

## 4. ROLES, FUNDING AND REVIEW

### 4.1 NPS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, ROLES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Monument's Visitor Protection Division handles fire management responsibilities at the Monument with strong involvement from the Division of Research and Resource Management, and Fire Management Officers of BLM Hollister Field Office and PRNS.

The Monument has no fire management staff or organization; no full time, on-site wildland fire program manager is assigned to the Monument. The Protection Operations Supervisor oversees the daily ranger protection operations and administers most aspects of the fire program. Matters that exceed the knowledge and skills will require assistance from a technical specialist such as a fire program manager.

The lack of a full time, on-site wildland fire program manager poses many challenges for the Monument. Currently, the low frequency of wildland fire occurrence prevents a full time, on-site Fire Management Officer from being funded. However, the Monument has traditionally relied on nearby, full time FMO assigned to BLM Hollister Field office to assist with more complex fire management matters. Incident command is provided by local cooperators such as CDF or the BLM Hollister FMO.

In lieu of a full time, on site wildland fire program manager, the Pinnacles Fire Management Committee (FMC) has been established to assist the Superintendent and other Division Chiefs in the development, implementation, critique, and review of the wildland fire management program. The FMC does not have decision authority but it makes recommendations on fire management matters to the Superintendent. The FMC is co-chaired by the Protection Operations Supervisor and the Chief of Resource Management. Two other members, the BLM Hollister Field Office FMO and the PRNS FMO make up the Committee.

- Bay Area Network Fire Ecologist
- Bay Area Network Fire Planner
- Bay Area Network Fuels Specialist
- Bay Area Network Fire GIS
- Bay Area Network Fire Education and Information
- Specialist PINN Botanist PORE
- Range Ecologist California
- EPMT Liaison

The Network Fire Ecologist plays a key role in the overall fire management program by overseeing the Network's long-term fire ecology planning and fire ecology strategies.

The Fire Planner primarily serves GGNRA and PRNS but can assist the Monument with compliance guidance and documentation for fire-related projects. Both the Fire Ecologist and Fire Planner report to the Supervisory Plant Ecologist at PRNS in the Division of Resource Management.

### 4.1.1 Pinnacles National Monument Positions

#### 4.1.1.1 Superintendent

1. Has ultimate responsibility and accountability for all fire management activities.
2. Approves wildland fire management plan and updates, interagency agreements and operating plans, delegations of authority, prescribed burn plans, and management of wildland fire incidents, through daily updates of the WFSA. Approval constitutes the authority to proceed with the actions outline.
3. Ensures compliance of Section 106 of NHPA, NEPA, NPS Organic Act and other relevant laws and policy.

#### 4.1.1.2 Protection Operations Supervisor

1. Maintains qualifications and training records in IQCS.
2. Ensures fire preparedness equipment and fire prevention plans are in place.
3. Ensures the Monument has the skills to safely implement wildland fire programs as identified in this fire management plan.
4. Establishes liaison with cooperating agencies (ex. CDF) and coordinates and maintains cooperative agreements.
5. Determines daily fire danger ratings through WIMS and recommends fire restrictions.
6. Coordinates with the Monument's FMC, Network FMOs, and BLM Hollister Field Office FMO on fire management actions and issues and budgeting.
7. Performs administrative duties, i.e., approving work hours, completing fire reports for command period and maintaining property accountability.
8. Coordinates fuels project planning in consultation with other Monument divisions where necessary for resource protection and continuity of operations.
9. Monitors actions taken on wildland fires, and ensures proper and adequate documentation.
10. Approves hand written Individual Fire Report ensuring proper preparation and submission to the Network FMO(s) for entry into WFMI.
11. Monitors daily fire danger through WIMS and recommendations on daily fire danger ratings.
12. Serves as the point of contact and ensures proper maintenance and functioning of the Pinnacles RAWS.
13. Formulates preparedness, hazard fuels operations and emergency fire accounts with assistance from the Network FMO(s) and submits to Monument Superintendent for approval.

14. Recommends fire training needs and priorities, and coordinates Unit fire training instruction.
15. Coordinates with Los Padres National Forest Communications Center to ensure available red-carded personnel are correctly entered into ROSS.
16. Reviews procedures and ensures Monument personnel are ready for off-unit dispatches.
17. Serves as co-chair of the Monument's Fire Management Committee

#### 4.1.1.3 *Chief of Resource Management and Research*

1. Provides scientific expertise, technical advice and review of plans.
2. Works with the Network Fire Ecologist to ensure ecological effects of fire and suppression activities are considered and potential negative impacts are mitigated.
3. Works with Regional Cultural Resource Specialists to ensure effects of fire and suppression activities are considered and potential negative impacts are mitigated.
4. Provides information on the distribution of vegetation.
5. Works with the Network Fire GIS Specialist to update GIS databases and analyze data.
6. Serves on the Monument's Fire Management Committee.
7. Assign staff as Resource Advisors and to the local response BAER team.

#### 4.1.1.4 *Fire Management Officer – BLM – Hollister Field Office*

1. Provides a local area contact to the Protection Operations Supervisor for consultation on fire management related issues beyond the unit's skill and/or knowledge level.
2. Provides Type 3 IC capability to the Monument during wildfire incidents.
3. Provides daily Fire Duty Officer status for the Monument.
4. Provides liaison between Fort Ord Hazardous Fuels Crew and the Monument for defensible space and manual hazardous fuels removal projects.
5. Assists with the Monument's RAWs operations and maintenance as needed.
6. Provides alternate contact between Central Coast Operating Group and San Benito Fire Safe Council.
7. Serves on the Monument's Fire Management Committee.

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**4.1.1.5 Fire Management Officer (PRNS)**

1. Provides the Network contact to the Protection Operations Supervisor for consultation on fire management related issues beyond the unit's skill and/or knowledge level.
2. Provides guidance on PWR office fire management policies and protocols.
3. Coordinates fire management specialist needs requests from the Network fire management staff (i.e., Fire Ecologist, Fuels Specialist, Prevention and Education Specialist, Fire GIS Specialist, Fire Effects Monitoring, etc)
4. Enters Individual Fire Reports prepared by Monument staff into WFMI computer database.
5. Enters annual formulated preparedness and hazard fuels operations for the Monument into current budget development databases and programs (ex. NFPORS).
6. Serves on the Monument's Fire Management Committee.

**4.2 FUNDING.**

The Fire Management Program Center (FMPC), National Interagency Fire Center, will issue an annual budget structure and allocation report to the Monument. Allocated amounts will be entered in the Federal Finance System (FFS) at the allocation (ALCT) level by the FMPC for the following activities: Preparedness, Burned Area Rehabilitation, Hazardous Fuels Reduction, Wildland Urban Interface, and Rural Fire Assistance. The Monument will stay within the line item spending authority for each activity until additional funding is requested and approved.

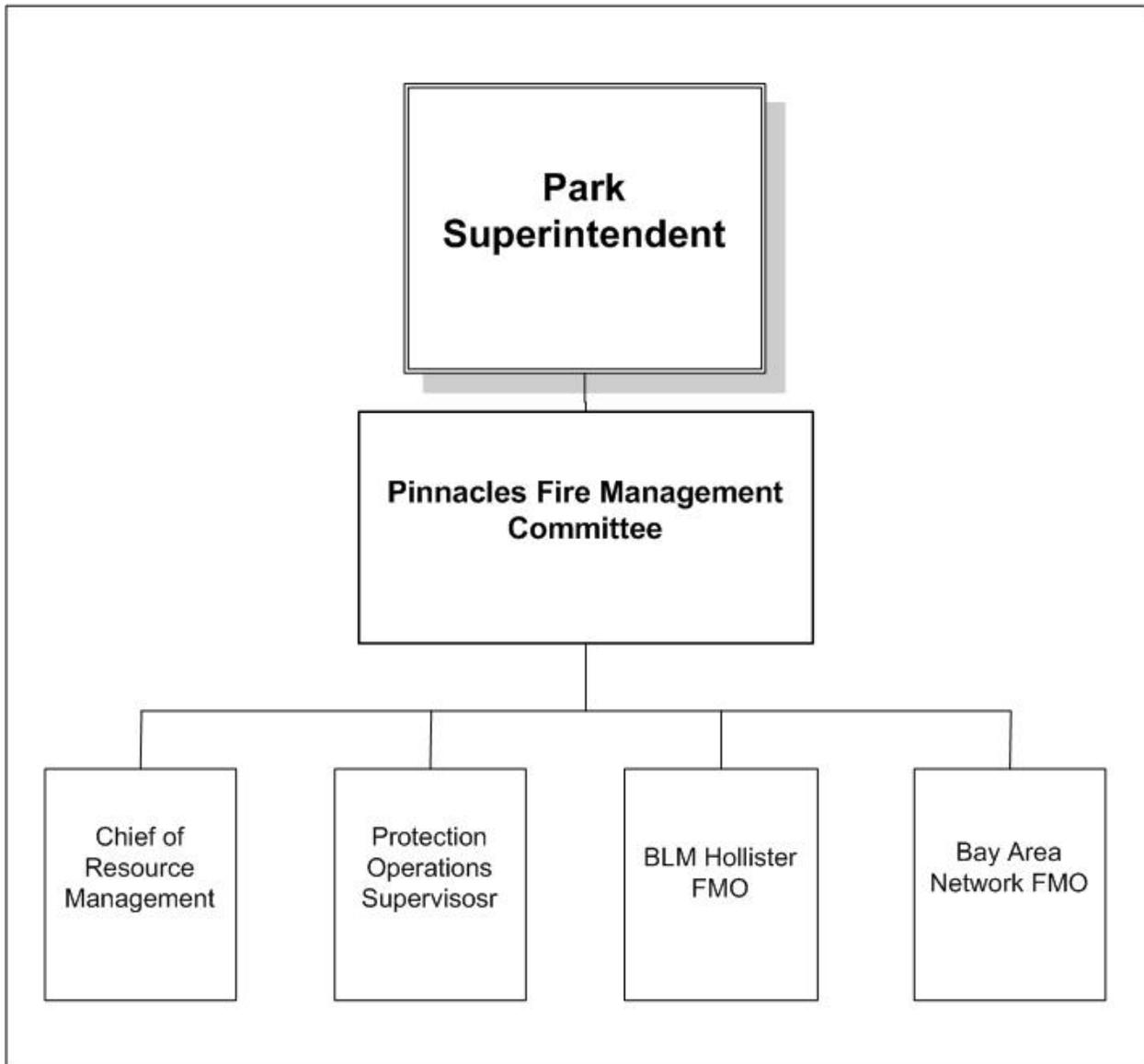
The WASO Budget Office covers Emergency Suppression, Wildland Fire Use and Emergency Stabilization obligations and expenditures at the regional allotment (ALOT) level at year-end. Expenditures in the Emergency Suppression and the Burned Area Rehabilitation Activities are tracked through unique project accounts using the Fire Code guidelines.

**4.2.1 Fire Program Analysis (FPA)**

The Fire Program Analysis System (FPA) will replace the existing NPS FIREPRO planning and budgeting program in the next few years. FPA will also replace the fire planning and budgeting systems in use by four other federal land management agencies. The Monument is currently aligned in Fire Planning Unit (FPU) 10 along with Los Padres National Forest, BLM Hollister Field Office, Hopper Mountain and Kern National Wildlife Refuge Complexes, Santa Monica National Recreation Area and Channel Islands National Park.

Santa Monica NRA FMO will be responsible for incorporating the Monument into FPA budget and funding analyses runs. Background information including GIS and fuels layers, historical information and other will be coordinated by Network technical specialists and submitted to Santa Monica Mountain Recreation Area for inclusion into FPU 10 databases.

**Figure 9 -- Organizational Chart for the Fire Management Program**



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**4.3 INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS**

<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT OR DISTRICT</b>	<b>AGREEMENT</b>	<b>DATE</b>
CDF San Benito-Monterey Operational Unit		
Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement Central Coast Group		
Los Padres National Forest		

**4.4 RECORDS AND REPORTS**

<b>FORM/REPORT</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</b>	<b>DISTRIBUTION</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>
Individual Fire Report	NPS Superintendent	Copy (1202 only) to WFMI System within 10 work-days;	Per Incident
IQCS card	Protection Operations Supervisor signed by FMO	Affected Personnel	Annually
Fire Weather/Indices (daily; see dates in Section 3.3.2.2)	Protection Operations Supervisor	Staffing levels (BI) to Visitor Center and Dispatch	Daily
Daily Cost Accounting	IC/Burn Boss	As agreed	Schedule to be determined
WFSA	Monument Superintendent	Agency-specific	Per Incident

**4.5. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE 5-YR FUELS TREATMENT PLAN AND FMP**

## 1. Summarize the previous year's actions:

- Wildland fires, prescribed burns, mechanical fuel reduction projects,
- Education and information programs for the public,
- New or renewed agreements with other fire or land management agencies,
- Personnel information (number of positions, network location)

## 2. Assess Progress.

- Did we achieve what was anticipated in the five year fuels treatment plan?
- If the plan was not implemented as proposed, what were the budget or staffing challenges that kept you from being able to manage effectively?

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- Are there unforeseen circumstances that came up which were limited by the program's goals, objectives or mitigations that should be considered for inclusion in the over all strategy to better meet goals and objectives?
3. Update FMP and Five Year Fuels Treatment plan.
- Is new background information available to the Monument that is relevant to fire management planning (i.e., data gathering, annual fire ecology report findings)? Are there changes to methodologies or procedures that should be incorporated into the FMP (i.e., modeling or analyses, of risk, ecological modeling, or new management policies)?
  - Were there "lessons learned" from the past season that are important to note?
  - Are there research or field observation results that indicate strategy should be modified?
  - Were there outside (non-fire management) disturbance(s) (e.g., volcanic, windstorm, flood) that did or will affect the implementation of the FMP or five year fuels treatment plan?
  - Are there modifications to the FMP or the five year fuels treatment plan to suggest? Do any of the issues reviewed support continuation, refinement, or reconsideration of the plan as written.
  - Are there changes in DO-18 and RM-18 or other policy documents that require changes to the FMP or five year fuels treatment plan?
  - Are there outstanding issues regarding facets of FMP implementation that were raised during the past year and were not resolved? If not resolved, how does the review team propose solving these issues?
5. Assess Conformance with NEPA and other Federal Regulations.
- Are there changes in the affected environment of the Monument that could result in significant effects to the environment (i.e., change in species listing under the ESA, CNPS, etc., new cultural resources identified, change in air pollution emissions status for the air basin, change in water quality status, new water quality projects completed)?
  - Were there projects or parts of projects that appear to be out of sync with the range of actions assessed in the EA?
  - Were there impacts that differed from those anticipated by the EA?
  - Was the NEPA documentation adequate to address the actions undertaken during the past season?
  - Does the updated FMP or five year fuels treatment plan include actions that do not conform to the scope of the assessment in the EA?

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- Are modifications needed to the NEPA record to retain the program in conformance?
  - Determine the needs for further compliance and let the regional fire and compliance office know your intentions.
6. Proposed Changes to the Five Year Fuels Treatment Plan and FMP
- Use PEPC ESF to determine if any proposed changes to the FMP need further compliance.
  - Initiate changes to the FMP using NEPA process if needed.
  - If NEPA process not needed, make the changes, and
  - Complete and submit the annual review form to PWR (per regional memo).