# Honey Prairie Complex GA-OKR-000001 Incident Action Plan Operational Period Tuesday 

October 11, 2011 0800-2000 Incident Commander Steve Gray
Accounting Codes

FWS - 9141 -F25M-2J
BLM - F25M

NPS - 5023 F25M E11 USFS - PRF25M_1502

Initial Attack - F4PIM




Letter from GFC Incident Commander:
To: All Honey Prairie Incident Personnel
As a Type 3 Incident Commander, I am committed to a policy of "zero tolerance" of inappropriate behavior during incident operations. Any form of harassment, discriminatory practices, or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated.

Guidelines on in-appropriate behavior both "on Duty" and "off Duty" while assigned are addressed within each agencies policies. Our Team expects all incident personnel to follow established government policies for behavior along with all illegal drug and alcohol directives.

Our Incident Management Team endorses and supports an attitude of mutual respect for all personnel and the public we serve.

We expect a strong work ethic and an attitude of Safety at all times!
Sincerely,
/s/ Steve Gray
Incident Commander
Type 3 Incident Management Team

| INCIDENT OBJECTIVES | 2. INCIDENT NAME <br> Honey Prairie <br> Complex | 2. DATE PREPARED <br> $10 / 10 / 11$ | 3. TIME PREPARED <br> 1700 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 4. OPERATIONAL PERIOD (DATE/TIME) |  |  |  |
| Tuesday, October 11,2011 |  |  |  |
| $0800-2000$ |  |  |  |






FORECAST NO: 157
PREDICTION FOR: Day Shift
SHIFT DATE: Tuesday 10/11/11
FORECAST ISSUED: 10/10/11 at 1600 EDT

NAME OF FIRE: Honey Prairie Complex UNIT: Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge

WEATHER DISCUSSION: A low pressure area over the northeast Gulf of Mexico and the central Florida Panhandle will move northeast across north Florida and southern Georgia into the Atlantic off of the southeast Georgia coast and into the Atlantic late tonight. Weak high pressure will move toward the area from the northwest Wednesday.

TODAY: Mostly cloudy with scattered showers with possible isolated thunderstorms.

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES:
78-80
MINIMUM HUMIDITY:
20 FT WINDS:
STABILITY/INVERSION:
TRANSPORT WINDS:
DISPERSION INDEX:
CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION:
LIGHTNING ACTIVITY LEVEL:
60\%
3000 feet

50\%
2

South to southwest 5 to 8 mph with gusts to 12 mph .
Southwest 15 mph
28, poor to fair

## TONIGHT:

Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Low temperature 62. North 2 to 5 mph .

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy. A slight chance of showers with possible isolated thunderstorms.

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES:
MINIMUM HUMIDITY:
20 FT WINDS:
STABILITY/INVERSION:
TRANSPORT WINDS:
DISPERSION INDEX:
CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION:
LIGHTNING ACTIVITY LEVEL:

83
50 to $55 \%$
West to northwest 5 to 8 mph with gusts to 15 mph . 3500 feet
Northwest 10 mph.
35, Poor to fair
20\%
2

EXTENDED FORECAST: A dry cold front will move through the area Thursday with high pressure building over the area from the northwest Friday and into the weekend.

|  | THURSDA Y | FRIDA Y | SATURDA Y |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SKY/WEATHER | Partly cloudy | Mostly sunny | Mostly sunny |
| THUNDER/PRECIP | $5 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 20 FT WINDS | West to northwest 5 <br> to 10 mph with gusts <br> to 15 mph | Northwest 5 to 10 <br> mph with gusts to <br> 15 mph | North to northeast 5 <br> to 10 mph with <br> gusts to 15 mph. |
| MIN/MAX | $55 / 83$ | $52 / 85$ | 52 to $55 / 80$ |
| Relative Humidity | $45 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $35 \%$ |


| FIRE BEHAVIOR FORECAST |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Fire: Honey Prairie Complex | Unit: GA-OKR-000001 | Prediction for Day Shift |
| Forecast \#154 Issued: 10/10/2011 1600 hrs | Signed: David Fogler | Shift Date: Monday 10/11/2011 |
| GENERAL FIRE BEHAVIOR |  |  |
| Fuels around the Okefenokee Wildlife Refuge are predominately Fuel Model 7 (Southern Rough). Large to moderate |  |  |
| acreage tracts of commercial timberland are mixed in throughout the entire perimeter surrounding the refuge. Fast |  |  |
| moving wildfires with extremely high flame lengths and rapid rates of spread occur within and around the swamp. |  |  |
| Indicators/Threshold for Increased Fire Activity |  |  |

- Relative humidity below $45 \%$
- Winds above 10 mph
- Heavy fuel loadings
* Items in BOLD ITALICS are predicted to occur today*

SPECIFIC FIRE BEHAVIOR
> Interior smoldering may become active burning with flare ups and re-burn possible.
> Expect fire to continue smoldering with potential open flame as heated areas are fanned by winds. Backing fire will progress in organic leaf mats, muck soils, and un-burnt shrubs in the Refuge Wilderness swamp area.

## LIGHTNING ACTIVITY LEVEL 2

|  | Rates of Spread | Flame Length | Spotting Distance | Firebrand Ignition |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wnd 5-8 g-12 mph | Winds will be brisk from the Northeast - East |  |  |  |
| Small PL Pines (4) | 10-15 ch/hr | 14-18 ft | UP to 1/10 MILE | 20\% |
| Southern Rough (7) | 6-10 ch/hr | 4-6 ft | UP to 1/10 MILE | 20\% |
| Reburn (9) | 3-5 ch/hr | 2-3 ft | UP to 1/10 MILE | 20\% |
| Shrub Fuels (sh8) | 4-6 ch/hr | 7-9 ft | UP to 1/10 MILE | 20\% |

One hour fine dead fuel moisture is $15 \%$ for Monday: Smoldering in the duff and larger fuels will continue. 1,000 hour fuels remain drier than normal for this time of year. Re-burn potential is likely due to lower humidity's in the areas that have received minimal rainfall. The uncontrolled fire edge in the Wilderness swamp will continue to burn through organic soils, leaf litter and downed woody material. If contiguous fuels are ignited, spread and spotting potential will increase due to lower humidity and higher winds

NOTE- OTHER THAN THE RE-BURN, FIRE BEHAVIOR CALCULATIONS ARE FOR FIRES IN UNBURNED FUELS INCLUDING NEW IA STARTS.

## All Divisions:

The fire continues a slow spread through the thick bays and muck soils. Roots and fallen trees are protecting heat sources allowing the fire to burn organic soils from the bottom up. Keep a heads-up for falling trees. Re-burn potential is likely.
Air Operations: Expect an increase in smoke from the fire.
SAFETY:
Brisk Winds - Watch for increasing winds throughout the afternoon
Live Trees/SNAGS - are falling in all Divisions and will be influenced by Increased winds.
FUELS: Watch for pockets of cured shrubs or blankets of needle cast. Re-burn is possible in some area. 1,000 and 10,000 hour fuels as well as deep duff pockets are providing a heat source. 100 and 1000 hour fuels are still below average in moisture content. Stay focused, and put LCES in place before starting operations.

| INCIDENT: Honey Prairie Fire | DATE: 10/11/2011 | TIME: 0800 |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Major Hazards and Risks:Driving <br> Winch Operations <br> Wildlife |  |  |  |  |

Driving- One of the biggest hazards that we face is the amount of driving we do, Drive defensively and travel with headlights on at all times. With the amount of rainfall predicted watch for pounding on roadways. And the biggest threat is watch the other drivers!

Winch Operations - With the weather forecast predicted rain, there are going to be some vehicles that get bogged down. During winch operations follow the safe winching practices found in the "Basic Guide to Winching Techniques" See Safety for a copy of this Guide.

Wildlife - Snakes and other critters are on the move again watch where you step, There has been several sittings of venomous snakes in the area. Be aware of your surroundings, and communicate to others any hazards you encounter.


Sign says:
Hikers and Bikers
Move to the side of
The road when a
Vehicle approaches

Weather observations need to include:

- Location on the fire
- Elevation of observation
- Aspect of observation
- Time of observation
- Wind direction
- Wind speed
- Dry bulb
- Wet bulb
- RH
- Dew point
- Sky conditions (cloud types, dust devils, precipitation, etc.)
Finally, after you've received the spot forecast, consider providing feedback to forecaster, especially if conditions on the ground do not match those in the forecast.

Safety Officers: Tommy Hawkins, Robert Shoemaker

| INCIDENT ACTION PLAN SAFETY ANALYSIS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1. Incident Name Honey Prairie Fire <br> Tactical Applications <br> s Escape routes Safety zones | $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline \text { 2. Date } \\ 10 / 11 / 2011 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |  |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline \text { 3. Time } \\ \text { Day Shift } \end{array}$ <br> Other Risk Analysis |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| LCES* Analysis of Tactical ApplicationsLookouts Communications Escape routes Safety zones |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Other Risk Analysis |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { d} \\ & \text { 弟 } \\ & \text { 皆 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | LCES Mitigations | $\begin{array}{\|l\|l} \hline \stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{0} \\ \stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{E} \\ \mathrm{E} \end{array}$ |  | \|l |  |  | Other Risk Mitigations |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 1, \\ & 2, \\ & 3, \\ & 4, \\ & 5, \\ & 7, \\ & 8, \\ & 10, \\ & 14 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2, \\ & 6, \\ & 11, \\ & 15, \\ & 17 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12, \\ & 20, \\ & 26 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 1, <br> 1, <br> 2, <br> 3, <br> 4, <br> 5, <br> 7, <br> 8, <br> 14 | $\begin{gathered} 7, \\ 10 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 1 | 2, 3, 3, 6, 20, 21, 24, | 2, <br> 23, <br> 28 | 1.Establish \& maintain LCES. Report LCES checks twice daily to DIVS on line \& staging. <br> 2. Look UP,DOWN and AROUND <br> 3. Post experienced Lookouts. Make sure LCES is in place and make known. <br> 4. Use Aerial Resources as Lookout if available. | 24 | 12 17 19 20 22, 26, 27 27 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 1, \\ & 3, \\ & 10 \\ & 14 \\ & 19 \\ & 24 \\ & 25 \end{aligned}$ | 16 18 21 |  | 16. Take adequate rest breaks and encourage to drink water NOW through briefings. <br> 17. Defensive driving will be addressed in all briefings. <br> 18. All personnel must meet the $2: 1$ work/rest ratio. Line supervisors and Safety will monitor closely. <br> 19. Notify Operation and Safety of Railroad track issues to ensure safety of firefighters. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5. Flag escape routes on right side of escape route facing outward. Create new escape routes as you progress and identify Safety Zones on the ground and maps. <br> 6. Identify, mark \& mitigate. <br> 7. FBAN/Meteorologist to monitor weather updates and advisories. <br> 8. Ensure Fireline is Anchored to black or manmade/natural barrier. |  |  |  |  |  | 20. Ensure Traffic Planning is safe and enforced. Heed Defensive Driving techniques noted in Safety Messages. <br> 21. Relocate staging area when driving conditions warrant. <br> 22. Use spotter when backing vehicle(s). <br> 23. For insects, use protective spray with deet on skin (Not on Nomex), permethrin can be used on nomex clothing |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 10. Keep Firefighters informed of any changes in <br> predicted weather, consider at least a two day weather <br> pattern when planning Strategic Firing operations. <br> 11. Refer to IRPG, pg. 12 on Power Line Hazards. <br> 12. Observe all traffic signals and speed limits. Drive <br> with lights on. <br> 14. Ensure GOOD tailgate briefings with resources <br> unable to attend Operational Briefing (Include Ops, <br> Logs, Fin \& Plans info.). |  |  |  |  |  | 24. Establish smoke/fog signs on roadways. Coordinate with Department of Transportation. <br> 25.Follow establish communication plan, flight follow through dispatch <br> 26. Watch-out for school buses and for children along the edge of roadway and crossing the road. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 15. Scout ahead of tractor operations to avoid making contact with power poles and guide wires when tying into roads. Power companies are working in some DIVS, avoid all down lines as they may become charged. |  |  |  |  |  | 27. Treat all intersections as 4-way stops <br> 28. Bears, Gators, and some snakes are dangerous. Do not approach or feed wildlife at any time. |
|  | red | Na | a | Po | n) |  | ICS | 215A | A $\quad$ Tommy Hawkins SOF |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| 1. INCIDENT NAME: Honey Prairie | 2. OPS PERIOD DATE: October 11, 2011 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { START TIME: } \\ & 0830 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { END TIME: } \\ & 2000 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { SUNRISE: } \\ & 0731 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SUNSET: } \\ & 1909 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3. REMARKS (Safety Notes, Hazards, Air Operations Special Equipment, etc ALL FLIGHT REQUESTS GO DIRECTLY TO HELIBASE Afternoon thunderstorms NOTE: Latitude/Longitude format is "Degrees-Minutes-Decimal Minutes" (example: N30 41.42 W082 33.97) |  |  |  |  | Canceled 7/27/11 VOID!!! |


| PERSONNEL | NAME | PHONE \# | FREQUENCIES | AM | FM | AIRTANKERS / LEAD PLANES - None Available |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| HEB2 <br> Waycross HB | Melvin Tate Desk <br>  Cell | $\begin{aligned} & 912-287-4479 \\ & 850-849-0405 \end{aligned}$ | AIR/ AIR | 122.375 |  |  |
| ABRO | Darold Williams Desk Cell | $\begin{aligned} & 912-287-4479 \\ & 386-383-6288 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | OTHER: <br> Waycross Airport Helibase: 912-287-4479 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Waycross Airport Helibase Fax: 912-287-4458 ICP Helispot is Waycross Airport Helibase |
|  |  |  | Georgia AIR/GRND <br> (Smokey - Dozers) |  | 159.285 W | Okefenokee Dispatch: 912-496-7366 X230 |
|  |  |  | AIR/GROUND PRIMARY |  | 166.9375 | Waycross Airport: N 31 16.16 10 W82 33.38 |
|  |  |  | AIR/GROUND ALTERNATE |  | 166.9000 | BERGANZA HELISPOT N 31 07.22 W082 15.22 * don't use unless cleared with AOBD. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | POGO HELISPOT: N30 44.03 W082 07.41 |
|  |  |  | AIR GUARD |  | 168.625 T110.9 |  |

9. HELICOPTERS (Use Additional Sheets as Necessary



The convention calls for frequency lists to show four digits after the decimal place, followed by either an " N " or a " W ", depending on whether the frequency is narrow or wide band. Mode refers to either "A" or " $D$ " indicating analog or digital (e.g. Project 25) or " $M$ " indicating mixed mode. All channels are shown as if programmed in a control station, base stations, mobile or portable radio.


|  | Incident | HONEY PRAIRIE Communication | PHONE LIST <br> (Hours: | 0800-2000) | $\begin{gathered} 10 / 11 / 11 \\ 912-286-1660 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AGENCY | OFFICIALS |  | OPERATIONS |  |  |
| Curt McCasland | 602-359-0013 | USFWS AA |  |  |  |
| Mindy Gautreaux | 912-282-7500 | USFWS Deputy AA |  |  |  |
| Frank Sorrells | 912-381-7503 | GFC AA | DIVISIONS |  |  |
| James Karels | 850-228-7763 | FL DOF AA | Richard McGhee | 256-497-8490 | West Group |
| Diane Adams | 912-266-5421 | GEMA | John Molve ( T ) | 404-772-5553 | West Group |
| Mike Housh | 404-772-5380 | USFWS AREP |  |  |  |
| Bruce Young | 912-390-0147 | Charlton EMA |  |  |  |
| COMMAND - IC |  |  | AIR OPERATIONS |  |  |
| Steve Gray | 770-655-8002 | Incident Commander | Melvin Tate | 850-849-0405 | HEB1 |
|  |  |  |  | 912-287-4479 | WAYCROSS AIRPORT |
| RESOURCE | ADVISORS |  | LANDOWNERS |  |  |
| Ron Phernetton | 912-276-2349 | Resource Advisor | Jim Barrett | 229-356-1993 | Langdale/GOAL Chairman |
| Rocky Chesser | 912-276-3232 | Resource Advisor | Wesley Langdale | 229-220-2602 | Langdale |
| Reggie Forcine | 912-614-4041 | Resource Advisor | Hal Rowe | 229-412-3133 | Langdale |
| INFORMATION | 912-496-2566 |  | Langdale Office | 229-242-7450 | Langdale Office |
| Art Webster |  | Fire Information | Mike Conlon | 386-365-3882 | Rayonier Unit Supervisor |
| SAFETY OFFICERS |  |  | Ray Carter | 386-288-6626 | Rayonier |
| Tommy Hawkins | 404-558-4476 | LEAD SOF | Ed Carter | 386-288-6626 | Rayonier |
| Robert Shoemaker | 541-531-7266 | Line SOF | Doug Nuss | 912-390-1037 | Rayonier |
| DISPATCH | 912-496-3332 | FAX | Randall McCrady <br> Colin Myerson | 912-283-4077 | Rayonier |
| Okeefenokee Dsp | 912-496-7366 | Okeefenokee |  | 229-506-1565 | Superior Pine Products Co |
| Suwannee Dispatch | 386-758-5700 | Fla wildfires, other | Robbie Lee | 229-356-0526 | Superior Pine Products Co |
| Honey Prairie Dspth | 404-772-5384 | Honey Prairie ICP | Superior Pine Office | 912-637-5261 | Superior Pine Products Co |
| Waycross Dispatch | 912-287-4915 | Ga wildfires, other | Al Alexander | 850-843-0104 | The Forestry Co |
| GA DNR | 1-800-241-4113 | Hunting Issues | Savell Schmidt | 850-843-1181 | The Forestry Co |
| LOGISTICS | 912-287-6540 | fax 912-287-6542 | John Bogue | 850-843-1192 | The Forestry Co |
| Tom Lambert |  | LSC (T) | Joe Hopkins | 912-276-0911 | Toledo Timber |
| Michael Tipton | 706-633-6419 | Security | Chris Gowan | 912-276-0965 | Toledo Timber |
| Rusty Brown | 478-973-6231 | FACL (T)/BCMG | Martin Bell | 912-283-0583 | Swamp Park |
| Ronnie Sumler | 850-361-9163 | COML | Crystal Peeples | 352-316-0632 | FIA |
| James Chappell | 404-772-5318 | GSUL (T)/EQPM (T)RCDM (T) | Steve Davis | 912-614-1828 | Davis Community |
| David Moore | 513-616-9192 | EmT | Trevor Fortner | 912-599-9271 | Little Suwannee |
| Amy Weaver | 770-301-5920 | SPULORDM | Tim Jarrell | 912-223-7120 | Hancock Forest Mgmt. |
|  |  |  | RAILROADS |  |  |
|  |  |  | Norfolk Southern | 800-453-2530 |  |
| PLANNING | 912-287-6565 | FAX 912-287-6541 | Sid Moody | 904-318-7983 | Norfolk Southern Railroad |
| Dave Fogler | 352-442-2895 | PSC2 /SITL | Chad Edwards | 404-582-4909 | Norfolk Southern Railroad |
| JR Rothfuss | 240-778-5019 | IMET | Eric Sams | 904-576-9907 |  |
| Josh Burnette | 912-287-6565 | RESLIDMOB | Emergency Dispatch | 404-529-1597 | Norfolk Southern Railroad |
| FINANCE | 912-287-6544 | FAX 912-287-6564 | CSX Randy Dixon | 912-270-0699 |  |
| Amy Treadwell | 912-287-6544 | FSC2 | CSX Dispatch | 800-232-0144 |  |
| Ronda Vickerman | 541-891-1067 | Purchasing Agent |  |  |  |
|  | 912-287-6557 | Buying Team Fax | COUNTY |  |  |
| All Contractors | 912-287-6568 | All Contractors |  | 912-496-7229 | Charton County EMA |
| FEDERAL | Federal |  |  | 912-496-2549 | Chartion County Commissioners |
| Okefenokee Fire | 912-496-4181 |  | John F. Meyer - Dobie Conner | 912-496-7321 | Charton County Sheriff |
| Okefenokee NWR HQ | 912-496-7366 |  | Jesse Booth | 912-520-0061 | Clinch County EMA |
| Okefenokee NWR | 912-637-5322 |  | Jonathan Daniel | 912-281-5158 | Ware County EMA |
| Okefenokee Visitor | 912-496-7836 |  | Jessie Jordan | 912-816-6063 | Ware County Fire Dept |
| STATE State |  |  | Joe Morris | 912-281-6020 | Ware County Sheriff |
| GFC Fargo Office | 912-637-5270 |  | Robbie Sutton | 912-599-9027 | Tri County 911 |
| GFC Satilla District | 912-287-4915 |  | Georgia State Patrol | 912-287-6500 |  |
| Jason Gillis | 912-314-9233 | GFC Satilla Mgr. | Travis Grifin | 912-281-5790 | Laura Walker State Park |


| RequestNun | ResourceName | KindCode UnitID | TravelMethod | Jetport | DemobDate |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| O-1329 | HAWKINS, TOMMY | SOF2 | GAGAS | AOV | $10 / 13 / 2011$ |
| E-290 | FWS FORD F-350 LIC\# I482444 | PU | GAOKR | AOV | $10 / 13 / 2011$ |
| O-1317 | SUMLER, JAMES (RONNIE) | COML | FLFIC | AOV | $10 / 13 / 2011$ |
| E-1416 | HAWKINS PU | PU | GAGAS | AOV | $10 / 13 / 2011$ |
| O-1341 | HAWKINS, NICHOLAS | FFT2 | GAOKR | POV | $10 / 13 / 2011$ |
| O-1332 | DELASANTOS, BRIAN | TFLD | COPBS | AIR | DEN |
| O-1335 | JOHNSON, CHARLES | TPOP | GASAR | AOV | $10 / 13 / 2011$ |
| E-1422 | BROWN VAN | VAN | GAGAS |  | $10 / 13 / 2011$ |
| E-1430 | MOLVE PU | PU | FLFLS |  | $10 / 14 / 2011$ |
| O-1334 | BROWN, RUSTY | BCMG | GAGAS | AOV | $10 / 14 / 2011$ |
| E-1431 | CHIPOLA 920 | ENG6 | FLFLS |  | $10 / 14 / 2011$ |
| O-1340 | WILLETT, JAMES | SEC1 | FLFNF | AOV | $10 / 14 / 2011$ |
| E-1431.2 | BOWERS, WALTER | ENOP | FLFLS | AOV | $10 / 14 / 2011$ |
| O-1354 | CHAPPELL, JAMES 'DAN' | RCDM | GAGAS | AOV | $10 / 14 / 2011$ |
| E-1431.1 | MCGOWAN, WILLLIAM 'SHANE' | ENGB | FLFLS | AOV | $10 / 14 / 2011$ |
| O-1352 | BROWN, AUBREY | ENOP | GAGAS | AOV | $10 / 15 / 2011$ |
| E-1426 | FOGLER PU | PU | FLFLS |  | $10 / 15 / 2011$ |
| O-1345 | BROWN, MATTHEW | TPOP | SCSNR | AOV | $10 / 15 / 2011$ |
| O-1219 | TATE, MELVIN | HEB1 | FLFIC | POV | $10 / 15 / 2011$ |
| O-1344 | MOORE, DAVID | EMTB | KYDBF | POV | $10 / 15 / 2011$ |
| O-1351 | CARROLL, RUSTY | ENGB | GAGAS | AOV | $10 / 15 / 2011$ |
| O-1338 | FOGLER, DAVE | PSC2 | FLFLS | AOV | $10 / 15 / 2011$ |
| O-1368 | DOMINEY, CHAD | ENGB | GAGAS | AOV | $10 / 16 / 2011$ |
| E-1364 | PLE-1 ENG6 | ENG6 | NCPOR | AOV | $10 / 16 / 2011$ |
| E-1392 | GFC ENGINE | ENG6 | GAGAS |  | $10 / 16 / 2011$ |

## Record Count: 25

## Hunter Encounters and Confrontations

Bear, Archery, and Muzzle Loader season is now open. Crews are likely to encounter hunters either hunting or scouting in the area of the Swamp Edge Break. Bear Hunter will be running dogs and chasing the pack in vehicles on narrow dusty roads to intercept bears. Use Caution traveling as hunters may not be paying attention and traveling at excessive speeds.

Avoid contact as much as possible. The least amount of impact we have on their hunting area the better off we will be. Expect many questions about the fire operations and how long the fire will continue to burn. It's a good idea to review the Fire Information section of the plan for a good explanation of what to expect in the coming months.
The majority of the hunters will be friendly but should you have a confrontation with someone:

1. Politely excuse yourself and leave the area immediately;
2. Notify your supervisor;
3. Notify the Security Manager by radio or phone:

SECM - Michael Tipton 706-633-6419
Or
GA DNR Gary Simmons 912-282-2406 Cell
4. If necessary, call the Georgia DNR at 1-800-241-4113 with a description of the person, vehicle and Tag number, and the nature of the confrontation. Georgia DNR will send an officer to handle the situation.

1. Public and firefighter safety remains the top priority for this incident.
2. Fire managers for the refuge have coordinated suppression efforts with the Georgia Forestry Commission and the Greater Okefenokee Association of Landowners (GOAL) representing federal and state agencies, industry and private landowners. Through this Unified Command, the partners support the chosen strategy as the appropriate management response to protect adjacent valuable commercial timber, isolated homes scattered on private land, and critical wildlife habitat for threatened and endangered species.
3. Fire is a natural component of the Okefenokee ecosystem; since the refuges creation in 1937, there have been hundreds of wildfires that have burned thousands of acres here. The plants and animals on the refuge are well adapted to survive periodic wildfires.
4. Past experience has shown that conventional fire suppression tactics do not work well inside the swamp. Humans have never been successful in controlling fires within the swamp; only "mother nature" has done this. Attempting suppression within the swamp is ineffective, costly, wastes firefighting resources and needlessly endangers firefighter safety.
5. Fire on the refuge is usually fought by reinforcing firelines along the Swamps Edge Break, including areas of private land, to keep the fire contained within the swamp.
6. Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge typically employs a contain and control strategy to manage fire; containing it within the swamp and actively suppressing it outside of the swamp in the upland forest.

Commonly asked question:

1. Why won't this fire go out? What will it take? Surface burning of available fuels is only part of the current problem. Peat beds (partially decayed vegetation normally floating in a vertical column of water) is what supports these surface fuels. Unfortunately, the current dry conditions have allowed a portion of the peat beds to dry out and the surface burn has transferred into the peat beds and is now burning subsurface. There are now two sources of heat and available fuel that must be extinguished. The current spotty, localized rain storms can have some effect on the surface burns but do not do much to control subsurface burns. It will take a big rain storm blanketing the entire swamp (remember the swamp is huge -over 650 square miles in size) dropping a minimum of 6-8 inches of rain. As the water levels in the swamp slowly rise, as a result of the rain, the peat beds will become water saturated again eliminating one source of the fire. As the surface of the swamp becomes covered by water, burning surface fuels will be extinguished as well. Burning fuels that extend above these water levels (dead and drying trees/shrubs) may continue to burn until they fall over or burn up. Fire that exists in upland habitat on islands within the swamp may also continue to burn but it will be confined to that immediate area by the swamp waters surrounding the island. This is not something that will likely occur overnight. It may take days, weeks, or even months. The refuge has experienced fire events that were not declared officially out for well over a year after the main firefighting effort had ceased.


