

**NEW MEXICO MASTER COOPERATIVE WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT**

**RESPONSE AGREEMENT**

**COST SHARE AGREEMENT**

The purpose of this Cost Share Agreement is to provide for a coordinated cooperative fire suppression operation on this incident and to describe the cost share methodology. This Cost Share Agreement is entered into as per Clause 51 of the New Mexico Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management Response Agreement.

1. Incident Name: **MILLER FIRE**      Origin Date: 6/29/2019      Time: 2015
2. Township: 33S                      Range: 22W      Section: 12      Base MDM: New Mexico
3. Estimated Size: 5772 acres at the time of this agreement
4. Agency:              USDA Forest Service, Coronado National Forest      Fire Account: 0305 P3MC0X19  
Agency:              State of New Mexico, Division of Forestry              Fire Account: 19-90450544N

5. The agreement becomes effective on July 04, 2019 and remains in effect until the Type 2 Incident Management Team 4 transfers command, or until otherwise amended or terminated.

6. Position	Name	Agency
Incident Commander:	Carl Schwope	USFWS 512-234-1999
Finance Section Chief:	Scott Turner	USFS 505-270-0831

7. Agency Representatives participating in development of Cost Share Agreements:

Agency:	USDA Forest Service Coronado National Forest	State of New Mexico Forestry Division
Name:	Deb Bumpus	Donald Griego
Title:	Deputy Forest Supervisor 530-394-8050	NM Deputy State Forester 505-476-3349

8. There are several ways to determine the best cost share mix. Below are examples of five cost share possibilities.
- A. Each agency pays for its own resources – fire suppression efforts are primarily on jurisdictional responsibility lands.
  - B. Each agency pays for its own resources – services rendered approximate the percentages of jurisdictional responsibility, but not necessarily performed on those lands.
  - C. Cost share by percentage of ownership or agency jurisdictional responsibility.
  - D. Cost is apportioned by geographic division. Examples of geographic divisions are: Divisions A and B (using a map as an attachment); privately owned property with structures; or specific locations such as campgrounds.
  - E. Reconciliation of daily estimates (for larger, multi-day incidents). This method relies upon daily agreed-to cost estimates, using Incident Action Plans or other means to determine multi-agency contributions.

The following are not reimbursable:

- Responsibility for tort claims or compensation for injury costs;
- Non-suppression rehabilitation costs are excluded from this agreement;
- Non-expendable property purchases (are the responsibility of the Agency making the purchase);
- Support costs (i.e. office dispatchers, warehouse workers, etc.) unless they are charging to an emergency code assigned to the incident.

9. Fire Suppression Costs for the Miller Fire will be assigned to the agencies as described below:

The Miller Fire was managed in accordance with a long standing partnership between local landowners and land management agencies, commonly known as the Malpai Borderlands Group (MBG). In general, members of the MBG want fire on the landscape. They want to allow fire to burn across their private land for restoration purposes, and they prefer minimal suppression effort. Point protection of significant values, like buildings and other infrastructure, is the preferred fire management method.

Because of this understanding about natural fire, the US Forest Service chose to provide point protection while allowing the fire to move across a segment of private land so that it could join another unit of the National Forest System lands. Working with the area's permittees, they found a logical boundary to confine the fire.

Doing so provides several benefits including:

- a. Minimizes exposure to firefighters by providing point protection on a much smaller parcel of land
- b. Achieves restoration of the landscape
- c. Provides a safe, defensible location for firefighting effort.

While the US Forest Service commenced firefighting activities in good faith with the MBG, this effort caused the fire to cross 16 acres of private land, which is under the emergency services protection of the State of New Mexico. Communications with the State started prior to the fire crossing to private.

Fire suppression costs will be divided between the agencies as described below:

USFS Coronado National Forest: 100%  
State of New Mexico Forestry Division: 0%

10. This Cost Share Agreement is out best judgment of agencies cost responsibilities for this incident on the date / time shown. Future amendments to this Cost Share Agreement may be necessary, as conditions and fire spread change. This Cost Share Agreement can be negotiated in the field but only the State Forester or her designee has the authority to enter into a Cost Share Agreement on behalf of the State of New Mexico Division of Forestry.

Signature: Deb Bumpus  
Deb Bumpus

Agency: USDA Forest Service  
Coronado National Forest

Date:

Telephone: 520-388-8307

Signature: Donald Griego  
Donald Griego

Agency: State of New Mexico  
Forestry Division

Date: 07/12/2019

Telephone: 505-476-3349