

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Friday, March 16, 2018 – 0800 MT  
National Preparedness Level 1**

**National Fire Activity**

Initial attack activity:	Light (663) new fires
New large incidents:	48
Large fires contained:	32
Uncontained large fires:**	23
Area Command teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	0
Type 1 IMTs committed:	0
Type 2 IMTs committed:	0

\*\*Uncontained large fires include only fires being managed under a full suppression strategy.

[Link](#) to Geographic Area daily reports.

Active Incident Resource Summary						
GACC	Incidents	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AICC	0	0	0	0	0	0
NWCC	0	0	0	0	0	0
ONCC	0	0	0	0	0	0
OSCC	0	0	0	0	0	0
NRCC	0	422	0	0	0	0
GBCC	0	1,136	0	0	0	0
SWCC	2	29,213	8	21	1	184
RMCC	2	10,428	0	28	0	76
EACC	2	303	0	3	0	14
SACC	66	83,022	6	198	8	743
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>124,524</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,017</b>

**Southern Area (PL 2)**

New fires:	568
New large incidents:	40
Uncontained large fires:	20

\* **County Line**, Texas A & M Forest Service. Started on private land four miles southeast of Channing, TX. Tall grass. Active fire behavior with running.

\* **Maple**, Oklahoma DOF. Ten miles south of Calumet, OK. Tall grass, timber and brush. Active fire behavior with running and flanking.

\* **Clear Lake**, National Forests in Florida. Four miles southwest of Tallahassee, FL. Southern rough. Active fire behavior with flanking and backing. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

- \* **Anhinga**, Big Cypress National Preserve, NPS. Twenty miles east of Naples, FL. Southern rough and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened. Area and trail closures in effect.
- \* **Faka-Union (11)**, Florida Forest Service. One mile northwest of Port of the Islands, FL. Southern rough. Minimal fire behavior. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.
- \* **Begs**, Texas A & M Forest Service. Started on private land nine miles northwest of Sundown, TX. Active fire behavior with creeping. Residences threatened.
- \* **Flying G**, Okmulgee Field Office, BIA. Two miles west of Sand Springs, OK. Tall grass. Moderate fire behavior. Numerous structures threatened.
- \* **Blue Creek #2**, Oklahoma DOF. Ten miles northeast of McAlester, OK. Tall grass and hardwood litter. Active fire behavior with running and flanking.
- \* **Gravel Pit**, Texas A & M Forest Service. Started on private land 19 miles north of Amarillo, TX. Tall grass and brush. Active fire behavior with running. Residences threatened.
- \* **Cumbee**, Francis Marion & Sumter NF. Nine miles east of Huger, SC. Southern rough and brush. Minimal fire behavior with creeping, backing and smoldering.
- \* **Circle K**, Oklahoma DOF. Five miles northwest of Skiatook, OK. Tall grass and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering.
- \* **East Cupco**, Oklahoma DOF. Thirty-three miles southeast of McAlester, OK. Hardwood litter, short grass and timber. Active fire behavior with uphill runs and flanking.
- \* **Coffee Ridge**, Oklahoma DOF. Twenty-nine miles east of McAlester, OK. Timber and short grass. Active fire behavior with uphill and wind driven runs.
- \* **Graveyard Hill**, Oklahoma DOF. One mile west of Ochelata, OK. Tall grass and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Numerous structures threatened. Road closures in effect.
- \* **Blue Branch**, Oklahoma DOF. Twenty-seven miles southwest of Fort Smith, AR. Hardwood litter and timber. Active fire behavior with wind driven runs.
- \* **Bombing Range 2**, National Forests in Florida, Forest Service. Fifteen miles north of Umatilla, FL. Southern rough. Minimal fire behavior. Last report unless significant activity occurs.
- \* **Cimarron**, Oklahoma DOF. Nine miles northeast of Selmon, OK. Tall grass and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering.
- \* **Cleora**, Oklahoma DOF. Two miles west of Cleora, OK. Hardwood litter. Active fire behavior with running and flanking.
- \* **Wild Horse**, Oklahoma DOF. Twenty-three miles southeast of McAlester, OK. Timber and short grass. Active fire behavior with wind driven runs and backing.
- \* **Cowskin Ridge**, Oklahoma DOF. Twenty-five miles south of Fort Smith, AR. Timber and short grass. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, wind driven runs and isolated torching.
- \* **Mini Ranch RD (28)**, Florida Forest Service. Four miles southeast of Sebring, FL. Timber. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened.
- \* **Lowe**, Okmulgee Field Office, BIA. Twelve miles west of Sapulpa, OK. Short grass. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

\* **Cement Mixer**, Oklahoma DOF. Thirty-six miles southeast of McAlester, OK. Hardwood litter. Active fire behavior with running.

\* **Cupco South**, Oklahoma DOF. Thirty-two miles southeast of McAlester, OK. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with creeping and wind driven runs.

\* **South Boat Ramp**, Oklahoma DOF. Nineteen miles northeast of McAlester, OK. Hardwood litter and short grass. Moderate fire behavior with wind driven runs.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* County Line	TX-TXS	6,500	---	0	Ctn	03/19	19	---	0	2	0	0	1K	PRI
* Maple	OK-OKS	1,100	---	19	Ctn	03/18	115	---	0	40	1	0	160K	ST
* Clear Lake	FL-FNF	5,622	---	80	Comp	03/17	33	---	0	3	2	0	130K	FS
* Anhinga	FL-BCP	3,119	---	50	Comp	03/20	47	---	0	7	1	0	233K	NPS
Faka-Union (11)	FL-FLS	10,446	-54	95	Ctn	UNK	20	-45	0	5	0	0	1K	ST
* Bega	TX-TXS	2,500	---	90	Ctn	03/16	10	---	0	1	0	0	1K	PRI
* Flying G	OK-OMA	1,791	---	40	Comp	03/20	17	---	2	1	0	0	25K	BIA
* Blue Creek #2	OK-ECU	1,728	---	74	Ctn	UNK	2	---	0	1	0	0	1K	ST
* Gravel Pit	TX-TXS	1,600	---	30	Ctn	03/17	18	---	0	0	0	0	1K	PRI
* Cumbee	SC-FMF	1,630	---	90	Ctn	UNK	22	---	0	7	1	0	45K	FS
* Circle K	OK-OKS	1,175	---	80	Ctn	03/16	29	---	1	2	0	0	44K	ST
* East Cupco	OK-ECU	1,000	---	75	Ctn	UNK	15	---	0	4	0	0	4K	ST
* Coffee Ridge	OK-ECU	800	---	73	Ctn	03/16	6	---	0	3	0	0	3K	ST
* Graveyard Hill	OK-OKS	793	---	85	Ctn	03/17	19	---	0	8	1	0	42K	ST
* Blue Branch	OK-ECU	761	---	70	Ctn	03/16	4	---	0	1	0	0	3K	ST
* Bombing Range 2	FL-FNF	589	---	40	Comp	04/04	15	---	0	1	1	0	190K	FS
* Cimarron	OK-OKS	450	---	76	Ctn	03/16	9	---	0	4	0	0	126K	ST
* Cleora	OK-OKS	400	---	52	Ctn	03/17	24	---	0	9	0	0	14K	ST
* Wild Horse	OK-ECU	325	---	74	Ctn	03/16	5	---	0	2	0	0	3K	ST
* Cowskin Ridge	OK-ECU	318	---	69	Ctn	UNK	5	---	0	2	0	0	5K	ST
Mini Ranch RD (28)	FL-FLS	300	0	80	Ctn	03/19	5	-1	0	0	0	0	64K	ST
* Lowe	OK-OMA	300	---	0	Comp	03/16	2	---	0	1	0	0	5K	BIA
* Cement Mixer	OK-ECU	155	---	60	Ctn	UNK	2	---	0	1	0	0	1K	ST
* Cupco South	OK-ECU	120	---	74	Ctn	UNK	2	---	0	1	0	0	1K	ST
* South Boat Ramp	OK-ECU	102	---	72	Ctn	UNK	3	---	0	1	0	0	1K	ST
West 60	OK-OSA	20,307	0	100	Ctn	---	1	-88	0	0	0	0	40K	BIA
Nora	OK-OSA	3,500	-3,500	100	Ctn	---	1	-81	0	0	0	0	40K	BIA
Onion Prairie	OK-OKS	3,439	---	100	Ctn	---	26	---	0	6	1	0	127K	ST
* Trust	TX-TXS	3,000	---	100	Ctn	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	1K	PRI
* Ft Green Road (53)	FL-FLS	2,500	---	100	Comp	---	6	---	0	2	0	0	8K	ST
* Duncan	OK-SEU	2,400	---	100	Ctn	---	19	---	0	11	0	0	16K	ST

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Kane	OK-OSA	717	17	100	Ctn	---	3	-30	0	2	0	0	5K	BIA
* Mcilroy	TX-TXS	410	---	100	Ctn	---	0	---	0	0	0	1	1K	PRI
* Wolf Mountain	OK-ECU	370	---	100	Ctn	---	5	---	0	3	0	0	2K	ST
* Yoke Creek	LA-KIF	368	---	100	Ctn	---	14	---	0	2	0	0	8K	FS
Paint	LA-KIF	365	0	100	Ctn	---	11	0	0	2	0	0	15K	FS
Santa Ana NWR	TX-STR	330	0	100	Ctn	---	9	1	0	2	0	0	15K	FWS
* Vanderstucken	TX-TXS	325	---	100	Ctn	---	1	---	0	0	0	0	1K	PRI
* 1062	TX-TXS	300	---	100	Ctn	---	5	---	0	0	0	0	1K	PRI
* Workman Mt.	OK-NEU	243	---	100	Ctn	---	8	---	0	3	0	0	12K	ST
* Rocky Trail	OK-ECU	230	---	100	Ctn	---	3	---	0	1	0	0	1K	ST
* Baker Ford	AR-BUP	209	---	100	Ctn	---	6	---	0	1	0	0	10K	NPS
* Ten Mile	OK-SEU	184	---	100	Ctn	---	9	---	0	6	0	0	6K	ST
* Lost Fire	GA-GAS	168	---	100	Ctn	---	10	---	0	0	0	0	3K	ST
* Little High Top #1	OK-ECU	160	---	100	Ctn	---	5	---	0	3	0	0	3K	ST
* Robertson	OK-NEU	150	---	100	Ctn	---	4	---	0	2	0	0	8K	ST
* Blue Creek	OK-ECU	147	---	100	Ctn	---	3	---	0	1	0	0	1K	ST
* Crystal	OK-SEU	123	---	100	Ctn	---	19	---	0	16	0	0	13K	ST
Wallen Hollow	VA-VAS	100	---	100	Ctn	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	3K	PRI

NEU – Northeast Area, Oklahoma DOF  
 BUP – Buffalo National River NPS  
 VAS – Virginia DOF

OSA – Osage Agency, BIA  
 KIF – Kisatchie NF  
 GAS – Georgia Forestry Commission

SEU – Southeast Area, Oklahoma DOF  
 OKS – Oklahoma DOF

**Southwest Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 34  
 New large incidents: 2  
 Uncontained large fires: 1

\* **Stateline**, Cimarron District, New Mexico State Forestry. Thirty-five miles north of Clayton, NM. Short grass and brush. Moderate fire behavior with isolated torching and creeping. Structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Stateline	NM-N2S	28,213	---	80	Ctn	03/17	171	---	8	20	1	1	1.5M	ST
* Querecho	NM-N5S	4,325	---	100	Ctn	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	10K	ST

N5S – Capitan District, New Mexico State Forestry

**Rocky Mountain Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 22  
 New large incidents: 5  
 Uncontained large fires: 2

\* **Rice County**, Rice County. Nine miles northwest of Inman, KS. Short grass and timber. Active fire behavior. Structures threatened.

**Clark County**, Clark County. Five miles southwest of Ashland, KS. Grass. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Rice County	KS-RCX	8,000	---	60	Ctn	03/17	0	---	0	0	0	1	1K	C&L
Clark County	KS-CAX	1,600	---	95	Ctn	UNK	182	---	0	49	0	0	1K	C&L
* Rabbit 22	CO-PWX	8,891	---	100	Ctn	---	71	---	0	26	0	0	1K	C&L
* Echo Cliff	KS-WBX	3,200	---	100	Ctn	---	43	---	0	15	3	0	55K	C&L
* Orchard	CO-FCQ	1,537	---	100	Ctn	---	5	---	0	2	0	0	1K	DOD
* North Fork - Richfield Cemetary	KS-MTX	700	---	100	Ctn	---	32	---	0	9	0	2	14K	C&L

PWX – Prowers County    WBX – Wabaunsee County    FCQ – Fort Carson Army Base, DOD    MTX – Morton County

**Great Basin Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 13  
 New large incidents: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 0

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Chimney	NV-HUMX	1,137	337	100	Ctn	---	0	-51	0	0	0	0	30K	PRI

HUMX – Humboldt County

**Northern Rockies Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 0  
 New large incidents: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 0

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
March 7	ID-MCS	422	-18	100	Ctn	---	0	-16	0	0	0	0	10K	ST

MCS - Maggie Creek Area IDL

**Eastern Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 5  
 New large incidents: 1  
 Uncontained large fires: 0

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Dawn	MO-MTF	200	---	100	Ctn	---	12	---	0	3	0	0	5K	FS

MTF – Mark Twain NF

**Fires and Acres Last Week (by Protection):**

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Area	FIRES	2	2	0	0	2	0	6
	ACRES	4	39	0	0	1	0	44
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	10	0	10
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	6	0	6
Southern California Area	FIRES	1	0	0	0	0	4	5
	ACRES	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	6	0	1	6	0	13
	ACRES	0	14	0	0	342	0	356
Southwest Area	FIRES	17	3	1	2	8	3	34
	ACRES	33	0	215	1,105	21,482	138	22,973
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	4	0	0	1	16	1	22
	ACRES	118	0	0	6	26,633	7	26,764
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	5	5
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	16	16
Southern Area	FIRES	13	0	4	3	522	26	568
	ACRES	748	0	20	53	23,079	7,037	30,937
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>37</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>663</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>904</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>1,164</b>	<b>71,543</b>	<b>7,199</b>	<b>81,098</b>

**Fires and Acres Year-to-Date (by Protection):**

<b>Area</b>		<b>BIA</b>	<b>BLM</b>	<b>FWS</b>	<b>NPS</b>	<b>ST/OT</b>	<b>USFS</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Area	FIRES	3	3	0	0	4	9	19
	ACRES	5	32	0	0	2	0	39
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	6	0	0	140	12	158
	ACRES	0	10	0	0	104	13	127
Southern California Area	FIRES	2	1	0	0	322	26	351
	ACRES	1	28	0	0	2,194	7	2,230
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	422	0	422
Great Basin Area	FIRES	2	24	0	2	32	5	65
	ACRES	3	668	0	0	1,798	13	2,482
Southwest Area	FIRES	94	24	1	4	94	43	260
	ACRES	534	558	215	1,125	34,120	758	37,310
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	15	2	2	1	75	8	103
	ACRES	704	11	5	6	48,367	18	49,111
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	107	59	166
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	108	4,110	4,218
Southern Area	FIRES	179	67	13	9	7,206	114	7,588
	ACRES	33,795	310	1,209	209	140,634	15,534	191,691
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>295</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7,981</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>8,713</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>35,042</b>	<b>1,617</b>	<b>1,429</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>227,749</b>	<b>20,453</b>	<b>287,630</b>

<b>Ten Year Average Fires (2007 – 2016 as of today)</b>	<b>8,610</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres (2007 – 2016 as of today)</b>	<b>405,381</b>

**Prescribed Fires and Acres Last Week (by Ownership):**

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Area	FIRES	0	1	1	0	0	4	6
	ACRES	0	0	3	0	0	369	372
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	2	0	123	125
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	17	17
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	319	319
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	3	1	5
	ACRES	0	208	0	0	15	3	226
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	2,091	2,091
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
	ACRES	0	0	500	0	0	910	1,410
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	7	5	12	24
	ACRES	0	0	0	828	537	11,910	13,275
Southern Area	FIRES	1	0	14	0	4,975	101	5,091
	ACRES	350	0	6,186	0	204,301	112,262	323,099
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4,983</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>5,147</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>350</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>6,689</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>204,853</b>	<b>127,987</b>	<b>340,917</b>



**Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date (by Ownership):**

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
	ACRES	0	0	55	0	0	0	55
Northwest Area	FIRES	0	22	6	2	0	50	80
	ACRES	0	1,670	985	5	0	6,972	9,632
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	3	2	6	0	88	99
	ACRES	0	1,792	6	67	0	9,587	11,452
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	0	82	83
	ACRES	0	15	0	0	0	8,504	8,519
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	4	0	0	1	4	9
	ACRES	0	152	0	0	6	89	247
Great Basin Area	FIRES	2	12	0	5	28	39	86
	ACRES	75	459	0	80	352	4,367	5,333
Southwest Area	FIRES	10	9	5	3	1	64	92
	ACRES	1,672	7,836	205	86	51	17,547	27,397
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	5	11	3	9	26	87	141
	ACRES	111	231	1,314	263	1,207	34,787	37,913
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	29	8	98	56	191
	ACRES	0	0	2,759	835	5,638	25,180	34,412
Southern Area	FIRES	68	0	92	12	35,311	461	35,944
	ACRES	17,656	0	66,774	17,253	1,392,970	456,756	1,951,409
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>85</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>35,465</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>36,727</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>19,514</b>	<b>12,155</b>	<b>72,098</b>	<b>18,589</b>	<b>1,400,224</b>	<b>563,789</b>	<b>2,086,369</b>

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

\*\*\*Additional wildfire information is available through the Geographic Areas at <http://gacc.nifc.gov/>

**Predictive Services Discussion:**

A pair of cool, moist systems will impact the West Coast and central Great Plains Friday with wetting precipitation. Additional mountain snowfall is expected across the Southern Cascades and Sierras. To the south, critical fire weather conditions are possible across portions of eastern New Mexico, southeastern Colorado, and the panhandle regions of Texas and Oklahoma as gusty west winds interact with low humidities. By late Saturday, both systems will weaken as they move east and should fall apart; however, showery conditions will continue across the Pacific Northwest and the Northern Rockies. A warming trend will ensue across the West Monday and Tuesday as a high pressure ridge strengthens just west of the Rocky Mountain Crest and pushes temperatures back to near average levels. Model data suggests that significant, widespread wetting rainfall will be possible Wednesday and Thursday across most of the West as a moist system approaches the California Coast and moves on shore into Southern California and Arizona on Thursday. Prior to the system's arrival, a period of very critical fire weather conditions will be possible across the southern Great Plains on Wednesday as high winds and very low humidities develop out ahead of the system. In

Alaska, a pair of weakening cold fronts will move east across the Interior bringing additional light to moderate snowfall through the weekend. A drier southwesterly flow will develop by Monday and Tuesday. Look for a slight cool down mid-week as the flow becomes more northwesterly in response to a strengthening ridge over the Aleutians and eastern Siberia.

<http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/outlooks/outlooks.html>



## Propane Tank Safety

*Miscellaneous Fireline Hazards*

Liquefied Propane Gas (LPG) tanks are commonly found in the wildland-urban interface and present hazards to firefighters in that environment. LPG tanks may be found in a number of other environments such as motor homes, travel trailers, grills, camp stoves, lanterns, etc. Directly attacking LPG tank fires is a structural fire task involving hazardous materials and should only be attempted by trained personnel using full structural personal protective equipment and equipped with a volume of water adequate to safely attack the fire.

### ● Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosions (BLEVE)

- The most recognized hazard with LPG tanks is BLEVE (Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosions) or sudden complete failure of the tank. Some training courses have directed responders to approach the tank from the sides, believing that the force of the explosion will occur on the ends of the tank. However, this is not a guarantee that you will be safe from projectiles or missiles from the explosion, as they may travel in ALL directions up to 2,500 feet away. Leave the area immediately if you smell propane; hear a rising sound from venting safety devices or see discoloration or deformation of the tank. If you leave the area, get at least 2,500 feet away and do not go down wind or down slope of the leaking propane. BLEVEs are a major hazard to emergency responders!

### ● Fuel Reduction Around Tanks

- Wildland firefighters may take action to prevent direct flame impingement on LPG tanks by removing wildland fuels in the area. However, be aware that lines from the tank to structures may be above or below ground, and may be cut by tools or equipment. Propane gas is heavier than air, and may move along the ground at some distance, and may ignite when it reaches open flame or another ignition source. Use extreme caution when doing fuel reduction around tanks, and flag any lines you encounter.

### ● Other Wildland Fire Considerations

- Do not position engines or other apparatus near LPG tanks or downwind / down slope from tanks.
- Do not deploy fire shelters near LPG tanks or downwind / down slope from tanks.

### ● Cooling Tanks

- In light fuels such as grasses, where any heat exposure to the tank will be very limited, rapid application of cooling water on the outside of the tank above the liquid level can reduce the likelihood of container failure by lowering the external temperature of the shell of the exposed tank. Water should not be directed at the valve safety devices, due to the potential of "icing" the valve closed.
- In heavy fuels where long duration heat exposure to the LPG tank is likely, evacuate all personnel and equipment 2,500 feet away and not down slope or down wind. NFPA says that direct flame impingement protection requires water flow of at least 500 gpm from an unmanned monitor nozzle. This is a situation for properly trained, equipped and supported structural firefighters.

Resources: [Propane Safety Web Site](#), [NIOSH Web Site](#), [National Propane Gas Association's Web Site](#), [NFPA Web Site](#)