

2018

Wildfire Evacuation Plan

for the Upper Middle Fork John Day River Community

For use by the Incident Commander in the event of a catastrophic wildland fire in and in the Upper Middle Fork John Day River area near the communities of Galena, Bates, and Austin, Oregon.

Malheur National Forest
Oregon Department of Forestry
Bureau of Land Management
Grant County



UPPER MIDDLE FORK JOHN DAY RIVER COMMUNITY WILDFIRE EVACUATION PLAN

PURPOSE

This plan is intended to be used in the event that the [insert wildfire name] creates a need for notification and evacuation of the citizens in and adjacent to the incident.

INTENT

The Grant County Sheriff’s Office is legally charged with the responsibility of evacuation. In order for adequate planning and decision making to occur before the need, it is important that the Sheriff’s Department has advance notice and be included in the earliest possible discussions regarding evacuation needs.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

This plan will cover the Upper Middle Fork John Day River (UMFJDR) Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) areas generally described as (choose N, E, S or W) of the fire, and includes the communities Bates and Austin Junction . The Upper Middle Fork is accessed from the north by Oregon State Highway 7, east and south by US Highway 26, and west by County Road (CR) 20.

TRIGGER POINT

If the fire is deemed to threaten the identified tactical area(s), the Operations Section Chief will request activation of the appropriate evacuation level based on current and predicted fire behavior. Upon recommendation by the Operations Section Chief, the agency decision makers will convene and re-evaluate the threat using the following criteria:

- Fire crosses or approaches pre-identified lines
- Time of day (i.e. early morning vs. mid-afternoon)
- Weather (current and expected)
- Fuels and fire behavior
- Sustained run vs. spot fires
- Probability of success with available resources

Agency Decision Makers:

| | Phone | Cell |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| _____ Incident Commander | (xxx) xxx-xxxx | |
| Forest Supervisor, Malheur National Forest | (541) 575-3000 | |
| Forest Supervisor, Wallowa Whitman National Forest | (541) 523-1201 | |
| Unit Forester, Oregon Department of Forestry | (541) 575-1139 | |
| Grant County Sheriff | (541) 575-0030 | |
| Grant County Judge | (541) 575-0059 | |
| Grant County Fire Defense Board Chief | (541) 575-1855 | |
| Prairie City Fire Chief | (541) 620-0658 | |
| Les Zaitz, Upper Middle Fork Community Liaison | (541) 421-3021 | |
| Karen Parmalee, American Red Cross | (888) 895-1099 | (541) 382-2142 Voice Message |
| Grant County 24 Hour Dispatch | (541) 575-0030 | |
| John Day Interagency Dispatch – USFS & ODF | (541) 575-1321 | |

ACTIVATION

The _____ Fire Incident is situated primarily within or adjacent to the Upper Middle Fork John Day River Wildland Urban Interface area, within the Malheur National Forest and Grant County Oregon. This community evacuation plan is activated by calling the affected agency representative:

Steps for activation:

1. The need for a possible evacuation will be identified by Operational Personnel.
2. The request for evacuation will be submitted or concurred by the Incident Commander or his designee.
3. Contact communications to place the request as needed.
4. The IC or designee will inform the agency representative of the current and the predicted situation.
 - Identify the affected area.
 - Ask that a liaison from the affected county report to the ICP.
 - Ask that the appropriate evacuation be implemented.
 - Ask for confirmation of shelter activation / location from Red Cross.
 - The IMT Information Officer will coordinate the development of a media release of evacuation / shelter decisions.

**** Evacuation Location will be determined by American Red Cross if activated.**

****Other Considerations: Oregon State Police will evaluate US and State Highways for closures at each juncture of evacuation and make that determination in conjunction with the Incident Safety Officer.**

EVACUATION COORDINATION

Coordination:

- Evacuations will be coordinated between the Incident Commander and the Sheriff’s representative.

Communications:

- For field coordination of evacuation communications
 1. Use ODF Red Net, RX 151.3400, TX 151.3400, TX Guard Tone 156.7
 2. For backup use Oregon Search and Rescue RX 155.8050, TX Guard Tone 156.7

Evacuation Process:

- Visual identification notification
 1. Green colored ribbon at driveway designates “**Occupied**” contact made
 2. White colored ribbon stretched across driveway designates “**Not Occupied**”
 3. Yellow colored ribbon indicates “**Danger Area – Do Not Cross**”

In the event of radio failure and/or lack of cell phone coverage use Grant County Fire radio:

Grant County Fire – Emergency Radio System

| RX | TX | Tone Rx | TX | Name |
|-----------|-----------|---------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 154.44500 | 158.86500 | 107.2 | 162.2 | Grant County Fire - Monument |
| 154.44500 | 158.86500 | 107.2 | 85.4 | Grant County Fire - Tamarack |
| 154.44500 | 158.86500 | 107.2 | 131.8 | Grant County Fire - Long Creek |
| 154.44500 | 158.86500 | 107.2 | 107.2 | Grant County Fire - Dixie |
| 154.44500 | 158.86500 | 107.2 | 156.7 | Grant County Fire - Aldrich |
| 154.44500 | 158.86500 | 107.2 | 100.0 | Grant County Fire - John Day |
| 154.44500 | 158.86500 | 107.2 | 74.4 | Grant County Fire - Snow Mountain |

Notification Summary

Precautionary Notification

NOTIFICATION OF COOPERATING AGENCIES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS OF FIRE ACTIVITY OUTSIDE THE ESTABLISHED CONTROL OR CONTAINMENT LINES.

LEVEL 1

PERSONS ARE WARNED THAT CURRENT OR PROJECTED THREATS FROM HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE APPROACHING FIRE(S) ARE SEVERE.

THIS IS THE TIME FOR PREPARATION, AND PRECAUTIONARY MOVEMENT OF PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, MOBILE PROPERTY, AND (UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES) PETS AND LIVESTOCK.

YOU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED AS CONDITIONS CHANGE. AREA RADIO STATIONS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO BROADCAST PERIODIC UPDATES.

IF CONDITIONS WORSEN, WE WILL MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO CONTACT YOU. IF YOU ARE ABSENT FROM YOUR HOME FOR MORE THAN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, PLEASE LEAVE A NOTE WITH YOUR NAME AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE IN A VISIBLE LOCATION. AN ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO CONTACT YOU BY PHONE

LEVEL 2

CONDITIONS INDICATE A GOOD PROBABILITY THAT HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE APPROACHING FIRE(S) WILL SEVERELY LIMIT OUR ABILITY TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY SERVICE PROTECTION. DANGEROUS CONDITIONS EXIST THAT MAY THREATEN YOUR RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS.

YOU MUST PREPARE TO LEAVE AT A MOMENTS NOTICE.

FIRE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL ARE WORKING IN THIS AREA TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT WHEN TO LEAVE AND THE ROUTE(S) TO BE TAKEN.

THIS MAY BE THE ONLY NOTICE THAT YOU RECEIVE.

YOU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED AS CONDITIONS CHANGE. AREA RADIO STATIONS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO BROADCAST PERIODIC UPDATES.

LEVEL 3

CURRENT CONDITIONS PRESENT SPECIFIC AND IMMEDIATE THREAT(S) TO THE LIFE AND SAFETY OF PERSONS WITHIN THIS AREA

YOU ARE ADVISED TO EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY.

FIRE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL ARE WORKING IN THIS AREA TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE ROUTE(S) TO TAKE.

A TEMPORARY SHELTER HAS BEEN SET UP AT: **Enter location determined by American Red Cross**

IF YOU CHOOSE TO IGNORE THIS ADVISEMENT, YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT EMERGENCY SERVICES MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE.

VOLUNTEERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE AREA TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.

ROADBLOCKS AND 24-HOUR PATROLS WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN THE AREA. RESIDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RETURN UNTIL CONDITIONS ARE SAFE.

AREA RADIO STATIONS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO BROADCAST PERIODIC UPDATES.

See individual evacuation notification handouts in Appendix A

TACTICAL AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Oregon State Highway 7 and US Highway 26 Corridor areas

Oregon State Police, (541) 575-0536

Middle Fork Lane - CR 20 WUI

Grant County Sheriff, (541) 575-0030 dispatch

Austin WUI

Grant County Sheriff, (541) 575-0030 dispatch

EVACUATION AREA RE-ENTRY

The Incident Management Team (IMT) will provide recommendations to the Sheriff's Office for private properties and the (enter agency name) for (agency abbreviation) property for lowering evacuation levels. The authority having jurisdiction is responsible for applying the change in evacuation level.

Considerations for safe re-entry:

- ✓ Public and firefighter safety
- ✓ Fire behavior / situation
- ✓ Fire traffic / activities
- ✓ Hazard tree mitigation
- ✓ Slope stabilization (rolling / falling debris)
- ✓ Utilities secured
- ✓ Visibility
- ✓ Minimizing economic consequences
- ✓ Community integrity

Citizens are advised that the advisory / evacuation level may change at a moments notice.

All re-entry requests shall be coordinated with the IMT Operations Section Chief before re-entry into evacuated areas will begin.

Grant County, Oregon

All requests for re-entry into the evacuated areas within Grant County shall go through the Grant County Sheriff. Persons entering the area shall provide identification and/or proof of ownership of the property in question. After approval, evacuees will be allowed re-entry based on the current situation.

Approved by:

Date:

Typed name of IC

Incident Commander, (add incident mgmt. team name)

Glenn Palmer
Grant County Sheriff

EVACUATION PLANNING and RESOURCE GUIDE

Decision Making Authorities

County Sheriff, City PD
County/City Emergency Management
Local/County Fire Chief
Agency Administrator

Operations

Identify Tactical Areas
Assess fire Behavior, Weather
Develop Evaluation Lines
Identify Ingress, Egress Routes

Mapping Resources

ODF/Forest/District
City/County Planning, Assessor's Office
City/County Public Works
Internet Sources

Notification

Local 911 (Emergency Phone Network)
Local Media Web Sites
Public Information Centers
Public Meetings

Evacuation Routes/Traffic Control

City/County/State Law Enforcement
City/County Public Works
State DOT

Shelters

City/County Emergency Management
American Red Cross
Humane Society/Animal Rescue

Security and Re-Entry

City/County/State Law Enforcement
Utility Providers
Building Officials
Assessor's Officials
Victim Support

APPENDIX A

Use the following Emergency Notice attachments as follows:

Level 1 & 2— handout to affected residences, use as a Public Service Announcement on radio, a newspaper insert (if time allows) leave as flyers in area businesses and for posting throughout the affected area.

Level 3 – handout to affected residences and use radio immediately for a Public Service Announcement.

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