



SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC SAFETY

prevention — protection — enforcement



WILDLAND FIRE
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MEMORANDUM

TO: South Dakota Volunteer Fire Departments

FROM: Paul Merriman, Fire Marshal
SD Fire Marshal's Office, Department of Public Safety

Jay Wickham, Director
SD Wildland Fire, Department of Public Safety

DATE: April 17, 2023

SUBJECT: Discontinuation of Paper/Electronic Post Cards for Wildland Fire Reporting

Effective May 1, 2023, the use of paper and electronic wildland post cards (see example below) for reporting wildland fires to the State Fire Marshal's office will be discontinued. Volunteer fire departments are encouraged to report wildland fires utilizing the South Dakota Fire Reporting System website. This form can be found at: <https://dps.sd.gov/emergency-services/state-fire-marshal/fire-reporting>. This change does not affect those volunteer fire departments currently using third party reporting software to report their wildland fires.

Why the change? The paper/electronic wildland post cards do not collect all the required information needed for state and national reporting via the National Fire incident Reporting System (NFIRS). This change prevents duplication of efforts and ensures all departments are included in wildland fire statistics.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Megan Jaros, SD Wildland Fire at 605.399.3160 or Doug Hinkle, SD Fire Marshal's Office at 605.773.3417.

SOUTH DAKOTA RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT WILDLAND FIRE REPORT

Mutual Aid Dept. _____

 (Please print Fire Department Name)

Fire Name: _____

Date Fire Occurred: _____

Fire Location: _____ Estimated Fire Size: _____ (Acres)

Legal Description @ Township: _____ N or S;
 Range: _____ E or W; Section: _____;

NE 1/4, SE 1/4, SW 1/4, NW 1/4, _____
 (Circle the appropriate 1/4 Section)

Submitted By: _____
 (Please print the name of the individual completing this form)

Phone Number (Work) _____ (Home) _____

Fire Cause: Lightning Children
 Debris, vegetation burning Arson
 Campfire Railroads
 Smoking Equipment Miscellaneous
 Other _____

Ownership: Private Land
 Federal land State Land
 Undetermined Other _____

Vegetation Burned: Grass Cropland
 Pine Forest Hardwood Forest Brush
 Other: _____