

APPENDIX E: DISPOSITION OF 1995 ACTION ITEMS

Note: Continued attention to full implementation of the concepts and principles of the great majority of the action items from the 1995 Report remains critical for implementation of the 2001 Federal Fire Policy. The recommended disposition for each item in this Appendix includes discussion about aspects requiring special attention as well as noting areas in common with specific Implementation Actions in the Review and Update.

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
ROLE OF FIRE IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT		
01 Use a compatible fire management planning system that recognizes both fire use and fire protection as inherent parts of natural resource management; this system will ensure adequate fire suppression capabilities and support fire reintroduction efforts.	Agencies have made some progress in implementing this item, but significant work remains. Due to changes in agency missions and organizations, no single interagency system is anticipated.	Implementation is an ongoing process. Agencies must continue to pursue development and application of compatible fire management planning systems. See also Implementation Action 1b.
02 Develop Fire Management Plans for all areas subject to wildland fires. These plans will use information about fire regimes, current conditions, and land management objectives as a basis to develop fire management goals and objectives; address all potential wildland fire occurrences and include a full range of fire management actions; use new knowledge and monitoring results to revise fire management goals, objectives, and actions; and be linked closely to land and resource management plans.	Agencies are updating plans; however, a significant number of plans remain out of date or inconsistent with the 1995 Federal Fire Policy. In some cases underlying land management plans require revisions before fire management plans can be fully written or revised.	See Implementation Action 1b. Implementation is an ongoing process. Fire Management Plans that implement Federal Fire Policy must be completed as soon as possible. All land management agencies should place a high priority on completion of these plans. If necessary, land management plans should be updated, revised, or amended to allow full implementation of Federal Fire Policy.

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>03 Develop research programs that provide a sound scientific basis for the integration of wildland fire into land-use and resource management.</p>	<p>The Forest Service-Interior Joint Fire Sciences Program (JFSP) represents significant progress in making scientific information available to support the fuels program. The Fiscal Year 2001 appropriations bill includes additional funding for the JFSP to address post-fire rehabilitation and restoration and fire management issues.</p>	<p>Science and research programs in agencies such as the U.S. Geological Survey and the USDA Forest Service should continue to be integrated into the federal wildland fire management community. Future research should include social issues such as individual and organizational psychology. See also Implementation Action 5a.</p>
<p>04 Create a system for coordination and cooperation among land managers and regulators that explores options within existing laws to allow for the use of fire to achieve goals of ecosystem health while at the same time protecting individual components of the environment, human health, and safety. This system will allow for early collaboration during the process of developing new land management plans and provide a mechanism for incorporating input as existing plans are implemented or revised; and encourage land managers and regulators to enter into agreements that set forth the actions each will take before and during the time fire is reintroduced in their area of responsibility.</p>	<p>No formal system(s) have been created. However, there have been some opportunities for coordination and cooperation such as the Western Regional Air Partnership and the development of EPA's Interim Air Quality Policy on Wildland and Prescribed Fires. Some ad hoc coordination and cooperation has occurred at Geographic Areas and other locations.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. Continue to improve the coordination and cooperation between the land managing agencies and regulators, particularly in the development of plans related to fire management. Land managing agencies have an affirmative responsibility to involve other agencies collaboratively in planning activities. See also Implementation Action 1b.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>05 Continue ongoing efforts to jointly develop compatible, ecosystem-based, multiple scale, interagency land management plans that involve all interested parties and facilitate adaptive management. This process will fully integrate ecological concepts that consider long-term dynamics and cross agency boundaries; effectively incorporate current fire-related information, including scientific knowledge, risk assessment, social and economic concerns, and public health considerations; and ensure that existing land management plans are revised or updated to address the above actions.</p>	<p>In general, compatible, ecosystem-based, multiple scale, interagency land management plans have not been developed. Some efforts have been made at large-scale land management planning that integrate ecosystem concepts across agency boundaries, including the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project and the Sierra Nevada Ecosystem Project. Some unit-level cross boundary efforts is underway.</p>	<p>Continue to implement as part of normal agency policies and procedures with understanding that the original action item should be a long term goal and is not likely achievable in the short run. See also Implementation Actions 1a and 1b.</p>
<p>06 Expedite the decision-making process by jointly developing criteria for evaluating ecosystem condition by ecosystem type and for prioritizing areas for the reintroduction of fire to meet resource objectives and reduce hazards. This process will identify those ecosystems where fire does not need to be reintroduced (fire is not a significant natural component, or the fire regime has not been altered); where fire is unlikely to succeed (fire would be adverse, such as areas significantly altered by fuel accumulations and species changes) - determine appropriate, ecologically sound alternatives for these areas; and where treatment with fire is essential or potentially effective (fire is needed to improve resource conditions or reduce risk and hazard).</p>	<p>The JSFP is sponsoring work that will provide tools and information that will support this type of work. However, criteria for evaluating ecosystem condition by ecosystem type and for prioritizing areas for the reintroduction of fire to meet resource objectives and reduce hazards have not been developed. Research is beginning to yield some results.</p>	<p>Continue to implement as part of normal agency policies and procedures with understanding that the original action item should be a long term goal and is not likely achievable in the short run. See also Implementation Actions 1a and 1b.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>07 Jointly implement ecosystem-based fire management programs to accomplish resource or landscape management objectives when consistent with land management plans. These programs will strive to maintain the long-term integrity of the natural resources and minimize the undesirable effects of fire; address the highest-priority needs in ecosystem assessment, monitoring, and management and determine the appropriate scope of fire use, consistent with historical fire regimes, including extent, timing, and risks and consequences; use existing tools and develop new ones to address today's more fragmented landscapes and to enhance our ability to manage wildland fires of varying size and intensity; and illustrate the management actions and their results by establishing or expanding fire management demonstration areas.</p>	<p>Various individual actions have been taken by some agencies to improve planning processes and coordinate some plans. In broad terms, ecosystem-based fire management programs to accomplish resource or landscape management objectives when consistent with land management plans have not been implemented. However, some examples of such planning do exist: Northwest Forest Plan, Interior Columbia Basin Management Plan, and Sierra Framework.</p>	<p>Continue to implement as part of normal agency policies and procedures with understanding that the original action item should be a long term goal and is not likely achievable in the short run. See also Implementation Actions 1a and 1b.</p>
<p>08 Conduct a collaborative fire research program to improve the predictive understanding of wildland fire and its relationship to ecosystem dynamics and to strengthen the technological capabilities and organizational framework necessary to sustain the role of fire in natural ecosystems.</p>	<p>The JFSP addresses the fuels management aspects of this action item. The recently expansion of the JFSP will allow additional issues to be addressed.</p>	<p>See Implementation Action 5a.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>09 Establish an interdisciplinary team that includes all agencies, regulators, and other partners to design a consistent fire- role and fire-use message for decision makers and the public. This message will describe and clearly explain issues such as ecosystem condition, risks, consequences (including public health impacts), and costs in open dialogue with internal and external constituents and be designed to maximize open communications and reduce polarization among conflicting interests regarding the use of fire.</p>	<p>Under the leadership of the National Wildfire Coordination Group a joint message was developed. This message has not been incorporated into agency policies and activities.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. See also Implementation Action 8.</p>
<p>10 Build on existing interagency efforts to develop and implement a strategic plan that educates the general public and agency personnel about the role of fire. As part of this effort, agencies will develop and widely transmit a clear message about the important role of fire as a natural process and the risks and consequences of its use and exclusion; integrate this message into existing agency communication systems, agency and partner initiatives (such as forest health, ecosystem management, etc.), and all external outreach efforts, including television, magazines, newspapers, and public meetings; encourage, create, and coordinate partnerships to achieve consistency in messages, build public trust, and obtain public opinion; and develop mandatory national and regional interagency training programs to instill in all employees an understanding of the role of fire in natural systems.</p>	<p>Various agencies have taken actions to provide information internally and externally regarding the role of fire. However, no interagency strategic plan has been developed.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. See also Implementation Action 8.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
USE OF WILDLAND FIRE		
11 Jointly develop programs to plan, fund, and implement an expanded program of prescribed fire in fire-dependent ecosystems.	Various joint planning and operational activities have taken place.	Continue to plan, fund, and implement interagency prescribed fire activities.
12 Facilitate the planning and implementation of landscape-scale prescribed burns across agency boundaries. Seek opportunities to enter into partnerships with tribal, State and private land managers to achieve this objective where appropriate.	Various joint planning and operational activities have taken place.	Agencies should continue to place a priority on cross boundary and landscape scale prescribed fire projects.
13 Require appropriate treatment of fuel hazards created by resource-management and land-use activities.	Required by each agency's policies.	Implementation is an ongoing process.
14 Conduct all prescribed fire projects consistent with land and resource management plans, public health considerations, and approved prescribed burn plans.	Required by each agency's policies.	Implementation is an ongoing process.
15 Implement the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) interagency prescribed fire qualification and certification standards.	Standards have been established and are being utilized.	Implementation is an ongoing process.
16 Train and maintain a qualified and adequate work force to plan and implement interagency prescribed fire projects safely and effectively, and make these personnel available when needed.	NWCG training and qualification standards are in place to support the training.	Implementation is an ongoing process. See also Implementation Action 6b.

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
17 Jointly develop simple, consistent hiring and contracting procedures for prescribed fire activities.	The Department of the Interior has approved the use of Administratively Determined hiring authority to conduct hazard reduction prescribed fire operations.	Implementation is an ongoing process. USDA Forest Service needs to develop simple, consistent hiring and contracting procedures for prescribed fire activities. Procedures should be consistent and applicable across agencies.
18 Conduct research and development on fuel treatment alternatives and techniques.	The JFSP specifically addresses this issue.	Continue to implement the JFSP and through Implementation Action 5a.
19 Seek authority to eliminate internal barriers to the transfer and use of funds for prescribed fire on non-federal lands and among federal agencies.	Report language in the 1998 appropriations bill reduces barriers to use of funds for prescribed fire among federal agencies by eliminating cross billing for personnel costs. Non-federal partnerships can be developed to do prescribed burning through some type of an agreement but there has to be benefit to the federal bureau to justify spending on private lands. Language in the 2001 appropriations bill allows use of funds for fuels treatments on non-federal lands.	Agencies must continue to remove internal administrative barriers related to “types” of fire. Agency procedures should be based on appropriate response to fire, not source of ignition or location.

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>20 Seek authority or provide administrative direction to eliminate barriers to carrying over from one year to the next all funds designated for prescribed fire.</p>	<p>The House Report on the 1998 appropriations bill eliminates the problem of carryover of prescribed fire funding by providing funding authority identical to that for wildland fire suppression. Up front allocation or budgeting for prescribed fire is no longer necessary.</p>	<p>No further action required.</p>
<p>21 Work with the Office of Personnel Management to acquire authority for hazard pay to compensate employees exposed to hazards while engaged in prescribed burning activities.</p>	<p>The Interior and Forest Service fire program managers do not support hazard duty pay for prescribed fire operations.</p>	<p>Drop this as an Action Item. However, to the greatest extent feasible, ensure that employees engaged in fire management activities are treated comparably, regardless of source or location of ignition. Address as a pay administration issue based on type of work employees perform.</p>
<p>22 Clarify that prescribed fire positions qualify for primary coverage under special firefighter retirement, and issue appropriate guidance to field offices.</p>	<p>Firefighter and law enforcement retirement specialists within the bureaus concurred that prescribed fire positions and work qualified for primary coverage under special retirement coverage for fire. Bureaus have issued memorandums to this effect.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. In particular, ensure that employees engaged in fuels management work are treated comparably.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>23 Jointly develop an assessment process for determining the probability of success and/or failure associated with the use of prescribed fire and evaluating potential positive and negative consequences. As a part of this process, the effects of not conducting the project will also be evaluated.</p>	<p>An adequate assessment process has not been developed.</p>	<p>Bureaus need to continue to develop and refine assessment processes. These processes should be developed consistently so that joint reviews are possible and so that results are comparable across agency lines. Give emphasis to identifying consequences of failure. See also Implementation Actions 9a and 10.</p>
<p>24 Jointly develop tools to identify, assess, and mitigate risks from prescribed fires.</p>	<p>Adequate tools to identify, assess, and mitigate risks from prescribed fires have not been developed.</p>	<p>Bureaus need to continue develop tools to identify, assess, and mitigate risks from prescribed fires. These tools should be developed consistently so that joint reviews are possible and so that results are comparable across agency lines. Give emphasis to identifying consequences of failure. See also Implementation Actions 9a and 10.</p>
<p>25 Create an organizational climate that supports employees who implement a properly planned prescribed fire program.</p>	<p>Agencies have developed awards and other recognition programs for the prescribed fire program. Some agencies have taken specific efforts to ensure that roles and responsibilities are clear.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
26 Reevaluate prescribed burn planning and execution requirements to ensure adequacy of direction without unnecessary constraint.	Department of the Interior Manual, DOI Bureau manuals and USDA Forest Service manuals have been updated to eliminate unnecessary constraints. Work continues with EPA and states to reduce constraints where appropriate. Manuals and handbook guidance will be continually evaluated to eliminate constraints.	Implementation is an ongoing process.
26a The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture will seek legislation providing for prompt reimbursement to private landowners for damages resulting from escaped prescribed fires originating on federal lands.	Upon further review, amending the Tort Claims Act for this purpose is not of significance for the implementation of the prescribed fire program.	Drop this as an Action Item.

PREPAREDNESS AND SUPPRESSION

27 Establish fire management qualifications based on program complexity, and staff existing and future agency administrator and fire management vacancies with individuals who meet these qualifications and who are committed to accomplishing the total fire management program.	The Interagency Fire Program Management Qualification Standards and Guidelines as been approved by the FFALC and has been sent to the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture for transmittal to the Office of Personnel Management for approval.	After OPM approval agencies should implement as part of normal agency activities.
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ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>28 Develop appropriate tools (training, handbooks, job performance guidelines, planning documents) necessary to assist administrators and fire management personnel to develop and manage a safe and effective fire management program.</p>	<p>Interagency tools such as Behave, FARSITE, the Implementation of Fire Policy handbook, the Interagency Fire Program Management Qualifications Standards Guidelines, Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation, and Fire Effects Monitoring have been developed and are in use by all agencies.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process.</p>
<p>29 Through training, job details, or other methods, increase experience and fire qualifications of Agency Administrators and fire management personnel.</p>	<p>Agencies are implementing this recommendation through a variety of training actions. Some agencies have mandated particular courses for agency administrators.</p>	<p>Continue to implement as part of normal agency policies and procedures to ensure that all Agency Administrators and fire management personnel are appropriately qualified as quickly as possible.</p>
<p>30 Enforce a system of accountability to manage a safe and efficient fire management program based on standard job performance requirements. These requirements should include items specifically related to safety and will recognize and reward success and provide disciplinary action for failure.</p>	<p>Agencies are implementing this recommendation on an individual basis. Standard job performance requirements are developed but not yet implemented throughout all agencies.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>31 Establish partnerships with contractors; cooperators, such as rural and volunteer fire departments; and others, which encourage and assist them to adopt and implement federal standards for training, qualifications, firefighting equipment, personal protective equipment, etc.</p>	<p>A number of national and local efforts are underway in each agency to improve training, assistance, and other means of working with cooperators. The September 2000 Report to the President and the subsequent 2001 appropriations bill includes additional funding to support improved cooperation with state, rural, and volunteer fire organizations.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process.</p>
<p>32 Define values to be protected, working in cooperation with State, local, and tribal governments, permittees, and public users. Criteria will include environmental, commodity, social, economic, political, public health, and other values.</p>	<p>The agencies developed and adopted a Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) to address values to be protected and the other criteria identified in this action item. This document is used by all agencies on incidents that escape initial attack and require a greater commitment of firefighting resources.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. Agencies should ensure that the WFSA process appropriately defines values to be protected and is a useful tool for incident commanders.</p>
<p>33 Develop long-range interagency wildland fire management objectives, based on values to be protected, across geographic and agency boundaries.</p>	<p>Implementation of this action item is carried out at the local level as an ongoing, long-term effort during fire management planning. Guidance is contained in bureau manuals. Implementation across agency and geographic boundaries has been limited.</p>	<p>Continue to implement as part of normal agency policies and procedures with emphasis on developing objectives across geographic and agency boundaries.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
34 Develop interagency preparedness planning based on established interagency wildland fire management objectives.	A national preparedness plan is incorporated in the National Interagency Mobilization Guide, which is adopted on an interagency basis annually. Annual preparedness plans are developed and included in each Geographic Area's Mobilization Guide.	Continue to implement as part of normal agency policies and procedures with emphasis on the local, unit level. Continued work on cross agency fire management planning at the local, unit level is required.
35 Develop interagency strategies to implement preparedness plans. These strategies must consider both initial attack and extended attack capability and should include the full range of available cooperator and contractor resources.	Preparedness plans are implemented at the geographic and local levels.	Continue to implement as part of normal agency policies and procedures with emphasis on developing objectives across geographic and agency boundaries.
36 Develop consistent language to be included in budget appropriations, enabling the full spectrum of fire management actions on wildland fires.	The Department of the Interior and the USDA Forest Service have worked together to develop consistent language for wildland fire appropriations.	Implementation is an ongoing process. All agencies should continue to develop consistent budget requests and implement consistently at the national and field level. As new agencies, such as DOD and DOE, join the interagency program, their budgets should be consistent with those of DOI and USDA.
37 Work together and with other affected cooperators, groups, and individuals to develop and implement fire prevention plans to prevent unauthorized ignition of wildland fire.	All agencies have developed and implemented various fire prevention plans, in conjunction with cooperators, partners, and other groups.	Implementation is an ongoing process.

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<p>38 Provide first for firefighter and public safety. Once people are committed to an incident, those resources become the highest value to be protected and receive the highest management considerations.</p>	<p>All agencies have implemented strong programs to emphasize that public and firefighter safety is the primary objectives on a wildland fire incident.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. This message needs continual re-enforcement and emphasis.</p>
<p>39 Protect property and natural and cultural resources secondary to firefighter and public safety.</p>	<p>Changes have been made in the National Mobilization Guide and in bureau policy statements. Training materials have been revised and developed.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. See also the new policy statement on Protection Priorities (changed from 1995).</p>
<p>40 Base the second protection priority on the relative values of property and natural and cultural resources when firefighting personnel and equipment are limited.</p>	<p>Changes have been made in the National Mobilization Guide and in bureau policy statements. Training materials have been revised and developed.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. See also the new policy statement on Protection Priorities (changed from 1995).</p>
<p>41 Use standard criteria to assess overall suppression and support requirements.</p>	<p>Interagency standards and criteria have been developed and are in use by all agencies.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process.</p>
<p>42 Examine and identify, on an interagency basis, employee availability at each organizational level, based on fire qualifications and other necessary skills to provide needed suppression and support. This will include planning for both initial attack and extended attack at the local level.</p>	<p>Some agencies have conducted some workload analyses. However, there has been no interagency effort.</p>	<p>Implement as part of Implementation Action 6a.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>43 Develop and utilize, to the maximum extent possible, the concept of closest initial attack forces and interagency staffing for wildland fire suppression and support, optimizing the use of the federal and non-federal work force. Qualified contractors are a component to be considered in suppression and support planning.</p>	<p>Resource coordination is carried out through the Geographic Areas and at local levels through dispatch organizations. Local MOU's for sharing resources, including state and local government, continue to be developed.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process.</p>
<p>44 Use an analysis and decision making process that considers, on an interagency basis, existing and potential fire severity; suppression resource commitment and availability; prescribed fire activity; environmental, social, and political concerns; and other pertinent factors.</p>	<p>The interagency Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) is used on incidents that escape initial attack and require a greater commitment of firefighting resources. The interagency Allocation of Resources protocols are used to address multiple incidents and complex situations.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process.</p>
<p>45 Develop interagency severity plans to provide increased fire suppression capability in emergency situations, including accessing additional resources, pre-positioning resources, and training emergency firefighters.</p>	<p>Local units and interagency partners coordinate resources as dictated by the severity of local conditions. National Preparedness Levels dictate the need for national-level contingencies.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. Ensure that severity requests are handled on an interagency basis.</p>
<p>46 Develop a standard interagency planning, budgeting, and staffing process.</p>	<p>Fire management planning and budgeting systems used by the agencies utilize similar terms, common goals, values and assumptions to gain similar results within the planning and budgeting process. A single, standard system is not feasible due to the difference in missions of bureaus, but outcomes from the process can be compared.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE PROTECTION		
47 Adopt an operational role in the Wildland Urban Interface that includes wildland firefighting, hazard fuels reduction, cooperative prevention and education, and technical assistance.	Bureau manual updates contain language defining the operational role in Wildland Urban Interface areas. In some areas significant progress has been achieved with implementing the federal operational role.	Implementation is an ongoing process. In particular, Sub-Geographic Areas and local units, as appropriate, should work actively with partners and cooperators. See also Implementation Actions 3a and 3b.
48 Identify and fund, on a cost-share basis, high-priority fuels management activities on federal lands adjacent to Wildland Urban Interface areas identified through a fire protection assessment process that considers relative values to be protected. These activities may involve adjacent non-federal lands.	Additional funding for fuels management activities has been included in Department of the Interior and the USDA Forest Service wildland fire management budgets since 1995. The 2001 appropriations bill includes both substantial new funding for fuels management activities and direction to identify high-priority areas.	Continue to implement fuels management activities, especially the program proposed in the September 2000 Report to the President and the subsequent Fiscal Year 2001 appropriations.
49 Lead by example in utilizing fire-safe standards at federal facilities.	All agencies adhere to local building codes, but fire-safe standards have not been considered in the design of their facilities.	Agencies must follow fire safe standards at all new and existing facilities.
50 Ensure that all Wildland Urban Interface areas are covered by Fire Protection Agreements; renegotiate existing agreements as needed to reflect a federal responsibility that is compatible with federal policy and to ensure that State and local responsibilities are apportioned appropriately. Agreements will address all partners in these areas.	Agencies have developed and updated fire protection agreements in many areas.	Implementation is an ongoing process. Develop agreements where none exist. Note that role of federal agencies is limited to entering into agreements with non-federal entities. Establishment of Fire Protection Agreements and organizations among non-federal entities is a non-federal responsibility.

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
51 Incorporate Wildland Urban Interface considerations into agreements, operating plans, land management plans, and agency Fire Management Plans.	Agencies are incorporating Wildland Urban Interface considerations into agreements, operating plans, land management plans, and agency Fire Management Plans.	Implementation is an ongoing process.
52 Charge the National Wildfire Coordinating Group with identifying and establishing a data-collection mechanism, in coordination with tribal, State, and local governments, insurance industry, National Fire Protection Association, and others, to better assess the nature and scope of the Wildland Urban Interface fire problem.	No national level data collection mechanism, or strategic effort for such, has been developed.	Implement, as appropriate, as part of Implementation Action 5b.
52a Charge the National Wildfire Coordinating Group with identifying specialized skills and training that are needed by both wildland and structural fire agencies in the interface and incorporating those requirements into the Wildland Fire Qualification System to provide for safe and efficient operations in the Wildland Urban Interface.	Agencies use NWCG approved training including the Fire Operation in the Urban Interface (S-205) course to meet this need. Additional planning and operations course work is being developed as a tiered approach with the S-205 course.	Implementation is an ongoing process. Adopt tiered courses as they become available.
52b Charge the National Wildfire Coordinating Group with developing operational curricula, in cooperation with the National Fire Academy, for protection in the Wildland Urban Interface.	One course developed and in use; additional course and a workbook still under development (expected in 2001)	Implementation is an ongoing process.

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>52c Charge the National Wildfire Coordinating Group with implementing training through interagency systems and joint training activities and augmenting fire training not available at the State and local levels. <i>Staffed to NWCG TWT for implementation monitoring</i></p>	<p>Federal fire management training courses are available to personnel from non-federal agencies. WUI issues also incorporated into standard NWCG curriculum.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process.</p>
<p>52d Charge the National Wildfire Coordinating Group with identifying and implementing equipment standards for Wildland Urban Interface operation.</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>No further action required beyond normal updating of standards as appropriate.</p>
<p>53 Increase emphasis on cost-share program assistance in the Wildland Urban Interface through the USDA Forest Service State and Private Cooperative Fire Program, including training and equipping of State and local agencies. Assess and revise, as needed, other mechanisms to ensure funding is directed to agencies with Wildland Urban Interface responsibilities.</p>	<p>The USDA Forest Service, in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and National Volunteer Fire Council, is implementing this action item through the Federal Excess Personal Property, Rural Community Fire Protection, and Rural Fire Prevention and Control programs. Over a half million dollars in grants were provided to the states to assist with Wildland Urban Interface projects in 1999. This included providing equipment and training to local fire agencies. More grants are planned in future years.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. Additional funding and expanded programs for USDA Forest Service and DOI in the Fiscal Year 2001 appropriations will enhance implementation of this action item.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>54 Educate agency personnel on federal cost-share and grant programs, Fire Protection Agreements, and other related federal programs so the full array of assistance available to States and local agencies is understood.</p>	<p>The USDA Forest Service Cooperative Fire Program Coordinators in each region are sharing information on assistance available to communities and states through the use of Agency personnel. The BIA provides this information to the tribes through its respective programs. Not applicable to other agencies.</p>	<p>Continue to implement as part of normal agency policies and procedures, including new programs in the Department of the Interior.</p>
<p>55 Participate in the development and execution of a national Wildland Urban Interface fire hazard mapping scoping study in cooperation with tribal, State, and local governments and the private sector.</p>	<p>Combined with Action Item 83.</p>	<p>See Action Item 83</p>
<p>56 Increase communication with Wildland Urban Interface property owners, planners, elected officials, and others through education and awareness messages about the role of fire in wildland ecosystem health, inherent risks in Wildland Urban Interface areas, available prevention and protection measures, and federal disaster assistance programs.</p>	<p>Agencies have ongoing activities with geographic and local prevention programs and teams. The National FIREWISE Communities program has initiated a series of national and regional workshops designed to help local officials understand the risk associated with the interface and the potential solutions. The workshops bring together all levels of program managers and decision makers.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
57 Expand programs, curricula, and distribution systems for Wildland Urban Interface educational materials in cooperation with structural protection agencies.	Various ongoing agency and interagency efforts through the NWCG Wildland Urban Interface Working Team and through such activities as the interagency, public-private FIREWISE program.	Implementation is an ongoing process.
58 Support and participate in public education efforts in cooperation with the Insurance Institute for Property Loss Reduction (IIPLR) and fire and building code organizations.	Through the FIREWISE program and other activities, the agencies have worked with insurance and fire and building code organizations.	Implementation is an ongoing process.
59 Utilize the recently rechartered National Wildland Urban Interface Fire Protection Program, which includes the Department of the Interior, Department of Agriculture, FEMA's U.S. Fire Administration, National Association of State Foresters, National Association of State Fire Marshals, and National Fire Protection Association, to focus on Wildland Urban Interface fire protection issues and actions.	The NWCG Wildland Urban Interface Working Team continues to address Wildland Urban Interface fire protection issues and actions	Implementation is an ongoing process.
60 Utilize the Western Governors' Association (WGA) as a catalyst for involving State agencies, as well as local and private stakeholders, with the objective of developing an implementation plan to achieve a uniform, integrated national approach to hazard and risk assessment and fire prevention and protection in the Wildland Urban Interface.	The National Association of State Foresters (NASF) agreed to monitor progress on various intergovernmental and non-governmental implementation activities in the WGA report.	Continue to use WGA, NASF, and other non-federal organizations to develop uniform, integrated national approaches to hazard and risk assessment and fire prevention and protection in the Wildland Urban Interface.

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
61 Work with the States to develop viable and comprehensive wildland fire hazard mitigation plans and performance-based partnerships.	Principal effort to implement this action item has come through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) pre- and post-disaster mitigation planning programs and guidance.	All agencies should continue to work with the States to develop viable and comprehensive wildland fire hazard mitigation plans. FEMA's mitigation planning programs, including the Project initiative, should continue to be a key aspect of implementing this action item.

COORDINATED PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

62 Develop and utilize consistent fire management qualification standards and specific selection criteria for fire program managers.	The Interagency Fire Program Management Qualification Standards and Guidelines as been approved by the FFALC and has been sent to the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture for transmittal to the Office of Personnel Management for approval.	Departments of the Interior and Agriculture concur with the Interagency Fire Program Management Qualification Standards and Guidelines and seek OPM approval. After approval agencies implement as part of normal agency activities.
63 Establish job performance standards for Agency Administrators and fire managers that clearly reflect the complexity and scope of fire management responsibilities.	Agency performance appraisal systems generally do not allow specific fire management job performance elements. The Bureau of Land Management has identified performance standards in its fire management operations guide, but there remains no means of assessing consequences of poor performance.	All agencies should identify fire management job performance standards (consistent across agencies). Agencies must determine how to link these performance standards with performance appraisal.

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>64 Provide consistent and adequate training for Agency Administrators commensurate with their roles and responsibilities in fire management.</p>	<p>The Fire Management Leadership course at the National Advanced Resource Technology Center (NARTC) provides training for unit level managers and similar Agency Administrators. Similar training for other Agency Administrators is often not available.</p>	<p>All Geographic Areas need to regularly offer the Fire Management Leadership course for Agency Administrators in their Geographic Areas.</p>
<p>65 Ensure that Agency Administrators and fire program managers are held accountable for conducting the fire program in accordance with established policies, procedures, standards, and direction.</p>	<p>Each agency conducts regular readiness and program reviews within its overall organization. These reviews provide the information necessary to hold Agency Administrators and fire program managers accountable.</p>	<p>Continue to conduct regular reviews of programs and implementation at various organizational levels. Agency leaders must hold Agency Administrators and fire program managers accountable for the results of those reviews.</p>
<p>66 Ensure that trained and certified employees participate in the wildland fire program as the situation demands; employees with operational, administrative, or other skills support the wildland fire program as needed; and administrators are responsible, accountable, and make employees available.</p>	<p>In general agencies are experiencing difficulties with widespread training, certification, and availability of employees. This action item has not been successfully implemented.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. Agencies should place an emphasis on training employees and making them available. See also Implementation Action 6a.</p>
<p>67 Jointly manage fire use and suppression resources and activities to achieve accomplishment of both programs concurrently.</p>	<p>The interagency Allocation of Resources protocols provide the means for implementing this action item.</p>	<p>The Allocation of Resources protocols must be implemented nationally, at each Geographic Area, and at the sub-Geographic Area level.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>68 Jointly develop a standard methodology for measuring and reporting fire management efficiency that includes commodity, non-commodity, and social values. This methodology should specifically address, among other considerations, the costs and benefits of large-fire suppression.</p>	<p>Not done.</p>	<p>Drop as a specific action item. This issue should be addressed through ongoing interagency program management and evaluation activities. See Implementation Actions 9a and 10.</p>
<p>69 Develop criteria to be used in evaluating alternative fire management organizations. Some examples of criteria include: meeting land management objectives, reintroducing fire in the ecosystem, ensuring cost effectiveness, effectively dealing with wildland urban interface fire protection, and using partnerships and cooperative relationships.</p>	<p>See #70</p>	<p>See #70</p>
<p>70 Use these criteria to analyze, with cooperators, a broad range of organizational alternatives on a national, regional, and local basis. Examples of alternatives include a single federal fire organization; contracts with States, private sector, tribal governments, military, or combinations thereof; and status quo.</p>	<p>Each agency conducts ongoing reviews of its fire management organizations. The USDA Forest Service sponsored a detailed analysis of options for its organization. No broad scale interagency analyses or reviews have taken place. Recently an interagency effort has begun to look at alternative approaches for large fire organizations.</p>	<p>Address issues of organizational structure and coordination through individual agency reviews and evaluations and through Implementation Actions 6a & 6b.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>71 Jointly identify the legal context for reintroducing fire into wildlands and develop options for accomplishment. Options may include modifying regulations to address ecological processes where appropriate; exercising broader interpretations of policy; or resolving obstacles at regional and local levels, including those on non-federal lands. Based on this interpretation, develop standardized agreements or new agreements that permit these activities.</p>	<p>Not done.</p>	<p>This type of analysis no longer necessary for implementation of Federal Fire Policy. No further action required.</p>
<p>72 Clarify and differentiate between agency liability and personal liability resulting from prescribed fire, based on legal review and interpretation of tort law.</p>	<p>This type of information has been developed for specific presentations at various fire management courses, but has not been generally documented.</p>	<p>Include standard information clarifying and differentiating between agency liability and personal liability in fire management courses and other materials for employees and agency administrators.</p>
<p>73 Early in the process, involve public health and environmental regulators in developing the most workable application of policies and regulations.</p>	<p>Various efforts have taken place on a national and local level to involve public health and environmental regulators. These activities have focused on air quality issues.</p>	<p>Implementation is an ongoing process. Land managing agencies must continue to include all federal and non-federal regulatory agencies in development of policies, procedures, plans and other aspects of implementing Federal Fire Policy.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>74 The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture will direct the Office of the Solicitor and the Office of the General Counsel, in coordination with the Department of Justice and other appropriate federal agencies, to conduct and publish a comprehensive legal review on Wildland Urban Interface fire protection to provide the legal foundation for federal actions. This review will address current authority under federal laws such as the Organic Act, National Forest Management Act, Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.</p>	<p>Not completed. Upon further consideration this review was determined to be unnecessary to implement the wildland urban interface aspects of the Federal Fire Policy.</p>	<p>No further action required.</p>
<p>75 The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture will direct the Office of the Solicitor and the Office of the General Counsel, in coordination with the Department of Justice and other appropriate federal agencies, to conduct and publish a comprehensive legal review on Wildland Urban Interface fire protection to provide the legal foundation for federal actions. This review will address the subjects of tort liability, budget authorities, cooperative agreements, mitigation activities, and natural resource protection and environmental laws.</p>	<p>Not completed. Upon further consideration this review was determined to be unnecessary to implement the wildland urban interface aspects of the Federal Fire Policy.</p>	<p>No further action required.</p>

	ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
76	The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, together with the Secretary of Commerce, will assess current and projected requirements for fire weather products necessary to support total wildland fire management program needs.	The NWCG Fire Weather Working Team has attempted to assess current and projected requirements for fire weather products as part of its ongoing efforts to address fire weather issues. To date it has not completed this overall assessment.	See Implementation Action 9e.
77	The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, together with the Secretary of Commerce, will evaluate alternative methods, including non-federal sources, to provide weather service to the agencies' fire management programs.	The NWCG Fire Weather Working Team has attempted to develop a national strategy that would include an evaluation of alternative methods to provide weather service to the agencies' fire management programs. To date it has not completed this national strategy.	See Implementation Action 9e.
78	The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture will seek commitment from the Secretary of Commerce to research and develop technology to provide accurate, long-range weather forecasts.	Not completed.	See Implementation Action 9e.
79	Standardize fire statistics and develop an easily accessible common database.	Not completed. This is part of National Interagency Fire Statistics Information Project (NIFSIP) of NWCG. NWCG has placed a low priority on this relative to other projects.	Implement, as appropriate, as part of Implementation Action 5b.

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>80 Jointly identify, develop, and use tools needed for ecosystem-based fire management programs with mechanisms to integrate fire-related databases with other systems. These tools will include the collection of ecosystem-related data such as disturbance regimes, historical fire patterns, response to management actions, and others; consistent methods to track and access fire-use statistics and administrative costs; and mechanisms to transfer and exchange fire management systems information.</p>	<p>Some work sponsored by the JFSP addresses the issue of the collection of ecosystem-related data such as disturbance regimes and historical fire patterns. No other work on this item has occurred.</p>	<p>Implement, as appropriate, as part of Implementation Actions 5a and 5b.</p>
<p>81 Cooperate with tribal, State, and local governments to establish a data-collection mechanism to better assess the nature and scope of the Wildland Urban Interface fire problem.</p>	<p>This has been incorporated into the work of the National Interagency Fire Statistics Information Project (NIFSIP). See Action Item 79.</p>	<p>Implement, as appropriate, as part of Implementation Action 5b.</p>
<p>82 Take a lead role in the adoption of the National Fire Incident Reporting System standards for all fire agencies that operate in the Wildland Urban Interface and modify existing reports to reflect Wildland Urban Interface fire protection data.</p>	<p>States have been encouraged to participate in the National Incident Reporting System established by the National Fire Administration. More work needs to be done to establish a national reporting system with involvement of both states and federal agencies. However, little progress has been made in incorporating wildland urban interface data into NFRS.</p>	<p>Implement, as appropriate, as part of Implementation Action 5b.</p>

ACTION ITEM FROM 1995 REPORT	STATUS	RECOMMENDED DISPOSITION
<p>83 Complete a national Wildland Urban Interface fire hazard scoping and mapping study in partnership with the Western Governors' Association; tribal, State, and local governments; and the private sector.</p>	<p>Not done. Implementation of the September 2000 Report to the President and the programs funded in the 2001 appropriations may result in additional hazard scoping and mapping. However, this is not expected to be performed at a national scale.</p>	<p>Continue to implement as part of normal agency programs and procedures.</p>