



**NW** NORTHWEST WILDLAND  
FIRE PROTECTION  
AGREEMENT  
**COMPACT**

**NORTHWEST WILDLAND FIRE  
PROTECTION AGREEMENT  
(Northwest Compact)  
Cooperative Operating Plan  
2024**

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## **I. Purpose**

This cooperative operating plan is intended to facilitate assistance between the member agencies of the Northwest Wildland Fire Protection Agreement (known as the NW Compact). This plan does not override or supersede any existing cooperative wildland fire fighting arrangements such as federal/state agreements, Mutual Aid Resource Sharing (MARS), or the Canada/US Reciprocal Forest Fire Fighting Agreement.

Assistance under this operating plan includes:

- Fire Prevention
- Preparedness and Pre-Suppression
- Prescribed Fire
- Training and Workforce Development
- Fire Suppression and Response
- Critical Incident Stress Management and Peer Support

Remember, only resources from Northwest Compact members may be mobilized through the Compact resource orders. Some resources may be interagency, i.e. they are partially composed of federal personnel and/or equipment (crews, helicopter modules, engine crews, IMTs, etc.). Orders requesting resources having a federal component must be placed through the normal national dispatch channels. The NW Compact may be used to supplement resources orders originating via the NIFC/CIFFC system (i.e. adding state or local resources to requests). Requests of this type will need to be coordinated and approved by NW Compact member Sending and Ordering Agencies.

Agencies that are part of the NW Compact will be further referred to as member agencies. NW Compact resources exchange will not be part of the Canadian and US national mobilization process but needs to be coordinated as soon as possible for strategic purposes. All NW Compact resources will be considered agents of the receiving Agency.

Local, cross jurisdictional (International, Territorial, Provincial, and State) operating plans may also be developed for local geographic areas that incorporate closest forces concept to facilitate initial attack. The local operating plans will be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the NW Compact Cooperative Operating Plan.

## **II. Authority**

The Northwest Wildland Fire Protection Agreement ratified by US Public Law 105377, 1998, and signed by the member agencies provides for this cooperative operating plan under Article 3.2.

## **III. Terminology and Command Systems**

To establish a "common" understanding, words and phrases as used herein are defined in a Glossary attached as Appendix A.

The member agencies recognize and accept different on-site language and command structures of each agency. Resources may be defined and/or configured differently by each member agency.

## **IV. General Procedures**

### **A. Requests**

1. Requests for assistance will be channeled by the most expeditious means to the appropriate authorized official as listed in Appendix B. Requests should dictate urgency and duration with considerations for maximizing opportunities for all NW Compact members.
2. Each member agency will be responsible for providing the U.S. and Canadian agencies with the names and phone numbers of the authorized Canadian and U.S. member agency officials and/or duty officers by April 30th of each year.
3. The Ordering Agency assigns the billing number and the Sending Agency may assign a cross-billing number.

### **B. Personnel**

1. Reimbursement for personnel will be on the following basis:
  - All costs submitted for payment by the Sending Agency will be reimbursed by the Ordering Agency, in accordance with the salary schedules and/or union contracts in existence with the Sending Agency unless resource rates are established prior to resource mobilization, as per Section F. A Sending Agency may prefer to set a flat fee for service (see ICRR under F-6, Billing and Payment).
  - Alberta Clause addressing the minimum wage in Alberta:
    - The Receiving Agency will reimburse the Lending Agency at a rate calculated to ensure the individual human resources are compensated at a rate in compliance with the minimum wages and overtime laws in effect for the Receiving Agency and,
    - The Lending Agency agrees in turn to compensate its individual human resources at a rate in compliance with the minimum wage and overtime laws in effect for the Receiving Agency.
2. When appropriate, the Sending Agency or the Ordering Agency may provide and/or request adequate liaison/resource coordinators. The costs of that agency representative will be reimbursed by the Ordering Agency.

3. When mutually agreed by the Ordering and Sending Agencies, the Sending Agency may provide a single resource. Recommendation is that single resources are sent self-sufficient.
4. The Ordering Agency agrees to accept the Sending Agency's standards for training, fitness, personal protective equipment, and workers compensation. If the Ordering Agency must meet additional safety equipment/supplies standards than the Sending Agency standards, it is the responsibility of the Ordering Agency to supply the required equipment, supplies and associated training (Example: Fire Shelter training).
5. Hours of work, conditions of employment and tour of duty will be documented and discussed by the ordering and sending authority. Copies of this will be sent with the deployed resources.
6. Each agency assigning personnel to a resource order certifies that the personnel assigned meet the requirements of the position ordered. Any position reassignment or change in resource status, including trainees, will be negotiated with the Sending Agency prior to the change.
7. Personnel (Trainees) may be utilized for a position in which they are not fully qualified for. The assignment specifics shall be negotiated between the Sending and Ordering agencies.
8. Personnel assigned as part of a resource order will receive an incident briefing by the ordering agency prior to fireline deployment and should be debriefed prior to demobilization. Debriefings, task book documentation and evaluations will be provided to the sending agency. Any conditions of the resource exchange as agreed between the ordering and sending agencies shall be shared during briefings.
9. Agencies will comply with customs clearing procedures as applicable. (See Appendix E. Procedures for Crossing International Borders)
10. The Sending Agency will ensure that their personnel are adequately covered for any hospital and/or medical costs incurred while on assignment.
11. Notwithstanding item number 10, the Ordering Agency will ensure that personnel are adequately briefed on Incident-within-an-Incident (IWI) protocols and that immediate medical services be afforded to any member of the personnel on assignment regardless of the nature of the requirement or the type of medical aid required.
12. Any accident or serious incident involving personnel on assignment must be immediately reported to both the Sending and Ordering Agency's authorized official. The Sending Agency may request to participate in the investigation, or may, at their own expense, and with the assistance of the Ordering Agency, undertake their own investigation in accordance with agency specific Serious Accident Investigation protocols.
13. Commissary expenses for personnel on assignment is the responsibility of the sending agency.
14. Length of assignment and rest and rotation for personnel shall be identified by the Sending Agency at the time of request. Any extension of assignment will be by mutual agreement.

15. Any redeployment of resources outside of the ordering agency's jurisdiction shall be agreed upon by the sending and receiving agencies.

## **C. Equipment and Supplies**

1. Expendable supplies and materials shall be considered purchased on delivery, and full replacement costs will be reimbursed by the Ordering Agency. Items should be considered expendable if they are not reusable.
  2. Non-expendable and accountable equipment and supplies will be credited to the Ordering Agency upon return to the Sending Agency. The cost of refurbishing is reimbursable to the Sending Agency unless the Sending Agency agrees that the Ordering Agency will perform the work.
  3. In the event that any equipment or supplies are damaged beyond repair or not returned, they will be either replaced by the Ordering Agency with new equipment or supplies of the same quality and quantity and to the Sending Agency's standard, or full replacement costs will be reimbursed by the Ordering Agency. Fiscal reimbursement is the preferred method for replacing lost or damaged equipment when crossing international borders.
  4. Providing communications equipment is the responsibility of the Ordering Agency, unless mutually agreed.

## **D. Aircraft**

1. Costs for aircraft being obtained through this cooperative operating plan are defined by the Sending Agency. Costs will be exchanged between member agencies in the spring of each year. These normally include:
  - a. Hourly flight time
  - b. Hourly/daily availability
  - c. Fuel and oil (if purchased by the Sending Agency)
  - d. Landing Fees
2. Air crew wages are included in the hourly flight time and /or hourly/daily availability, unless otherwise specified by the Sending Agency. Crew meals, accommodations, and ground transportation are reimbursable if not supplied by the Ordering Agency.
3. Normal, routine maintenance is the responsibility of the aircraft contractor or owner and is not reimbursable.
4. Costs incurred for extra labor or parts transported to facilitate repairs not considered routine are reimbursable. Sending Agency contract stipulations will be followed by the Ordering Agency.
5. Damage to an aircraft caused as a direct result of the Ordering Agency personnel actions are the Ordering Agency's responsibility and are reimbursable.
6. Length of assignment and recall conditions will be defined at the time of deployment. Any extension of assignment will be by mutual agreement.
7. Special considerations should be mutually agreed to.

## **E. Recall & Extensions**

1. Forty-eight hours recall notice for personnel will be given from the Sending Agency wherever possible, and the Ordering Agency will make every effort to meet the 48-hour notice.
2. The Ordering and Sending Agency will coordinate on resource extensions and/or crew swaps with as much advance notice as possible.
3. An agreement document shall be prepared containing the rates, conditions, and duration of resource exchanges. This will be approved by both parties prior to deployment, if possible.

## **F. Billing and Payment**

1. Estimates shall be submitted annually by January 31, final invoice no later than March 15, and final payment shall occur within 90 days after receipt of billing, unless a different arrangement is negotiated.
2. An agreement document shall be prepared containing the rates, conditions, and duration of resource exchanges. This will be approved by both parties prior to deployment, if possible.
3. All billings will include the Ordering Agency's resource order number and request number if applicable and shall be itemized by incident and by sectional provisions of this guideline.
4. Invoices for goods and services provided by Canada to the US will be paid for in the equivalent Canadian dollars. Invoices for goods and services provided by the US to Canada will be paid for in the equivalent US dollars. It is the intent that the sending agency receive full payment of their bill.
5. Member agencies will not normally bill each other for administrative cost (indirect administrative fees or support costs) unless otherwise agreed to beforehand.
6. Bills shall be submitted to the billing addresses listed in Appendix C.
7. Any extenuating circumstance where additional deployment costs are incurred by the Sending Agency while mobilizing personnel or demobilizing personnel to their home state/province/territory may be negotiated between the Sending Agency and the Ordering Agency as a separate expenditure . Costs may include, but are not limited to: internet usage, telephone costs, data service fees, satellite and cellular phone charges.
8. The following protocol shall be followed when recovering costs for trainees:
  - The Receiving agency must approve the trainees prior to mobilization.
  - Conditions and rates for trainees will be negotiated between the sending and receiving agencies, as per Section F.2.

## G. Review

1. The Cooperative Operating Plan shall be reviewed annually and updated as appropriate.

## V. Appendices

### A. Glossary

- **Authorized Official**--Immediate authority to approve dispatch of resources. Specific individuals are identified in Appendix B.
- **Billing Number**--Individual agency's charge code that tracks costs for the incident.
- **Agency Representative**--Official from the ordering/ sending agency responsible for the health, safety, welfare and commissary needs of sending agency personnel while on assignment.
- **Member Agencies**-- Agencies signatory to the Northwest Wildland Fire Protection Agreement.
- **Ordering/Receiving Agency**--Any agency requesting and receiving assistance from another agency.
- **Preparedness (Pre-suppression)**-- Table top exercises, training, building teams, and exchange of technology in advance of fire season.
- **Qualified Resource**--Fully qualified personnel meeting all the parameters of the position they are filling.
- **Sending Agency**--Any agency providing/lending resources at the request of another agency.
- **Trainee Resource**--An individual who has acquired a pre-arranged series of competencies (knowledge, abilities and skills) but has no experience in a specific role or position. The Trainee requires direct supervision by a person who is certified in the role or position to which the Trainee is assigned to for the duration of the assignment.



## B. Authorized Member Agency Officials

\*The following list is the call down order to request resources through the Northwest Compact

Alberta				
Name	Title	Office	Cell	Email
Brian Lopushinsky	Manager of Wildfire Response	1-780-422-4506	1-780-706-5366	<a href="mailto:brian.lopushinsky@gov.ab.ca">brian.lopushinsky@gov.ab.ca</a>
Trevor Lamabe	Executive Director		1-780-618-4745	<a href="mailto:Trevor.lamabe@gov.ab.ca">Trevor.lamabe@gov.ab.ca</a>
Provincial Duty Officer		1-780-415-6460 (During Hours)	1-780-913-2344 (After Hours)	<a href="mailto:awcc@gov.ab.ca">awcc@gov.ab.ca</a>
-	24hr Fire Desk	310-FIRE		
British Columbia				
Name	Title	Office	Cell	Email
Derek Williams	Superintendent, Fire Preparedness & Response	1-778-943-6928 250-312-3040	1-250-308-6456	<a href="mailto:Derek.Williams@gov.bc.ca">Derek.Williams@gov.bc.ca</a>
-	Provincial Wildfire Coordination Officer (24hrs)		1-250-318-2324	<a href="mailto:Prov.fire@gov.bc.ca">Prov.fire@gov.bc.ca</a>
Todd Nessman	Manager, Fire Operations	1-250-312-7412	1-778-220-8633	<a href="mailto:Todd.Nessman@gov.bc.ca">Todd.Nessman@gov.bc.ca</a>
Ian Meier	Executive Director	1-250-847-6640	1-250-643-0078	<a href="mailto:Ian.Meier@gov.bc.ca">Ian.Meier@gov.bc.ca</a>
Cliff Chapman	Director Provincial Fire Ops	1-250-312-6738	1-250-318-9596	<a href="mailto:Cliff.Chapman@gov.bc.ca">Cliff.Chapman@gov.bc.ca</a>
-	Initial Attack Air Tanker Assistance	1-250-312-3029		
Northwest Territories				
Name	Title	Office	Cell	Email
Mike Gravel	Director Forest Management	1-867-872-7700	1-867-872-2077	<a href="mailto:Mike_gravel@gov.nt.ca">Mike_gravel@gov.nt.ca</a>
Richard Olsen	Manager Fire Operations	1-867-872-7707	1-867-872-2077	<a href="mailto:Richard_Olsen@gov.nt.ca">Richard_Olsen@gov.nt.ca</a>
-	Territorial Duty Officer	1-867-872-7710 (May 1 – Sept 30)	1-867-872-0616	<a href="mailto:DUTY_OFFICER@gov.nt.ca">DUTY_OFFICER@gov.nt.ca</a>
	Logistics Officer	1-867-872-7711 (May 1 to August 31)	1-867-621-0624	<a href="mailto:tdo_logistics@gov.nt.ca">tdo_logistics@gov.nt.ca</a>
Saskatchewan				
Name	Title	Office	Cell	Email
Steve Roberts	Vice President Operations	1-306-953-2206	1-306-961-2964	<a href="mailto:Steve.roberts@gov.sk.ca">Steve.roberts@gov.sk.ca</a>
-	Provincial Duty Officer	1-306-953-3430		<a href="mailto:FFMBDispatch@gov.sk.ca">FFMBDispatch@gov.sk.ca</a>
Yukon				
Name	Title	Office	Cell	Email
Carl Cibart	Wildfire and Emergency Operations Manager	1-867-456-3215	1-867-332-7404	<a href="mailto:Carl.Cibart@gov.yk.ca">Carl.Cibart@gov.yk.ca</a>
Lisa Walker	Director Wildland Fire Management	1-867-456-3904		<a href="mailto:Lisa.Walker@gov.yk.ca">Lisa.Walker@gov.yk.ca</a>
-	Yukon Duty Officer	1-867-667-3128	1-867-332-1926	<a href="mailto:ydo@gov.yk.ca">ydo@gov.yk.ca</a>

**Alaska**

Name	Title	Office	Cell	Email
Norm McDonald	Deputy Director	1-907-761-6302	1-907-863-2007	<a href="mailto:norman.mcdonald@alaska.gov">norman.mcdonald@alaska.gov</a>
Ed Sanford	Chief of Fire Operations	1-907-356-5850	1-907-378-1321	<a href="mailto:Edward.sanford@alaska.gov">Edward.sanford@alaska.gov</a>
Katie Kelley	AICC State Logistics Coordinator	1-907-356-5682	1-907-799-5022	<a href="mailto:Katie.Rubin@alaska.gov">Katie.Rubin@alaska.gov</a>
Mike Butteri	Strategic Operations Planner	1-907-356-5858	1-907-388-3089	<a href="mailto:mike.butteri@alaska.gov">mike.butteri@alaska.gov</a>

**Idaho**

Name	Title	Office	Cell	Email
Julia Lauch	Deputy Chief Fire Operations & Aviation		1-541-510-9644	<a href="mailto:jlauch@idl.idaho.gov">jlauch@idl.idaho.gov</a>
Jeremiah Miller	Central Zone Fire Manager		1-208-816-3390	<a href="mailto:jmiller@idl.idaho.gov">jmiller@idl.idaho.gov</a>
-	Fire Management Bureau Duty Officer		1-208-416-3604	
-	Coeur d'Alene Dispatch Center	1-208-772-3283	1-208-762-6911	<a href="mailto:idcdc@firenet.gov">idcdc@firenet.gov</a>

**Hawaii**

Name	Title	Office	Cell	Email
Michael Walker	State Protection Forester	(808) 587-4188	(808) 348-5834	<a href="mailto:michael.j.walker@hawaii.gov">michael.j.walker@hawaii.gov</a>

**Montana**

Name	Title	Office	Cell	Email
Cory Calnan	Deputy Chief Fire Protection Bureau		1-406-788-7718	<a href="mailto:ccalnan@mt.gov">ccalnan@mt.gov</a>
Roy Robinson	Logistics Support Specialist		1-406-531-9424	<a href="mailto:rorobinson@mt.gov">rorobinson@mt.gov</a>
Matthew Hall	Chief Fire Protection Bureau		1-406-544-5102	<a href="mailto:MattHall@mt.gov">MattHall@mt.gov</a>
-	MT DNRC Duty Officer		1-406-594-1829	

**Oregon**

Name	Title	Office	Cell	Email
Blake Ellis	Fire Operations Manager		1-503-910-2353	<a href="mailto:Blake.Ellis@odf.oregon.gov">Blake.Ellis@odf.oregon.gov</a>
Mike Shaw	Chief Fire Protection	1-503-945-7205	1-541-263-0471	<a href="mailto:michael.h.shaw@odf.oregon.gov">michael.h.shaw@odf.oregon.gov</a>
Ron Graham	Deputy Chief Fire Protection		1-971-718-6862	<a href="mailto:ron.graham@odf.oregon.gov">ron.graham@odf.oregon.gov</a>
Belinda Boston	Salem Coordination Center Manager	1-503-945-7439	1-503-559-0587	<a href="mailto:belinda.boston@odf.oregon.gov">belinda.boston@odf.oregon.gov</a>
-	Duty Officer		1-503-559-0511 (April 15-Nov 1)	

**Washington**

Name	Title	Office	Cell	Email
Russ Lane	Division Manager Wildland Fire Management	1-360-902-1308	1-360-480-9657	<a href="mailto:russ.lane@dnr.wa.gov">russ.lane@dnr.wa.gov</a>
David Way	Assistant Division Manager Wildland Fire Management		1-360-333-5741	<a href="mailto:david.way@dnr.wa.gov">david.way@dnr.wa.gov</a>
Jamie Golding	Budget and Business Manager Wildland Fire Management		1-360-259-0490	<a href="mailto:jamie.golding@dnr.wa.gov">jamie.golding@dnr.wa.gov</a>
Jennifer Bammert	DNR Coordination Center Manager	1-360-902-1746	1-360-480-1819 1-360-402-8219	<a href="mailto:jennifer.bammert@dnr.wa.gov">jennifer.bammert@dnr.wa.gov</a>
Vacant	Incident Business Manager			
Sydney Sevon	Fire Fiscal Analyst		1-360-528-1513	<a href="mailto:sydney.sevon@dnr.wa.gov">sydney.sevon@dnr.wa.gov</a>
-	Wildfire Division Office	1-360-902-1300	1-800-562-6010 (24hr)	

## C. Member Agency Billing Information

<b>Alberta</b>	<p>Alberta Forestry and Parks          Wildfire Management Branch          Suite 100, 7000 - 113 Street          Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6H 5T6          Attention: Lynn Schimanski  <a href="mailto:Lynn.Schimanski@gov.ab.ca">Lynn.Schimanski@gov.ab.ca</a>          1-780-422-4427          AND          Trina Grosse  <a href="mailto:Trina.Grosse@gov.ab.ca">Trina.Grosse@gov.ab.ca</a>          1-780-919-5232</p>
<b>British Columbia</b>	<p>BC Wildfire Service          3080 Airport Drive          Kamloops, British Columbia Canada V2B 7X2  <a href="mailto:BCWS.CWSHQFin@goc.bc.ca">BCWS.CWSHQFin@goc.bc.ca</a>          Attention: Provincial Wildfire Operations Administrator  <a href="mailto:Prov.Fire@gov.bc.ca">Prov.Fire@gov.bc.ca</a>          1-250-312-3040</p>
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	<p>Forest Management Division          Department of Environment and Natural Resources          Box 7 Fort Smith, NT Canada XOE OPO          Attention: Rick Olsen Manager, Fire Operations  <a href="mailto:Richard_Olsen@gov.nt.ca">Richard_Olsen@gov.nt.ca</a></p>
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	<p>Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency          Box 5005 – 2120 Central Avenue North          Prince Albert, Saskatchewan Canada S6V 6W9          Attn: Director, Provincial Coordination Centre  <a href="mailto:financeoperationsspsa@gov.sk.ca">financeoperationsspsa@gov.sk.ca</a></p>
<b>Yukon Territories</b>	<p>Community Services (C19)          Wildland Fire Management Branch          Box 2703          Whitehorse, Yukon Canada Y1A-2C6  <a href="mailto:Wfm.finance@yukon.ca">Wfm.finance@yukon.ca</a></p>
<b>Alaska</b>	<p>State of Alaska          Division of Forestry &amp; Fire Protection          101 Airport Road          Palmer, AK 99645          Attention: Division Administrative Operations Manager  <a href="mailto:Andrea.Fruean@alaska.gov">Andrea.Fruean@alaska.gov</a>          1-907-761-6204</p>
<b>Idaho</b>	<p>Idaho Department of Lands          Bureau of Fire Management          3284 West Industrial Loop          Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815          Attention: Fire Business Program Manager  <a href="mailto:AHonsaker@idl.idaho.gov">AHonsaker@idl.idaho.gov</a>          (208) 666-8644</p>

<b>Montana</b>	Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Forestry & Trust Lands Division, Forestry Division Office Joanne Marceau 2705 Spurgin Road Missoula, Montana 59804 <a href="mailto:jmarceau@mt.gov">jmarceau@mt.gov</a> 1-406-542-4252
<b>Oregon</b>	Oregon Department of Forestry Protection Finance Unit 2600 State Street Salem, Oregon, 97310 Attention: , Megan Fair, Fire Billing/Receivables Coordinator <a href="mailto:odf.otheragencyprojects@odf.oregon.gov">odf.otheragencyprojects@odf.oregon.gov</a> 1-503-798-2121
<b>Washington</b>	Department of Natural Resources, Wildland Fire Management Division Attention: Sydney Sevon 1111 Washington Street SE PO Box 47037 Olympia, Washington 98504-7037 <a href="mailto:dnrwildlandfirebusiness@dnr.wa.gov">dnrwildlandfirebusiness@dnr.wa.gov</a>

## **D. Northern Rockies Ordering Guidelines**

### **State of Montana**

All orders for Compact resources to be deployed in Montana will be placed through the Northern Rockies Coordination Center (NRCC). All orders from Compact agencies for State of Montana resources will also be placed through the NRCC.

Dispatch of critical interagency resources should not be unnecessarily delayed while orders are being processed through the national mobilization system.

## E. Procedures for Crossing International Borders

(Combined with Appendix D from BC and NW US Wildfire Response Border Arrangement Operating Guideline)

### 1. General Information

When crossing into the United States you will be dealing with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), **Customs and Border Protection (CBP)**; this agency manages the ports and airports of entry and will assist in your arrival process. The US Border Patrol is also a CBP component and is responsible for the areas between the ports of entry, and normally would not be contacted regarding cross border response issues.

When crossing into Canada you will be dealing with the **Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA)**.

When deploying across the international border it is important to remember that you will be dealing with two different nations, each with different laws, rules and procedures. It is also important to remember that these agency officials have important jobs to do and although they will give due consideration to the emergency nature of your trip, you must comply with, and are subject to, all the relevant laws and regulations. Both CBP and CBSA officials have reassured us that they will make every effort to accommodate an expedient crossing provided that they have been provided (in advance if possible) with all the necessary documentation.

Priorities:

- Personnel must carry adequate identification and proof of citizenship, ideally in the form of a valid passport. The United States has implemented the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) which requires all persons to present a passport or other approved document in order to cross the border. Visit: <http://getyouhome.gov> for specific details. Firefighters who may be asked to travel internationally should plan ahead and obtain these documents before fire season begins.
- **WARNING:** personnel with criminal records may be refused entry to both the United States and Canada. Visit: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moral\\_turpitude](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moral_turpitude) for a discussion of the types of convictions that are likely to be an issue. Please advise your crews that this is important, and if they have any doubts about their admissibility to the country where they are being deployed, they should resolve them prior to deployment.
- Contraband of any type is prohibited and can result in penalties or arrest. Both the United States and Canada prohibit the importation of drugs or controlled substances, and medical marijuana cards are not valid at the border. The importation of firearms is strictly regulated in both the United States and Canada and for the purposes of this agreement firearms are prohibited.
- Before leaving your home base, insure that your inventory of equipment and supplies is accurate and that your personnel manifest is fully complete.

- When responding to an incident, the dispatcher providing information to the border officials can request priority to the head of the line when crossing the border. Be specific about the crossing being used and the time of arrival, and nature of the incident. The response must be a bona fide emergency.
- When returning from an incident, priority crossing will not be considered unless the resource is enroute to another incident. All necessary documentation and manifests must be complete at the time of crossing.
- Where possible, all documentation should be on official CBP or CBSA forms and all accompanying letters and authorizations must be on official fire agency letterhead. Electronic manifests often provide a better copy than faxed/copied versions; contact the intended crossing point for the best email address to use.

Think of your border crossing in three parts: authority, people and equipment. Each part must be fully documented to comply with the requirements of the country they are entering.

## **2. Authority**

The fact that the deployment is by a federal, state or provincial government at the official request of another federal, state or provincial government should be documented in some manner on official letterhead and supported by copies of the resource order. This assists border officials in verifying the official nature of the deployment. This also serves to differentiate between volunteer responders and/or commercial entities seeking to take advantage of the situation.

## **3. People**

Everyone crossing the border is subject to the laws of the country they are entering and personnel with criminal convictions may be refused entry, and those with outstanding warrants may be detained and arrested.

- Adequate identification and proof of citizenship must be carried at all times when crossing the border, ideally in the form of a valid passport.
- Proper ID helps determine who you are; it must have a recent photograph, and be issued by a government authority (driver's license, photo identification or similar.)
- Proof of citizenship establishes your nationality; the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) now requires all persons to establish their citizenship with a valid passport or other approved document. Approved documents include:
  - United States or Canadian Passport
  - United States Passport Card (drive NOT fly)
  - United States Permanent Resident Card (I-551)
  - Trusted Traveler Cards (NEXUS, SENTRI or FAST programs)
  - State or Provincial Enhanced Driver's License (available from Washington and British Columbia)
  - Enhanced Tribal Cards (when available)
  - Native American Tribal Photo Identification Card (from certain recognized tribes)



- Form I-872 American Indian Card
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) Card
- When traveling by air between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean or Bermuda, you are required to present a U.S. passport, except as noted below. This applies to everyone including newborns, infants and children. The only exceptions to this requirement applicable to travel under this agreement are:
  - U.S. citizens on active duty with the U.S. Armed Forces, traveling with military ID and travel orders
  - U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents with a Permanent Resident Card or other evidence of permanent residence status and required documentation; refugees and asylees with a Refugee Travel Document

*United States Customs and Border Protection will exercise every possible latitude when dealing with responding emergency resources but reminds member agencies that exceptions to the above requirements will be made entirely on a case-by-case basis and may cause delay for the entire unit. Taking a moment to verify your crew's documents prior to departure may save significant time at the border.*

### **US Bound – Custom and Border Protection**

- U.S. immigration law requires that every person entering the United States must apply for admission in person; ID and citizenship documents will be verified. Canadian Fire agencies should ensure that crew manifests are on official agency letterhead. These should be faxed in advance to the Port of Entry to speed processing. Crewmembers with criminal convictions may not be admissible to the United States; if there is any question this should be clarified in advance by speaking with CBP Officers at the intended port of arrival.
- Normally fire crews will be paroled into the United States under section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and a form I-94 will be issued to each person to document their entry. The I-94 document should be returned to CBP at the time of departure. Whoever is keeping documents for the strike team should ask for and receive a validated copy of the crew manifest and keep that as a backup document.
- Pilots and crews arriving by air must provide advance manifests. Manifests may be sent electronically or faxed (consult with the Port of Entry official).

*Note: It is VERY important to make sure PRIOR TO BOARDING that all crewmembers arriving by air are properly documented for entry into the United States, ideally in the form of a valid passport.*

### **Canada Bound – Canada Border Services Agency**

- Canadian Immigration Regulation 19(1) (j) allows for entry, without employment authorization, of personnel coming to Canada to assist in an emergency situation. CBSA is flexible with regards to inspection, especially for air transport. Crew manifests should be faxed or electronically provided in advance. Any medical/physical conditions should be identified on the manifest.

- Persons with criminal records (such as a driving while intoxicated or driving under the influence conviction) may be inadmissible to Canada. If the entry is essential to the success of the emergency response, then a discretionary entry or entry under a Ministers Permit may be considered. In either case, payment of a processing fee (C\$200) is required (Visa or MasterCard). Prior notification would help processing.
- Persons registered under the "Indian Act" may enter into Canada freely, even if not Canadian citizens. Canada, however, is not a signatory to the Jay Treaty and many U.S. tribes do not receive reciprocity.
- In case there is some confusion on emergency procedures quote Customs memo: "D Memorandum, 8-paragraph 44 and appendix G".

#### **4. Equipment**

##### **US Bound – Customs and Border Protection**

- The requesting U.S. Fire Agency should notify the designated border crossing CBP Port Director or Supervisory CBP Officer as soon as practical (by phone and fax on agency letterhead) that emergency equipment and material will be arriving from Canada (provide ETA and destination).
- The responding Canadian Fire Agency- should fax manifest of equipment (on US CBP Form 7533 if possible) to designated Port Director or Supervisory CBP Officer at the port of intended arrival. Crews or trucks arriving at border must also carry the manifest. Information on the equipment and materials manifest can be of a general nature (number of pumps on engine, amount of foam, numbers of shovels etc).
- Airlift of Equipment: CBP officials must be provided with a manifest of equipment and materials and these may need to be inspected at airport of arrival. Not all airports are designated for Customs clearance, and not all airports have full-time staff.
- Plan ahead and speak to a CBP Officer at the location where you intend to arrive.

##### **Canada Bound – Canada Border Services Agency**

- The requesting Canadian Fire Agency- should notify the designated CBSA Superintendent by fax and on agency letterhead, that emergency equipment and material will be arriving from the U.S. (provide ETA and destination).
- The responding U.S. Fire Agency should provide a manifest of equipment coming into Canada preferably by fax and prior to arrival at the border crossing. The manifest can be of a general nature (number of pumps on the engine, amount of foam, shovels etc.) and may be on agency letterhead. This will normally be attached to a Form E460 certifying that the equipment will be removed from Canada upon completion of the deployment. Some ports may require a Form E29B instead, which must be handed in when leaving Canada, indicating what is being left behind (what was consumed).

*Note: Prior to entering Canada, also stop at the U.S. Port of Entry and complete a U.S. Customs Form 4455 and have it validated by a CBP Officer. This helps establish that your listed equipment is of U.S. origin when you return.*

Airlift of equipment: Custom officials must be faxed the necessary manifest. Equipment may be inspected at destination at the prerogative of the Customs Officer.

*NOTE: In most cases, any lost, damaged or destroyed equipment should be paid for by the receiving agency. Replacing lost or destroyed equipment causes numerous problems with clearances, taxes and replacement quality.*

## **5. Special Conditions for Aircraft Arrivals**

- Arrivals by aircraft will be treated similar to those at the land border. However, every effort should be made to identify inadmissible crew-members, prior to departure for the United States.
- Aircraft that will actually land in the United States must arrive and clear at a designated CBP airport. Except in very rare circumstances, all aircraft must report for inspection at an Airport of Entry prior to proceeding to a fire scene; those exceptions MUST be coordinated in advance through the Service Port Director and the nearest Border Patrol Sector, and the Air Marine Operations Center (AMOC) in Riverside, California.
- Aircraft fire operations may include air observer flights or fire retardant drops where the aircraft does not actually land in the United States. It is important that these be properly coordinated with the Air Marine Operations Center (AMOC) and Border Patrol as noted below.
- AMOC is familiar with and recognizes distinct "squawk" codes to forestry and firefighting aircraft operating near the border. (1255 is the squawk assigned to firefighting aircraft unless some other emergency code has been designated by the FAA for a specific mission.)
- When any fire operations are taking place near the border and between ports of entry, AMOC (1-800553-9072) and the nearest Border Patrol Sector must be contacted. The Spokane Sector Dispatch Center will be the primary point of contact and will provide notification to other Sectors as needed. Spokane may be contacted as follows: 24/7 at (800) 218-9788 or fax (509) 353-2750, or by email at [SPWDISPATCH@dhs.gov](mailto:SPWDISPATCH@dhs.gov).

## **6. Canadian Customs Contact Numbers (24hrs)**

Program Services (Vancouver, B.C.)	(604) 666-0450
Pacific Highway/Douglas, B.C.	(604) 538-3635
Osoyoos, B.C.	(250) 495-7518
Kingsgate, BC	(250) 424-5391
Victoria, B.C.	(250) 363-3339

Rykerts, B.C.	(250) 428-2575
Chief Mountain, Alberta (seasonal)	(403) 653-3152
Coutts, Alberta	(403) 344-3772
Beaver Creek, Yukon	(867) 862-7230
Telephone Reporting Centre (CANPASS) (for small aircraft and boats)	1-888-226-7277

PORT LOCATION	PHONE	FAX	HOURS/DAY OF WEEK	
ADEN, AB/ WHITLASH, MT	403-344-2244	403-344-2244	9 AM – 5 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
<b>ALDERGROVE, BC/ LYNDEN, WA</b>	604-856-2791	604-856-6482	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
BEAVER CREEK, YT/ ALCAN, AK	867-862-7230	867-862-7613	24 HOUR PORT	7 Days a Week
<b>BOUNDARY BAY, BC/POINT ROBERTS,WA</b>	604-943-2722	604-943-6892	24 HOUR PORT	7 Days a Week
CARSON, BC/ DANVILLE, WA	250 442 -5551	250-442-2399	8 AM – MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK
CARWA, AB/ PIEGAN, MT	403-653-3009	403-653-1026	7 AM – 11 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
CASCADE, BC/ LAURIER, WA	250-447-9418	250-447-6366	8 AM – MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK
CHIEF MOUNTAIN, AB/CHIEF MOUNTAIN, MT (Glacier National Park; Summer Station Only)	403-653-3535	403-653-3535	9 AM – 6 PM 7 AM – 10 PM 9 AM – 6 PM	MAY 15 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – LABOR DAY DAY AFTER LABOR DAY TO SEP 30
CHOPAKA, BC NIGHTHAWK, WA	250-499-5176	250-499-2845	9 AM – 5 PM	7 DAYS A WEEK
CLIMAX, SK/T URNER, MT	306-293-2262	306-293-2141	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
CORONACH, SK/ SCOBAY, MT	306-267-2177	306-267-6080	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	OCT 1 – MAY 14 MAY 15 – SEP 30

## 7. United States Contact Numbers (24hrs)

For emergency cross border activity ***through a port of entry***, contact the Port Director or Supervisory CBP Officer at the Port of Entry you plan to enter through. They can directly facilitate your movement and are the best points of contact. The list that follows covers port locations starting in the west and moving eastward.

Formerly, Customs and Border Protection had established a single coordinator for Washington, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota and Minnesota to deal with any problems that arose and to assist you with overall policy issues and advance planning; this individual has retired and is no longer available. In the event you run into issues requiring immediate assistance, call CBP’s National Communications Center at 1800-XSECTOR (800-973-2867) and request that the dispatcher contact the Duty Chief covering the area you wish to cross through. This individual should be available 24/7 and can either assist you directly or can elevate your issue immediately to the appropriate Area Port Director.

In addition, the following managers may be able to directly assist you on policy or other matters:

POC	Title	Office	Office Phone	Cell Phone	Email
Peterson, Mark	Program Manager	Seattle Region	206-553-6944 x. 1916	206-930-3394	<a href="mailto:mark.r.peterson1@dhs.gov">mark.r.peterson1@dhs.gov</a>
Plotkowski, Bill	Program Manager	Seattle Region	206-553-6944 x. 1917	425-301-3876	<a href="mailto:william.plotkowski@dhs.gov">william.plotkowski@dhs.gov</a>
Meyer, Mary	Asst Area Port Director	Pembina	701-825-6201 x. 239	701-520-1011	<a href="mailto:mary.meyer@dhs.gov">mary.meyer@dhs.gov</a>
Schmelz, Jason	Asst Area Port Director	Pembina	701-825-6551	701-240-5166	<a href="mailto:jason.schmelz@dhs.gov">jason.schmelz@dhs.gov</a>
Hassler, Barbara	Asst Area Port Director	Pembina	701-825-6201 x. 271	701-520-3607	<a href="mailto:barbara.hassler@dhs.gov">barbara.hassler@dhs.gov</a>
Fukuhara, Tracie	Asst Area Port Director	Seattle	206-553-7960	206-396-6521	<a href="mailto:tracie.r.fukuhara@dhs.gov">tracie.r.fukuhara@dhs.gov</a>
Staudt, Judy	Asst Area Port Director	Seattle	206-553-1720	206-478-0616	<a href="mailto:judy.staudt@dhs.gov">judy.staudt@dhs.gov</a>
Sullivan, James E	Chief	Seattle	206-553-1434	206-396-6519	<a href="mailto:james.e.sullivan@dhs.gov">james.e.sullivan@dhs.gov</a>
Wilkerson, Mark W	Area Port Director	Seattle	206-553-0770	206-850-4998	<a href="mailto:mark.w.wilkerson@dhs.gov">mark.w.wilkerson@dhs.gov</a>
		Seattle Fax	206-553-6851		
Huber, Ken	Supervisory CBPO	Great Falls	406-453-7631 x. 206	406-750-5607	<a href="mailto:ken.huber@dhs.gov">ken.huber@dhs.gov</a>
Maruska, Kevin	Asst Area Port Director	Great Falls	406-453-7631 x. 205	406-390-2528	<a href="mailto:kevin.maruska@dhs.gov">kevin.maruska@dhs.gov</a>
Lyle, Ross	Asst Area Port Director	Great Falls	406-453-7631 x. 203	406-750-0720	<a href="mailto:ross.lyle@dhs.gov">ross.lyle@dhs.gov</a>

For emergency cross border activity **between the ports of entry**, the U.S. Border Patrol’s Spokane Sector Dispatch Center will be the primary point of contact and will provide notification to other Sectors as needed. Spokane may be contacted 24/7 at (800) 218-9788, by fax at (509) 353-2750, or by email at [SPW-DISPATCH@dhs.gov](mailto:SPW-DISPATCH@dhs.gov) Vancouver, Canada US Entry Fax (604) 278-3521

**UNITED STATES CUSTOMS & BORDER PROTECTION  
Northwest Ports and Port Hours (Bold type = 24 hour Port)**

<b>PORT LOCATION</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>FAX</b>	<b>HOURS</b>	<b>DAY OF WEEK</b>
ALCAN/NORTHWAY, AK	907-774-2252	907-774-2020		
ANCHORAGE, AK	907-271-2675	907-271-6333	Updated 5/23/14	907 271-6313 (24 Hr #)
FAIRBANKS, AK	907-474-0307	907-474-3035		
DALTON CACHE, AK	907-767-5511	907-767-5590		
PORT ANGELES, WA (Ferry)	360-457-4311	360-457-7514		
ANACORTES, WA (Ferry)	360-293-2331	360-293-4422		
BELLINGHAM, WA (Airport)	360-734-5463		8 AM – 5 PM	MON - SAT
<b>BLAINE, WA</b>	360-332-7611 360-332-8511 Peace Arch 360-332-5707 Truck Crossing 360-332-6091 Pacific Highway	360-332-4701	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
<b>LYNDEN, WA</b>	360-354-2183	360-354-2706	8 AM -- MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK
<b>SUMAS, WA</b>	360-988-2971	360-988-6300	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
NIGHTHAWK, WA	509-476-2125	509-476-3799	9 AM – 5 PM	7 DAYS A WEEK
<b>OROVILLE, WA</b>	509-476-2955	509-476-2465	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
OROVILLE, WA (Airport)	509-476-2955		8 AM – 5 PM	MON - SAT
DANVILLE, WA	509-779-4862		8 AM – MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK
LAURIER, WA	509-684-2100		8 AM – MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK

FRONTIER, WA	509 732-6215		6 AM – MIDNIGHT 8 AM – MIDNIGHT	MON THRU FRI SAT AND SUN
FERRY, WA	509-779-4655	509-779-0505	9 AM – 5 PM	7 DAYS A WEEK
BOUNDARY, WA	509-732-6674		9 AM – 5 PM	7 DAYS A WEEK
METALINE FALLS, WA	509-446-4421		8 AM – MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK
MOSES LAKE, WA (Airport)	509-762-2667		8 AM – 5 PM ALL OTHER	MON THRU SAT APPOINTMENT ONLY
SPOKANE, WA (Airport)	509-353-2833		8 AM – 5 PM ALL OTHER	MON THRU SAT APPOINTMENT ONLY
PORTHILL, ID	208-267-5309	208-267-1014	7 AM – 11 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
<b>PORT LOCATION</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>FAX</b>	<b>HOURS</b>	<b>DAY OF WEEK</b>
	208-267-5645	208-267-7166		
<b>EASTPORT, ID</b>	208 267-3966 208-267-2183	208-267-4138 208-267-3011	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
<b>ROOSVILLE, MT</b>	406 889-3865 406-889-3737	406-889-5076	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
CHIEF MOUNTAIN, MT (Glacier National Park; Summer Station Only)	403 653-3317		9 AM – 6 PM 7 AM – 10 PM 9 AM – 6 PM	MAY 15 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – LABOR DAY DAY AFTER LABOR DAY TO SEP 30
PIEGAN, MT	406 732-5572	406-732-5574	7 AM – 11 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
DEL BONITA, MT	406 336-2130	406-336-2135	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
<b>SWEETGRASS, MT</b>	406 335-9630 406-335-9601	406-335-2611 406-335-9631	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
CUT BANK, MT (Airport; managed by SWEETGRASS POE)	406-335-9630 406-873-4352	406-335-2611	24 HOUR PORT BY APPOINTMEN T ONLY	7 DAYS A WEEK BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
WHITLASH, MT	406-432-5522	406-432-5528	9 AM – 5 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
WILD HORSE, MT	406-394-2371	406-394-2398	8 AM – 5 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	OCT 1 – MAY 14 MAY 15 – SEP 30
WILLOW CREEK, MT	406-398-5512	406-398-5397	9 AM – 5 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
TURNER, MT	406-379-2651	406-379-2614	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
MORGAN, MT	406-674-5248	406-674-5237	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15



OPHEIM, MT	406-724-3212	406-724-3370	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
SCOBAY, MT	406-783-5375 406-783-5372	406-783-5287	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	OCT 1 – MAY 14 MAY 15 – SEP 30
<b>RAYMOND, MT</b>	406-895-2664 406-895-2620	406-895-2635 406-895-2632	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
HELENA, MT (Airport; also covers BUTTE)	406-495-2145	406-495-2144	9 AM – 5 PM AFTER HOURS BY APPOINTMENT	MON – FRI
<b>GREAT FALLS, MT (Airport)</b>	406-453-0861 406-788-9810	406-453-5688	8 AM – 4 PM AFTER HOURS BY APPOINTMENT	7 DAYS A WEEK
KALISPELL, MT (Airport)	406-257-7034	406-257-7038	9AM – 5 PM AFTER HOURS BY APPOINTMENT	MON – FRI

PORT LOCATION	PHONE	HOURS/DAY OF WEEK	
FORTUNA, ND	701-834-2493	9 AM – 10 PM	
WILLISTON, ND (Airport; Sloulin Field)	701-572-6552	On Call Basis	7 Days
AMBROSE, ND	701-982-3211	9 AM – 5 PM	
NOONAN, ND	701-925-5615	9 AM – 10 PM	
<b>PORTAL, ND</b>	701-926-4411 701-926-4241 701-926-4410	24 HOUR PORT	
NORTHGATE, ND	701-596-3805	9 AM – 10 PM	
SHERWOOD, ND	701-459-2250	9 AM – 10 PM	
ANTLER, ND	701-267-3321	9 AM – 10 PM	
MINOT, ND (Airport)	701-838-6704	9 AM – 5 PM	MON - SAT
WESTHOPE, ND	701-245-6194	8 AM – 9 PM	
CARBURY, ND	701-228-2540	9 AM – 10 PM	
<b>DUNSEITH, ND</b>	701-263-4460	24 HOUR PORT	
ST JOHN, ND	701-477-3140	8 AM – 9 PM	
HANSBORO, ND	701-266-5633	8 AM – 9 PM	
SARLES, ND	701-697-5177	9 AM – 10 PM	
HANNAH, ND	701-283-5271	9 AM – 5 PM	
MAIDA, ND	701-256-5087	9 AM – 10 PM	
WALHALLA, ND	701-549-3233	8 AM – 10 PM	
NECHE, ND	701-886-7744	8 AM – 10 PM	
<b>PEMBINA, ND</b>	701-825-6551	24 HOUR PORT	

PEMBINA SERVICE PORT	701-825-6201	Area Manager Not a Crossing	
GRAND FORKS, ND (Airport; Mark Andrews Int.)	701-772-3301	9 AM – 5 PM	MON - SAT
FARGO, ND (Airport; Hector Int.)	701-241-8124	8 AM – 5 PM	MON - FRI
NOYES, MN	218-823-6212	CLOSED	
LANCASTER, MN	218-762-4100	8 AM – 10 PM	
PINECREEK, MN	218-463-1952	9 AM – 5 PM	
ROSEAU, MN	218-463-2054/ 218-463-5020	8 AM – 12 PM	
<b>WARROAD, MN</b>	218-386-2796 218-386-3996	24 HOUR PORT	
<b>BAUDETTE, MN</b>	218-634-2803	24 HOUR PORT	
<b>INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MN</b>	218-283-2541	24 HOUR PORT	
CRANE LAKE, MN	218-993-2321	10 AM – 6 PM	
ELY, MN	218-365-3262		
<b>GRAND PORTAGE, MN</b>	218-475-2244	24 HOUR PORT	
GRAND MARAIS, MN	218-387-1148		

\*\*Blue are 24/7 ports. Yellow are airports of entry.