



File Code: 5190

Date: July 18, 2006

Route To:

Subject: Cost Containment Reviews

To: Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Director, IITF Director and Deputy Chiefs

Recently the WO reviewed the procedures for conducting cost containment reviews on large wildfires. Changes have been made to improve the effectiveness of these reviews and address issues raised from many sources. Specifically, we are (1) changing the core questions that will be addressed, (2) establishing more diverse teams and (3) holding Agency Administrator's involved in fires that are reviewed responsible for responding to any recommendations made in subsequent reports. The cost containment review process will continue to be three-dimensional with regional, WO, and Independent Panel reviews being conducted. Some fires will continue to be reviewed more than once if they meet the criteria of more than one type of review.

Although cost will be the primary driver for all of the reviews, each type of review will approach the issue from a different perspective allowing us to reduce duplication of effort and obtain the greatest amount of information about each fire. Attached are the guidelines for each of the three types of reviews and a template for the regions to use when conducting reviews of wildfires that exceed \$5.0 million for the remainder of 2006 fire season.

Please call Sandy Cantler at 202-205-1438 with any questions.

/s/ Robin L. Thompson (for)

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