

What to do when you're expecting, (a fire)

Steve Buckley National Park Service California Invasive Plant Management Team

With contributions from: Cedar Drake (NPS), Eamon Engber (NPS), Patty Johnson (NPS), Jen Gibson (NPS), Nelson Siefkin (NPS), Matt Brooks (USGS)



Cal-IPC Symposium, October 25, 2023

California Invasive Plant Management Team

SF Bay Area Network

Point Reyes National Seashore (PORE)
Golden Gate National Parks (GOGA, MUWO, FOPO, PRES)
John Muir National Historic Site (JOMU)
Pinnacles National Park (PINN)

Mediterranean Network

Cabrillo National Monument (CABR)
Channel Islands National Park (CHIS)
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SAMO)

Klamath Network

Crater Lake National Park (CRLA)
Lassen Volcanic National Park (LAVO)
Lava Beds National Monument (LABE)
Oregon Caves National Monument (ORCA)
Redwood National Park (REDW)
Whiskeytown National Recreation Area (WHIS)

Sierra Nevada Network

Devil's Postpile National Monument (DEPO)
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park (SEKI)
Yosemite National Park (YOSE)







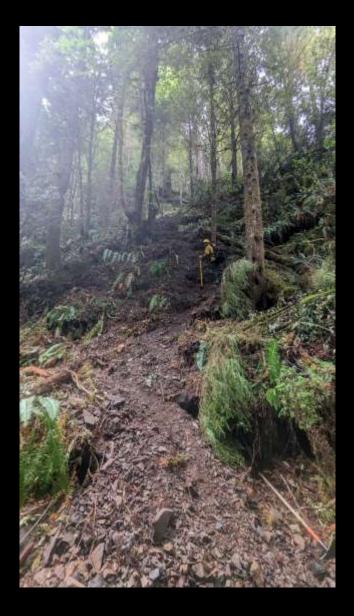
Dixie Fire, Lassen Volcanic NP, August 2021

Natural resource managers can guide and influence firefighting activity in ways that greatly reduce the risk of invasive plant spread. Doing so effectively, however, requires effective preparation.



Map for Today's workshop

- Introduction
- Fire Operations 101
 - Anthony Sandrini, FMO for Santa Monica Mountains NRA
- Pre-planning for Invasive Plants: Resource Advising
 - Cedar Drake, Ecologist, Pacific West Region READ Coordinator
- Break
- The Risk Informed Decision and the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS)
 - Eamon Engber, Pacific West Region Fire planner
- Your unit is on Fire, now what?
- Q&A





Cal-IPC & NPS Collaboration

Originated in a survey of 13 NPS units across California that led to 2 workshops in 2023, supporting NPS Resource Managers

January 2023: (workshop link)

- Focused on preparedness, role and relevance of Resource Advising (READ)

March 2023: (workshop link)

-Focused on what happens during fire operations and then post-fire with suppression repair and burned area rehabilitation

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WEED CONTROL DURING WILDFIRE RESPONSE

Survey Results

Submitted to: Steve Buckley, PhD

By:

California Invasive Plant Council

Jutta C. Burger, PhD

Doug Johnson





Cal-IPC & NPS Collaboration

Preparing for Wildland Fire: A Step-by-Step Guide for NPS Invasive Plant Managers

Preparing for Wildland Fire:

A Step-by-Step Guide for NPS Invasive Plant Managers





ildfires – and wildfire response – present a significant risk for the spread of invasive plants. In addition to spreading invasives already on site, firefighting personnel and equipment may introduce new invasive species. Natural resource managers can guide and influence firefighting activity in ways that greatly reduce the risk of invasive plant spread. Doing so effectively, however, requires effective preparation. This guide describes steps that can be taken by National Park Service (NPS) natural resource managers to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the introduction and spread of invasive species before and during wildland fire incidents.

Although some protocols are specific to the NPS, the overall approach is generally transferable to other organizations.

When a fire starts, critical information regarding sensitive park resources must be readily available and organized in a manner which can be efficiently shared with fire operations personnel. Considerable impact often occurs within the first operational periods of wildfire response, and typically little time is available to gather plant distribution information, produce maps, procure weed wash equipment, and provide training. Such resource protection measures need to be accomplished in advance of an emergency.





National Invasive Species Council (NISC)/Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) developed a collaborative partnership in 2020:

- 1. Identify goals and opportunities for coordination
- 2. Leverage federal actions across and between the wildland fire and invasive species communities
- 3. Build collaboration and engagement with non-federal partners





What are NISC and WFLC?

The National Invasive Species Council was established by Executive Order 13112 in 1999.

The purpose of NISC is to provide the vision and leadership to coordinate, sustain, and expand federal efforts to safeguard the interests of the United States from the negative impacts of invasive species.

NISC is co-chaired by the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, and Interior, and includes representation from nine other Federal Departments and four White House offices.



What are NISC and WFLC?

The Wildland Fire Leadership Council was established by an MOU of the Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Homeland Security, and the Interior in 2002.

The purpose of WFLC is to provide strategic recommendations to ensure policy coordination, accountability, and effective implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and related long-term strategies to ensure effective and efficient wildland fire management, promote fire-adapted communities, and create resilient landscapes.

WFLC has 19 members representing Federal departments and agencies as well as elected state, Tribal Nation, and local governments.



National Invasive Species Council (NISC)/Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) Co-chairs Departmental Memo (Oct. 2022):

Integrating and Coordinating
Wildland Fire and Invasive Species
Management Efforts







Memorandum October 12, 2022

To: Assistant Secretaries, Heads of Agencies and Offices

From: National Invasive Species Council Co-Chairs:

Janet Coit, Acting Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere

and Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA U.S. Department of Commerce

Andrea Delgado, Chief of Staff, Natural Resources and Environment U.S. Department of Agriculture

Eric Werwa, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Policy and Environmental

Management

U.S. Department of the Interior

Wildland Fire Leadership Council Co-Chairs:

Meryl Harrell, Deputy Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment

U.S. Department of Agriculture Waryl Harrell

Joan Mooney, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Policy, Management

nd Budget

Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Assistant Secretary.

Policy, Management and Budget

U.S. Department of the Interior

Subject: Integrating and Coordinating Wildland Fire and Invasive Species Management

Efforts

I. Purpose

This memorandum provides direction for the Departments' Agencies and Offices to provide appropriate support and resources to the integration and coordination of wildland fire and invasive species management efforts.

II. Background

The interaction between invasive species, particularly invasive plants, and wildfire is presenting increased risks to the integrity of natural ecosystems, human safety, and rural economies in areas





Integrating and Coordinating Wildland Fire and Invasive Species Management Efforts

- 1. Facilitate coordination and communication at national and regional levels
- 2. Crosswalk with agency geographic prioritization efforts
- 3. Develop science support for implementation
- 4. Identify emerging needs related to memo priorities with our partners and targeted audiences
- 5. Develop a "Framework" to facilitate implementation and collaboration across federal agencies and non-federal partners





Becoming Literate in Fire Terminology

Abbreviations

Note: More information on abbreviations can be found on the NWCG Glossary of Wildland Fire.

- <u>-</u>
de
rategies & Tactics
ement (WFDSS)
ewardship & Sci-
nief
lvisor
Measure
on Support Sys-
Area



Resource Advisor (READ)

- Mission: The Resource Advisor provides professional knowledge and expertise for the protection of natural, cultural, and other resources within an emergency incident environment
- Strategic priorities:
 - Provide for safety first
 - Provide management recommendations to protect and serve natural, cultural, and other resources
 - Be sensitive to the objectives of managing the incident







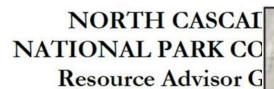
What is Resource Advising?

Prevention, minimization, or mitigation of impacts to:

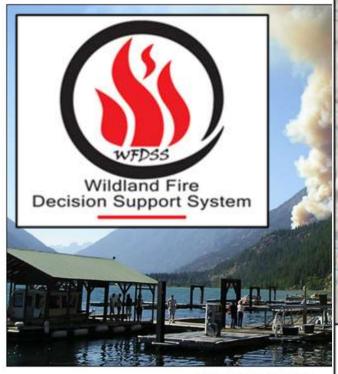
- sensitive natural & cultural resources
- specially designated areas
- infrastructure and utilities



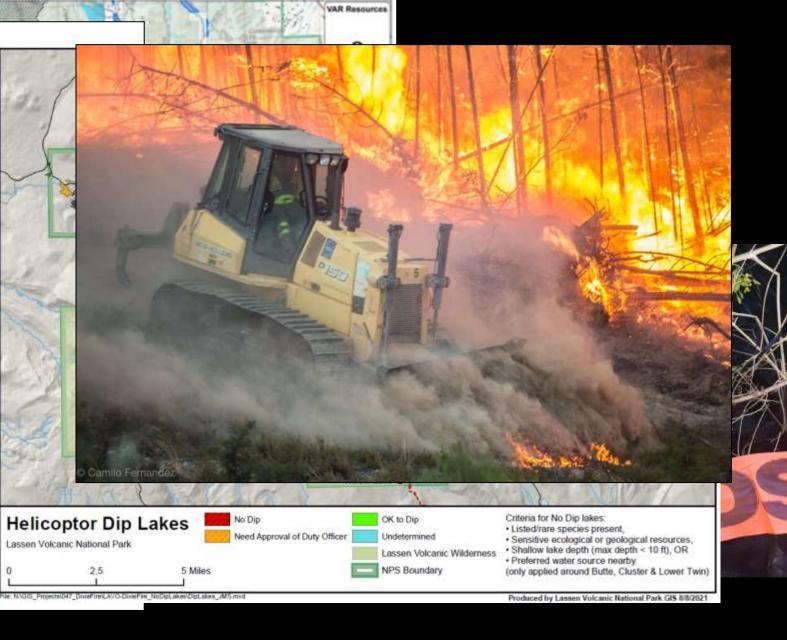




updated September 9, 2022



RAINBOW BRIDGE FIRE 2010





Fire Operations 101



Tony Sandrini, Fire Management Officer Serving Cabrillo NM, Channel Islands National Park, and Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area



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Pre-Planning for Invasives: Resource Advising

Cedar Drake

PWR FAM Resource Advisor Coordinator cedar_drake@nps.gov 360.630.3231





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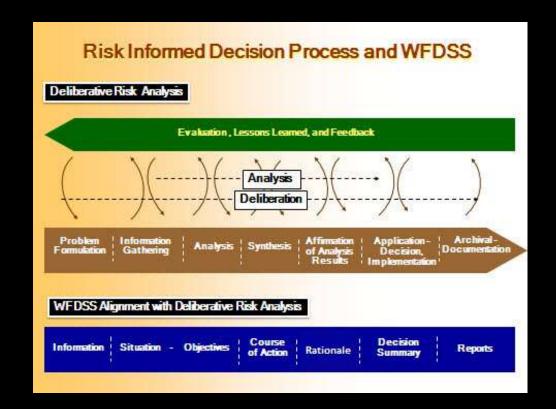
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Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS)

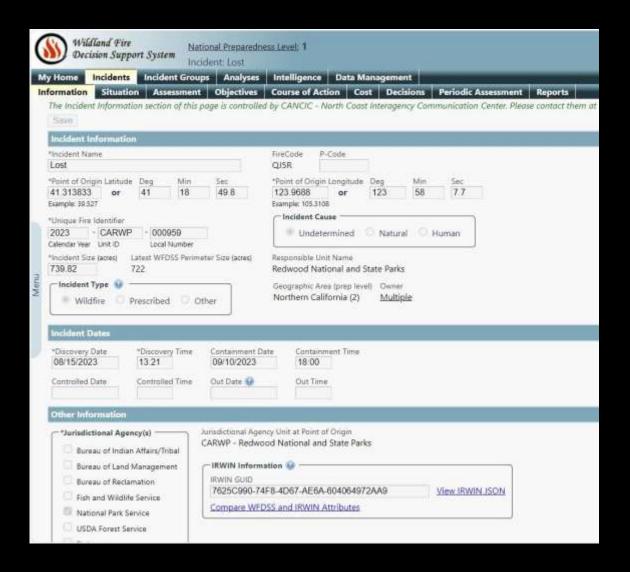
- Replaced the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) in 2007
- USGS system, undergoing revision presently (NextGen WFDSS)
- Supports Agency Administrators (AA) in their decision-making process
- Pre-loads local information, fire behavior analysis, long-term analysis





What WFDSS is and is not

- <u>Is</u>: a risk informed decision tool for federal Agency Administrators (AA)
- <u>Is not</u>: applicable to state and local incidents
- <u>Is</u>: powerful tool to have important resource information available to Incident Command early in extended attack
- <u>Is not</u>: available immediately (yet) in a real-time initial attack











My Park is On Fire! What now?







My Park is On Fire! What now?





Gather Information



Share Information



Implement Resource Protection Measures (RPMs)



Document Impacts

My Park is On Fire! What now?





Gather Information



Share Information



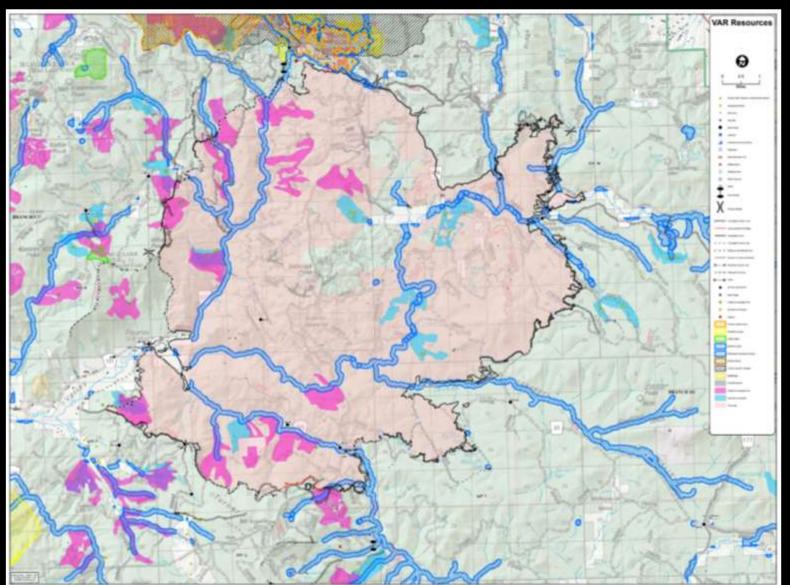
Implement Resource Protection Measures (RPMs)



Document Impacts



- 1. What are the pre-existing invasive species in and adjacent to your unit?
- 2. Where are these populations located and how critical is it that these species do not spread?
- 3. What are your Resource Protection Measures (MIST) for avoiding the establishment or spread of invasives and how will you communicate these effectively?
- 4. What pre-planning measures need to be in place in advance of fire season?







NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK COMPLEX Resource Advisor Guide

updated September 9, 2022



RAINBOW BRIDGE FIRE 2010



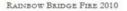




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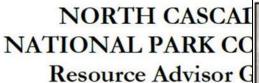




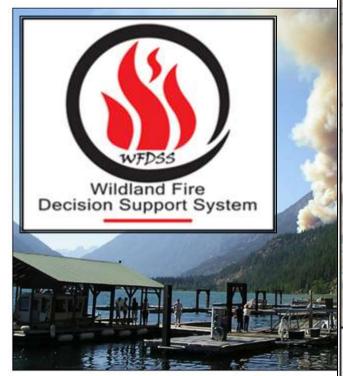




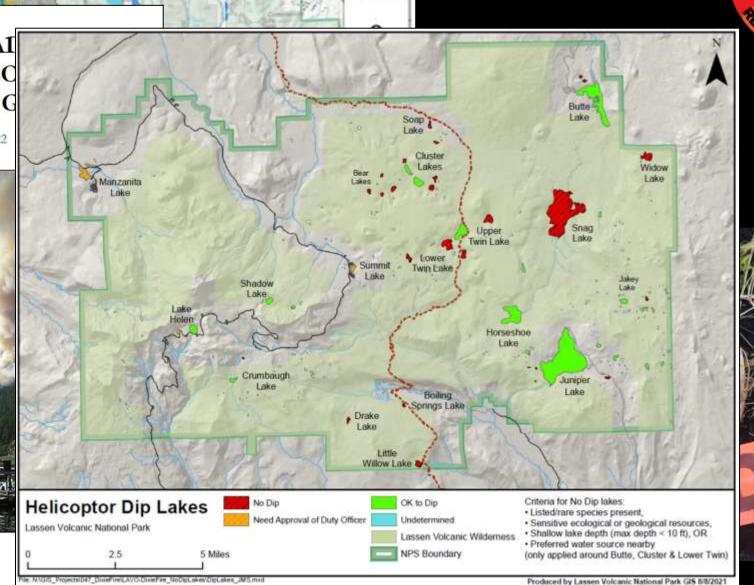




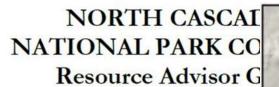
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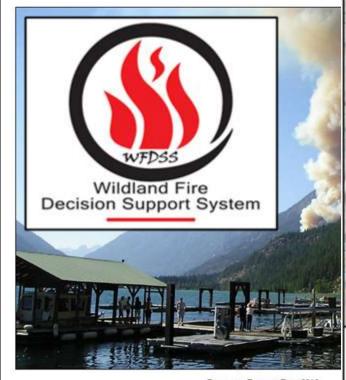
RAINBOW BRIDGE FIRE 2010



READ



updated September 9, 2022



RAINBOW BRIDGE FIRE 2010



Lassen Volcanic Wilderness

NPS Boundary

Helicoptor Dip Lakes

Lassen Volcanic National Park

- · Listed/rare species present,
- Sensitive ecological or geological resources,
- · Shallow lake depth (max depth < 10 ft), OR
- · Preferred water source nearby

(only applied around Butte, Cluster & Lower Twin)

Step 2: Share Information











Step 2: Share Information



What Operations Wants to Know About Resources of Concern (e.g. invasives)

- •What is the issue?
- Why is this important? (keep it brief)
- •Where is the issue located?
- •What do they need to do to avoid, minimize, or mitigate?
- How important of an issue is this? (prioritization)



Woodward Fire Incident READ Guide

Prepared by LREAD Cedar Drake ver. 8/30/20

■ DEMOB: As a requirement for demob, all fireline personnel must:
☐ Disinfect (via spray bottle) the following with a 70% isopropyl alcohol
solution:
Saws
Hand tools
☐ Fire boots
NOTE: READs will staff disinfection station.
As a requirement for demob, all vehicles and heavy equipment must
pass through the incident weed wash station. ☐ Incident Weedwash/SOD Decontamination Station is located at the
Point Reves Seashore Bear Valley VC (1 Bear Valley Rd, Olema, CA)
☐ Hours of Operation: 0630 - 2130
Hours of Operation: 0030 - 2130
<u>Invasive Plants</u>
Local contacts: Lorraine Parsons & Ellen Hamingson
Documents Delinite I moons to Liter I miningson
Areas of Concern
☐ Giant plumeless thistle
☐ Known from Home Ranch & Mt Vision north of current footprint
☐ Fairly low abundance but problematic A-rated weed.
May have expanded post-Vision fire.
☐ Jubata grass
Likely significant post-fire re-invasion will occur especially if post-fire landslides occur.
□ Scotch broom
Invaded 1995 dozer line; still present there. Most likely source is now in current fire
footprint is Divide Meadow. Monitor any new dozer areas especially around Meadow
trail.
French broom
☐ Cape-ivy
Fastest-spreading invasive. at PORE. Not currently in fire footprint. Closest infestations
are Muddy Hollow Creek, Lagunitas Creek, and Hwy Icreeks. Could invade if water is
taken from Lake Ranch ponds.
☐ Veldt grass
Very widespread especially on the north and east sides (Sky Camp/Sky Trail). Has been
found far off-trail especially in areas probably disturbed by grow operations.
☐ MANY others including:
☐ European beachgrass (Limantour Beach/Dunes)
I Icaniant (I imantour Reach/Dunes)

Woodward Fire Incident READ Guide

Prepared by LREAD Cedar Drake ver. 8/30/20

	□ Rosy crocus
	In grasslands around Home Ranch.
	New Zealand nightshade
	Isolated occurrences adjacent near Limantour Rd especially following fuel reduction. Could expand in any nearby cleared areas.
	Ox-eye daisy
	Isolated infestations on BV Trail, Coast Camp, and Coast Trail but spreading rapidly in last 5-10 years; especially in the Estero region.
Resour	rce Protection Measures
0 1	Utilize incident Weed Wash Station
_	Clean incident vehicles and heavy equipment thoroughly (soil, vegetation, and seeds) upon arrival to and departure from incident.
	 Contain weed output from weed wash and GPS site for subsequent monitoring and treatment
	dentify invasive plant populations of concern and flag for avoidance
	Survey proposed disturbance areas for invasives (e.g., firelines, helispots, and spike camps)
	 Conduct pre and post assessments in disturbed areas (photos and GPS points)
	Stage fire management operations away from known noxious weed infestations to the
٤	greatest extent possible
	 Consult with Resource Advisors to avoid fireline construction in known weed patches when possible
	Consult READs before transporting slash material which may contain invasive plant and/or pathogenic materials.
	Supply crews with boot brushes, weed ID checklists, and appropriate protocols
Aan	natic Invasive Organisms (AIS)
	ontacts: Lorraine Parsons & Ellen Hamingson
Local co	miacis. Lonaine Paisons & Elien Hamingson
Areas	of Concern
D 2	New Zealand mud snail = Lagunitas Creek
	nvasive tunicate = Drake's Estero
<u> </u>	invasive tunicate – Diage & Esteio
Dasam	rce Protection Measures
E E COIL	ce crotection weasures

Step 2: Share Information



Resource Advisor (READ) message Ferguson Fire 2018

For the Sierra National Forest, Stanislaus National Forest & Yosemite National Park

Please help protect sensitive areas -- protect Wilderness values and valuable cultural areas -- Ask a READ questions. Please use Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST).

Archaeological Sites: 🏖

Fire and fire suppression activities can damage or destroy irreplaceable cultural resources.
 Fireline REAF's should assist in locating hand and dozer lines to help avoid damage.

Streams, Creeks, Rivers, Wetlands:

- 0 0
- Avoid meadows, riparian areas and wetlands when constructing line.
- Use fish screens on all drafting pumps Ask a REAF if you need one.
- All retardant/ foom drops or applications must be at least 300' from water courses. Use spill kits.
- Report misapplications in any body of water to a REAF or the Agency Administrator rep.
- The main stem of the Merced River and South Fork Merced are Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) —
 please consult an Agency Administrator rep with any WSR issues.

Historic Resources: X 🛱

- Historic mining and logging in and around El Portal, Hites Cove & elsewhere WATCH OUT for adits or mine shafts, especially at Hites Cove.
- · Protect historic structures, e.g. in Wawona, Badger Pass & El Portal.

Vegetation:

- Stop the spread of Invasive plants please Weed Wash vehicles regularly and brush-off boots, tools and clothing to remove noxious seeds. <u>Ahwahnee ICP</u> has star thistle and <u>Drew Camp</u> has medusa head grass that could spread over the entire fire area.
- Wet meadows are important habitat and are home to many sensitive species of plants and animals. Avoid trampling and stay on trails and roads. ICP is surrounded by wet meadow.
- Only cut live trees to clear for spike camps or landings after consulting with a REAF.

Wildlife:

- Protect the bears by storing your food properly → "A fed bear is a dead bear". Use food storage lockers, patrol eating areas, backhaul or secure trash in animal-proof dumpsters.
- Firefighter safety comes first but remember that snags in all stages of decay are important wildlife habitat that should be retained whenever possible.
- Minimize helicopter overflights of meadows over 10 acres, for benefit of the Great Gray Owl.
 Retain snags within 500 m of surrounding meadows.

THANK YOU!

Daily READ Message: Incident Action Plan (IAP)

Step 2: Share Information

Division/Group Assignment List (ICS 204 WF)

1. Incident Name:					1					
THOMAS					Branch		Divisier/Gressp:			
2. Operational Period.		1		VVION						
Date/Time From: 12/26/2017 0700 TUE		Date/Time To: 12/26/2017 1900		uit	11		YY/Q/W			
			Operations I	Personnel						
OPERATIONS CHIEF	ALC.		terroria trappa periodica con con			MIKE APPLING ALEX MCBATH (T)				
BRANCH DIRECTOR	ERA	DIVISIONGRO		JP SUPERVISOR		TOWAS C GONZALEZ				
SAFETY JOHN STRICKLA		ND	AIR ATTA		ICK SUPERV	K SUPERVISOR MARK		CKI		
6.		Reso	urces Assign	red this Pririod	1					
Strike Tewn / Task Force / Resource Designator		LWD	Leader		Number Persons	Drop Off PT./Time		Pick Up PT/Time		
REAF O-25230		01/04	JUSTIN IN ROBBINS		10	ISP 12/0809		ICP/1900		
REAF 0-25214		91/01	TAMMY VARITLEY		1	DP 12/0800		ICP(1500		
CULB 0-25295		01.05	NELSON PALATO		1.	O/1 12/0500		ICR11900		
ARCH O-26161		1228	BHET T GUISTO		1.0	DP 12/0000		ICP/1900		
ARICH Q-26185		12/29	MOLLY A RAY		1	DP 12/0800		ICP1900		
KKMS SOUS O-10929		12/26	PAUL SOUS		2	DP 12/0809		ICP(1900)		
FEMP 0-10507		1209	SRANDON PIDE		1.	DP 12/0600		ICP/1900		
FEMT O 10510		12/29	DILLON WRIGHT		1	DP 12/0808		ICP/1900		
FEMT C-10194		12027	LANCE WORTON		1	DP 13:0608		KCP/1900		
EMTF D-628		12/30	JOSH BENNETT-SNOW		1	DP 12/0800		IC291900		
6. Control Operations/Work Assi	gaments:					-		-		

Patrol, hold and map-up to extent necessary to minimize the likelihood of escape

Report any fundings of potential of cultural resource sites to Resource Advisor Do not remove any pirik polika dot Fagging

Note there is a Santa Barbara Corem Plan (SBC) and a Versura (VNC) Comm Plan rence the map to know which zone you are in and which pion to use

	Division/Group	Communication sat	mmary		
Charrel	RIX Frequency NVV	flox figne/NUAC	TK Frequency NW	TX TomorkAC	Mode
1	158.1000		170.4500	146.2	
9	154.2878	156.7	154-2675	156.7	
14	150.3450	192.9	159.3450	192.5	
10	156.0750	156.7	118:0750	156.7	
.16	168 6260		160.5250	110.9	
S. Propared By (Resource Unit Leader) JENNY KRUGER		Approved By (Planning Section Chief)			Time 2100
֡	2 9 14 15 16	Channel NK Frequency N/V 2 168,1000 9 154,2675 14 150,3450 15 156,0750 15 166,0250 15 166,0250 16 Approved By 6	Channel RK Finguency NAW RK foneWAC 2 168.1000 9 154.2675 156.7 14 150.3450 152.8 15 156.0750 156.7 16 168.0250 166.7	2 158.1000 170.4500 9 154.2675 156.7 154.2675 14 150.3450 150.8 159.2450 15 156.0750 156.7 158.0750 16 166.0250 156.7 158.0750 16 166.0250 160.0250 1 Leaderi Approved By (Planning Section Chief)	Channel HX Frequency NW









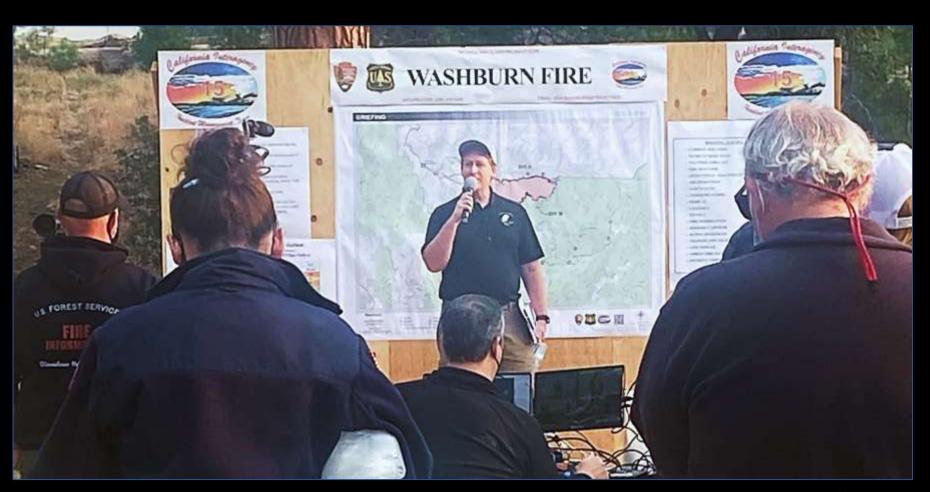
7. Special Instructions:

- -Avoid sensitive resource areas flagged in orange and white striped flagging.
- -Report any findings of potential of cultural resource sites to Resource Advisor.
- -Do not remove any pink polka dot flagging.

Special Assignments: Division/Group Assignment List: IAP

Step 2: Share Information





Lead READ Message During Morning Briefing

Step 2: Share Information



Incident Planning Meeting



Step 3: Implementation of RPMs





RPMs = MIST (Minimum Impact Strategies & Tactics)



"READs Advise and Ops Decides."

Step 3: Implementation of RPMs: Avoidance







Step 3: Implementation of RPMs: Avoidance











Step 3: Implementation of RPMs: Avoidance





Be Proactive! Overlay known invasives populations over potential suppression impacts and advise on impacts before decisions are made.



READs referring to invasives maps

Step 3: Implementation of RPMs: Minimization





Minimization Measures

- Temporary Avoidance
- Mowing
- Disposal
- Grading
- Mulching

Step 3: Implementation of RPMs: Minimization







Minimization Measures

- Crew Invasives ID and reporting
- Propagule removal



Step 3: Implementation of RPMs: Minimization



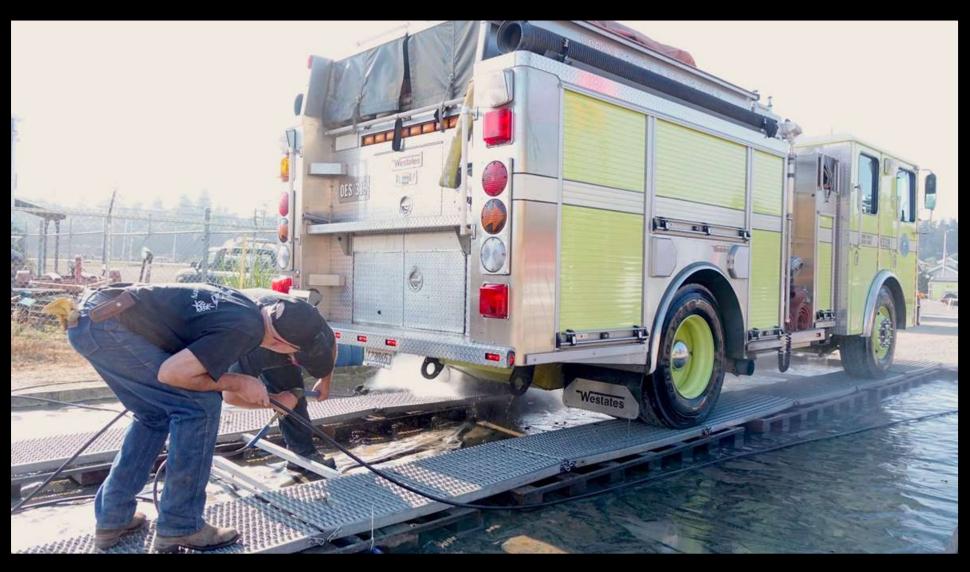




















Secondary and Mobile Weed Wash Stations











Step 3: Implementation of RPMs: AIS

READ REPOURCE ADVISOR

A publication of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group



Guide to Preventing Aquatic Invasive Species Transport by Wildland Fire Operations

PMS 444 JANUARY 2017





FIREFIGHTING
FIREFIGHTING
EQUIPMENT TO
REDUCE THE
SPREAD OF
AQUATIC INVASIVE
SPECIES

HOW TO GUIDE

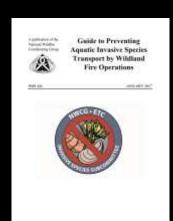
OVERVIEW

This template protocol/How-To Guide serves as supplement to the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's Guide to Preventing AIS Transport by Wildfire Operations (PMS 444, January 2017).

June 2022

Step 3: Implementation of RPMs





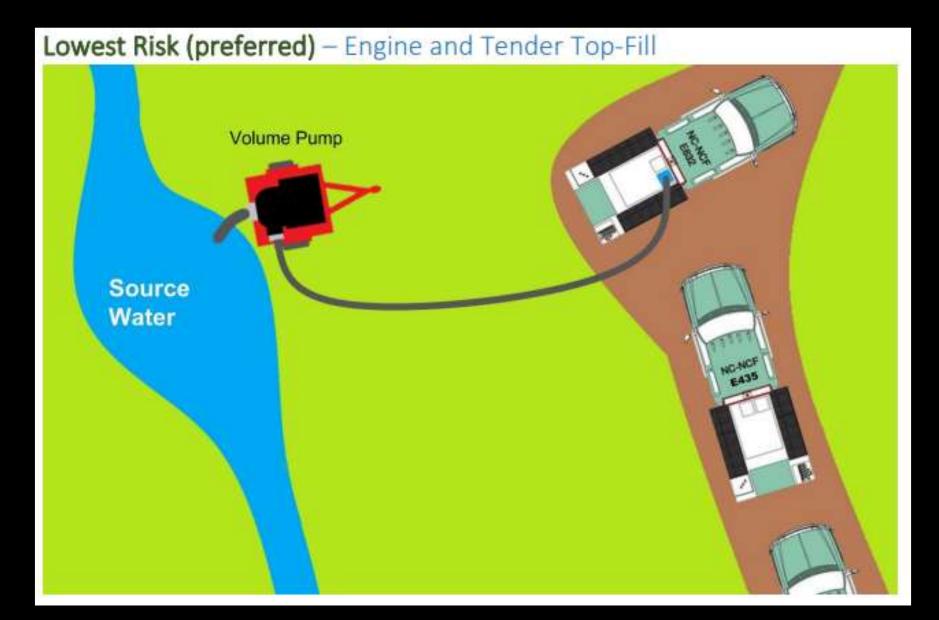
- Avoiding water transfer from known AIS-infected waterbodies
- Decontamination of terrestrial and aviation-based with chemical disinfectants, heated pressure washers, or complete air drying.
- Usage of municipal water sources whenever possible
- Avoiding transfer of water between watersheds.
- Avoiding the delivery of water directly into waterbodies.
- Disinfecting water conveyance systems prior to drafting/dipping in other watersheds.
- Avoiding the sucking of organic and bottom material when drafting in shallow water.
- Dipping and drafting from deeper 'bluewater" sources.
- Utilizing screens to on water intakes to filter out AIS.
- Conducting periodic inspection and removal of all plant parts and mud.



DECONTAMINATING
FIREFIGHTING
EQUIPMENT TO
REDUCE THE
SPREAD OF
AQUATIC INVASIVE
SPECIES

HOW TO GUIDE

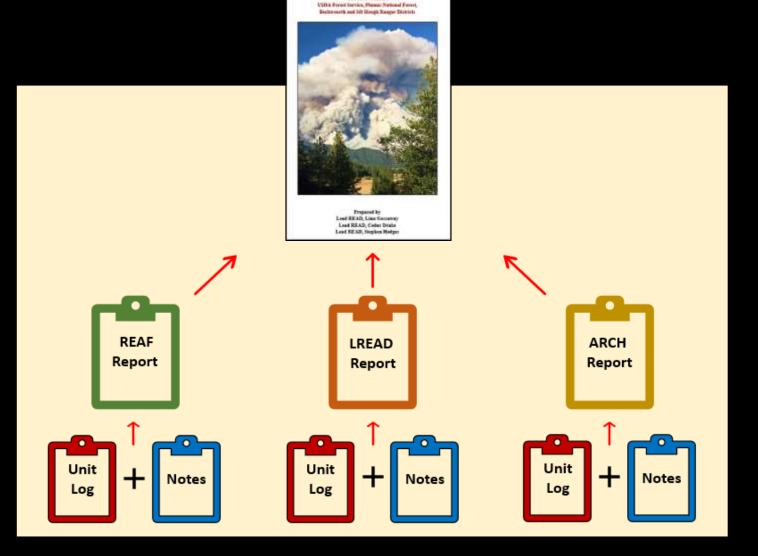
Step 3: Implementation of RPMs: AIS





Step 4: Documentation





Walker Fire 2019
Resource Advisor Report
CA-PNE-001224

Document

- Areas in which known "infected" equipment operated
- Waterbodies in which AIS may have been introduced
- Newly discovered infestations
- Weed wash/disinfection stations locations
- Staging Areas







Yellow star thistle growing on fireline

Reducing the Risk of Invasive Species: Before and During Wildland Fire Incidents



Martin Hutten, Ph.D.
Terrestrial Ecologist / Glacier Bay National Park
& Preserve
National Park Service
martin_hutten@nps.gov



What to do when you're expecting, (a fire)

Steve Buckley National Park Service California Invasive Plant Management Team

Special thanks to my collaborators:

Cedar Drake (NPS), Eamon Engber (NPS), Patty Johnson (NPS), Jen Gibson (NPS), Nelson Siefkin (NPS), Matt Brooks (USGS), Tony Sandrini (NPS), Brent Johnson (NPS), Doug Johnson (Cal-IPC), Jutta Burger (Cal-IPC),

