

Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee

Wildland Fire Management Subcommittee

GYA Interagency Wildland Fire Management
Planning and Coordination Guide

Annual Operating Plan

Preparedness Plan

June 5, 2024

I. INTRODUCTION

The Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA) includes portions of five National Forests residing within three Forest Service regions, two National Wildlife Refuges (NWR), two National Parks, and portions of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered lands in three states. Contiguous portions of these Parks, Refuges, BLM lands and Forests encompass roughly 14.0 million acres, plus state and privately owned lands. This vast area lies within three states – Montana, Idaho and Wyoming – and includes all or parts of 21 counties.

Since their establishment, the various agencies have had different management mandates. National Parks were founded upon the principles of preservation, public enjoyment, and non-interference with natural processes. National Forests were established on conservation principles and the wise multiple-use of natural resources. National Wildlife Refuges were established specifically to meet the conservation and management needs of specific wildlife species. The Bureau of Land Management has a multiple-use mission while protecting a wide array of natural, cultural, and historic resources.

In the early 1960's, National Forest and Park managers in the GYA recognized the need to coordinate a number of issues and programs which crossed jurisdictional boundaries. The Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee (GYCC) was borne of this need and includes the following: The agency administrators of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Custer Gallatin, Shoshone, Caribou-Targhee, and Bridger-Teton National Forests and Grand Teton, John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway and Yellowstone National Parks. In 1999, Red Rock Lakes and the National Elk Refuge joined the GYCC and are represented on the committee by their respective managers. The BLM joined the GYCC in 2012. The GYCC will select one of their members to serve as a liaison between the Wildland Fire Subcommittee (known as the subcommittee throughout this document) and the GYCC.

In the summer of 1988 the Greater Yellowstone Area experienced an unprecedented fire season. It has long been recognized that fire had been a major element in shaping soil, physiographic, vegetation, and wildlife patterns throughout the area and research has documented large scale fires occurring every 300-400 years in the GYA. Yet never before, in the post-European settlement history of the area, had such large and fast moving fires been experienced. The 1988 fire season led to a nationwide debate about fire management policy on federal lands and specifically about National Park Service and Forest Service policy, which allowed some fires to burn as they would naturally on the landscape.

In response to this public debate, in September of 1988, the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior appointed a Fire Management Policy Review Team. The Team examined existing federal fire policies, individual unit fire management plans, and held public meetings across the United States. In May 1989, the Team concluded their report, which noted “the objectives of prescribed natural fire programs in national parks and wildernesses are sound, but that policies need to be refined, strengthened and reaffirmed”. The Team provided 15 recommendations for improving federal fire management programs, The Fire Management Policy Review Team recommendations were approved by the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior, and were adopted as policy by the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service and Forest Service, incorporated into agency directives, and serve as the framework for this *GYA Interagency Wildland Fire Management Planning and Coordination Guide*.

The South Canyon, Thirty-mile, Cramer, Yarnell Hill, and other incidents created renewed awareness and concern among Federal land management agencies and constituents about safety, the impacts of wildland fire, and the integration of fire and resource management. In response to specific recommendations from the South Canyon Fire Interagency Management

Review Team report, the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Program Review was chartered and completed in 1995. This report provided nine guiding principles that are fundamental to Federal wildland fire management program success:

- Firefighter and public safety is the first priority in every fire management activity.
- The role of wildland fire as an essential ecological process and natural change agent will be incorporated into the planning process.
- Fire management plans; programs, and activities support land and resource management plans and their importance.
- Sound risk management is the foundation for all fire management activities.
- Fire management programs and activities are economically viable, based upon values to be protected, costs, and land and resource management objectives.
- Fire management plans must be based on the best available science.
- Fire management plans and activities incorporate public health and environmental quality considerations.
- Federal, Tribal, State, and local interagency coordination and cooperation are essential.
- Standardization of policies and procedures among Federal agencies is an ongoing objective.

The 1995 Review, along with the South Canyon, Thirty-mile and Cramer Abatement Action Plans, represent the latest stages in the evolution of wildland fire management, and provide policy direction for the management of wildland fires. The Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture convened these reviews to reaffirm and ensure that uniform Federal policies and cohesive, cooperative interagency and intergovernmental fire management programs exist. *Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy (2001)*, and the *2009 Guidance for Implementation of the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy*.

The *Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy (2001)* also recommends 17 Federal wildland fire policies in the areas of: safety, planning, preparedness, suppression, prevention, protection priorities, standardization, wildland/urban interface, and agency administration and employee roles, fire management and ecosystem sustainability, response to wildland fire, use of wildland fire, rehabilitation and restoration, science, communication and education, interagency cooperation and coordination, and evaluation.

The *Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy (2001)* and the *Guidance for Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy (2009)* directs Federal agencies to achieve a balance between suppression to protect life, property, and resources, and management of fire to regulate fuels and maintain healthy ecosystems. In 2009, wildland fire was categorized into two distinct types: (1) wildfire – unplanned ignitions and planned ignitions that are declared wildfires and; (2) prescribed fires – planned ignitions. Another change in Federal Fire policy is a wildland fire may be concurrently managed for one or more objectives and those objectives can change as the fire spreads across the landscape over time, encountering new fuels, weather, social conditions and governmental jurisdictions.

II. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND ENABLING AUTHORITY

The purpose of GYA Interagency Wildland Fire Management Planning and Coordination Guide is to collaborate on fire management activities that are best addressed and implemented on a GYA-wide basis in a consistent manner. This document outlines specific operational procedures for use in monitoring the overall fire situation in the GYA during the fire season. These procedures allow the GYCC to fulfill its role of coordinating management of the National Forests, Refuges, BLM Lands and Parks within the GYA, while fulfilling the authority and legal obligations and responsibility of each agency. The Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee supports the guidelines and operational procedures outlined in this document as means of unifying and coordinating Greater Yellowstone Area Fire Management.

The national Agreement for Wildland Fire Management (between the BLM, BIA, NPS, FWS of the United States Department of the Interior and the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture¹) along with the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee Memorandum of Understanding (among the participating BLM, NPS, FWS and USFS units) provides the authority for developing the GYA Interagency Wildland Fire Management Planning and Coordination Guide.

This Guide is intended to facilitate fire management activities that include planning and the ordering and sharing of resources for fire suppression, prescribed fire and other projects across multi-jurisdictional and geographic administrative boundaries of the Greater Yellowstone Area. The authorizing agreements will generally be in effect for a five-year period and are periodically reviewed and updated in accordance with agency policies.

A. Objectives

Specific objectives of this document are to:

1. Coordinate fire management planning between the National Forests, Parks, Refuges, and BLM districts of the GYA.
2. Provide for specific operating principles and procedures that ensure effective interagency coordination and management of wildland fires and prescribed fires in the GYA.
3. Articulate the role of the National Forest, Refuge, BLM and Park managers of the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee in GYA fire management.

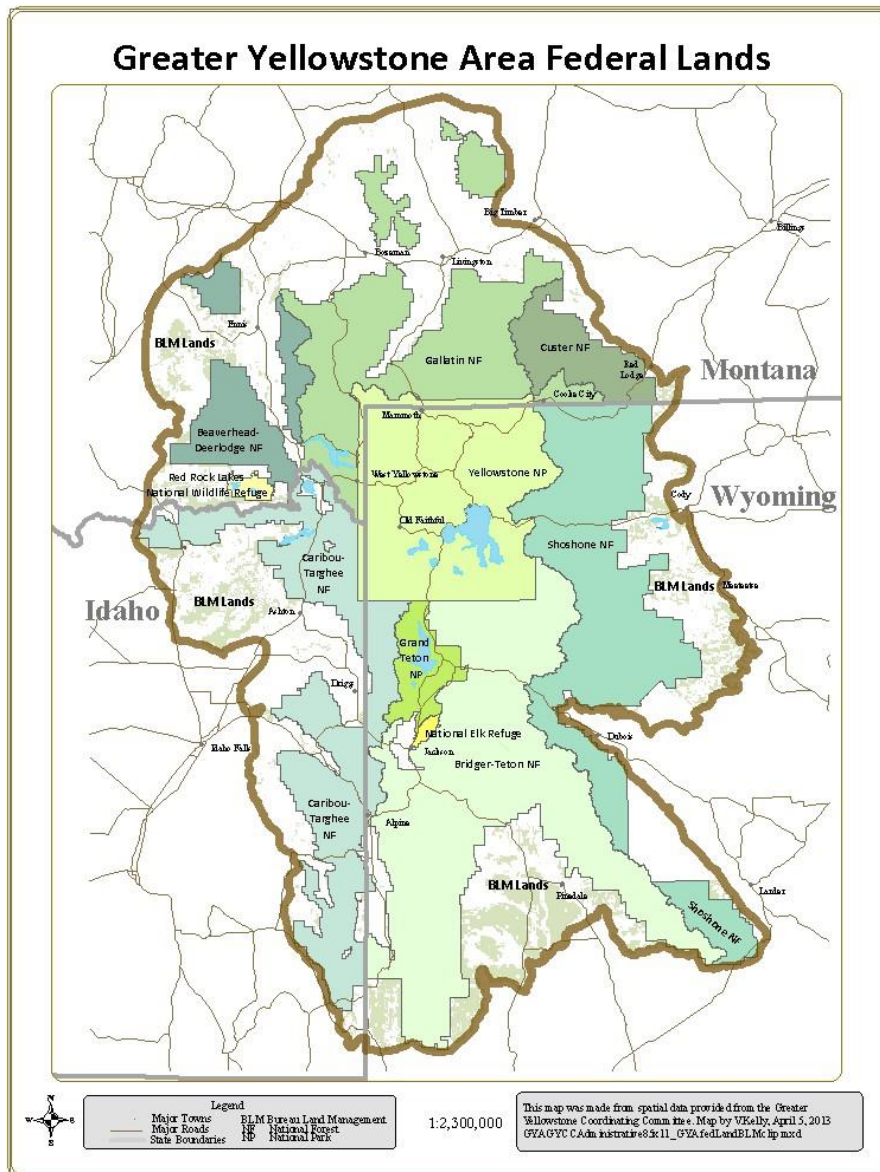
This is not a comprehensive planning document. It will not achieve levels of fire management planning required for individual units, nor is it designed to serve as a “master” fire management plan for the GYA. The responsibility to conduct professional level fire management planning remains with individual units, commensurate with their departmental and agency policies and guidelines.

¹ BLM Agreement No. – L10PG00569; FS Agreement No. – 10-IA-1130206-032; FWS Agreement No. – 93252-A-H100; BIA Agreement No. – not assigned; NPS Agreement No. – G9560100055

B. Planning and Coordinating Area

The GYA area includes Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks, and John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway, the National Elk Refuge and Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, and the entirety of the Bridger-Teton, Caribou-Targhee, Gallatin, and Shoshone National Forests and the Beartooth Ranger District of the Custer NF and the Madison RD of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, and BLM lands in three states (See Figure 1).

Figure 1. Greater Yellowstone Area and administrative boundaries of federal land management units comprising the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee.



III. AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee

The Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee (GYCC) is comprised of agency administrators from the ten federal land management entities within the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem. The GYCC agency administrators are responsible for land and resource management decisions which include oversight of fire management activities and incident management. The agency administrators have appointed fire managers to represent their units and serve on the Fire Management subcommittee. The GYCC will also appoint a liaison to the subcommittee.

It is the role of the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee to coordinate management of National Refuge, National Park, BLM and National Forest lands in the Greater Yellowstone Area and is within the legal mandates of each federal agency. The GYCC does not have line authority over individual Agency Administrators or units within the GYA. The GYCC is composed of the ten (10) GYA Land Management Agency Administrators. Decisions and agreements made by the GYCC are implemented through normal preset lines of authority within each agency.

B. Wildland Fire Management Subcommittee

The subcommittee is comprised of fire managers that have been assigned by their respective agency administrators. The fire managers are generally the unit fire staff officer or fire management officer. The functions of the subcommittee include the following:

1. Serve as professional wildland fire consultants to the GYCC and provide advice on management strategies for wildland and prescribed fire as requested.
2. Promotes and identifies opportunities to further the three tenants of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy within the GYA: Resilient landscapes, Fire Adapted Communities and Safe and Effective Fire Response.
3. Prepares and updates GYA Interagency Wildland Fire Management Planning and Coordination Guide.
4. Prepares and updates the annual operating plan and preparedness plan.
5. Provide GYCC recommendations on unacceptable risks posed by wildland or prescribed fire.
6. Provide GYCC recommendations on when fire circumstances warrants involvement of a GYCC representative on a Geographic MAC Group.
7. Provide GYCC recommendations on preparedness planning, severity operations, and fire restrictions coordination.
8. Conduct periodic coordination conference calls as necessary.
9. Coordinate agendas, speakers, and logistics necessary to conduct meetings.
10. Assure meeting and conference call documentation is completed as needed.

11. Provides briefings to the GYCC as necessary.

A committee chairperson and vice-chairperson will be assigned to coordinate the functions and activities of the subcommittee. When the chairperson is absent, the vice-chair will take over the responsibilities of the chair. The committee chair and vice-chair will be rotated among the units and serve two year terms. For continuity the vice-chair will automatically promote to chair every two years and a new vice-chair is selected.

The subcommittee will update the GYA Interagency Wildland Fire Management Planning and Coordination Guide as needed. The associated GYA Fire Management Annual Operating Plan that describes the details regarding the commitments, actions and coordination associated with the sharing of resources between agencies will be reviewed and updated by the GYA fire managers prior to the fire season each year. The annual operating plan will also include a preparedness plan that describes the actions of the members during different levels of fire activity with the GYA.

IV. PLANNING AND COORDINATION

A. General

A key component of individual fire management plans and a cornerstone of coordinated fire management in the GYA is conducting comprehensive joint planning along the boundaries of adjacent land management units and development of accepted fire management plans by all partnering units. Each unit will work closely with neighboring units in the development and/or revision of individual plan/plans as directed by this document. In addition, National Forest, National Wildlife Refuge, BLM and National Park managers are committed to the continuation of several specific operational procedures, which are intended to ensure a high level of interagency fire management planning and coordination in the GYA.

These include:

1. Hold semi-annual GYCC Wildland Fire Management subcommittee meetings.
2. Provide an interagency review opportunity for new or revised fire management plans and land use plans focused on wildland fire.
3. Maintain and distribute the GYA Fire and Fuels Operational Call notes.
4. Adherence to the GYA Preparedness Plan.
5. The GYCC Wildland Fire Management subcommittee serves as an ad hoc group of professional fire management consultants to the GYCC.
6. Maintaining a consistent management process for wildfires and prescribed fires as described in the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy (2009).

B. Fire Management Plans

Individual units within the GYA that utilize fire management plans will incorporate GYA operating principles presented in this document as appropriate.

To complement the normal agency review and approval procedure the following opportunities to share information and gain peer input exists:

1. Units preparing or updating a fire management or land management plan should coordinate and consult with adjacent GYA units on common issues that may influence fire management actions on each other's unit.

C. Spring and Autumn Subcommittee Meetings

The subcommittee will generally meet each spring and fall to review fire management planning status and operational procedures. Discussions may expand into areas of preseason conditions, fire season potential, operational after-action reviews, lessons learned, situation and status reporting, mobilization and preparedness plans, prescribed fire, review of cooperative agreements, review of this Planning and Coordination Guide for currency, land management planning, database coordination, education, and media coordination.

The fall meeting will include highlights of the GYA fire season. Individual GYA units will coordinate and host the fall and spring meetings on a rotating basis. Forest Supervisors, Park Superintendents, Refuge Managers, District Managers and Regional Fire Staff are encouraged to attend.

Spring meetings will generally be held the first or second week of May and fall meetings will be held the third or fourth week of October. The spring meeting will be held in person and the fall meeting could be virtual or in person.

D. Fire Season Coordination

The subcommittee will be active during the fire season (generally April through mid October depending on conditions to include RX seasons) and meet via conference calls as described in the Annual Operating and Preparedness Plans (Appendices A & B). The purpose of the conference calls are to share information regarding fire potential and activity; set preparedness levels and coordinate resource needs; coordinate fuels activities; and to coordinate the management of large, potentially large and/or complex fire incidents within the GYA. The composition of the participating group will be made up of a minimum of three GYA FMO's or Deputies from two different agencies. Other federal, state, and local officials will be consulted as needed.

The minimum frequency of the conference calls is described for each preparedness level in the Preparedness Plan. The Chair will activate the conference calls and set the frequency of calls (The more complex the fire activity, the more frequent the calls). Once conference calls are initiated, the subcommittee will assess the overall fire situation in the GYA on a periodic basis relative to the fire activity and complexity. The subcommittee, via the chair or co-chair, will make recommendations to the affected Agency Administrator(s) based on local, regional, and national fire situations; resource availability; current and projected fire behavior; potential threat to life and property; air quality impacts; and social, economic, and political impacts of GYA fire management activities. The subcommittee will not function as a Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Group per se, but will provide input into Geographical MAC Groups. The affected unit FMO(s) will be the primary liaison to the MAC Group.

E. Incident Delegation of Authority

During complex fire incidents, the GYCC Agency Administrators will continue to serve in its role

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as a facilitator of communication, coordination, and effective cooperation between the National
Forests, Refuges, BLM Units and Parks within the GYA. Agreements reached by GYCC
members will be implemented through normal lines of authority. While the entire GYCC

membership may not function as a MAC group, individual members or their designees, may participate in a MAC group.

When a fire is burning on or has the potential to burn on multiple jurisdictions, a joint WFDSS decision will be published and delegation of authority including leader's intent will be prepared. Whenever an area command is established, it will operate under a joint written delegation of authority clearly outlining both their geographic and functional role. All agency administrators under whose authority the area command is operating will sign this delegation. Area command will re-delegate this authority to individual incident commanders. Any delegations of authority between agency administrators and incident commanders in effect at the time an area command is established will be replaced by a new delegation of authority between the incident commander and area command. The GYCC may offer input and direction to MAC groups and/or area command as necessary.

F. GYA Situation Report

Current fire situation information from each GYA unit is critical for responsible fire management planning and implementation. Fire situation information will be consolidated into the GYA Situation Report and be available each day, electronically. The GYA Situation Report will provide each unit's preparedness levels, a description of fire activity, resource availability, and fire activity potential for planning and providing information to the public. It is available sorted by either protection or ownership on the NRCC intelligence Page.

<https://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/intelligence/intelligence.htm>

APPENDIX A
GYCC WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN
June 2024

• **PURPOSE**

To establish specific operating procedures for the coordinated management of various fire activities, which have crossed, are planned or anticipated to cross, or have potential to cross the administrative boundaries of individual Greater Yellowstone Area units. These activities include, but are not limited to:

- Managing wildland fires that cross administrative boundaries
- Implementation of prescribed fires
- Joint training and fire prevention efforts

I. IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AND UNDERSTOOD BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT:

The following elements apply to all management activities related to wildland fires and/or prescribed fires, which have crossed, are planned or anticipated to cross, or have potential to cross agency administrative boundaries.

1. Wildfire and Prescribed Fire

i. General

- Assignment of fiscal responsibility to each agency for management costs.
- Assignment of responsibilities to keep the public, cooperators, and internal personnel informed.
- Development of decision criteria for periodic revalidation and evaluation by the appropriate Administrators of each agency.
- Incident/Project management will be by a single unified incident management organization.
- Agency resource advisors will be assigned to coordinate with the incident/project management team.
- Completion of a joint risk assessment, which includes but is not limited to, threat to life and property, resource availability, and environmental impacts.
- Incident reviews will be conducted jointly by the affected agencies as deemed appropriate.

ii. Prescribed Fire

- A single Prescribed Burn Plan will be reviewed and approved by affected Agency Administrators. The plan will include required components of inter-agency and affected agency policies.
- Prior to implementation, Go/No Go Checklists will be approved by the respective Agency Administrators.

iii. Wildfire

- Development of a joint Wildland Fire Decision Support System decision (WFDSS), approved and published by the Agency Administrators of each agency involved.
- Prepare joint delegations of authority and leader's intent for wildfires that affect multiple agencies. Delegations of authority will identify an individual(s) responsible for management and documenting WFDSS decisions and periodic assessments.
- For boundary fires or fires that have potential to affect the adjacent agency (including smoke impacts), the adjacent agency will be notified of the fire in a timely manner.

A. Sharing Resources

Resources for wildfire and prescribed fire activities may be shared directly between any of the GYA Tier 3 Dispatch Centers (Dillon, Teton, Cody, East Idaho, Billings, Casper) under the nationally endorsed concept of closest available forces. This provision does not apply to resources from outside the GYA or National shared resources (IHC, SMKJ, and Type 1 and 2 aircraft) that are under the control of the respective GACC and NICC.

Agency resources may be shared without cost reimbursement for fire or non-fire situations when mutually agreed upon and is in the best interest of the government. Resources will be coordinated by the respective Dispatch Centers, (see Appendix C for further information).

B. Dispatching Procedures

The respective agency dispatch offices will coordinate requests for movement of GYA unit based resources and equipment across agency and unit boundaries. Orders within the GYA will be placed as a name request and identified as a GYA order in the special needs section. Experience dictates that it is critical to give as much info as possible along with the order when exercising the GYA Wildland Fire Annual Operating Plan.

C. Training

The agencies agree that they will exchange training schedules and information on a regular basis and cooperate whenever possible on joint fire management training efforts.

D. Prevention and Public Education

The agencies agree that they will cooperate wherever possible on joint fire prevention and public education efforts, particularly at trailheads that access more than one agency's land. Fire prevention activities will be managed by each Unit for lands within their jurisdiction.

As part of the public education effort, websites, pamphlets, or other items highlighting the ecological role of fire in the GYA, and how fire is managed may be produced. The units will agree upon the development of these items. The items would be available to visitors before and during fire management activities.

E. Detection

Lookouts, other ground detection methods, and agency air patrols will cooperate in the exchange of information on fires detected by or reported to them.

The agency receiving notification of a fire will immediately notify the jurisdictional agency.

F. Science initiatives

Units will cooperatively pursue opportunities for advancing science related initiatives as they apply to wildland fire management in the GYA.

G. Conference Calls

Regularly scheduled conference calls will be held on Tuesdays beginning in Mid to late June. The frequency of the calls are noted in the Preparedness Plan in Appendix B. Topics during the conference calls will include the following:

- Seasonal severity, indices, and outlook
- Current fire activity
- Outstanding resource needs
- Resources sharing opportunities
- Upcoming prescribed fire activity
- Determination of the GYA wildland fire preparedness level
- Other issues

APPENDIX B
GYCC WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
PREPAREDNESS PLAN
June 2024

1. PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

1. To identify the level of wildfire operations, prescribed fire activities, severity, and resource commitment within the Greater Yellowstone Area.
2. To identify actions to be taken by the Greater Yellowstone Area Wildland Fire Management Subcommittee under the guidelines of the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee (GYCC) to assure an appropriate level of preparedness for the existing and anticipated wildland fire situation.
3. To modify or curtail Unit fire management activities when essential to assure preparedness or response capabilities for situations within the GYA.

I. GYA PREPAREDNESS LEVELS

The GYA preparedness level will be determined based on the following criteria, which mirrors the three Geographical Area plans and the national preparedness plan and will not supersede any of these plans.

General Fire Season activities

- Pre-season meeting/conf call (May).
- Weekly fire coordination calls. Bi-weekly/weekly on Tuesdays beginning in late June, or earlier as fire activity and conditions warrant.
- Consider end of season dates for aerial resources at West Yellowstone Interagency Fire Center (late Aug-mid Sept)
- Post-season meeting/conf call (October).

1. PREPAREDNESS LEVEL I

Description:

- No large fire activity within the GYA.
- Units have low to moderate fire danger.
- Initial attack is successful, and fires are manageable.
- Resources are adequate in the GYA.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Individual GYA Units will determine appropriate actions.	Agency Administrators

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Certify that wildland fires meet objectives and adequate resources are available through ensuing 24-hour period given reasonably foreseeable weather conditions and fire behavior.	Agency Administrators
Conference calls will be held every two weeks at 1100 beginning on the last Tuesday in June, or earlier if conditions warrant.	Subcommittee Membership

A. PREPAREDNESS LEVEL II

Description:

- One or more units experiencing moderate to high fire danger.
- Multiple wildland fires occurring, initial attack successful on most fires and a potential exists for size class B or C (10-100 acres).
- Current incidents are managed locally; potential for further growth is moderate. Resources are adequate in the GYA.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Level I actions carry through	Unit FMO/Fire Staff
Individual Agency Administrators briefed as appropriate	Unit FMO/Fire Staff
Individual Units monitor and evaluate wildland and prescribed fire activity and resource commitments in the GYA	Unit FMO/Fire Staff

PREPAREDNESS LEVEL III

Description:

- Two or more Units experiencing high to very high fire danger with no weather break expected within the next 48 hours.
- Two or more Units are experiencing size class C or D (10-300 acres) fires.
- One Unit requiring commitment of a Complex Incident Management Team.
- Units are experiencing resource shortages and are requiring assistance from their respective GACC. National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) and/or Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center (RMACC), Great Basin Coordination Center (GBCC), Northern Rockies Coordination Center (NRCC) are supporting wildland and/or prescribed fire activity in their own or other Region(s).

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Level I and II actions carry through	Unit FMO/Fire Staff
Conference calls will be held once per week at 1100 on Tuesdays	Subcommittee Membership
Brief the GYCC Fire Management Liaison Coordinate wildland and prescribed fire activity in the GYA	Subcommittee Chair or vice-chair Subcommittee Membership
Periodically brief Regional Fire Staff and GYCC managers on wildland and prescribed fire situation update and evaluation	Subcommittee Membership Unit FMO/Fire Staff
Coordinate repositioning of resources and ensure availability of qualified personnel for wildland and prescribed fire assignments	Subcommittee Membership
Individual Units provide timely update on emerging or existing fire situation to Subcommittee Membership, respective Regional Office, and NICC through normal GYA situation reporting system	Unit FMO/Fire Staff

B. PREPAREDNESS LEVEL IV

Description:

- Two or more Units experiencing very high to extreme fire danger with no weather break expected within the next 48 hours.
- Multiple ignitions resulting in size class D+ (300+ acres) fires.
- Two or more units experiencing project fires requiring commitment of Complex Incident Management Teams.
- Resource shortages are being experienced in the GYA and by GACC's, with two or more Regions being supported by NICC and/or GYA GACC's.
- Other national fire activity is increasing the competition for resources, placing a drain on the normal GYA GACC's.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Level I, II and III actions carry through	Unit FMO/Fire Staff
A minimum of one conference call per week will be held at 1100 on Tuesdays. Subcommittee Membership will determine the time and frequency of additional conference calls commensurate with fire activity and need.	Subcommittee Membership
Wildland and prescribed fire application can be continued or initiated in accordance with each agencies policy.	Unit FMO/Fire Staff Agency Administrator Subcommittee Membership Regional Fire Staff GYCC Fire Mngt. Liaison
Increase coordination between GYA and potentially affected agencies involving Regions concerning prioritizing resources and fire restrictions with other GYA Units and potentially affected neighbors.	Subcommittee Membership Regional Fire Staff
Evaluate potential of going to Level V and inform all GYA Units and Regional Staff of all affected agencies.	Subcommittee Membership Regional Fire Staff

C. PREPAREDNESS LEVEL V

Description:

- Three or more GYA Units experiencing extreme fire danger with no weather break expected within the next 48 hours.
- Three or more units experiencing major fires requiring the commitment of a Complex Incident Management Teams.
- NICC and/or GYA GACC's are actively supporting two or more Regions with fire activity.
- Significant competition for resources exists with the potential to exhaust all Agency resources.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Levels I, II, III and IV actions carry through	Unit FMO/Fire Staff
Wildland and prescribed fire application can be continued or initiated in accordance with each agencies policy.	Unit FMO/Fire Staff Subcommittee Membership Agency Administrator Regional Fire Staff GYCC Fire Mngt. Liaison Agency National Rep
Evaluate need for a GYA representative on Geographical Area MAC Groups to assess resource availability, establish priorities, and coordinate with other Geographical MAC Group(s).	GYCC Subcommittee Membership Unit FMO/Fire Staff
Intensify coordination efforts with all fire protection agencies and news media.	Subcommittee Membership Unit FMO/Fire Staff Regional Fire Staff

APPENDIX C

Resource sharing across the GYA – Guide for unit Duty Officers

June 2024

Per the language in the Coordination Guide, resources for wildfire and prescribed fire activities may be shared directly between any of the GYA Tier 3 dispatch centers (Dillon, Teton, Cody, East Idaho, and Billings) under the nationally endorsed concept of closest available forces. This provision does not apply to resources based/owned outside the GYA or National Resources (IHC, SMKJ, and Type 1 and 2 aircraft, etc.), nor does it apply to VIPR resources on the Dispatch Priority Lists. Smokejumper and Rappel aircraft can be ordered and utilized as an “IA resource”. This is a way to ensure use of the national resources such as smokejumpers and rappellers across the GYA.

This expands beyond the established “neighborhood” concept outlined in geographic area Mob Guides. As the GYA spans three geographic areas, communication between sharing units and all affected coordination entities is key to making this effort successful and an efficient avenue for meeting critical resource needs.

Requesting Unit to sending unit **fire staffs:**

- Communicate directly about resource needs and the type/name available.
- Ensure both units have common understanding of the resource that is being ordered and the expected time frame (if on temporary “loan”).
- Ensure appropriate RX agreements are in place prior to ordering resources from varying agencies for prescribed fire.
- Both fire staff advise agency-based reps (GMAC, NMAC, Regional/State Duty Officers) heads up before placing order to ensure no external issues conflict with the request.
- Both fire staffs will advise their dispatch offices of the conversation/agreement.

Mobilization through established channels:

- **Requesting unit dispatch** will name request/suggest resource and advise affected GACCs.
- Resource order will include a note in the special needs referring to GYA agreement: “This order is for GYA Resources with the GYA per the established GYA agreement”.

GACC	Phone	e-mail
Great Basin	1-801-531-5320	sm.fs.gbc@usda.gov
Northern Rockies	1-406-329-4880	mtnrc@firenet.gov
Rocky Mountain	1-303-445-4300	cormc@firenet.gov

Agency	DO Contacts
BLM	Idaho State Wyoming State Montana State
NPS	Intermountain Region
USFS	R1 DO (BDF, CGF) R2 DO (SHF) R4 DO (BTF, CTF)
USFWS	R6 DO (NER) R1 DO (RRR)