Blue Ridge Fire District

Policy Manual

Wildland Firefighting

309.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for wildland firefighting incidents.

309.1.1 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of wildland firefighting, the State of Arizona recognizes the terms and nomenclature of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), the Incident Command System (ICS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

309.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Blue Ridge Fire District to provide wildland fire suppression services consistent with the availability of staffing resources and in compliance with state regulations. The District will utilize the Incident Command System (ICS) methods and procedures for managing wildland firefighting operations.

309.3 INCIDENTS INVOLVING STATE OR FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY AREA

Whenever a wildland fire event occurs in the jurisdiction of the Blue Ridge Fire District, it is the responsibility of the Incident Commander (IC) to assess the potential for the fire to extend into either a State Responsibility Area (SRA) or Federal Responsibility Area (FRA). If the incident either involves or threatens to involve an SRA or FRA, the IC shall immediately notify the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management or the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) of the incident. The IC shall also send notification up the chain of command to the on-duty Captain, the Operations Division Fire Chief and the Fire Chief.

Whenever a wildland fire event occurs in the jurisdiction of the Blue Ridge Fire District it is also the responsibility of the IC to assess the potential for the fire to involve areas in bordering jurisdictions. If the IC determines there is any potential for the incident to involve bordering jurisdictions, he/she should immediately direct Dispatch to notify the appropriate jurisdictions.

309.4 WILDLAND FIRE OPERATIONS

309.4.1 AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS

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Members operating at wildland fires shall adhere to district guidelines and NWCG-approved standards when operating in coordination with aircraft.