

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1998 - 0530 MDT  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL III

CURRENT SITUATION:

Initial attack and large fire activity continued in the Northern Rockies, Eastern Great Basin, Northwest and Southern Areas. The National Interagency Coordination Center processed orders for helicopters, aircraft, equipment, overhead, caterers, showers and radio systems. Very high to extreme indices were reported in Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Montana, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Nebraska.

NORTHERN ROCKIES LARGE FIRES:

BOYER, Montana State. A Type II Incident Management Team (Specht) is assigned. This fire is located about five miles northeast of Plains. Cooler temperatures allowed the inversion to lift assisting air operations. Crews nearly completed line construction around the fire yesterday and plans are for extensive mop-up in advance of the predicted frontal passage on 9/9. The acreage increase is due to burnout operations within the control line.

CHALLENGE, Flathead NF. A Type I Incident Management Team (Frye) is assigned. The fire is located about 40 miles east northeast of Kalispell. The fire continued to be active yesterday. It spotted to the northwest threatening structures on Sunday night. Crews constructed line and held critical areas on the northeast flank. The threat to US Highway 2, businesses and residences remains. A portion of the Blackfoot Traditional Cultural Site has burned and other parts are still at risk. Crews have been briefed on appropriate tactics to use when working within the Site.

DOME, Kootenai NF. A Type I Incident Management Team (Foster) is assigned. This wind driven fire is burning in steep, inaccessible terrain about six miles west of Libby. Fire growth yesterday was due to a burnout, which secured the line on the east flank. The threat to the town of Libby has lessened due to the successful burnout. Control problems continue to be limited access, low fuel moisture, unburned islands and inversions hampering air operations.

BITTERROOT COMPLEX, Bitterroot NF. A Type I Incident Management Team (Kohut) is assigned. The fire is located about six miles south of Darby. On the North Fork Rye, the fire continued to be active within the perimeter, with some spotting. Crews were committed to holding actions yesterday. The Coulter Fire is contained; however, there are still numerous active hot spots within the perimeter. Control problems include shifting winds, thunderstorms and steep terrain.

BOWL, Flathead NF. A Type II Incident Management Team (Swope) will assume control of the fire today. This fire is located in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area. Smoke jumpers and crews successfully held fire lines yesterday. Predicted cooler weather and higher relative humidity should limit spread potential over the next few days. Control problems continue to be limited access and rugged terrain.

SPRUCE FIRE, Nez Perce NF. This fire is located in the Selway/Bitterroot Wilderness Area. It is being managed under a limited suppression strategy, with a primary objective of keeping it from crossing into Montana. There was no significant fire activity yesterday due to cloud cover and relatively high humidity levels.

GILBERT CREEK, Lolo NF. A Type II Incident Management Team (Gauger) is assigned. The fire is located 24 miles southeast of Missoula. Crews continued to construct line on the east and west flanks. They were pulled off the line yesterday afternoon because of high winds. Two spike camps were established to reduce travel. Fire activity was low yesterday. A thunderstorm went through the area yesterday afternoon, with high winds, hail and lightning. The Montana National Guard is assisting with incident support.

KOOTENAI COMPLEX, Glacier NP. A Fire Use Management Team (Adams) is assigned. This fire is being managed for resource benefit. The McDonald Creek Fire continued to burn slowly to the south yesterday, over Flattop Mountain. The Anaconda Fire has been inactive for the last three days.

BOULDER LAKE, Lolo NF. A Type II Incident Management Team (Cowin) is assigned.

This fire is located about 25 miles northeast of Missoula. There was no significant fire activity yesterday. Moderate thunderstorms with gusty winds came through the fire area. Control concerns include steep, inaccessible terrain.

KOPSI CREEK, Kootenai NF. A Type II Incident Management Team (Sherwood) is assigned. The fire is located about 40 miles northwest of Kalispell. The fire was actively spotting up to a quarter mile yesterday. Most of the fire area is inaccessible to crews. Other control concerns include steep terrain, low humidity levels, and heavy fuel types with concentrations of snags.

BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS COMPLEX, Flathead NF. This fire complex is located in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area. It consists of ten fires and is being managed for resource benefit. No other information was received.

WEST FORK WILDERNESS FIRES, Bitterroot NF. A Type I Incident Management Team (Kohut) is assigned in addition to the Bitterroot Complex. There are 14 fires in the complex, which are being managed for resource benefit. Fire activity was low yesterday due to cloud cover and increased humidity levels. Structure protection plans remain in place at Paradise, Coopers Flat, Horse Heritage Cabins, and the Burnt Knob Lookout. Current threats are to historic structures, T & E aquatic species and an outfitter camp.

MOOSE COMPLEX, Nez Perce NF. An Interagency Fire Use Management Team (Johnson) is assigned. The complex consists of 11 Wildland Fire For Resource Benefit (WFURB) fires located in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. This incident has been combined with the Powell Complex and both will be reported as the Moose Complex. The Gypsy and White Fires are being managed under a confinement suppression strategy with no resources currently assigned. Isolated thunderstorms went through the area yesterday, but rain was spotty and no significant amounts were recorded. All fires were fairly inactive due to lower temperatures, higher humidity levels and periodic cloud cover.



EASTERN GREAT BASIN LARGE FIRES:

POCATELLO VALLEY, Idaho Falls District, BLM. This fire is located about fifteen miles west of Malad City. A change in wind direction yesterday caused the fire to finger up into the mountains. Several out-buildings were burned. Control problems include high winds and steep inaccessible terrain.

MAIN SALMON COMPLEX, Salmon-Challis NF. An Interagency Fire Use Management Team (Zimmerman) is assigned. This complex is 40 miles west northwest of Salmon. The complex consists of 15 fires in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness on the Salmon-Challis, Payette, Nez Perce and Bitterroot National Forests. Observed fire behavior yesterday ranged from minimal to moderate, with some fires actively backing and others making short runs with some torching.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE CTN	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTAL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC	EST LOSS	\$\$\$ LOSS	C-T-D
POCATELLO VALLE	ID	IFD	7,000	50	9/8	54	0	12	1	NR	UNK	59K	
MAIN SALMON COM	ID	SCF*	21,610	0	10/15	58	1	0	1	0	OK	1020K	

\* Primary ordering office location.

NORTHWEST LARGE FIRES:

LOWE CREEK, Vale District, BLM. This lightning caused fire is located about 20 miles east of Baker city. It is burning in brush and thick grass. The fire was active yesterday until a rain shower slowed burning.

DALLES MOUNTAIN ROAD, Washington State. This fire is located about two miles east of Dallesport. No other information was received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE CTN	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTAL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC	EST LOSS	\$\$\$ LOSS	C-T-D
LOWE CREEK	OR	VAD	1,300	50	----	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	0	UNK	UNK	
DALLES MOUNTAIN	WA	WAS	800	UNK	----	100	UNK	UNK	UNK	0	UNK	UNK	

OUTLOOK:

Skies will be partly cloudy with scattered wet thunderstorms expected for the northern and central Rocky Mountains and the Great Basin. There will be increasing southwest winds over the higher terrain of the Pacific Northwest. High temperatures will range from 85 to 105 in the valleys and from the 70's to the 80's in the mountains.

FIREs AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
ALASKA	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
NORTHWEST	FIREs	2	2			8	22	34
	ACRES	1	1,350			3	4	1,358
CA-NORTH	FIREs	1	2			22	14	39
	ACRES	2	0			9	11	22
CA-SOUTH	FIREs	1	3		2	23	9	38
	ACRES	0	0		0	79	5	84
NORTHERN	FIREs				1	2	16	19
	ACRES				10	0	3,051	3,061
GB-EAST	FIREs		3			6	10	19
	ACRES		150			1	71	222
GB-WEST	FIREs		3			2	2	7
	ACRES		2			0	0	2
SOUTHWEST	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
ROCKY MTN	FIREs		5			1	2	8
	ACRES		3			0	0	3
EASTERN	FIREs					23	5	28
	ACRES					20	14	34
SOUTHERN	FIREs					28	15	43
	ACRES					1,910	43	1,953
TOTAL	FIREs	4	18	0	3	115	95	235
	ACRES	3	1,505	0	10	2,022	3,199	6,739

\* = NO REPORT

FIREs AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
ALASKA	FIREs	3	26	8	3	330	5	375
	ACRES	1	56,752	51	21	63,989	1	120,815
NORTHWEST	FIREs	240	248	8	21	1,386	1,516	3,419
	ACRES	23,776	74,620	358	13	22,764	13,102	134,633
CA-NORTH	FIREs	123	31	2	13	1,542	483	2,194
	ACRES	120	1,110	9,701	7	15,985	2,882	29,805
CA-SOUTH	FIREs	121	144	6	74	3,537	1,033	4,915
	ACRES	997	4,772	9,866	31	50,600	7,446	73,712
NORTHERN	FIREs	723	71	36	25	504	2,119	3,478
	ACRES	7,613	6,040	7,523	9,003	25,865	32,244	88,288
GB-EAST	FIREs	37	536		16	273	641	1,503
	ACRES	260	129,208		71	18,372	19,919	167,830
GB-WEST	FIREs		413	1	18	77	168	677
	ACRES		73,304	0	3	3,332	822	77,461
SOUTHWEST	FIREs	1,580	123	14	77	861	1,230	3,885
	ACRES	11,016	5,374	2,933	6,064	95,259	13,819	134,465
ROCKY MTN	FIREs	380	325	32	27	664	318	1,746
	ACRES	3,981	3,677	548	4	8,050	2,811	19,071

EASTERN	FIREs	500			56	10,703	458	11,717
	ACRES	9,822			341	76,242	6,054	92,459
SOUTHERN	FIREs	8		79	49	29,803	952	30,891
	ACRES	35		27,385	8,082	078,588	80,845	1,194,935
TOTALS	FIREs	3,715	1,917	186	379	49,680	8,923	64,800
	ACRES	57,621	354,857	58,365	23,640	459,046	179,945	2,133,474
TEN YEAR AVERAGE	FIREs							60,918
TEN YEAR AVERAGE	ACRES							2,860,210

PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
ALASKA	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
NORTHWEST	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
CA-NORTH	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
CA-SOUTH	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
NORTHERN	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
GB-EAST	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
GB-WEST	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
SOUTHWEST	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
ROCKY MTN	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
EASTERN	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
SOUTHERN	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

WILDLAND FIRE USE (WFU) FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
ALASKA	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
NORTHWEST	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
CA-NORTH	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
CA-SOUTH	FIREs							0

NORTHERN	ACRES								0
	FIRES							2	2
GB-EAST	ACRES							870	870
	FIRES							0	0
GB-WEST	ACRES							0	0
	FIRES							0	0
SOUTHWEST	ACRES							0	0
	FIRES							0	0
ROCKY MTN	ACRES							0	0
	FIRES							0	0
EASTERN	ACRES							0	0
	FIRES							0	0
SOUTHERN	ACRES							0	0
	FIRES							0	0
USA TOTAL	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2
	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	870	870	870

Fires and acres reported to the National Interagency Coordination Center are for operational uses. Official totals may be obtained by contacting the Agencies directly.

#### CANADA FIRES AND HECTARES:

Provinces	Fires	Hectares	Fires	Hectares
	Last Week	Last Week	Year-to-date	Year-to-date
BRITISH COLUMBIA	55	147	2,137	64,562
YUKON TERRITORY		24,200	190	385,391
ALBERTA	25	24,454	1,535	567,742
NORTHWEST TERRITORY			397	1,367,892
SASKATCHEWAN	19	0	1,193	934,456
MANITOBA	8	0	455	313,935
ONTARIO	17	24	2,079	157,584
QUEBEC		1,400	782	358,789
NEWFOUNDLAND			193	34,504
NEW BRUNSWICK	1	0	273	284
NOVA SCOTIA			328	373
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND			16	66
NATIONAL PARKS			93	32,481
TOTALS	125	50,225	9,671	4,218,059

Canada is reporting weekly on Wednesday

#### RESOURCE STATUS: COMMITTED RESOURCES:

Area	Crews	Crews	Engs	Engs	Heli	Heli	Airt	Airt	Ovrhd	Ovrhd
	Fed	ST/OT	Fed	ST/OT	Fed	ST/OT	Fed	ST/OT	Fed	ST/OT

ALASKA										
NORTHWEST		34	13		3					
CA-NORTH	1	3	12	2	2					
CA-SOUTH										
NORTHERN	181	32	46	74	37	23	3	1144	340	
GB-EAST	18	6	31	7	13	5	3	151	26	
GB-WEST		3	3	3	1			1		
SOUTHWEST										
ROCKY MTN	1		5	1				1	21	
EASTERN	1				1					
SOUTHERN	8	2	10	140		26	2	2	7	
TOTAL	210	80	120	227	57	54	8	31,296	394	

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