

News Release

National Interagency Fire Center
3833 S. Development Ave.
Boise, ID 83705

<http://www.nifc.gov>



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NIFC mobilizes Canadian fire crews to provide wildland fire support

Boise, Idaho – The National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in Boise, Idaho is mobilizing three wildland firefighting hand crews from Quebec, Canada to assist with wildfire suppression efforts in California. The National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC) at NIFC comprised of fire managers representing the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the USDA Forest Service, the U.S. Fire Administration and the National Association of State Foresters, requested the assistance after determining that the U.S. is in need of additional crew support on large fires burning in the West.

“On a national and international scale, we maintain arrangements with international partners such as the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre. The United States and Canada maintain strong working relationships and provide each other with assistance by sharing wildland fire resources,” said Josh Simmons, Chair of the NMAC. “We currently remain at a National Preparedness Level 5 with a lot of activity throughout many geographic areas, including the large fires in California. At the NMAC, we would like to thank the Canadian Government and firefighters for their willingness to assist us with our firefighting efforts. We are grateful for their assistance that will help us be successful in protecting lives, property, and valuable natural and cultural resources.”

The three Canadian crews, 60 firefighters total, along with two agency representatives, are expected to arrive at NIFC later today, September 2, 2020. They will receive a briefing orientation and participate in fire shelter deployment training. After a one-night rest in Boise, the crews will fly to Reno, Nevada and board ground transportation to their fire assignment on the North Complex in California. The North Complex consists of numerous lightning fires being managed as one incident on the Plumas National Forest.

Currently, 112 wildfires are burning across the western U.S. and more than 5.5 million acres have burned nationally this year. Above normal fire activity is occurring in northern California, Arizona, Colorado, and some other states.

Since 1982, the U.S. and Canada have maintained an arrangement between the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) in the U.S. and the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC) in Canada to ensure efficient resource sharing during peak fire activity.



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For more information on international assistance on wildfire support, visit: [NIFC.gov](http://www.nifc.gov) - [International Fire Support](#).

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The National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC), located in Boise, Idaho, is the nation's support center for wildland firefighting. Eight different agencies and organizations are part of NIFC including, the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, USDA Forest Service, National Weather Service, U.S. Fire Administration, and the National Association of State Foresters.

