

FIRE SUPPRESSION GUIDELINES

FOR SALMON HABITAT

Utilize the following guidelines, when more restrictive than established Forest Plan standards and Guidelines, and include fisheries personnel in established process for dealing with salmon/fire situations. Avoid separate or dual processes and organizations.

1. Utilize minimum impact suppression techniques to minimize potential damage to salmon habitat. Every effort should be made to minimize stream course disturbance, sedimentation, and actions which could result in increased water temperatures. Consider these potentially adverse fire suppression effects, and the potentially adverse effects, and the potentially adverse effects of wildfire damage, during initial fire size-up, initial suppression response, and in the development of EFSA's.
2. Avoid using fire chemicals where there is potential for stream contamination.
 - Minimize the application of retardant near live streams. Avoid dropping retardant or foam directly in streams or in adjacent riparian areas.
 - Do not pump directly from streams if chemical products are to be injected into the system. If chemicals are utilized, pump from a fold-a-tank.
 - Helicopter bucket dipping from streams in or adjacent to spawning concentrations should be avoided.
 - Dipping should be done only after chemical injection systems (storage containers) have been removed from the bucket and/or the helicopter.
 - Keep refueling, fuel storage, and fuel trucks at least 100 feet away from live streams and sensitive riparian areas.
 - Each Forest should develop a contingency plan that identifies procedures to be initiated should a chemical spill or contamination occur.
3. A Biologist should be involved in the development of an FSA or EFSA, serving with, or as, the Resource Advisor.

Camps, staging areas, and base heliport locations should be identified during the planning process, or approved on a case by case basis.

A Biologist/Resource Advisor should be readily available to the Incident Commander, and participate in shift plan development to assess the potential effects of planned actions.

A Biologist should be a member of the Rehab Team on fires 100 acres and larger.

After the fire is declared out, a Biologist should review suppression and rehab actions to see if tactics and mitigation measures identified in the EFSA were appropriate and successfully implemented.