



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington, DC 20240
APR 24 2019

Memorandum

To: All Regional Directors
Attention: All Agency Superintendents
Regional Fire Management Officers
Agency Fire Management Officers
Branch Chief, Branch of Wildland Fire Management

From: Acting Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Subject: Fiscal Year 2019 Severity Funding Rules, Regional Amounts and FireCodes

Purpose: The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Branch of Wildland Fire Management (Branch) is making revisions to the use of Severity funding to improve wildland fire operations and expenditure monitoring nationally. The use of Severity must comply with Chapter 6 "BIA Program Organization and Responsibilities," and Chapter 10 "Preparedness" of the current Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book).

FireCodes: To improve management and tracking of Severity funding and expenditures, the Branch will create and distribute new FireCodes for Severity on an annual basis. All Severity FireCodes will be open for two years. This allows operational use during the first year and invoice and other fire business catch-up in year two. The two year period begins at the creation date of the Severity FireCode.

Line Officers and Fire Management Officer Responsibilities: Line officers and Fire Management Officers (FMOs) are responsible for using Severity in accordance to the standards listed in the Red Book and ensuring fire management programs stay within their allotted amounts. Regional FMOs are also responsible for establishing business practices for use of Severity within their agency and tribal wildland fire programs.

Short Term Severity: For Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, the Branch is establishing new Short Term Severity (STS) FireCodes and funding amounts (below). Alaska Region does not have a STS FireCode because of their relationship and operating procedures with the Bureau of Land Management.

Region	STS FireCode	Approved STS Amount
Alaska	No Code	\$0
Eastern	L6X4	\$100,000
Eastern Oklahoma	L6X6	\$120,000
Great Plains	L6X8	\$285,000
Midwest	L6YA	\$160,000

Navajo	L6YC	\$100,000
Northwest	L6YE	\$350,000
Pacific	L6YG	\$300,000
Rocky Mountain	L6YJ	\$375,000
Southern Plains	L6YL	\$101,000
Southwest	L6YN	\$230,000
Western	L6YQ	\$160,000

Long Term Severity: Long Term Severity (LTS) processes remain the same as previous years. Regions may only use LTS FireCodes after the Branch approves the request, and only for the authorized timeframes.

Regional Offices will submit LTS requests to the Branch through electronic mail (email) or hard-copy mail, with preference to email to assist the Branch with expediting the process. The Branch determines the LTS amounts and timeframes on a case by case basis, according to the LTS request, and will respond to the region no later than two days upon receipt of the LTS request.

LTS FireCodes are set for FY 2019. Regions will use the following codes for all LTS requests:

Region	LTS FireCode
Alaska	L6X3
Eastern	L6X5
Eastern Oklahoma	L6X7
Great Plains	L6X9
Midwest	L6YB
Navajo	L6YD
Northwest	L6YF
Pacific	L6YH
Rocky Mountain	L6YK
Southern Plains	L6YM
Southwest	L6YP
Western	L6YR

Severity Support Firecodes: Federal Agencies that operate wildland fire programs and participate in interagency fire operations do not cross-bill each other. Therefore, it is necessary BIA provide Severity Support FireCodes.

While the agency ordering resources may issue a Severity FireCode on a resource order, BIA and tribal wildland fire resources (tribal programs cooperating with the BIA through a Wildland Fire Management Cooperative Agreement) must use Severity Support FireCodes for any interagency severity assignment in lieu of the FireCode issued on the resource order. Line officers and FMOs are responsible for ensuring their resources appropriately use Severity Support FireCodes.

FY 2019 Severity Support FireCodes:

Receiving Agency for Severity Support	Severity Support FireCode
BIA National Interagency Fire Center	L6YX
Bureau of Land Management	L6YS
National Park Service	L6YU
States and Local Government	L6YV
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	L6YT
United States Forest Service	L6YW

This guidance remains in effect until the Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, updates it.

If you have questions, please contact Josh Simmons, Director of Wildland Fire Operations, at (208) 387-5372 or Leon Ben, Branch Chief, Branch of Wildland Fire Management, at (208) 387-5697.