

2004

ANNUAL FIRE OPERATING PLAN

among the

WILDFIRE PROTECTION AGENCIES

within

CLEAR CREEK COUNTY, COLORADO

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ATTACHMENT 1	Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection in Clear Creek County
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ATTACHMENT 3	Emergency Fund Contract Agreement For Forest And Watershed Fire Control
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ATTACHMENT 5	Intergovernmental Agreement for Mutual Aid Between Fire Departments (Clear Creek County)

CLEAR CREEK COUNTY ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN - 2004

The Annual Operating Plan (AOP) is a working document compiled each year by wildfire agencies participating in the Plan, and shall be attached to and considered a part of the **Interagency Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement** (see Clause #12 of the Agreement).

1. PLAN APPROVAL

The parties below agree to the procedures contained in this Annual Fire Operating Plan to be effective on the dates shown through **May 1, 2005**.

____ COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE
DATE _____ BY _____.

____ CLEAR CREEK COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
DATE _____ BY _____.

____ BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, CLEAR CREEK COUNTY
DATE _____ BY _____.

____ FOREST SERVICE, USDA
DATE _____ BY _____.

____ CLEAR CREEK COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY
DATE _____ BY _____.

____ EVERGREEN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
DATE _____ BY _____.

NOTE: Informational copies of this Annual Operating Plan shall be sent by the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) to the USDA Forest Service (Clear Creek Ranger District, Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest; Boulder Ranger District, Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest) and the USDI Bureau of Land Management, Canon City District. Informational copies of this Annual Operating Plan shall be sent by the Clear Creek County Sheriff to all Wildland Fire Departments within Clear Creek County.

2. IDENTIFICATION OF THE JURISDICTIONS/PARTICIPANTS TO THE PLAN

The following participants in this AOP agree to coordinate their wildfire protection activities as outlined herein:

Colorado State Forest Service

Clear Creek County Board of County Commissioners

Clear Creek County Sheriff

Clear Creek County Fire Authority

USDA, Forest Service, Arapaho & Roosevelt National Forests

Evergreen Fire Protection District

3. AUTHORITY FOR THE PLAN -

This plan fulfills **Section D.1** for the "**Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection**" signed May 1, 1989 between Clear Creek County and the State Board of Agriculture, and hereby becomes part of this Agreement as **Attachment 3. (See Attachment 1 of this AOP)**

This plan also fulfills **Paragraph 12** for the "**Interagency Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement**" among the U.S. Department of Interior: Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Department of Agriculture: Forest Service; and the State of Colorado: Colorado State Forest Service, and hereby becomes part of that agreement as an Attachment. **(See Attachment 2 of this AOP)**

This plan fulfills Article I.2. of the "**Emergency Fund Contract for Forest and Watershed Fire Control**" between the State of Colorado and Clear Creek County and becomes Attachment B of that agreement. **(See Attachment 3 of this AOP)**

4. PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The purpose of this Annual Fire Operating Plan (AOP) is to set forth standard operating procedures, agreed policies, and responsibilities to implement cooperative wildfire protection on all lands within Clear Creek County.

5. DEFINITIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS

A. Fire Protection Responsibilities

Each jurisdictional agency (including the Federal government) has ultimate responsibility for wildland fire protection on its own lands. Fire protection zones within the county have been established as shown on the included map (Exhibit A).

These zones are normally for initial attack purposes only, but an assisting agency (or fire department) may, at times, take initial attack action on wildfires located on lands under another's jurisdiction. The primary criteria for this type of initial attack is that **the agency which is in the best position at the time the wildfire is reported will take the most rapid and effective action to respond.**

As mutually agreed between them, the County and fire protection districts are responsible to suppress wildfires on all State Lands within Clear Creek County. The County's responsibilities are limited to those set forth in Section 30-10-513 and 30-10-513.5 C.R.S. Within Clear Creek County, both State School Lands and State Agency-owned lands exist. State School Lands exist in the vicinity of Bergen Peak, inside the Golden Watershed, east of the Mt. Evans Elk Management Area, north of Bakerville, north of Empire, and south of Downieville. State Agency-owned lands include the Colorado Division of Wildlife's Mt. Evans Elk Management Area and Bergen Peak State Wildlife Area west of Evergreen and the Georgetown Wildlife Management Area near Georgetown. These lands are shown more specifically on the included map (Exhibit A).

Local CSFS personnel will respond as needed and available to wildfires on State lands when called by Clear Creek County. This activity is to offset suppression costs incurred by the County on State Land. Such response will be at no cost to the County, except as provided for by other agreements. CSFS personnel will respond to these requests to provide overhead (management) and Unified Command support functions.

B. Mutual Aid Dispatch Areas by Dispatch Levels

All dispatches will be made based on the closest forces capable of responding to the incident.

C. Mutual Aid Move-up and Cover Facilities

Move-up and cover facilities have not been predetermined; however, the mechanism is in place for fire protection districts, municipal departments and volunteer fire departments to cover each other through the "Intergovernmental Agreement for Mutual Aid Between Fire Departments" for Clear Creek County signed by the participant fire departments (Attachment 5).

D. Special Management Considerations

Suppression within areas designated by USFS as Prescription Fire Strategy, as designated on the maps included as EXHIBITS A or B or by the appropriate agency, will not be conducted without direct orders from the jurisdictional federal official. The USFS must be notified as soon as practical of all fires on or threatening National Forest lands.

Use of mechanized, earthmoving equipment such as bulldozers, graders, etc., will not be permitted on the following lands without the expressed approval of the appropriate agencies (shown in parentheses):

- all federal lands (USFS)
- Denver Mountain Parks (CSFS)
- Denver Water Board (CSFS)
- City of Golden Watershed (CSFS)

The Colorado State Forest Service must be notified as soon as practical of all wildfires occurring on lands belonging to Denver Mountain Parks, Denver Water Board, and the City of Golden Watershed. The initial attack agency must do this in order to receive reimbursement for fire-fighting costs (as outlined in Section 13).

E. Responsibility for Non-Wildland Fire Emergencies

Non-wildland fire emergencies are the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency, whether this be fire protection district, municipality, county, state or federal government.

F. Repair of Wildfire Suppression Damage

Repair of wildfire suppression damage is the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency, unless otherwise agreed to by the unified command at the time of fire close out.

NOTE: The State Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) is not a rehabilitation fund. Wildfire rehabilitation may be authorized by the CSFS Line Officer only when this is part of the suppression action.

6. FIRE PROTECTION RESOURCE LIST -

Wildland firefighting resources in Clear Creek are developing and subject to frequent change. Contact the appropriate agency as shown in item E for current information desired for items "A" through "D" below.

- A. Kind (by ICS type)**
- B. Location**
- C. Anticipated Availability Period**
- D. Staffing Levels**

- E. Contact Points and Names**

Federal Agency Resources (not including Military) - Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (hereafter referred to as **FIDC** in this plan), (970) 498-1348. FIDC maintains a list of resources currently available through the Interagency Dispatch System.

CSFS Fire Resources - Golden Fire Duty Officer: Office (303) 279-9757; Fire Line (303) 279-2011; Pager (303) 855-0119 or (303)-855-0118.

Clear Creek County Resources (*with the exception of those listed below*) - Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office Dispatch: (303) 679-2393 or (303)-679-2394.

Evergreen Fire Protection District Resources (*may also be contacted through Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office Dispatch*) Dispatch Office: (303)-674-2323; Emergency: (303)-674-3411.

7. PROTECTION AREAS

- A. Jurisdictional Agency, Protection Unit, County boundary, Area of Responsibility and Other Plan Needs.**

The Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest maps (EXHIBIT B), and the Clear Creek County Fire District Map (EXHIBIT A) are used to show jurisdictional boundaries for the purpose of this plan. The Clear Creek County Sheriff shall assume charge or assist in controlling wildfires on state and private lands within Clear Creek County. Private land will be considered to mean all non-governmental owned land. Federal agencies are ultimately responsible for fire control on their lands within Clear Creek County.

1. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS (CSFS)

When a wildfire occurs on lands owned by Denver (Denver Mountain Parks or Denver Water Board), or the City of Golden Watershed, the CSFS-Golden Fire Duty Officer (FDO) **must** be notified. The CSFS FDO will respond, at his discretion, to serve as the landowner's representative on the incident and to facilitate reimbursement. CSFS will not take over the wildfire unless requested by the jurisdictional agency. Agencies responsible for suppression of fires occurring on these lands have been predetermined and agreed upon prior to the start of each fire season.

2. USDA FOREST SERVICE LANDS: ARAPAHO-ROOSEVELT NATIONAL FOREST

Within Clear Creek County, the Clear Creek Ranger Districts, Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest, will perform initial attack on all wildfires clearly within or threatening National Forest Lands. This includes that portion of the Pike National Forest falling within Clear Creek County. To dispatch initial attack resources, contact Fort Collins Dispatch Center (FTC) at (970) 498-1348, (970)-490-5291 (Pager). For a secondary option call the Clear Creek Ranger District at (303) 567-2901; Ed Guzman at 303-541-2524; Dave Buchanan at (303)-441-3851 x 5962 (pager); or the Boulder Ranger District at (303) 541-2500.

B. Fire Protection Facilities by Agency and Location

The locations of Fire Protection facilities will be shown in a map to be developed by the cooperating agencies, utilizing GIS capabilities, and designated as EXHIBIT C.

C. Direct Protection Areas

•Not Applicable in Clear Creek County.

D. Mutual Aid Dispatch Areas

Mutual Aid Dispatch will occur as requested by the responding agencies as covered by the "Intergovernmental Agreement for Mutual Aid Between Fire Departments" for Clear Creek County (Attachment 5).

E. Special Management Consideration Areas

Suppression within areas designated by USFS as Prescription Fire Strategy, as designated on the maps included as EXHIBITS A or B or by the appropriate agency, will not be conducted without direct orders from the jurisdictional federal official. The USFS must be notified as soon as practical of all fires on or threatening National Forest lands.

When a wildfire occurs on lands owned by Denver (Denver Mountain Parks or Denver Water Board), or the City of Golden Watershed, the CSFS-Golden Fire Duty Officer **must** be notified. This officer will respond, at his discretion, to serve as the landowner's representative on the incident and to facilitate reimbursement. CSFS will not take over the wildfire unless requested by the jurisdictional agency. Agencies responsible for suppression of fires occurring on these lands have been predetermined and agreed upon prior to the start of each fire season.

F. Date Effective

Fire district boundaries and station locations shown in Exhibits A and C will be the most current information available. Clear Creek County's Geographic Information Systems department will update these maps, as requested by the Sheriff's Office, for inclusion in this AOP. The USDA Forest Service will annually provide copies of the most current National Forest maps and land ownership patterns for inclusion in this AOP.

8. FIRE READINESS -

A. Fire Planning

1. PRESUPPRESSION ANALYSIS PLANS

Pre-attack plans are being developed on a case-by-case basis for individual subdivisions within Clear Creek County. The CSFS and responsible fire departments work cooperatively to prepare and update these plans as appropriate. These plans are on file with the fire departments.

2. TRIGGER POINTS FOR INCREASE/DECREASE IN MANNING/READINESS

The Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (FIDC) obtains daily forest fire danger ratings and manning class predictions. Fire danger and weather information can be obtained through the following Internet Website:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/arnf/fire/fire.html>

Cooperators without Internet access can request this information be faxed to them by contacting FIDC at (970)-498-1348. This information is regional in nature (covering the entire northern Front Range in the case of Clear Creek County) and based upon fire monitoring occurring mostly outside the county boundaries.

Fire Danger Ratings are transmitted by the USFS Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest over its direct radio channel at approximately 4:00 pm daily. Fire Weather Forecasts are broadcast at approximately 10:00 am daily. The availability of the Single Engine Air Tanker and other wildland fire resources (see Section 10) are broadcast at approximately 10:00 am daily.

For the purposes of informing the public, **Manning Classes** (also known as Staffing classes among Federal agencies) will be translated to adjective classes as follows:

Manning Class I	=	Low
Manning Class II	=	Moderate
Manning Class III	=	High
Manning Class IV	=	Very High
Manning Class V	=	Extreme
Red Flag Alert	=	Red Flag Alert

a. FIRE DANGER RATINGS AND EXPECTED FIRE BEHAVIOR:

* LOW - Fires do not start readily from most accidental causes, though many lightning fires may start in some areas during low-danger periods. Fires which do start generally spread slowly, and there is little tendency to "spot". They often do not burn clean, but spread in irregular fingers.

* MODERATE - Fires can start from most accidental causes, but the number of starts is generally low. The rate of spread of fires is moderate; heavy concentrations of fuel will burn hot, and there may be some spotting. Control of fires under these conditions usually presents no special problems.

* HIGH - Fires will start easily from most causes. Fires will burn hot, spread rapidly, and will spot readily. Control of fires may become difficult, unless there is aggressive initial attack while they are small.

* VERY HIGH - Fires start easily from most causes. Fires will develop fast and can be spread rapidly with considerable spotting. Direct attack on the head of the fire may not be possible. Control may be difficult if initial attack is not successful.

* EXTREME - Fires start easily from all causes and may be started by unusual or unexpected causes. Fires burn intensely and spread rapidly. Direct attack is rarely possible except when fires are still small. The running heads of large fires are usually uncontrollable while the extreme danger period lasts and most effective control work must be confined to the flanks of the fires and to well-planned strategy.

* RED FLAG WARNING - This warning is issued by the National Weather Service when short-term weather conditions are predicted that will cause erratic fire behavior. These conditions include very low humidity, high winds, and "dry" lightning activity. Initial attack may require additional or air support under these conditions. Red Flag Warnings may be preceded by "Fire Weather Watches" that are also issued by the National Weather Service.

3. PREVENTION PLANS

The Colorado State Forest Service is available to assist Clear Creek County and individual fire departments in developing wildfire prevention and mitigation measures. CSFS can dedicate professional staff as "Mitigation Coordinators" to these tasks if funding can be provided from local sources. These positions are often used to develop an annual public education plan for wildfire mitigation and prevention, as well as coordination of these activities with local fire departments.

4. PRESCRIBED FIRE PLANS

The USFS, BLM, CSFS and all other land management agencies (and fire departments) agree to cooperate in the development and implementation of prescribed burning programs and projects. Agencies and fire departments conducting prescribed fire activities will report their prescribed fire activities to the Sheriff's Office dispatch, FIDC, the fire protection district within which the fire is occurring, and to each other. In

addition, the Sheriff will maintain a record of all controlled burning activities occurring on private lands. Each agency or department will be responsible for obtaining any burn permit necessary at the county, state, or federal levels for their individual burns. Fire departments should also inform the CSFS if they are conducting prescribed burn activities.

Wildfires resulting from escaped prescribed fires ignited by a party to this Agreement on lands it manages, shall be the responsibility of that party. The party responsible for the prescribed fire will reimburse other parties to this Agreement consistent with the terms and conditions contained herein, for costs incurred in suppression of such wildfires.

If parties to this Agreement conduct a cooperative prescribed fire, details covering cost sharing, reimbursement, and responsibility for suppression costs, should it escape, shall be agreed upon and documented in the burn plan. Burn plans will be prepared using **CSFS Form # 170 - Prescribed Burn Plan** (Exhibit L), or a cooperating agency's equivalent format.

A party may take appropriate suppression action when lands under its protection are involved in or threatened by the escaped wildfire. Such suppression action may be taken on its own initiative or at the request of the responsible party. A party may take appropriate suppression action, at the request of the responsible party, when lands under its protection jurisdiction are not involved in or threatened by the wildfire.

B. Wildfire Training Needs and Coordination

Each agency shall be responsible for the training of its own personnel; however, cooperating agencies will advise each other of planned training sessions and issue invitations to participate. All agencies and fire departments are encouraged to utilize all available avenues for wildland fire training, be it from federal, state, or local agencies.

Safety of personnel involved in an incident is critical. Therefore, it is the stated goal of the participating agencies in this Annual Operating Plan to have all personnel that may be involved in suppressing wildland fires meet the following minimum standard: training of all wildland firefighters in the accepted standard curriculum of Basic Wildland Fire Operations (S-130), Basic Wildland Fire Behavior (S-190), and the Standards for Survival short course; and an annual passing grade level at the "Arduous" physical fitness level.

Each agency will be responsible for providing personal protective gear for their personnel; however, cooperating agencies may assist by supplying specific equipment needs for an individual incident. It is understood that suppression forces operating on **Federal lands** must be equipped with personal protective equipment (PPE), and for **any work beyond the mutual aid period must be Red Carded**, as specified in the current Federal policy (such as FSM 5130.3 and 5135.1).

1. **REGIONAL WILDLAND FIRE TRAINING**
Wildland fire training is available at the local, regional and state levels. The CSFS and USFS assist counties and local fire departments in planning and executing wildland fire training. The Jefferson County Fire Council and CSFS-Golden District sponsor an annual schedule of wildland fire training that is open to any interested wildland firefighters. Wildland fire training is also available annually in the region (Colorado), through: the Colorado Wildfire Academy; Great Plains Wildfire College; and other county level training programs, such as Boulder County. Contact the CSFS-Golden District office for the most lists of wildland fire training available within the region.
2. **INTERAGENCY WILDLAND FIRE QUALIFICATION CARDS (RED CARDS)**
The CSFS-Golden District will be responsible for approving all Red Cards to be issued to Clear Creek County wildland firefighters, and ensuring NWCG standards are met for S- and I- series classes offered by Clear Creek County or local fire departments.

C. Inspection Schedules for Fire Equipment

All CSFS State Agreement engines placed with local cooperators will be inspected annually by the CSFS - Golden District to ensure maintenance, proper use, and road worthiness. USFS will be responsible for inspection of VFD, FPD, municipal department and county engines prior to, or during, their use on wildland incidents on their lands.

Local fire department mechanics that are certified through interagency courses may be also be utilized for fire equipment inspections by CSFS and USFS. CSFS and FIDC will maintain a list of local mechanics that are currently certified to interagency standards for fire equipment inspections and contract management.

9. WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION PROCEDURES -

A. ICS Use

The Incident Command System (ICS) will be utilized on all fires. ICS is a standardized method of managing emergency incidents. It manages small, routine daily incidents as well as large, complex, multi-jurisdictional disasters. It is based upon:

- **A common organizational structure**
- **Common terminology**
- **Common operating procedures**
- **Known qualifications of emergency personnel**

Because ICS reduces confusion and uncertainty in the early phases of an incident, it increases the efficiency and effectiveness of fire protection and suppression actions.

With ICS, transition from a routine incident to a major emergency is orderly and requires a minimum of adjustment for any agency. In its largest application, it may include several thousand people without compromising effective supervision. ICS does not infringe on the routine, daily responsibilities or authority given each agency by statute. But, if a transfer of authority is necessary as conditions change, ICS eases the transition since organizational structure and lines of authority are clearly identified. Because the potential always exists that a fire may escape initial attack and grow to the point that a local, state, or interagency management team may be needed, Clear Creek County plans to use ICS to ease the transfer of authority and control of the incident. A full ICS incident organizational chart is shown at the end of this section.

Incident Command System positions on large or complex incidents may be filled with resources from outside Clear Creek County. Incident Management Teams (IMTs) may be ordered to manage an incident, according to the incident complexity and needs, and as more fully described below. All Clear Creek County requests for IMTs should start through the Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center.

1. UNIFIED COMMAND

The cooperating agencies for this Plan will utilize a Unified Command structure on all incidents where more than one agency or jurisdiction is involved. The Unified Command structure will include one representative from each agency or jurisdiction responsible for the incident or the lands involved.

2. INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAMS

For the initial phases of a developing incident, the Clear Creek County IMT (local, type 4) may be requested. Clear Creek Emergency Management is identifying and organizing a cadre of IMT members from local agencies to quickly form this IMT. This local IMT will be requested through Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center.

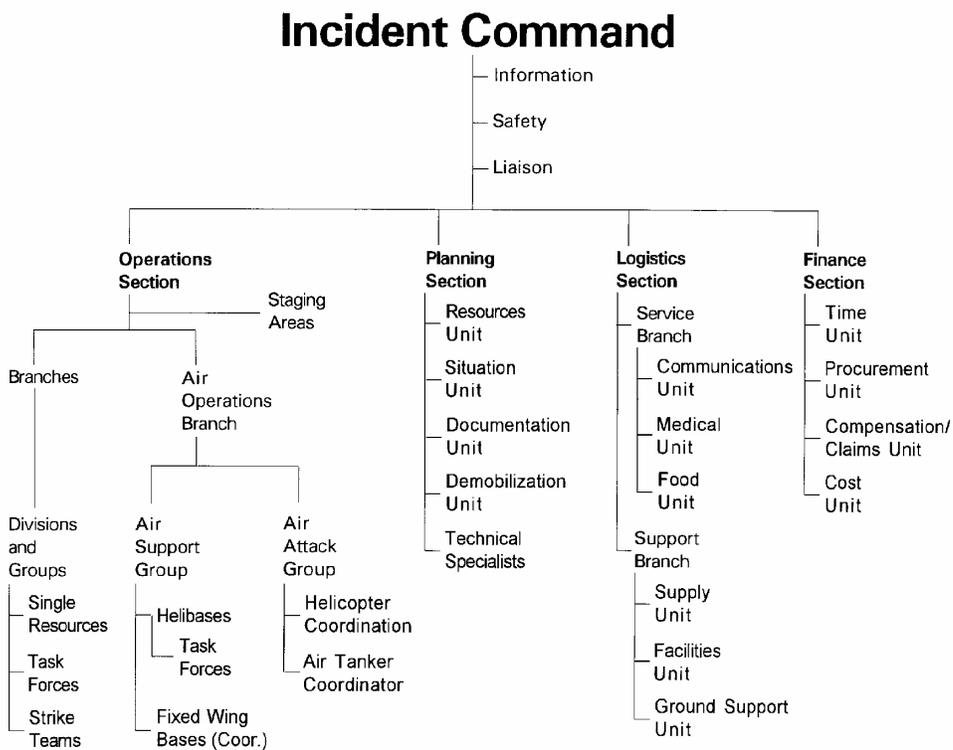
A Type 3 (local, extended attack) IMT is organized and dispatched for the Northern Front Range through Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (FIDC). This cadre is staffed by NWCG qualified personnel at the Type 3 level from federal, state, and county agencies in

the FIDC zone. This IMT is available to assist all jurisdictional agencies within the FIDC zone, and is available to staff an incident for up to 7 days. The Type 3 IMT can be used to handle the coordination of medium-sized incidents, or to serve as an interim team on larger incidents before a Type II or Type I IMT can assume management duties. The Standard Operating Procedures for the Northern Front Range IMT3 are included in this AOP as Exhibit Q.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office has identified a cadre of personnel from various local agencies who are available to staff the Jefferson County Incident Management Team. The Jefferson County IMT can be requested by the Clear Creek County Sheriff or Evergreen FPD on a direct mutual aid request to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.

For incidents that exceed the capability of Type 4 or Type 3 IMTs, the Rocky Mountain Coordinating Group maintains one Type 1 (National) IMT and two Type 2 (Regional) IMTs through the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center (RMACC). If the Type 1 and Type 2 IMTs are not available within the area, then requests will be filled through the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC). All Clear Creek County requests for Type 2 or Type 1 IMTs must be placed through FIDC.

3. ICS INCIDENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Incident Command System

4. CICS FIRES MODES

In Colorado, ICS mode numbers are used to describe the degree of mobilization occurring in response to fire situations. Dispatchers and/or on-scene commanders are responsible to announce various modes as they see a situation change.

Fire modes are a numerical classification system of ranging from 0 to 4, used to quickly describe an incident and predetermine necessary dispatch and support actions. Size and complexity of each incident determines its mode class. The principal jurisdictional agency has responsibility for identifying each incident's mode. Incident Commanders will ensure that modes are communicated to the Sheriff's Dispatch and assisting and cooperating agencies.

Fire modes:

- describe suppression activities so needed support can be activated;
- guide central dispatchers to take action or make choices outlined for each mode;
- identify key changes in a situation;
- describe the entire county (or counties) situation for multiple fires/incidents.

5. CLEAR CREEK COUNTY FIRE MODES

Mode O: Routine fire operations within city or town boundaries, or a routine structural response within a rural fire protection district. The preplanned fire agency response is adequate; there is no significant impact on local resources, and no back-up alerting of State or Federal resources is required.

Mode 1: Routine wildland emergency response. No significant impact on local resources. No alerting of back-up elements is necessary. Normally involves only one agency but may require minimum cooperation or support from another response agency. The supervisor of the initial elements of the principal responding agency will normally act as Incident Commander (IC) in accordance with that agency's normal procedures. The IC should establish a command post so communications and coordination between the IC and assisting or cooperating agencies can be established. Requirements for additional resources are channeled through the IC.
The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is not opened

Mode 2: Routine wildland emergency which exceeds the capacities of on-scene personnel and equipment, involves multiple response agencies, and requires mutual aid support and preliminary alerting of County and State resources. The ICS is implemented and the Principal Response Agency will designate the IC, who will establish an Incident Command Post (ICP). **Decision made whether or not to open the EOC.** Requirements for additional resources are channeled through the IC, to the EOC, if it is opened, or to each individual agency. **Local Type III IMT notified of potential need at the incident. CSFS FDO notified of incident and potential need for further state assistance.**

Mode 3: Magnitude of the incident exceeds the capabilities of routinely available mutual

aid and requires **full mobilization of county resources**. Principal Response Agency designates IC. **ICP is opened. EOC is opened. Local Type 3 IMT is requested, with possible transition to a State or Interagency IMT. CSFS FDO is requested. CSFS State Office is notified of potential Emergency Fire Fund Fire situation**, and information for the EFF ANALYSIS FORM, CSFS FORM #108A, is collected. (See this form in Appendix G.) **CSFS Line Officer notified of potential need to respond to the incident.**

Mode 4: **Situation exceeds available county resources** and requires substantial mobilization of out-of-county, State and/or Federal resources. **ICP and EOC open. ICS is fully implemented. Local Type III IMT is requested, with likely transition to a State or Interagency IMT. CSFS FDO is requested. CSFS State Office is notified of imminent Emergency Fire Fund request; EFF Analysis Form information is provided. CSFS Line Officer requested to the incident.**

B. Detection

Aerial detection flights should be coordinated by FIDC, unless they involve the Jeffco Sheriff's air resources - which would need to be coordinated through the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office dispatch. All agencies will cooperate in taking smoke reports from any source and obtaining as much information as possible from the reporting party and passing it along to the appropriate jurisdictional agency.

C. Local Mobilization Guides

The Clear Creek Ranger District, Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest, and FIDC, maintain contractor lists for services. These information sources may be useful to the county for obtaining government and private sector wildland fire resources.

Clear Creek County Emergency Services District has contractor lists for services (through its Emergency Operations Plan). This office should be contacted for aid in obtaining a variety of emergency resources. The contact numbers are 303-679-2320, or through the Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office Dispatch (303)-697-2393.

D. Notification About Wildfires

The responsible jurisdiction must be notified of wildfires on or threatening their lands as soon as possible after the arrival of initial attack forces. **Notification of the jurisdictional agency will be made by the Dispatch Center handling the initial attack fire forces.**

NOTE: The Colorado State Forest Service must be notified as soon as practical of all fires occurring on lands belonging to Denver Mountain Parks, Denver Water Board, Jefferson County Open Space, and the City of Golden Watershed. The initial attack agency must do this in order to receive reimbursement for fire-fighting costs (as outlined in Unit 13). The USFS must be notified as soon as practical of all fires on or threatening National Forest lands.

1. FIRE CAUSE AND ORIGIN

Although an assisting agency may have a fire extinguished upon arrival of the jurisdictional agency's forces, the jurisdictional agency should discuss the fire with the assisting agency to aid in the investigation and take steps to:

*preserve the point of origin

*preserve all clues that may relate to the cause

*note all traffic leaving the area as they arrive, to include vehicle descriptions and license numbers

E. **Mutual Aid Dispatch Areas**

Fire protection districts exist within Clear Creek County as shown in Exhibit A-1. These zones are normally considered in determining jurisdictional and operational responsibility for all emergency responses - however, an assisting agency may, at times, take initial attack action on fires located on lands under another agency's jurisdiction. The primary criteria for this type of initial attack, is that the agency which is in the best position at the time the fire is reported, should take the most rapid and effective action. For all initial attack activities, each agency will assume responsibility for its own expenses during the first full operational period (up to approximately 12 hours), **unless other payment arrangements are agreed upon by the involved agencies for a particular fire. Initial attack activities are also subject to all existing mutual aid, reciprocal aid, and automatic aid agreements between the involved agencies.**

Within Clear Creek County, there are areas of intermingled Federal and private lands. Within this area of intermingled lands, plus any lands within one mile of the accepted Federal land boundary, the responding agency will inform the appropriate jurisdictional agency of reported fires. A representative of that agency will respond to fires threatening their lands, or as requested by the initial attack agency. This zone will be called the **Federal Response Zone**.

Unless it is clearly and mutually understood that one agency will promptly attack and follow through on all necessary actions within a specific area, it shall be agreed in policy that all attack agencies shall send forces promptly to start suppression action on all fires within the **Federal Response Zone**. It shall be the responsibility of the agency making the initial attack to notify other agencies if their lands are involved or threatened.

Each agency may make its manpower and equipment available upon request to other agencies for fires **not** meeting the **Federal Response Zone** fire protection criteria. For such fires, the jurisdictional agency may reimburse the assisting agency for costs, subject to all agreements concerning mutual aid or other applicable standards. It is understood however, that no agency will be required or expected to commit its forces to assisting another agency to the extent of jeopardizing the security of its own lands.

In the event that agencies are engaged in initial attack for a fire upon or near common suppression zone boundaries, the ranking officers of each agency shall convene during the first burning period to mutually agree upon the fire control strategy and appoint an Incident Commander. If it is

resolved that the fire area is entirely confined to one or the other agency's area of responsibility, then the ranking officer of the jurisdictional agency shall assume the responsibility of appointing an Incident Commander.

It shall be the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency to acquire and dispatch any needed replacements to relieve initial attack crews of assisting agencies at the earliest practical time after their arrival on the fire. For wildfires which fall within the Clear Creek County Emergency Services District (and outside of the Evergreen Fire Protection District and USFS ownership), the Clear Creek Sheriff's Office wildland crew and equipment ("Timber Team") will be requested to replace all Clear Creek County Fire Authority resources as soon as feasible.

Once assisting and jurisdictional crews have a fire controlled, it shall be mutually agreed as to what additional mop-up and patrol is necessary, and when assisting agencies will leave the fire.

For fires within the **Federal Response Zone**, each agency will assume responsibility for its own expenses during the first full operational period (up to approximately 12 hours), **unless other payment arrangements are agreed upon by the involved agencies for a particular fire.** **Initial attack activities are also subject to all existing mutual aid, reciprocal aid, and automatic aid agreements between the involved agencies.** If after being notified, the jurisdictional agency does not respond to the fire, then the assisting agency may request reimbursement for **all** costs incurred for suppressing the fire.

F. Initial Attack Dispatch Levels and Their Determination

Each agency will assume responsibility for its own expenses during the first full operational period (up to approximately 12 hours), **unless other payment arrangements are agreed upon by the involved agencies for a particular fire.** **Initial attack activities are also subject to all existing mutual aid, reciprocal aid, and automatic aid agreements between the involved agencies.** The following wildland response guide will be used to determine minimum reimbursement (if applicable) to a cooperating agency prior to the arrival of the benefiting agency. Reimbursement may be adjusted upward according to site-specific fire conditions after consultation among participating agencies.

MANNING CLASS	INITIAL RESPONSE - ENGINES	INITIAL RESPONSE – FIREFIGHTERS
I	1 engine	3 persons with tools
II	1 engine	3 persons with tools
III	1 engine	5 persons with tools
IV	1 engine	8 persons with tools
V	2 engines; or 1 engine and 1 water tender	12 persons with tools

Initial response agencies should dispatch those forces it deems appropriate for the place and

conditions of the wildfire. Response forces should be further adjusted from the scene as warranted by the initial attack incident commander. Actual reimbursement will consider values at risk, actual wildfire behavior, and the proficiency of the firefighting force. For wildfires which fall within the Clear Creek County Emergency Services District (and outside of the Evergreen Fire Protection District and USFS ownership), the Clear Creek Sheriff's Office wildland crew and equipment ("Timber Team") will be requested to replace all Clear Creek County Fire Authority resources as soon as feasible.

It is understood that suppression forces operating on **Federal lands** should meet minimum Federal Standards for personal protective equipment (PPE) and training (ref. USFS Health & Safety Code and NWCG Standards). All incident personnel should be qualified and equipped according to NWCG standards for the position they are assigned to. All personnel not meeting these standards (during the initial attack period or into extended attack periods) will clear the incident once: the jurisdictional Federal agency takes control of the incident; properly qualified personnel are available as replacements; or the Incident Commander determines that the personnel cannot be utilized in an appropriate fashion on the incident, per **current wildland fire Federal policy (such as 5130.3 and 5135.1)**.

G. Dispatching and Resource Order Process

All requests for, and dispatches of, resources should utilize both local and interagency mobilization guides.

During periods of multiple wildfires along the northern Front Range, the utilization and assignment of interagency resources will be coordinated by the Fort Collins Dispatch Center Multi-Agency Coordination Group ("MAC Group"). Procedures for the MAC Group are included in Exhibit P of this AOP. The Clear Creek Sheriff will serve (or have a representative) on the MAC Group for decisions about which incident(s) in Clear Creek County will receive resources.

Assistance requests for Clear Creek County wildland fire resources will be made by local cooperators through the Sheriff's Office. Requests for Clear Creek County fire resources not coming from **local cooperators** should be made through Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (FIDC), and will be subject to the approval of the Sheriff's Office (also representing the Board of County Commissioners), unless inter-county agreements are already in existence. The CSFS FDO will be notified of all such requests as soon as possible.

County requests for Federal fire forces **other than local initial attack resources** will be made by those persons authorized (see Section 9.6.1 for County agents). Such requests will be routed through FIDC. The CSFS FDO will be notified of all such requests as soon as possible.

Requests for State Agency assistance, **other than CSFS-Golden District support**, will be made through the Colorado State Forest Service by contacting the CSFS-Golden FDO or FIDC.

When CSFS and USFS local resources are involved in wildfire suppression activities on State and private lands in Clear Creek County, they will notify FIDC. CSFS resources will also notify their

State Office Fire Duty Officer.

On wildfires for which Clear Creek County assumes charge or assists in suppression, CSFS will provide technical assistance upon the County's request. This technical support may include suppression, logistics, planning, and other necessary duties, including fire weather forecast information and interpretation. Such requests should be made through the Sheriff's Dispatch to the CSFS-Golden FDO.

Any agency within Clear Creek County may order interagency wildland fire resources as needed or desired. All orders will be processed immediately by the appropriate dispatch center – for Clear Creek County and Evergreen FPD, all orders will go through the Sheriff's Office Dispatch to FIDC; for USFS and CSFS, all orders will go directly to FIDC.

Interagency wildland fire resource orders within Clear Creek County that are not covered by prior agreements may obligate the Clear Creek County Sheriff for the resources' costs under the Interagency Fire Suppression agreement between CSFS and the Sheriff. All county or local orders for interagency wildland fire resources may be at the requesting agency's expense, unless the designated County officials approve the resource orders for county payment. In Clear Creek County, the following people (**in order of priority and availability**) have authority to approve county payment for interagency wildland fire resource orders:

1. PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO ORDER REIMBURSABLE FIRE SUPPRESSION RESOURCES ON BEHALF OF CLEAR CREEK COUNTY (in order of priority, based upon immediate availability)

- Sheriff Don Krueger
- Under Sheriff Stu Nay
- Lieutenant Rick Albers
- Any Member of the Board of County Commissioners
- Clear Creek Fire Authority Chief, within district only.
- Chief or District Manager, Evergreen FPD, within district only.
- CSFS Personnel serving as FIRE DUTY OFFICERS on active fires.

Requests for State Agency assistance, including requests for CSFS engines assigned to county fire protection districts, will be made through the CSFS-Golden FDO or FIDC.

2. UNIFIED COMMAND
The cooperating agencies for this Plan will utilize a Unified Command structure on all incidents where more than one agency or jurisdiction is involved. The Unified Command structure will include one representative from each agency or jurisdiction responsible for the incident or the lands involved.
3. BOUNDARY FIRES
Each jurisdictional agency (including the Federal government) has ultimate responsibility for wildland fire protection on its own lands. Fire protection zones within the county have been established as shown on the included map (Exhibit A). These zones are normally for initial attack purposes only, but an assisting agency (or fire department)

may, at times, take initial attack action on wildfires located on lands under another's jurisdiction. The primary criteria for this type of initial attack is that **the agency which is in the best position at the time the wildfire is reported will take the most rapid and effective action to respond.** For all initial attack, each agency will assume responsibility for its own expenses during the first full operational period (up to approximately 12 hours), **unless other payment arrangements are agreed upon by the involved agencies for a particular fire. Initial attack activities are also subject to all existing mutual aid, reciprocal aid, and automatic aid agreements between the involved agencies.** For wildfires which fall within the Clear Creek County Emergency Services District (and outside of the Evergreen Fire Protection District and USFS ownership), the Clear Creek Sheriff's Office wildland crew and equipment ("Timber Team") will be requested to replace all Clear Creek County Fire Authority resources as soon as feasible.

In the event that agencies are engaged in initial attack for a fire upon or near common suppression zone boundaries, the ranking officers of each agency shall convene during the first burning period to mutually agree upon the fire control strategy and appoint an Incident Commander. If it is resolved that the fire area is entirely confined to one or the other agency's area of responsibility, then the ranking officer of the jurisdictional agency shall assume the responsibility of appointing an Incident Commander.

Fires within the **Federal Response Zone** will be suppressed according to procedures spelled out within Section 9. E. (Mutual Aid Dispatch Areas).

H. Reinforcements and Support

It shall be the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency to acquire and dispatch any needed replacements to relieve initial attack crews of assisting agencies at the earliest practical time after their arrival on the fire. Procedures in Section 9. G. (Dispatching and Resource Order Process) will also apply for Reinforcements (Extended Attack). For wildfires which fall within the Clear Creek County Emergency Services District (and outside of the Evergreen Fire Protection District and USFS ownership), the Clear Creek Sheriff's Office wildland crew and equipment ("Timber Team") will be requested to replace all Clear Creek County ESD resources as soon as feasible.

Once assisting and jurisdictional crews have a fire controlled, it shall be mutually agreed as to what additional mop-up and patrol is necessary, and when assisting agencies will leave the fire. For fires within Clear Creek County, each agency will assume responsibility for its own expenses during the first full operational period (up to approximately 12 hours), **unless other payment arrangements are agreed upon by the involved agencies for a particular fire. Initial attack activities are also subject to all existing mutual aid, reciprocal aid, and automatic aid agreements between the involved agencies.** If after being notified, the jurisdictional agency does not respond to the fire, then the assisting agency may request reimbursement for **all** costs incurred for suppressing the fire.

1. LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Traffic control will be coordinated by the county Sheriff, upon request, to expedite the routing of vehicles and personnel to and from major fires, and to exclude unauthorized personnel from the fire area.

It will be the responsibility of the agency upon whose land the fire originates to initiate law enforcement action. When initial attack is made by other than the jurisdictional agency, the assisting agency will immediately gather and preserve information and evidence pertaining to the cause of the fire for the jurisdictional agency.

In the case of any restrictions on open burning or public activities because of extreme fire danger, either by Governor's proclamation or by local issue, the county Sheriff will be responsible for enforcement of these restrictions on all non-federal lands, and may assist on other lands at the request of the appropriate agency.

I. Move-up and Cover Locations and Procedures

Mutual Aid Dispatch will occur as requested by the responding agencies as covered by the "Intergovernmental Agreement for Mutual Aid Between Fire Departments" for Clear Creek County (Attachment 5). Locations and procedures appropriate for wildland fire incidents will be developed by the agencies signing this AOP, and incorporated as an Exhibit when they become available.

For wildfires which fall within the Clear Creek County Emergency Services District (and outside of the Evergreen Fire Protection District and USFS ownership), the Clear Creek Sheriff's Office wildland crew and equipment ("Timber Team") will be requested to replace all Clear Creek County Fire Authority resources as soon as feasible.

J. Interagency procurement, loaning, sharing, or exchanging and maintenance of facilities, equipment, and support services

Non-federal participants in this plan may purchase wildfire suppression supplies from GSA through CSFS. Any other loaning, sharing, exchanging, or maintenance of facilities, equipment, or support services will be considered on a case by case basis and must be mutually agreed upon by the concerned parties.

K. Interagency Sharing of Communications Systems and Frequencies

All agencies signing this agreement authorize use of their radio frequencies (**see Exhibit H**) by other agency personnel **for emergency purposes only**, except as shown on the radio frequency list, or in any other agreements.

1. COMMUNICATION RESOURCES

Local Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) personnel – more commonly known as "HAM" radio operators - may be requested to support initial attack and extended attack on

wildfires within Clear Creek County. Local ARES groups in Jefferson County and surrounding counties are trained and equipped with the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for use on wildland fires. The ordering agency is responsible for ensuring insurance coverage (such as accidental death and dismemberment or greater coverage, similar to search and rescue operations) during the involvement of these volunteers on their incidents.

Requests for local ARES personnel and radio equipment should be made through the Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office Dispatch or Evergreen FPD Dispatch. Such requests will be routed to the appropriate contacts.

L. Wildland Fire Situation Analysis

Federal agencies are required to complete a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) on all wildfires on federal land that escape initial attack to determine the appropriate response. This procedure requires federal agency unit administrator participation. All agencies involved in initial attack on federal land will assist in the completion of the WFSA.

CSFS requires an Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) Analysis Form (CSFS #108A as shown in EXHIBIT G) to be prepared on non-federal wildfires that have the potential to exceed county control capabilities. The Sheriff should use this form to help determine if a wildfire might be eligible for EFF. CSFS may also elect to complete a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) on fires on private and state lands that escape initial attack to determine the appropriate response. All agencies involved in extended attack on private and state lands will assist in the completion of the WFSA.

M. State Emergency Fire Fund (EFF)

The Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) may be used to assist counties with whom the Colorado State Forest Service has signed an "**Emergency Fund Contract Agreement for Watershed Fire Control**", and who have paid their latest annual assessment. The fund will be used only for approved wildfire suppression and control activities. **The State Forester, or his representative, is the only person authorized to approve and implement the fund.**

1. INTENT OF EFF

Clear Creek County is a current participant in the EFF Agreement with CSFS. As a participant to this agreement, the State agrees to come to the aid of **Clear Creek County** should suppression resource needs exceed county capabilities. The County also participates in the Initial Air Attack Agreement which cost-shares aircraft usage for initial attack with CSFS.

When EFF is implemented, CSFS assumes responsibility and authority for all suppression activity until the wildfire is returned to county responsibility; however, the county must maintain a minimum level of participation in suppression activities after EFF is implemented, as outlined in section 9.M.6.

2. FUNDING OF EFF

The EFF is funded by an annual assessment of member counties. It is based upon a formula that considers the number of forested acres protected and the valuation of private lands within the county.

3. ROLES UNDER EFF

a. CSFS District Forester

The CSFS District Forester: acts for the State Forester in the absence of an assigned Incident Line Officer; assists the County Sheriff in completing the EFF Analysis Form (CSFS No. 108A) for each shift; prepares the CSFS Fire Funding Request (CSFS No. 164); and assures that the Incident Line Officer is aware of local situations and procedures.

b. Clear Creek County Sheriff

The County Sheriff: prepares the EFF Analysis Form (CSFS No. 108A) for potential EFF fires; signs Assumption of Fire Control Duty Form (CSFS No. 168) for fires that the State Forester approves for EFF; and serves as the County's representative on the Unified Command group.

c. County Agencies and Fire Resources

Other agencies will provide the Sheriff with personnel and equipment necessary to meet the minimum county resource commitment.

4. UNIFIED COMMAND

All EFF fires will utilize a Unified Command consisting of, at a minimum, the Clear Creek County Sheriff (or designated representative) and CSFS Line Officer. If land administered by another agency is threatened or involved, that agency will provide a

representative to the Unified Command.

5. EFF ACTIVATION

EFF can only be implemented upon request of Clear Creek County, and upon mutual agreement of both the County and CSFS. The local CSFS District Forester, or his representative, must recommend EFF implementation to the Colorado State Forester. Therefore, it is imperative that Clear Creek County notify the CSFS-Golden Fire Duty Officer immediately should an wildfire incident occur which has the potential to exceed county capabilities. This will allow time for a CSFS representative to travel to the incident.

Before requesting EFF implementation, the County must first complete the CSFS EFF Analysis Form, No. 108A. This will assist the CSFS representative to complete the CSFS Fire Funding Request form, No. 164. When the CSFS No. 108A and 164 are completed, the District Forester will contact the State Fire Duty Officer (FDO) or Fire Division Staff and relay the information collected. The District Forester will also make his recommendation on whether or not the situation warrants implementation of the fund.

When the required EFF information and the District Forester's recommendation are received at the State Office, the Fire Division Supervisor will be contacted, if available. If the Division Supervisor is not available, the first available Fire Division Staff member will be contacted by the FDO. If a Fire Division Staff member is not available, the FDO will take the implementation request directly to the State Forester.

The State Forester may give his decision directly to the requesting District Forester, or it may be relayed through the Fire Division or FDO. This decision will be documented in writing on the CSFS 164, or attachments as necessary.

Upon approval of EFF implementation, the State Forester will assign a CSFS Line Officer to the incident.

6. MINIMUM COUNTY COMMITMENT

When a wildfire is approved for EFF implementation within Clear Creek County, the following minimum wildfire suppression forces will be maintained, as much as it is possible, throughout the duration of the incident:

- Those forces from the Clear Creek County Fire Authority and/or Evergreen Fire Protection District (in which the incident is occurring), while still providing a minimal level of response for other, new incidents within that district.
- Those mutual aid forces that are normally used by the Clear Creek County Fire Authority and/or Evergreen Fire Protection District, without jeopardizing the ability of the assisting agencies to mount a reasonable response within their own jurisdiction (see **Attachment 5 - "Intergovernmental Agreement for Mutual Aid Between Fire Departments" for Clear Creek County**).

- The county Emergency operations Center (EOC) and Emergency Management staff, if available, and if appropriate, needed, and suitable to support the operation of the incident.
- Equipment and operators (such as bulldozers, road graders, water tenders) from the Road & Bridge Department, if available - and if appropriate, needed, and meeting specific safety/operational standards for the incident.
- Law enforcement and traffic control through the Sheriff's Department.
- Other county-owned equipment, personnel, and resources, as may be available and as mutually agreed upon between the county and the CSFS Line Officer, given the specific conditions and needs of the incident.

7. EFF DEACTIVATION

CSFS will transfer control of an EFF fire back to Clear Creek County and/or the applicable fire protection district when: fire spread is contained; the Line Officer's objectives have been met; and a written plan has been for the next operational (burning) period.

- a. Mop-up and patrol
The county and/or applicable fire protection district will be responsible for mop-up and patrol, after control of an EFF fire has been transferred back to the county and/or the applicable fire protection district from CSFS, according to an extended incident action plan (that includes the next burning period).
- b. Reclamation
The EFF can pay for waterbarring and reseeding control lines. All other reclamation work must be funded by the landowner or other sources.

N. Dispatch Centers or Other Incident Support Facilities

The Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (FIDC) will be the point of contact for Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office Dispatch and Evergreen FPD Dispatch notification of fires threatening or involving federal (USDA Forest Service or USDI Bureau of Land Management) lands. In addition, Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office Dispatch and Evergreen FPD Dispatch will be the contact points if CSFS assistance is requested for threatening fires on state and private property. The initial attack Incident Commander should advise the local dispatcher as to which agencies are to be notified.

Requests or orders for resources from outside Clear Creek County will be routed from the Clear Creek County Sheriff's Department and Evergreen FPD through FIDC, as covered by the procedures within Section G - Dispatching and Resource Order Process.

FIDC may be contacted at the following telephone numbers:

Business: (970) 498-1348
Pager: (970) 490-5291

The Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office Dispatch may be contacted at the following telephone numbers:

Business: (303) 697-2393, or (303)-697-2394
Emergency: 911

The Evergreen FPD Dispatch may be contacted at the following telephone numbers:

Business: (303)-674-2323
Emergency: 911, or (303)-674-3411

O. Post-incident Action Analysis

Analysis of incidents will be conducted at a level commensurate with the complexity of the incident.

P. Out-of-Jurisdiction Assignments

1. STANDARDS

Prior to dispatch out of the local jurisdictional / mutual aid areas (Clear Creek County), all wildland resources will meet minimum NWCG Standards for the type of resource requested. Equipment and personnel will not be dispatched outside of Clear Creek County without some prior agreement as to compensation, such as a Cooperative Resource Rate Form (CRRF) with the Colorado State Forest Service.

2. PROCEDURES

Requests for local resources by jurisdictions outside the FIDC service area will be made through FIDC. Any Clear Creek County agencies that receive direct requests from outside jurisdictions will notify FIDC of the request and their response to it. FIDC will coordinate and track the movement of Clear Creek County resources to interagency wildfire assignments, but not for mutual aid activities within the county.

10. AVIATION PROCEDURES

Requests for any and all aircraft use will come with the necessary information shown on the Aircraft Request Form, Exhibit F-1.

A. Aviation Map

Federal agencies have mapped aviation issues in their fire management action plans. Clear Creek County and CSFS have not developed such a map. Items 10.A.1-6. (listed below) will be addressed in the future development of such a map.

1. HAZARDS
2. SENSITIVE ZONES (urban-interface, aquatic, wilderness, etc.)
3. HELISPOTS, DIP SITES
4. AUTOMATIC DISPATCH ZONES (tied to preparedness planning)
5. DETECTION ROUTES
6. FOAM/RETARDANT RESTRICTION AREAS

B. Flight Following/Frequency Management

Note: There is a plan developed which identifies frequencies for specific areas of Colorado. This plan is located at each dispatch center.

Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (FIDC) will flight follow for all aircraft ordered through them. If radio communication problems develop, FIDC will coordinate with adjacent dispatch centers to provide flight following.

C. Call When Needed (CWN) Aircraft, Tactical and Support Aircraft.

1. LOCAL RESOURCES
Clear Creek County does not have any local aircraft resources at this time. Jefferson County, which borders Clear Creek County to the east, does not currently have a helicopter as part of its resources. Jefferson County does have two fixed-wing aircraft through the Sheriff's Office that may be available. The helicopter accessories used for wildland fire fighting may still be available - specifically a 125 gallon bucket, and a "Mop-up Module" including: two cargo nets; six cargo swivels; four 55-gallon water bags; and twenty 5-gallon back pack pump bags.

Requests, for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office's air resources, may be made by the Clear Creek County Sheriff directly to the Jefferson County Sheriff at 303-277-0211 or by radio. Requests to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, for any and all air resource use, will include all the information shown on the Aircraft Request Form, Exhibit F-1. **For air resource use outside of Jefferson County, approval must be given by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.**

An additional helicopter bucket is owned and available through Evergreen FPD. Requests go through Evergreen FPD Dispatch by calling 303-674-2323.

2. STATE RESOURCES

The Colorado State Forest Service sponsors a Single Engine Air Tanker (SEAT) program for use on wildland fires within the State of Colorado. The SEAT(s) will be contracted by CSFS for a period of time to coincide with the expected wildfire season, based upon predicted weather and fuels conditions each year. The SEAT(s) will be located within the state in the areas of highest fire danger and fire activity, as appropriate. Requests to have the SEAT(s) moved to cover a specific area (such as Clear Creek County) should be made by local cooperators through the CSFS-Golden District FDO.

Use of the SEAT or other State interagency aviation resources will be made at cost to the requesting agency under the terms of the Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (WERF), as shown in Attachment 4 of this AOP. The WERF supercedes the previous Initial Attack Aircraft Agreement for Wildfire Suppression between Clear Creek County and CSFS. The WERF is a new program created by the Colorado state legislature in July, 2002 to provide funding or reimbursement for the first use of aerial resources on a wildfire.

Any sheriff, municipal fire department, or fire protection district may order the appropriate (and available) aviation resource for initial attack of each wildfire. In general, the first use of the appropriate (and available) aviation resource will be “free” to the ordering agency – subject to the terms of the WERF as shown in Attachment 4. Continued use of the aerial resource(s) by the ordering agency will be at full cost, and subject to the prior approval of Clear Creek County as specified within subsection (a) immediately below.

Any agency within Clear Creek County may order State aviation resources as needed or desired. Orders will be recognized by Clear Creek County Sheriff’s Office and Evergreen FPD dispatch from any fire department chief, incident commander, and county-listed NWCG qualified engine bosses or crew bosses. All orders will be processed immediately by the appropriate dispatch center – for Clear Creek County and Evergreen FPD, all orders will go through the Sheriff’s Office Dispatch to FIDC; for USFS and CSFS, all orders will go directly to FIDC. All county or local orders for State aviation resources may be at the requesting agency’s expense, if not covered by Clear Creek County authorization as specified within subsection (a) immediately below.

For emergency use of State aviation resources on local wildfires, requests for aircraft may be made directly by the Clear Creek County or Evergreen FPD dispatch centers to FIDC, followed by immediate notification to the CSFS-Golden Fire Duty Officer. Requests to FIDC, for any and all air resource use, must include all the information shown on the Aircraft Request Form (Exhibit F-1), or they will not be acted upon by FIDC.

Clear Creek County and Evergreen FPD are required to notify the CSFS-Golden FDO immediately upon ordering any aviation resources through FIDC, as this may obligate state and county funds under the WERF. Unless specified otherwise, such resource orders from the county shall be considered a request for any appropriate state funding assistance under the WERF. FIDC will immediately notify the CSFS-Golden FDO whenever Clear Creek County or Evergreen FPD orders aviation resources.

- a. Authorization for Resource Orders
Aviation resource orders (and costs) within Clear Creek County that are not covered by the WERF may obligate the Clear Creek County Sheriff for costs under the Interagency Fire Suppression agreement between CSFS and the Sheriff. Any agency ordering aviation resources outside the terms of the WERF (as shown in Attachment 4 of this AOP) will be liable for the costs of these aviation resources, unless the designated County officials approve the resource order for county payment. In Clear Creek County, the following people (**in order of priority and availability**) have authority to approve county payment of costs for the use of aircraft or retardants:

- **Sheriff Don Krueger**
- **Under Sheriff Stu Nay**
- **Lieutenant Rick Albers**
- **Any Member of the Board of County Commissioners**
- **Clear Creek Fire Authority Chief, within district only**
- **Chief or District Manager, Evergreen FPD, within district only**
- **CSFS Personnel serving as FIRE DUTY OFFICERS on active fires.**

3. FEDERAL AND INTERAGENCY RESOURCES

Routine requests by cooperators for Federal and Interagency aviation resources such as heavy airtanker air drops, helicopters, or helitack crews will be made through FIDC. Air Attack will be delivered, when possible as a modular unit, with the following components supplied as needed for the specific incident:

- **Air Attack Boss and Aircraft**
- **Air to Ground Communication**
- **Helicopter Manager**
- **Air Service Manager of Helispots**
- **Lead Plane**
- **Heavy Air Tanker**
- **Necessary Support, Supplies, and Materials**

Use of Federal or Interagency aviation resources will be made at cost to the requesting agency under the terms of the Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (WERF), as shown in Attachment 4 of this AOP. The WERF supercedes the previous Initial Attack Aircraft Agreement for Wildfire Suppression between Clear Creek County and CSFS. The WERF is a new program created by the Colorado state legislature in July, 2002 to provide funding or reimbursement for the first use of aerial resources on a wildfire.

Any sheriff, municipal fire department, or fire protection district may order the appropriate (and available) aviation resource for initial attack of each wildfire. In general, the first use of the appropriate (and available) aviation resource will be “free” to the ordering agency – subject to the terms of the WERF as shown in Attachment 4. Continued use of the aerial resource(s) by the ordering agency will be at full cost, and

subject to the prior approval of Clear Creek County as specified within subsection (a) immediately below.

Any agency within Clear Creek County may order Federal or Interagency aviation resources as needed or desired. Orders will be recognized by Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office and Evergreen FPD dispatch from any fire department chief, incident commander, and county-listed NWCG qualified engine bosses or crew bosses. All orders will be processed immediately by the appropriate dispatch center – for Clear Creek County and Evergreen FPD, all orders will go through the Sheriff's Office Dispatch to FIDC; for USFS and CSFS, all orders will go directly to FIDC. All county or local orders for Federal or Interagency aviation resources may be at the requesting agency's expense, if not covered by Clear Creek County authorization as specified within subsection (a) immediately below.

For emergency use of Federal or Interagency aviation resources on local wildfires, requests for aircraft may be made directly by the Clear Creek County or Evergreen FPD dispatch centers to FIDC, followed by immediate notification to the CSFS-Golden Fire Duty Officer. Requests to FIDC, for any and all air resource use, must include all the information shown on the Aircraft Request Form (Exhibit F-1), or they will not be acted upon by FIDC.

Clear Creek County and Evergreen FPD are required to notify the CSFS-Golden FDO immediately upon ordering any aviation resources through FIDC, as this may obligate state and county funds under the WERF. Unless specified otherwise, such resource orders from the county shall be considered a request for any appropriate state funding assistance under the WERF. FIDC will immediately notify the CSFS-Golden FDO whenever Clear Creek County or Evergreen FPD orders aviation resources.

- a. Authorization for Resource Orders
Aviation resource orders (and costs) within Clear Creek County that are not covered by the WERF may obligate the Clear Creek County Sheriff for costs under the Interagency Fire Suppression agreement between CSFS and the Sheriff. Any agency ordering aviation resources outside the terms of the WERF (as shown in Attachment 4 of this AOP) will be liable for the costs of these aviation resources, unless the designated County officials approve the resource order for county payment. In Clear Creek County, the following people **(in order of priority and availability)** have authority to approve county payment of costs for the use of aircraft or retardants:

- Sheriff Don Krueger
- Under Sheriff Stu Nay
- Lieutenant Rick Albers
- Any Member of the Board of County Commissioners
- Clear Creek Fire Authority Chief, within district only
- Chief or District Manager, Evergreen FPD, within district only
- CSFS Personnel serving as FIRE DUTY OFFICERS on active fires.

4. NATIONAL GUARD RESOURCES

If other aircraft resources are unavailable, National Guard helicopters based at the Buckley Air National Guard Base may be available. Aircraft normally are dispatched in pairs, and may also come with a backup ship. Ground support will be provided. Aircraft and pilots should be "carded" by the USFS and BLM before their use on Federal lands. Cost to the using agency will apply, and may vary from incident to incident.

To request these aircraft, gather the necessary information shown on the **Aircraft Request Form, Exhibit F-1**, and contact FIDC with the specific equipment and mission request. **The request should clearly specify that those National Guard resources are being requested specifically for a State- or County-responsibility fire.** FIDC will contact the Rocky Mountain Agency Coordination Center (RMACC), which will contact the Colorado Office of Emergency Management. The CSFS-Golden District Fire Duty Officer should also be notified that a request for National Guard resources has been initiated.

D. Fixed Wing Base Management

The closest airports to Clear Creek County that are planned to serve as fixed wing air tanker bases are Jefferson County Airport (Broomfield, CO), and Pueblo Municipal Airport (Pueblo, CO). All requests for State and Federal aircraft should follow the directions in the preceding Sections C-2 and C-3. The contact number for the USFS-Jeffco Airtanker Base is (303)-439-0332; emergency number is 720-887-4846.

E. Single-Engine Airtanker Temporary Bases

The closest airports to Clear Creek County that are planned to serve as fixed wing air tanker bases are Jefferson County Airport (Broomfield, CO), and Pueblo Municipal Airport (Pueblo, CO). All requests for State and Federal aircraft should follow the directions in the preceding Sections C-2 and C-3. The contact number for the USFS-Jeffco Airtanker Base is (303)-439-0332; emergency number is 720-887-4846.

For more information about use of the SEAT and requirements to set up a temporary base, see the SEAT Briefing Guide, Exhibit F-3.

F. Leadplane/Air Attack Activation

The determination to use a leadplane or air attack on an incident will be made by FIDC as aviation resources are ordered, or as the incident complexity changes. Air Attack will be delivered, when possible as a modular unit, with the other aviation components ordered for the specific incident.

G. Aviation Requests and Operations

1. INITIAL ATTACK

Aircraft availability for initial attack should be confirmed with FIDC or the Clear Creek County Sheriff's Dispatch as conditions warrant. Some aircraft are on national contracts. It should be realized that if ordered, aircraft may come from out of state, which may greatly increase their time of arrival to the wildfire.

a. Jefferson County Air Resources

If Jefferson County Air Resources are requested by Clear Creek County or Evergreen FPD for use near USFS lands, flight coordination between Clear Creek County or Evergreen FPD dispatch offices and FIDC must occur. If communication between the Jefferson County air resources and air resources dispatched through FIDC cannot be established, then state or federal air resources may be withdrawn from the incident. Once communication between these air resources has been established, FIDC will resume use of state or federal air resource use on the incident.

b. News Media Aircraft

If local news media aircraft are requested by Clear Creek County or Evergreen FPD for use near USFS lands, flight coordination between Clear Creek County or Evergreen FPD dispatch offices and FIDC must occur. If communication between the news media aircraft and air resources dispatched through FIDC cannot be established, then state or federal air resources may be withdrawn from the incident. Once communication between these air resources has been established, FIDC will resume use of state or federal air resource use on the incident. The Incident Commander can also request a Temporary Flight Restriction as explained in Section G.5 below, which would prevent the use of new media aircraft.

c. Radio Frequencies

Aircraft dispatched through FIDC to wildfires within Clear Creek County will use the designated air to ground frequency for Zone 5 (172.325). The use of FERN frequencies will be discouraged for air-to-ground communications for tactical use on wildfires, in order to prevent conflicts with ongoing local fire agency use. A back-up frequency in Clear Creek County for air-to-ground communications with aircraft on wildland fires will be the CSFS work channel (151.340).

d. Communications

If communications between ground resources and the air resources dispatched by FIDC cannot be established, then state or federal air resources may be withdrawn from the incident. Once communication between these air resources has been established, FIDC will resume use of state or federal air resource use on the incident. It is the responsibility of the incident commander and the jurisdictional agency to establish communications between ground resources and air resources on all wildfires.

Local Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) personnel and equipment may be available to help establish ground to air communications on wildfires within Clear Creek County. Procedures for ordering ARES resources is shown in Unit 10, Section K.

2. BOUNDARY WILDFIRES

Aircraft use on wildfires located along jurisdictional boundaries will be the responsibility of the ordering agency if pre-approval or consultation with all affected agencies has not occurred at the time of the resource order. Aircraft used over federal lands are subject to the restrictions listed in Section G.7.a below, and the restrictions shown in Sections G.1.a through G.1.d immediately above.

3. URBAN/WILDLAND INTERFACE FIRES

Fire suppression aircraft usage in or near residential areas must be approved by the jurisdictional agency prior to usage.

4. MUTUAL AID PROCEDURES

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office air resources may be available for use in Clear Creek County. Requests must be made directly from the Clear Creek County Sheriff to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Dispatch office, and are subject to charges and restrictions as outlined within Exhibit F-2.

5. AIR SPACE RESTRICTIONS

The Incident Commander may request a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) if non-fire aircraft may pose a hazard for air operations. All TRFs must be requested through FIDC for wildfires or prescribed fires, following the current procedures listed in the RMA Mobilization Guide.

6. INCIDENTS INVOLVING MULTIPLE AIR RESOURCES

Aircraft control on complex incidents, especially those involving multiple air resources, should be coordinated through FIDC and on the incident by the appropriate (and qualified) air operations personnel. See also Sections G.1.a through G.1.b immediately above, for specific instructions on use of air resources that are not dispatched through FIDC.

a. Radio Frequencies

Aircraft dispatched through FIDC for initial attack of wildfires within Clear Creek County will use the designated air to ground frequency for Zone 5 (172.325). The use of FERN frequencies will be discouraged for air-to-ground communications for tactical use on wildfires, in order to prevent conflicts with ongoing local fire agency use. A back-up frequency in Clear Creek County for air-to-ground communications with aircraft on wildland fires will be the CSFS work channel (151.340).

b. Communications

If communications between ground resources and the air resources dispatched by FIDC cannot be established, then state or federal air resources may be withdrawn from the incident. Once communication between these air resources has been established, FIDC will resume use of state or federal air resource use on the incident. It is the responsibility of the incident commander and the jurisdictional agency to establish communications between ground resources and air resources on all wildfires.

Local Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) personnel and equipment may be available to help establish ground to air communications on wildfires within Clear Creek County. Procedures for ordering ARES resources is shown in Unit 10, Section K, Subsection 1.

7. QUALIFICATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS ON AIR RESOURCE USE
 - a. Aircraft being used on Federal lands, or in association with Federal or interagency resources, must be certified, also known as “carded”, per Unit 10, Section H of this AOP.

H. Aircraft Inspection Schedules

Federal fire suppression aircraft are inspected annually by either the U.S. Forest Service or the Office of Aircraft Service and certified for their capabilities.

I. Aviation Dispatch Procedures

Unless local air resources (i.e. Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office) are requested directly, all Aviation Dispatch will follow the current procedures listed in the Rocky Mountain Area (RMA) Mobilization Guide, particularly covering the following topics:

- a. STATUS
- b. AIRCRAFT HIRES
- c. SELECTION PROCESS
- d. FLIGHT MANAGEMENT

- e. FLIGHT FOLLOWING
FIDC will flight follow for all aircraft ordered through them, and following the current procedures listed in the RMA Mobilization Guide.

- f. TEMPORARY FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS (TFR)
All TRFs must be requested through FIDC for wildfires or prescribed fires, following the current procedures listed in the RMA Mobilization Guide.

11. FIRE PREVENTION

A. Cooperative Activities

The following fire activities need to be coordinated between agencies:

1. FIRE DANGER:

News releases about fire danger and prescribed burning will be coordinated, and when practical, issued by the Sheriff or County Public Information Office as a joint release by the cooperating agencies to newspaper, radio and television media. This effort will reduce public confusion on the subject, and direct attention to fire danger for all elevations and ownerships.

Red Flag and other fire weather or operational advisories will be called into the Sheriff's Dispatch Office, which will be responsible for notification of those fire departments for which they dispatch.

2. FIRE PREVENTION:

Distribution of Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention material (Smokey Bear material) and school contacts will also be coordinated, as much as practical, between the USFS, CSFS, and local fire departments to prevent duplication of effort.

3. FIRE RESTRICTIONS:

When contemplating a closure to open burning or lifting of fire bans, all agencies or fire departments will advise its cooperators of the situation and consider joint action(s) as needed. In all cases, cooperating agencies should utilize the guidelines in Section 11.D.1 when considering these actions.

a. Local Restrictions

Agencies or fire departments wanting to place or remove restrictions upon fire use within their jurisdictions within Clear Creek County will consult with all adjacent agencies or departments, county sheriff and forest level offices, and the CSFS-Golden District concerning fire danger. Where appropriate, joint announcements concerning fire restrictions or appropriate fire uses will be made to reduce confusion on the part of the public. **Note:** The Clear Creek County Sheriff is authorized under Colorado statutes to fire restrictions at the local or county-level, for private and state lands.

b. County-wide Restrictions

The Clear Creek County Sheriff, USFS (Clear Creek Ranger District, Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest), and CSFS-Golden District will jointly consider placing or removing county-wide restrictions. A press release will be issued jointly by the Sheriff and all other agencies involved, if a closure will affect multiple ownerships. The Clear Creek County Sheriff's Dispatch Office will disseminate this information by radio to all Clear Creek County personnel. **Note:** The Clear Creek County Sheriff may directly initiate a county-wide fire ban, as authorized by the Board of County Commissioners.

c. Area/Region/Forest-wide Restrictions

Wildland agencies have agreed that restrictions, at the State and Regional levels, should be decided by each Interagency Dispatch Center's Board of Directors. The CSFS-Golden District office will represent county-level agencies and cooperators by providing current information on fire danger and activity within Clear Creek County to the Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (FIDC), phone number (970)-498-1348. The Clear Creek County Sheriff's Dispatch Office will disseminate information about area-wide restrictions by radio to all Clear Creek County personnel.

d. State-wide Restrictions

Wildland agencies have agreed, at the State and Regional levels, that restrictions should be decided by each Interagency Dispatch Center's Board of Directors. The CSFS-Golden District office will represent county-level agencies and cooperators by providing current information on fire danger and activity within Clear Creek County to FIDC, phone number (970)-498-1348. FIDC will communicate dispatch area-wide fire danger information to the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center, phone number (303)-275-5700. The Clear Creek County Sheriff's Dispatch Office will disseminate information about state-wide restrictions by radio to all Clear Creek County personnel.

e. Seasonal Restrictions

Agencies or fire departments wanting to place or remove seasonal restrictions upon fire use within their jurisdictions within Clear Creek County will consult with all adjacent agencies or departments, county and forest level offices, and the CSFS-Golden District concerning fire danger and appropriate fire use. Joint announcements concerning fire restrictions or approved fire uses will be made by all affected agencies to reduce confusion on the part of the public.

4. FIRE PERMITS:

Each agency shall issue and control burning permits on lands within its responsibility and authority. When such permits are issued for lands within the protection boundary of another cooperator, that cooperator shall be informed of the time and location that the permit is issued for. Private landowners may obtain permits from the Clear Creek County Fire Authority or Evergreen Fire Protection District (in their jurisdictions) for open burning in Clear Creek County.

5. FIRE WEATHER REPORTS:

Because of the renewed awareness of the importance of having current fire weather forecasts to help ensure personnel safety, each agency is encouraged to obtain forecasts from the **National Weather Service, Fire Weather Forecasters**. Each agency shall be responsible for gathering fire weather information and requesting spot weather forecasts for their individual fire incidents, but may request assistance in gathering or transmitting such information from any of the other fire agencies. Requests will be sent directly to the National Weather Service – Boulder, 303-494-3877, fax 303-494-4409, to the attention of the *Fire Weather Forecaster*. County agencies and fire departments can also submit these requests to the National Weather Service through the Clear Creek County Sheriff's Dispatch office. Fire weather forecast requests can also be sent to FIDC, for submission

to the National Weather Service.

B. Information and Education

1. FIRE DANGER INFORMATION

a. Fire Weather Station Locations

Fire weather and danger rating information is made available as described in Section 8.A.2.

b. Data Sharing and Methods

Information relative to fire weather and fire danger ratings will be shared as described in Section 8.A.2. Special fire weather events and warnings will be broadcasted to all fire agencies as they are received from the National Weather Service or FIDC.

c. Fire Danger Dissemination

Fire danger ratings can be obtained from FIDC as described in Section 8.A.2.

d. Fire Prevention Signs

Signs are located throughout the county and are updated by the local agencies, based upon the local fire danger rating. The CSFS-Golden District maintains a database of fire danger signs located with Clear Creek County, which can be used to coordinate the dissemination of fire prevention information.

The Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT) programmable Highway Information Signs located on I-70 can be used for advisories during periods of Very High or Extreme fire danger. The CSFS-Golden Fire Duty Officer will contact CDOT to initiate these advisory messages.

2. JOINT OR SINGLE AGENCY PRESS RELEASES

News releases on fire danger or prescribed burning activities will be coordinated, and when practical, issued jointly to newspaper, radio and television media by the cooperating agencies in this AOP. This effort will reduce public confusion on the subject, and direct attention to fire danger at all elevations and ownerships. Press releases will use the most current fire danger ratings and fire weather forecasts, as detailed elsewhere in this AOP.

3. SMOKEY BEAR PROGRAM

See Section 11.A.2.

4. FIRE INFORMATION PROGRAMS

Programs on fire prevention activities may be available through the Colorado State Forest Service, U.S. Forest Service, and local fire departments, upon request.

5. RED FLAG WARNINGS

Red Flag warnings (and Fire Weather watches) issued by the National Weather Service Forecast Office will be communicated by the cooperating agencies as covered in Section 11.A.1.

6. FIREWISE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

The Colorado State Forest Service supports the Firewise Communities program, a national educational effort to develop wildfire mitigation programs within local communities and subdivisions. CSFS will work through the Clear Creek County Office of Emergency Management to coordinate education and organizational efforts about the Firewise Communities program with local communities and subdivisions. Communities are generally defined by CSFS as a distinct location having a local authority that can act on behalf of the community.

To become a Firewise Community/USA, a community must meet the following standards:

- sponsoring a local Firewise task force
- maintain a plan that identifies local solutions to the wildland/urban interface fire issue
- invest \$2.00 annually per capita in local Firewise projects
- observe a Firewise Communities/USA day each spring, dedicated to a Firewise program
- submit an annual report to CSFS, documenting local achievements that meet these standards

C. Engineering

1. LAND USE PLANNING (URBAN/WILDLAND INTERFACE)

The Colorado State Forest Service is available to review land use plans for local counties as required under state statute. CSFS-Golden District will work with Clear Creek County and the local fire departments to prepare a wildfire hazard review on all proposed subdivisions and land development. Implementation of the recommended wildfire hazard mitigation procedures is determined by the Board of County Commissioners, prior to subdivision approval.

2. DEFENSIBLE SPACE AND FUELS TREATMENT

Private landowners and other agencies contract with the Colorado State Forest Service to mark defensible spaces and fuelbreaks for wildfire mitigation, and for prescribed burning activities.

The USFS develops wildfire mitigation areas and fuels treatment according to National Forest Plans, which direct the long-term (10+ year) management of natural resources on these lands.

Clear Creek County has a current wildfire mitigation regulation. The new regulations by Clear Creek County (effective as of January 1, 1996) require defensible spaces be developed for new construction and additions greater than 400 square feet in size within the wildland zone.

3. RAILROADS AND UTILITIES

All railroads and utility companies will coordinate their right-of-way maintenance activities with the Clear Creek Sheriff's Department, Clear Creek Fire Authority, Evergreen Fire Protection District, and U.S. Forest Service as necessary. Notification of the jurisdictional agency must be made prior to the start, and at the end, of any maintenance activities. Any applicable permits will be obtained by the railroads or utility companies according to all pertinent federal, state or county statutes and regulations.

D. Law Enforcement Activities

Traffic control will be coordinated by the county sheriff upon request of the jurisdictional agency, to expedite the routing of vehicles and personnel to and from major fires, and to exclude unauthorized personnel from the fire area.

It will be the responsibility of the agency upon whose land the fire originates to take law enforcement action. When initial attack is made by other than the jurisdictional agency, the assisting agency will immediately gather and preserve information and evidence pertaining to the cause of the fire for the jurisdictional agency.

1. ISSUING OPEN BURNING AND CAMPFIRE PERMITS

Each agency shall issue and control burning permits on lands within its responsibility and authority. When such permits are issued for lands within the protection boundary of a cooperator, the cooperator shall be informed of the time and location that the permit is issued for. Private landowners may obtain permits from the Clear Creek County Fire Authority or Evergreen Fire Protection District (in their jurisdictions) for open burning in Clear Creek County.

2. RESTRICTIONS AND CLOSURES

In the case of any restrictions on open burning or public activities because of extreme fire danger, either by Governor's proclamation or by local issue, the county sheriff will be responsible for enforcement of these restrictions on all non-federal lands, and may assist on other lands at the request of the appropriate agency.

Creation, implementation, and termination of fire restrictions will be covered as described

in the, as shown in the Northern Front Range Fire Restriction and Fire Closure Criteria in Exhibit I.

3. FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Investigation shall be made on all fires to determine cause, responsible party, time of ignition, and all other pertinent information relating to the cause of the fire. Agreements may exist between the County Sheriff (or police authorities) and the jurisdictional agencies that apply to investigation and enforcement.

a. Fire Cause and Origin

Although an assisting agency may have a fire extinguished upon arrival of the jurisdictional agency's forces, the jurisdictional agency should discuss the fire with the assisting agency to aid in the investigation and take steps to:

*preserve the point of origin

*preserve all clues that may relate to the cause

*note all traffic leaving the area as they arrive, to include vehicle descriptions and license numbers

E. Incident Reports

The jurisdictional agency will prepare the statistical incident report. Information for this report will be provided by the initial attack agency if other than the jurisdictional agency. An incident report will accompany all reimbursement requests. The jurisdictional agency will make all incident reports available to the CSFS Golden District Office as requested.

Local cooperators (Clear Creek Fire Authority, Evergreen Fire Department, Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office) will send copies of all wildland fire incident reports to the CSFS Golden District Office on a regular schedule (monthly or quarterly). During periods of higher fire danger or actual fire activity, incident reports should be sent by fax or email to the CSFS Golden District Fire Duty Officer on a daily or weekly basis. This information can be used to request the pre-positioning of aircraft and other resources closer to Clear Creek County, by the CSFS-Golden District.

12. FUEL MANAGEMENT AND PRESCRIBED FIRE CONSIDERATIONS

The USFS, BLM, CSFS and all other land management agencies (and fire departments) agree to cooperate in the development and implementation of prescribed burning programs and projects. Agencies and fire departments conducting prescribed fire activities will report their prescribed fire activities to the Sheriff's office dispatch, Fort Collins Dispatch Center (970)-498-1348, the fire protection district within which the fire is occurring, and to each other. In addition, the Sheriff will maintain a record of all controlled burning activities occurring on private lands. Each agency or department will be responsible for obtaining any burn permit necessary at the county, state, or federal levels for their individual burns. Fire departments will also inform the CSFS if they will be conducting prescribed burn activities.

Wildfires resulting from escaped prescribed fires ignited by a party to this Agreement on lands it manages, shall be the responsibility of that party. The party responsible for the prescribed fire will reimburse other parties to this Agreement consistent with the terms and conditions contained herein, for costs incurred in suppression of such wildfires.

If parties to this Agreement conduct a cooperative prescribed fire, details covering cost sharing, reimbursement, and responsibility for suppression costs, should it escape, shall be agreed upon and documented in the burn plan. Burn plans will be prepared according to CSFS Form # 170 - Prescribed Burn Plan (Exhibit J), or a cooperating agency's equivalent format.

A party may take appropriate suppression action when lands under its protection are involved in or threatened by the escaped fire. Such suppression action may be taken on its own initiative or at the request of the responsible party. A party may take appropriate suppression action, at the request of the responsible party, when lands under its protection jurisdiction are not involved in or threatened by the wildfire.

13. COST REIMBURSEMENTS

Suppression costs will be determined on an operational period basis utilizing the Incident Action Plan (IAP). Sections 13.A and 13.B are included within the discussion of Wildfire Suppression (Section 13.E). Sections 13.C - 13.D will be addressed by the cooperating agencies as needed.

- A. **Non-Reimbursable Items**
- B. **Reimbursable Items**
- C. **Wildfire Prevention**
- D. **Wildfire Readiness**

- E. **Wildfire Suppression**

The County Sheriff, his designated officer, or other agencies may request local state and federal agencies help with the understanding that the requesting agency may have to pay for suppression costs incurred by those agencies. Notification will clearly state whether the state or federal agency is to take over the command of the incident, or is to work with the existing command. The Sheriff will notify the Board of County Commissioners, or their designee, of such requests for assistance when it is anticipated that costs may be incurred.

Responsibility for wildland fire suppression on private and state lands within a fire protection district (FPD) is shared jointly by the county and the FPD, and reimbursable costs shall be covered as mutually agreed upon by the county and district involved.

- 1. **DISPATCHING**
Dispatch of resources will be handled by the jurisdictional agencies as covered in Unit 9 (Wildfire Suppression Procedures).

- 2. **INITIAL ATTACK**
Any costs incurred by assisting agencies for initial attack or the first operational period (approximately 12 hours) of a wildfire within Clear Creek County, and which were requested by the jurisdictional agency, shall NOT be considered reimbursable - unless other payment arrangements are agreed upon by the involved agencies for a particular fire. Initial attack activities are also subject to all existing mutual aid, reciprocal aid, and automatic aid agreements between the involved agencies.

Any agency that provides a reasonable initial attack response in another agency's zone when the jurisdictional agency is unable to respond, may, at its discretion, request reimbursement from the jurisdictional agency - unless otherwise covered by applicable mutual aid agreements or agreements made on an incident-specific basis. **Initial attack response guidelines are shown in section 9.F.**

- a. **Cross-Boundary Fires**
When a wildfire occurs on lands of more than one agency and costs are incurred in addition to the initial attack, one of the following options may be used to determine reimbursable costs to the agencies involved:
 - Each agency assumes its own costs as expended by it in the fire control**

effort.

•Division of fire costs based upon ownership and acreage percentages.

•Some other method mutually agreed upon by Agency Representatives. Such method will be agreed upon in writing as soon as possible after determining that multiple ownerships are involved.

- b. Special Management Areas
Any costs incurred by assisting agencies for initial attack or the first operational period (approximately 12 hours) of a wildfire within Clear Creek County, on lands owned by Denver Mountain Parks or the City of Golden Watershed, shall be considered reimbursable according to the guidelines in Section 7. E (Special Management Consideration Areas) and Section 9. F (Initial Attack Dispatch Levels) - **unless other payment arrangements are agreed upon by the involved agencies for a particular fire. Initial attack activities are also subject to all existing mutual aid, reciprocal aid, and automatic aid agreements between the involved agencies.**

Payment for reimbursable wildfire suppression costs on lands owned by Denver (Denver Mountain Parks or Denver Water Board), and the City of Golden Watershed require that CSFS be notified at the time of the fire by the jurisdictional agency. ***Failure to notify CSFS will jeopardize the opportunity for reimbursement to the responding agencies.***

3. MUTUAL AID

Reimbursement for mutual aid activities between fire departments in Clear Creek County will be handled as covered by the "Intergovernmental Agreement for Mutual Aid Between Fire Departments" for Clear Creek County (Attachment 5).

4. REINFORCEMENTS

Reinforcements will be ordered and utilized as covered in Unit 9 (Wildfire Suppression Procedures). Reimbursement for reinforcements, if applicable, will be handled according to the procedures listed below for Extended Attack.

a. Extended Attack

Any costs incurred by assisting agencies during extended attack (beyond the first operational period of 12 hours) on a wildfire in Clear Creek County, and which were requested by the jurisdictional agency, SHALL be considered reimbursable - unless otherwise covered by: applicable mutual aid agreements, reciprocal aid, and automatic aid; agreements made on an incident-specific basis; or agreed participation that meets the minimum County commitment under EFF.

Any costs incurred by assisting agencies for extended attack or beyond the first operational period (approximately 12 hours) of a wildfire within Clear Creek County, on lands owned by Denver Mountain Parks or the City of Golden

Watershed, shall be considered reimbursable according to the guidelines in Section 7. E (Special Management Consideration Areas) and as determined by the CSFS-Golden District representative at the incident. This applies for all wildfires, unless otherwise affected by applicable intergovernmental agreements or agreements made on an incident-specific basis.

5. AVIATION

Aviation resources will be ordered and utilized according to Unit 10 (Aviation Procedures) of this AOP. Cost reimbursement for aviation resources will be handled in one of the following manners:

- as shown in Unit 10 (Aviation Procedures) of this AOP;
- as specified in the Wildland Emergency Response Fund (WERF) procedures established by the Colorado State Forest Service and shown as Attachment 4 of this AOP;
- as specified in any incident-specific cost-share agreements developed according to Section 13.E.a (Cross-Boundary Fires);
- as specified in any incident-specific cost-share agreements developed according to Emergency Fire Fund Contract Agreement between Clear Creek County and Colorado State Forest Service, and shown in Attachment 3 of this AOP;
- as specified in any incident-specific cost-share agreements developed by an Incident Management Team, and approved by the jurisdictional agencies involved under a unified command;
- or as specified in the current Colorado Interagency Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement, and shown in Attachment 2 of this AOP.

In general, the agency ordering the aviation resources will be responsible for paying for the costs of using these resources. Reimbursement to the ordering agency, from other jurisdictional agencies, will be handled by billing and/or transfer of funds between the involved agencies. Payments and requests for reimbursements between Clear Creek County and the Federal agencies will occur through the Colorado State Forest Service, who will coordinate this process.

Clear Creek County is required to notify the CSFS-Golden FDO immediately upon ordering any aircraft through Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center (FIDC), as this may obligate county funds under the WERF. Unless specified otherwise, such aircraft orders from the county shall be considered a request for any appropriate state funding assistance under the WERF. FIDC will immediately notify the CSFS-Golden FDO whenever a county orders aircraft assistance.

6. COST-SHARE PLAN

When a wildfire occurs on lands of more than one agency and costs are incurred in addition to the initial attack, reimbursement will be made according to a cost-share plan following the guidelines in Section 13. E. 3. (Cross-Boundary Fires).

7. OUT-OF-JURISDICTION ASSIGNMENTS

Equipment and personnel will not be dispatched outside of Clear Creek County without

some prior agreement as to compensation, such as a Cooperative Resource Rate Form (CRRF) with the Colorado State Forest Service. Ordering and utilization of local resources for out-of-jurisdiction assignments will follow procedures in Section 9.P (Out-of-Jurisdiction Assignments). Reimbursement will follow procedures in Section 13.E.8 as shown below.

8. BILLING & REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES

Payment for all costs on reimbursable fires either to or by the county, fire protection districts, or volunteer fire departments, shall be coordinated, if necessary, through consultation with the local CSFS District Office. This especially applies to fires which go beyond the first burning period before being declared contained or controlled. Routine fires which can be extinguished or contained within the first burning period will be billed and paid as described in Section 13.2.

All reimbursement requests for fire costs that go through CSFS will have invoices sent to the CSFS District Office **within 30 days after incident resources are released**. The CSFS State Office will attempt to make payment as soon as possible after receiving the invoice. Invoices are required to have proper documentation supporting expenses before the process for payment can be completed.

a. Out-of-Jurisdiction Fires

All reimbursement requests for fire costs that go through CSFS will have invoices sent to the CSFS District Office **within 30 days after incident resources are released**. The CSFS State Office will attempt to make payment as soon as possible after receiving the invoice. Invoices are required to have proper documentation supporting expenses before the process for payment can be completed. **Contact the CSFS-Golden District for the most current information concerning formats and documentation requirements for reimbursement requests.**

b. Special Management Areas

Payment for all reimbursable costs for fires on Denver Mountain Parks or the City of Golden Watershed **must** be coordinated through the CSFS, and that CSFS is notified at the time of the fire by the jurisdictional agency. ***Failure to notify CSFS will jeopardize the opportunity for reimbursement to the responding agencies.*** Contact the CSFS-Golden District for the most current information concerning formats and documentation requirements for reimbursement requests.

9. RESOURCE USE RATES

Resource rates for Clear Creek County cooperators will be developed and documented on the Cooperative Resource Rates Form (CRRF). Procedures specific to the CRRF are shown in Section 13.E.10 below. The following sections refer to resource rates not covered specifically within the CRRFs.

a. Personnel

The salary and wages of regular local, state, and federal fire personnel shall be at the actual cost to the assisting agency for work time from the time of departure until return to official station, including overtime. Casuals shall be paid at the current AD Firefighter rates, Exhibit D. It is suggested that **USDA/USDI Fire Time Sheets, Optional Form 288**, as revised, be used for reimbursement. (Special instructions for use of this form on non-Federal wildfires may exist. Check with the Time-Keeping Officer at the incident.)

b. Equipment

Unless other arrangements have been previously made (current Cooperative Resource Rate Forms), the assisting agency will be reimbursed by the jurisdictional agency for the use of agency-owned equipment at the current state or federal rates, or at the current contractor rate as shown in Exhibit E. Such rates shall cover operation, repair, and depreciation. Reimbursement for hired equipment shall be at the actual cost of the equipment hired for the fire by the assisting agency. Approval for the use of heavy equipment, such as dozers, must be obtained from the jurisdictional agency. Reimbursement documentation should be completed on **USDA/USDI Emergency Equipment Use Invoice, Optional Form 286**, as revised.

The local USFS Ranger District will be responsible for signing up any vehicles to be used on Federal lands prior to the start of fire season using the current year's use rate, Exhibit E, or other rates mutually agreed upon by the agencies involved.

c. Supplies and Material

The jurisdictional agency will reimburse the assisting agency for the actual costs of supplies and materials used for the fire effort.

Any damages incurred on the incident must be documented on **Form SF 95; Claims for Damage, Injury Or Death**, as revised, or a similar format. Claims for damages must be submitted at the time of the incident to the jurisdictional agency (or through the Incident Management Team - Finance Section).

d. Reimbursement Verification

All reimbursements need approval by the billing agency representative before submission. Each billing should have the incident name, date, and location noted. All requests for reimbursement should be accompanied by the agency incident report and submitted within 30 days following the incident. **Contact the CSFS-Golden District for the most current information concerning formats and documentation requirements for reimbursement requests** - this information will also be included in Exhibit L of this AOP.

e. Payment for CSFS State Agreement Vehicles

Payment for Colorado State Forest Service State Agreement Vehicles on loan to

fire protection districts or assigned to the local CSFS District, and which are used on federal or other reimbursable wildfires, **must** be made to Colorado State Forest Service.

These vehicles will be reimbursed at the rates established by the Cooperative Resource Rates Form (CRRF) prepared annually by CSFS. If a CRRF has not been prepared, these vehicles will be signed up with the local USFS Ranger District or county at the incident on **Emergency Equipment Rental Agreement, Optional Form 294**, as revised, at the current year's use rate for CSFS equipment as shown in Exhibit E.

State Agreement vehicles located within the CSFS Golden District and which may be used on fires in Clear Creek County are shown at the end of Exhibit E.

10. COOPERATIVE RESOURCE RATES FORM (CRRF)

The Cooperative Resource Rate Form (CRRF) is not a stand alone document. As an attachment to the County Annual Operating Plan, the CRRF documents Cooperator resource costs and conditions - should use of these resources by another agency become necessary. When the CRRF form, the Cooperator identified in Block 4 need not complete an Emergency Equipment Rental Agreement (OF 294) with the benefitting agency as they are considered a Cooperator and not a contractor by agreement. As an attachment to the County Annual Operating Plan, linkage is provided through agreements with CSFS to the current COLORADO INTERAGENCY COOPERATIVE FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENT (Attachment 2 of this AOP).

Contact the CSFS-Golden District for the most current information concerning development and documentation of appropriate rates for cooperator resources - this information will also be included in Exhibit L of this AOP.

CSFS-Golden District will receive and review all CRRF's for local cooperator resources. If the CRRFs are approved by CSFS for appropriate and documented rates, the CRRFs will become part of the county AOP for the period shown on the forms. If the CRRFs are not approved by CSFS, the forms will be returned to the cooperator along with an explanation on why the rates were deemed unacceptable.

CSFS-Golden District will forward copies of all completed CRRF's for Clear Creek County resources to CSFS Fire Division. Copies of completed CRRF's forms will be included in the applicable county AOP's (Exhibit L of the Clear Creek County AOP). CRRF's submitted after the county AOP's have been approved and updated will be distributed to the participating agencies as other updates to the AOP's are prepared according to Section 14. C., or on a monthly basis as appropriate.

14. GENERAL PROCEDURES

A. Periodic Program Reviews

Federal agencies, CSFS and Clear Creek County review fire programs annually. Changes that affect interagency cooperation through this plan will be brought to the attention of all participants as they are made.

B. Annual Updating of The Plan

This operating plan must be reviewed annually. If no changes are made, a statement letter with signatures of all parties to this AOP will be distributed. It is the intent of the parties to this AOP to conduct the review on or before April 1st by participating agency representatives. The Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) District Forester will be responsible for setting date, time and location of these meetings. The CSFS will also be responsible for providing letter updates to the primary participants.

The Clear Creek County Sheriff will be responsible for preparing copies of the Annual Operating Plan for distribution to county fire agencies. The CSFS-Golden District will be responsible for preparing copies of the AOP for distribution to the USFS, BLM, and CSFS-State Office.

This plan becomes effective on the date signed by the last agency and shall remain in effect until terminated in writing by the parties involved, or until this plan expires as described under Plan Approval in Section 1.

C. Changes During Year (due to budget cuts or supplemental funding)

In the event that any participant of this plan has a policy other change that affect any part of this plan, those changes will be brought to the attention of the CSFS office in Golden. CSFS will then distribute the proposed changes to the plan to all other participants for their review and approval.

D. Resolution of Disputes Procedure

Any and all disputes will be resolved by a meeting of all cooperating agency representatives signatory to this agreement. When a dispute is determined to exist, the CSFS Golden District will call a meeting of all parties to resolve the problem.

15. DIRECTORY OF PERSONNEL AND/OR AUTHORIZED AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

A. Bureau of Land Management

CANON CITY DISTRICT: (719) 269-8500
FIRE (719) 269-8552
FAX (719) 269-8596

B. Colorado State Forest Service

GOLDEN DISTRICT: BUSINESS # (303) 279-9757
GOLDEN DISTRICT FIRE #: (303) 279-2011
GOLDEN DISTRICT FAX #: (303) 278-3899
FIRE DUTTY OFFICER PAGER NUMBER:303-855-0119 (DURING FIRE SEASON)
Alternate (all district staff) Pager Number: 303-855-0118 (IF NO ANSWER FOR 855-0119)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>HOME</u>
ALLEN GALLAMORE	DISTRICT FORESTER	303-279-2011 x302	303-972-9357
VAUGHN JONES	ASST DIST FORESTER	303-279-2011 x307	303-346-7560
PAT McLAUGHLIN	FORESTER	303-279-2011 x304	303-238-6314
RUSS LEWIS	FORESTER	303-279-2011 x305	303-215-9663
BRENDA WASIELEWSKI	FORESTER	303-279-2011 x310	303-908-7333
CHRIS WOOLLEY	FIRE MGMT SPCLST	303-279-2011 x306	303-988-5556
SAM PARSONS	FORESTER	303-279-2011 x 308	303-273-5851
KAMIE FULLER	FORESTER	303-279-2011 x323	303-937-0444

CSFS FIELD OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR

TOM OSTERMAN CSFS STATE OFFICE 970-491-6303 970-222-8682
CSFS STATE OFFICE: 1-970-491-6303; (1-970-222-2748 cell/pager; 1-970-491-6304 FOR AFTER HOURS FIRE EMERGENCY - Have CSU Dispatch contact State FDO)

C. USDA Forest Service

FORT COLLINS INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER:
1-970-498-1348; 1-970-490-5291 (PAGER) FAX (970)-498-1364

PUEBLO INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER:
1-719-553-1600 1-719-568-3762 (CELL) FAX (719) 545-7701

ARAPAHO-ROOSEVELT NATIONAL FOREST (970)-498-1100
CLEAR CREEK RANGER DISTRICT: (303)-567-3000; (303)-567-3021 FAX
BILL ALAKAI 303-956-0577 (CELL)
TOM RHODES 303-570-0145 (CELL.) 303-826-4560(PAGER)
ED GUZMAN 303-541-2524 work

BOULDER RANGER DISTRICT: (303)- 541-2500
ED GUZMAN (303)-541-2524 work
DAVE BUCHANAN 303-441-3851 # 5962 (PAGER) or 303-258-9193 (Nederland Work Center)

PIKE-SAN ISABEL NATIONAL FOREST (719)-545-8737
SOUTH PLATTE RANGER DISTRICT: (303)275-5610; (303)-275-5642 FAX
GARY SHAFFER (303)-275-5632 work, 303-601-6439 cell
DAVE BAUMANN (303)-838-5633 (Buffalo Creek Work Center)

- D.** **Bureau of Indian Affairs** - No lands in Clear Creek County.
- E.** **National Park Service** - No lands in Clear Creek County.
- F.** **Fish and Wildlife Service** - No lands in Clear Creek County.

G. **County:**

1. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS - Clear Creek County 303-679-2312
Jefferson County 303-271-8525

2. SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENTS:

BOULDER COUNTY (303)-441-3374
CLEAR CREEK COUNTY (303)-569-3232 (EXT 6) LOCAL#
(303)-534-5777 (EXT 6) DENVER#
DOUGLAS COUNTY (303)-660-7500
GILPIN COUNTY (303)-582-5500, 582-5511
JEFFERSON COUNTY (303)-277-0211
Critical Incident Response Director Mark Gutke (303)-271-5302; (303)-281-5929 pgr; (303)-435-3470 cell
Critical Incident Response Manager Tim McSherry (303)-271-6506; (303)-266-9944 pgr; (303)-435-3377 cell
PARK COUNTY (719)-836-4123, -4121, -4122 (Fairplay Dispatch) (303)-980-1836 x 121 (Denver Dispatch#)

3. COUNTY AGENCIES:

DENVER WATER BOARD (303)-628-6390 (Dispatch); also contact county sheriff
DENVER MOUNTAIN PARKS (303)-697-4545; also contact county sheriff
JEFFERSON COUNTY OPEN SPACE (303)-271-5925; (303)-277-0211 (Sheriff's Office)

H. **Wildland Fire Departments (contacts other than through County Sheriff)**

CLEAR CREEK FIRE AUTHORITY (303)-679-2393, (303)-569-3251 x 6, (303)-569-3232
Business Office (303)-567-4342 Chief Kelly Babeon (303)-207-3974 pgr

EVERGREEN FIRE DEPARTMENT(303)-674-2323 DISPATCH
(303)-674-3411 EMERGENCY (303)-674-3145 BUSINESS
Chief Joel Janov (303)-891-5914 (pager) Dist. Manager Tom Hayden (303)-207-9570 pager

PLATTE CANYON FPD (303)-838-5853 Emergencies: 303-980-1836 x 121 (Park Co SO)

WEST METRO FIRE (303)-969-0245 DISPATCH (303)-989-4307 BUSINESS

ALL FIRE DEPARTMENTS-GILPIN COUNTY DISPATCH 303-582-5511,-5500

ALL FIRE DEPARTMENTS-CLEAR CREEK COUNTY DISPATCH
(303)569-3232 (LOCAL) (303)534-5777 ext 6 (Denver Metro)
303-582-5511, 303-582-5500