

# **PUEBLO COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

## **ANNEX N - FIRE**

### **I. PURPOSE**

To provide quick response and containment of fires involving structures, vehicles and wildland. It is not the intent of this annex to define Standard Operating Procedures or Guidelines (SOP/SOG) for any particular agency, but to provide a framework for operations in the event of mutual aid between agencies.

### **II. SITUATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

- A. Fire poses a potential threat to a community through loss of private and public property as well as life. When a fire occurs, local response agencies must be prepared to respond to protect life and property.
- B. Pueblo County has been designated a high risk area for Wildland/Urban Interface fire events in the Beulah, Rye, Colorado City and San Isabel National Forest areas by the Colorado State Forest Service.
- C. Each response agency is responsible for fire suppression in their own area, knowing additional help may be available from surrounding agencies;
- D. Structural fire suppression is not provided in all areas, see Appendix 1 for listing; and
- E. As a participant in the Emergency Fire Fund, Pueblo County can expect assistance from the State of Colorado if certain fire suppression resource needs exceed county capability.

### **III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

- A. Operations of any fire will be handled in conjunction with established SOP/SOG of the department involved.
- B. All first responders will be trained in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS) will be implemented at all incidents.

- C. If mutual aid is initiated, Incident Command will remain with the fire department in whose jurisdiction the incident occurs. In the event that multiple jurisdictions are affected, a unified command structure will be established by those jurisdictions.
- D. Upon activation of the Emergency Fire Fund, the Colorado State Forest Service assumes responsibility and authority for all suppression activity until the fire is returned to county responsibility; however, the county must maintain a minimum level of participation after EFF is implemented as outlined in the Pueblo County Annual Wildfire Operating Plan; and
- E. In the event of wildfire threatening life or property, the Department of Emergency Management is authorized to expend funds not to exceed \$25,000 for suppression in the event that the Board of County Commissioners, the Sheriff or the Emergency Policy Committee is unavailable to approve such expenditures. See Appendix 3 for checklist.

#### **IV. ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. Each entity (Appendix 1) will be responsible for initial response in their designated area, see Appendix 2; and
- B. The Pueblo County Sheriff, by law, is the fire warden for wildland fires in the unincorporated areas of Pueblo County. In the event of a fire that exceeds the capacity of Pueblo County resources to control, the Sheriff, or his designee, may request assistance through the Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center at (719) 545-1454.

#### **V. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS**

Document all actions so that records can be compiled for financial and historical data.

#### **VI. ANNEX DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE**

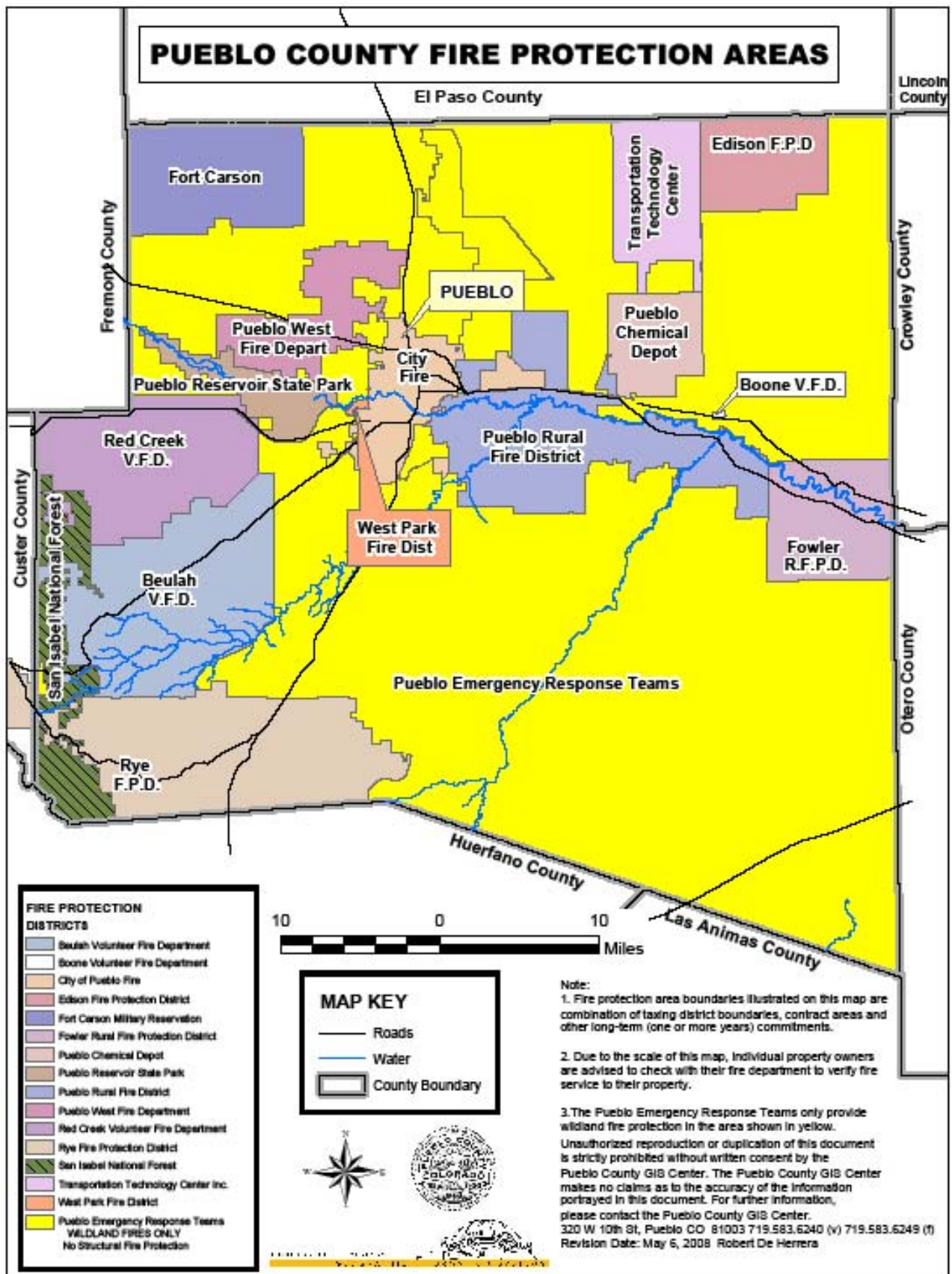
The primary responsibility for development and maintenance of this annex is that of DEM, with support from the all fire departments within Pueblo County and supporting state and federal agencies. The annex will be reviewed and revised accordingly at least annually, unless significant change warrants earlier revision.

## **VII. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES**

- A. Colorado Revised Statutes 30-10-512 – Sheriff to act as fire warden.
- B. Colorado Revised Statutes 30-10-513 – Sheriff in charge of forest or prairie fires – expenses.
- C. County Resolution No. 99-19 – Approving the Letter of Intent to Join the Colorado Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) in 1999.
- D. County Resolution No. 93-268 - Cooperative Wildland Agreement.
- E. Annual Operating Plan for Wildland Fire Control – reviewed and approved annually
- F. County Resolution No. 00-224 – Accepting the Department of Emergency Management’s plan for emergency funding authorization and creating the Emergency Policy Committee.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENTS RESPONDING IN PUEBLO COUNTY**

Beulah Fire Department	Volunteer	Structure & wildland
Boone Fire Department	Volunteer	Structure & wildland
Bureau of Land Management	Paid staff	Wildland
Colorado Division of Parks and Recreation	Paid staff	Wildland
Colorado Division of Wildlife	Paid staff	Wildland
Colorado State Forestry	Paid staff	Wildland
Edison Fire Department	Volunteer	Structure & wildland
Fort Carson Fire Department	Paid staff	Structure & wildland
Fowler Fire Department	Volunteer	Structure & wildland
Pueblo Chemical Depot Fire Department	Paid staff	Structure & wildland
Pueblo City Fire Department	Paid staff	Structure & wildland
Pueblo Emergency Response Teams	Paid Coordinator, volunteer staff	Wildland
Pueblo Rural Fire Department	Paid staff	Structure & wildland
Pueblo West Fire Department	Paid Chief, paid & volunteer staff	Structure & wildland
Red Creek Volunteer Fire & Rescue	Volunteer	Structure & wildland
Rye Fire Protection District	Paid staff	Structure & wildland
Transportation Technology Center Fire Dept.	Paid staff	Structure & wildland
West Park Fire Department	Volunteer	Structure & wildland



**WILDFIRE EMERGENCY FUNDING AUTHORITY CHECKLIST**

**FIRE NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INCIDENT COMMANDER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOURCES REQUESTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BOCC / EPC CONTACT ATTEMPT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE                      TIME                      METHOD**

**BOCC / EPC CONTACT ATTEMPT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE                      TIME                      METHOD**

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>1. ARE FUNDS NEEDED TO SUPPRESS A WILDLAND FIRE?</b>		
<b>2. ARE STRUCTURES POTENTIALLY THREATENED?</b>		
<b>3. HAS THE INCIDENT COMMANDER REQUESTED RESOURCES NOT AVAILABLE WITHIN EXISTING MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS?</b>		
<b>4. WILL A DELAY IN ORDERING THESE RESOURCES HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON CONTROL OF THE FIRE?</b>		
<b>5. HAVE ATTEMPTS BEEN MADE TO CONTACT THE BOCC AND THEIR EMERGENCY POLICY COMMITTEE TO APPROVE FUNDING?</b>		
<b>6. IS THE SHERIFF AVAILABLE AND HAVE FUNDING TO ORDER RESOURCES?</b>		

**Questions 1-5 must be answered "YES" for emergency funding to be authorized.**

**Based on the evidence presented above it is my opinion that emergency funds, not to exceed \$25,000, should be released to support the suppression of this wildfire. I affirm that I have met all the requirements of Pueblo County Resolution #00-224.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature                                      Printed Name                                      Date                                      Time**