



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the

[Redacted]

FIRE DEPARTMENT

and the

SOUTH CAROLINA FORESTRY COMMISSION



This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) made by and between the South Carolina Forestry Commission, an agency of the State of South Carolina, hereinafter referred to as the COMMISSION, and the Fire Department is hereinafter referred to as COOPERATOR.

INTRODUCTION

Because of the intermingling of structures and natural cover fuels in unincorporated areas of:

[Redacted]

County, the objectives of the two above-named organizations are

to minimize the loss of life and property as a result of an uncontrolled fire. Recognizing this, we, the undersigned, have arrived at the MOU for these primary purposes:

1. To promote the efficient and expeditious transfer of Firefighter Property (FFP) or Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP).
2. Prevent misunderstanding by outlining responsibility to safeguard accountability.
3. Make possible effective support between organizations.

To implement this program, the following information as to organization makeup is exchanged:

Cooperator: MUST BE COMPLETED (may attach separate pages as needed)

1. AREA COVERED: attach a narrative description and/or map
2. SOURCE OF FUNDS: List for example – tax district, donations, county funds, other sources
3. FACILITIES: LIST BY STATION
 - a. Equipment: kind and type of equipment/vehicles
 - b. Manpower: number paid vs. volunteers
4. TYPE ORGANIZATION (Volunteer, Subscription, Tax District, Municipal)
5. National Incident Management System NIMS compliant: YES NO

SOUTH CAROLINA FORESTRY COMMISSION

1. The COMMISSION covers the state of South Carolina except for incorporated areas and federal lands not under a specific agreement. However, equipment may be sent into incorporated areas upon request of the municipal fire department.
2. The source of COMMISSION funds are from state appropriations and are supplemented by federal matching funds.
3. COMMISSION facilities consist of three regional offices, Columbia main office (HQ) and regional sub-locations (i.e. state forests).
 - a. Regional offices: Piedmont, Coastal, and Pee Dee.
 - b. Equipment – primary equipment is type 5 tractor/plow unit which may have a blade.
 - c. Manpower – assigned firefighters with additional personnel available as needed.

4. The COMMISSIONS responsibility is to provide a statewide system of fire protection on all lands outside of corporate limits which support enough growth or have sufficient inflammable debris or grass to constitute, in the judgment of the COMMISSION, a fire menace to itself or adjoining lands.

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

In areas of mutual interest, we agree to the following operational procedures:

1. **DISPATCHING:**
 - a. The COMMISSION will dispatch personnel and/or equipment to any known forest, brush, and grass fire; to any fire of unknown character; or to any fire at the request of the COOPERATOR.
 - b. The COOPERATOR will dispatch personnel to any known structure, building, residence fire; to any fire of unknown character; or to any fire at the request of the COMMISSION.
2. **COMMUNICATIONS:** Having knowledge of same, the COMMISSION will immediately advise the COOPERATOR of any burning or threatened structure within the COOPERATOR'S area of operation. (COOPERATOR'S area of operation shown on attached map).
3. **MUTUAL ASSISTANCE:**
 - a. **Suppression** – When both parties are at the same fire, the unified command will be utilized as appropriate.
 - b. **Training** - Each party agrees to participate in those portions of the other party's training program when such training could be mutually beneficial.
 - c. Each party agrees to lend its support to fire prevention programs of the other party which will increase the public awareness of the hazard and destruction of fire and/or make the purpose of this Agreement possible.

The South Carolina Forestry Commission and the USDA Forest Service prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). The SC Forestry Commission and the USDA Forest Service are equal opportunity providers and employers.

This agreement will be effective from the date of execution by the COMMISSION FFP/FEPP Manager, and will continue in force from three (3) years from the effective date, subject to any amendments which may be made hereof by mutual agreement of the parties, or unless terminated by either party by thirty (30) days written notice to the other, provided, however, that all of the provisions herein are complied with. This agreement must be updated if there are any changes which may occur within the Commission or Cooperator (such as a change in authorized signatory personnel or closure of station(s)) prior to the expiration of this agreement.

NOTE: Please TYPE (or print very clearly)!		County	
		Date 20	
Fire Department Name:		City:	State: SC
Mailing Address:		Zip code: 29	
Fire Chief's Signature		Fire Chief's E-mail Address:	
Printed Name		Cell Phone Number: ()	
SC Forestry Commission:		Printed Name	Date 20