



Salt Springs Incident Decision

Published
03/08/15 22:01

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1. Decision

1.1. Decision Summary

Decision Information

NAME	VALUE
Published	03/08/2015 22:01 CDT
Estimated Cost	\$50,000
Incident Owner(s)	Lisa Elenz, Mark Hale
Editor(s)	Marlena Hovorka
Reviewer(s)	
Approver(s)	Mark Hale
Natl Preparedness Level	1

Decision History

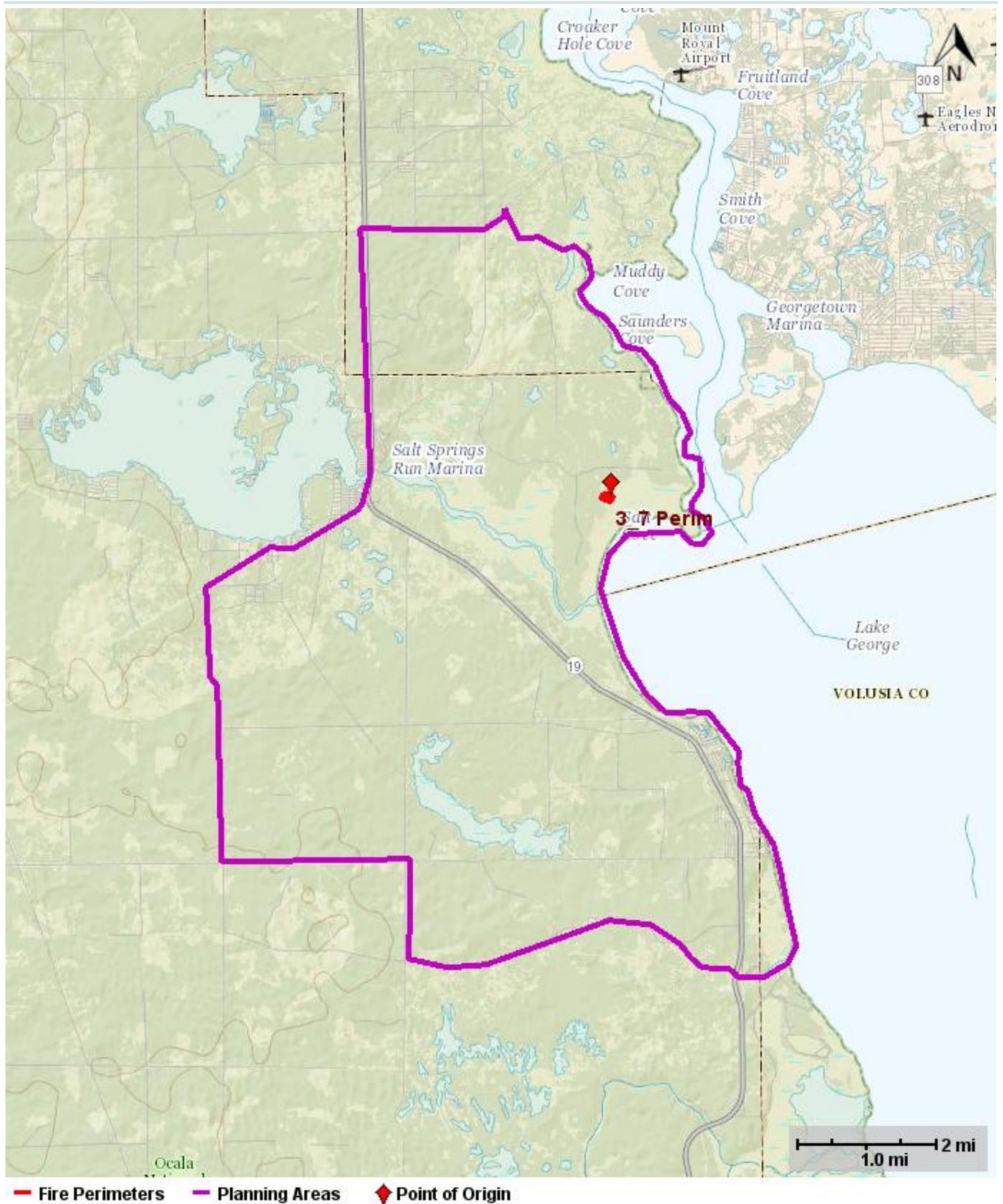
Editor Name	Action	Date (CDT)	Comment
Hale, Mark	Approved	03/08/2015 22:01	
Hale, Mark	Published	03/08/2015 22:01	
Elenz, Lisa	Review Requested	03/08/2015 21:57	
Elenz, Lisa	Review Requested	03/08/2015 21:57	

1.2. Assessment

1.2.1. Incident Information

Incident Information

NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Salt Springs
Unique Fire Identifier	2013-FLFNF-000123
Responsible Unit Name	National Forests in Florida
FireCode	
P-Code	
Point of Origin	29.34516 N / 81.67776 W
Incident Size	0.1 acres
Latest Perimeter Size	7.89 acres
Incident Cause	Human
Incident Type	Wildfire
Incident Discovery	03/07/2013 12:00
Contained	
Controlled	
Out	
Jurisdictional Unit	FLFNF - National Forests in Florida
Jurisdictional Agency(s)	USFS
Geographic Area (prep level)	Southern (1)
Owner Name(s)	Lisa Elenz



1.2.2. Weather

Fire Weather Zone Forecast

353
FNUS52 KMLB 081952
FWFMLB

FIRE WEATHER PLANNING FORECAST FOR EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MELBOURNE FL
352 PM EDT SUN MAR 8 2015

.DISCUSSION...A HIGH PRESSURE RIDGE WILL BUILD OVER THE WEST ATLANTIC...ALLOWING SURFACE AND TRANSPORT WINDS TO VEEER TO THE EAST AND SOUTHEAST. THESE WINDS WILL PUSH A FRONTAL BOUNDARY CURRENTLY STALLED OVER SOUTH FLORIDA BACK TO THE NORTH AS A WEAK COLD FRONT LATE TONIGHT THROUGH EARLY...BRINGING RAIN CHANCES BACK INTO THE FORECAST. THE AREA WILL REMAIN UNDER A MOIST ONSHORE FLOW THROUGH THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK...BRINGING A PROLONGED PERIOD WARM TEMPERATURES AND MODERATE RAIN CHANCES. NO LOW RH CONCERNS EXPECTED.

FOG POTENTIAL AND OTHER REMARKS...LOCAL FOG WILL BE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE PREDAWN HOURS OVERNIGHT PRIMARILY ALONG AND NORTH OF I-4.

FLZ041-044-090915-
INLAND VOLUSIA COUNTY-NORTHERN LAKE COUNTY-
INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...DELTONA...DE LAND...LEESBURG...EUSTIS...
LADY LAKE...TAVARES...MOUNT DORA...THE VILLAGES
352 PM EDT SUN MAR 8 2015

	TONIGHT	MON	MON NIGHT	TUE
CLOUD COVER	PCLDY	MCLDY	PCLDY	PCLDY
CHANCE PRECIP (%)	0	20	0	30
PRECIP TYPE	NONE	SHOWERS	NONE	SHOWERS
TEMP	55	80	62	85
RH %	100	46	100	46
20FT WND MPH (AM)		LGT/VAR		LGT/VAR
20FT WND MPH (PM)	LGT/VAR	E 8	E 5	SE 9 G19
PRECIP DURATION		1		1
PRECIP BEGIN		8 AM		1 PM
PRECIP END		7 PM		CONTINUING
PRECIP AMOUNT	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.01
LAL	1	1	1	1
MIXING HGT (FT-AGL)	100	3500	600	6500
TRANSPORT WIND (MPH)	E 13	E 8	E 9	S 14
DISPERSION INDEX	5	36	3	76
MAX LVORI	9		8	

REMARKS...NONE.

.FORECAST FOR DAYS 3 THROUGH 5...

.WEDNESDAY...PARTLY CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF SHOWERS. LOWS IN THE MID 60S. HIGHS IN THE MID 80S. SOUTHEAST WINDS AROUND 5 MPH.

.THURSDAY...CONSIDERABLE CLOUDINESS WITH A CHANCE OF SHOWERS. LOWS IN THE UPPER 60S. HIGHS IN THE MID 80S. SOUTHEAST WINDS AROUND 5 MPH.

.FRIDAY...CONSIDERABLE CLOUDINESS WITH A CHANCE OF SHOWERS. LOWS IN THE MID 60S. HIGHS IN THE LOWER 80S. SOUTHEAST WINDS AROUND 5 MPH.

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316
FNUS52 KJAX 081835
FWFJAX

FIRE WEATHER PLANNING FORECAST FOR NORTHEAST FLORIDA/SOUTHEAST GEORGIA
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE JACKSONVILLE FL
235 PM EDT SUN MAR 8 2015

.DISCUSSION...A WEAK WARM FRONT WILL MOVE NORTH OF THE AREA MONDAY AND MONDAY NIGHT...WITH WEAK HIGH PRESSURE IN CONTROL DURING THE WORK WEEK. WARM CONDITIONS WITH INCREASING HUMIDITY EXPECTED DURING THE WEEK. WINDS WILL BE MOSTLY LIGHT...BELOW 15 MPH. ISOLATED TO SCATTERED SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS WILL BE POSSIBLE EACH AFTERNOON TUESDAY INTO THE WEEKEND ALONG SEA BREEZES.

FOG POTENTIAL AND OTHER REMARKS...PATCHY FOG IS POSSIBLE TONIGHT...AND AGAIN MONDAY NIGHT.

NOTE...DUE TO A TECHNICAL ISSUE...DISPERSION INDEX VALUES ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR PERIODS BEYOND TOMORROW IN THIS FORECAST PACKAGE.

Fire Weather Zone Forecast

FLZ037-090945-
 PUTNAM-
 235 PM EDT SUN MAR 8 2015

	TONIGHT	MON	MON NIGHT	TUE
CLOUD COVER	MCLEAR	PCLDY	PCLDY	PCLDY
CHANCE PRECIP (%)	0	10	0	0
WEATHER TYPE	NONE	SHOWERS	NONE	NONE
TEMP	52	80	61	84
RH (%)	100	43	100	42
20FT WND MPH (AM)		NE 4		SE 5
20FT WND MPH (PM)	E 3	E 8	E 7	S 7
PRECIP DURATION		1		
PRECIP BEGIN		2 PM		
PRECIP END		8 PM		
PRECIP AMOUNT	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
LAL	1	1	1	1
MIXING HEIGHT (FT-AGL)	200	5900	700	5800
TRANSPORT WND (MPH)	NE 5	E 8	SE 15	SE 12
DISPERSION INDEX	1	44	0	0
MAX LVORI	10		10	

.FORECAST FOR DAYS 3 THROUGH 7...

.WEDNESDAY...MOSTLY CLOUDY. CHANCE OF SHOWERS AND SLIGHT CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS. LOWS IN THE MID 60S. HIGHS IN THE LOWER 80S. SOUTHEAST WINDS 5 TO 10 MPH.
 .THURSDAY...MOSTLY CLOUDY. CHANCE OF SHOWERS AND SLIGHT CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS. LOWS IN THE MID 60S. HIGHS IN THE LOWER 80S. SOUTHEAST WINDS AROUND 5 MPH.
 .FRIDAY...MOSTLY CLOUDY. A 40 PERCENT CHANCE OF RAIN. LOWS IN THE LOWER 60S. HIGHS IN THE LOWER 80S. SOUTHEAST WINDS 5 TO 10 MPH.
 .SATURDAY...MOSTLY CLOUDY. A 40 PERCENT CHANCE OF RAIN. LOWS IN THE MID 60S. HIGHS IN THE UPPER 70S. SOUTH WINDS 5 TO 10 MPH.
 .SUNDAY...MOSTLY CLOUDY. A 40 PERCENT CHANCE OF SHOWERS. LOWS IN THE MID 60S. HIGHS IN THE UPPER 70S. WEST WINDS UP TO 5 MPH.

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 FLZ040-090945-
 MARION-
 235 PM EDT SUN MAR 8 2015

	TONIGHT	MON	MON NIGHT	TUE
CLOUD COVER	PCLDY	PCLDY	PCLDY	PCLDY
CHANCE PRECIP (%)	0	20	20	0
WEATHER TYPE	NONE	SHOWERS	SHOWERS	NONE
TEMP	53	81	61	85
RH (%)	96	42	100	40
20FT WND MPH (AM)		E 4		SE 6
20FT WND MPH (PM)	E 3	E 7	E 7	S 8
PRECIP DURATION		1	0	
PRECIP BEGIN		11 AM	CONTINUING	
PRECIP END		CONTINUING	11 PM	
PRECIP AMOUNT	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.00
LAL	1	1	1	1
MIXING HEIGHT (FT-AGL)	200	6900	600	6200
TRANSPORT WND (MPH)	NE 5	E 14	SE 16	S 9
DISPERSION INDEX	2	44	0	0
MAX LVORI	10		10	

.FORECAST FOR DAYS 3 THROUGH 7...

.WEDNESDAY...MOSTLY CLOUDY. CHANCE OF SHOWERS AND SLIGHT CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS. LOWS IN THE MID 60S. HIGHS IN THE MID 80S. SOUTHEAST WINDS AROUND 5 MPH.
 .THURSDAY...MOSTLY CLOUDY. CHANCE OF SHOWERS AND SLIGHT CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS. LOWS IN THE MID 60S. HIGHS IN THE LOWER 80S. SOUTHEAST WINDS 5 TO 10 MPH.
 .FRIDAY...MOSTLY CLOUDY. A 40 PERCENT CHANCE OF RAIN. LOWS IN THE MID 60S. HIGHS IN THE LOWER 80S. SOUTHEAST WINDS 5 TO 10 MPH.
 .SATURDAY...MOSTLY CLOUDY. A 40 PERCENT CHANCE OF RAIN. LOWS IN THE MID 60S. HIGHS AROUND 80. SOUTH WINDS 5 TO 10 MPH.
 .SUNDAY...MOSTLY CLOUDY. A 40 PERCENT CHANCE OF SHOWERS. LOWS IN THE MID 60S. HIGHS AROUND 80. WEST WINDS UP TO 5 MPH.

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1.2.3. Values

The highest priority values to protect are:

- Highway 19 - Heavily used by local residents
 - 2 miles SW of the fire as of 8/7
 - high probability that the fire will impact this value with smoke on the roadway, STFB analysis indicates the fire will be within 0.5 miles within two burning periods.
- Private Residences at Lisk Point - 40 private structures south of the fire area and near Lisk Point.
 - 3.4 miles W of the fire area as of 8/7
 - Moderate concern based on observed fire spread and behavior
- Private structures and Salt Springs Campground - 100 Private structures and Salt Springs Campground (20 sites).
 - 0.1 miles West of the fire area as of 8/7
 - Low concern based on current fire predictions which indicates fire spread to the south. These areas will be on the flank of the fire.

NAME	VALUE
Planning Area Name	03/08/2015 22:01
Incident Name	Salt Springs
Planning Area Size	36,070 acres

Values Inventory

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
Building Clusters: Lake, FL	16	US Counties / FGDC Cadastral Subcomm.		Available counties
Building Clusters: Marion, FL	591	US Counties / FGDC Cadastral Subcomm.		Available counties
Building Clusters: Putnam, FL	0	US Counties / FGDC Cadastral Subcomm.		Available counties
Building Clusters: Volusia, FL	0	US Counties / FGDC Cadastral Subcomm.		Available counties
Campgrounds	3	BLM (FAMS) and USFS INFRA	02/03/2015	National (BLM and USFS only)
Communication Towers	5	FCC	06/14/2012	National
County: Lake, FL	441 acres	HSIP 2011, US Census Bureau TIGER data	07/01/2010	National
County: Marion, FL	30,511 acres	HSIP 2011, US Census Bureau TIGER data	07/01/2010	National
County: Putnam, FL	4,912 acres	HSIP 2011, US Census Bureau TIGER data	07/01/2010	National
County: Volusia, FL	205 acres	HSIP 2011, US Census Bureau TIGER data	07/01/2010	National
Est Ground Evac Time: 1-2 Hrs	2,439 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Est Ground Evac Time: 6+ Hrs	5 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Habitat: West Indian Manatee	694 acres	US Fish and Wildlife Service	12/31/2014	National
Jurisdictional Agency: USFS	34,058 acres	Various	09/05/2013	National
Natl Scenic Trails	11.2 miles	NPS, USFWS, USFS	05/04/2012	National
Roads	16.3 miles	NAVTEQ	11/2012	National
Wilderness: Juniper Prairie Wilderness	67 acres	Various	04/15/2014	National

Coverage of Values Queried that Produced No Results

BLM Buildings (BLM Lands), BLM Horse and Burro (OR, ID, MT, CA, NV, UT, WY, CO, AZ, NM), BLM Oil / Gas Leases (Western United States), BLM Range Allotments (Western United States), Class 1 Airsheds (National), Electric Power Plants (National), Electric Sub Stations (National), Electric Transmission Lines (National), IRA (National), Mines (National), NPS Buildings (National), NRA (National), Natl Historic Trails (National), Natl Recreation Trails (National), Natl Scenic Byways (National), Oil and Gas Pipelines (National), Other Areas (National), Ozone Non-Attainment (National), Particulates Non-Attainment (National), Responsible Agency

Coverage of Values Queried that Produced No Results

(AK, CA, ID, MT, NM, MN), Sage Grouse Habitat (Western United States), TNC Lands (National), USFS Buildings (National), USFWS Trails (National), WSA (National)

1.2.4. Situation

Relative Risk

NAME	VALUE
Relative Risk	Moderate
Duration	Moderate
Saved By	Elenz, Lisa
Completed	03/08/2015 20:41 CDT

Relative Risk Notes

There are a number of ongoing fires within the area limiting available resources which may delay obtaining resources to reach control and containment. There are some concerns in the area especially impacting highway 19 to the south of the fire. Fuels are dry with KDBI approaching the 90th percentile.

Values Notes

There are no cultural resources located within the planning area. Values and infrastructure that could potentially be impacted with the next few burn periods by fire and smoke based on STFB runs are, Highway 19 to the south which is a major travel route for local residence, and Residences south of Lisk Point. Currently the fire is located 2 to 4 miles north of structures and Highway 19. There have been some calls from local media and numerous calls from residence in the local area

Hazards Notes

There are several completed treatments within and south of the fire area within the past few years. Dense regrowth of flashy fuels has increased fire behavior, with 40 foot flames observed in tall grass and torching on Pine hummocks. Based on observed fire behavior, STFB runs and competition for resources, there is moderate potential for fire growth. Previous rains have created dense patches of flash fuels in treated areas. Fuels are dry with KDBI approaching the 90th percentile.

Probability Notes

It is still early season but approaching the midpoint of the season. There are some barriers to fire spread but past rains have created dense flashy fuels. KDBI is currently 399 approaching the 90th percentile putting current values at high but without rain it will approach very high in the next few days.

Organization Assessment

NAME	VALUE
Org Assessment Result	Type 3
Unit Recommended Org	Type 3
Saved By	Elenz, Lisa
Completed	03/08/2015 20:47 CDT

Organization Assessment Notes

Although there are both low and moderate complexity elements at almost equal value indicating a Type 3 or 4 team could be utilized, the Forest has determined that continuing with a Type III organization is best. This decision is due to observed fire behavior, current fire predictions, no rain in the forecast and other fires limiting availability of resources. The fire also has potential to grow to the south in terrain and vegetation that may hinder control and containment.

Relative Risk Notes

There are a number of ongoing fires within the area limiting available resources which may delay obtaining resources to reach control and containment. There are some concerns in the area especially impacting highway 19 to the south of the fire. Fuels are dry with KDBI approaching the 90th percentile.

Implementation Difficulty Notes

There are a number of fires in the local area limiting availability of resources. Terrain and fuels to the south of the fire may cause safety issues for direct attack. Few resources on the perimeter except along areas that have been controlled limiting firefighter exposure.

Socio/Political Concerns Notes

Fire is currently burning on Forest Service lands. Objective for the fire should be attainable. There are some smoke concerns especially smoke impacting residences to the south and Highway 19.

1.3. Objectives

Incident FMU/Strategic Objective Code List

Unit	FMU/Strat Obj Code	Acres
FLFNF	0.2 - Wilderness with Trails	81
FLFNF	21 - Ocala General Forest	24,671
FLFNF	23 - Ocala Interface	10,516

Spatial Fire Planning Inventory

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
Aqua Retardant Avoidance	2,848 acres	USFS Enterprise Data Warehouse	4/17/2014	National (USFS Units only)

Incident Objective List

Activated	Incident Objective
03/08/2015	Prevent potential impacts to Highway 19 and protect structure near Lisk Point to the south, and Salt Springs Campground and structures to the west.
03/08/2015	Suppress the fire at the smallest size possible utilizing roads and old prescribed fires where feasible to limit firefighter exposure.

Incident Requirement List

Activated	Incident Requirement
03/08/2015	Limit duration and severity of smoke hazards to Highway 19 and residences south of the fire near Lisk Point, and residences to the west of the fire near Salt Springs Campground by limiting smoke production from main fire or firing operations to the least amount possible when within 0.5 mile of these areas.

Strategic Objective List

Unit	Shape/ FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
FLFNF	<Unit>	01/29/2015	Suppress all fires while considering costs, firefighter risk, and values at risk
FLFNF	<Unit>	01/29/2015	TEST SO Florida #1
FLFNF	21	03/13/2009	Use appropriate suppression response based on values at risk, resource damage potential, forest wide fire situation, and predicted weather and fire behavior.
FLFNF	21	03/13/2009	Contain 90% of all unwanted fires within the first burning period.
FLFNF	21	03/13/2009	Minimize smoke hazards to paved roads, and smoke sensitive areas such as airports, schools, hospitals, and retirement or care homes. Limit all fires to the least amount of acreage possible when within 0.5 mile of the above-mentioned areas or other smoke sensitive sites.

Management Requirement List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
	Aqua Retardant Avoidance	06/18/2013	The aerial application of fire retardant is allowed for fighting fires. Aerially delivered fire retardant should not be applied to any mapped aquatic avoidance area, waterway or buffer. The only exception to using aerially applied fire retardant in avoidance areas is for the protection of human life or public safety . The Incident Commander is the decision maker. Information concerning the Record of Decision for the Aerial Application of Fire Retardant is available at http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html
FLFNF	<Unit>	01/29/2015	Supress all fires as fast as you can 'test'

1.4. Course of Action

Strategy



Comments

This fire will be suppressed at the smallest size possible utilizing roads and old burns where it can be safely accomplished to minimize smoke impacts to values to the south. Fire behavior analysis indicates spread to the south is likely which could impact values to the south of the current fire.

Last updated on : 03/08/2015 19:29:03

Course of Action

Active	Inactive	Action Item
03/07/2015		Suppress the fire at the smallest size.
03/08/2015		To reduce firefighter risk, personnel should not engage in direct attack where fuels and terrain will compromise their egress or increase exposure.
03/08/2015		The highest priority is to reduce the threat to private property, residences, and associated infrastructure.

1.5. Cost

Based on the SCI cost per acre multiplied by the expected acre size the cost was estimated at \$50,000

Estimated Final Cost

NAME	VALUE
Estimated Final Cost	\$50,000
Method(s) Used	Historic Costs

1.6. Rationale

My decision is to suppress the fire. The LRMP direction also indicates that most fires should be limited in size. Given the current competition for resources and the potential impact to values the fire will be suppressed. There is a high probability of success if control lines are built using recently treated areas and roadways.

At this time there are no cooperators involved in the decision because it is contained within forest service lands. Notifications have been made to the county sheriff, and the Lisk area residents given the fire potential spread to the south. If fire continues to spread to the south uncontained additional cooperators and land owners will be notified.

The values of concern, (likelihood of them being impacted) are Highway 19 to the south (high likelihood), Lisk Point to the south (moderate likelihood), and private structures/Salt Spring Campground to the west (low). Priorities have been set in the course of action and more information can be reviewed in the values section of the document.

The relative risk rating is moderate and the organizational needs assessment indicates a Type III team should be utilized to manage the fire. This organization will remain on the fire. Firefighter exposure is increased if direct attack is utilized rather than building off of existing roads and recent prescribed fires. The expectation is that all actions will consider exposure to firefighters before implementing even if a larger fire size is needed to suppress the fire. Smoke is a concern to both the highway and the residences therefore actions must also consider this. For additional information regarding the relative risk assessment and organization assessment review the situation section of the document.

The fire is currently burning in untreated fuels but is progressing towards areas treated within the past few years. Given the flashy nature of the fuels, and that drought indices are trending upwards caution must be taken when employing tactics. Building off of previously treated areas and roadways will likely be most successful.

The decision will be updated if containment is not achieved within the current planning area or it is breached, there are expected impacts to the value identified, or there is a change in strategy. Low probability high consequence event would be if containment is not achieved on FS lands and there were impacts to Highway 19 due to smoke on roadway. The FS must ensure adequate monitoring of smoke takes place given the high use corridor. High consequence events also involve firefighter accidents, impacts to public health or a motorvehicle accident due to smoke.

Given LRMP direction indicates fires should be suppressed in this area, only two alternatives were considered which are direct suppression keeping the fire to the smallest size possible versus indirect action utilizing roadways, treatment areas and natural barriers. Direct suppression action would result in higher firefighter exposure versus indirect action which increase the fire size and could cause greater smoke impacts to surrounding areas.