

**Honey Prairie
Complex**
GA-OKR-000001
Incident Action Plan

Operational Period
Monday

October 24, 2011
0800-2000

Incident Commander
Steve Abbott

Accounting Codes

FWS - 9141-F25M-2J

NPS - 5023 F25M E11

BLM - F25M

USFS - PRF25M_1502

Initial Attack - F4PM



*An Equal Opportunity
Employer & Service Provider*

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 Abbott

Incident Commander
Type 3 Incident Management Team

INCIDENT OBJECTIVES	1. INCIDENT NAME Honey Prairie Complex	2. DATE PREPARED 10/23/11	3. TIME PREPARED 1700												
4. OPERATIONAL PERIOD (DATE/TIME) Monday, October 24, 2011 0800 – 2000															
5. GENERAL CONTROL OBJECTIVES FOR THE INCIDENT (INCLUDE ALTERNATIVES) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide for safety of incident personnel and public in all incident operations. 2. Maintain a positive working relationship with all adjacent landowners, cooperators, State and Federal partners. Inform, involve and communicate incident planning and operations with all partners. 3. Contain all fires that are within the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, inside the Refuge and/or inside the swamp edge break if possible. 4. In cooperation with local land owners and communities, use full suppression strategies and tactics to minimize damage to private timberlands and structural improvements and to prevent fires outside the Refuge from entering the Refuge. 5. Assist in management and suppression of additional fires (new starts or breakouts) in the vicinity as approved by Agency Administrators and Incident Commander. 6. Protect all cultural and archeological sites and structures within the refuge. 7. Manage the fires cost-effectively consistent with the values at risk. 8. Coordinate suppression actions with assigned Refuge Resource Advisors 															
6. WEATHER FORECAST FOR OPERATIONAL PERIOD See attached forecast for area specific weather information.															
7. GENERAL SAFETY MESSAGE Drive defensively and use spotter when backing. Ensure LCES is in place and known by all personnel. Drink plenty of water and take frequent rest breaks. Ensure proper use of PPE during all operations.															
8. Attachments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if attached <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Organization List (ICS 203)</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incident Map</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety Message</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment List (ICS 204)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Plan</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Demobilization Procedures</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications Plan (ICS 205)</td> <td></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unit Log</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Plan (ICS 206)</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone List</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Organization List (ICS 203)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incident Map	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety Message	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment List (ICS 204)	<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Demobilization Procedures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications Plan (ICS 205)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unit Log	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Plan (ICS 206)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone List	
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Plan (ICS 206)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone List														
9. PREPARED BY (PLANNING SECTION CHIEF) Thomas Barrett (T)		10. APPROVED BY (INCIDENT COMMANDER) Steve Abbott													

ORGANIZATION ASSIGNMENT LIST		9. Operations Section	
1. Incident Name Honey Prairie Complex GA-OKR-000001		Chief	
2. Date 10/23/2011	3. Time 1500 hrs	a. Branch/Divisions/Groups	
4. Operational Period 10/24/2011 0800 - 2000		West Branch	
5. Incident Commander and Staff			
Incident Commander	Steve Abbott 10/30		
Safety Officer	Troy Floyd (T) 10/28, Robert Shoemaker 10/28	Division Y/Z/10a	Richard McGhee 10/25
Information Officer	Art Webster		
6a. Agency Administrators			
FWS	Curt McCasland		
FWS	Mindy Gautreaux		
6b. Agency Representatives		b. Branch/Divisions/Groups	
GFC	Frank Sorrells		
FLFFS	James Karels		
FWS AREP	Mike Housh		
FWS-Refuge PAO	Art Webster		
GEMA AREP	Alan Robinson / Diane Adams		
USFS AREP	Ivan Greene		
Charlton Co EMA	Bruce Young		
7. Planning Section			
Chief	Thomas Barrett (T) 10/28	c. AIR OPERATIONS BRANCH - Honey Prairie	
Resource Advisors	Ron Phernetton, Reggie Forcine	Pogo Helibase Mgr	Melvin Tate 11/1
Resources Unit	Karen Davis 11/9	Pogo Helibase Mgr	Kevin Merrill 11/1
IMET	Carl Cerniglia 10/27		
Situation Unit			
FBAN		d. AIR OPERATIONS BRANCH - Pogo	
Demob Unit			
Documentation			
CTSP			
SCKN			
8. Logistics Section		10. Finance Section	
Chief	Tom Lambert 10/27	Chief	Carla Schamber 10/27
Supply Unit	Willie Jackson 11/3	Time Unit	
Ground Support	Kenneth Edge 10/27	Cost	
COML	Kelly Towe 10/25	PTRC	
EQPM		EQTR	
RCDM		IBA	
BCMG	Chris Buchanan 10/27		
SECM	Jason Crisp 11/2 Steve Barnett 10/26	Purchasing Agent	Anna Bryant 11/1
COMT			
EMTB			
ORDM			
		Prepared by: Thomas Barrett (T)	PSC2

DIVISION ASSIGNMENT LIST				1. Branch West		2. Division Y / Z / 10a	
3. Incident Name Honey Prairie Complex				4. Operational Period Date: 10/24/2011 Time: 0800-2000			
5. Operations Personnel							
Operations				Division Supervisor		Richard McGhee 10/25	
Safety Officer		Troy Floyd 10/28 Robert Shoemaker 10/28					
6. Resources Assigned this Period							
Strike Team/Task Force/ Resource Designator		Leader / Name / Designator		Last Shift Date	Num. Per.	Drop Off PT./Time	Crew Names
TFLD		Charles Lane (O-1373)		10/24	1	ICP 0800	770-280-7684
GA ENG6 Lumpkin 86 (E-1447)		Wesley Sisk (O-1390)		10/28	2	ICP 0800	Justin Davenport (O-1391)
GA ENG6 Monroe 86 (E-1392)		George Barbee (O-1400)		10/30	2	ICP 0800	Keith Sanders (O-1401)
GA ENG6 Polk 86 (E-1393)		Josh Shelton (O-1377)		10/24	2	ICP 0800	Bobby Dunn (O-1376)
GA ENG6 (E-3) GAOKR # 42		Nathan Herron (O-1378)		10/27	2	ICP 0800	Sara Sorenson
STPL		Nicholas Tresco (O-1392)		10/28	1	ICP 0800	404-276-1998
TPL3 Turner 71 (E-1448)		Benjamin Tucker		10/28	1	ICP 0800	478-672-7133
TPL3 Worth 70 (E-1449)		Raymond Poore		10/28	1	ICP 0800	
TPL3 Mitchell 72 (E-1450)		Stan Jackson		10/28	1	ICP 0800	
TPL5 Dooly 72 (E-1451)		Leroy Renyolds		10/28	1	ICP 0800	
TFLD (T)		Timothy Joy (O-1403)		11/1	1	ICP 0800	706-870-2334
FL ENG6 (E-1437)		Edward Vuolo (E-1437.1)		10/27	2	ICP 0800	Kevin Ogden (E-1437) EMT
GA ENG6 Laurens 86 (E-1456)		Rusty Meadows (E-1456.1)		11/4	2	ICP 0800	David Veal (E-1456.2)
FL ENG6 C-920 (E-1431)		Curt Ward (O-1387)		10/28	2	ICP 0800	John Mock (O-1388)
HEQB		Cory Bryant (O-9)		10/24	1	ICP 0800	912-276-0078
TPL GAOKR 56 (E-22)		Wesley O'Connor (O-1339)		11/1	1	ICP 0800	
TPL GA OKR 54 (E-21)		Adam McCullough (O-1389)		10/27	1	ICP 0800	
FWS Motorgrader (E-1356)		Unstaffed					
GA ENG6 (E-2) GAOKR # 41		Unstaffed					
TPL4 GAOKR 53 (E-23)		Unstaffed					
7. Control Operations							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to Initial Attack as requested Mop up minimum 50 ft in along SEB and 200-feet in on upland areas, also monitor fire's edge for any control issues. Initial attack IC will communicate sizeup information to the Honey Prairie communication. Improve swamp break boundaries for fire breaks, work with resource advisor. 							
8. Special Instructions							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go to Argyle turn down Antioch Church Rd. Turn down Rd. 28, then Turn on Rd 26, to Perimeter Rd. Stage at DP41 Avoid Confrontations with hunters. Ensure LCES are in place before operations begin. Stay hydrated. Drive defensively and with lights on at all times and use extra caution on wet or dry roads. Boggy terrain: Be careful and aware when working around this type of area. Avoid areas with potential tree fall 							
9. Division/Group Communication Summary							
Function	Frequency	System	Channel	Function	Frequency	System	Channel
Command W Okee Repeater	RX 167.125/156.7 TX 163.150/156.7	KING NIFC	1	Logistics		KING NIFC	
Tactical Div/Group	RX 168.775 TX 168.775	KING NIFC	9	Air to Ground	RX 166.9375 TX 166.9375	KING NIFC	6
Prepared by (Resource Unit Ldr Karen Davis		Approved by (Planning Sect. Ch.) Thomas Barrett (T)			Date October 23, 2011		Time 1800



Fire Weather Forecast



FORECAST NO: 170
PREDICTION FOR: Day Shift
SHIFT DATE: Monday 10/24/11

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

FORECAST ISSUED: 10/23/11 at 1600 EDT

SIGNED: *Carl Ceruiglia*, IMET

WEATHER DISCUSSION: High pressure will remain over the southeast U.S. with a continued warming trend. Drier air will return to the area today for clear skies and lower min. RHs.

TODAY: Partly cloudy

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE: 78-81
MINIMUM HUMIDITY: 30-35%
20 FT WINDS: Calm becoming North 5 to 7 mph with afternoon gusts to 15 mph
STABILITY/INVERSION: 4300 feet
TRANSPORT WINDS: North 12 mph
DISPERSION INDEX: 55, Good
CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION: 0%
LIGHTNING ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1

TONIGHT: Mostly clear patchy fog. Low temperature near 50. Calm wind.

TUESDAY: Mostly sunny.

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE: 81-84
MINIMUM HUMIDITY: 32-37%
20 FT WINDS: Calm becoming East 3 to 6 mph gusting to 15 mph
STABILITY/INVERSION: 3800 feet
TRANSPORT WINDS: East 10 mph
DISPERSION INDEX: 48, Good
CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION: 0%
LIGHTNING ACTIVITY LEVEL: 1

EXTENDED FORECAST: High pressure will remain in control of our weather Wednesday. On Thursday, moisture from the Gulf of Mexico will begin to move into the area on southerly winds in advance of a cold front moving into Louisiana for higher RH levels and a chance of showers for the evening and overnight hours. The cold front will move through early Friday with a threat of showers early but it will be followed by gusty NW winds that will force cooler and drier air across the area.

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SKY/WEATHER	Partly cloudy Some morning fog	Partly cloudy chance of showers evening onward	Partly cloudy chance of showers and isolated thunderstorms
THUNDER/PRECIP	0%	20%	40%
20 FT WINDS	Southeast 3 to 6 mph	South to southwest 5 to 9 mph gust 17 mph	Northwest 7 to 12 mph with gusts to 25 mph
MIN/MAX	53/83	58/81	64/79
Relative Humidity	40-45%	50%	55%

FIRE BEHAVIOR FORECAST

Fire: Honey Prairie Complex	Unit: GA-OKR-000001	Prediction for Day Shift
Forecast #167 Issued: 10/23/2011 1600 hrs	Signed: Troy Floyd, FBAN	Shift Date: Monday 10/24/2011

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**
- **Fine dead fuel moisture 8% or less**
 - Dispersion above 70

* 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 1

	Rates of Spread	Flame Length	Spotting Distance	Firebrand Ignition
Wind 4-7 G15 mph				
Small PL Pines (4)	15-25 ch/hr	10-12 ft	UP to 1/10 MILE	57%
Southern Rough (7)	5-8 ch/hr	3-4 ft	UP to 1/10 MILE	57%
Reburn (9)	1-2 ch/hr	1 -2 ft	UP to 1/10 MILE	57%
Shrub Fuels (sh8)	6-9 ch/hr	6-7 ft	UP to 1/10 MILE	57%

One hour fine dead fuel moisture is 6% 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: Clear skies and lower wind speeds will allow for effective air operations all day.

SAFETY:

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.

Smoke Dispersion 55 (Good) for Monday. Mixing height 5400 feet.

Safety Message

INCIDENT: Honey Prairie Fire

DATE: 10/24/2011

TIME: 0800

Major Hazards and Risks: Driving
Hazard Trees
Snakes
Hunting Season

Driving – Following defensive driving techniques. Travel with lights on, increase your following distance, and watch the other driver.

Hazard Trees – With the increased wind and the weakened roots due to the subsurface fires, a lot of the trees are falling. Use caution while working around the edge of these trees. Treat all of them as if they can fall at any time, use a spotter while working in these areas

Snakes – Snakes are on the move, avoid contact and communicate hazards to others

Situational Awareness – Maintain a higher level of Situational Awareness with the increase of external conditions (Deer Hunting, Snakes, winch operations, Hazard Trees, excessive driving, etc.) all within our theater of operations. Remember to apply LCES to all of these activities.



"Bummer of a birthmark, Hal."

Hazard Tree Safety

Hazard trees, both dead snags and live green trees, are

one of the most common risks encountered on the fireline. All firefighters should frequently survey their

work area for potential hazard trees.

Situation Awareness

Environment:

- Current and forecasted winds
- Night operations
- Steep slopes
- Diseased or bug-kill areas
- Number and height of hazard trees
- Anticipated burn-down time
- Potential for trees to domino

Hazard tree indicators:

- Trees burning for any period of time
- High risk tree species (rot and shallow roots)
- Numerous downed trees
- Dead, broken, or burning tops and limbs overhead
- Accumulation of downed limbs
- Absence of needles, bark, or limbs
- Leaning or hung-up

Safety Officers: Troy Floyd, Robert Shoemaker

INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN ICS-205			Incident Name Honey Prairie			GROUP 22		Date/Time Prepared 10/23/2011-18:00		Operational Period Date/Time 10/24/2011 0800-2000	
Ch #	Function	Channel Name	Assignment	RX Freq	NW	RX Tone/NAC	TX Freq	N W	TX Tone/NAC	Mode A,D or M	Remarks
1	Command	West Okee Repeater	Sec West Branch CMD	167.1250	N	156.7	163.1500	N	156.7	A	Stephen Foster State Park
2	Command	South Okee Repeater	Sec East/West Branch CMD	164.7750	N	123.0	163.1500	N	123.0	A	Eddy Florida
3	Command	East Okee Repeater	PRIMARY East Branch CMD	164.6250	N	103.5	163.1500	N	103.5	A	Refuge Headquarters
5	Command	North Okee Repeater	PRIMARY North Branch CMD	164.5750	N	206.5	163.1500	N	206.5	A	Waycross
6	Air-Ground	Air to Ground	PRIMARY	166.9375	N	CSQ	166.9375	N	CSQ	A	
7	Tactical	MOB-MOB	GFC Contingency	159.3900	W	CSQ	159.3900	W	156.7	A	
8	Tactical	V-Fire 21W WHITE	West group Secondary	154.2800	W	CSQ	154.2800	W	156.7	A	
9	Tactical	USFS 9	East/West Groups	168.7750	N	CSQ	168.7750	N	CSQ	A	
10	Tactical	S.E. Compact		159.2850	W	CSQ	159.2850	W	CSQ	A	
11	Tactical	USFS 11	East Group Secondary	168.2000	N	CSQ	168.2000	N	CSQ	A	
12	Tactical	Refuge Tac 1	East Group	168.3500	N	CSQ	168.3500	N	CSQ	A	
13	Tactical	FL 190		151.2725	N	CSQ	151.2725	N	CSQ	A	
15	Air-Ground	Air to Ground	SECONDARY	166.9000	N	CSQ	166.9000	N	CSQ	A	
16	EMERGENCY	AIR Guard	Air OPS.	168.6250	N	CSQ	168.6250	N	110.9	A	
Prepared by (Communications Unit) Kelly Towe COML 478-308-4770 Incident Dispatcher: 404-772-5384						Cloning at ICP communications and briefings,					

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.

MEDICAL PLAN	Incident Name Honey Prairie Complex	Date Prepared 10/23/2011	Time Prepared 1000	Operational Period 10/24/2011
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5. Incident Medical Aid Station

Medical Aid Stations	Location	Paramedics Yes No
MEDICAL UNIT (ICP EMT)	Honey Prairie Complex ICP- No MEDL	
Honey Prairie EMT	****Kevin Ogden 404-558-4476****	

Ambulance Services

Name	Address	Phone	Paramedic Yes No	
Clinch County EMS (West)	Homerville, GA (911 to activate)	912-487-5315	Yes	
Ware County EMS (North)	Waycross, Georgia (911 to activate)	912-287-4335	Yes	
Charlton County EMS (East)	Folkston, GA (911 to activate)	912-496-7321	Yes	

Air Ambulance Service

Trauma 1	Lake City, FL	1-800-223-4878	Yes	
Trauma 1	Jacksonville, FL	1-800-223-4878	Yes	
AirMed	Augusta, GA	1-888-792-9245	Yes	
Lifeflight	Jacksonville, FL	1-877-870-7779	Yes	
Air Evac	Waycross, GA	1-800-247-3822	Yes	
US Coast Guard (Heli-Rescue)	Savannah GA	1-912-652-4646	Yes	

7. Hospitals

Name	Address	LAT-LON	Phone	Helipad Yes No		Burn Center Yes No	
Satilla Regional	410 Darling AVE. Waycross, GA	N 31' 13.509 W 82' 20.853	(912) -283-3030	Yes			No
Clinch Memorial Hospital (WEST SIDE)	1050 Valdosta HWY Homerville, GA	N 31' 01.977 W 82 45.851	(912) -487-5211 ext 4502	Yes			No
Charlton Memorial Hospital (EAST SIDE)	1203 3 rd Street Folkston, GA	N 30' 50.713 W 82' 00.302	(912) -496-2531	Yes			No
Savannah Memorial Hospital	4700 Waters AVE Savannah, GA	N 32' 01.538 W 81' 05.298	(912) -350-8999	Yes			No
Shands Hospital (Level I)	655 West 8 th Street Jacksonville, FL	N 30' 20.97 W 81' 39.92	(800) -223-4878	Yes		Yes	
Shands Burn Center	1600 Southwest Archer Road Gainesville, FL	N 29' 38.33 W 82' 20.55	(352) -265-0200	Yes		Yes	

8. Medical Emergency Procedures

Identify any EMTs and Paramedics in your crews. All medical emergencies will be reported to the Division Supervisor who will assume command and notify Line Medics.

On scene personnel will:

1. Provide medical care & stabilize patient.
2. Call 911 if possible or call phone #'s above for EMS and provide the information requested.
3. Notify Communications via radio over Command Channel
4. Communications will clear radio traffic for medical emergency.
5. Communications will confirm 911 has been notified coordinate with IC, SOF.
6. DIVS will notify the Field Ops Section Chief.

MAJOR EMERGENCIES – Secure the area and identify witness for later investigation. Keep an accurate log of events. NOTE: Do not give Patients Name over the radio!

INJURY REPORTING PROCESS:

Nature of Injury: _____

Location of Patient: _____

Transportation Requested by: Air ___ Ground ___

Pick Up Point: _____

Lat: _____ Long: _____

Patient Unit ID: _____

Is an EMT w/Patient: Yes ___ No ___

Age: ___ Sex: Male ___ Female ___

Weight (If Air Evac. is needed): _____

HELISPOTS

NAME	LAT-LON	LOCATION
Pocket Helispot	N 30' 47.500 W 82' 22.659	(West side), mile marker 4, HWY 177 Steven C. Foster State Park
Fargo Helispot	N 30' 40.945 W 82' 33.640	(West side), HWY 441- Steven C. Foster Visitor Center
POGO Helibase	N 30' 44.219 W 82' 07.689	(East side) Adjacent to Okee Refuge Shop

Evac Yankee

Helispot 6	N 30' 53.280 W 82' 33.880	Road 32 and 32A
Helispot 7	N 30' 50.280 W 82' 33.857	Tatum Road Pond

***Alternate site can be established following guidelines for safety found with IRPG and local EMS resources.**

Prepared by: Troy Floyd SOF(T)

10. Reviewed by: Troy Floyd, SOF(T)

Hunter Encounters and Confrontations

Hunting season is now open. Crews are likely to encounter hunters either hunting or scouting in the area of the Swamp Edge Break. Hunting is often done with the aid of dogs and the hunters will be chasing the pack in vehicles on narrow dusty roads to intercept game. 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 – Jason Crisp 828-442-2470

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.

Fire Information IAP messages

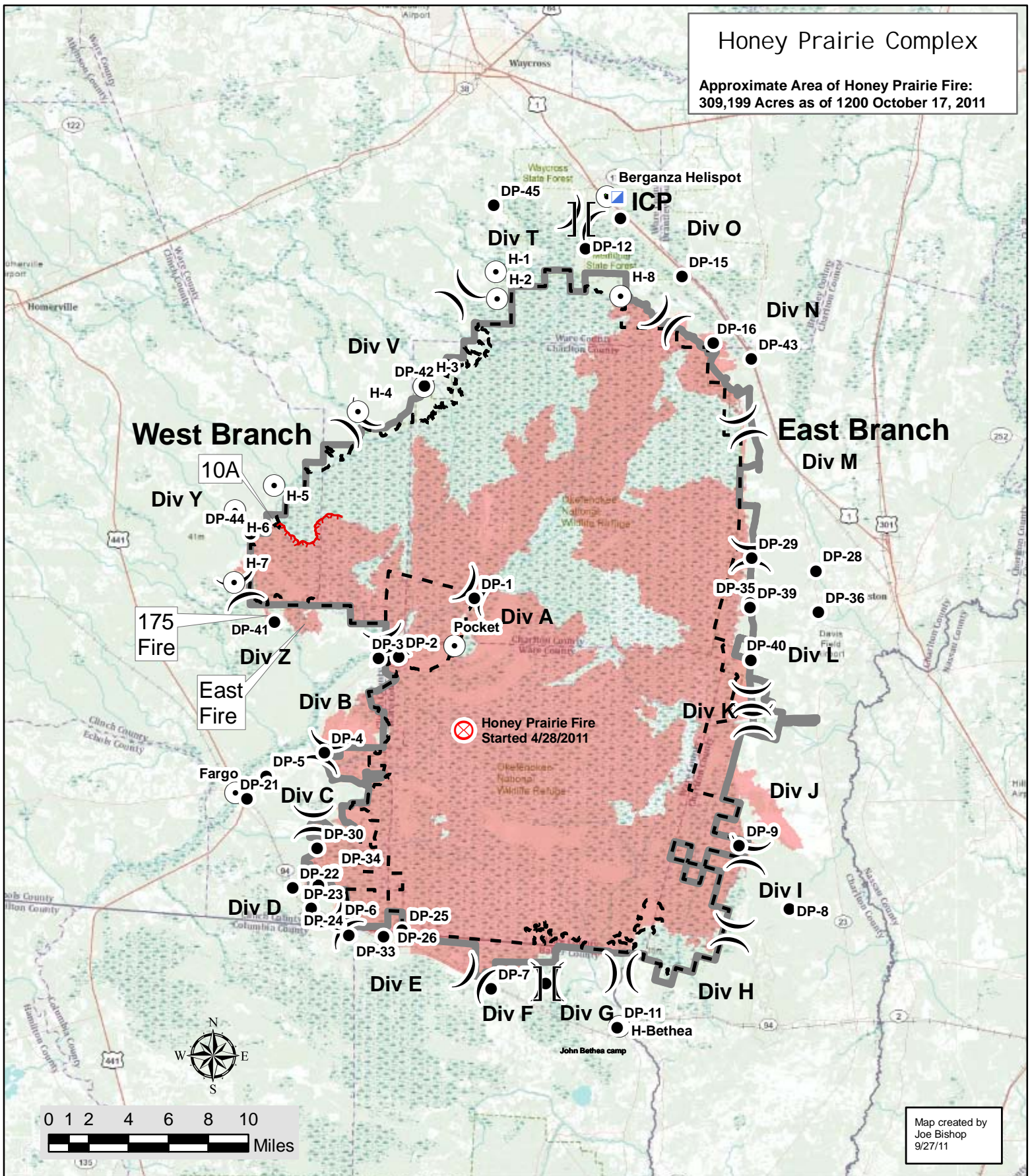
1. Public and firefighter safety remains the top priority for this incident.
2. Fire managers for the refuge have coordinated suppression efforts with the Georgia Forestry Commission and the Greater Okefenokee Association of Landowners (GOAL) representing federal and state agencies, industry and private 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:










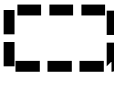
1. Why won't this fire go out? What will it take? Surface burning of available fuels is only part of the current problem. Peat beds (partially decayed vegetation normally floating in a vertical column of water) is what supports these surface fuels. Unfortunately, the current dry conditions have allowed 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.

Honey Prairie Complex

Approximate Area of Honey Prairie Fire:
309,199 Acres as of 1200 October 17, 2011



Map created by
Joe Bishop
9/27/11

-  Fire Origin
-  Honey Prairie Fire Area
-  Uncontrolled Fire Edge
-  Incident Command Post
-  Helispot
-  Drop Point
-  Branch Break
-  Division Break
-  Refuge Boundary
-  Wilderness Boundary



AIR OPERATIONS SUMMARY

Prepared By: Melvin Tate

Prepared Date: 10.23.2011

Prepared Time: 1600

1. INCIDENT NAME: Honey Prairie	2. OPS PERIOD DATE: October 24, 2011	START TIME: 0830	END TIME: 2000	SUNRISE: 0743	SUNSET: 1857
3. REMARKS (Safety Notes, Hazards, Air Operations Special Equipment, etc ALL FLIGHT REQUESTS GO DIRECTLY TO HELIBASE Afternoon thunderstorms <i>NOTE: Latitude/Longitude format is "Degrees-Minutes-Decimal Minutes" (example: N30 41.42 W082 33.97)</i>					5. TFR #: Canceled 7/27/11 SEE and AVOID!!!

PERSONNEL	NAME	PHONE #	FREQUENCIES	AM	FM	
HEB1 Pogo HB	Melvin Tate Desk Cell	912-496-7063 850-849-0405	AIR/ AIR	122.375		AIRTANKERS / LEAD PLANES - None Available OTHER: <u>Waycross Airport : 912-287-4479</u> <u>Waycross Airport Fax: 912-287-4458</u> <u>ICP Helispot is Pogo</u> <u>Okefenokee Dispatch: 912-496-7366 X230</u> <u>Waycross Airport: N 31 16.16 10 W82 33.38</u> <u>BERGANZA HELISPOT N 31 07.22 W082 15.22 * don't use unless cleared with AOBD.</u> <u>POGO HELISPOT: N30 44.03 W082 07.41</u> <u>Phone# 912-496-7063</u>
			Georgia AIR/GRND (Smokey – Dozers)		159.285 W	
			AIR/GROUND PRIMARY		166.9375	
			AIR/GROUND ALTERNATE		166.9000	
			AIR GUARD		168.625 T110.9	

9. HELICOPTERS (Use Additional Sheets as Necessary)

FAA N#	TY	MAKE/ MODEL	BASE	AVAIL	MANAGER	FAA N#	TY	MAKE/ MODEL	BASE	AVAIL	MANAGER
351CH	3	AS350-B3	Waycross	0830	Kevin Merrill 505-504-4613						

10. TASK/ MISSION/ ASSIGNMENT (Type/ function includes: Air Tactical, Retardant, Recon, Personnel Transport, Bucket Operations, SAR, etc.)

TYPE/FUNCTION	NAME OF PERSONNEL OR CARGO (If applicable) or instructions for tactical aircraft	MISSION START	FLY FROM	FLY TO
Recon/Bucket Ops	351CH	As Requested	Pogo	
Medevac	351CH	As Requested	Pogo	