fire protection responsibilities:

Total BLM land - California 17,164,489 acres  
 Total BLM land - Nevada (CA managed) 1,452,181 acres  
 Total Public lands administered by CA BLM 18,616,670 acres

Present protection responsibilities are as follows:

Protecting Agency:	BLM acres	USFS acres	CDF/SRA acres	NPS acres
BLM	16,222,829	44,193	713,364	0
USFS	35,400	8,670,060	3,085,468	814
CDF	2,435,194	1,056,742	28,265,808	0
NPS		0	0	8,179,347

(Above stats do not include BLM lands protected by Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Santa Barbara and Ventura Fire Departments. BLM negotiates Assistance-by-Hire agreements with these counties).

Fire Season

Mild marine influenced climates, fast growing vegetation and long growing seasons create heavy fuel loadings and establish critical fuel moisture levels, all which act to regularly extend fire seasons from April through December. Human caused fires account for 58% of the fires and 60% of the total acres burned. A majority of these fires do not start on Bureau land but burn onto BLM from private ownership.

Fire History

Average Annual Fire Occurrence by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
168.8	65.9	27.3	9.8	15.8	287.6

Average Annual Acres Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
11.9	65.3	481.6	669.6	10,968.9	12,197.3

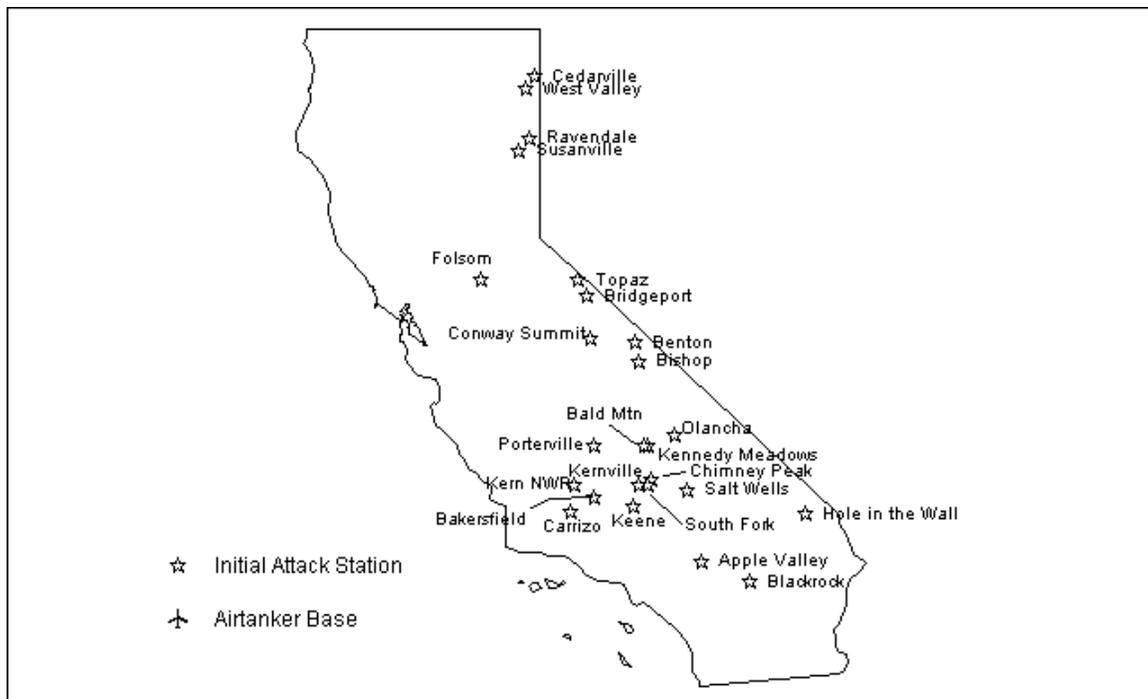
Average Annual Prescribed Fires, 1987 - 1996

12.9

Average Annual Prescribed Fire Acres, 1987 - 1996

6,488.9

CALIFORNIA	MEL
Heavy Engines	20
Light Engines	9
Tenders	4
Dozers	3
Helicopters	3
Fixed Wing - A/T	1
Fixed Wing - Other	1
No. of PFT	77
No. of Career-Seasonal	95
No. of Temps	172
FTE (1, .66, .4)	208.5
2810 \$s (millions)	\$9.039
2823 \$s (millions)	\$2.464
Planned Rx Fires	78
Planned Rx Acres	27,258
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$1,543,530
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$2,077,661
2000 MEL	\$9,039,124



Colorado

Protection Responsibility

Protection responsibility assigned to the Bureau of Land Management is the balanced management of public lands and resources and their various values so that they are considered in a combination that will best serve the needs of the public. In Colorado, the Bureau has exclusive jurisdiction for 8,276,890 acres of public land. This land area is distributed over the entire state, but the largest concentrations are found in the extreme western part of the state.

Other major land managing agencies in Colorado area are:

USFS	14,444,000 acres
BIA	751,885
NPS	534,226
FWS	57,410.

Fire Season

Fire season in Colorado typically begins in mid or late March in the Southern Districts (Montrose, Canon City). It gradually spreads north, peaking on the Western Slope around the first of July. Monsoon effects begin the 2nd week of July which, depending upon the season, can be reflected in an increase in lightning activity. After these effects have passed, a second spike of activity usually occurs in mid to late August. The exception to this pattern is the Craig District which is more typical of a Great Basin fire regime which peaks in August. Barrington contains high county fires (8000 + ft) may be of significant occurrence one year in three. By mid October, fire activity will have subsided statewide.

Statewide, lightning is responsible for about 88% of the fires, and about 51% of the acres

Fire History

Average Annual Fires Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
312.2	91.1	29.6	9.1	10.3	452.3

Average Annual Acres Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
31.5	146.7	803.7	1,159	9,979.6	12,120.5

Average Annual Prescribed Fires, 1987 - 1996

22.9

Average Annual Prescribed Fire Acres Burned, 1987 - 1997

5,333.2

COLORADO	MEL
Heavy Engines	8
Light Engines	11
Tenders	1
Dozers	0
Helicopters	1
Fixed Wing - A/T	1
Fixed Wing - Other	2
No. of PFT	26
No. of Career-Seasonal	35
No. of Temps	46
FTE (1, .66, .4)	67.5
2810 \$s (millions)	\$3.885
2823 \$s (millions)	\$1.152
Planned Rx Fires	103
Planned Rx Acres	45,941
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$499,731
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$2,044,459
2000 MEL	\$3,885,241



10/19/98

Eastern States

The Eastern States does not have protection responsibility for any public lands. The dollars allocated are to partially fund one position which coordinates fire training, prevention and public activities, and the Jackson Hot Shot Crew.

10/19/98

Eastern States	MEL
Heavy Engines	0
Light Engines	0
Tenders	0
Dozers	0
Helicopters	0
Fixed Wing - A/T	0
Fixed Wing - Other	0
No. of PFT	2.1
No. of Career-Seasonal	18
No. of Temps	0
FTE (1, .66, .4)	13.98
2810 \$s (millions)	\$.4
2823 \$s (millions)	\$0
Planned Rx Fires	0
Planned Rx Acres	0
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$0
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$0
2000 MEL	\$400,000

Idaho

Protection Responsibility

The BLM in Idaho is responsible for fire protection on approximately 11,600,000 acres of public land. Climate (weather), wildland fuels, and terrain are complex. Ambient temperature ranges from (-)25 degrees Fahrenheit (F) in winter to over 100 degrees F during summer months. Precipitation ranges from over 40 inches at higher elevations in northern and central Idaho to less than eight inches in some sagebrush steppe and salt desert shrub communities. Summers are typically dry, with frequent lightning storms. A severe drought began in 1987 and extended through 1992. Precipitation returned to "normal" in 1993, but the winter precipitation and snowpack was about 60 percent of normal in 1994, and about 150% in 1997.

Vegetation includes heavily forested lands in central (and higher elevation, north facing slopes in southern Idaho); shrub steppe, typically between 2,500 and 6,500 feet elevation statewide; and annual grassland, predominantly at lower elevations where frequent wildfires and other causes have essentially eliminated the native bunch grass communities. With the extended severe drought, forest and rangeland ecosystem health problems have resulted in abnormal fuel situations in many areas.

Terrain varies from gentle, undulating landscape adjacent to the Snake River Plain, to steep, rugged areas, especially in central Idaho. Elevation ranges from about 700 feet at Lewiston near the Lower Snake River, to over 12,000 on Borah Peak in east-central Idaho. Because of the combination of weather, fuels, and terrain Idaho BLM requires a large, diverse, and dispersed initial attack force in order to meet land use goals and management objectives.

Fire Season

"Fire season" typically begins in June when wildland fuels begin to dry, and lasts through mid-October; the fire season is controlled primarily by weather conditions. Over the past decade, Idaho BLM has averaged 289 fires each year which burned 149,861 acres annually. In sagebrush steppe areas, fire return intervals have decreased from about every 60-110 years at the turn of the century to about every five years.

Human caused fires accounted for approximately 58% of the fires on Bureau lands in Idaho, and nearly 29% of the acres burned.

Fire History

Average Annual Fires Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

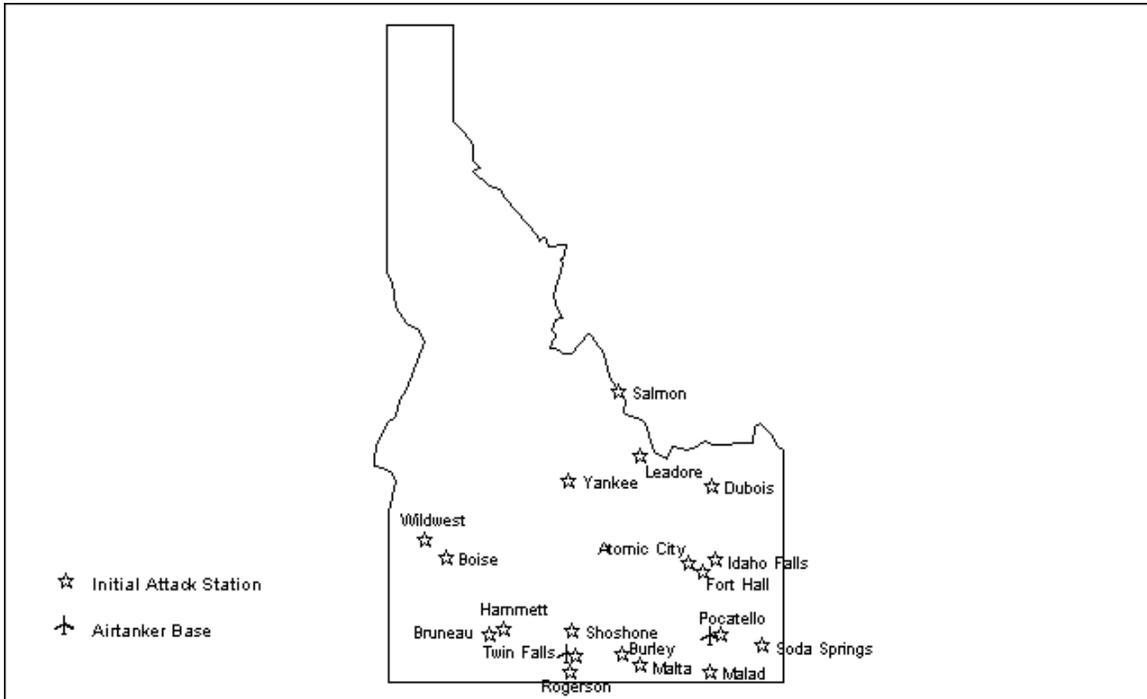
A	B	C	D	E+	Total
53.1	103.2	57.7	28.3	47	289.3

Average Annual Acres Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
1.6	138.1	1,070	2,514	246,137	149,860.9

Average Annual Prescribed Fires, 1987 - 1996	Average Annual Prescribed Fire Acres Burned, 1987 - 1996
16	7,434.4

IDAHO	MEL
Heavy Engines	60
Light Engines	22
Tenders	8
Dozers	7
Helicopters	2
Fixed Wing - A/T	1
Fixed Wing - Other	1
No. of PFT	53
No. of Career-Seasonal	41
No. of Temps	370
FTE (1, .66, .4)	228.06
2810 \$s (millions)	\$10.05
2823 \$s (millions)	\$1.37
Planned Rx Fires	50
Planned Rx Acres	33,700
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$ 5,285,704
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$4,592,000
2000 MEL	\$10,050,061



Montana

Protection Responsibility

The Bureau of Land Management has fire protection responsibility on 8,479,808 acres in Montana and the Dakota's. The BLM also protects 635,388 acres of other federal and state agency lands. There are also agreements in affect where other federal and state agencies protect 1,468,098 acres for the

Lewistown District: 4,273,433 BLM surface acres. BLM land protected by others:  
 4,232,433 BLM acres  
 120,000 FS  
 48,000 Dept. of State Lands

BLM land protected by others: Forest Service

Miles City District: 4,526,460 BLM surface acres. BLM land protected by others:  
 4,247,375 BLM acres  
 429,738 FS  
 36,456 State & Private

BLM land protected by others: 279,085 State/County

Butte District: 4,336,875 BLM surface acres. BLM land protected by others:  
 667,154 FS  
 671,340 DSL sub from FS  
 28,390 DSL

Dickinson District: 60,223 BLM surface acres. BLM land protected by others: State/County

Fire Season

The fire season frequently extends from March during pre-greenup through October with the peak fire season activity from April to mid September.

The number of human caused fires in the State is low, less than ten percent. However, this figure is rising and these fires are the most costly in terms of suppression and resource loss. Ninety percent of the fires are lightning caused, generally occurring from June through August.

Fire History

Average Annual Fires Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
18.9	68.4	23.4	7.6	10	128.3

Average Annual Acres Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
.7	58.2	373.1	648.8	5,483.8	6,564.6

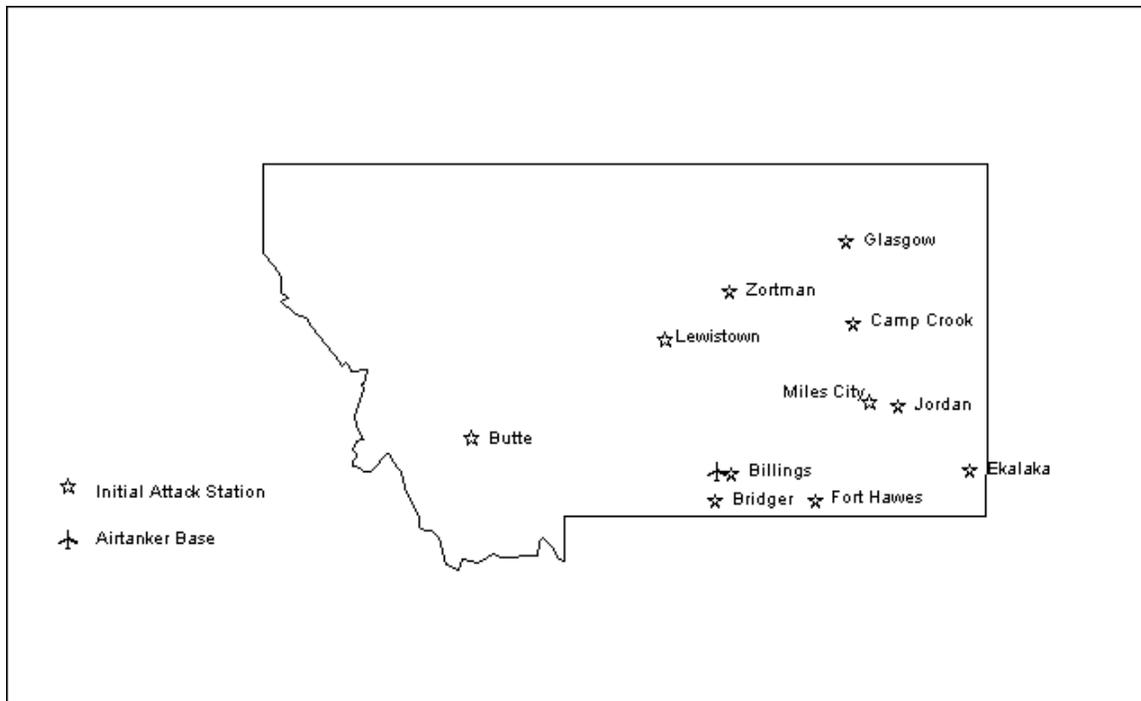
Average Annual Prescribed Fires, 1987 - 1996

12.5

Average Annual Prescribed Fire Acres Burned, 1987 - 1996

776.4

MONTANA	MEL
Heavy Engines	2
Light Engines	16
Tenders	1
Dozers	0
Helicopters	2
Fixed Wing - A/T	2
Fixed Wing - Other	1
No. of PFT	24
No. of Career-Seasonal	42
No. of Temps	61
FTE (1, .66, .4)	76.12
2810 \$s (millions)	4.141
2823 \$s (millions)	.328
Planned Rx Fires	27
Planned Rx Acres	3,141
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$92,052
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$634,552
2000 MEL	\$4,141,358



Nevada

Protection Responsibility

The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for the protection of approximately 48 million acres of public lands in the State of Nevada, with 6 Field Offices and 2 Field Stations. We assist other agencies in the state by agreement (NDF, FS, BIA, FWS, DOE, DOD, NPS). Approximately 2 million acres in Nevada are protected by BLM California (Susanville District); and approximately 200 thousand acres are protected and administered by BLM Idaho (Boise District).

Fire Season

The fire season in Nevada typically occurs in two separate zones, North and South. The southern zone will begin between the 1st and mid April and run through November, with a peak between the 1st and 10th of July. The northern zone will begin between the 1st and mid May and last through September. The peak in the north will occur between the 20th of July and the end of August.

Nevada is the fastest growing state in the union. The population growth over the last 10 years has seen an increase in human caused starts and an increase in complexity in what is considered wildland urban interface areas. The increased risk in the wildland urban interface areas has created a similar increase in workload of fire protection, prevention, and fuels reduction programs in these areas.

Fire History

Average Annual Fires Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
299.8	124.6	40.6	15.7	28.2	508.9

Average Annual Acres Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
14.4	171.8	1,023.2	2,098.2	29,670.2	82,978.4

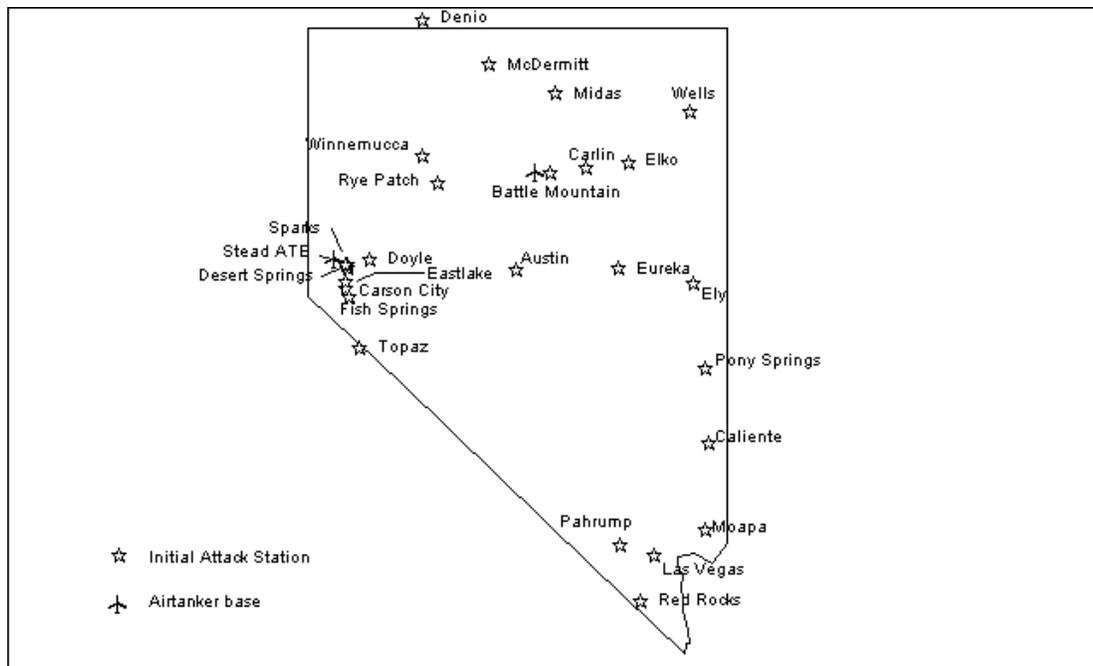
Average Annual Prescribed Fires, 1987 - 1996

3

Average Annual Prescribed Fire Acres Burned, 1987 - 1996

1,169.4

NEVADA	MEL
Heavy Engines	40
Light Engines	8
Tenders	6
Dozers	4
Helicopters	3
Fixed Wing - A/T	4
Fixed Wing - Other	3
No. of PFT	54
No. of Career-Seasonal	105
No. of Temps	161
FTE (1, .66, .4)	176.58
2810 \$s (millions)	10.967
2823 \$s (millions)	1.678
Planned Rx Fires	70
Planned Rx Acres	110,400
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$2,063,219
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$7,802,383
2000 MEL	\$10,966,696



New Mexico

Protection Responsibility

BLM has fire suppression responsibilities for approximately 13,529,000 acres of public lands in New Mexico. The Albuquerque Field Office has 896,000 acres, Farmington 1.5 million, Las Cruces 5.3 million, Roswell/Carlsbad 3.7 million, Socorro 1.5 million, and Taos 564,000.

The primary state-wide agreement for fire suppression cooperation is the Joint Powers Agreement. This provides reciprocal initial attack among the federal land managing agencies and the State of New Mexico. New Mexico is divided into initial attack areas. In each initial attack area, one agency has agreed to take initial attack action on all lands regardless of ownership. If that agency cannot take initial attack action on a fire, or if the fire escapes initial attack, the land managing agency must take over suppression activities. No reimbursements are made between the state and federal agencies up to the point that the fire escapes initial attack.

The Joint Powers Agreement has proven to be effective and economical. Half of the land in some BLM field offices are protected by the initial attack forces of other agencies. The duplication of effort of having fire engines of two or more agencies protecting the same general area has been largely eliminated.

Fire Season

The typical New Mexico fire season begins in the southern part of the state in mid-February when occasional wind driven fires consume large acreage in winter-cured grass fuels. Dry, windy spring weather brings increased fire activity in April and May, with fire activity spreading northward as the weather dries. In mid-May, all districts are into their fire seasons. By late May, periodic dry lightning activity brings multiple fires. The heaviest fire workload occurs from early June through early July, when dry early summer conditions and lightning activity coincide. By mid-July, the summer monsoon begins. Monsoon moisture substantially reduces fire danger, although lightning caused fires continue until the monsoons subside in early September. Numerous fires occur in late July and August, but they generally do not burn large areas.

Due to lack of a snowpack, much of New Mexico can experience fires year-round. The Roswell, Carlsbad and Las Cruces Field Offices have experienced large fires in November and January. This necessitates year-round fire preparedness in these districts.

Fire History

Average Annual Fires Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
32.7	40.7	22.1	11.2	16.5	123.2

Average Annual Acres Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
2.7	61	438.8	872.9	18,967.3	20,342.7

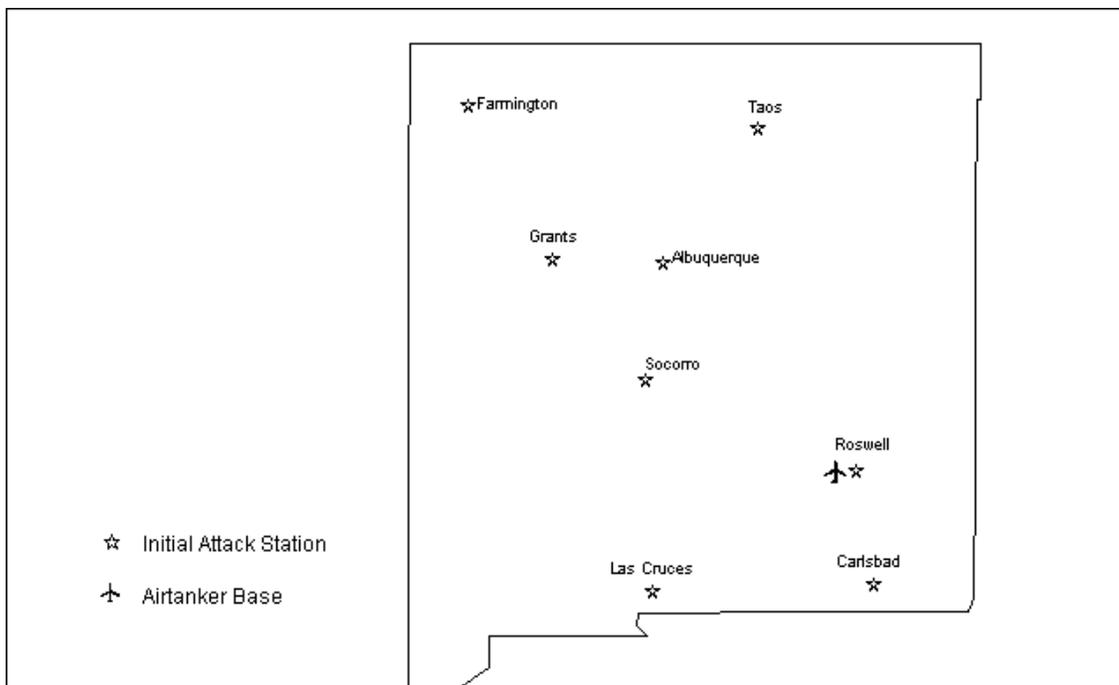
Average Annual Prescribed Fires, 1987 - 1996

10.2

Average Annual Prescribed Fire Acres Burned, 1987 - 1996

9,330

NEW MEXICO	MEL
Heavy Engines	5
Light Engines	8
Tenders	1
Dozers	0
Helicopters	0
Fixed Wing - A/T	0
Fixed Wing - Other	0
No. of PFT	16
No. of Career-Seasonal	27
No. of Temps	24
FTE (1, .66, .4)	43.42
2810 \$s (millions)	2.168
2823 \$s (millions)	.652
Planned Rx Fires	57
Planned Rx Acres	59,575
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$535,229
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$28,633
2000 MEL	\$2,168,312



## Oregon

## Protection Responsibility

BLM is responsible for the management and protection of about 310,576 acres in Washington, about 13,929,600 acres in Eastern Oregon, about 242,820 acres PD (Public Domain) acres in Western Oregon, and about 2,366,530 acres O & C (Oregon & California railroad grant) acres in Western Oregon. Total area of responsibility is about 16,849,526 acres.

## Fire Season

Fire season in Oregon and Washington has the potential to run from the 1st of April through mid October, but a more typical season would begin in mid June and last through September. Peak fire season is usually mid August through mid September. The majority of all large fires occur on the east side, while the largest resource damage is on the west side due to the higher timber values.

Statewide, lightning is responsible for about 70% of the fires and about 71% of the acres.

## Fire History

## Average Annual Fires Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
159.8	54.4	21.9	11.1	20.2	267.4

## Average Annual Acres Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
12.1	71.1	488.4	1,217.2	2,038.4	43,827.2

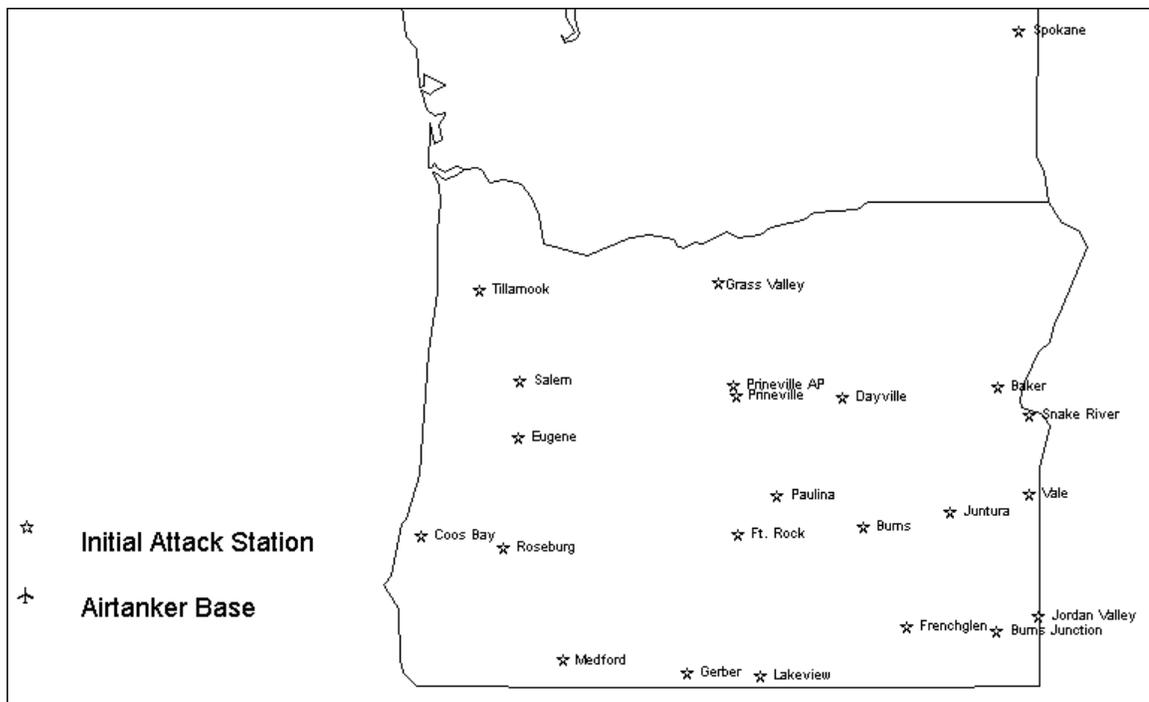
## Average Annual Prescribed Fires, 1987 - 1996

414

## Average Annual Prescribed Fire Acres Burned, 1987 - 1996

16,854.7

OREGON	MEL
Heavy Engines	27
Light Engines	26
Tenders	3
Dozers	2
Helicopters	4
Fixed Wing - A/T	3
Fixed Wing - Other	0
No. of PFT	84
No. of Career-Seasonal	105
No. of Temps	174
FTE (1, .66, .4)	222.9
2810 \$s (millions)	11.288
2823 \$s (millions)	7.571
Planned Rx Fires	237
Planned Rx Acres	107,205
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$3,662,398
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$607,010
2000 MEL	\$11,288,082



Utah

Protection Responsibility

The BLM administers over 22.6 million acres within Utah. and five BLM resources; from recreation, minerals, livestock grazing, recreation, wilderness study areas to wildlife habitat. The lands vary from arid desert in the south to high alpine mountains in the northeast. The larger population centers are located along the Wasatch Front with the area from Ogden to Provo containing the majority of the States population however, smaller outlying communities are rapidly expanding throughout the State. This expansion of the large metro areas and smaller cities is creating an increased wildland urban fire problem for the BLM.

Fire Season

The Utah BLM fire program has a long fire season due to the location and elevation of the various Districts throughout the State. The southern border Field Offices (Cedar City and Moab) start their season in April and may while the other three Field Offices usually begin in the middle of May. The Northwestern Field Offices (Richfield and Salt Lake) generally will continue to have problem fires into October.

The current percentage of human caused fires within the State is approximately 30%.

Fire History

Average Annual Fires Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
173.8	74.3	33.7	11.3	22.9	315.5

Average Annual Acres Burned by Size Class. 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
14	133.3	978	1,482	64,336.4	66,943.7

Average Annual Prescribed Fires, 1987 - 1996

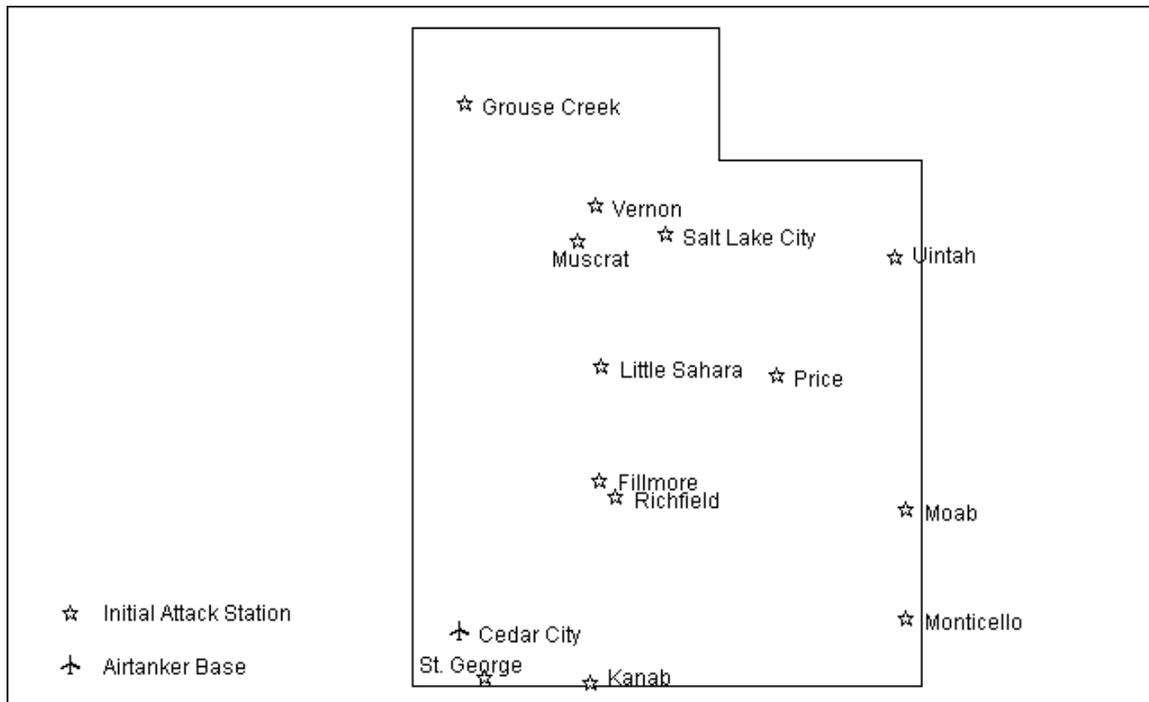
9.5

Average Annual Prescribed Fire Acres Burned, 1987 - 1996

2,664.1

10/19/98

UTAH	MEL
Heavy Engines	14
Light Engines	15
Tenders	4
Dozers	0
Helicopters	1
Fixed Wing - A/T	2
Fixed Wing - Other	3
No. of PFT	31
No. of Career-Seasonal	42
No. of Temps	96
FTE (1, .66, .4)	97.12
2810 \$s (millions)	5.533
2823 \$s (millions)	1.004
Planned Rx Fires	60
Planned Rx Acres	24,262
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$1,139,239
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$4,437,411
2000 MEL	\$5,533,202



Wyoming

Protection Responsibility

BLM in Wyoming is responsible for wildland fire protection on approximately 18,000,000 acres. Wildfires are suppressed utilizing engines, hand line construction and helicopter with the occasional use of air tankers. The use of heavy equipment (dozers) is limited to those situations where wildfire is an imminent threat to life/property where fire danger is extreme and an aggressive action is required and/or where wildfire damage to resources would exceed the damage caused by use of mechanical means. All wildfires that exceed initial attack capability are subject to the completion of an EFSA.

Current agreements are with all federal agencies, Wyoming State Forestry Division, and all 23 counties within the state.

Fire Season

The potential for fires in Wyoming typically exists from April into October, with the majority of fires occurring from the 2nd week of July through August. Most of the fires occur in the lower grass sage regimes, which typically cure around the first of July.

Human caused fires normally account for around 38% of the total number of fires. This number has been significantly reduced in recent years through an emphasis of the state's fire prevention program to utilize the present strength of force personnel along with identified fire prevention support materials.

Fire History

Average Annual Fires Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
33.8	35.5	17.1	4.5	7.8	98.7

Average Annual Acres Burned by Size Class, 1987 - 1996

A	B	C	D	E+	Total
3.6	71.1	390.5	450.8	11,263.7	12,179.7

Average Annual Prescribed Fires, 1987 - 1996

17.8

Average Annual Prescribed Fire Acres Burned, 1987 - 1996

7,084.1

WYOMING	MEL
Heavy Engines	1
Light Engines	15
Tenders	1
Dozers	0
Helicopters	0
Fixed Wing - A/T	0
Fixed Wing - Other	0
No. of PFT	11
No. of Career-Seasonal	20
No. of Temps	36
FTE (1, .66, .4)	38.6
2810 \$s (millions)	2.248
2823 \$s (millions)	.808
Planned Rx Fires	44
Planned Rx Acres	29,205
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$179,012
One Time Costs - Facilities	\$605,396
2000 MEL	\$2,247,800



## National Interagency Fire Center

The National Interagency Fire Center is the Bureau's national wild fire and incident coordination and support center. This center is responsible for coordinating and providing fire suppression and other emergency support services to Bureau and cooperating offices. These services include but are not limited to fire and aviation training, administrative support, telecommunications, remote sensing, data systems, and specialized personnel and equipment. With BLM as the host agency, the Center includes cooperating related units from the Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Aircraft Services, and a fire weather support unit from the National Weather Service. In conjunction with these cooperating agencies, it forms a National Interagency Coordination Center that provides or arranges for emergency support to Bureau offices and other agencies.

The National Interagency Fire Center is managed by a NIFC Administrator who reports to a Board of Directors, made up of the individual directors from the cooperating agencies.

Ten groups of individuals with similar skills, knowledge, and functions form the National Interagency Fire Center; their work is consistent with the functional role of NIFC. Each group is led by a

The groups are as follows: Human Resource Management, Safety and Health, National Systems Support, Business Practices, National Fire and Aviation Training Support, Great Basin Support, Smokejumper, National Technology application, National Interagency Coordination Center, and Base Maintenance.

Total cost for NIFC is \$14,093,700. \$1,916,500 is obtained from cooperators or from BLM activities other than 2810. Total required of 2810 is \$12,177,200 (1996 \$s). This represents a \$1,300,000 reduction from the current inflated MEL.

## NATIONAL RESOURCES

NIFC currently hosts 66 smokejumpers (including management positions) and two large air transports, all of which are considered national resources. Of the air transports, one is funded by the Bureau, the other by the USFS. Funding for the ~~located in the NIFC~~ budget, and held at the National Office.

## ONE TIME COSTS

NIFC has identified \$123,000 in one time costs, for the Great Basin Support Group for the purchase of an automated racking system at the Great Basin Cache.

10/19/98

NIFC Consolidated Totals	MEL
No. of PFT	156
No. of Career-Seasonal	67
No. of Temps	39
FTE (1, .66, .4)	215.82
2810 \$s (millions)	12.869
2823 \$s (millions)	0
One Time Costs - Equipment	\$123,000
One Time Costs - Facilities	0
2000 MEL	\$12,868,658

10/19/98

National Training Center

The National Training Center at Phoenix provides file and resource management training.

10/19/98

Phoenix Training Center	MEL
No. of PFT	0
No. of Career-Seasonal	0
No. of Temps	0
FTE (1, .66, .4)	0
2810 \$s (millions)	.100
2000 MEL	\$100,000

10/19/98

National Business Center

Provides general business management administrative activities such as financial, procurement and property management.

10/19/98

National Business Center	MEL
No. of PFT	0
No. of Career-Seasonal	0
No. of Temps	0
FTE (1, .66, .4)	0
2810 \$s (millions)	.055
2000 MEL	\$55,000

10/19/98

National Applied Resources Science Center

Provides scientific support of land management activities.

10/19/98

National Applied Resources Science Center	MEL
No. of PFT	1
No. of Career-Seasonal	0
No. of Temps	0
FTE (1, .66, .4)	1
2810 \$s (millions)	.165
2000 MEL	\$165,000

## National Office

The National Office of Fire and Aviation is located in Boise, Id., at the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC). Like most of the other federal wildland fire management agencies, the Bureau has its full national office staff at the Fire Center, with one exception. One position is located in the Bureau's Washington D.C. office, functioning as liaison and daily contact with the Directorate and the other Bureau's disciplines. As a result of the Boise location, the National Office of Fire and Aviation consistently interacts with their interagency peers and performs many functions through interagency teams and task groups.

The role of the National Office is to provide leadership and oversight and develop policy, procedures and budgets for the fire and aviation program in support of the Bureau's land management mission. To accomplish this mission, the National Office has 47 permanent full-time positions. These positions fall into three categories, directors/managers, national specialist/graduate team leaders, and technicians/clerical. The National Office role differs from the Bureau's operational role at NIFC. The NIFC role involves designing, building and delivering products and logistical and administrative services in support of the fire and aviation activities of the Bureau and its partners.

Reorganization efforts among the functional roles of the National Office and NIFC have resulted in personnel moves. The effect of these changes since 1995, plus the expansion of activities in external affairs, safety, fire and law enforcement retirement and international activities has increased the National Office by 25 positions.

The National Office budget is broken down into categories for labor, equipment, travel/training, contracts, and procurement costs. This planning budget identifies \$4,130,000 for the costs of all activities. Of this sum, 62% is for labor, 17% is for operations, 2% for national office support activities, 8% for travel and training, and 1% for equipment costs. The Plan also identifies special funding of \$10,210,000 for national administrative activities, such as the costs of leave surcharge, and bureau initiatives and services.

National Office	MEL
No. of PFT	47
No. of Career-Seasonal	0
No. of Temps	0
FTE (1, .66, .4)	47
Labor Costs	\$2,551,000
Equipment Costs	\$58,000
Travel/Trng Costs	\$357,000
Operational Costs	\$885,000
NWCG	\$250,000
JAC	\$150,000
TFM/Coop	\$86,000
Wildland Urban Interface	\$40,000
2810 \$s (millions)	4.130
2000 MEL	\$4,130,000



National Curve

