

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2003 – 1000 MST
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

CURRENT SITUATION:

Initial attack activity was light nationally, with 187 new fires reported yesterday. Six new large fires were reported, three in the Eastern Area, two in the Southern Area, and one in the Northern Rockies. Six fires were contained, three in the Southern Area, two in the Eastern Area, and one in the Northern Rocky Area.

COLUMBIA RESPONSE, Federal Emergency Management Agency. A FEMA Emergency Operations Center has been established in Lufkin, Texas. Four Type 1 Incident Management Teams (Studebaker, Gelobter, Anderson and Ferguson) are assigned in Corsicana, Hemphill, Palestine and Nacogdoches, Texas. One Type 2 Incident Management Team (Jenkins) is assigned in Longview, Texas. Forty-eight agencies are cooperating in the search and collection of shuttle materials.

NEWCASTLE, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA. State and Federal personnel have been mobilized in response to the outbreak of the Exotic Newcastle Disease. They are working in support of the USDA APHIS operation under a Unified Command. Support operations are being conducted in Arizona, California, and Nevada.

SOUTHERN AREA LARGE FIRES:

GALCATCHER HOLLOW, Oklahoma Division of Forestry. This fire is burning in hardwood litter and grass southwest of Jay, Oklahoma. Less Active fire behavior occurred yesterday as a result of favorable winds. Control lines will be completed today, as well as burn out of adjacent fuels.

LANGLEY, Oklahoma Division of Forestry. This fire is near Proctor, OK and is burning in mixed hardwoods and logging slash. The fire was discovered during the night when relative humidity was high, aiding suppression efforts. Completion of containment lines is planned for today, as well as continued monitoring of the perimeter.

CENIZA, Amistad National Recreation Area, NPS. This fire, burning in river cane, willow and tamarack, is located southeast of Langtry, TX, along the Rio Grande River. Access has been difficult, and downstream flare-ups have hampered containment efforts.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
GALCATCHER HOLLOW	OK	OKS	600	92	3/26	2	0	1	0	0	NR
LANGLEY	OK	OKS	250	82	3/26	7	0	2	0	0	NR
CENIZA	TX	AMP	121	95	3/26	20	1	0	0	0	3.5K
251 ST . STREET FIRE	OK	OKS	1,200	100	---	6	0	3	0	0	NR
4 CORNERS FIRE	OK	OKS	140	100	---	1	0	1	0	0	NR
COKER HOLLOW	AR	ARS	150	100	---	9	7	0	0	0	NR

OKS = Oklahoma Division of Forestry
ARS = Arkansas Forestry Commission

EASTERN AREA LARGE FIRES:

AITKEN FIRE COMPLEX, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. This complex of nine fires is burning in lowland grass and hardwoods in the area of Aitken, MN. The largest fires are located at Cedar Lake and Tamarack, and efforts will be focused there today. Expected favorable weather conditions should help maintain established firelines on all fires today.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
AITKEN FIRE COMPLEX	MN	MNS	300	80	3/26	20	0	6	0	1	12K
AGRAM	MN	MNS	200	100	---	27	0	6	0	0	NR
DRAKE ROAD FIRE	WI	WIS	110	100	---	240	0	11	0	0	NR

WIS = Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

NORTHERN ROCKIES AREA LARGE FIRES:

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
OLERUD	ND	DPF	1,300	100	---	8	0	3	0	0	25K

DPF = Dakota Prairie National Grasslands

OUTLOOK:

The first of two consecutive cold fronts will affect the eastern half of the Southern Area today with showers and thunderstorms east of the Mississippi River Valley. Very dry, windy, and warm conditions return to Oklahoma and Texas in advance of the next cold front on late Thursday to Friday.

The Columbia recovery area will see cooler temperatures with a light northerly wind, but winds will become stronger with gusts to 20 mph on Thursday.

A cool front will continue its eastward push through the Eastern Area and is expected to move through the Mid-Atlantic and New England states on Wednesday. Showers and a few thunderstorms are likely as the front moves through, producing isolated rainfall amounts of one-half to three-quarters of an inch. Winds will switch from the south to the west-northwest as the front passes. High pressure is expected at the surface across the Great Lakes and Big Rivers compacts creating light winds and dry conditions.



www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/index_j.asp

NFDRS POCKET CARDS

An aid to identifying local fuels conditions that might contribute to severe fire behavior is the NFDRS Pocket Card. The Pocket Card displays a general assessment of the fire potential compared to local fire occurrence and historical fire danger. It is a tool that can be used to track daily outputs of the National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) throughout the fire season for a local area.

● The Pocket Card provides:

- A general indicator of the potential for extreme fire behavior and difficulty of control.
- A graph to show the trend and status of the current year's fire season.
- A comparison of current year's conditions to historical worst and average conditions.
- Fire danger values related to past large fires.
- Locally significant values for temperature, humidity, wind speed, and more.

● Discuss the following ways to use the Pocket Card:

- Use it primarily before fires occur, before arriving to a fire, and during initial stages of fire events, such as initial fire size-up, initial attack, and extended attack.
- Use the Pocket Card to track local fire danger and in so doing increase the safety of your firefighters through increased awareness of fire danger conditions. NOTE: If fire danger is running at or above seasonal highs, be alert to those weather conditions that can lead to extreme fire behavior; e.g., low RH, 1-hour fuel moisture less than 5%, high temperatures, moderate to high winds.
- Use it to track daily fire dangers so that there are no surprises when extreme fire behavior occurs.
- Use it to supplement local experience.
- Use the Pocket Card as a point of reference for firefighters not familiar with the area represented by the card.
- When you receive your fire assignment outside your local area, visit the National Pocket Card website at <http://famweb.nwcg.gov/pocketcards/>. Click on the map and locate a Pocket Card for the area to which you are going.
- Put the Card in the Pocket of all your firefighters and keep a copy in your fire vehicle.
- Post the card in dispatch. Use them in briefings. Provide them to incoming crews.
- Do not use the Pocket Card for site specific fire behavior predictions and fireline actions.

FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						1,500	1,500
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES					18	6	24
	ACRES					910	22	932
Southern Area	FIRES					152	9	161
	ACRES					4,929	48	4,977
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	170	17	187
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	5,839	1,570	7,409

FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES				1	42		43
	ACRES				432	183		615
Northwest	FIRES	1		1				2
	ACRES	0		1				1
Northern California	FIRES				3	45	9	57
	ACRES				2,165	10	2	2,177
Southern California	FIRES	1	4			171	38	214
	ACRES	0	1			29	12	42
Northern Rockies	FIRES					1	2	3
	ACRES					29	1,500	1,529
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		3			1	1	5
	ACRES		0			0	0	0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	8	8	1		68	32	117
	ACRES	25	1,318	274		366	32	2,015
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	4	3		1	6	3	17
	ACRES	9	0		200	121	15	345
Eastern Area	FIRES	57			3	325	57	442
	ACRES	110			2	4,332	1,048	5,492
Southern Area	FIRES	56		5	3	5,318	153	5,535
	ACRES	6,881		755	530	61,174	3,240	72,580
TOTAL	FIRES	127	18	7	11	5,977	295	6,435
	ACRES	7,025	1,319	1,030	3,329	66,244	5,849	84,796

Eight Year Average Fires	14,425
Eight Year Average Acres	264,483

Averages are computed from data reported to NICC during the fourth reporting period in March

and

Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments

PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	1						1
	ACRES	104						104
Eastern Area	FIRES			4			2	6
	ACRES			5,500			55	5,555
Southern Area	FIRES	1		5	1	3	25	35
	ACRES	250		3,021	1,000	2,527	16,402	23,200
TOTAL	FIRES	2	0	9	1	3	27	42
	ACRES	354	0	8,521	1,000	2,527	16,457	28,859

PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	3	60	20			49	132
	ACRES	4	3,410	2,180			1,287	6,881
Northern California	FIRES	1	7	3	6		49	66
	ACRES	31	110	5,147	495		2,950	8,733
Southern California	FIRES		1		1		59	61
	ACRES		5		2		5,571	5,578
Northern Rockies	FIRES		1				2	3
	ACRES		13				118	131
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		3			4		7
	ACRES		56			121		177
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	3	5	1	1		152	162
	ACRES	460	2,827	550	1,000		4,956	9,793
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	10	2	4	5	2	14	37
	ACRES	598	110	125	349	39	576	1,797
Eastern Area	FIRES			18	3	3	54	78
	ACRES			7,549	1,108	1,236	6,445	16,338
Southern Area	FIRES	32		174	22	5,597	754	6,579
	ACRES	5,650		61,195	43,151	361,722	596,194	1,067,912
TOTAL	FIRES	49	79	220	38	5,606	1,133	7,125
	ACRES	6,743	6,531	76,746	46,105	363,118	618,097	1,117,340

*** Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. ***

WFU FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*** Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. ***

RESOURCES STATUS: COMMITTED RESOURCES

AREA	CREWS FED	CREWS ST/OT	ENGS FED	ENGS ST/OT	HELI FED	HELI ST/OT	AIRT FED	AIRT ST/OT	OVRHD FED	OVRHD ST/OT
Alaska										
Northwest										
Northern California										
Southern California									33	295
Northern Rockies			5						1	
Eastern Great Basin										
Western Great Basin									5	39
Southwest										
Rocky Mountain										
Eastern Area			10	35	1				112	1
Southern Area	107	69	11	7	3				401	1260
Total	107	69	26	42	4	0	0	0	552	1595

***** NATIONAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER *****