

Appendix D: Interagency Fire Use Module Field Guide – Introduction

Source: Interagency Fire Use Module Field Guide version 03.07.01 (2003)

The Interagency Fire use Module Field Guide originated from an identified need at the 2001 Fire Use Module meeting. In collaboration with the National Park Service, Us Forest Service and the US Fish and Wildlife Service this field guide has been developed to help standardize Fire Use Module (FUM) products and provide the opportunity to produce consistent, quality fire use documentation.

As can be expected, not all forms or summaries will meet all needs, the key is to remain flexible and consistent. When incident personnel request specific products they must contain all fields in standard format, used or not. When additional data is required, it can easily be collected and added to the form or summary. The form data and summaries are the minimum requirements for FUM activity documentation.

In agreement with the Fire Use Teams and the FUM's this field guide is subject to annual review and revision. If a form or summary does not meet the needs of the teams and/or FUM's, it will be changed during the annual review (at the FUM meeting).

What is a FIRE USE MODULE?

The mission of the Fire Use Module Program is to develop and provide national self-sufficient, multi-skilled fire professionals with a primary commitment to fire use operations and planning.¹

Fire Use Modules are composed of experienced and trained fire personnel working within a cohesive team. From highly experienced ignition specialists, to the fold standard in fire behavior observations and mapping. Module members are proficient in filling independent roles on minimally scouted fire operations in remote locations. Each module is equipped with a standard complement of equipment necessary to implement most aspects of fire planning, operations and prescribed fire implementation. Western, intermountain, and some Midwest modules are also equipped with the necessary equipment to be self-sufficient in backcountry operations with very minimal logistical support from any level of incident organization.

As a national interagency resource, the modules are available throughout the fire season. Ordering is outlined in the national mobilization guide and regional mobilization guides. Each module will be staffed at a four-member minimum standard for each assignment and up to eight (NPS) or ten (USFS, FWS) depending on agency. Order modules with additional module positions as per agency above the four-member minimum.

¹ **Fire use** is the combination of wildland fire use and prescribed fire application to meet resource objectives. **Wildland fire use** is the management of naturally ignited Wildland fires to accomplish specific pre-stated resource management objectives in predefined geographic areas outlined in Fire Management Plans (Wildland and Prescribed Fire Management Policy, 1998).