

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

### **BETWEEN:**

VALE UNITS BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
BURNS INTERAGENCY FIRE ZONE  
CENTRAL OREGON FIRE MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
SOUTH CENTRAL OREGON INTERAGENCY FIRE

### **CONCERNING:**

Eastern Oregon Engine Task Force  
Developed by Eastern Oregon Fire Operations Supervisors Group

#### **I. PURPOSE**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) provides local initial and extended attack organizations, interagency partners, NW Geographic Area and national incident management teams with highly trained and professional agency engine task force/strike team for suppression and prescribed fire needs. This MOU promotes agency capabilities and a professional engine workforce while helping to develop the experience base and careers of its employees.

#### **II. Intent**

The intent of this task force/strike team is to mobilize firefighting resources for initial attack and local extended attack wildland fire support and prescribed fire. Time that resources are staged should be minimized. Orders for large fire support during the NW fire season or for prescribed fire will be filled on a case by case basis at the discretion of FMO's and/or duty officers. If ordered for large fire support under a Type 2 or Type 1 IMT structure, the IMT can and should determine the best utilization of the resources. Severity orders are not the intent of this task force.

#### **III. OBJECTIVE**

This MOU will enhance the effectiveness of local initial attack and prescribed fire efforts, provide opportunity for quality overhead training assignments, and provide additional available agency engine resources for geographic area and national fire support.

#### **IV. PROCEDURE**

- A.** The east-side Units (BIFZ, SCOIF, Vale BLM, and COFMS) are the sponsoring Units and will be the primary providers for engines to the Eastern Oregon Engine Task Force (EOETF).
- B.** Each sponsoring Unit will attempt to supply one engine to the task force/strike team configuration. A rotational schedule will be set to determine which Units will provide the fifth

engine to the task force as well as the qualified Task Force Leader/Strike Team Leader and Task Force Leader/Strike Team Leader trainee. This rotation will ensure that all Units receive equal opportunity for training and development of its workforce. The rotational schedule for the trainee will be based on the greatest need within each sponsoring Units. Those firefighters who are critical in completing task books will be considered first. Each winter/spring, the BLM Fire Operations Specialist (FOS) group will provide a combined list of those employees who are considered critical in completing task force/ strike team task books. Note the rotational schedule for engines in attachment #1.

- C. It is essential that NWCC have one central contact point to activate the Eastern Oregon Engine Task Force. Burns Interagency Communication Center (BICC) will be the coordinating dispatch center until further notice. Authorization for resource mobilization must be granted by each home Unit's Duty Officer and/or FMO. The local Duty Officer and/or fire management staff from Burn Interagency Fire Zone (BIFZ) may assist BICC in coordinating this mobilization effort between Units.
- D. BICC will coordinate with Lakeview, Vale, Central Oregon, and Burns to fill the EOETF. BICC will order the amount of resources from each Unit according to the rotation. BICC will call the other Units to gather the engine numbers and the TFLD names from each participating Unit and roster it in ROSS. They will then create the outstanding requests, send the requests to the Units, and then the Units can roster their people for each resource and fill the pending request. It is up to the individual Units/dispatch to know where they are in the rotation and to have their available resources prepared to go off-unit. BICC will status the EOETF available May 1<sup>st</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- E. Assignments will rotate based on the last mobilization and the rotation will carry over from one fire season to the next in order to provide equal opportunity for all Units. Even if a Unit cannot participate and/or elects not to participate in a dispatch (with an engine and/or overhead) the rotation will remain consistent.
- F. Local fire activity and/or fire danger on the home Units may dictate that Units are not able to fill orders. If a sponsoring Unit is unable to provide an engine (or two as the case may be) to the EOETF, it is the responsibility of the Unit's dispatch center to notify BICC as to the change in status and reflect the appropriate change in ROSS. Replacement resources should then be considered to fill the order. This responsibility lies with the Units that cannot fill the order. They must find a replacement resource from a neighboring Units and/or agency. Otherwise, the order should be "UTF'ed" back to BICC.
- G. In the case of an extension, the FMO's and/or Duty Officers would have to agree upon the extension. The rotation would not move for that extension until EOETF has returned.
- H. Tactical tenders may also be considered by each Unit as an available resource. The tactical tender addition to the task force is optional and should be considered on a case by case basis.

- I. Development and training opportunities are always a priority in providing a qualified and professional workforce into the future. Trainee positions will be coordinated through the host dispatch center on a rotational basis. Each Unit will make it a priority to make trainees available.
- J. The EOETF must be dispatched with the appropriate leadership for all orders. Although the resources are ordered from individual Units through ROSS, the group travels together to and from the incident. Once the dispatch order is received, the Task Force Leader/Strike Team Leader will then have control of the EOETF. The engines will meet at a designated time and location, based on the dispatch order and as identified by the Task Force Leader/Strike Team Leader. The EOETF will then proceed to the fire location as a task force/strike team.
- K. The EOETF should also be considered for prescribed fire operations as well. The ordering process remains the same. For prescribed fire orders, discretion lies with the ordering Units as to what overhead (if any) is necessary to accompany the EOETF while in transit and on assignment. It is not necessary to order overhead with the EOETF for prescribed fire orders but it is highly preferred. When ordering overhead with the EOETF for prescribed fires, good coordination must take place to ensure the overhead ordered are qualified to lead the group, if the intent is to keep the EOETF intact. The ordering Units must specify the type of individual they want to accompany the group on the resource order. The type of qualified individual sent with the EOETF ultimately depends upon how the ordering Units will utilize that position. Orders for trainee opportunities and positions are welcomed. It is the ordering Unit's responsibility to order agency specific resources and overhead to provide for payment if the project is agency restrictive.
- L. If the task force/strike team is returning home from an assignment, the EOETF's next rotation will not be available until the current dispatched task force arrives home, completes days off and statused as available. If all Units agree to support another task force, then a second EOETF could then be made available.

**V. ADMINISTRATION**

- A. TX and RX 166.6375 (BLM GOLD) will serve as the default communications channel for the task force/strike team until other frequencies are identified.
- B. Changes to the document will be initiated by the FOS group with consultation from the FMO's, NWCC, and SORO.

**VI. Contacts**  
**Vale BLM**  
Vale Dispatch

(541)473-6295

Bob Narus	(541)473-6265
Todd Gregory	(541)473-6264
Tracy Skerjanec	(541)473-6293
Al Crouch	(541)473-6361
Sam Delong	(541)473-6312
Pat Skaggs	(541)473-6356
<b>BIFZ</b>	
Burns Interagency Communication Center	(541)573-1000
Dave Toney	(541)589-0225
Shane Theall	(541)-413-0098
Cody McConnell	(541)589-0175
Mark Fenton	(541)589-0190
Ryan Hussey	(541)589-0669
Kevin Thissell	(541)620-2951
Wes Richardson	(541)413-0095
<b>COFMS</b>	
Central Oregon Interagency Dispatch Center	(541)416-6800
Dan Ridenour	(541)416-6423
	(541)233-8379(cell)
Don Tschida	(541)480-3357
Jake Akerberg	(541-610-3180
<b>SCOIF</b>	
Lakeview Interagency Fire Center	(541)947-6315
Brent Meisinger	(541)219-6031
Bob Crumrine	(541)219-0105
Scott Havel	(541)219-1870
Abel Harrington	(541)219-0103
Trent Wilkie	(541)219-0084

## VII. **Expiration**

This MOU will remain in effect until signed again. The only changes that will be made without a signature required will be the contact list.

## **Attachment #1 of 1**

### **Sample Resource Configuration (Wildfire)**

Type 4 Engine – crew of 3  
 Type 4 Engine – crew of 3,4, or 5  
 Type 4 Engine or Tatra – crew of 3  
 Type 6 Engine – crew of 2 or 3

Type 6 Engine – crew of 2 or 3  
 1 Command Truck with TFLD and TFLD(t)

**Sample Resource Configuration (Prescribed Fire)**

Type 4 Engine – crew of 3  
 Type 6 Engine – crew of 2 or 3  
 Type 6 Engine - crew of 2 or 3  
 Type 6 Engine – crew of 2 or 3  
 Type 6 Engine – crew of 2 or 3  
 1 Support crew cab pickup (with fuel tank and burn equipment)

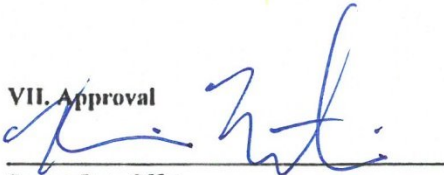
**ENGINE ROTATIONAL SCHEDULE**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>2 Engine Contribution</b>	<b>1 Engine Contribution</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Mobilization	BIFZ	Vale BLM SCOIF COFMS
2 <sup>nd</sup>	SCOIF	Vale BLM BIFZ COFMS
3 <sup>rd</sup>	COFMS	Vale BLM BIFZ SCOIF
4 <sup>th</sup>	Vale BLM	BIFZ SCOIF COFMS

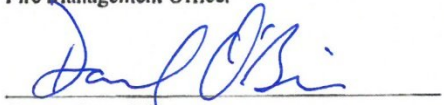
**OVERHEAD ROTATIONAL SCHEDULE**


<b>Dates</b>	<b>TFLD</b>	<b>TFLD Trainee</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Mobilization	COFMS	Vale BLM
2 <sup>nd</sup>	BIFZ	COFMS
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Vale BLM	SCOIF
4 <sup>th</sup>	SCOIF	BIFZ

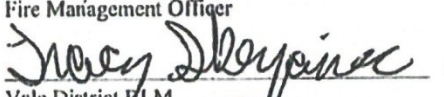
VII. Approval

 Date: 6/22/2014  
Oregon State Office  
Director of Fire and Aviation

 Date: 7/15/2016  
Oregon State Office  
Fire Management Officer

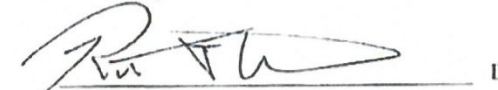
 Date: 6/24/2016  
Oregon State Office  
Fire Operations

 Date: 6/9/2016  
Burns Interagency Fire Zone  
Fire Management Officer


 Date: 6/8/16  
Vale District BLM  
Fire Management Officer

Active

 Date: 6/13/16  
Central Oregon Fire Management Service  
Fire Management Officer

 Date: 6/9/16  
South Central Oregon Interagency Fire  
Fire Management Officer

For

 Date: 7/15/2016  
Northwest Interagency Coordination Center Manager

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
FOS Committee Chairman