



United States Department of the Interior

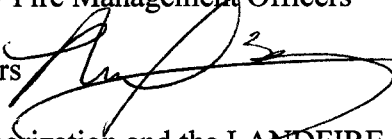
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington, DC 20240

APR 17 2013

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Memorandum

To: All Regional Directors
Attention: Agency Superintendents
Regional and Agency Fire Management Officers

From: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs 

Subject: Data Agreement Template / Authorization and the LANDFIRE Program

Purpose:

Accompanying this memorandum are two attachments that outline two approaches that your Tribe can elect in order to provide Tribally-owned confidential data to the LANDFIRE program (also known as Landscape Fire and Resource Management Planning Tools). One of these options is a Data Use and Non Disclosure Agreement Template and the other is a Data Release Authorization.

LANDFIRE is an interagency vegetation, fire, and fuel characteristics mapping program, sponsored by the Department of the Interior and the United States Forest Service. LANDFIRE produces a comprehensive, consistent, and a scientifically credible suite of spatial data layers for the entire United States (www.landfire.gov). LANDFIRE data are one of a number of data sets used to support analyses in decision support systems such as the Hazardous Fuels Prioritization and Allocation System (HFPAS) and Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS).

Two Options:

The Data Use and Non Disclosure Agreement template-

This option is a formal agreement between Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Branch of Forest Resources Planning (BOFRP), the Tribe and LANDFIRE, with the final language approved by the Solicitor's Office [Division General Law (DGL) / Division Indian Affairs (DIA)]. If your Tribe determines it is important to have their data represented in LANDFIRE, the Tribe would enter their name in the identified locations (Insert Tribe name) throughout the agreement template with the signing authorities working with the Office of Wildland Fire to sign and date to effect the agreement between the Tribe and LANDFIRE.

The Data Release Authorization-

This option is designed for a Tribe to simply authorize the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Branch of Forest Resources Planning (BOFRP) to provide their data to LANDFIRE. Tribal leaders would sign the authorization with copies of this signed document to BOFRP (Dave

Wilson) and LANDFIRE (Henry Bastian). This option would shorten the amount of coordination needed to get signatures.

Impact:

LANDFIRE has an annual data submission/data draw deadline of November 15 and is operating on a biennial schedule to update geospatial mapped products due to disturbances along with a decadal update to map all lands. Please visit http://www.landfire.gov/participate_refdata.php to learn more about contributing data. Data provided to LANDFIRE prior to Nov. 15, 2013, would be used in the LF 2012 update which is principally focused on areas of disturbance and the data representing none disturbed lands would be incorporated in the LF 2016 remap. The sooner data is provided, the greater the likelihood that this data will be represented in the LANDFIRE data products. The expectation is that Tribal participation will yield enhanced data quality and improve future analyses in decision support systems.

This approach has been developed in coordination with the Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) and BIA Division of Forestry and Wildland Fire Management Branches of Forest Resources Planning and Wildland Fire Management (WFM). If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Aaron Baldwin, National Fire Protection Officer, at (202) 208-4439 and for technical assistance please call David Wilson, Forester, at (720) 484-3212.

Attachments (2):

LANDFIRE Agreement Template
Authorization to Release Tribal Forestry Data