

**ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE, LLC  
ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE**

**Construction, Operations, and Maintenance Plans**

**ATTACHMENT E**

**Fire Prevention and Suppression Standards**

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## Attachment E

### U.S. FOREST SERVICE STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES PERTAINING TO FIRE PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION

The Fire Prevention and Suppression Plan is consistent with the George Washington and Monongahela National Forest standards and guidelines associated with wildfire prevention and suppression.

#### George Washington National Forest

The George Washington National Forest's 2014 "*Revised Land and Resource Management Plan*" contains the following standards and guidelines regarding fire management:

##### **Wildland Fire Management:**

**FW-147** When used for control lines, trails (including tread, structures and improvements) will be restored to pre-burn conditions as soon as practicable.

**FW-148** Fire control lines (whether constructed by hand or mechanically) that tie into travel ways (trails, roads, etc.), will be obliterated and the topography restored to original contour as soon as possible following the fire.

##### **Wildfires:**

**FW-149** Ensure firefighter and public safety as the first priority. Secondly, protect property and natural and cultural resources based on the relative values to be protected.

**FW-150** Suppress human-caused wildfires (either accidental or arson).

**FW-151** The full range of suppression tactics (from full suppression to monitoring) may be used, consistent with forest and management prescription area direction.

**FW-152** Suppress wildfires at minimum cost, considering firefighter and public safety, benefits, and values to be protected, consistent with resource objectives.

**FW-153** Where needed to prevent erosion, fire lines are revegetated and water-barred promptly after the fire is controlled.

**FW-154** Lightning-caused fires are allowed to play their natural ecological role as long as they occur within prescribed weather and fuel conditions and do not pose unmitigated threats to life and/or private property, particularly to that property within the wildland/urban interface zone.

## **Monongahela National Forest**

**FM-01** Make firefighter and public safety the first priority in all fire management activities.

**FM-02** Provide for Forest fire prevention and protection consistent with public safety, resource values and management objectives.

- a) Contribute to national, regional, or local fire prevention, suppression, and prescribed fire efforts by providing resources, expertise, and training.
- b) Participate in fire prevention programs or efforts, such as Firewise, that reduce the risks of wildfire in the wildland-urban interface.

**FM-03** Reduce wildfire risk to communities, municipal water supplies, and at-risk federal land by maintaining or restoring fire-resilient forest stands.

**FM-04** Maintain or restore late successional stands to a pre-fire suppression condition consistent with management prescription emphasis and desired conditions.

**FM-05** Establish a framework for restoring and maintaining the role of fire in fire-adapted ecosystems. During watershed and project level planning, identify and prioritize opportunities to maintain, enhance, or restore fire-adapted ecosystems.

**FM-06** Use prescribed fire to establish, maintain, control, or restore forest vegetation (e.g., oak regeneration and fire-resilient stands), wildlife openings, savannahs, and grazing allotments.

**FM-07** Prepare a Fire Management Action Plan to help implement Forest Plan Fire Management direction. Identify available resources and plan-specific prevention, detection, suppression, and prescribed burning actions based on the Fire Regime Condition Class and the following:

- a) An analysis of probable fire locations.
- b) Expected fire intensities
- c) Potential net resource value changes
- d) Risk to health and safety.

**FM-08** Design and implement prescribed fire projects so that emissions do not hinder the state from meeting air quality standards and attaining visibility goals.

**FM-09** Over the next 10 years use prescribed fire on 10,000 to 30,000 acres. Emphasize use in areas to reduce hazardous fuels and fire risk to property or investments, and/or in areas to maintain, restore, or enhance wildlife habitat or other ecosystem components.

**FM-10** Identify potential fire hazard areas in wildland/urban interface areas. Focus on fire-adapted ecosystems in Fire Regime 1, Condition Class 3 and Fire Regime III, Condition

Class 2. Develop and prioritize vegetation treatment plans in coordination with local volunteer fire departments, governments, agencies, and landowners to reduce the risk from wildland fire.

**FM-11** In conjunction with the State of West Virginia, develop and pursue a fire prevention program that maintains or reduces human-caused fire starts at or below a baseline average for the past decade. Focus prevention efforts on keeping fire starts low, while explaining the role fire plays in creating and sustaining certain ecosystems.

**FM-12** A prescribed burning plan must be prepared and approved prior to using prescribed fire as a management tool. The plan shall address protection or maintenance of TEP species and habitat, cultural resources, watershed resources, air quality, private property, and other resources or investments as needed or appropriate.

**FM-13** Wildland Fire Use may only occur under a fire management plan that evaluates a full range of management responses.

**FM-14** Use best available smoke management practices in prescribed fire design and implementation to avoid or mitigate adverse effects on public health and safety, or visibility in the Dolly Sods and Otter Creek Wilderness Class I Areas.

**FM-15** All managed burns must comply with Smoke Management Programs for West Virginia when these are implemented.

**FM-16** Demonstrate conformity with the State Implementation Plan for any prescribed fire planned within EPA designated “non-attainment” and “maintenance” areas.

**FM-17** Activity fuels should be managed at a level commensurate with the allowable fire intensity and rate of spread that meets resource objectives.

**FM-18** Fire detection should be accomplished through the least expensive and most practical technique as demonstrated by historic patterns of local interaction (i.e., local citizens support fire suppression and detection efforts and promptly report wildfires to their local volunteer fire departments).

**FM-19** Fire suppression forces should select the least resource-damaging suppression techniques based on human safety, potential loss of resources, and cost effectiveness. Mechanized equipment and fire retardants are allowed suppression techniques. Confinement may be an appropriate suppression strategy. Mechanized equipment may be used in stream channel buffers during fire emergency situations.

**FM-20** After a fire is controlled, rehabilitate those areas that have the potential to adversely affect soil, water, or other resources. Fire lines should be revegetated and water-barred, where necessary, to prevent erosion. Water diversions may be used to keep sediment out of channels.