

Morrell Fire Management Action Points (MAPS)

Seeley Lake Ranger District

Lolo National Forest

Management Action Points (also called "trigger points"). Either geographic points on the ground or specified points in time where an escalation or alteration of management actions is warranted. Timely implementation of the planned actions when the fire reaches the action point is generally critical to successful accomplishment of the objectives.

Line Operations will contact Planning Operations and IC immediately when MAP's have been reached and any actions will come down through the chain of command. IC will notify Agency Administrator or designee of specific management action points that have been reached. IC / OPS2 will advise PIO2 & LOFR of actions, so public service announcements can be released.

Contact NorthWestern Energy at 888-467-2669 before any imminent impacts from the fire, firing operations and locations for possible de-charging of specific lines for safety

MAP 1 is mainly Forest Road (FR) 720 with several portions of line construction needed on the south end, easily put in with a dozer. If the fire was to get established beyond MAP 1 and fire behavior indicates fire growth exceeding the capabilities of the resources at hand, prompt mobilization of high priority resources would be needed. The potential values at risk including structures, timber and recreation would require an additional three type 1 and six Type 2 IA Handcrews, six Type 6 engines, two Type 2 dozers and 12 supervision overhead. A dedicated aviation operation would also be necessary using one type 3 helicopter, two Type 2 and one Type 1 helicopter, air tanker support would likely be needed as well.

MAP 2 is a mix of private ownership boundary, un-numbered non-system roads, FR 2166, FR 720 and approximately 1.5 miles of new line construction. The new line can easily be constructed with a dozer because of relatively moderate terrain. If the fire was to become established beyond MAP 2 and fire behavior indicates fire growth exceeding the capabilities of the resources at hand, rapid mobilization of high priority resources from multiple agencies would be necessary. Numerous private residences and structures would be threatened with evacuations ordered, State Hwy 83 would likely have to be closed because of the fire approaching the road, reduced visibility due to smoke and heavy emergency fire traffic. The complexities and values at risk would necessitate Unified command with local, county and state partners. The vegetation in the Rice Creek drainage has not had any significant fire activity since the 1910 burn allowing a large buildup of fuels. If the fire growth was generally to the south, the community of Seeley Lake could be threatened with large scale evacuations and multiple values at risk. In addition to the resources listed in MAP 1 an additional six Type 1 Handcrews, six Type 2 IA Handcrews, ten Type 6 engines, 20+ Type two structural engines, one Type 3 helicopters, and four Type one helicopters, four Type 2 dozers, 50 supervision overhead, a Structural Protection Branch, a Law Enforcement Branch. The current Type 2 Incident Management Team team would have to complete a complexity analysis to evaluate if a higher level of Incident Management is indicated.