Memorandum

To: Holders of 53 BIAM

From: Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Subject: Forest Development

This release updates 53 BIAM 0 (Table of Contents) and 53 BIAM 5 (Forest Development).

Filing Instructions:

(a) Remove superseded material:
   53 BIAM 0 (Table of Contents, release 53-7, dated 2/11/88) (5 sheets)
   53 BIAM 5 (Forest Development, release 53-2, dated 6/21/78) (1 sheet)

(b) Insert new material transmitted:
   53 BIAM 0 (Table of Contents, release 10 , dated 3/14/91) (3 sheets)
   53 BIAM 5 (Forest Development, release 10 , dated 3/14/91) (1 sheet)

(c) Pen-and-ink changes:
   none

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BIAM Release 10, 3/14/91
5.1 Policy and Scope. Forest development is that segment of forestry which addresses the improvement of forest resources. Because certain forest development objectives may not be attainable through timber sales contract specifications or timber harvesting operations, achievement of these objectives may require additional silvicultural treatments and techniques. Therefore, forest development silvicultural practices and techniques shall be used whenever feasible to improve, extend, or modify forest production within the commercial forest base.

5.2 Authority. The Act of June 18, 1934, (See 53 BIAM 1.2A.), Public Law 101-630, and 25 CFR 163.25 provide basic forest management authority for forest development practices. Refer also to Act of March 29, 1944, Cooperative Sustained Yield Units.

5.3 Responsibility.

A. Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs. The Assistant Secretary shall formulate, develop, revise, issue, and maintain Bureau forest development program policies, standards, guidelines, directives, and procedures through the BIA manual system and other channels; and, if appropriate, provide guidance and oversight to tribal programs.

B. Area Director. The Area Director shall implement national policy prescribed by the Assistant Secretary, adapting and modifying objectives to conform to local conditions, when necessary. Provides guidance and oversight to Agency offices and tribal programs, if appropriate.

C. Superintendent. The Superintendent and other appropriate line officers shall conduct forest development program operations directly and monitor tribally contracted forest development programs or portions thereof, if appropriate.

5.4 Activities. Forest development is that segment of forestry which addresses the improvement of the forest resource. It involves forestation and commercial forest stand improvement (CFSI) activities, principally, and consists of all the silvicultural treatments applied to establish, promote, enhance, and maintain optimum growth of selected trees to produce desired forest products under principles of sustained yield forest management.

5.5 Practices. Forest development practices are silvicultural treatments or techniques that include, but are not limited to, forestation, stand improvement and administrative activities.

Release 10, 3/14/91
Memorandum

To: Holders of 53 BIAM

From: Deputy to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (Operations)

Subject: Forestry

This release revises and updates Part 53, Forestry, of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Manual. Among the changes are: rewording to provide more precise direction; elimination of extraneous verbiage; and the addition of policy and direction which were formerly transmitted via memoranda.

[Signature]

Deputy to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (Operations)

Filing Instructions:

(a) Remove superseded material:
53 BIAM 0, Table of Contents, Release 6 (Dated 12/2/87) (2 sheets)
53 BIAM Section 8, 8.1 - 8.7 Release 3 (Dated 7/23/82) (4 sheets)
(The above release was erroneously titled Supp. 8)

(b) Insert new material transmitted:
53 BIAM 0, Table of Contents, Release 7 (Dated 2/11/88) (2 sheets)
53 BIAM Section 8, 8.1 - 8.7 Release 7 (Dated 2/11/88) (3 sheets)

(c) Pen-and-ink changes:
None
(b) **Insert new material transmitted:**
53 BIAM Supp. 8, Table of Contents Release 9 (Dated 2/11/88)  (1 sheet)
53 BIAm Supp. 8, 1.1 - 2.11B, Release 9 (Dated 2/11/88)  (9 sheets)
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(c) **Pen-and-ink changes:**
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1. GENERAL

1.1 Policy and Scope. Pursuant to the Departmental Manual, Part 910 Interior Emergency Operations, Chapter 1, Wildland Fire Suppression and Management, the following shall be the policy of the Bureau:

A. That wildland fires, whether on lands administered by the Bureau or adjacent thereto, which threaten life, man-made structures, or are determined to be a threat to the natural resources or facilities under the Bureau's jurisdiction, will be considered emergencies and their suppression given priority over normal Bureau programs.

B. That the highest priority will be given to preventing the disaster fire in which a wildfire causes damage of such magnitude as to impact management objectives and/or socio-economic conditions of the area.

C. That no wildfire situation, with the possible exception of threat to human survival, requires the exposure of firefighters to life threatening situations.

D. That wildland fire damage will be held to the minimum possible consistent with approved land use objectives through: (1) an aggressive fire prevention program; (2) the maintenance of an adequate state of preparedness; (3) the initiation of immediate and aggressive suppression action consistent with burning conditions and approved management objectives; (4) the least expenditure of public funds for effective suppression; (5) the use of methods of suppression least damaging to the resource and the environment; (6) the integration of cooperative suppression activities with other qualified suppression organizations.

E. That wildfires may receive different levels of suppression action. These levels can vary from monitoring to full suppression. The level of response will be based on approved plans that consider land use objectives and avoid unacceptable resource losses.

F. That further actions will be determined through an Escaped Fire Situation Analysis if a wildfire escapes initial suppression actions.

G. That prescribed fires, which include all ignition sources, may be used to achieve land or resource management objectives as defined in the approved fire management plan. Prescribed fire will be conducted according to procedures set forth in the BIA Prescribed Fire System Handbook and Area Addenda.

1.2 Authority.

A. Statute. Refer to 53 BIAM 8.2.

B. Regulation. Refer to 53 BIAM 8.2.

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1.3 Responsibility. Refer to 53 BIAM 8.3.

A. Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs. Refer to 53 BIAM 8.3. The Assistant Secretary Indian Affairs, through the Deputy to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (Trust and Economic Development), has assigned the responsibility for fire management activities to the Division of Forestry, Chief, Branch of Fire Management/BIA Director, Boise Interagency Fire Center.

B. Deputy to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (Trust and Economic Development). Refer to 53 BIAM 8.3B

C. BIA Director, Boise Interagency Fire Center (BIFC). The BIA Director, BIFC, is responsible for:

(1) Implementing and administering the Bureau's Normal Fire Year Plan (NFYP) system and the development of procedures and standards for the application of the NFYP system.

(2) Reviewing Area fire management programs and evaluating effectiveness.

(3) Administering the Bureau's fire qualifications system as recommended by the Department of the Interior Fire Coordination Committee (IFCC).

(4) Coordinating Bureau representation on various national level fire committees, groups, working teams, etc.

(5) Representing the Bureau in the coordination of overall fire management activities at BIFC.

(6) Representing the Bureau in the establishment of national priorities for assignment of critical resources during fire emergencies.

(7) Coordinating Bureau attendance and participation in national fire training.

(8) Initiating or participating in Boards of Review concerning actions taken on selected wildfires.

(9) Negotiating of national level cooperative agreements and/or modification of existing national level agreements to improve fire management activities on Indian lands.

(10) Moving Bureau personnel and equipment between Areas, and to other State and Federal Agencies, to assist in the suppression of wildland fires.

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(11) Reviewing Area NFYP's spending authority requests and preparing recommendations for the approval by the Deputy to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (Trust and Economic Development).

D. Area Director. The Area Director, unless excepted in 10 BIAM, is responsible for:

(1) Ensuring Area fire overhead personnel are provided fire training and experience for the positions assigned.

(2) Providing qualified personnel to take immediate charge of fire suppression activities when, in the Area Director's opinion, a critical fire situation has exceeded Agency capability.

(3) Requesting assistance when the fire situation exceeds the capability of the Area's resources.

(4) Keeping the BIA Director, BIFC, informed on critical situations.

(5) Establishing Boards of Review to review actions taken on selected individual fires which presented unusual problems or situations.

(6) Negotiating cooperative agreements which are needed on an Areawide basis.

(7) Consolidating NFYP spending authority requests for Agency and Area Office programs and submitting requests to BIA Director, BIFC, for review.

(8) Developing policy on qualification standards for firefighting on local Indian lands within the Area.

(9) Participating in the management of Interagency Fire Overhead teams.

(10) Reviewing and approving all fire management plans.

(11) Preparing the Area Mobilization Plan and providing one copy to the BIA Director, BIFC.

(12) Ensuring that prior to the fire season, Area wide equipment rental agreements and contracts, have been completed or reviewed.

(13) Providing fire occurrence statistical data for the Area to the BIA Director, BIFC, within the timelines specified by that office.

(14) Providing Bureau participation in the formulation of Interagency smoke management guidelines.

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E. Superintendent. The Superintendent unless excepted by the Area Addendum to 10 BIAM, has primary responsibility for:

(1) Providing safety training for personnel involved in fire management activities according to Bureau and Area Office standards.

(2) Negotiating cooperative agreements with adjacent protection organizations.

(3) Developing initial attack and backup fire management personnel to provide for an adequate and planned level of protection from wildland fire consistent with historical fire occurrence and values at risk, as defined in the Normal Fire Year Planning Analysis.

(4) Taking appropriate action on wildland fire at levels specified in the approved fire management plan to prevent unacceptable damage to resources or in the absence of an approved plan take immediate and aggressive action.

(5) Conducting fire suppression operations on fires escaping initial attack based upon the strategy selected from an Escaped Fire Situation Analysis. (See Illustration 1).

(6) Assigning personnel to fire suppression and prescribed burning activities according to qualifications and demonstrated ability rather than administrative rank.

(7) Ensuring fire management activities are conducted safely, effectively, and with the least expenditure of public funds.

(8) Developing and implementing fuel management projects or activities to minimize the chance of major resource damage from fire.

(9) Hiring additional resources as needed to suppress wildland fires which exceed existing capabilities.

(10) Ensuring that prior to the fire season, equipment rental agreements and contracts have been completed or reviewed and that preseason inspections have been carried out.

(11) Recommending a Board of Review be established to review actions taken on selected individual fires.

(12) Requesting assistance when the fire situation exceeds the capabilities of the Agencies resources.

(13) Keeping the Area Director informed on critical situations.

(14) Developing the Agency Annual Fire Mobilization Plan.

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(15) Developing the Agency NFYP and Annual NFYP Spending Authority Request.

(16) Completing and processing Individual Fire Reports on a timely basis.

(17) Implementing established smoke management guidelines.
2.1 Fire Management Planning.

A. Fiscal Planning

(1) Bureau Appropriations. Funding for fire management activities may be obtained from several sources including Natural Resource Activity appropriations, tribal contributions and timber sale administrative fees. When these funding sources are insufficient to support an adequate level of fire management as defined through the Normal Fire Year Planning Analysis, certain approved wildfire prevention and presuppression activities may be funded by emergency fire presuppression funds subject to the following constraints.

(a) Permanent Full-Time Personnel. For a position to be eligible for funding under the Normal Fire Year Plan (NFYP), the approved position description must reflect that more than 50 percent of the man-hours defined in those duties relate to direct responsibilities for fire management activities. Positions that are eligible for full funding under the NFYP are limited to full-time Fire Management Officers (FMO) and Dispatchers. Other positions and/or assistants who meet the 50 percent criteria may be funded during the seasonal limit as defined by the 10 percent fire occurrence level.

(b) Travel. Travel chargeable to the emergency fire presuppression account will not exceed the amount provided in the annual NFYP spending authorization to the Area Director.

(c) Capitalized Equipment. Capitalized equipment is defined as non-expendable items of equipment (and major components of such equipment) which are (or should be) recorded in the appropriate General Ledger Account and carry Bureau identification tags. Examples of capitalized equipment include vehicles; chainsaws; radios; pump units (including engines, pumps and tanks considered separately) buildings; storage tanks; etc.

(d) Spending Authorization. No Bureau office may obligate emergency fire presuppression funds without a current Fiscal Year NFYP Obligating Authority.

(2) Tribal Appropriations. Tribes are encouraged to provide tribal appropriated funds to support the fire management program to the extent possible. Tribes are also encouraged to budget in their administrative deductions budget funds for fire management activities.
B. Planning Considerations.

(1) The Fire Management Plan incorporates interdisciplinary objectives such as:

(a) Timber harvest plans
(b) Environmental assessments for resource plans
(c) Timber harvest contract and permit specifications
(d) Fuels management plans
(e) Range management plans
(f) Wildlife enhancement plans
(g) Cultural plants and foods enhancement plans
(h) Watershed management plans

(2) Interagency Requirements. BIA internal plans will reflect interagency concerns and coordination planning. This could include:

(a) Initial attack zones
(b) Prevention team activities
(c) Closest forces concept
(d) Fire use
(e) Interagency overhead teams

(3) Fire Prevention. Fire prevention plans define problems, analyze cause, design and implement solutions, and evaluate results, making adjustments as necessary. Fire prevention efforts require coordination between prevention staff and special officers assigned to the Agency. Fire investigation will be in accordance with 53 BIAM 7, Timber and Fire Trespass.

(4) Fire Mobilization Plan. The Annual Fire Mobilization Plan is a ready reference of activities and procedures relating to the fire management activities for the fire season. The plans should be informative and realistic. Illustration 2 is a suggested outline for the Annual Fire Mobilization Plan.
(5) Fire Rehabilitation Plan. Refer to 53 BIAM 8.4E. A variety of resources and conditions must be considered when planning the rehabilitation of a fire-damaged area. Rehabilitation efforts can be considered as emergency or long-term activities. The difference lies in the urgency of applied measures to assure that basic stability and productivity of the soil are not lost.

Emergency rehabilitation is defined as those activities that are immediately needed to prevent or reduce potential damage to the soil from the aftereffects of the fire. Only those activities identified as emergency in nature will be funded with emergency rehabilitation funds. Refer to approved BIA Fire Rehabilitation Handbook.

(6) Normal Fire Year Plan and Analysis. This analysis identifies organizational requirements and management levels needed to protect natural and invested values; it provides for use of fire as a tool to meet management objectives; and it is the basis for the expenditure of appropriated and emergency funds to staff each Bureau protection installation to insure adequate protection for a normal fire year. The Normal Fire Year Planning Analysis and Planning Instructions provide detailed guidance for preparing this Plan.

(7) Fire Use Plans. The role of fire to meet land use objectives will be determined on an interdisciplinary basis during the overall resource management planning effort. Fire use plans will be developed and implemented under the procedures contained in the BIA Prescribed Fire System Handbook and applicable Area Addenda. These plans will consider established air quality guidelines.

2.2 Hiring Practices

A. Seasonal Appointments. All seasonal fire positions will be filled through general schedule or wage board appointments.

B. Emergency Appointments. It is Bureau policy that the following conditions and situations for use of the emergency hiring authority, as prescribed in the Pay Plan for Emergency Firefighters, will be strictly adhered to. Employment of emergency firefighting personnel may be made according to the provisions of this Pay Plan when any of the following situations exist:

(1) To fight a going fire.

(2) During unusually dry periods or when fire danger is very high to extreme (Man-class 4 or 5), when fuel or weather conditions are such that fires can readily ignite, spread rapidly and do substantial damage, and when risk of fire occurrence is high.
(3) When cooperating fire protection agencies order additional firefighters to be placed on standby for expected dispatch.

(4) To temporarily replace members of fire suppression crews or fire management personnel who are currently on fires.

(5) For basic fire suppression training purposes, not to exceed a total of 40 hours for an individual.

2.3 Interagency Cooperation, Coordination, Communication.

A. Cooperative Agreements. The BIA may enter into cooperative fire agreements with Federal and State agencies, local cooperators and tribal governments. See Illustration 3 for National Level Agreement.

B. National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG). The NWCG is an operational group designed to coordinate programs of the participating agencies to avoid wasteful duplication and to provide a means of constructively working together. Its goal is to provide more effective execution of each agency’s fire management program. The Group provides a formalized system to agree upon standards of training, equipment, aircraft, suppression priorities, and other operational areas. The BIA Director, BIFC, is the Bureau representative in the NWCG. Agreed upon policies, standards, and procedures are implemented through regular Agency channels.

The NWCG may establish working teams to carry out the functional work. Membership on the working teams is derived from organizations having the greatest expertise and interest in the particular subject matter. To insure Bureau input into various fire management programs, Area and Agency personnel will be requested for membership on these working teams. Individual membership will be for a period of not less than three or more than five years. The Bureau’s goal is to provide one representative on each working team.

C. Interior Fire Coordination Committee (IFCC). The IFCC membership consists of a Staff Officer of the Assistant Secretary - Land and Mineral Management, ex officio, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service; and the Bureau of Land Management. Through the IFCC, the Department prescribes minimum fire position requirements and addresses fire management issues and topics. The BIA Director, BIFC, is the Bureau representative on this committee.

D. Interagency Fire Management Teams. The Bureau will participate on National and Regional fire management teams. Commitment for membership on national teams will be a minimum of three years. The teams will be formed on an interagency basis within geographic areas.
Interagency fire management teams function under a written
delegation of authority from the Line Officer of the using agency. The Bureau
will take part in determining the size and number of teams.

E. Multi-Agency Coordinating (MAC) Groups. The Bureau will participate
in National and Regional level MAC groups on decisions affecting Indian lands
and resources. The BIA representative will protect Indian interests in
situations where suppression resource shortages are present or anticipated.
Decisions will be based on the fire situation, availability of suppression
resources, fire behavior, values-at-risk, present and predicted fire danger.

2.4 Reports.

A. Individual Fire Report. This report will be prepared as a permanent
record of each wildfire, fire use (prescribed fire), or support action. It is
the source document for the fire statistical reports and provides data for
administering fire management activities, planning for the future, and for the
study of fire management techniques and problems. The BIA Director, BIFC may
require additional reports on incidents in progress, such as a daily situation
report.

Individual Fire Report Data will be entered into designated computer
systems by appropriate Agency, Area, or National level staff.

B. Bureau Annual Fire Report. An Annual summary fire report reflecting
fire occurrence statistics for the previous calendar year throughout the
Bureau will be prepared and distributed by BIA Director, BIFC. Information
for the report will be supplied to BIFC by each Area Director by NO LATER THAN
February 1st.

2.5 Fire Management Training, Physical Fitness, and Personal Protective
Equipment.

A. Training and Qualifications. Fire management training will be
conducted to meet the qualification requirements of each job as outlined in
appropriate NWCG Handbooks and BIA fire management handbooks and guidelines.
Physical fitness training and testing will be conducted to meet Bureau and
National fire management requirements. The following will apply to physical
fitness training:

(1) Physical fitness training during working hours will be
restricted to the seasonal limits identified in the Agency's approved Normal
Fire Year Plan.

(2) Only those personnel who hold current red-cards and are
available for dispatch will be allowed physical fitness training time during
working hours.

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(3) Supervisors will establish their own time schedule for their personnel. Time will not exceed 45 minutes including dressing and showering.

(4) Physical fitness will be restricted to exercises which cannot be construed as a game. (Running or fitness trail vs soccer or volleyball.) Area Directors may establish lesser qualifications for intra-area use of fire personnel. Caution must be exercised in the use of personnel with qualifications less than national standards. Personnel with less than national standards will not be dispatched outside of Area or to another agency or incident.

B. Physical and Aerobic Examinations. Personnel who may be assigned to firefighting positions are required to take and pass appropriate physical and aerobic examinations.

(1) All permanent, temporary and seasonal firefighters will be evaluated against the same physical standards. See Illustration 4.

(2) All temporary and seasonal applicants for firefighting positions must submit to a Certificate of Medical Examination, SF-78, prior to entering on duty. The applicant must pay for the examination.

(3) Permanent employees assigned to firefighting duties must have a new physical examination at least every other year. A physical examination may be required more often if there are obvious physical changes or there are reasons to believe that the circumstances warrant it. Cost of these standard examinations will be covered by the Bureau. Unless specifically authorized by appropriate line officials, medical tests or procedures which exceed the standard medical examination as outlined in Illustration 4, will be at the employee's expense.

(4) All employees assigned to firefighting duties will take and pass, at a level commensurate with anticipated fire job assignments and qualifications, an annual step test or alternate 1 1/2 mile run. Employees must maintain their conditioning throughout the season. The step test or alternate 1 1/2 mile run may be administered as frequently as necessary to assure fitness standards are maintained.

(5) Temporary and seasonal employees must pass the step test or alternate 1 1/2 mile run at the level established by the Area Director prior to entry on duty.

C. Personal Protective Equipment. Personal protective equipment, except for boots, will be provided to all personnel assigned to fire suppression activities. Use of personal protective equipment is mandatory for all Bureau personnel on fire line assignments. This equipment will include,
but not be limited to, fire resistant shirts and pants, protective head gear, goggles, fire shelters, and leather gloves. All personnel assigned fireline duties will carry a fire shelter and will have received training in its use and care.

2.6 Smoke Management. Smoke management is defined as conducting a prescribed fire under certain fuel moisture and meteorological conditions, and with firing techniques that keep the smoke impact on the environment within acceptable limits as outlined in State Implementation Plans.


B. The Clean Air Act (Act) delegates or allows delegation to the States the responsibility to carry out many sections of the Act. These responsibilities are outlined and discussed in State Implementation Plans (SIP). It will be the responsibility of each Area Director to insure that Bureau input is incorporated into the development of SIP's which may effect the use of fire in their Area. Smoke management concerns will be addressed when planning a prescribed burn. (See Prescribed Fire System Handbook)

2.7 Fire Management Facilities. Emergency funds will not be used in the construction of any permanent facilities such as warehouses, lookout towers, guard stations, airstrips, roads, truck trails, bridges, etc., unless such facilities are damaged or destroyed by a wildland fire.

Reservation improvements and facilities, regardless of source of funds used in construction, which contribute to fire management activities should be inventoried and regularly inspected for adequacy of maintenance to make sure they are in a usable condition when needed. It is essential that facilities which are important to fire management receive adequate consideration in the planning of the overall reservation maintenance program.

A. Warehouses. Warehouses may be provided by the Bureau or leased from private individuals or organizations. When Bureau owned, repair and maintenance will be the responsibility of the Branch of Facilities Management. When leased, these warehouses will be the responsibility of the owner unless provisions are made otherwise in the lease contract.

B. Heliports. The Branch having fire management responsibilities will be responsible for construction and maintenance of heliports. Construction should be in accordance with guidelines established by the Department of the Interior, Office of Aircraft Services.
C. Lookouts and Guard Stations. The Branch of Facilities Management has primary responsibility for the maintenance, alterations, repair, and replacement of such facilities. Lookouts and guard stations should receive regular annual maintenance. Fire management personnel may become involved in maintenance and minor repair activities when available.

D. Fuelbreaks. Fuelbreak construction and maintenance will be the responsibility of the Branch assigned fire management responsibilities and should be accomplished as a part of hazard reduction activities.

E. Trails. Occasionally, trails are the only means of ground access in undeveloped areas. Fire management personnel should be assigned to trail maintenance activities during the early part of the fire season.

F. Roads and Bridges. Maintenance of these facilities is provided by the Branch of Roads or by Agency contracts within funding limits. These facilities should be inspected by fire management personnel prior to the beginning of the fire season to determine maintenance needs. Recommendations on maintenance needs should be provided to the responsible individual.

2.8 Communications. Each Branch is responsible for the purchase and maintenance of communications equipment used in its activities. The Branch with fire management responsibilities will provide for fire communications equipment. When one Branch is the sole user of the system, that Branch will be responsible for the entire system.

When more than one Branch uses a given system, the Branch of Facilities Management will be responsible for those units common to the system, e.g., repeaters, base stations, remotes. The user Branch is responsible for all other communications equipment used in its activities.

2.9 Fire Equipment.

A. Policy. An integral facet of the Bureau's ability to carry out its fire management responsibilities is effective use of fire suppression equipment. To insure effective use, the following practices shall be followed:

(1) Types of equipment shall be standardized by Area.

(2) Equipment shall be maintained and kept in good repair.

(3) Except for other emergencies, use of equipment shall be confined to fire management work.

(4) Specialized equipment shall be operated by specifically trained personnel.
The Bureau is authorized to evaluate new technology to determine its effectiveness in supporting the Bureau's fire management program when authorized in the delegation of authority from the Line Officer to the Incident Commander.

B. Procurement.

(1) No Fire Emergency. Natural Resource Activity appropriated funds, or funds identified during the Normal Fire Year Planning process, will be used to purchase fire equipment during periods when a fire emergency does not exist, except that emergency presuppression funds may not be used to purchase capitalized equipment.

(2) Fire Emergency. During a fire emergency, fire suppression funds will be available for the purchase of fire suppression supplies and equipment to replenish that which was used in the suppression effort. Replacement or replenishment may also be made under the following conditions:

(a) When minor equipment, tools, and supplies purchased for other than fire use are drawn upon for firefighting and are lost, damaged beyond repair, destroyed, or consumed in the suppression effort.

(b) When major equipment is damaged in firefighting, the cost of restoration to the condition existing prior to the damage will be paid from fire suppression funds. When such equipment is damaged beyond repair or is destroyed by fire, fire suppression funds will bear the loss in value based on cost, less depreciation earned by the unit and its salvage value.

(c) No additions to equipment stocks may be made from fire suppression funds except as a result of purchases necessitated by going fires, and then only when fully justified by meeting all of the following conditions:

(i) The equipment will have a decided bearing on the control of the fire.

(ii) It will reduce or break even on overall suppression cost or will reduce the damage.

(iii) It will arrive on the fire in time to get the proposed job done.

(iv) The equipment is not available at other Agencies within the time limits required for the job.

(d) No purchase of trucks or other items of heavy equipment shall be made without advance written approval of the BIA Director, BIFC.
C. Rental of Equipment.

(1) Privately Owned. Any type of equipment may be rented for the suppression of fires and paid for from fire suppression funds provided the cost of the equipment used can be justified by showing it contributed to the fire suppression effort. Types of equipment include, but are not limited to: tractors, trucks, lowboy trailers, pickups, pumper units, aircraft, chainsaws, all terrain vehicles, road graders, etc. Rental equipment must be carefully planned for and managed to get maximum production per dollar outlay.

Rental agreements should be established prior to the beginning of the fire season and the equipment inspected prior to use on the fire. Under most rental agreements, the Bureau assumes responsibility for the loss or damage, exclusive of ordinary wear and tear, while any rental equipment is being used, transported, or held on standby unless such loss or damage is due to negligence of the owner or the owner's employees. Before any repairs are authorized, it must be determined if the damage or loss is covered by insurance. If there is any doubt concerning the Bureau's responsibility, the matter should be referred to the Area Director for a decision. Justifiable repairs are chargeable to fire suppression funds. See NWCG Fire Business Management Handbook for inspection and reporting procedures.

(2) Government-Owned Equipment. Reimbursement for Government-owned motorized or other large equipment loaned for fire suppression use shall be in accordance with rates established by the activity owning the equipment.

Reimbursements should be based upon replacement cost, cost of major and minor repairs, fuel and lubricants for the operation of the equipment.

(3) Contract Equipment. Equipment hired under contract will be under the control of a Bureau representative. The equipment may be prepositioned or maintained at the contractor's place of business for the exclusive use of the Bureau. The equipment will be inspected periodically to insure proper operating conditions. When used on a going fire, costs are chargeable to the fire suppression fund. Guaranteed use above that chargeable to suppression funds will be covered in the Normal Fire Year Plan.

2.10 Interagency Fire Coordination Centers.

Reserved.
2.11 Contracting. There are instances where Indian lands are so widely scattered and intermingled among other ownerships that organized fire control by the Bureau of Indian Affairs is impractical. When such other land ownerships have been organized for fire protection, it may be possible to contract with the organized protection agency for necessary fire control service. The Bureau of Indian Affairs may likewise render fire control service to non-Indian lands among the Indian lands if fires occurring on non-Indian lands may be a threat to the Indian lands under organized protection by the Bureau.

A. Contracts to provide fire control service to Indian lands by another organized protection agency shall be executed by the Area Contracting Officer. Prior planning and thorough investigation are necessary to determine the utility and economy of such contract protection. Before such contracts are negotiated and executed, the Deputy Assistant to the Secretary – Indian Affairs (Trust and Economic Development) shall be informed of the proposal in detail.

B. When contracts for the protection of Indian lands are being considered, protection standards must be at least equal to the standards identified in the Agency's Normal Fire Year Plan.
# ESCAPED FIRE SITUATION ANALYSIS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>FIRE NAME</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## I. SITUATION

A. **FIRE**: Current size _acres_. Date started _Time_

B. Fire weather and behavior
   1. Current:
   2. Outlook:

C. Fuels:
   1. Type:
   2. Extent:

D. Fire size potential:

E. Constraints on suppression activities (Administrative or Legal):

F. Important social or external considerations:

G. Important social or external considerations:

## II. ALTERNATIVES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALTERNATIVES</th>
<th>ALT. A</th>
<th>ALT. B</th>
<th>ALT. C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

A. Strategy

B. Suppression Forces Required

C. Est. Date Contained

D. Est. Size & Containment

E. Est. Suppression Cost

F. Est. Rehab. Cost

G. Est. Prob. of Success
### III. ANALYSIS OF EFFECTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONSIDERATIONS</th>
<th>Critical</th>
<th>Not Critical</th>
<th>Critical</th>
<th>Not Critical</th>
<th>Critical</th>
<th>Not Critical</th>
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</thead>
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<td>b. Public</td>
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<td>2. Economic</td>
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<td>8. Rec. Opportunity</td>
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<td>C. Addt. Considerations</td>
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</table>

### IV. DECISION

Alternative ____________ is selected because:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>SHIFT REVIEW:</th>
<th>Line Officer(s) (Acting)</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td></td>
<td>By</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### V. EXPANSION OF ANALYSIS OF EFFORTS

Attach separate sheets if desired.

### VI. SPECIFIC DIRECTION TO INCIDENT COMMANDER

Attach separate sheets if desired.
Instructions

I. Situation

A. Self explanatory.

B. Summarize current prediction and outlook issued by NWS forecaster for the period the prediction covers.

C. Use agency system. The area extent of fuels is important to fire size potential.

D. Best estimate based on fuels, topography, predicted weather, and any other circumstances that could affect ability to control.

E. I.E., Wilderness or other management decision resulting in constraints on fire suppression.

F. From land or resource management plans.

G. List any social or external factors critical to decision making, particularly in development of strategic plan alternatives.

II. Alternatives

A. Define a general strategy (indirect attack, direct attack, parallel, etc.), use geographic names or features where helpful. Show each alternative on a map. Estimate.

B. A general estimate with enough detail to help in estimating cost.

C. Best estimate using available guidelines and local information.

III. Analysis of Efforts

Use a three symbol system (- for negative change, 0 for no effect, and + for positive change). Use symbol in either the "Critical" or "Not Critical" column for each consideration for each alternative, but not for both.

A. Social - Where, in the judgement of the line officer or his/her representative, the effect is a "Critical" concern in selecting a strategy, place the symbol in the "Critical" column. Otherwise, place in "Not Critical" column.

B. Resource and Environmental Elements - Place the symbol evaluating the effects in the "Critical" column if the effect will significantly influence the attainment of the agency's management objectives for the area or if the effect would change the agency's ability to meet legal requirements: i.e., threatened or endangered species. Economic uses of vegetation is harvested through removal by cutting, grazing, etc.
Instructions

Long term effects would generally be those that would require multiple treatments for restoration or use could resume or last longer than five years.

C. List any additional considerations that need to be analyzed.

IV. Decisions

The rationale for selection of strategic plan should be briefly explained. This should consider costs, "Critical" effects verses "Not Critical" effects, constraints, land management objectives, and important social or external considerations. The relative importance assigned to these considerations is a judgement that is the responsibility of the line officer. The selected strategy should, to the extent possible, to minimize the "Critical" effects.

V. Specific Direction to the Incident Commander

Document here, any considerations that the line officer gives that should guide the suppression effort. This should not necessarily be in great detail, but identifies special situations or objectives.

IV. Expansion of Analysis of Effects

This can be used to document backup information and further expand rationale for decision if appropriate particularly in complex situations.
Annual Fire Plan Outline

I. Policy (Authority and Responsibility)
   1. Bureau – reference to 53 BIAM 8
   2. Area and/or Local
   3. Area Office Role

II. Prevention
   1. Problem Identification
   2. Action

III. Presuppression
   1. Training Needs
   2. Predictive Systems – there are several systems available to use such as:
      A. National Fire Danger Rating System
      B. BEHAVE
   3. Manpower
      A. Emergency Manning
         (1) Identify number and dates of hire of presuppression forces. Manning should be tied to Normal Fire Year Plan.
         (2) Identify location and tour of duty of initial attack force.
         (3) Identify authorized weekend and holiday supervisory over-head.
      B. Agency Staff – Identify Agency capability and overhead qualifications.
      C. Organized Crews.
      D. Interagency Fire Management Teams
      E. Dispatch Operating Procedures
   4. Tools, Service, Equipment
      A. Present Capability
      B. Other Sources
   5. Air Operations
      A. Agency Contract Aircraft – Identify type and how it will be used.
      B. Other Aircraft.
      C. Smokejumpers

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6. Communications
   A. Existing System
   B. Fire Nets
   C. Air Nets

7. Safety – Describe the safety program that will be incorporated into the fire management program.

8. Detection
   A. Lookouts – Include activation dates
   B. Aerial Patrol – Explain when used.

IV. Suppression
   1. Action Plans for Initial Attack – Describe plans based on fire danger conditions –
      A. Low
      B. Moderate
      C. High
      D. Very High
      E. Extreme
   2. Action Plans for Extended Attack
      A. Class B or smaller -- 10 acres or less
      B. Class C or larger -- 10 acres +
      Expected needs for each category of fire should be identified. Include assistance available from local cooperators.

V. Supplemental Data
   1. Telephone Directory
      A. Agency Staff
      B. Area Office Contacts
      C. Cooperators
      D. Law Enforcement Agencies
      E. Local Restaurant, Stores, Motels, etc.
   2. Overhead Lists
   3. Other Data

Supp. 8, Release 9, 2/11/88
INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

Between the

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

of the

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

and the

FOREST SERVICE

of the

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

I. Introduction

Fire loss in the forests and on the rangelands of the Nation continues to be a matter of great concern to the American public and to the land management Bureaus and Services of the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture, hereafter called "agencies." Considerable progress has been made in the development of fire plans and in methods of fire suppression by the agencies. More progress can be made by closer cooperation between the responsible agencies. The value of cooperation in fire management and fire suppression has been demonstrated by the agencies. Many of the land areas under jurisdiction of these agencies are so located geographically that fire on lands in one jurisdiction may become a threat to the resources on an adjoining jurisdiction. It is therefore desirable and in the public interest to provide specifically for coordinated action between these agencies.

II. Purpose

To provide a basis for cooperation between the agencies of the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture on all aspects of wildfire management and to facilitate the cooperative use of fire-related resources during national or regional non-fire emergencies. This agreement rescinds and cancels all previous agreements, dated February 21, 1963, and amended October 3, 1977 (BLM-FS); June 2, 1980 (BIA-FS); and October 17, 1981 (NPS-FS).

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III. Authority


IV. Activities

The agencies agree to cooperate in the full spectrum of fire management activities including the use of fire to achieve land management goals. Cooperative efforts shall be provided for at the national, regional, and local levels to facilitate efficient use of personnel, supplies, and equipment. Those activities will include but not be limited to:

1. Prevention of human-caused wildfires;

2. Training of personnel to common standards;

3. Presuppression activities;

4. Suppression of wildfires;

5. Rehabilitation of areas burned by wildfire;

6. Development and exchange of technology and data bases;

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7. Development and distribution of cost information;
8. Use of resources on national or regional emergencies.

V. Objectives

1. Interagency fire management and wildfire suppression developed through coordination and cooperation.

2. Efficient use of fire management personnel of the agencies.

3. Provision for field offices of the signatory agencies to develop annual regional and local operating plans.

4. Provision for the use of fire personnel, equipment, and supplies to meet non-wildfire emergencies.

VI. Provisions

1. Agencies will develop cooperative arrangements to cover administrative and jurisdictional responsibilities which will provide for:
   a. Use of closest-foreces and total mobility concepts for support of large fires, including personnel, equipment, and supplies.
   b. Development and use of fire equipment and supply caches compatible with total interagency requirements by local, area, regional, and national needs.
   c. Training to mutually agreeable standards and curriculum.
   d. Mutually acceptable performance qualifications and standards for wildfire fighting and wildfire management personnel.

2. Local representatives of the agencies are expected to jointly identify geographic areas where:
   - Exchanges of protection will provide the best cost benefit to the involved agencies; and
   - Cooperative efforts, both staffing and funding, is the best cost-conscious, efficient approach.

3. Agency representatives shall exchange fire management plans including fire resource information on available personnel, equipment, and supplies as necessary.

4. Agency representatives may agree to finance jointly, any or all fire management activities on intermingled or adjacent agency lands. One agency may agree to pay the other at a specified rate per acre, or the amounts agreed upon in advance for any fire management activities on lands under its jurisdiction.
5. Agencies should mutually monitor fire suppression equipment and supplies stocking levels to assure proper distribution and quantities are on hand to meet the potential needs.

6. An agency is expected to take prompt initial action, with or without request, unless otherwise provided for, on fires of another within zones of mutual interest. Where one agency takes initial action in the suppression of a fire in a zone of mutual interest but in the protective unit of the other, that agency shall continue to fight the fire until relieved by an officer of the other agency.

7. When fires burn on or threaten lands of more than one agency, joint planning will be conducted by local officials to suppress the fire. Should disagreements occur, they will be elevated to the next higher management level.

8. Upon request, any authorized agency shall render assistance in significant non-fire emergencies to another, both within and outside zones of mutual interest, with its regular firefighting personnel and fire suppression facilities, when suitable assistance is available and when such action shall not leave areas in its own protection unit unduly exposed to fire danger, except in cases involving the threat to human life.

9. As provided for in the Reciprocal Fire Protection Act of May 24, 1955 (69 Stat. 66; 42 U.S.C. 185a), the agencies shall not bill each other for the services rendered in the suppression of wildfires. Each agency shall, upon request, forward specific cost information for billings to third parties, for management review and use. Cost for the other fire management activities, including appropriate administrative charges, shall be billed to the requesting agency unless otherwise provided for.

10. Billing for reimbursement of services rendered in response to non-fire emergencies shall be mutually agreed to on a case-by-case basis.

11. Upon request, any authorized agency shall render assistance in fire suppression to another, both within and outside zones of mutual interest, with its regular firefighting personnel and fire suppression facilities, when assistance is available and when such action shall not leave areas in its own protection unit unduly exposed to fire danger.

VII. General Provisions

1. Each agency shall make direct settlement from its own funds for all liabilities it incurs under this agreement.

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2. Parties to this agreement are not obligated to make expenditures of funds under terms of this agreement unless such funds are appropriated for the purpose by the Congress of the United States, or are otherwise legitimately available. If some extraordinary emergency or unusual circumstance arises which could not be anticipated involving an expenditure in excess of available funds for the protection of life or property, all agencies shall seek deficiency appropriations to meet their respective shares of such emergency obligations.

3. This agreement shall take effect October 1, 1982. Any signatory agency may terminate this agreement by written notice to all other signatory agencies provided that such notice shall be given between the dates of October 31 of any year and March 1 of the following year. The remaining signatory agencies may continue the provision of this agreement.

4. Changes or modifications of this agreement may be initiated by any signatory agency. The changes or modifications shall not be incorporated until all parties agree, they are in the form of an amendment to the agreement, and are signed by all agencies.

5. Each party to this agreement does hereby expressly waive all claims against the other party for compensation for any loss, damage, personal injury or death occurring in consequence of the performance of this agreement.

Deputy, Bureau of Land Management: 
F. Dale Robertson

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs (Operations): 
J. Eugene Heste

Director, National Park Service: 
Supp. 8, Release 9, 2/11/88
Amendment No. 2 to Joint USDI Agencies and USDA Forest Service Interagency Fire Agreement

Preamble to Amendment: Amendment No. 1 is Superseded in its entirety by Amendment No. 2.

The Forest Service, in its lead agency role, will pay the cost of State assistance (FFF) to avoid billing the using Federal Agency for suppression costs and/or the initiation of countless agreements between Interior agencies and the various States facilitating direct payment by Interior agencies to the States for interstate assistance. State assistance within a given State is not of concern since payment for State services by the using Federal agency is provided for in local Interior agency/State agreements.

SECTION VI, Item 12: Add new paragraph to read:

"12. The Forest Service shall serve as the lead agency for interstate mobilization of State fire suppression resources to assist authorized Federal agencies upon request. The cost of State services, so provided, shall be borne by the Forest Service."

This amendment is effective on the last date of execution and continues indefinitely.

Chief, Forest Service

Date

Director, Bureau of Land Management

Date

Director, National Park Service

Date

Director, Fish and Wildlife Service

Date

Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs

Date
**UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION**

### Part A. TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT OR EMPLOYEE (type or print in ink)

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<tr>
<th>1. NAME (last, first, middle)</th>
<th>2. SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NO.</th>
<th>3. SEX</th>
<th>4. DATE OF BIRTH</th>
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<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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If your answer is YES, explain fully to the physician performing the examination. (signature of applicant)

### Part B. TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE EXAMINATION BY APPOINTING OFFICER

<table>
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<tr>
<th>1. PURPOSE OF EXAMINATION</th>
<th>2. POSITION TITLE</th>
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</thead>
</table>

- Preappointment
- Other (specify)

**3. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF WHAT POSITION REQUIRES EMPLOYEE TO DO**

Participation in fire suppression activities in rugged mountainous terrain from sea level to over 10,000 feet elevation. Use a variety of hand tools, power saws, and pumps. Exposed to long and irregular working hours under exhausting conditions, including adverse weather conditions. Required to maintain physical performance over long periods of time.

### Part C. TO BE COMPLETED BY EXAMINING PHYSICIAN

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<tr>
<th>1. EXAMINING PHYSICIAN’S NAME (type or print)</th>
<th>2. ADDRESS (including ZIP Code)</th>
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3. SIGNATURE OF EXAMINING PHYSICIAN

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<tr>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>(date)</th>
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IMPORTANT: After signing, return the entire form intact in the pre-addressed "Confidential-Medical" envelope which the person you examined gave you.

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**FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Heavy lifting, 45 pounds and over
- Moderate lifting, 15-44 pounds
- Light lifting, under 15 pounds
- Heavy carrying, 45 pounds and over
- Moderate carrying, 15-44 pounds
- Light carrying, under 15 pounds
- Straight pulling (hours)
- Pulling hand over hand (hours)
- Pushing (hours)
- Reaching above shoulder
- Use of fingers
- Both hands required
- Walking (12 hours)
- Standing (12 hours)
- Crawling (hours)
- Kneeling (hours)
- Repeated bending (12 hours)
- Climbing, legs only (8 hours)
- Climbing, use of legs and arms
- Both legs required
- Operation of crane, truck, tractor, or motor vehicle
- Ability to use and desirability of using firearms
- Near vision correctable at 13" to 16" to Jaeger 1 to 4
- Far vision correctable in one eye to 20/20 and to 20/40 in the other
- Far vision correctable in one eye to 20/50 and to 20/100 in the other
- Specific visual requirements (specify)
- Both eyes required
- Depth perception
- Ability to distinguish basic colors
- Ability to distinguish shades of colors
- Hearing (aid permitted)
- Hearing without aid
- Specific hearing requirements (specify)
- Other (specify)

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS**

- Outside
- Outside and inside
- Excessive heat
- Excessive cold
- Excessive humidity
- Excessive dampness or chilling
- Dry atmospheric conditions
- Excessive noise, intermittent
- Constant noise
- Dust
- Silica, asbestos, etc.
- Fumes, smoke, or gases
- Solvents (degreasing agents)
- Grease and oils
- Radiant energy
- Electrical energy
- Slippery or uneven walking surfaces
- Working around machinery with moving parts
- Working around moving objects or vehicles
- Working on ladders or scaffolding
- Working below ground
- Unusual fatigue factors (specify)
- Working with hands in water
- Explosives
- Vibration
- Working closely with others
- Working alone
- Protracted or irregular hours of work
- Other (specify)

**Mental & Emotional Stability**

**Long Hours**

---

**STANDARD FORM NO 78**
OCTOBER 1967 (REVISION)

78-110 Supp. 8, Release 9, 2/11/88
Memorandum

To: Holders of 53 BIAM

From: Deputy to the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (Operations)

Subject: Forestry

This release updates the basic portion of the Forestry Program Manual to remove pen-and-ink changes in 53 BIAM 1.2A, Statutes, per 53 BIAM, Release 3, dated April 8, 1981, correct the General Forestry Regulations citation for Forestry, change the title of Supplement 6 to Forest Pest Management, and reflect revised instructions on forest pest management.

Deputy to the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (Operations)

Filing Instructions:

(a) Remove superseded material:
53 BIAM 0, Table of Contents, Release 2 (Dated 6/21/78) (2 sheets)
53 BIAM 1.1 – 1.5 Release 2 (Dated 6/21/78) (3 sheets)
53 BIAM 6.1 – 6.3C(3) Release 2 (Dated 6/21/78) (1 sheet)

(b) Insert new material transmitted:
53 BIAM 0, Table of Contents, Release 6 (Dated 12/2/87) (2 sheets)
53 BIAM 1.1 – 1.5 Release 6 (Dated 12/2/87) (2 sheets)
53 BIAM 6.1 – 6.3C(2) Release 6 (Dated 12/2/87) (1 sheet)

(c) Pen-and-ink changes:
None
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      B. Regulations
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      B. Delegations
   .4 Organization
      A. Organization
      B. Functions
   .5 Records, Reports, and Forms

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   .2 Authority
   .3 Inventory
   .4 Management Plans

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   .2 Authority
   .3 Approving Officer
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      B. Superintendent
   .4 Sale Preparation
   .5 Contracts
   .6 Sale Administration

4. Other Timber Harvest
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   .3 Responsibility
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      B. Superintendent
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Release 53-6, 12/2/87
1. GENERAL

1.1 Policy and Scope. Indian forest lands are held in trust by the United States for Indians and are to be managed in the best interests of the Indian beneficiaries. Applicable statutes, 25 CFR Subchapter M, Part 163, and applicable portions of the Departmental Manual, Part 586, Timber Management; Part 590, Wildland Fire Control and Management; Part 611, Forest Pest Control Program; Part 516, Environmental Quality; Part 600.4.1, Trespass; and 68 IAM 3.6.2, and 4.6.2 Law Enforcement, set forth the objectives for management of the Indian forest resource. An essential part of this policy provides for management of Indian forest lands under the concept of sustained-yield as expressed in 25 CFR 163.4. Indian forests are closely involved with the well-being of Indian communities and any plan of forest management must recognize the general needs of the Indian people, and be coordinated with Bureau of Indian Affairs and other social and economic programs. Forestry staffs will keep informed regarding relevant forestry research and will encourage cooperative relationships with research agencies and seek their assistance on specific problems.

1.2 Authority.

A. Statutes. The basic statutory authorities concerning the management of the Indian forest resource and protection of Indian forest and range lands are:

(1) **Act of February 16, 1889** (25 Stat. 673; 25 U.S.C. 196). Permits the President to authorize the sale or disposal of dead and down timber on Indian lands.

(2) **Act of June 25, 1910** (Sec. 7, 36 Stat. 857; 25 U.S.C. 407). Authorizes the sale of timber from unallotted Indian lands, except in the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin, under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior.

(3) **Act of June 25, 1910** (Sec. 8, 36 Stat. 857; 25 U.S.C. 406). Authorizes the sale of timber from allotted lands by the allottee with the consent of the Secretary of the Interior.


(5) **Act of March 1, 1933** (47 Stat. 1417; 25 U.S.C. 413). Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to charge a reasonable fee for work performed for Indian tribes or individuals.
(6) Act of June 18, 1934 (Sec. 6, 48 Stat. 986; 25 U.S.C. 466). Directs the Secretary of the Interior to make rules and regulations for the operation and management of Indian forestry units on the principles of sustained-yield management. (While this Act does not apply to reservations where it was not accepted, 25 CFR Part 163 requires application of sustained-yield principles to the management of all Indian forest lands).

(7) Act of March 29, 1944 (58 Stat. 132; 16 U.S.C. 583 through 5831). Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish cooperative sustained-yield units on lands owned or administered by the United States, including Indian lands.


(11) Act of July 30, 1956 (70 Stat. 721; 25 U.S.C. 407d). Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to charge purchasers of Indian timber for special services requested by the purchasers in connection with scaling, marking, or other activities under the timber sale contract.


(13) Act of July 1, 1978 (92 Stat. 365; 16 U.S.C. 2101). Authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to provide cooperative forestry assistance to States and others, and for other purposes.

B. Regulations. The General Forest Regulations (25 CFR Part 163) are basic procedures to be followed in administering the Indian forests. Where applicable, the general regulations are supplemented by regulations governing sale of lumber and other forest products as follows:

(1) Sale of Lumber and Other Forest Products Produced by Indian Enterprises from the Forests on Indian Reservations (25 CFR Part 164).

(2) Sale of Forest Products, Red Lake Indian Reservation, Minnesota (25 CFR Part 165).

1.3 Responsibility.

A. Secretary of the Interior. Responsibilities of the Secretary are set forth in 586 DM Chapter 2 in the management of Indian forest land, and...
590 DM Chapter 1, 1.2, in wildland fire control and management, and are included herein by reference.

B. Delegations.

(1) Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs. Delegations of authority to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs by the Secretary of the Interior are contained in 209 DM Chapter 8. The delegation contains no limitations or restrictions on the Assistant Secretary's exercise of the Secretary's responsibilities in regard to forestry matters.

(2) Area Director. The delegation of authority by the Assistant Secretary to Area Directors with respect to forestry matters is contained in 230 DM Chapter 3. The authority to waive provisions of 25 CFR Part 163 has not been delegated to Area Directors. The authority to take final action on any matter is limited by requirements of 53 BIAM and 25 CFR 163, such as 25 CFR 163.15, Payment for Timber, and 25 CFR 163.18, Deductions for Administrative Expenses.

1.4 Organization.

A. Organization.

(1) Washington Office. The Office of Trust and Economic Development provides staff support to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs in development and management of programs relating to the Bureau's trust and legal responsibilities.

(2) Area Office. Area Offices, the second level of the Bureau organization, are under the immediate direction of the Area Directors, who are responsible to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs for administration of Bureau activities in their respective Areas. Area Forestry staffs or equivalent representatives are responsible to the Area Directors.

(3) Agency Office. Agency or equivalent field offices constitute the program operation level of the Bureau. They deal directly with the Indians and with Indian matters. Each Agency Office is under the immediate direction of a Superintendent, or equivalent, who in turn is responsible to the Area Director. Superintendents are responsible for management of all forestry and related activities in accordance with established policies, standards, and procedures. Superintendents execute forestry program activities through their Forestry staff.

B. Functions.

(1) Washington Office. Staff assistance and advice are provided to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs and the Deputy to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (Trust and Economic Development) regarding forestry matters by the Division of Forestry. The Forestry staff:

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(a) Formulates policy to guide forestry and related activities in the field.

(b) Maintains liaison and promotes working agreements with other agencies engaged in forest research, management, protection, and related activities.

(c) Prepares recommendations for legislation and regulations concerning forestry activities, and examines and makes recommendations on legislation and regulations initiated elsewhere that may affect Indian forest resources.

(d) Counsels the Assistant Secretary and other officials on all matters relating to forest resources, and may assist them at hearings, conferences, and public appearances.

(e) Coordinates with other programs of the Bureau and programs of other Bureaus and Departments concerning forestry activities in order to assure integrated plans and programs.

(2) Area Office. Area Forestry staff functions include provision of technical supervision and/or assistance to Superintendents and tribes; coordination and liaison with other Bureau activities and other Agencies; and assistance in administrative support of Agency forestry programs.

(3) Agency Office. The Agency Forestry staff, under the administrative supervision of the Superintendent, and in cooperation with the Indians, plans and executes approved forestry programs and selected activities.

1.5 Records, Reports, and Forms. Requirements and instructions for records, reports, and forms are contained in other Manual sections and/or supplements.
6. FOREST PEST MANAGEMENT

6.1 Policy and Scope. Basic administration of forest pest management legislation is a function of the Forest Service, which provides technical assistance and funding for approved forest pest management programs or projects involving lands, including Indian lands, administered by the Department of the Interior. It is Departmental policy to detect, control, and mitigate harmful effects of forest insects and diseases on forest lands under Department of the Interior jurisdiction. These steps shall be accomplished under procedures outlined by the Forest Service. Applicable provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, and the Endangered Species Act, as amended, and other statutes, regulations, and policies relevant to environmental quality shall be met.

6.2 Authority. The Agreement of March 28, 1983, between the Departments of Agriculture and Interior provides for funding and technical assistance through the Forest Service for approved pest and disease control activities.

6.3 Responsibility.

A. Department of the Interior. The Department of the Interior coordinates forest pest management activities for Interior Agencies and maintains liaison with the Forest Service to facilitate forest pest and disease control efforts.

B. Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs. The Assistant Secretary shall coordinate efforts to secure funding at the national level and maintain liaison with other Agencies of the Department and the Forest Service.

C. Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Bureau is responsible to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs for coordinating the national forest pest management program on Indian forest lands.

(1) Area Director. The Area Director provides coordination of Agency efforts and cooperates with Forest Service Regional Offices in establishing needed programs and projects.

(2) Agency Superintendent. The Agency Superintendent assists the Forest Service in the detection of forest insects and diseases, the assessment of potential and/or actual damage, and the planning and execution of projects.
Memorandum

To: Holders of 53 BIAM
From: Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Subject: Forestry Manual - 53 BIAM

This release updates the basic portion of the Forestry Program Manual to conform with recent congressional action.

[Signature]
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Filing Instructions

(a) Remove superseded materials
   None

(b) File initial release:
   None

(c) Pen-and-ink changes:
   53 BIAM 1.2A Statutes

(d) Cross out Act of April 26, 1940 and its following description

(e) Cross out Act of June 25, 1947 and its following description

(f) Insert Act of July 1, 1978 (95 stat. 313 16 USC 2101) authorizes forest disease and insect prevention and control and funding thereof through the Secretary of Agriculture.
United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

Memorandum

To: Holders of BIAM
From: Assistant Secretary--Indian Affairs
Subject: Forestry Manual - 53 BIAM

This release updates the basic portion of the Forestry Program Manual and converts manual materials into the new BIAM format.

More detailed instructions on the Forestry Program will be issued at a later date in the form of Central and Area Office supplements to the enclosed basic manual parts.

Forrest J. Leard
Assistant Secretary--Indian Affairs

Filing Instructions:

(a) Remove superseded material:
Table of Contents (dated 10/28/70) (3 pages)

(b) File initial release:
53 BIAM 0 (4 pages)
53 BIAM 1.1 thru 8.7 (21 pages)

(c) Pen-and-ink changes:
None
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS MANUAL

Forestry

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1.1 Policy and Scope. Indian forest lands are held in trust by the United States for Indians and are to be managed in the best interests of the Indian beneficiaries. Applicable statutes, 25 CFR Subchapter M, Part 141, and applicable portions of the Departmental Manual, Part 586, Timber Management; Part 590, Wildland Fire Control and Management; Part 611, Forest Pest Control Program; Part 516, Environmental Quality; Part 600.4.1, Trespass; and 58 BIAM 3.6.2, and 4.6.2 - Law Enforcement, set forth the objectives for management of the Indian forest resource. An essential part of this policy provides for management of Indian forest lands under the concept of sustained yield as expressed in 25 CFR 141.4. Indian forests are closely involved with the well-being of Indian communities and any plan of forest management must recognize the general needs of the Indian people, and be coordinated with Bureau of Indian Affairs and other social and economic programs. Forestry staffs will keep informed regarding relevant forestry research and will encourage cooperative relationships with research agencies and seek their assistance on specific problems.

1.2 Authority.

A. Statutes. The basic statutory authorities concerning the management of the Indian forest resource and protection of Indian forest and range lands are:


Act of June 25, 1910 (Sec. 8, 36 Stat. 857; 25 U.S.C. 406). Authorizes the sale of timber from allotted Indian lands by the allottee with the consent of the Secretary of the Interior.


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Act of March 29, 1944 (58 Stat. 132; 16 U.S.C. 583 through 5831). Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish cooperative sustained-yield units on lands owned or administered by the United States, including Indian lands.


Act of July 30, 1956 (70 Stat. 721; 25 U.S.C. 407d). Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to charge purchasers of Indian timber for special services requested by the purchasers in connection with scaling, marking, or other activities under the timber sale contract.


B. Regulations. The General Forest Regulations (25 CFR Part 141) are basic procedures to be followed in administering the Indian forests. Where applicable, the general regulations are supplemented by
regulations governing sale of lumber and other forest products as follows: (1) Sale of Lumber and Other Forest Products Produced by Indian Enterprises from the Forests on Indian Reservations (25 CFR Part 142), and (2) Sale of Forest Products, Red Lake Indian Reservation, Minnesota (25 CFR Part 144).

1.3 Responsibility.

A. Secretary. Responsibilities of the Secretary are set forth in DM 586.2 in the management of Indian forest land, and DM 590.1.2 in wildland fire control and management, and are included herein by reference.

B. Delegations.

(1) Assistant Secretary. Delegations of authority to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs by the Secretary of the Interior are contained in DM 230.1 which is shown in full in 10 BIAM 2.1. The delegation contains no limitations or restrictions on the Assistant Secretary's exercise of the Secretary's responsibilities in regard to forestry matters.

(2) Area Director. The delegation of authority by the Assistant Secretary to Area Directors with respect to forestry matters is contained in 10 BIAM 3. These do not include authorities regarding basis of volume determination and administrative fee instructions, and authority to make exceptions to 25 CFR Part 141 has not been redelegated to Area Directors except as specifically provided for in 10 BIAM 3.

1.4 Organization and Functions.

A. Washington Office.

(1) Organization. The Office of Trust Responsibilities provides staff support to the Assistant Secretary in development and management of programs relating to the Bureau's trust and legal responsibilities. Staff assistance and advice are provided to the Director, Office of Trust Responsibilities, regarding Forestry matters.

(2) Function. The Forestry staff:

(a) Formulates policy to guide forestry and related activities in the field.
(b) Maintains liaison and promotes working agreements with other agencies engaged in forest research, management, protection, and related activities.

(c) Prepares recommendations for legislation and regulations concerning forestry activities, and examines and makes recommendations on legislation and regulations initiated elsewhere that may affect Indian forest resources.

(d) Counsels the Assistant Secretary and other officials on all matters relating to forest resources, and may assist them at hearings, conferences, and public appearances.

(e) Coordinates with other programs of the Bureau and programs of other Bureaus and Departments concerning forest activities in order to assure integrated plans and programs.

B. Area Office.

(1) Organization. Area Offices, the second level of the Bureau organization, are under the immediate direction of the Area Directors, who are responsible to the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs for administration of Bureau activities in their respective areas. Area Forestry staffs or equivalent representatives are responsible to the Area Directors.

(2) Functions. Area Forestry staff functions include provision of technical supervision and/or assistance to Superintendents and Tribes; coordination and liaison with other Bureau activities and other Agencies; and assistance in administrative support of Agency forestry programs.

C. Agency Office.

(1) Organization. Agency or equivalent field offices constitute the program operation level of the Bureau. They deal directly with the Indians and with Indian matters. Each Agency office is under the immediate direction of a Superintendent, or equivalent, who in turn is responsible to the Area Director. Superintendents are responsible for management of all forestry and related activities in accordance with established policies, standards, and procedures. Superintendents execute forestry program activities through their Forestry staff.

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(2) Function. The Agency Forestry staff, under the administrative supervision of the Superintendent and in cooperation with the Indians, plans and executes approved forestry programs and selected activities.

1.5 Records, Reports, and Forms. Requirements and instructions for records, reports, and forms are contained in other Manual sections and/or supplements.
2.1 Policy and Scope. Indian forests are managed in accordance with the principles of sustained yield and to provide the economic and social benefit to the Indian owners. Sound management of the forest land and timber resources requires a management plan which considers the critical elements applicable to the forest.

2.2 Authority. The basic statutory authority for management of Indian forestry units is Section 6 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (see 53 BIAM 1.2A.). The principles set forth therein are similar to the General Forest Regulations, 25 CFR 141.

2.3 Inventory. Forest inventory includes forest areas, timber volumes, and conditions. Procedures and complexity will vary in accordance with purposes for which inventories are normally intended. Each Area Forester shall maintain, in handbook form, the procedures and methods for forest inventory. This handbook shall be updated as improved techniques are developed and proven to be more satisfactory. Forest inventory for management planning involves sampling procedures of sufficient intensity to determine within reasonable degrees of accuracy the timber volumes and conditions over considerable forest areas, such as an entire reservation forest, a working circle, broad forest type, or a condition class.

2.4 Management Plans. Forest management plans for the forest resource are required for all Indian Reservations having forest resources, and the harvest of timber from any Indian forest lands will not be authorized until there have been prescribed methods of cutting, based on sound silvicultural principles (25 CFR 141.4). The plan is a guide to ongoing forestry activities and reflects the extent of management knowledge available on the forest. Plans will not be delayed inordinately for acquisition of intensive knowledge and will be revised periodically as up-to-date information becomes available. Preparation of Reservation Forest Management Plans and their revisions are a responsibility of Agency Superintendents. Tribal consultation and legally required consent will be an integral part of forest management planning. Management plans will be approved by the Area Director. Bureau procedures and guidelines will be provided by appropriate supplements to this Chapter. Area supplements may be provided within Bureau procedures and guidelines where required by Area conditions.

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3.1 **Policy and Scope.** Timber to be sold from Indian forests in excess of that being developed by the Indians, which has a stumpage value exceeding that cited in 25 CFR 141.7(c), will be offered for sale through competitive bidding procedures, except in specific instances negotiated sales may be permitted as set forth in the regulations. Timber sale contracts will be formulated to apply sound silvicultural practices which are complementary to the total forest management effort and in accordance with good business and economic principles. Additionally, for allotted lands, the sales of timber shall be based upon consideration of the needs and best interest of the Indian owner and his or her heirs. Consent of the Indian owners will be obtained for each sale of timber by contract, except where otherwise authorized in 25 CFR 141.7(b) and by the Approving Officer to prevent loss of value from catastrophic situations.

3.2 **Authority.** The basic statutory authority for sale of Indian timber is the Act of June 25, 1910, as amended by the Act of April 30, 1964 (see 53 BIAM 1.2A.). The General Forest Regulations, 25 CFR 141.4 through 141.18 and 141.23 define specific timber sale contract requirements.

3.3 **Approving Officer.**

A. **Area Director.** The Area Director has the delegated authority to approve all contracts for the sale of timber. Area Directors may redelegate authority to the Superintendent.

B. **Superintendent.** The Superintendent approves contracts for the sale of timber under redelegated authority from the Area Director.

3.4 **Sale Preparation.** All timber sales will be based upon an examination (cruise) of the proposed sale area. The cruise data will be incorporated into a Forest Officer's Report which will set forth all pertinent information relating to the timber sale (25 CFR 141.7). Proposed sales will conform to the general harvest schedule set out in the forest management plan unless exception is authorized by the Approving Officer (25 CFR 141.4) (53 BIAM 2.4).

3.5 **Contracts.** Regular contract forms must be used unless a special form for a particular sale or class of sales is approved for use by the Area Director. Essential departures from the fundamental requirements contained in the regular contract forms shall be made only with the approval of the Assistant Secretary.

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3.6 Sale Administration. The Officer-in-Charge through the Superintendent is responsible for the state of the timber sale and securing the purchaser's compliance to contractual requirements. No live timber will be cut or removed from any timber sale area until marked or otherwise designated by a Forest Officer. No deviation from provisions of a contract is permitted; however, contracts may be modified by the Approving Officer as necessary and appropriate in the interests of the Indians. Certificates of Completion shall be prepared in authorized form when a timber sale contract has been satisfactorily completed.
4.1 Policy and Scope. The harvest of forest products provides benefits to the timber owners and their forest lands. Where volumes involved are relatively small and the use of contract sale(s) (53 BIAM 3) is not required or used, timber harvest will be accomplished through timber cutting permit or free use without permit.

Owner's consent to the sale or free use of timber shall be secured prior to authorizing such harvest as provided by 25 CFR 141.13(b). Should emergency situations as defined by 25 CFR 141.7(b) arise and it is impractical or impossible to secure timely prior owner approval, then permits and/or free use without permit may be authorized without such approval.

All harvest operations conducted under this section shall be based upon sound silvicultural procedures, unless the harvest area is being removed from timber production as provided by 25 CFR 141.5.

4.2 Authority. Statutory authorization for timber harvest without contract has the same basis as sales of Indian timber (see 53 BIAM 1.2A.) The General Forest Regulations, 25 CFR 141.19 and 20 define specific cutting requirements.

4.3 Responsibility.

A. Area Director. Area Directors shall manage and direct harvest of unallotted timber under permit or free use without permit by requiring preparation of Timber Use Policy Statements that provide minimum values and procedures for timber cutting permits or free use without permit for such timber from each reservation having timber resources. Such Policy Statements shall include tribal approval and concurrence by Area Directors. Policy Statements should be revised periodically, preferably on an annual basis.

B. Superintendent. Superintendents shall prepare annual or other periodic Timber Use Policy Statements for concurrence by Area Directors. Superintendents will secure consent as required for harvest of allotted timber. Superintendents shall issue permits and provide for collection and disbursement of stumpage payments and administrative or service fees.

4.4 Paid and Free Use Permits.

A. General. Paid and Free Use Permits are issued under provisions
of 25 CFR 141.19(a) and (b). Prescribed permit forms shall be used for both paid and free use permits. Permit stumpage value shall not exceed the limit cited by 25 CFR 141.19(d).

B. Paid Permits. Advance stumpage payments shall be required for timber sold by permit except where approved Timber Use Policy Statements provide for other payment procedures. Performance Bonds under the provisions of 25 CFR 141.14 may be required for paid permits.

C. Free Use Permits. The Timber Use Policy Statement may establish restrictions on the sale or exchange of forest products harvested thereunder. Such restrictions shall be shown on each such permit. Free Use Permits may be issued for use of timber on allotments with the required owner's consent. Such use should be restricted so that the forest value is not adversely affected.

4.5 Special Permits.

A. General. Special Allottee Timber Cutting Permits (SATCP) may be issued to an owner of an allotment to harvest and sell timber from subject allotment. Any timber so harvested must be designated for cutting by the Bureau. The prescribed SATCP form shall be used for this type of permit. The owner/permittee shall be responsible for his/her own harvest and marketing arrangements. The Bureau will provide stumpage value data to the owner/permittee, define and provide sound silvicultural and forest management practices for the permit area and obtain compliance to those practices as defined in each permit. Additional assistance may be provided to the permittee as warranted.

B. Approving Officer. Area Directors shall approve any SATCP having an estimated volume over that cited in 10 BIAM 3.4B and/or when there is more than one owner of subject allotment. Area Directors may delegate approval authority for other SATCP's to Superintendent.

4.6 Free Use Without Permit.

A. General. Timber harvest without permit may be authorized under 25 CFR 141.20. Timber taken under this authority must be for the personal use of the Indian(s) involved and shall not be sold or exchanged for other goods and services.
B. Unallotted Lands. With the consent of tribal governing bodies, Indians may cut or take specific species and/or products without permit and without charge providing that a Tribe's Timber Use Policy Statement permits such free use.

C. Allotted Lands. Free use cutting without permit on allotted lands shall be limited to an Indian holding the sole beneficial interest in the allotment.
5.1 Policy and Scope. Certain forest development objectives may not be attainable through contract sales and other timber harvest operations. Achievement of forest management objectives will frequently require application of separate and additional practices to forest land and timber stands. Forest development through cultural practices and techniques shall be utilized whenever feasible to improve, extend or modify timber production of the forest land base.

5.2 Authority. The Act of June 18, 1934 (see 53 BIAM 1.2A.) and 25 CFR 141.3 provide basic forest management authority for forest development practices. (Refer also to Act of March 29, 1944, Cooperative Sustained Yield Units.)

5.3 Responsibility.

A. Assistant Secretary. The Assistant Secretary shall issue and maintain forest development policy and guidelines through the BIA Manual system and other channels. Management and direction of forest development activities have been delegated to Area Directors.

B. Area Director. Forest development activities shall be managed by Area Directors by requiring adequate project and/or program planning, reporting and evaluation and the maintenance of permanent summary records thereof. Plans, programs, and/or projects shall be prepared, reviewed, and approved prior to initiation of any forest development project. Areas treated by forest development practices shall not be withdrawn from commercial timber production without review and approval of the Area Director.

C. Superintendent. Superintendents shall make project and periodic program plans, with assistance from Area Forestry offices as needed, for approval by Area Directors. Superintendents will secure accomplishment of approved forest development programs and projects and create and maintain permanent records therefor.

5.4 Practices. Forest development practices shall include noncommercial thinning, release cutting, or similar practices designed to improve usable timber growth. Also included are reforestation, afforestation, and related treatments designed to adequately stock commercial forest lands in a timely manner.
6.1 **Policy and Scope.** Harmful insects, disease, certain animals, and parasitism which are present in most forests at endemic levels, will on occasion acquire epidemic characteristics. During and following such periods, losses from tree mortality, growth reduction and timber quality deterioration may reach major and even catastrophic levels. These losses diminish forest values and disrupt ongoing forest management activities.

It is Departmental policy to detect, control and mitigate harmful effects of forest pests and diseases on forest lands under Department of Interior jurisdiction. These steps shall be accomplished under procedures outlined by the Forest Service. Applicable provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act and other statutes relevant to environmental quality shall be met.

6.2 **Authority.** The basic statutory authorities for forest pest and disease control are: The Act of September 20, 1922, the Act of April 26, 1940, and the Act of June 25, 1947 (see 53 BIAM 1.2A).

The cooperative Agreement of 1961 between the Departments of Agriculture and Interior provides for funding and approval of pest and disease control related activities through the U.S. Forest Service.

6.3 **Responsibility.**

**A. Department of Agriculture.** Basic administration of Forest Pest Control legislation is a function of the U.S. Forest Service which provides technical assistance and funding for approved forest pest and disease control programs or projects involving lands, including Indian lands, administered by the Department of the Interior.

**B. Department of the Interior.** The Department of Interior coordinates forest pest and disease control activities for Interior Agencies and maintains liaison with the U.S. Forest Service to facilitate forest pest and disease control efforts.

**C. Bureau of Indian Affairs.** The Bureau is responsible for forest pest and disease control efforts on Indian forest lands.

(1) **Assistant Secretary.** The Assistant Secretary shall coordinate Bureau efforts to secure funding at the national level and maintain liaison with other Agencies of the Department and the U.S. Forest Service.
(2) Area Director. Area Directors provide coordination of Agency efforts and cooperate with U.S. Forest Service Regional Offices in establishing needed programs and projects.

(3) Superintendent. Superintendents assist the U.S. Forest Service in the detection of forest pest and diseases, the assessment of potential and/or actual damage, and the planning and execution of projects.
7.1 Policy and Scope. It is the policy of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to insure that unauthorized timber losses are expeditiously investigated, reported, payment demanded, and just compensation made to the Indian owners. To carry out this policy the Bureau will initiate programs designed to protect Indian forest lands and resources from timber and fire trespass.

The unlawful cutting or wanton injury or destruction of any tree or trees growing, standing or being upon unallotted lands belonging to or occupied by any tribe of Indians under the authority of the United States, or any Indian allotment while the title of the same shall be held in trust by the United States, constitutes a timber trespass. The purpose of Bureau action on timber trespass is to assess and collect damages resulting from unauthorized cutting or injuring of trees.

Willfully or negligently causing a fire that results in damages or suppression costs constitutes a fire trespass. The purpose of Bureau actions on fire trespass is to collect suppression costs and to assess damages resulting from such man-caused fires.

7.2 Authority. Statutory authority for assessing penalties for timber and fire trespass is provided in the Act of June 25, 1948 (see 53 BIAM 1.2A.) and is set forth in 25 CFR 141.22.

7.3 Responsibility. The Area Director is responsible for establishing procedures for trespass investigation and reporting, for further Agency and Area action, and for referral to Solicitor and/or Federal Bureau of Investigation when appropriate.
8.1 Policy and Scope. Wildfire losses will be held to a minimum through immediate aggressive suppression action; the planned use of fire; cooperation with other protection agencies; and early rehabilitation of burned-over land. All fire management activities needed to meet the overall objectives including prevention, presuppression, and suppression will be planned, trained for, organized, and vigorously executed.

8.2 Authority.

A. Statute. Acts containing authority for fire management activities are as follows:


(2) The Act of May 27, 1955, (60 Stat. 66; 42 U.S.C. 1856 a) provides for reciprocal cooperative agreements and emergency assistance in extinguishing fires on all lands and in preserving life and property from fire.

B. Regulations. 25 CFR 141.21 defines authorized fire protection measures.

8.3 Responsibility.

A. Assistant Secretary. The Assistant Secretary will provide for a national level program of fire management and the coordination of Bureau-wide fire management activities with other federal and state agencies and non-governmental fire protection organizations.

B. BIA Director, Boise Interagency Fire Center (BIFC). The Bureau-wide fire management program will be conducted by Central Office forestry staff located at the Boise Interagency Fire Center (BIFC), Boise, Idaho. The BIA Director, BIFC, is assigned responsibility for the Bureau's fire management program at the national level. The Director will develop programs and direct national level activities concerning policies, plans and procedures for prevention and control of wildfires on Indian forests and rangelands; the scientific use of prescribed fire to achieve resource management objectives; and the coordination of interagency functions pertaining to fire management. The Director is delegated authority for the assignment and movement of Bureau personnel and equipment to meet fire emergency needs and is authorized to approve expenditures chargeable to emergency fire suppression and rehabilitation funds.

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C. Area Director. Provides direction for and approves:

(1) Activities and/or plans that insure a state of readiness to minimize wildfire loss. This includes adhering to the principles of the National Interagency Fire Qualification System (NIFQS) and accomplishment of planning, prevention, and presuppression activities in accordance with Normal Fire Year Planning (NFYP) procedures.

(2) Prescribed Burning programs.

(3) Negotiations of cooperative fire protection agreements.

(4) Rehabilitation of areas damaged by wildfire.

(5) Transfers of Fire Management personnel and equipment. It is sometimes necessary to transfer men and equipment from reservations where they can be spared to reservations where the fire load is temporarily excessive for the local personnel. Area Directors have full authority to direct such exchanges between reservations within their jurisdictions.

D. Superintendent. The Superintendent has primary responsibility for:

(1) Protection of forest and range resources from wildfire.

(2) Development of programs for the planned use of fire.

(3) Training agency personnel to plan for and deal effectively and safely with fire according to NFYP and NIFQS procedures.

(4) Other fire hazard reduction.

(5) Updating and maintenance of NFYP and Annual Fire Plan.

(6) Rehabilitation actions.

8.4 Normal Fire Year Planning and Fire Management Program Elements.

A. Planning Considerations. Effective fire management requires careful analysis of all factors relating to fire problems and planning specific to each major part of the protection program. Fire management plans must meet the requirements of the area being considered and must be integrated with overall resource management objectives. The elimination of preventable fires through reduction of risk by forest fire management practices, public education, and regulated use (or closure)
is a primary concern of fire management. Comprehensive programs will be developed utilizing the most effective prevention techniques. Presuppression involves all work done in advance of fire occurrence to insure effective suppression action. It includes fire management training, staffing based on Strength of Force Plan, organizational preparedness, maintenance of facilities, equipment, and supplies; and fuels management. All direct work and supporting activities connected with controlling and extinguishing a wildfire, beginning with its discovery, are part of suppression. Fire suppression shall be organized within the basic functions of command, line, plans, service, finance, and safety.

B. Funding. Department of the Interior appropriations include funding for the Bureau's Forestry program which includes forest and range fire management. Fire management obligations that are not directly attributed to suppression of wildfires and approved rehabilitation of areas damaged by wildfire are funded from the Forestry program appropriation. When this appropriation is insufficient to support an adequate level of fire management, certain approved wildfire prevention and presuppression needs may be funded by wildfire suppression funds. Funding of such prevention and presuppression actions from fire suppression funds shall be based only on an approved NFYP and/or procedures that provide for an adequate level of fire management. The Bureau will ascribe to the principles set forth in the Interagency Fire Business Management Handbook in carrying out financial, procurement, contracting and other business actions pertaining to fire management.

C. Prevention. One of the primary concerns of fire management is the elimination of preventable fires. The NFYP process recognizes fire occurrence risk data and its relationship to resource values. Prevention programs will emphasize the elimination of man-caused fires in high resource value areas. Coordination of fire prevention activities with other Agencies and participation in regional fire prevention groups is encouraged.

D. Presuppression and Suppression.

1. Preparedness/Mobilization Plans. Policies, objectives and basic planning for presuppression and suppression activities will be set forth in the NFYP. Specific details and instructions for performing these functions will be contained in an annual preparedness/mobilization plan for each Area and Agency office having wildfire suppression responsibility.

2. Qualifications. Persons engaged in fire suppression are exposed to a high-risk environment. To reduce the risk to human life and be cost effective, Bureau personnel assigned to fire suppression jobs will be qualified in accordance with the NIFQS. The requirement for personnel to be qualified under the NIFQS is in accordance with Departmental policy regarding fire training and qualifications.
(3) **Training.** Using the standards established and the materials provided under the NIFQS, each employee will be trained to perform assigned fire suppression duties in a safe and efficient manner.

(a) **Policy.** Fire suppression training will be provided in accordance with the NIFQS to all physically fit personnel at the Reservation and Area levels who are subject to being assigned fire suppression duties. Such employees as selected by the Area Director who will function on Level II and Level I Overhead Teams, and Departmental Fire Management Teams, will receive appropriate fire suppression training for the positions to which they are assigned.

Firefighters employed in accordance with NFYP will be provided training pursuant to the NIFQS prior to Manning dates.

(b) **Responsibility.** Area Directors and Superintendents are responsible for providing training. Responsibility for formulating and carrying out the principles and methods of the NIFQS in the training program is assigned to the Branch of Forestry. At Reservations and Area offices where the Branch of Forestry is not represented, the responsibility will be assigned to the Branch of Land Operations. Training shall be made available to all employees of all Branches who may be involved in fire suppression activities. The Area Forester shall assist in initiating training to agencies without Forestry Branches.

(c) **Training Materials.** Standards for training materials have been established under the NIFQS. These materials are reviewed by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Training Team for effectiveness and compliance to standards and will be utilized by the Bureau in its fire training and qualifications programs.

(d) **Training Plans.** Training plans will be approved by the Area Director. The Reservation plans will be part of the Area plan to ensure that an adequate number of people are available for key fire suppression positions. The Area plan will then be an integral part of a national plan prepared by the BIA Director-BIFC. This Plan will contain provisions for Bureau personnel to be available for interagency use including participation on Departmental Fire Management Teams and will provide the ability to move key fire suppression personnel to other Areas and Agencies with fire suppression problems.

(4) **Fuels Management.** A detailed plan of proposed prescribed burning to accomplish fuels reduction will be prepared for approval of the Area Director. An important factor to be considered in the plan is a smoke management guide. The treatments will consider NFYP goals such as cost-benefit ratios and parameters such as air quality, risk, and training opportunities in fire behavior.
E. Other Fire Management Program Considerations. The following additional considerations are pertinent to the Bureau's fire management program. Specific guidance for these activities will be provided in Central Office and Area Office manual supplements.

(1) Reporting.

(2) Damage Appraisal.

(3) Construction and Maintenance of Facilities.

(4) Scientific Use of Fire and Fire Effects.

(5) Smoke Management.

(6) National Fire Danger Rating System.

(7) Use of Aircraft and Aviation Management.

(8) Fire Chemicals and Retardants.

(9) Communications.

(10) Fire Equipment.

(11) Fire Business Management.


(13) Indian Firefighter Crew, Organization, Training and Use.

(14) Other.

8.5 Rehabilitation. Where serious wildfire damage has occurred, there may be need for rehabilitation measures. When required, rehabilitation will be initiated promptly following control to prevent further damage and to return the land to an acceptable condition of productivity to the extent that this is feasible. Rehabilitation will be accomplished in accordance with written plans approved by the Area Director.

8.6 Cooperation. The Bureau of Indian Affairs will cooperate with other Federal and State agencies, private landowners, and protective associations or groups to the extent protection of Indian forest and range resources and the Bureau's responsibilities, and statutory limitations will dictate. At the National level, the Bureau is designated by the Secretary as a member and participant in the following Interagency activities.

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A. National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG). The NWCG was formed March 16, 1976, by Memorandum of Understanding between the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture. The Group has the function to coordinate fire management programs of the participating agencies, to avoid duplication, and to provide a means of working together. The NWCG has the authority to submit Group recommendations to member agencies for action.

B. Interior Fire Coordination Committee (IFCC). The IFCC operates under the direction of the Assistant Secretary—Land and Water Resources. It provides leadership and advice for the development, coordination and maintenance of superior wildland fire suppression and suppression capabilities, and the standardization of procedures, methods, and practices within the Department of the Interior. The IFCC is chaired by the Washington Office Representative of the BLM.

C. Departmental Fire Teams. To hold fire losses to a planned level consistent with least expenditure of public funds, the Department annually designates special Departmental General Headquarters (GHQ) and Project Fire Teams. These teams are available for large or multiple fire situations and the best qualified people from the Department are assigned to staff the teams. These teams are maintained in readiness throughout the fire season and their services may be requested when a fire situation exceeds local agency capabilities. By Secretarial Directive, all Interior Agencies are requested to assign personnel to participate on the Departmental Fire Management Teams.

D. Multi-Agency Coordination Group (MACG). The MACG is located at BIFC and consists of top level interagency fire management personnel who, on a nationwide basis, have the authority to make decisions on interagency fire priorities and allocation of scarce national firefighting resources during major fire emergencies. The BIA Director, BIFC, is designated as the Bureau’s representative to the MACG.

8.7 Contracting. Contracts may be executed with other federal agencies, States, private entities and Tribes for wildfire protection services pursuant to existing statutes, regulations and constraints governing utilization of appropriations.
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington, D.C. 20242

BIAM Release 53-1
October 28, 1970

Memorandum

To: Holders of Bureau of Indian Affairs Manual
From: Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Subject: 53 BIAM - Forestry

This release transmits the new table of contents for Part 53 of the Bureau Manual. The existing material in 53 IAM will remain in effect until superseded by the new material listed in the attached Table of Contents.

Acting Associate Commissioner
[Signature]

Filing Instructions:

(a) Remove superseded material:
   53 IAM 0 - Forestry Table of Contents
   2 sheets marked Release 53-16, 1-13-65

(b) Insert new material transmitted:
   53 BIAM 0 - Forestry Table of Contents
   1 sheet

(c) Pen-and-ink changes:
   None

[Signature]
Superseded by 53, 2

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Area Director's Office - AAO-BIA

53 BIAM Rev. 2, 1, 1978

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