



COST SHARE AGREEMENT
Between the
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Northeastern Land Office
And the
U.S. Wildland Fire Service
Northern Rockies - Unit 6

This cost share agreement is between the agencies identified above, as negotiated for the following incident in accordance with the Montana Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (2023-2027) executed between the State of Montana, United States Department of the Interior, and the United States Department of Agriculture. The purpose of this agreement is to allocate financial responsibility and to describe the cost division.

General Incident Information:

Incident Name:	Sawmill		
Incident Start Date:	8/23/2026	Incident Start Time:	1609
Point of Origin:	Lat: 47°31'50.17"N	Long: 109°35'57.77"W	
Point of Origin:	Township: 20N	Section: 6	Range: 17E
Estimated Size:	Acres at the time of this agreement: 249.67		
Incident Cause:	Lightning		
Command Structure:	☐ Unified Command	☒	Single Command
Incident Type (1-5):	Type 4		
Unified Ordering Point:	Lewistown Interagency Dispatch Center		
Cost Share Type:	Acres Burned		
Protection Units:	U.S. Wildland Fire Service, Montana Department of Natural Resources		
Incident Commander(s):	Jordan Bloxham, Patrick Frasier (t)		
Agency Administrator(s):	Josh Barta – US WFS, Jocce Hedrick – MT-DNRC		

Primary Incident Numbers by Protection Agency:

Agency	Incident #	Accounting Code
BLM/WFS - Federal	MT-NCD-000298	SXS4
MT-DNRC - State	MT-NCD-000298	906528

Cost Share Period:

This agreement becomes effective on the date indicated below and will remain in effect until amended or terminated.

Start Date/Time:	08/23/2026 1609 MST	End Date/Time:	End of incident
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Other conditions relative to this agreement:

1. This cost share will terminate at a date and time agreed upon by all agency administrators at the conclusion of the incident or when conditions significantly change resulting in a need to end or modify this agreement.
2. All costs originating from orders placed by and for the incident that can be reasonably obtained and estimated for the cost share period will be included in this agreement and will be shared based on the Agency Administrators (AA) or Agency Representatives (AR) mutual agreement.
3. Agency specific costs will not be shared.
4. Responsibility for tort claim costs or compensation for injury costs will not be a part of this agreement. Costs for nonexpendable property purchases by each agency will be charged directly to that agency and will not be shared.
5. Costs for accountable, sensitive, and durable property purchased by each agency will be charged directly to that agency and will not be shared.
6. Costs incurred by cooperators not engaged in joint fire suppression activities will not be included as a part of this cost share agreement. Responsibility for these costs will be determined outside of this agreement.
7. Non-suppression rehabilitation costs are the responsibility of the jurisdictional agency and will not be shared.
8. Each agency will be responsible for collecting actual cost/expenditure data that will make up their respectable costs.
9. The parties to this agreement will meet to determine the total costs of each agency on the incident.
10. Each agency (including supporting agencies) will bill for their costs as outlined in the billing procedures of the Montana Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (2023-2027).

Protecting Agencies' Strategies

Full suppression and perimeter control.

Cost Share Methodology and Rationale:

The cost share methodology chosen for this fire will be based on acres burned according to ownership and jurisdiction. This has been chosen for this incident because of the values at risk and the effort was equal for all agencies involved. The following is a breakdown of acres burned in the Sawmill fire.

Cost Sharing – Sharing strategy will be by the full amount, including aircraft costs.

Total Acres:	249.67
BLM:	146.35
Private:	103.32

1. Federal Share:

a.	USFS	%
b.	BLM	59%
c.	FWS	%
d.	NPS	%
e.	BIA	%

2. State Share:

a.	MT-DNRC	41%
b.		%
c.		%

Principal Contacts:

The following personnel are the principal contacts:

Title:	Name:	Agency:
Agency Administrator	Josh Barta	DOI-WFS
Agency Representative		
Agency Administrator	Jocee Hedrick	MT-DNRC
Agency Representative	Keith Woods	MT-DNRC
Incident Business Advisor(s)	Cienna Mrnak	DOI-WFS
Other IMT members as appropriate		

Signatures of Authorized Personnel & Attachments:

This agreement and the apportionment described are our best judgments of fair and equitable agency cost responsibilities.

Agency	Agency Administrator or Representative Name & Title	Signature and Date
USDI Wildland Fire Service Northern Rockies Unit 6	Josh Barta Fire Chief	JOSH BARTA  Digitally signed by JOSH BARTA Date: 2026.08.27 14:42:06 -06'00'
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (Northeastern Land Office)	Jocce Hedrick Area Manager	Jocce Hedrick  Digitally signed by Jocce Hedrick Date: 2026.08.28 08:24:54 -06'00'

Addendums to this Document:

Addendums to this document include:
Appendix A – Map of Fire Area

