



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
HEADQUARTERS, 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION (LIGHT) AND U.S. ARMY, HAWAII  
SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, HAWAII 96857-6000

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

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**DEC 2003**

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum USAG-HI-9, Wildfire Management Program

1. References.

- a. Army Wildland Fire Policy Guidance, Sep 02.
- b. 25th ID(L) & USARHAW, Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan, Pohakuloa and Oahu Training Areas, Mar 00 (enclosed).
- c. AR 200-3, Natural Resources- Land, Forest and Wildlife Management, Feb 95.
- d. AR 200-4, Cultural Resources Management, Oct 98.
- e. AR 350-4, Integrated Training Area Management, May 98.
- f. AR 420-90, Facilities Engineering, Fire Protection Program, Sep 97.
- g. DODI 6055.6, Department of Defense Fire & Emergency Services Program, Oct 00.
- h. Review and Update of the 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, Jan 01.
- i. National Wildfire Coordinating Group, Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System Guide (PMS 310-1/NFES 1414), Jan 00.
- j. National Fire Protection Association, Standard 295- Standard for Wildfire Control, Aug 98; Standard 1144- Protection of Life and Property From Wildfire, Jul 02; Standard 1051- Wildland Firefighter Professional Qualification Standard, Jan 02.

2. Applicability.

a. This policy applies to all soldiers and civilians of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and United States Army, Hawaii (25th ID(L) & USARHAW), and to all military services and other personnel using the Army ranges and training lands under its jurisdiction. The provisions of this policy are conditioned on the conclusions and recommendations arising out of analyses pending under the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

b. Maintaining combat readiness in Hawaii requires access to training lands. The Hawaiian Islands provide the Army a strategic Pacific location, and require some very special land management, as well. Hawaii is home to some of the most unique natural and cultural resources in the country. The 25th ID(L) & USARHAW must live up to the stewardship requirements in order to continue use of these sensitive lands for training. Federal and state laws protect many of these resources. In order for us to meet our stewardship requirements, and to comply with applicable laws, the 25th ID(L) & USARHAW

APVG-CG

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum USAG-HI-9, Wildfire Management Program

must manage and prevent wildland fires or wildfires. Wildfires are also a threat to human life and property. The best way to protect human life, property, and natural and cultural resources, is through involved leadership, prevention, education, training, and management. As the senior officer responsible for the retention of Army lands in Hawaii, I expect every commander, director, and individual within my Command to support, comply, and enforce this policy on wildfire management.

### 3. Policy.

a. This policy establishes a 25th ID(L) & USARHAW Wildfire Management Program in accordance with the Army Wildland Fire Policy Guidance, and provides the guidance and direction to develop the Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan (IWFMP). The IWFMP is designed to aid land managers, natural/cultural resource managers, and wildfire managers in the planning and programming of resources.

b. The success of this program depends on commanders and directors ensuring that these policies are actively implemented to make the program work on the ground. The following categories were developed to meet the purpose of the program:

(1) Safety. Public and firefighter safety is the first priority in every fire management activity. The reduction of potential loss of human life is a primary consideration in fire management. Fire suppression is a risky endeavor and sound risk management is a foundation for all fire management activities.

(2) Planning. The IWFMP has been developed for land managers as a management tool to address pre-suppression, suppression, post-fire and other wildland fire management issues.

(3) Prescribed Fire. Prescribed fire will be considered as a viable tool to manage fuels and will be utilized under environmentally appropriate conditions, as defined by prescribed fire specifications.

(4) Preparedness. Fire managers will ensure their capability for providing safe, effective fire management in support of this program and the IWFMP.

(5) Suppression. Fires are suppressed at minimum cost, while considering public and firefighter safety, and resources at risk. Protect all areas while being consistent with resource objectives. Defend protection priority areas and contain fires within Army installation boundaries while reducing wildfire impacts to the environment.

(6) Prevention. Concerted efforts to minimize wildfire caused by military activities must be implemented and enforced.

(7) Protection Priorities. Besides the safety priority to human life, protection priorities will be established among all resources. Priority between property and natural/cultural resources must be based on values to be protected.

(8) Interagency Cooperation. Planning, preparedness, suppression, monitoring, and research will be conducted on an interagency basis to maximize effort and resources.

(9) Standardization. Fire managers will use compatible planning and operational procedures.

APVG-CG

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum USAG-HI-9, Wildfire Management Program

(10) Economic Efficiency. Fire management activities will be based on economic analyses that incorporate resource and social values.

(11) Wildland/Urban Interface. The role of structure protection within the wildland/urban fire protection is considered a part of wildland fire suppression and management.

(12) Employee Roles. Employees who are required to be trained and certified will participate in the wildfire program, as the situation demands or as directed.

4. Goals. Consistent with the Army Wildland Fire Policy Guidance, the 25th ID(L) & USARHAW Wildfire Management Program will be accomplished through the following fire management goals:

a. Safety.

(1) Goal. Goal is to have no human losses or injuries due to wildfire. Every firefighter, fire supervisor, fire manager, and administrator taken will take positive action to ensure compliance with safe practices.

(2) Objective. Establish fire management qualifications and ensure all personnel assigned to those positions are properly trained. Managers will ensure training tools are available and proper training is conducted. Personnel are the highest value to be protected.

b. Pre-Suppression.

(1) Goal. Maintain preparedness planning and suppression programs to prevent unacceptable losses from fire.

(2) Objectives. Define priorities that recognize the relative values of property and natural/cultural resources to be protected by working in cooperation with other managers to develop priorities. Reduce the environmental impacts of fire. Reduce environmental impacts of pre-suppression and suppression activities while also protecting vegetation so concealment cover is available for military training. Plan suppression based on confine, contain, and control strategies for each of the fire management areas within wildfire management capabilities. Develop and implement pre-suppression prevention measures including education and fuel management. Establish criteria and procedures for military training that minimize fire ignition in fire prone and sensitive areas.

c. Suppression.

(1) Goal. Protection capability - maintain sufficient fire suppression and support capability.

(2) Objectives. Use protection priorities as criteria to assess overall suppression and support requirements, examine and identify resource requirement and availability at each organizational level to provide needed suppression and support. This will include planning for both initial attack and extended attack. Establish suppression measures and determine the confine, contain, and control strategies.

APVG-CG

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum USAG-HI-9, Wildfire Management Program

5. Responsibilities.

a. Commander, 25th ID(L) & USARHAW. As the Installation Commander is responsible for all environmental and fire protection requirements on U.S. Army property within the State of Hawaii under his command.

b. Commander, United States Army Garrison, Hawaii (USAG-HI). The Garrison Commander defines the roles and responsibilities for environmental and wildland fire management on the installation; plans and programs resources; designates the installation Wildland Fire Program Manager; and approves the IWFMP.

c. Director, Installation Fire & Safety Office (IFSO). The IFSO Director maintains oversight of the overall safety and fire protection mission for the installation and is the proponent for the Wildfire Management Program. As the Command Fire Marshal, exercises authority of the Army Fire & Emergency Services and is responsible for implementing the provisions outlined in the IWFMP.

(1) Installation Fire Chief, Fire & Emergency Services. The Installation Fire Chief is responsible for the management of fire and emergency services for Army installations on Oahu and serves as a liaison with the Federal Fire Department (FFD), Navy Region Hawaii. The Installation Fire Chief also provides management oversight for the Kilauea Military Camp (KMC) and Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) fire departments on the Big Island of Hawaii, and provides supervision to the installation Wildland Fire Program Manager.

(2) Wildland Fire Program Manager. The Wildland Fire Program Manager is responsible for the development and execution of the installation IWFMP. Additionally, reviews and approves burn plans for prescribed fires to ensure consistency with the IWFMP, the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP), and other applicable operating instructions such as state and local regulations. Collect and disseminate fire risk data from the fire danger rating system and adjust training limitations to prevent wildfires. Collaborate with other resource managers and cooperative fire agencies to ensure that supplies, equipment, training, and qualified personnel are available to meet the goals and objectives of the IWFMP. The wildland fire program manager shall coordinate with the range maintenance manager and Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) coordinator to develop an annual work plan.

d. Assistant Chief of Staff (ACofS), G3/Director of Plans, Training, & Mobilization (DPTM). The ACofS, G3/DPTM is responsible for operational readiness and the management of military training activities on USARHAW training land, and will provide:

(1) Installation Operations Center (IOC) support through the Chief of Operations for central reporting and communication operations during extended fire suppression activities.

(2) Coordination through the Assistant Division Engineer (ADE) for engineer equipment to support wildfire emergency suppression operations and input for prioritization and direction for engineer pre-suppression activities.

(3) Coordination through the Assistant Division Aviation Officer (ADAO) for aircraft and aircrews to conduct aerial fire bucket operations to support wildfire suppression activities.

APVG-CG

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum USAG-HI-9, Wildfire Management Program

(4) Coordination through the Range Officer, G3/DPTM, Range Division Hawaii (RDH), who is responsible for enforcing the provisions of the IWFMP and other applicable training directives and regulations, including restrictions on or cessation of training activities based on the fire danger rating.

(5) Coordinate pre-suppression related projects; review range configuration and design to prevent training related wildfires; and provide initial attack capabilities utilizing qualified range personnel on small wildland fires.

e. Director of Resource Management (DRM). The DRM will provide resource and budget execution strategies for staffing and funding of the Wildfire Management Program.

f. Director of Public Works (DPW). The DPW will:

(1) Be responsible for supporting the wildland fire management program through its environmental, ecosystem, and natural/cultural resource plans.

(2) Provide environmental oversight, technical support, and planning assistance (for environmental fire effects, protection priority, and post-fire restoration).

(3) Request funding for environmental compliance-related fire programs or projects under the Environment Program Requirements (EPR).

(4) Assist in planning, monitoring work order requests for timely execution of maintenance, improvement, and construction of fire related projects.

(5) Provide engineering support through work management for work orders and contracts to support wildfire management program. Additionally, provides support with Troop Construction Coordination Committee (TCCC) project planning and execution.

g. Director of Logistics (DOL). The DOL will provide maintenance on fire equipment to include fire suppression vehicles on a reimbursable basis; assist in procurement of required fire equipment and supplies when requisitioned through supply channels by the IFSO.

h. Unit Commanders and Division Chiefs. Commanders, managers, and supervisors at all levels of the organization are responsible for ensuring unit personnel are familiar with and responsible for complying with the provisions of this plan and applicable regulations, fire prevention restrictions, and training activities within biologically sensitive areas in support the Wildfire Management Program.

i. Federal Fire Department (FFD), Navy Region Hawaii. Fire Chief, FFD, is responsible for providing wildland fire suppression support and coordination with the Army in accordance with the interservice support agreement (ISA); and for coordinating Army-sponsored annual wildland fire training requirements with the installation Wildland Fire Program Manager.

6. Actions.

a. Wildland fire standing operating procedures (SOPs) have been developed for each fire management area and are incorporated in the IWFMP. Applicable portions of the wildland fire SOPs are to be incorporated into the training SOPs for each range and training area.

b. The prevention of wildfires will be briefed during all courses of training addressing the scheduling, usage, and management of range and training areas. Fire prevention will be stressed and reinforced at all commanders' courses, range officer-in-charge/safety officers' courses, resource scheduling conferences, range briefings, and environmental briefings, and will be included in all publications distributed to training units prior to use of our facilities.

c. It is the responsibility of every individual assigned to this command to enforce wildfire prevention. Commanders, directors, soldiers, or civilians with knowledge of a potential start of wildfires must take immediate action to correct and report such actions. Commanders and staff will ensure SOPs are available for using units. Due to the dangerous nature of fire and wildfire suppression, the risk of starting a wildfire will be addressed in the commander's risk assessment that is made prior to start of training.

d. The IWFMP must integrate with other resource installation management programs. This is one of several programs that fit within the larger framework in the management of Army lands. This plan is compliant and is an integral part of the INRMP, ICRMP, Installation Master Plan, Range and Training Land Plan, and installation's Fire & Emergency Services Program plans. The IWFMP describes pre-suppression, suppression, post-fire activities, and how fire management actions are integrated with other resource management programs to accomplish the overall ecosystem management goal.

e. Wildland Fire Training, Certification, and Fitness Standards.

(1) Army organizations involved in wildland fire activities will incorporate NWCG standards into their organizational structure when necessary to accommodate cooperation and integration with other federal, state, and local wildland fire organizations across jurisdictional boundaries.

(2) All civilian, contractor, and emergency services personnel involved in wildland fire management must possess NWCG certifications appropriate for their expected level of involvement in the wildland fire organization. All personnel dispatched or assigned to wildfires or prescribed fires will be qualified for the fire position assigned. Individuals will not be assigned to duties for which they lack training and/or certified experience.

(3) The Wildland Fire Program Manager will administer and manage an effective qualification training and certification program, in coordination with the Federal Fire Department. Courses identified should be based upon the needs and goals established to meet the IWFMP.

(4) All Army personnel must meet the NFPA or NWCG Standards for certification. The USARHAW wildland fire management training is based on criteria specified within the training curriculum approved by the NWCG. All 25th ID(L) & USARHAW employees and military personnel engaged in suppression and prescribed fire responsibilities shall meet the standards set forth in this IWFMP.

f. Incident Command System (ICS). The Army will utilize the ICS that establishes command and control of fire suppression based on training qualifications and assignment to ICS positions/roles established in the IWFMP. The ICS will be used, at the appropriate level, for all wildfire responses. Only personnel trained to fill a specific ICS position, or the next higher position will support, plan, or supervise wildfire suppression. Untrained commanders, directors and supervisors will not attempt to interfere with the Incident Commander (IC) during fire suppression activities.

g. Use of Military Aircraft.

(1) Military aircraft may be used for wildland fire suppression as outlined in the IWFMP. The use of certain training areas requires mandatory scheduling of helicopters to conduct aerial fire bucket operations.

(2) Military helicopters assigned to conduct fire bucket missions on military installations are normally activated by request through the Army's IOC located at Schofield Barracks. In turn, the IOC will activate the aviation unit assigned to respond to the fire incident. At PTA, a private helicopter module (helicopter, pilot, and service support) contracted by the Army is the preferred approach if no military aircraft are present at PTA.

(3) In addition, all pilots and air crew engaged in fire suppression will receive training in fire bucket application techniques, and will have a basic understanding of fire tactics, strategy, and wildfire behavior.

7. Funding.

a. Funding for IWFMP implementation, wildland fire prevention, fuel management for hazard reduction, wildland fire suppression, prescribed burning, and other wildland fire management is an installation operations and maintenance responsibility. Resource planning and programming responsibility shall be addressed in the next Program Objective Memorandum (POM) cycle in FY05.

b. A wildfire management account must be established. Budget development must include budgeting protocol to include integration of other installation resource management plans to accomplish planned activities outlined in this IWFMP. Total wildfire budget requirements will be identified by the Wildland Fire Program Manager.

c. Wildland fire management activities conducted for the purpose of compliance with environmental laws and regulations will be supported by environmental conservation funds.

d. The Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) funds may be used for construction and maintenance of fire/fuel breaks, or other fuel removal directly associated with ranges/training areas.

e. Mission activities, e.g., training and testing, may support wildland fire management and suppression, as required and agreed upon, by the participating organizations. The Garrison Commander or his designee will mediate and organize such arrangements.

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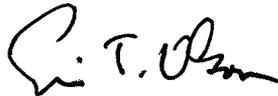
SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum USAG-HI-9, Wildfire Management Program

f. Wildfire budget requirements are addressed in the IWFMP. Although previous fire management actions have already been identified, accomplished, and funded from other programs, fire management actions must be identified in the next POM and will be implemented over the next five years (FY05-FY09). Wildfire funding has been identified as an unresourced requirement (URR) by the IFSO for FY04.

g. Wildfire funding also includes a mutual assistance component. Currently, USARHAW is not billed for mutual assistance rendered by other agencies, nor are other fire agencies billed by USARHAW. A review of existing mutual aid agreements between the USARHAW and other fire agencies indicate that formal agreements have expired and some must be reviewed and updated as required.

8. Expiration date. This policy memorandum supersedes Policy Memorandum G3-3, Wildfire Management Program, dated 4 April 2000, and remains in effect until canceled or superseded in writing.

9. Proponency. The Installation Fire & Safety Office, Fire & Emergency Services, 656-0615, is the proponent for administration of this Wildfire Management Program.



ERIC T. OLSON  
Major General, USA  
Commanding

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Commanding

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SAMMY C. HOUSEBERG  
Director, Installation Fire & Safety Office

Reviewed by: George T. Wilder Date: 10/15/03  
GEORGE T. WILDER  
Installation Fire Chief, US Army Garrison, Hawaii

Reviewed by: Gayland D. Enriquez Date: 10/15/03  
GAYLAND D. ENRIQUES  
Installation Wildland Fire Program Manager

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LTC, GS  
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FREDERICK CLARKE  
LTC, AD  
Commander, Pohakuloa Training Area

Reviewed by: Michael P. Jones Date: 10/14/03  
MICHAEL P. JONES  
Fire Chief  
Federal Fire Department  
Navy Region Hawaii

