

Forestry Plan

Revised 3/10

The purpose of this section is to assure integrated operations with DEP Forestry units at a significant wildland fire. These plans have been jointly prepared with DEP Forestry personnel.

DEP Forestry should be notified/requested (through LCD, or directly at 860-424-3333) as follows:

- Fire requiring assets beyond local availability (tracked vehicles, foam, hose, forestry pumps, etc.)
- Specialty personnel and knowledge needed regarding forest fire behavior/tactics
- Intent to apply for equipment/manpower time reimbursement through local Fire Warden
- Fire on state land

When significant state forestry assets are requested, County Coordinators should also be requested.

One of their first actions will likely be reconnaissance: typically a GPS plotting of the fire's perimeter

Incident Command: the following options are available for organizing an incident with DEP:

- Create Unified Command with DEP and local Fire Chief(s)
- Assign DEP personnel (and their supervisor) as a specific sector – Branch/Group/Division
- Assign them as a Technical Advisor under the Planning sector
- Turn incident over to the DEP – they will serve as Command (typically during overhaul)

Be aware that all DEP personnel are intimately familiar with NIMS, and will expect an organized scene.

Critical ICS functions to staff (dependent upon scope of incident)

- Command: Single or Unified, clearly identifiable in a Command Post
- Operations: To direct the actual fire fighting operations
- Safety Officer : (to include accountability, medical standby, and rehab)
Especially regarding chainsaws and falling trees, but terrain is a factor
- Staging: Define clear staging area and begin accountability system
Ultimately to operate under Operations
- Communications: To organize frequencies of multiple agencies
Consider STOCS and black box repeaters
- Logistics: Especially Support functions (transportation, facilities, food)

Utilize County coordinators as an Operations Management Team:

- To staff Command Post, begin planning for long term, and fill out paperwork for reimbursement

Experienced DEP Forestry field personnel can be used in two ways:

- 1) Grouped together, as a "hot shot" team, to handle a critical aspect of the operation
- 2) Used as team leaders (teams of local fire fighters) to provide experienced supervision

Communications: Their normal radios are on **44.68**
They also have VHF portables , with STOCS and LCD scene channels

Accountability: DEP uses a sign-in sheet to account for their own personnel as a team

Miscellaneous:

- Implement coverage policy to manage other incidents in areas depleted of fire assets
- ALL helicopter operations are to be handled by DEP – they use National Guard (NOT Trooper 1)
- Protect area of origin – DEP often wants an aggressive cause investigation

