

Incident Annex 5 – Wildfire

Coordinating Department

Department of Public Safety (Environmental Health & Safety)

Supporting Departments

Department of Public Safety (Police Operations), Department of Public Safety (Emergency Management), Facilities Services, Offices of the Chancellor and Vice Chancellors

Supporting Outside Agencies

Colorado Springs Fire Department, Colorado Springs Office of Emergency Management

Section I: Plan Activation

Scope

The scope of this annex is to describe the response by UCCS to a wildfire on campus property, and the mitigation done to prevent such an occurrence. While UCCS does not have any assets capable of response to a fire, much prevention work can be accomplished and significant support from the campus will be necessary in the event of a destructive fire event.

Concept of Operations

A. General

1. The primary goals in any incident will be life safety, incident stabilization, and protection of property.
2. The primary wildland response will be from the Colorado Springs Fire Department; however, a number of other local fire departments may provide mutual aid depending on the scope and nature of the fire.
3. Generally, an evacuation of the buildings threatened by a fire will be ordered. A larger evacuation may be deemed necessary, or a shelter-in-place order may be given.
4. All campus resources will coordinate their activities with the campus Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or Incident Command Post (ICP) as directed.

B. Specific

1. Response

- a)The primary role for campus resources will be scene security, crowd control, traffic control, and evacuation.
- b)Also refer to Tab T: Incident Annex 6 – Campus Evacuation regarding procedures in the event an evacuation is necessary.

c)A fire may be considered a crime scene until a complete investigation is accomplished.

2. Recovery

a)Depending on the nature of the fire and the location, recovery may have varying requirements.

b)Recovery of natural vegetation and terrain may include reseeding, sodding, replanting, and runoff mitigation in natural waterways.

c)Risk Management and Resource Management involvement will be required in the event of any damage to campus buildings and infrastructure.

Section II: Pre-Event Coordination and Planning Responsibilities

Coordinating Department

Department of Public Safety (Environmental Health & Safety)

A. Mitigation

1. Coordinate wildfire mitigation activities such as brush thinning in conjunction with Facilities Services and the Colorado Springs Fire Department.
2. Monitor hot work and flame-producing activities and modify or stop operations due to fire danger.

B. Preparedness

1. Participate in training sessions and exercises.
2. Provide campus familiarization sessions with local response agencies.
3. Monitor condition of campus exterior fire suppression infrastructure (hydrants, sprinklers).
4. Provide fuels and fire weather information during periods of high fire danger.

Supporting Departments

Department of Public Safety (Police Operations)

- A. Develop and exercise plans to provide evacuation, crowd control, and traffic control operations if required.
- B. Maintain capabilities to conduct any incident or criminal investigation, if necessary.

Department of Public Safety (Emergency Management)

- A. Track mitigation and preparedness activities among campus departments.

- B. Coordinate with outside emergency management and relief agencies in the event of fire.

Facilities Services

- A. Maintain exterior fire suppression infrastructure (fire hydrants, sprinklers) in good working order.
- B. Assist in fire mitigation activities and defensible space management.
- C. Provide personnel to assist with road closures and evacuations if necessary.

Offices of the Chancellor and Vice Chancellors

- A. Support campus departments in implementation of mitigation efforts and adherence to applicable fire prevention policies.
- B. Oversee campus assets assigned in support of a fire; direct evacuations, closures, and other decisions based on fire information.

Supporting Outside Agencies and Facilities

Colorado Springs Fire Department

- A. Conduct site inspections and education regarding wildfire prevention.
- B. Respond as the first due apparatus to any wildfire events on campus.
- C. Coordinate evacuation and information functions with campus officials.

Colorado Springs Office of Emergency Management

- A. Publish and maintain a wildfire response plan and evacuation plan in conjunction with the City Emergency Operations Plan.
- B. Coordinate with the UCCS Department of Public Safety (Emergency Preparedness) on planning, exercises, and incident coordination.