



Forest
Service

Six Rivers
National Forest

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File Code: 5130/5180

Date: September 23, 2011

Route To:

Subject: Authority/responsibility IC assigned to Incident on Six Rivers NF

To: Files

You are assigned the Incident Commander for the **Ruth**, effective September 24, 2011, at 1200 hours on the Six Rivers National Forest. You have full authority and responsibility for managing incident operations within the framework of legal statute, current policy and the broad direction provided in your oral and written briefing materials.

You are expected to do a complete and efficient job, while providing for SAFETY. Safety is and will remain a major concern of mine throughout the incident. I expect access to the Incident Commander as needed.

- Safety will be the number one consideration in determining strategies and tactics to suppress these fires. Protection of life and property is your first priority. My expectation is for you to meet the intent of the May 14, 2008, Line Officer Team letter regarding responsibilities and fire management to ensure the highest level of safety implementation on this incident.
- In addition to public and firefighter safety, protection of Threatened and Endangered Species habitat, anadromous fisheries and Wilderness values are a primary objective. An objective for the **Ruth** is to safely contain the fire with as little impact to Wilderness values as possible and in a cost effective manner. This will be measured by the lack of scars (or lasting impacts) left on the landscape when the fire is out. The use of Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) should be taken into consideration in the development of strategies and tactics in concert with the appropriate management response for the incident.
- Fiscal integrity is a high priority in management of the incident. It is the goal of the Forest to manage the incident in the most cost-effective manner possible, as described in the April 19, 2007, Line Officer Team letter regarding responsibilities and fire management.
- The Law Enforcement point of contact is Special Agent **Scott Harris**. He can be reached at (707) 562-9125 (office).
- A Wildland Fire Decision Support System Document (WFDSS) has been prepared. Suppression actions should be consistent with resource values to be protected. **District Ranger (Tom Hudson)** will be primarily involved in approving the WFDSS and will be



Acting Agency Administrator, my representative. **Ranger Hudson** will also be the designated Line Officer representative and will be available to consult on local issues.

- **Mike Beasley** is the Deputy Forest Fire Chief and Forest Duty Officer. He will be available as an additional local contact if needed at (707) 441-3516 (office) or (707) 496-2571 (cell).
- I would like the Incident fire use/loss rate to be at or below 15% when the team closes the incident or is demobed from the Forest. If the Incident fire use/loss rate is greater than 15%, I would like the team to initiate the fire use/loss report prior to demobilization.
- I request the Incident provide aerial initial attack support on National Forest Direct Protection Area lands within the designated Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) area.
- Investigations of any accidents require close coordination and collaboration with the Agency Administrator. Incident resources will be made available as needed to assist. Initial on-site investigations by incident personnel must be done according to Region 5 standards, using Region 5 standard forms. We may retain the authority to do our own accident investigation.
- The Northwest Forest Plan guides our activities on the Six Rivers National Forest and the direction for that guidance is in the Six Rivers Land Management Plan. In addition, the Fire Management Plan tiers to the Forest Land Management Plan and provides guidance as displayed in the WFDSS. Concerns that will affect your management of the incident will be provided by the assigned Resource Advisor **(Dan Dill)** or the Line Officer Representative.
- Suppression rehabilitation plans should be developed and work completed prior to your release from the incident.
- Private lands either within or adjacent to the incident will be given a high priority for protection. I would like you to involve the appropriate cooperators in your incident operations and actions.
- I would like the Incident to be the primary point of contact for fire related information. In addition to serving the needs of the media, the Incident Information Plan should address providing information to the communities within the area, forest recreation sites, travelers and forest employees following the forest Information Function Protocol Handbook. It is important that you and your staff coordinate with the SRF Public Affairs Communications (PAC) office, located at forest headquarters in Eureka, California. The PAC office can be reached through Public Affairs Specialist **Peggi Lawrence** at (707) 441-3595 (office), or (707) 442-9242 (fax).
- You are expected to provide a harassment free workplace. You are responsible to take prompt action if any human resource issues occur on this incident. I expect all issues to be resolved by the end of your assignment. The Forest Supervisor or Forest Civil Rights

Officer will be briefed on issues and actions taken prior to the close-out meeting between the Forest and the Incident Management Team. The case files will be transferred to the Forest at the closeout meeting.

In accordance with Pacific Southwest Regional Directives (FSM 1765.04 1.a. through 2.d., R5 Supp. 1700-95-1), you are required to report all alleged incidents of sexual harassment to either Forest Civil Rights Officer **Kathy Allen** or the District Ranger as soon as possible after learning of the alleged incident (normally within 24 hours). Kathy Allen can be reached at (707) 441-3557 (office), (707) 496-2887 (cell) or (707) 269-7063 (home). Initiate corrective interventions as the situation dictates.

- You are responsible for following the national policy on drug and alcohol use on fires. I expect you to take immediate action with any violations of that policy.
- Be sure that your use of any training positions is in accordance with USFS direction.

Should problems arise that cannot be accommodated by the District Ranger, please contact me at (707) 441-3534 (office) or (707) 499-0521 (cell).

Tom Hudson

FOR

TYRONE KELLEY
Forest Supervisor

Gloria P. White
IC
NORCAL #1