



Appendix I

FIRE PREVENTION PLAN

Objectives:

1. Reduce the threat of human-caused fires through visitor and employee education.
2. Integrate the prevention message into interpretive programs.

General Actions:

Eight human-caused fires occurred at Knife River Indian Villages from 1974 to 2006. The following General Action Items have been identified as elements in the park's overall Fire Prevention Program. They are designed to address the two major causes of human-caused fires at Knife River Indian Villages NHS in the last 30 years, those being illegal campfires and arson. Fireworks and equipment fires are also a major concern at the park.

- All members of the park's staff will be familiar with this plan and be able to explain it to other interested parties.

Responsible person: All Division Chiefs, ongoing

- Fire prevention will be discussed at park safety meetings. Proper use of equipment by park staff will be emphasized.

Responsible person: Facility Manager, ongoing

- The Law Enforcement Officer will liaison with park visitors regarding park regulations pertaining to fireworks, June-August annually.

- Interpretive programs and visitor contacts will include fire prevention messages (particularly, smoking on trails in times of high and extreme fire danger) to alert visitors to current fire danger conditions.

Responsible person: Chief of Interpretation, ongoing

Responsible person: Interpretive Specialist, ongoing

- Enforcement and interpretive rangers will include fire prevention messages in their routine visitor contacts, particularly campground and back-country users.

Responsible person: LE and Interpretive Specialist, ongoing.

- Education on fire prevention and awareness through the use of off site programs

Responsible person: Education Specialist, ongoing



Fire Prevention Analysis:

The fire prevention analysis is included in the following pages. The analysis contains the detailed prevention actions identified for specific areas or fire problems in eight Fire Prevention Zones.

It will be reviewed annually and updated if changes occur which alter the identified Risks, Hazards, and Values.

Fire Prevention Zone #1: County Road 37 Right of Way

Hazard = High: Mixed-grass prairie in continuous stands, fine, flashy fuels, capable of rapid rates of spread.

Value = High: Political values; adjacent agricultural land and residences. Many private structures located near boundary. Visitor Center area located within mowed area.

Risk = High: Frequent human use. Right of way for only entry road into park, and main thoroughfare north out of the City of Stanton.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. General fire prevention actions.
2. Liaison with neighbors, park permittees and Mercer County Sheriffs Office.
3. Ongoing hazard fuel reduction.

Responsible persons: Chief of Resource Management, Fire Program Coordinator, and Chief of Interpretation, ongoing

Fire Prevention Zone #2: Awatixa Trail Parking (Fishing Hole Parking)

Hazard = High: Fine, flashy fuels continuous throughout area. Moderate slopes on west side leading toward park boundary.

Value = Moderate: Visitor safety and property, limited improvements (pit toilet, bulletin board, refuse collection, picnic tables, wayside exhibits).

Risk = High: History of illegal campfires and fireworks use, often frequented by fisherman and park visitors during summer months

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. Trailhead bulletin board will contain fire prevention messages.
2. Education/enforcement in fishing area/parking lot.
3. Fireworks enforcement, campfire enforcement.
4. General fire prevention actions.

Responsible persons: Chief of Resource Management, Fire Program Coordinator, and Chief of Interpretation, ongoing



Fire Prevention Zone #3: Maintenance Shop

Hazard = *High* Fine, flashy, continuous fuels. Located on gentle upslope, heading west.

Value = *High* Four park owned structures, including utilities, associated equipment and vehicles, contained within mowed area.

Risk = *Moderate* Risks are associated with general maintenance operations conducted at shop and vehicular/machinery traffic along county road 18.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. Proper use of fire prevention equipment during work activities.
2. Safety message on smoking given prior to work activities.
3. Enforcement of regulations.
5. Ongoing hazard fuel reduction.

Responsible persons: Chief of Maintenance, Chief of Resource Management, Fire Program Coordinator, ongoing

Fire Prevention Zone #4: North Trail and Associated Parking Area

Hazard = *Medium* Brushy, shaded fuels located at trailhead and along main trail route. Fine, flashy fuels located on West and East flanks of main trail system.

Value = *High* Adjacent private lands, both agricultural and residence

Risk = *Low* Not a high use trail system, fuel types along trail are not conducive to starts due to moisture levels and shading.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. General fire prevention actions.
2. Continued internal communications with residents and visitors.
3. Ongoing hazard fuel reduction.

Responsible persons: Chief of Resource Management, Fire Program Coordinator, and Chief of Interpretation, ongoing

Fire Prevention Zone #5: Two Rivers Trail and Associated Parking Area

Hazard = *Medium* Woodland of medium density, composed of ash and boxelder with a thick grass under story.

Value = *high* Private residence located on immediate boundary, numerous buildings, corrals and agricultural fields



Risk = *Medium* Historical fire occurrence associated with neighboring farming/ranching operations

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. Ongoing hazard fuel reduction.
2. General fire prevention actions.
3. Education/enforcement on trail system.
4. Fire prevention message posted on bulletin boards.
6. Continued communications with local residents and park.

Responsible persons: Division chiefs, Fire Program Coordinator, ongoing.

Fire Prevention Zone #6: Stanton City Park (South Boundary)

Hazard = *High* Heavily canopied woodland adjacent to Stanton City Park. City park is well developed and allows campfires. History of illegal campfires and fireworks along south boundary in park. Areas of fine, flashy fuels with private residences located on immediate boundary.

Value = *High* Developed City Park, private residences and associated structures.

Risk = *High* Low visitor activity within Knife River Indian Villages NHS, however high use within Stanton City Park. South Boundary also serves as a major traffic corridor to Mercer County Court House and Sheriffs office.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. Ongoing hazard fuel reduction.
2. Education/enforcement.
3. Continued internal communications with local residents and park.

Responsible persons: Division chiefs, Fire Program Coordinator, ongoing.