APPENDIX 5: PROPOSED WILDLAND FIRE MEASURES
MEMORANDUM

To: Chief, USDA Forest Service
   Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
   Director, Bureau of Land Management
   Director, Fish and Wildlife Service
   Director, National Park Service

From: Bob Leaverton, National Fire Plan Coordinator
       USDA Forest Service
       Tim Hartzell, Director
       Office of Wildland Fire Coordination, DOI

Subject: Proposed Wildland Fire Performance Measures

Enclosed are Proposed Wildland Fire Program Performance Measures for use by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the USDA Forest Service (FS). This common set of measures will provide nationally consistent direction from which to measure the performance of the wildland fire management program and outcomes from implementation of the Federal Wildland Fire Policy, National Fire Plan, Cohesive Fuels Strategy and the Implementation Plan for the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy. The measures will also be incorporated into the overall DOI and FS Strategic Plans.

In November 2001, the DOI and the FS contracted with the Performance Management Institute to assist with the development of a consistent set of wildland fire management performance measures. Meetings to gather information from both internal agency specialists and external stakeholders were held in November and December 2001, and January 2002. A draft report, Designing Results-Oriented Performance Measures for the National Wildland Fire Management Program, was completed in early January 2002. This draft report, in conjunction with additional input and analysis from DOI and FS resource and wildland fire management specialists, strategic planning staff, and external stakeholders, has resulted in the enclosed measures.
The four goals in the August 2001, 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy (A Collaborative Approach to Reducing Wildland Fire Risk to Communities and the Environment), became the framework for this exercise. A stated outcome, performance measures, and associated workload/activity measures were developed for each goal. The combined suite of performance and workload measures are the strategic indicators that the Departments will use to communicate progress toward meeting the stated outcomes for the wildland fire management program. While we may not currently collect data exactly in the way some of these measures are crafted, we believe that the data for the proposed measures is available or readily obtainable through our existing systems and those of key partners.

Actions needed to make these performance measures operational include:

- DOI and FS approval of the Proposed measures.
- Consultation with OMB and Congress.
- Definition of key terms and concepts to facilitate consistent understanding and data collection.
- Identification of data sources, and establishing or augmenting data collection and database systems to effectively and consistently gather and report outcomes.
- Establishing a baseline for each performance measure.
- Establishing a target for each performance measure based on projected future appropriations.
- Incorporating outcomes and measures into the Implementation Plan for the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy.
- Incorporating outcomes and measures into the Departments’ Strategic Plans, annual performance plans, National Fire Plan reporting tool, and appropriate internal work plans.
- Aligning necessary resources (financial, human, infrastructure, and information systems) to ensure focus, meet targets, and begin tracking.

Because of the desire of the Congress and the Office of Management and Budget for consistency between the Departments and the importance of these performance measures to budget and strategic planning processes, approval of the proposed measures is crucial for the success and continued support of the National Fire Plan.
We ask that you review these measures and provide comments to us by February 8, 2002. Based upon the nature of the comments we may recommend that appropriate officials from both Departments meet to resolve concerns and bring closure to this effort.

Enclosure

cc: FS Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry
FS Deputy Chief, National Forest System
FS Deputy Chief, Business Operations
FS Deputy Chief, Office of Finance
FS Deputy Chief, Programs and Legislation
FS Deputy Chief, Research and Development
FS Director of Fire and Aviation Management
DOI Assistant Secretary, Policy Management and Budget
DOI Office of Planning and Performance Management
DOI Office of Budget
DOI Fire Directors (BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS)
United States Department of the Interior and Agriculture
Proposed Wildland Fire Management Performance Measures

Goal 1. Improve Prevention and Suppression:

Outcome: Severe wildland fire occurrences with associated loss of life and damage to communities and the environment are reduced.

Performance Measures:
- Percent of unplanned and unwanted wildland fires controlled during initial attack.
- Amount of time lost from fire fighter injury in proportion to number of days worked.
- Percent of planned facilities, positions, and operational equipment available.
- Percent of acres covered under fire management plans.
- Percent of communities-at-risk with "Firewise" or similar prevention programs in place.
- Annual cost of wildland fire suppression activities and post-fire rehabilitation treatments.
- Percent of needed support resources available for deployment in support of large fire incidents (percent of available resources by category).

Workload/Activity Measures:
- Number of fire management plans completed.
- Number of fire facilities under construction, reconstruction or upgraded.
- Number of fire preparedness personnel on board.
- Number of funded and operational fire management equipment (engines, aircraft, heavy equipment).
- Number of acres burned by unwanted wildland fire.

Goal 2. Reduce Hazardous Fuels:

Outcome: Hazardous fuels are treated to reduce the threat of severe wildland fire to communities-at-risk and the environment.

Performance Measures:
- Percent of acres in fire-adapted ecosystems in condition classes 2 and 3 (moderate to high risk) compared to condition class 1 (low risk).
- Percent of wildland urban interface (WUI) areas associated with communities-at-risk treated as prescribed in a fire management plan.
- Number of communities-at-risk from wildland fire removed from high-risk category.
Workload/Activity Measures:

- Acres with fuels reduction treatments (prescribed fire, mechanical, and other) completed (by condition class 1-3, WUI and non-WUI).
- Number of fuels reduction projects monitored as prescribed in treatment plan.

Goal 3. Restore Fire Adapted Ecosystems:

**Outcome:** Fire adapted ecosystems are restored and maintained to provide improved resilience and sustainability that will promote environmental, social and economic benefits to communities.

**Performance Measures:**

- Percent of high priority acreage within fire adapted ecosystems functioning within the historical range of fire occurrences (fire regime I and II, condition class 1).
- Percent of high priority areas damaged by wildland fire with post fire rehabilitation treatments completed.
- Annual cost of post-fire rehabilitation activities.
- Percent of total acres burned that is managed with wildland fire use or prescribed fire.

Workload/Activity Measures:

- Number of project acres on which post-fire rehabilitation treatments were completed.
- Number of project acres (by condition class 1-3) on which restoration treatments (prescribed fire, wildland fire use, and mechanical) were completed.
- Number of rehabilitation and restoration projects monitored as prescribed in treatment plan.
- Number of research products associated with wildland fire management delivered to local field units.

Goal 4. Promote Community Assistance:

**Outcome:** Communities at risk have increased capacity to prevent losses from severe wildland fire, and have enhanced opportunities and benefits as a result of fuel reduction and fire adapted ecosystem rehabilitation and restoration activities.

**Performance Measures:**

- Percent of communities-at-risk with completed fire management plans.
- Number of homes and structures lost as a result of wildland fire.
Workload/Activity Measures:

- Number of contracts awarded locally and the dollar amount of the contracts in support of wildland fire management activities.
- Dollar value of biomass products generated and utilized associated with hazardous fuels reduction and restoration activities.
- Number and value of community cost-share projects for wildland fire management.
- Number of fire departments receiving assistance.
- Dollar value of training, equipment, prevention activities, and federal property transferred.
- Number and value of community grants awarded.
- Number of cooperative agreements developed with communities.
- Number of "Firewise" or similar workshops conducted.