

**Delegation of Authority
Eastern Kentucky Fire Prevention Team
October 26, 2016**

Eastern Kentucky has experienced below normal rainfall events for the past two months and fuel moisture levels are reaching historic lows. The East Fire Danger Rating Area has experienced Keetch-Byram Drought Index values and 1000 Hour Fuel moistures above the 90th percentile since the first week of October. The precipitation on 10/21 raised the 100 Hour fuel moistures but also brought down many of the leaves allowing sunlight to reach the forest floor and increase the rate of drying in the fuels.

The Daniel Boone National Forest and the Kentucky Division of Forestry delegate the authority and responsibility of a Kentucky Interagency Wildfire Prevention and Education Team to team leader Evelyn Morgan from October 27, 2016 – November 9, 2016. The Team will conduct fire prevention activities on behalf of both agencies. Products developed by the Team will be made available to Land Between the Lakes NRA and other federal partners in Kentucky.

The primary objectives of the team are to:

1. Educate the public about the above normal fire danger conditions across eastern Kentucky.
2. Raise overall awareness of the safety and health issues related to uncontrolled wildfire.
3. Work with DBNF districts to determine and document typical fire prevention efforts on each district.
4. Work with DBNF districts and affected KDF regions to develop a plan to disseminate developed outreach materials for this season.
5. Document the Team's activities including the number of public reached through social media and through personal contacts and document any newly established media contacts.
6. Work with DBNF and KDF to arrange media contacts regarding prevention messages with the appropriate agency contact. If actual fire activity creates media interest work with the lead agency to determine if a separate PIO should be ordered or if the Team should handle the media request.

The deliverables that are expected include:

1. Create short video messages regarding:
 - a. Basics of wildland fires – what burns and why and when
 - b. How to safely build a campfire
 - c. How to properly put out a campfire/warming fire
 - d. Arson
 - e. Safe Debris burning
 - f. KY state burn laws – what does 150' from forest land look like
 - g. Firewise tips for the homeowner
 - h. Wildland fire investigation
2. Work with KDF to create a You Tube Channel to host the videos
3. Develop a sharable library of fire prevention products for social media posts
4. Develop outreach materials that can be posted/handed that address the different causes of wildfire in Eastern Kentucky

5. Develop news releases regarding the above normal fire danger
6. In the event of DBNF Campfire Restrictions; develop new releases, signage and other materials to notify campers and visitors.
7. Develop a "Media Kit" for public information officers that includes all PPE and information to bring when accommodating media on active wildfires.

Please note that the use of the US Forest Service Shield in video production is contingent upon agency approval. Please utilize KDF uniformed personnel or generic PPE for appearances on videos until approval is confirmed.

The team should seek interagency approval of all products prior to releasing to the public. The approval contact for the DBNF is Marie Walker (mwalker04@fs.fed.us and 859-745-3145) and the approval contact for KDF is Jennifer Turner (jenniferl.turner@ky.gov and 502-~~782-7177~~).

The primary fire contacts for the team will be:

Daniel Boone National Forest: EJ Bunzendahl (ejbunzendahl@fs.fed.us or 859-556-2347)

Kentucky Division of Forestry: Floyd Willis (floyd.willis@ky.gov or 502-330-0223) or Mike Harp (mike.harp@ky.gov or 502-782-7141).

Land Between the Lakes: Todd Lerke (itlerke@fs.fed.us or 270-924-2092).

The team has a budget of \$55,000 which includes time and travel for team leader, salary for DBNF employees on the team, lodging for KDF personnel on the team and materials. You will need to keep records of expenses. For purchases please work with Sharon Lane.

Your products developed by your team will assist our wildland fire agencies with informing the public both now and in the future. Please keep positive public relations as an underlying theme throughout your work on the team and with the cooperators.



William H. Steele, State Forester
Kentucky Division of Forestry

10/26/16
Date



Bill Lorenz, Forest Supervisor
Daniel Boone National Forest

10/29/16
Date



Evelyn Morgan, Team Leader
Prevention and Education Team

10/27/16
Date