

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

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August 31, 2017

To: Geographic Area Coordinating Group Chairs and ESF4s

From: National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

Subject: National Emergency Response Situation

The current national emergency management situation is one that none of us have experienced. Ongoing wildland fire activity has placed us at national Preparedness Level 5 with a high volume of fire activity in multiple geographic areas for weeks. At the same time, a major hurricane has made landfall and delivered a record amount of rainfall to a large area of the Southeastern U.S., affecting millions of Americans. It appears likely that the wildland fire situation could worsen in the near term and persist for most of September. Undoubtedly the response and recovery actions associated with Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath will last even longer. Our hearts, thoughts and prayers are with all emergency responders and members of the public who have been impacted by these natural disasters. We remain dedicated to helping as much as we can, wherever we can.

In our letter dated August 28 we listed the types of resources that are currently unavailable through our national wildfire response system. Unfortunately, these resource shortages are likely to continue for some time; this does not mean, however, that no resources are available to assist with hurricane response. The member agencies of NMAC, including the federal wildland fire agencies and many state and local governments, have provided, and will continue to provide, assistance in support of hurricane response. This assistance is provided through a number of different Emergency Support Functions. Wildland fire management personnel in all agencies and at all levels of government will continue to identify resources that can be made available for hurricane response efforts as well as wildfires.

The United States has an array of robust emergency response capabilities; the present situation is straining our ability to simultaneously respond to all areas of need. We have no doubt that the character and solidarity of emergency responders everywhere will help us overcome this situation in the same ways we have succeeded in the past.

/s/ Dan Buckley
NMAC Chair

