

## CHAPTER 10 - OBJECTIVES, POLICY, AND SCOPE OF OPERATIONS

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**11 - MISSION.** The principal mission of the Great Basin Coordination Centers (EGBCC/WGBCC) is the cost-effective coordination of emergency response for all incidents within their areas and for the Great Basin. This is accomplished through planning, communications, situation monitoring, need projection, and expediting resource orders between Federal Land Management Agencies, State Agencies, and other cooperators.

**11.1 - TOTAL MOBILITY.** Positioning and utilizing established resources to meet anticipated and existing fire protection needs within the Great Basin regardless of geographic location or agency affiliation.

**11.2 - PRIORITIES.** Priorities can be adjusted to meet specific situations. Standard criteria for establishing priorities are found in the National Mobilization Guide, Chapter 11.2.

When competition occurs, the Great Basin Coordination Centers, and if activated, a Great Basin Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Group, will establish priorities for incidents and the assignment of critical resources.

Once the Great Basin situation is assessed, it then becomes imperative to advise all agencies and NICC. This two-way communication provides all units with much of the information they need to manage their resources in the most efficient manner.

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## 12 - SCOPE OF OPERATION.

**12.1 - GENERAL.** See National Mobilization Guide.

**12.1.1 - FEDERAL RESPONSE PLAN.** See National Mobilization Guide

**12.1.2 - OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE.** See National Mobilization Guide.

**12.1.3 - MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS.** All Mutual Aid Agreements must be in writing. A copy of the agreement relating to adjacent units/areas outside the Great Basin and/or National Resources will be furnished to the Great Basin Coordination Centers.

Mutual aid agreements have the primary purpose of providing Initial Attack (I.A.) and short-term logistical support between adjoining units and dispatch centers.

Mobilization will be within the legal authority of existing formalized parent agreements. Local formal agreements and MOU's are not necessary. However, cooperating units and centers must specifically identify operating procedures in local operating plans. Prior to the mobilization of I.A. resources, it is agreed that:

- An official resource request will be processed through dispatch channels for I.A. resources remaining on the incident beyond I.A.
- No I.A. resource responding across geographic boundaries will be mobilized further than that adjoining center boundary.

## 12.2 - GREAT BASIN COORDINATING GROUP.

**12.2.1 - MISSION STATEMENT.** The Great Basin Coordinating Group (GBCG) is established to provide an interagency approach to wildland fire management in the Great Basin.

**12.2.2 - MEMBERSHIP.** The Coordinating Group will be composed of the lead fire manager or his/her representative from each of the following agencies:

- Forest Service (Intermountain Region)
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Land Management (Idaho, Utah and Nevada State Offices, and NIFC)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (Western Region, Northwest Region, Navajo Region and Southwest Region Offices)
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- State Agencies (Idaho, Utah, and Nevada)

Agency representatives are responsible for ensuring that respective agency policy and procedures are maintained and that agency administrators are informed. The members will coordinate recommendations for agency acceptance and implementation.

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**13 - MOBILIZATION/DEMOBILIZATION.** Great Basin Coordination Centers (WGBCC/EGBCC) will coordinate movement of all resources across recognized Great Basin unit dispatch boundaries and between each center. Unit dispatch centers at the local level may coordinate directly if the resources are used for initial attack on/with the adjacent jurisdictions (per local agreements) when it is reasonable to expect containment during the first operational period. Resources mobilized will be ordered through established ordering channels.

When a Great Basin resource(s) is reassigned within the Great Basin, a change order and/or notification will not occur. The home unit can request status information from the appropriate coordination center. When Great Basin resources are mobilized within the Great Basin and subsequently reassigned from one Geographic Area to another, a new resource order (change order) will be provided by NICC back to the appropriate Great Basin Coordination Center. The Great Basin Coordination Centers shall relay new resource order information via a change order or the Electronic Mail Procedures (.MOB) to the home unit via established dispatch channels.

**Safety is the highest priority.** Units responding to requests are responsible for ensuring the resources dispatched meet the criteria specified in this guide, the National Mobilization Guide and/or the National Wildfire Coordinating Group Qualification and Certification Handbook (NWCG-310-1). All dispatchers, fire managers, and firefighters will follow policy, risk-analysis and management guidelines to minimize exposure to hazards.

**Resource Commitment.** A minimum fire assignment of 14 days (can be negotiated to 21 days) can be expected by Great Basin non fire personnel for assignments within the Great Basin. Fire personnel are expected to be available for 21 day incident assignments (including travel days), unless prior arrangements are made between the sending and receiving units. Idaho Department of Lands has a standard 14 day commitment of all personnel and other resources, except team members. See Subsection 22.2.1.B, for more information. All resources committed outside the Great Basin are expected to be available for 21 days.

**Night Mobilization.** In general, "night mobilization" (mobilization between the hours of 2200 and 0500) for other than initial attack incidents or first reinforcements is to be avoided other than with commercial carriers (for example, scheduled airlines, National contract aircraft, bus carriers, etc.). If incident objectives necessitate "night mobilization", then mode of travel and travel times will be negotiated with the ordering office to ensure personnel safety and rest requirements are met.

**13.1 - INITIAL ATTACK DEFINITION.** See National Mobilization Guide.

**13.2 - RESOURCE MOBILIZATION.** See National Mobilization Guide.

**13.3 - NATIONAL RESOURCES.** See National Mobilization Guide.

**13.4 - NOTIFICATION OF COMMITMENT OF NATIONAL/GREAT BASIN RESOURCES.** Great Basin units will notify Coordination Centers of the commitment of National Resources within their local unit. Notification will be done over the phone or by electronic mail within **15 minutes** of commitment.

- A. When National Resources are committed internally to an incident or are no longer available for dispatch.
- B. When available again (resources on duty and available for dispatch).
- C. When location changes.
- D. When 50% of the smokejumpers at home bases are dispatched.

**13.5 - FILL OR KILL PROCEDURE.** See National Mobilization Guide.

**13.6 - STANDARD CUBES WEIGHT POLICY AND GEAR FOR ALL PERSONNEL (EXCLUDING SMOKE JUMPERS, RAPPELLERS AND CWN HELICOPTER MANAGERS).** When mobilizing Type 1 and 2 teams within the Great Basin, there are some exceptions to the National 65 pound weight limit. Positions that are approved to carry additional weight are designated on the Team Rosters issued by the Coordination Centers. Also, See National Mobilization Guide.

**13.7 - STRIKE TEAMS.** See National Mobilization Guide.

**13.8 - FIRE WEATHER FORECASTS.** Dissemination of Fire Weather Information. See National Mobilization Guide

1. Local Dispatch Centers/Units will broadcast fire weather information reports twice a day (morning and afternoon). Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings will be broadcast and disseminated at time of issuance.
2. Wildland fire agencies will post the fire weather reports at all stations including helibases and airtanker bases, etc.
3. Incident Commanders on all incidents will be responsible for all suppression and prescribed fire resources assigned to them being briefed on current and expected fire weather information prior to any line assignment.

**13.9 - BIA DIRECT EXCHANGE OF RESOURCES.** The BIA Director, National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC), is delegated authority for the assignment and movement of BIA personnel and equipment to meet fire emergency needs and is authorized to approve expenditures chargeable to emergency fire suppression and rehabilitation funds.

The BIA Area Directors for the Western Region, Northwest Region, Navajo Region, and Southwest Region Offices have delegated authority to transfer personnel and equipment to Reservations where the fire load is temporarily excessive for the local personnel.

The Western Region, Northwest Region, Navajo Region, and Southwest Region Offices encompass New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, and Colorado. The movement of resources to meet agency needs shall flow through normal dispatching channels and be documented by resource order.

**13.10 - PORTAL-TO-PORTAL.** A portal-to-portal resource is one normally paid on a 24-hour per day basis when away from its home unit. Portal-to-portal type resources will not be ordered or utilized for extended operation if other resources are available. If it becomes necessary to utilize portal-to-portal resource(s), notification to the receiving unit will be accomplished prior to mobilization.