

The logo features the text "Teton Interagency FIRE" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The text is centered and overlaid on a light gray background that includes a stylized outline of a mountain range and a shield shape. Two horizontal red lines are positioned below the text, one on the left and one on the right.

# **Teton Interagency FIRE**

Martha Williamson

Teton Interagency Fire Planner

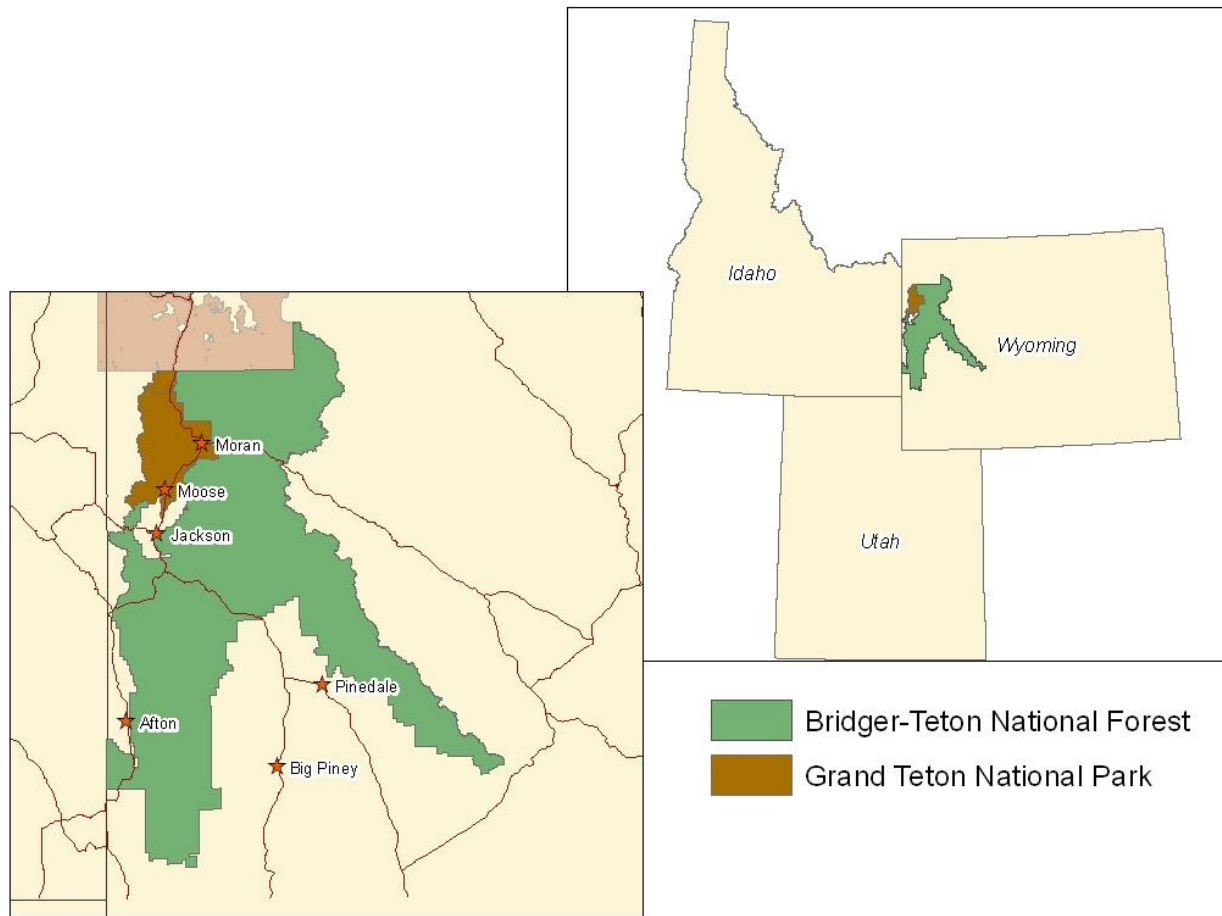
Bridger-Teton National Forest & Grand Teton National Park

# What's in store

- Introductions
- Program goals
- Benefits to the agencies and to the resource
- Evolution of the Teton Interagency Fire program
- Under the hood
- Best practices
- Lessons learned

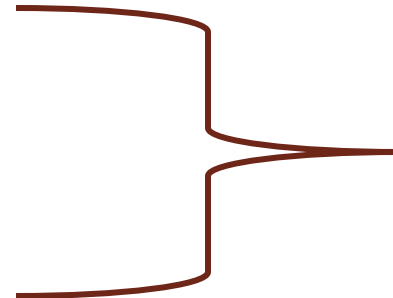


# Where are the Tetons?



# Fire management partners in western Wyoming

- Teton, Sublette, and Lincoln Counties
- Wyoming State Division of Forestry
- Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- US Fish and Wildlife Service National Elk Refuge
- Caribou-Targhee National Forest
- High Desert District Bureau of Land Management
- Grand Teton National Park (GTNP)
- Bridger-Teton National Forest (BTNF)



# What does Teton Interagency Fire do?

Wildfire management



Prescribed fire management



Fire prevention and education





# What does Teton Interagency Fire do?

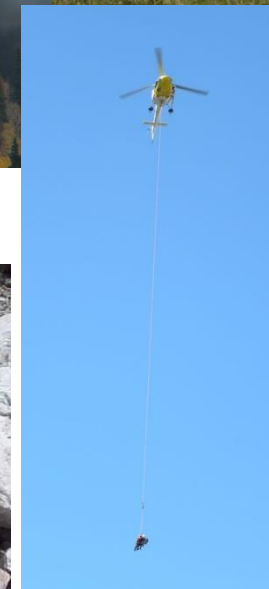
Hazardous fuels reduction



Fire aviation

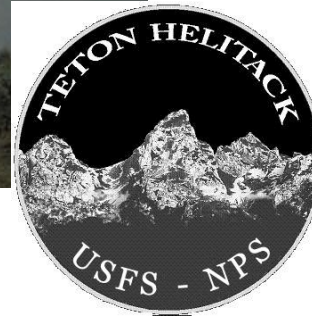


Search and rescue, to assist Grand Teton National Park's Jenny Lake Rangers



# Who is Teton Interagency Fire?

Mixed crews



Single-agency crews





# Who is Teton Interagency Fire?

Teton Interagency  
Dispatch Center

Interagency Fire Cache



Offset shared  
overhead





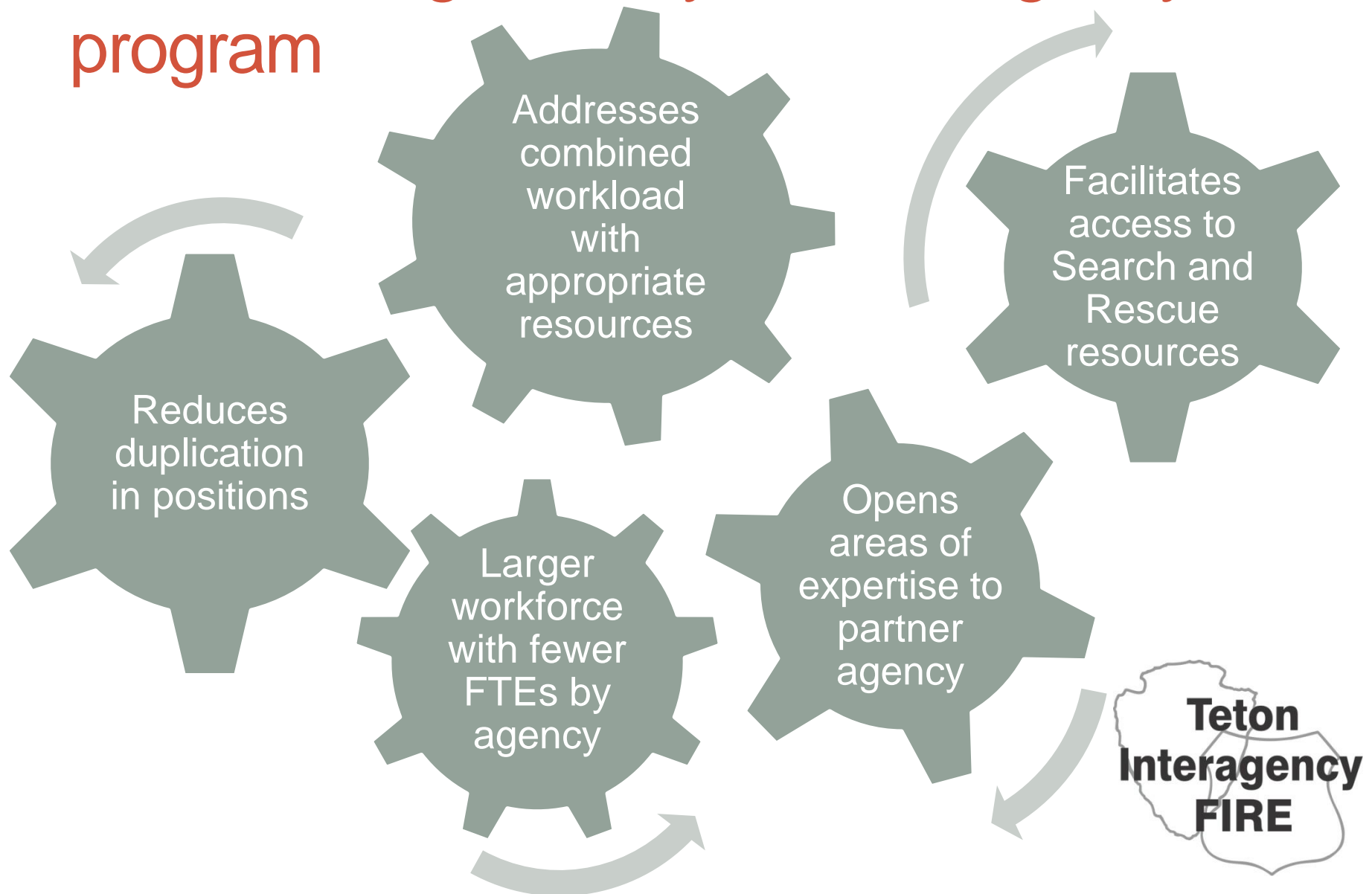
# Program goals

*“The intent of this agreement is to facilitate efficiencies in the fire and aviation organizations”*

- Capitalize on each agency's strengths
- Maximize efficient use of fire management resources: people and dollars
- Build flexibility into the organization



# Efficiencies gained by the interagency program



# Benefits of the program

Duplication is reduced, while available support is easier and more familiar with operations, personalities, and terrain. Practicing together and working together make us successful in emergency circumstances.

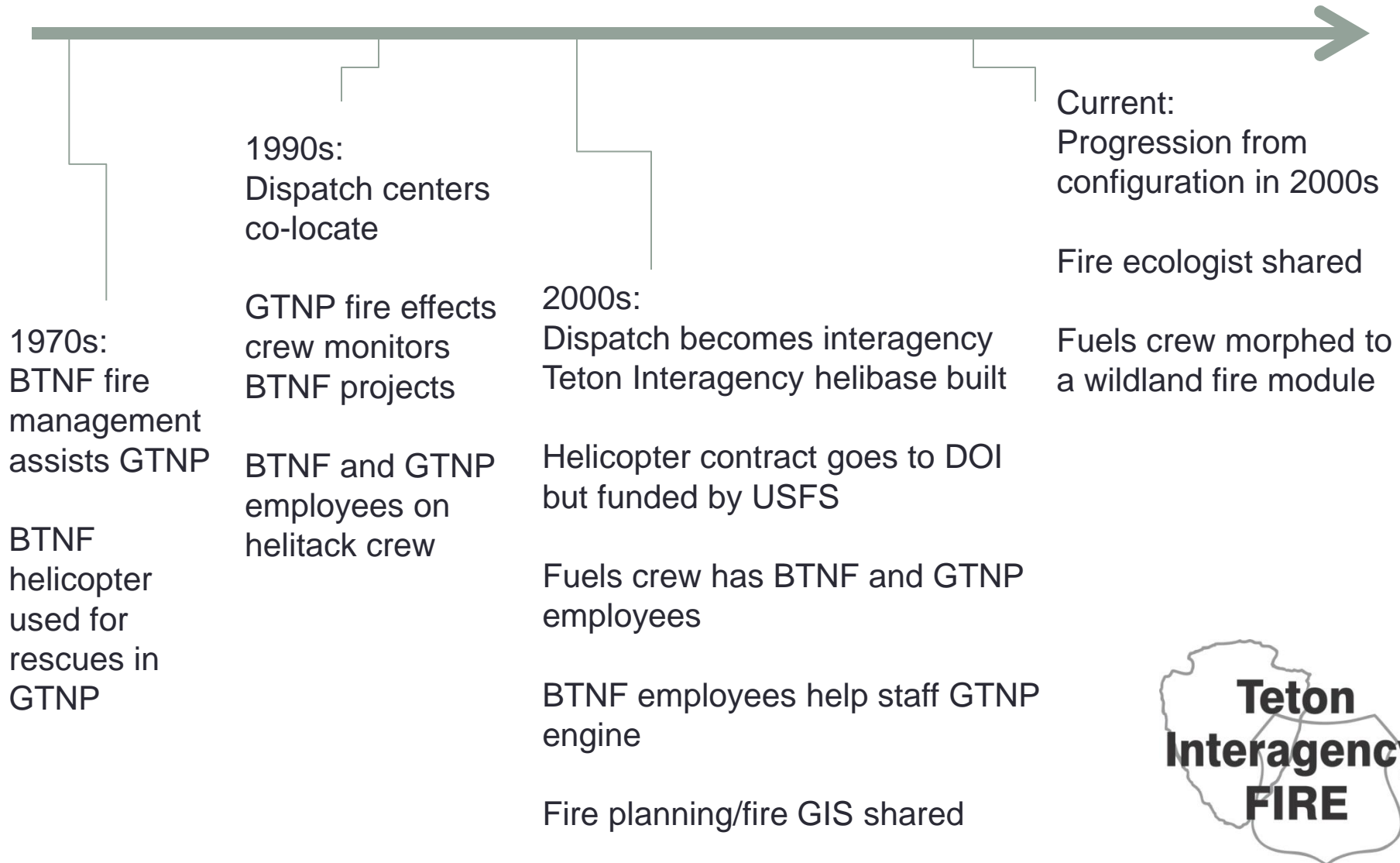
Employees participating in the interagency program gain additional valuable skills / institutional knowledge about both agencies. This helps us plan better, enhances our career options, and helps us communicate more effectively with the fire community in general.

Working with the Park in an interagency relationship creates a better understanding of each other's missions and overall gives employees a better spectrum of experience.

Provides the opportunity for consistent messages to the public. The public doesn't usually distinguish between agencies. Our missions may differ some, but the end result is the same: we are managing our natural resources.

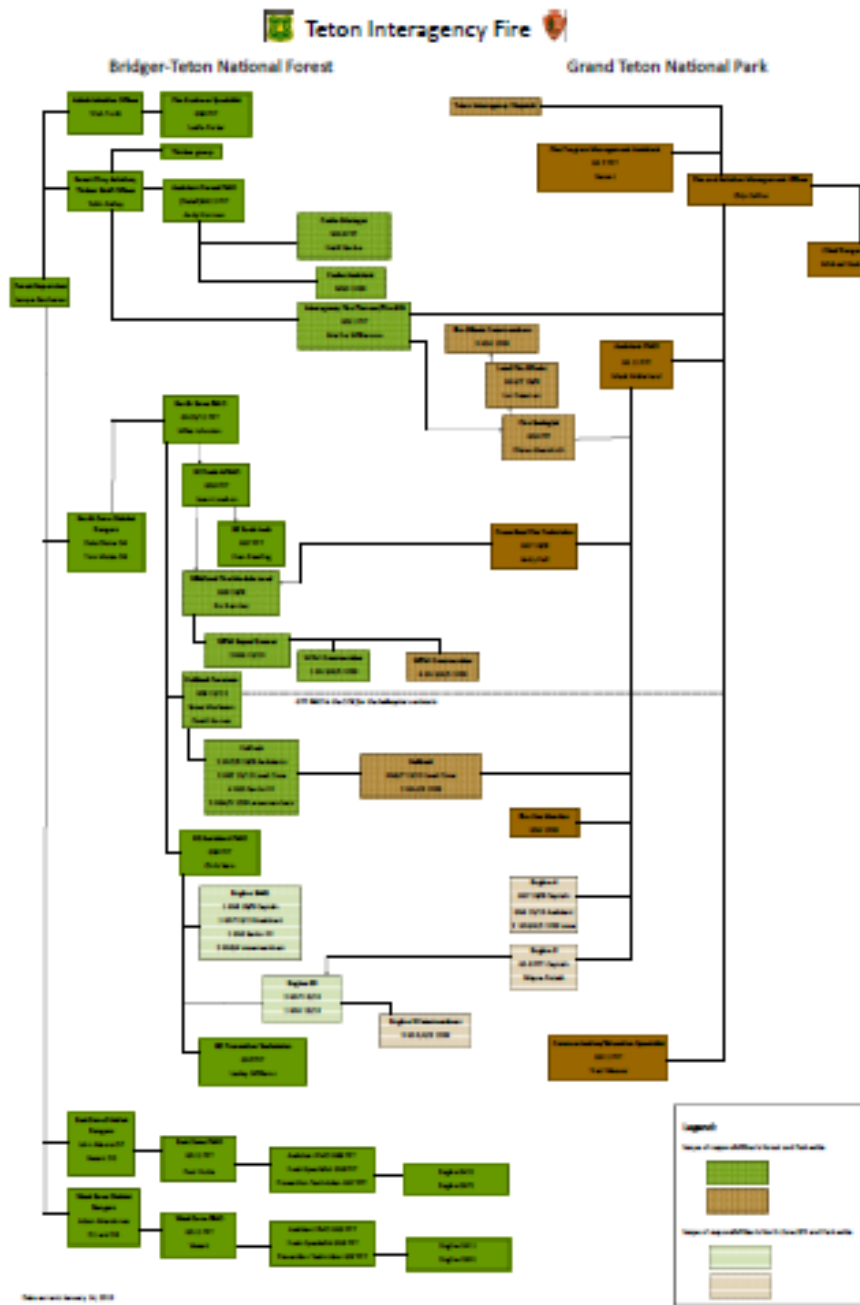


# Program evolution



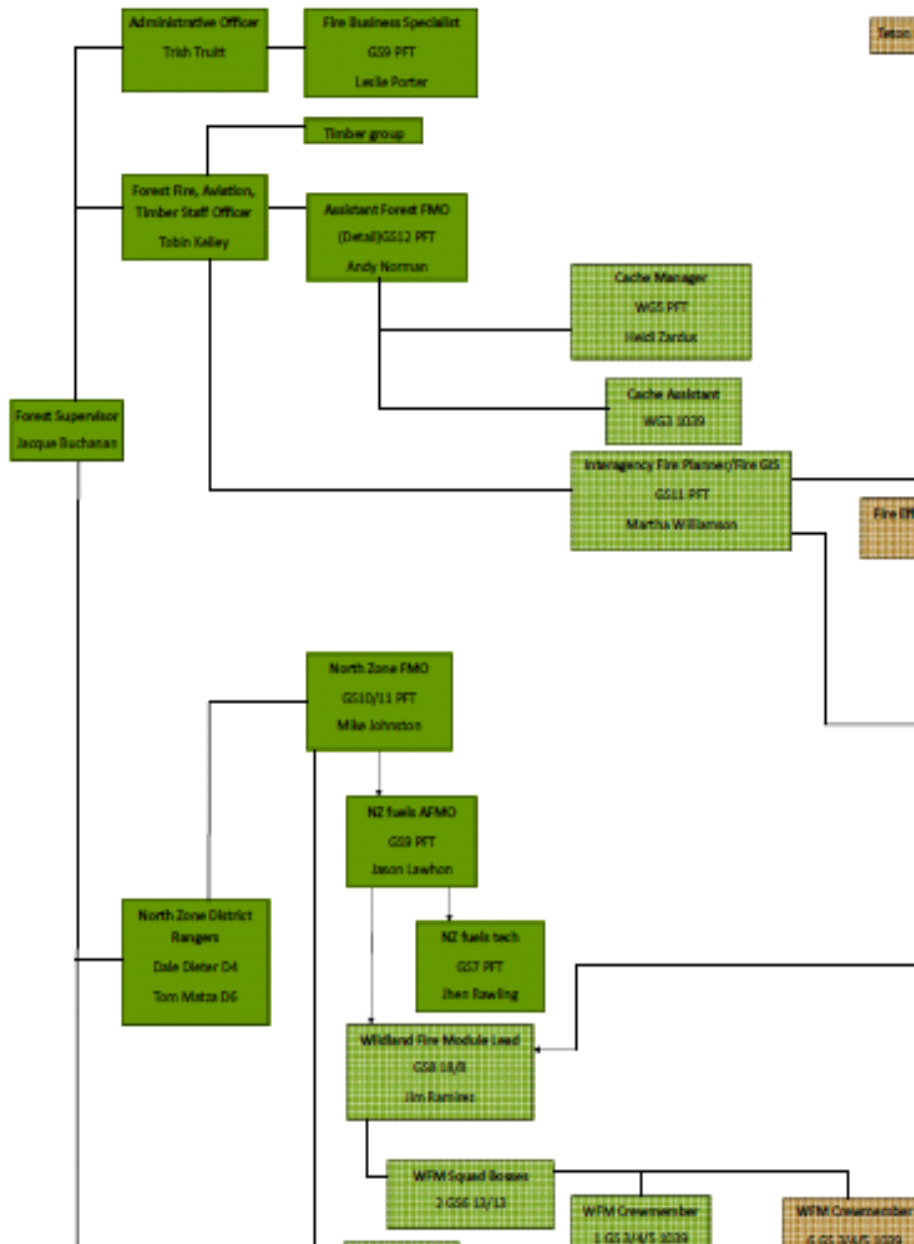


# Current configuration

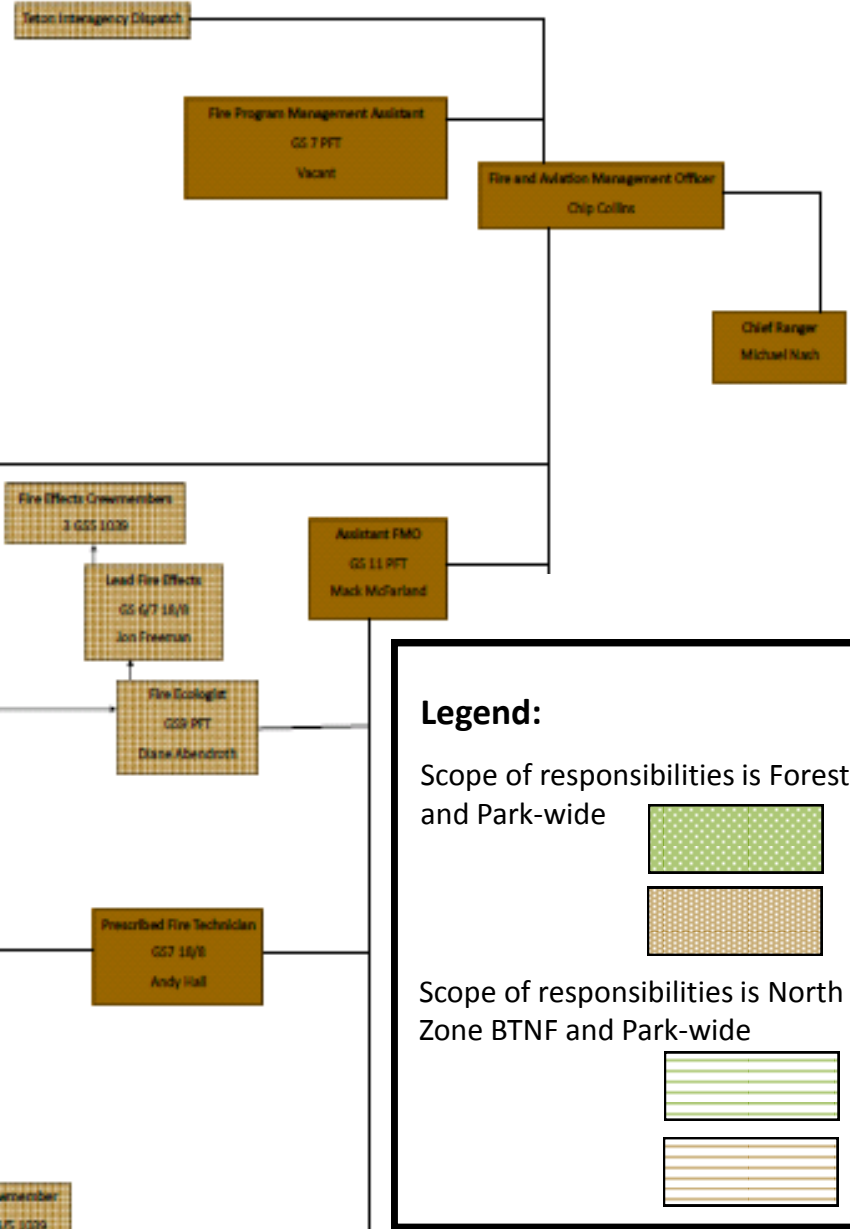


**Teton  
Interagency  
FIRE**

## Bridger-Teton National Forest

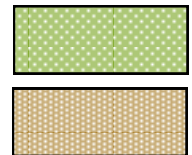


## Grand Teton National Park

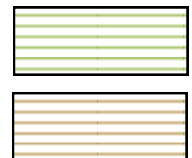


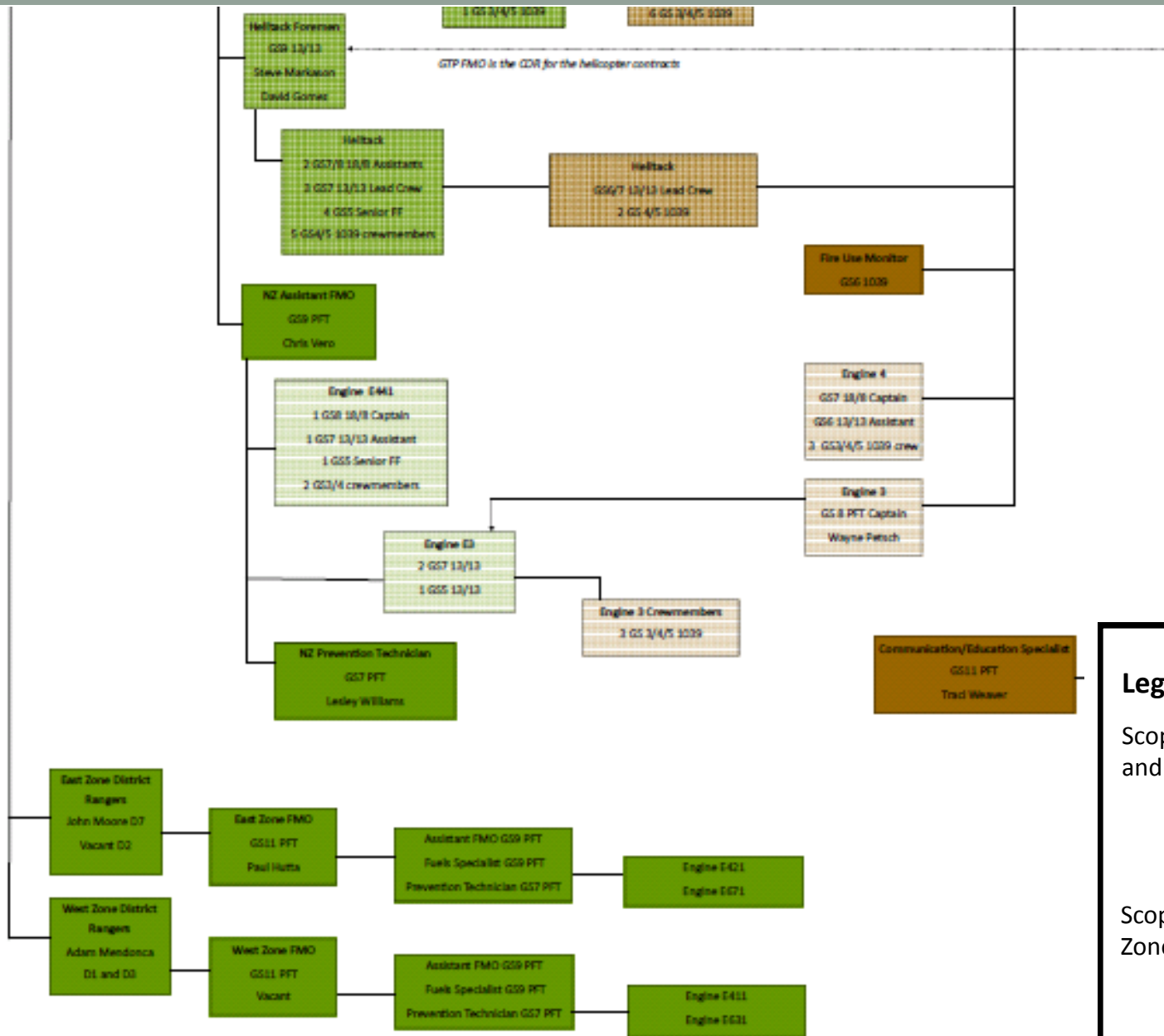
### Legend:

Scope of responsibilities is Forest and Park-wide



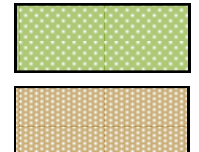
Scope of responsibilities is North Zone BTNF and Park-wide



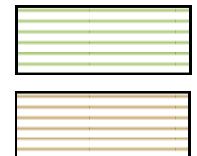


## Legend:

Scope of responsibilities is Forest and Park-wide



Scope of responsibilities is North Zone BTNF and Park-wide



# Under the hood

Component	Agency contributions	Instrument
Teton Interagency Dispatch Center	GTNP, 50% funded by BTNF	Service First interagency agreement
Exclusive use helicopters	DOI contract, 100% funded by USFS	Service First interagency agreement
Teton Interagency Helitack	17 BTNF employees, 3 GTNP employees	Service First interagency agreement with charter – no funds exchanged
Teton Fire Module	6 BTNF employees, 6 GTNP	
GTNP Engine 3	4 GTNP employees, 3 BTNF	
Fire effects crew	GTNP	
Fire ecologist	GTNP	
Fire planner	BTNF	
Fire cache and fire cache manager	BTNF	





# Best practices

1. Communicate! Early, often, more than seems necessary, then communicate some more
2. Recognize the hurdles but don't give them more weight than they deserve
3. Acknowledge that the different Departments operate differently
4. Be flexible
5. Remember the big picture



# Lessons learned

- Institutionalizing is important
  - It's easier to institutionalize down than up
- Tough times make sharing more challenging
  - Creativity and communication make sharing easier
- The attitude at the top drives the attitude through the ranks
- Remember the big picture





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