

Rosemont Copper Mine

Objection Review

Objection # (s): 0056-SWhitehouse

Resource Area(s): Fuels and Fire – General (FF-1)

Objection Issue:

- 0056-9: Wild fires outside the national forest will be paid for not by Rosemont mine, no, those costs will be covered by the jurisdiction in which the fire occurs. The State of Arizona and Pima County will pay for firefighters and equipment to fight fires on these lands.

Remedy Supplied by Objector (if any): None

Law, Regulation and/or Policy: Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (2009) between the Bureau of Land Management (AZ); National Park Service, Intermountain Region; Bureau of Indian Affairs, Western and Navajo Regions; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southwestern Region; Forest Service, Southwestern Region; and the State of Arizona, State Forestry Division; Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement 2014 Annual Operating Plan

Review Team Member Response:

The purpose of the Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (2009) is designed to improve efficiencies by facilitating the coordination and exchange of personnel, equipment, supplies, services, and funds among the cooperating federal agencies and the state of Arizona wildland fire responders. The Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement 2014 Annual Operating Plan is tiered to the Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (2009). The Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement 2014 Annual Operating Plan provides details that describe how agencies will process bills and make payments between the State Forester and the cooperating federal agencies for fire management activities and Presidentially declared emergencies and disasters. These agreements are in place to improve efficiency in addressing wildland fire and facilitate improved coordination regarding incidents between federal and state agencies; in addition, it specifies the state will coordinate local resources for management activities.

Two FEIS Mitigation and Monitoring Plan items (FS-PHS-02 and RC-FF-01) [PR 047511_6, Appendix B, pp. 69, 99] generally address the stated objection; although they are not specifically addressing the burden of cost, they refer to safety planning and the addition of resource availability for fire responders which indirectly could affect cost. Mitigation FS-PHS-02 [PR

047511_6, p. B-69] requires Rosemont Copper to coordinate with local resources including local fire districts, and other applicable agencies such as the Fire Chief's Association, in order develop and coordinate emergency responses and contingency planning. It is during the effort of coordination of emergency responses and contingency planning that issues such as responsibility and cost could be identified and addressed. Mitigation RC-FF-01 [PR 047511_6, p. B-99] would potentially reduce impacts from wildfire, by providing water fill station access to ASLD personnel for firefighting purposes.

Recommended Remedy by Review Team Member (if any): No remedy is required.

Review Team Member: Tara Umphries, Southwest Region Fuels Specialist (Detail)