



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Washington, DC 20240

October 21, 2021

IN REPLY REFER TO:

## Memorandum

To: All Regional Directors  
All Agency Superintendents  
Attention: Forestry and Wildland Fire Management

From: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Subject: Fiscal Year 2022 Severity Rules, New Severity FireCodes, and Approved Short-Term Severity Amounts for each Region

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Branch of Wildland Fire Management (BWFM) has created new Short-Term and Long-Term Severity FireCodes for use in Fiscal Year (FY2022). The use of Severity funding must comply with the current Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book). Please refer to Chapter 6, "BIA Program Organization and Responsibilities," and Chapter 10, "Preparedness," for specific guidance on the use of Severity funding for Wildland Fire Operations. Please note that the "USFS Assist" box is not checked on any of the Severity FireCodes. This is because the USFS has a rule that they will not charge against a BIA Severity FireCode.

New Short-Term Severity (STS) FireCodes for Fiscal Year FY2022 and approved amounts are as follows:

Region	STS FireCode	Approved STS Amount
Alaska	PA8G	\$ 25,000
Eastern	PA8J	\$100,000
Eastern Oklahoma	PA8L	\$120,000
Great Plains	PA8N	\$285,000
Midwest	PA8Q	\$160,000
Navajo	PA8S	\$100,000
Northwest	PA8U	\$350,000
Pacific	PA8W	\$300,000
Rocky Mountain	PA8Y	\$375,000
Southern Plains	PA80	\$101,000
Southwest	PA82	\$230,000
Western	PA84	\$160,000

Regional Fire Management Officers are responsible for determining business practices for STS use among their Agency and Tribal wildland fire programs. Line Officers and Fire Management Officers are responsible for ensuring that STS is used per standards identified in the Red Book and within the approved amounts identified above.

Long-Term Severity (LTS) requests will be submitted from Regional Offices to the BWFM through electronic mail (email) or hard copy mail. The BWFM will respond no later than two days upon receipt of the LTS request. Please note that email submittal is preferred to ensure expedited processing of LTS requests. LTS amounts and timeframes will be determined on a case-by-case basis according to the LTS request.

For FY2022, FireCodes have been pre-established for each Region for LTS and will be utilized for all LTS requests as follows:

<b>Region</b>	<b>LTS FireCode</b>
Alaska	PA8H
Eastern	PA8K
Eastern Oklahoma	PA8M
Great Plains	PA8P
Midwest	PA8R
Navajo	PA8T
Northwest	PA8V
Pacific	PA8X
Rocky Mountain	PA8Z
Southern Plains	PA81
Southwest	PA83
Western	PA85

The LTS FireCodes identified above are only authorized for use when LTS requests are approved and for their agreed timeframes. Regional Fire Management Officers are responsible for determining business practices for the benefit of LTS among their Agency and Tribal wildland fire programs. Line Officers and Fire Management Officers are responsible for ensuring that LTS is used per standards identified in the Red Book and within the amounts and timeframes approved with each request.

Given that the Federal Agencies that operate wildland fire programs and participate in interagency fire operations do not cross-bill each other, our Bureau must establish Severity Support FireCodes to be used for Severity Support to other jurisdictions. The Following Severity Support FireCodes have been developed for FY2022 for support to those jurisdictions by BIA and Tribal wildland fire programs:

<b>Receiving Agency for Severity Support</b>	<b>Severity Support FireCode</b>
Bureau of Land Management	NMR0
BIA National Interagency Fire Center	NMR5
National Park Service	NMR2
States and Local Government	NMR3
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	NMR1
United States Forest Service	NMR4

Although the ordering Agency may issue a Severity FireCode on Resource Orders, it is required that the above-listed Severity Support FireCodes be used for any Severity assignment to those jurisdictions by BIA and Tribal (Tribal programs cooperating with the BIA through a Wildland Fire Management Cooperative Agreement) wildland fire resources. Line Officers and Fire Management Officers are responsible for ensuring that the appropriate Severity Support FireCode is used by their resources when assigned to any Severity activity on those jurisdictions instead of the FireCode issued on the Resource Order.

As a reminder, to improve management and tracking of Severity funding and expenditures, new FireCodes for Severity will be created and distributed on an annual basis. All Severity FireCodes will be open for two years with an intent of operational use during the first year, and invoice and other fire businesses catch up in the second year. The two-year period begins at the creation date of the Severity FireCode.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Josh Simmons, Director of Wildland Fire Operations, at (208) 387-5372, or Jacqueline C. Martin, Assistant Chief, Branch of Wildland Fire Management, at (208) 387-5576.