



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
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January 24, 2003

To: All Regional Directors, All Regions
Attention: Fire Management Officers

From: **ACTING** Chief, Branch of Fire Management

Subject: Implementation of the Resource Ordering and Status System

The Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS) has become a reality. This has involved a strong commitment from many Wildland fire agencies as they have contributed to the project by making personnel available for project teams and providing financial support. While we are well on our way to adding this tool to our kit, it is important that we continue to follow through on implementation of ROSS so we can begin to derive the benefits the system will deliver.

Each geographic area is on a different time schedule for completing implementation. A certification process has been developed which involves fire operations personnel in determining the proper time for transitioning from a paper resource ordering system to ROSS. Once that determination has been made and coordinated with your interagency partners, I expect that our agency will begin utilizing ROSS.

To help complete the implementation phase, it is important to support training that is on going across the country. Please continue to make training instructors, student coaches, and student trainees available to attend these sessions. If you have question about ROSS implementation, contact Frank Bedonie, BIA Coordinator in the Rocky Mountain Region at 303/445-4317.

I am sure there will be a bump or two along the way to completely implementing ROSS across the country. However, the project teams have demonstrated their responsiveness and proficiency is resolve issues as they occur. This is a change that will improve our resource ordering and status keeping practices. I appreciate your support as we move forward.