METADATA
FIRE MANAGEMENT UNIT
(FireManagementUnit)

Summary (Purpose): The Fire Management Unit dataset contains polygons which are defined as one of four fire management units which can assist in setting initial attack priorities and determining the appropriate management response (AMR) to a wildland fire start.   The four fire management unit types are: Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), roaded, roadless and wilderness. The dataset has been dissolved on attribute FMU_NAME.

Description (Abstract): The challenge facing the line officer, fire manager and firefighter is to select AMRs commensurate with the fire's probable or potential behavior. The AMR will be initiated to provide the most reasonable and probable course of action in order to minimize fire suppression costs and resource damage commensurate with fire behavior, potential environmental impacts, safety and smoke management considerations. Each FMU has differing values and risks that influence the AMR.

Recommendations for Implementation: To determine if the area in question is considered WUI, the following steps are recommended: 1. Is there a minimum density of one house per 40 acres? a. If yes, continue. b. If no, STOP, the area in question is not WUI. 2. Is wildland vegetation covering more than 50% of the area in question? a. If more than 50% wildland vegetation coverage, STOP, the area is Intermix. Count as WUI. b. If less than 50% coverage, continue. 3. Is the area in question within 1.5 miles from an area that is at least 75% wildland vegetated? a. If yes, STOP, the area in question is Interface. Count as WUI. b. If not, STOP, the area in question is not WUI. To capture the importance (e.g. the sensitivity) of federal land not meeting the SILVIS definition, a "Proximity to WUI" attribute (or any other attribute) may be created for Federal lands next to WUI that do not conform to the SILVIS definition. These acres can be weighted the same as WUI (1.0) to emphasize that this attribute has the same importance as the SILVIS defined WUI.

UPDATE 20150429: The WUI was revised to include all areas on the Forest within 1 mile of the ownership boundary and extended out to include private areas displayed in the BNF Fire Protection DNRC layer.

FMU 1 - *NEW* "Wildland Urban Interface" is used to describe the strategies and objectives for a defined area of fire protection responsibility for the Bitterroot National Forest. FMU 1 consists of private, State of Montana, Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge and Bitterroot National Forest lands.

Urban Interface (outside wilderness). The AMR for the majority of wildland fires in this FMU will be to suppress the fire using rapid, aggressive initial attack actions to minimize acres burned. In areas where wildland fire use is not restricted, guidelines established in approved wildland fire use guides will be followed to determine if a wildland fire event is to be managed for resource benefits. In all cases, firefighter and public safety will be provided for at all times. This FMU includes National Forest lands and other private lands where the Forest Service has protection responsibilities. This FMU includes those areas where: (1) the threat to life and private property are extremely high; (2) adverse public reaction and pre-existing controversies/relationships are anticipated; and (3) resource values are extremely high. The risk of loss continues to escalate as settlement patterns increase along the interface. 3.2.1.b. FMU 2 - Active Roaded Areas (outside wilderness). The AMR for the majority of wildland fires in this FMU will be to suppress the fire using rapid, aggressive initial attack actions to minimize acres burned. In areas

where wildland fire use is not restricted, guidelines established in approved wildland fire use guides will be followed to determine if a wildland fire event is to be managed for resource benefits. In all cases, firefighter and public safety will be provided for at all times. This FMU includes: (1) high value, roaded forest lands; (2) improved recreation sites and facilities; and (3) other roaded active areas within the fire protection zone. 3.2.1.c. FMU 3 - Roadless and Unroaded Areas (outside wilderness). In areas where wildland fire use is not restricted, guidelines established in approved wildland fire use guides will be followed to determine if a wildland fire event is to be managed for resource benefits. Outside of these areas, wildland fires will be suppressed using the AMR. In all cases, firefighter and public safety will be provided for at all times. This FMU includes: (1) all the non-wilderness roadless areas; and (2) the higher elevation areas with old, over-mature timber stands which can support high intensity stand replacement fires during times of drought or severe drought. 3.2.1.d. FMU 4 - Wilderness Areas (inside wilderness). Guidelines established in approved wildland fire use guides will be followed to determine if a wildland fire event is to be managed for resource benefit. For human caused fires, the AMR will be to suppress the fire using tactics and strategies compatible with wilderness values. In all cases, firefighter and public safety will be provided for at all times.

Attributes:

FMU_NAME: Fire Management Unit name:

1:	WUI
2:	Roaded
3:	Roadless
4:	Wilderness

ACRES: Area of the FMU, in acres.

FMU: Numeric code for the FMU (see FMU_NAME above).

Coordinate System:

Type: Projected
Geographic Coordinate Reference: GCS North American 1983
Datum: D_North_America_1983
Projection: NAD_1983_UTM_Zone_11N
Unit: Meters

Use Limitations: The Forest Service uses the most current and complete data available. GIS data and product accuracy may vary. They may be developed from sources of differing accuracy; accurate only at certain scales; based on modeling or interpretation; incomplete while being created or revised; etc. Using GIS products for purposes other than those for which they were created, may yield inaccurate or misleading results. The Forest Service reserves the right to correct, update, modify or replace GIS products without notification.