GENERAL PROVISIONS TO STATE FORESTER'S COOPERATIVE RATE AGREEMENT FORM FM 104A (01/18)

This Cooperative Fire Rate Agreement is entered into pursuant to the Cooperative Intergovernmental Agreement currently in effect between the State Forester and the Cooperator. The following terms and provisions apply, but in the event of a conflict between this Rate Agreement and the Cooperative Intergovernmental Agreement, the Cooperative Intergovernmental Agreement shall prevail.

1. Reimbursement for expenses incurred under this Agreement follows the most recent version of the Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook (the “Yellow Book”). Cooperators under this Agreement are treated as Cooperators under the Handbook. In the event of a conflict between the Handbook, this Rate Agreement, and/or the Cooperative Intergovernmental Agreement (“IGA”), the IGA shall prevail, followed by this Rate Agreement.

2. Resources assigned under this Agreement remain employees or property of the Cooperator and are subject to Cooperators supervision and control and are covered by Cooperators workers’ compensation and insurance.

3. Safety. Resources assigned under this Agreement are expected to follow National Wildland Coordinating Group standards (“NWCG Standards”). This includes training, qualifications, and the expectation that resources assigned will be expected to operate unsupported for the first 24 hours of an assignment. Failure to follow these standards may result in resources being removed from the fire line, sent home prior to the end of the assignment, and/or refusal to dispatch such resources to other incidents until the deficiencies are remedied.

(a) The Cooperator must comply with all applicable rules and regulations covered by the Arizona Industrial Commission Occupational Safety Codes, Title 23, Chapter 2, Article 10.

(b) Current NWCG Qualification standards apply. During initial response actions, minimum firefighter qualifications are completion of NWCG FFT2 qualifications. Individuals that are training at or above, or are qualified at or above single resource boss or unit leader level, must have been approved by the State Qualifications Committee.

(c) Fire department personnel must be a minimum of 18 years of age and in adequate physical condition to meet the NWCG Standard 310-1 designated work capacity test physical requirements for the position for which they were ordered. Fire department personnel will carry a current, approved Incident Qualification Card showing the position for which they were ordered.

4. Equipment Requirements. Failure to follow these standards may result in resources being removed from the fire line, sent home prior to the end of the assignment, and/or refusal to dispatch such resources to other incidents until the deficiencies are remedied.

(a) Personal Protective Equipment. Cooperators must supply and utilize the following minimum required personal protective equipment for wildfire response: hardhat, eye protection, long sleeve fire resistant shirt, fire resistant trousers, leather lace up boots with a minimum 8” top and non-skid soles, leather work gloves, hearing protection, and a fire shelter. Personal protective equipment shall meet current NFPA standards where applicable.

(b) Condition of Equipment. Equipment furnished under this Agreement will be equipped to the standards listed in the State Required Equipment Guide 2014. Equipment determined at the time of check in or inspection to be not in safe and operative condition or not compliant with the State Required Equipment Guide 2014 may be rejected by the incident. The incident may allow the Cooperator to correct deficiencies within 24 hours. No reimbursement will be made for rejected equipment.

(c) Standard Staffing. Staffing for equipment is determined by capacity of the equipment and the number of personnel needed to effectively operate the equipment. Arizona DFFM expects equipment to be staffed to the capacity allowed by the equipment. Maximum allowable staffing levels for a type 3 engine shall be 5 persons. A Type 6 engine will have a maximum staffing level of 4 persons. All watertenders will be staffed with 2 persons. Arizona DFFM recognizes that not all cooperators may be able to staff at maximum levels. Minimum staffing levels will be at least NWCG minimum staffing plus 1 body for engines and NWCG minimum staffing for water tenders. Chase trucks to allow for maximum staffing levels ARE NOT automatically authorized. Chase trucks must be authorized on the Resource order to be reimbursed.

(d) Operating Supplies. Operating supplies are to be provided by the Cooperator. Operating supplies may include but are not limited to fuel, oil, filters, lube/oil changes. Though all operating supplies are to be furnished by the Cooperator, the State may, at its option, elect to furnish such supplies when necessary to keep the equipment operating. The cost of such supplies will be deducted from reimbursement to the Cooperator.

5. Equipment Damage.

(a) Repairs. Repairs to equipment shall be made and paid by the Cooperator. The State may, at its option, elect to make such repairs when necessary to keep the equipment operating. The cost of such repairs will be deducted from reimbursement to the Cooperator.

(b) Equipment Damaged on Incident. Equipment that cannot be repaired at the site of work by the Cooperator or by the incident, within 24 hours, may be considered as being withdrawn by the Cooperator. Cooperator may be reimbursed for the normal costs of returning equipment and/or personnel to the Home Unit as promptly as emergency conditions will allow. Personnel
assigned to inoperable equipment are limited to 8 hours of compensation per shift unless otherwise dictated by home unit shift schedule.

(c) Loss, Damage or Destruction. Equipment furnished under this agreement may be operated and subjected to extreme environmental and/or strenuous operating conditions which could include but is not limited to unimproved roads, steep, rocky, hilly terrain, dust, heat, and smoky conditions. As a result, by entering into this agreement, the Cooperator agrees that what is considered wear and tear under this Agreement is in excess of what the equipment is subjected to under normal operations and is reflected in the rates paid for the equipment. No reimbursement will be made for loss, damage or destruction when (a) it is due to normal wear and tear, or (b) negligence of the Cooperator or the Cooperating agency which caused or contributed to the loss, damage or destruction, or (c) damages caused by equipment defects unless such defects are caused by negligence of the State or its employees. Vehicular damage claims, not directly related to incident activity, particularly prior to check-in or after demob, should be submitted through the owning agency’s insurance prior to submission to the state. Loss, damage, or destruction claims will be evaluated on a case by case basis and evaluated for extraordinary circumstances outside of normal conditions.

(d) Claims. Claims for reimbursement for damage, loss, or destruction of equipment should be submitted separately from the invoice (FM122). Claims documentation must include an S-number, copies of any paperwork submitted to the fire to obtain the S-number, a written description on an ICS Form 213, General Message Form, of how the loss, damage or destruction occurred (who, what, when, where and why), and a copy of the paid receipt. The written description must be signed by incident supervisory personnel, the Logistics Section Chief or designee, and the Incident Business Advisor (IBA). In the absence of an IBA, the signature of the Finance Section Chief or designee is required. On a State jurisdiction incident compensation for loss, damage or destruction is at the discretion of the State, even if an S-number has been issued by the incident.

6. Time Eligible for Reimbursement. The Cooperator may seek reimbursement for personnel and equipment furnished under this Agreement starting at the time the resource leaves its Home Unit, and ending when that resource returns to its Home Unit, unless an allowance for refurbishment and/or rest and recuperation applies.

(a) Home Unit. For travel to and from the incident, the Home Unit for equipment and personnel is the place where that equipment or personnel is normally stationed. For personnel who do not have a normal place they are stationed, the Home Unit shall be the Cooperating agency’s station closest to their place of residence. When equipment or personnel are moved from one incident directly to another incident, Cooperator must submit separate bills for each incident, and will be reimbursed for travel between the incidents.

(b) Refurbishment/Rehabilitation. Refurbishment/rehabilitation (“rehab”) will be allowed but will be restricted to the time it takes to bring the resource back to fire readiness. The State Forester anticipates that most rehab will occur prior to the resource leaving the incident. However, Cooperators may be reimbursed for personnel time only for rehab after return to the home station. Cooperators will not be reimbursed for rehab time that exceeds 1 hour for engines, water tenders, and vehicular medical/rescue resources and 2 hours for crews. Equipment rates will not be paid for rehab time. Vehicle types not listed above are not eligible for rehab time. Reimbursement for rehab time that exceeds these time frames must be approved by the Arizona State Forester’s representative in advance and in writing, and such approval must be presented with the invoice.

(c) Rest and Recuperation (R & R). Cooperator will be reimbursed for personnel R & R after return home from a 14 day assignment (exclusive of travel), under the following conditions: 1) Cooperating agency must have a Policy that allows for R & R and that policy must comply with NWCG Standards as laid out in the Incident Business Management Handbook and filed with the DFFM Office before the beginning of the incident to be considered and 2) the work calculator sheet shall be submitted with the invoice. Comparable costs for backfill are reimbursable.

(d) R & R In Place: For R & R that occurs in place on an incident, Cooperator will be reimbursed personnel costs, meals and hotel costs, if any, and the daily equipment rate. Costs of previously rented and authorized rental vehicles will also be covered. Backfill for additional hours is permitted.

(e) Excessive Work Hours. Work shifts exceeding sixteen (16) hours after the first shift of the incident will not be paid unless accompanied by a written justification on the CTR or other incident documentation completed by the incident commander or immediate incident supervisor.

Excessive work hour limitations do not apply while in travel status (before checking in at the incident or after checking out). Note that excessive travel hours may be subject to agency or incident driving regulations or other limitations. All excessive hours must be mitigated by adequate rest as soon as possible.

7. Equipment. Cooperator may be reimbursed only for equipment listed on the Cooperative Fire Rate Agreement and at the rates listed on that Agreement. Vehicles will be reimbursed at the rates set in the current “Equipment Rates for Cooperative Fire Rate Agreements”. Equipment may be designated to be paid an hourly rate or a daily rate on the Cooperative Fire Rate Agreement. Alternatively, Cooperator may designate equipment under an all-inclusive rate as described in 11(f) below.
(a) Transportation of Equipment. When apparatus is being transported (lowboy), Cooperator may seek reimbursement for the costs of transportation and for the hourly/daily rate for that equipment while it is being moved. Cooperator must provide a copy of the transporter’s log showing what hours the vehicle was underway. Cooperator will not be reimbursed additional amounts for trailers used to transport equipment that normally must be moved by trailer (i.e. ATVs and UTVs).

(b) The hourly rate is intended to reimburse the Cooperator for the costs of operating the vehicle, including the costs of fuel and maintenance. If, indicated on the Cooperative Fire Rate Agreement, equipment listed under the daily rate may charge a mileage rate in addition to the daily rate. Equipment does not take a break, and time will not be deducted for breaks when equipment is reimbursed with an hourly rate. However, Cooperator will not be reimbursed for days that equipment reimbursed with a daily rate is not transported or used.

(c) The hourly/daily rate is not intended to include the cost of personnel used to operate the equipment. Cooperator may seek reimbursement for the costs of assigned personnel, pursuant to this agreement.

(d) Daily Rate Equipment. Daily Work Rates/Mileage Rates should be documented in column 16-17 of FM 104. Daily rates shall be used for light duty non-tactical vehicles, command vehicles, ATVs/UTVs and miscellaneous equipment. Agency vehicles, included on a resource order, will be reimbursed for the duration of the assignment. Reimbursement will be made on the basis of calendar days for vehicles and equipment included on resource orders. Personally Owned Vehicles (POVs), listed on a CFRA, will be compensated the daily rate for periods of less than 8 hours, and the full daily rate for periods of more than 8 hours. Current State equipment rate sheets will be utilized to set these rates.

(e) Inoperable Equipment. Hourly/daily rates for equipment will not be reimbursed when such equipment is inoperable due to damage, loss, destruction, or lack of qualified personnel.

(f) If the Cooperator withdraws equipment prior to being released by the incident, Cooperator shall bear all costs of returning equipment to the Home Unit, unless prior written approval is obtained from the Arizona State Forester’s representative, and such approval is submitted with the invoice.

(g) Airport Travel: Travel to and from airports in relation to an incident assignment is reimbursable. Agency vehicles left at the airport for the duration of the assignment will be reimbursed only for the cost of long term parking and mileage (State travel policy, Topic 50, Section 95, Title 3 Airport Parking). No hourly/daily rate will be paid.

(h) Crew Swaps. Equipment is assigned with the understanding that it may be on assignment for 14 days. Cooperator will not be reimbursed for travel related to a staffing swap that is required before the completion of 14 days unless prior approval by the Arizona State Forester’s representative is obtained. If reimbursement for the swap is approved, appropriate vehicles used for crew swaps will be compensated at the daily/hourly rate for that vehicle.

(i) Additional Equipment including ALS and BLS Kits. Cooperator will be reimbursed for additional equipment when such equipment is ordered on the resource order and listed on the Cooperator’s Cooperative Fire Rate Agreement.

8. Personally Owned Vehicles (POVs). POVs not signed up on the Cooperative Fire Rate Agreement may not be used to transport personnel to an incident. POVs signed up on the Cooperative Fire Rate Agreement will be reimbursed pursuant to section 7 above. POVs not signed up on the Cooperative Fire Rate Agreement may be used to transport personnel to the airport if this is the most economical method of travel. POVs used to transport to and from airports will be reimbursed for mileage only at the current state mileage rate. Cooperator may also be reimbursed for reasonable costs of parking pursuant to the State travel policy (Title 3 Airport Parking). No parking fees will be reimbursed if return travel occurs on the same day. POVs used must carry the state minimum insurance, and Cooperator certifies that the vehicle is adequately insured when it submits a claim for reimbursement for these vehicles.

9. Timekeeping. Time will be recorded in military time and to the nearest quarter hour.

10. Invoices. Cooperator must submit an invoice to the State to receive reimbursement for expenses incurred pursuant to this Agreement. Invoices must be submitted electronically in the form provided by the State and must be signed by an authorized Cooperator’s representative. Invoices must be submitted to the State within the time frame specified in the Intergovernmental Agreement. Invoices received outside this timeframe may be subject to refusal. Separate invoices should be completed for each incident or change in P-Code. Invoices must contain the following information and attachments:

(a) Unique invoice number, three letter fire district code and incident number. Cooperator should assign the invoice a unique invoice number. Cooperator must include Cooperator’s three letter ID and, the P-code.

(b) Time information. Time information. Fire Time Reports (Federal Form OF288) and/or Emergency Equipment Use Invoices (Federal Form OF286) must be submitted. Any hours submitted for reimbursement not documented on an OF-288 or OF-286 must be supported by Crew Time Reports and/or Emergency Equipment Shift Tickets. If the incident does not supply OF288s or OF286s, completed Crew Time Reports (Federal Form SF261) and/or Emergency Equipment Shift Tickets (Federal Form OF297), signed by the Incident Commander, Immediate Supervisor or
Arizona State Forester’s representative must be submitted to qualify time for reimbursement, along with a filled-out work calculator sheet. Travel time from the incident to the Home Unit may be documented on Crew Time Reports and/or Emergency Equipment Shift Ticket signed by the Cooperator’s authorized representative.

(c) **Meals and Lodging information.** Cooperator will be reimbursed for meals and lodging pursuant to State of Arizona Accounting Manual Topic 50, Section 65 on Vendor and other Non-employee Travel. Cooperator should submit a spreadsheet showing meal and lodging expenses. Cooperator must keep meal receipts but these should not be submitted. Lodging receipts must be submitted. See additional information below.

(d) **Supply purchases.** Itemized receipts and resource order form with order #’s for authorized supply purchases are required and subject to state review.

(e) **Resource orders.** Cooperators must include a copy of the resource order(s) showing all equipment and personnel for which the Cooperator seeks reimbursement.

(f) **Claims.** Claims for damages to equipment should be submitted separately.

(g) **DFFM Approval.** Where this agreement requires approval from an Arizona State Forester’s Representative, such approval may be obtained from the DFFM Representative assigned to the fire, or from the Arizona DFFM District Manager for the area where the Cooperator is located, or from the Arizona DFFM Fire Management Officer. Such approval should be documented in writing (email is sufficient) and must be included with the invoice.

(h) **Unusual Circumstances.** If Cooperator encounters unusual circumstances that make compliance with the terms of these General Provisions impossible, Cooperator should consult with an Arizona State Forester Representative as to how to accommodate the situation.

11. **Reimbursements.**

(a) **Special Work Rates.** If a specific work rate or work rate amendment is not in place for planned events within Arizona such as preparedness patrols, prescribed burns, and various non-emergency activities, the default equipment rate will be 50% of standard hourly rate. In-State planned event default personnel rates will be as provided in this section without allowance for excess costs due to backfill or coverage.

(b) **Career Personnel Rates.** Cooperator shall charge actual labor expenses including eligible overtime and employer related expenses in accordance with each department’s pre-existing labor contracts and pay schedules. A copy of the pay schedule with grade ranges shall accompany this Agreement. Pay schedule revisions occurring during the agreement period will be provided to the State. Non budgeted costs incurred by fire departments for required backfill or coverage will be eligible for reimbursement up to the limits imposed by the following section.

(c) **Backfill:** Costs accrued as a result of backfill of assigned personnel or those personnel on R&R as a result of assignment are potentially reimbursable. Reimbursable costs are those costs incurred when an individual’s backfill rate exceeds the base rate of the individual on assignment. DFFM will reimburse the difference in the two rates up to the rate of the top step of the rank of the individual on assignment. Backfill costs above the top step of the rank of the individual on assignment will not be reimbursable.

(d) **Volunteer and Supplemental Personnel Rates.** Cooperator will charge the State for volunteer and supplemental fire personnel at the current rates outlined in the Arizona State Forester’s Emergency Pay Plan for Seasonal Hires for the position for which they were ordered. Supplemental Fire employees are defined per NWCG Memo #004-2009. The pay period is defined as a seven day work week beginning the first day of the incident, e.g., Monday through Sunday. Overtime will be paid for hours in excess of 40 hours.

(e) **Employer Related Expenses (ERE).** Employer Related Expenses covered for time while on the assignment will be as follows:

- Workers Compensation
- Unemployment Insurance
- FICA taxes
- Retirement
- Long term disability

Note that when calculating the rate for overtime, fixed rate insurance expenses are not included.

(f) **Wildland Fire Incentive.** Rates applied out of district will be the same as applied in district for similar services and responses.

(g) **All Inclusive Rates.** If agreed to by AZDFFM and Cooperator and included on the Cooperator’s “Cooperative Fire Rate Agreement”, Cooperator may charge an all-inclusive rate that would include the costs of equipment, personnel and backfill (as applicable). Cooperator agrees that the billing method included in the “Cooperative Fire Rate Agreement” is binding for the year it is applicable and must be used unless the “Cooperative Fire Rate Agreement” is amended.

(h) **Administrative fees.** Cooperator will be reimbursed for reasonable administrative costs incurred preparing invoices. If there is an issue with the invoice and it is returned to the Cooperator for a revision, hours incurred to revise the invoice will not be reimbursed. Cooperator may not seek reimbursement for overtime pay incurred to prepare wildland invoices. Cooperator may seek reimbursement for reasonable costs incurred if Cooperator’s invoices are prepared by Cooperator’s contractor (for instance, an accountant or CPA).
(i) **Meal and Lodging Expense Reimbursement.** Arizona DFFM is governed by State Policy in how it reimburses non-State employees for travel expenses incurred while on State related business. State of Arizona Accounting Manual Topic 50, Section 65 on Vendor and other Non-employee Travel provides the direction that DFFM is required to follow. Stated meal and lodging reimbursement rates are for maximum reimbursement for actual costs incurred, and are not per-diem rates.

(ii) **Meals.** Cooperators are expected to be self-sufficient during initial attack. Cooperators will not be reimbursed for meals incurred during the first 12 hours of deployment, whether in travel status or on an incident in state. After the first 12 hours, meals may be reimbursed if: 1) the request complies with applicable portions of the State travel policy (Topic 50, Section 95.); 2) the allowed amount of gratuity for reimbursement must not exceed 20% of the total cost of meal before taxes, and when combined with the total cost of the meal plus taxes it does not exceed the state allowed maximum rate in order to be fully reimbursed; 3) the incident is not providing meals; 4) receipts are kept on file by the Cooperate and produced for audit as requested by DFFM; and 5) if meals are on individual receipts Cooperate will be reimbursed for the actual cost of the meal or the maximum allowable amount, whichever is less; if meals for multiple crew members are on the same receipt, Cooperate will be reimbursed for the actual cost of the meal or maximum allowable amount times the number of crew members, whichever is less.

(iii) **Lodging.** A Cooperate may only be allowed in-state lodging reimbursement by DFFM if their resource order allows lodging. Any approved lodging (in-state or out of state) shall be reimbursed according to current State travel policy and only for actual costs incurred up to the stated maximum rate for that geographic area. Utilizing lodging above the stated maximum is at the Cooperator’s own risk as the overage shall not be reimbursed by DFFM. For any reimbursement of lodging, an itemized receipt signed by the occupants of the room must be submitted with the invoice.

(j) **Rental Vehicles.** Cooperate may seek reimbursement for rental vehicles, when listed on the Resource Order. For in-state vehicle use, Cooperate will not be reimbursed for additional insurance purchased. For out of state only, Cooperate will be reimbursed for the costs of the rental vehicle and CDW insurance. Please note that at all times resources ordered under this Agreement remain the employees of Cooperator, and Cooperator’s insurance coverage is responsible. For this reason, Cooperator may wish to obtain additional rental vehicle insurance coverage, even though this coverage will not be reimbursed by the State.

Rental vehicles should be commensurate with position requested on resource order. 4x4 and high clearance vehicles are appropriate for fire line positions. SUVs above the Full size class must be approved by the incident or Arizona DFFM unless no other vehicles are available due to activity in the area.

(k) **Miscellaneous.** Reimbursement for miscellaneous costs listed on the resource order will be at the discretion of the State.

12. **General provisions.**

(a) **Disputes.** In the event of a dispute, the parties agree to arbitrate the dispute to the extent required by A.R.S. § 12-1518.

(b) **Termination.** The State may cancel this agreement without penalty or further obligation pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-511.

(c) **Failure to adhere to these provisions may result in the Cooperator forfeiting all rights to reimbursement.**

(d) **Audit.** Within a 5 year period of invoice submittal, the State at its discretion may request a review of fire invoicing documentation.

(e) **The Parties agree to comply with all applicable Federal or State laws relating to equal opportunity and non-discrimination.**

(f) **Pursuant to A.R.S. § 35-214, the Cooperate shall retain all data, books and other records (“records”) relating to this Contract for a period of five years after completion of the Contract. All records shall be subject to inspection and audit by the State at reasonable times. Upon request, the Cooperate shall produce the original of any or all such records.**

(g) **This agreement shall be subject to available funding, and nothing in this agreement shall bind the State to expenditures in excess of funds appropriated and allotted for the purposes outlined in this agreement.**

(h) **The Cooperate assigns to the State any claim for overcharges resulting from antitrust violations to the extent that such violations concern materials or services supplies by third parties to the Cooperate toward fulfillment of this Contract.**