

National - Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Defense and the Departments of Agriculture and Interior:

Memorandum of Understanding (effective 1975) between the Department of Defense (DOD/Army) and the Departments of Agriculture (USDA) and Interior (DOI) for military components at the request of the Boise Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in forest and grassland fire emergencies occurring within the continental United States. (Includes requests for assistance to federal, state, and private lands.) The MOU does not supercede or modify existing mutual aid agreement procedures between individual military installations and the States.

Under Section III, Policy, the MOU states that there are two situations in the DOD, consistent with Defense priorities, will provide such assistance; basically, 1) when all suitable civilian resources have been committed and use of the military would not be in competition with private enterprise; and 2) when a fire is declared a major disaster or the determination for emergency assistance is made by the President and the military support is requested by the Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) or FDAA Regional Director.

A copy of the MOU is available in the National Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 40. To obtain a copy of the Guide, you may visit the NIFC website, Publications Management System, and order publication NFES 2092 (paperback edition). The National Mobilization Guide may become available through the NIFC website during 2001: <http://www.nifc.gov/news/nicc.html>