



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Pacific
Southwest
Region

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JUN 26 2007

Subject: Letter of Expectations for Regional Forester's Representative-Angora Fire,
LTBMU

To: Art Gaffrey, Director, Ecosystems Conservation

Consistent with national guidance associated with wildland fire management efficiencies, a Regional Forester's Representative (RFR) will be appointed when an emerging wildland fire incident is projected by the local line officer, through completion of a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) to cost between \$5 and \$10 million. The Angora Fire on the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit has been projected to exceed \$5 million. As a result, I am appointing you as the RFR for the Angora Fire.

It is not my intent for the RFR to receive any delegated authority from me; the authority for managing this fire resides with the local agency administrator. I also do not want the RFR and any associated support individuals to add additional layers or complexity to the management oversight of this fire. My expectations for the RFR on this incident are for you to work closely with the local agency administrator and staff to review the incident planning process, applicable documentation, current and predicted fire situation, and offer any advice and counsel in areas that you feel could assist the local unit in improving management efficiency on this incident. Specifically, I would like you to:

- Provide regional and national perspective to the local line officer concerning this fire and others that may develop within the region during this time,
- Review incident planning documents with the local agency administrator,
- Assist in the assessment for additional need of a Regional Decision Support Group (DSG) to respond to the incident to gather additional decision support information,
- Review the Delegation of Authority from the Agency Administrator to the IMT with focus on the stated objectives, operational constraints, special concerns, public information, and cost management,
- Provide an outside review of the WFSA and offer recommendations as appropriate regarding:
 - selected suppression strategy and tactics and consistency with values at risk, resource availability, and probability of success,
 - projected suppression costs,
 - resource allocation issues,
- Review incident management activities which would include both the Incident Management Team (IMT) and Agency Administrator functions,
- Review inter-forest aspects of incident management, such as communication, coordination, etc.,



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- Review decision support group products and promote proper inclusion of data in the decision making process if appropriate.
- Provide me with periodic updates relating to significant events or strategic decisions.

Products that I would like you to develop include:

- Documentation package for all RFR and (as applicable) DSG actions,
- Written evaluation of the RFR process and recommendations for improvement, and
- Work with IMT and Agency Administrator to identify and document results of interaction with the RFR/DSG (i.e., did it add value to the local unit's efforts and did it make a difference in cost effectiveness?).

Decision support elements should be used that will support the review of the WFSA and assessment of the long-term fire and weather situations and strengthen any recommendations for improving management efficiency. Elements that may be useful for this incident include, but are not limited to:

WFSA/WFIP planning	RFR and DSG
Long range predictive services forecasting	Predictive Services at NCSC will assist with this element
Stratified cost indexing (SCI)	SCI support can be obtained from Bernhard Bahro, FAMSAC
Fire spread probabilities (FS PRO)	Further FS PRO analysis can be requested from Bernhard Bahro, FAMSAC
Rapid Assessment values at Risk (RAVAR)	Accomplished

Several individuals from the Regional Fire and Aviation Management Staff are available to support you as the Decision Support Group. These individuals can be contacted through OSCC. Any other questions you have can be directed to Joe Millar, Acting Assistant Director of Fire and Aviation Management, NCSC, 530-226-2700 (work) or 530-945-8804 (cell).

Attached are several documents to assist you in this effort. They include an up to date summary and recommendations provided by the FAM staff, and an assortment of policy documents pertaining to WFDDS and SCI, the function / role / and purpose of the Regional Forester's Representative (RFR) and Chief's Principal Representative (CPR).

After you have had the time to assess the situation, please contact me with your estimate of time and cost necessary to suppress the Angora Fire. Upon completion of your assignment, we will arrange a closeout de-briefing either via conference call or in person.

Bernard G. Weingardt, for
BERNARD WEINGARDT
Regional Forester

Enclosures

cc: Ed Hollenshead, Terri Marceron, Arthur L Gaffrey, Joe Millar, Bernhard Bahro, Kent Connaughton, Tom Harbour, Karyn L Wood, Leyna Irwin