

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT**  
**FRIDAY JUNE 20, 2003 - 0530 MDT**  
**NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light nationally with 161 new fires reported. Four new large fires were reported, two in the Southwest, one each in Southern California and Western Great Basin Area. Three large fires were contained, one in Southern California and two in Alaska. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming.

**SOUTHWEST AREA LARGE FIRES:**

ASPEN, Coronado National Forest. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Humphrey) is assigned. This fire is burning in timber with heavy ground fuels near the town of Summer Haven, AZ. Extreme fire behavior was observed, with torching and spotting over one quarter mile. The fire area continues to expand significantly. The fire is well established in Sabino Canyon in the area of Summerhaven and Loma Linta. Fire intensity has prohibited accurate evaluation of structural damage.

CHERRY, Prescott National Forest. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Oltrogge) is assigned. This fire is burning in chaparral and oak north of the town of Cherry, AZ. Red Flag conditions for high winds tested all control lines. Resources continue to mop up, patrol and hold control lines.

PICTURE, Tonto National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Philbin) is assigned. This fire is burning in ponderosa pine, chaparral and juniper ten miles northeast of Tonto Basin, AZ. Active fire behavior was observed, with rapid rates of spread and long range spotting. The fire made a two mile run to the north/northwest.

LIZARD, Coconino National Forest. This fire is burning in pinyon pine and juniper, nine miles southeast of Flagstaff, AZ. The fire was less active due to favorable weather conditions; gusty winds associated with thunderstorms did generate some flare-ups. Continued patrol and mop up along the fire perimeter are planned for today.

HELEN 2, Saguaro National Park. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Raley) is assigned. This lightning caused fire is burning in thick timber near Tucson, AZ. Limited access and steep difficult terrain are hampering containment efforts. Moderate fire activity with occasional runs was observed.

DRY LAKES COMPLEX, Gila National Forest. A Fire Use Management Team (Goheen) is assigned. This lightning caused Wildland Fire Use complex, comprised of the Dry, Lake, Sycamore, and Moonshine fires, are 27 miles northwest of Silver City, NM. The complex is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. Increased fire behavior with spread through surface fuels was observed in pinyon pine, ponderosa pine, grass, and mixed stands of conifer. Resources will continue hot spotting on the northern perimeter of the Moonshine Fire.

POWELL, Grand Canyon National Park. A Fire Use Management Team (Kitchen) is assigned. This lightning caused Wildland Fire Use fire is burning in timber with heavy ground fuels 23 miles northwest of Grand Canyon Village, AZ. Fire behavior observed was primarily backing fire with occasional single and multiple tree torching.

PICACHO RESERVOIR, State of Arizona. This fire is in grass and brush, eight miles north of Picacho, AZ. Minimal fire behavior was observed, with slow backing fire along the east perimeter. Monitoring of the fire will continue today.

MORGAN, Gila National Forest. This lightning caused fire is in the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Area, 34 miles west of Truth or Consequences, NM. The fire is burning in ponderosa pine, grass and mixed conifer with heavy dead and down fuels. No visible smoke was observed. The fire will be monitored by air and lookout towers.

MORMON, Coconino National Forest. This fire is in pinyon pine 19 miles southeast of Flagstaff, AZ. The fire is being managed with a confinement strategy. No new information was reported. This will be the last report unless new information is received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
ASPEN	AZ	CNF	2,200	0	UNK	637	21	24	4	0	317K
CHERRY	AZ	PNF	1,000	90	6/20	672	23	18	3	0	907K
PICTURE	AZ	TNF	2,000	10	UNK	461	19	8	3	0	300K
LIZARD	AZ	COF	4,517	85	6/23	60	1	5	0	0	181K
HELEN 2	AZ	SAP	400	10	UNK	111	6	0	2	0	NR
DRY LAKES COMPLEX	NM	GNF	20,500	0	UNK	71	2	0	1	0	396K
POWELL	AZ	GCP	425	0	UNK	13	0	1	0	0	80K
PICACHO RESERVOIR	AZ	AZS	925	90	6/20	3	0	1	0	0	18K
MORGAN	NM	GNF	4,986	NR	UNK	3	0	0	0	0	63K
MORMON	AZ	COF	2,600	NR	6/30	NR	0	0	0	0	63K

### ALASKA AREA LARGE FIRES:

SAND CREEK, State of Alaska. This fire is burning in black spruce, tundra, and hardwoods, 25 miles northeast of Delta Junction, AK. No new information was reported.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
SAND CREEK	AK	AKS	23,400	4	UNK	136	6	0	3	1	176K
ALBERT CREEK	AK	UYD	1,473	100	---	211	8	7	3	0	467K
LEFT BANK	AK	AKS	500	100	---	107	6	0	2	0	618K

UYD = Upper Yukon Zone, Bureau of Land Management

AKS = State of Alaska

### **SOUTHERN AREA LARGE FIRES:**

REFUGE, Florida Division of Forestry. This fire is burning in sawgrass in the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, six miles northwest of Coral Springs, FL. Resources will continue to monitor the fire.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
REFUGE	FL	FLS	3,700	0	UNK	2	0	1	0	0	NR

### **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:**

SAGEHEN, Inyo National Forest. This lightning caused fire is burning in pinyon pine, sage brush and heavy grasses 13 miles north of Benton, CA. Rapid rates of spread with complete combustion and spotting up to a quarter mile were observed.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
SAGEHEN	CA	INF	1,000	1	UNK	140	6	0	2	0	NR
SYCAMORE	CA	MVU	520	100	---	16	1	0	0	0	373K

MVU = Monte Vista Unit, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection

### **WESTERN GREAT BASIN AREA LARGE FIRES:**

EDWARDS, Carson City Field Office, Bureau of Land Management. This lightning caused fire is burning in short grass 125 miles east of Reno, NV. Thunder cells and erratic winds caused the fire to run in all directions.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
EDWARDS	NV	CCD	600	5	6/20	79	3	5	0	0	NR

## OUTLOOK:

**Red Flag Warnings:** All of Arizona for strong southwest winds and low humidity. Strong northeast winds in the northern interior of Alaska.

**Fire Weather Watch:** Southwest Wyoming in the afternoon and evening for winds, dry relative humidity and warm temperatures.

**Weather Discussion:** A strong cold front will progress across the Northern Rockies today, ushering in much cooler air to the Pacific Northwest and Western Great Basin Areas. Unstable afternoon conditions along and ahead of the front will once again lead to scattered thunderstorms. Winds will be strong along and well to the south of the front, especially in the Southwest, Great Basin and Rocky Mountain areas. In Alaska, pressure gradients will relax today, reducing northeast winds over the central and northern parts of the state.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<b>ROCKY MOUNTAIN AREA</b> Scattered afternoon thunderstorms east, isolated dry storms west.	Upper 70s and 80s, except up to the lower 90s western Colorado.	10% to 25% in western sections, 25% to 45% east.	Southwest 15 to 30 mph western sections, southeast 15 to 25 mph in the east.
<b>EASTERN GREAT BASIN AR</b> Partly cloudy region-wide, except sunny in southern Utah. Widely scattered thunderstorms in Idaho and northern Utah.	45 to 76 in the mountains, 60 to 83 in the valleys except 93 to 100 in the valleys of southern Utah and the Arizona Strip.	30 to 70% in the mountains, 4 to 25% in the lower elevations.	West to southwest 15 to 30 mph, up to 35 mph in southern Utah.
<b>WESTERN GREAT BASIN AREA</b> A deep trough of low pressure will bring cooler temperatures and gusty winds to most of the state. Isolated thunderstorms expected in the far northeast.	70s to upper 80s at low elevations, 60s to 70s in the foothills and mountains.	7 to 15% lower elevations, 12 to 22% higher elevations, 20 to 45% in the Sierras	West 10 to 25 mph for the northern 2/3 of the state, south 5 to 15 mph in the southern 1/3 of the state.
<b>SOUTHWEST AREA</b> Windy and dry in Arizona. Otherwise, mostly sunny west and partly cloudy east. A slight chance for thunderstorms eastern New Mexico.	70s to mid 80s mountains and 80s to mid 90s lower elevations, except near 103 southwest Arizona deserts.	3 to 12% Arizona, 8 to 25% western New Mexico, 25 to 40% remainder.	Southwest 15 to 30 mph with higher gusts in Arizona, southwest 10 to 20 mph in western New Mexico. Upslope/up-valley or variable winds elsewhere 5 to 15 mph.
<b>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA</b> Morning low clouds and fog with local drizzle to the lower coastal slopes, otherwise mostly sunny,	70 to 85 mountains and coastal valleys, 80-90 inland valleys and upper deserts, and 95 to 105 lower deserts.	30 to 45% mountains and inland valleys, 50 to 65% coastal valleys and 10 to 25% deserts.	Southwest to northwest 10 to 20 mph with higher gusts over the mountains and deserts.

<b>NORTHERN CALIFORNIA</b> Night and morning coastal fog and low clouds. Mostly sunny elsewhere with a few afternoon cumuli over the northern and eastern mountains.	60s at the coast, 60s and 70s higher elevations, and 80s to near 90 interior valleys.	50% or higher coast. Inland 28 to 40% west of the Sierra Cascade Crest and 10 to 20% east of the crest.	Northwest 7 to 15 mph with gusts to 25 to 30 mph higher elevations and coastal areas, SW to NW 5 to 10 mph with afternoon gusts to 20 mph valleys.
<b>Alaska</b> Interior Mostly sunny and breezy in the north. Partly to mostly cloudy with isolated showers and wet thunderstorms in the south.	65 to 78.	25% to 40%.	Northeast 5 to 15 mph and increasing to 20-30 in the north.



[http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/dsp\\_sixminutes.php](http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/dsp_sixminutes.php)

## ***EXTREME FIRE BEHAVIOR***

Extreme fire behavior has always been present in cases of shelter deployment. It is critical for firefighters to maintain situational awareness of live and dead fuel moisture conditions as well as predicted and current weather conditions. As fire behavior changes, it is critical to act decisively to the changing situation.

● Discuss the following indicators of extreme fire behavior:

- Relative humidity less than 15%
- 1-hour fuel moisture less than 5%
- Trees crowning inside the fireline
- Smoldering fires that exist in the early part of the day are beginning to burn very actively as the day progresses.
- Approaching thunderheads with dark clouds beneath
- Presence of dust devils indicating an unstable atmosphere
- Increased spotting
- Sudden calm
- High clouds moving fast in direction different from surface wind
- Predicted Haines Index of 5 and 6 in those areas where this level is a good indicator of atmospheric instability

**FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES		3				10	13
	ACRES		0				3	3
Northern California	FIRES			1		20	2	23
	ACRES			0		6	0	6
Southern California	FIRES	1	1			11	1	14
	ACRES	0	0			24	0	24
Northern Rockies	FIRES					15	9	24
	ACRES					3	8	11
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	8		1	10	18	38
	ACRES	0	3		0	220	1	224
Western Great Basin	FIRES		8			1	5	14
	ACRES		806			10	9	825
Southwest	FIRES	6	-1		1	4	7	17
	ACRES	263	-30		400	2	1,908	2,543
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		11		1		1	13
	ACRES		1		0		0	1
Eastern Area	FIRES					1	1	2
	ACRES					0	1	1
Southern Area	FIRES					3		3
	ACRES					203		203
TOTAL	FIRES	8	30	1	3	65	54	161
	ACRES	263	780	0	400	468	1,930	3,841

# FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	2	1	2	5	275	5	290
	ACRES	20	15	0	694	40,184	0	40,913
Northwest	FIRES	18	33	3	2	97	108	261
	ACRES	5	157	1	1	513	67	744
Northern California	FIRES	38	3	7	5	421	80	554
	ACRES	17	0	2	6,510	7,614	67	14,210
Southern California	FIRES	21	28	5	3	647	171	875
	ACRES	162	1,290	355	0	5,110	150	7,067
Northern Rockies	FIRES	448	3	16	2	140	71	680
	ACRES	2,976	5	701	0	16,368	1,405	21,455
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	8	151		5	110	128	402
	ACRES	242	4,657		0	1,211	53	6,163
Western Great Basin	FIRES	3	130	1	2	24	23	183
	ACRES	0	1,424	0	0	507	593	2,524
Southwest	FIRES	302	85	12	6	493	583	1,481
	ACRES	1,746	3,325	1,288	431	10,845	32,191	49,826
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	46	240	21	17	103	114	541
	ACRES	157	142	1,584	201	297	590	2,971
Eastern Area	FIRES	879		64	16	7,733	386	9,078
	ACRES	51,476		6,588	685	106,464	5,477	170,690
Southern Area	FIRES	102		13	11	10,263	308	10,697
	ACRES	20,403		3,194	756	151,013	8,760	184,126
TOTAL	FIRES	1,867	674	144	74	20,306	1,977	25,042
	ACRES	77,204	11,015	13,713	9,278	340,126	49,353	500,689

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>39,483</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>1,021,226</b>

\*\*\*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		1	1
	ACRES				46		0	46
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	1	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	46	0	0	46



**PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					6		6
	ACRES					1,555		1,555
Northwest	FIRES	25	90	146	5		212	478
	ACRES	3,229	10,896	4,675	88		24,164	43,052
Northern California	FIRES	2	11	99	15		126	253
	ACRES	31	273	15,958	2,183		9,672	28,117
Southern California	FIRES		2	3	4		87	96
	ACRES		27	621	283		13,139	14,070
Northern Rockies	FIRES	12	11	68	3	23	310	427
	ACRES	502	3,808	9,189	510	1,750	14,722	30,481
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	16	3		7	24	51
	ACRES	18	3,791	300		150	6,200	10,459
Western Great Basin	FIRES		1				1	2
	ACRES		100				230	330
Southwest	FIRES	12	31	17	4	2	225	291
	ACRES	3,332	25,120	36,873	4,877	2	38,128	108,332
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	26	14	62	7	10	70	189
	ACRES	1,718	1,336	10,007	8,892	132	4,758	26,843
Eastern Area	FIRES	23		308	16	443	192	982
	ACRES	10,562		56,030	1,823	78,470	26,593	173,478
Southern Area	FIRES	53		252	61	11,456	1,114	12,936
	ACRES	19,379		89,704	78,902	715,301	856,160	1,759,446
TOTAL	FIRES	154	176	958	115	11,947	2,361	15,711
	ACRES	38,771	45,351	223,357	97,558	797,360	993,766	2,196,163

**\*\*\*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				1		3	4
	ACRES				0		0	0
Northern Rockies	FIRES				1			1
	ACRES				1			1
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES						5	5
	ACRES						1	1
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES				1		9	10
	ACRES				310		77,023	77,333
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		13				1	14
	ACRES		18				1	19
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES				3			3
	ACRES				830			830
TOTAL	FIRES	0	13	0	6	0	18	37
	ACRES	0	18	0	1,141	0	77,025	78,184

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

### CANADA FIRES AND HECTARES:

PROVINCES	FIRES YESTERDAY	HECTARES YESTERDAY	FIRES YEAR-TO-DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO-DATE
British Columbia	21	10	397	3,476
Yukon Territory	0	0	36	1,942
Alberta	39	1,406	402	3,329
Northwest Territory	1	1	20	95
Saskatchewan	7	4,703	215	15,763
Manitoba	17	3,420	528	39,931
Ontario	27	1,405	456	6,426
Quebec	8	8	339	30,539
Newfoundland	2	400	66	498
New Brunswick	1	0	114	136
Nova Scotia	0	0	182	1,254
Prince Edward Island	0	0	0	0
National Parks	0	0	6	343
Total	123	11,354	2,761	103,731

### 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	6	8		7	3	2			48	9
Northwest	2	2	6	3						
Northern California	2		2							
Southern California	17	1	38		7				24	496
Northern Rockies	3		2	5		1				
Eastern Great Basin	4	1	23	2	4		1		3	
Western Great Basin	6	5	19	3	1	1	1		7	
Southwest	65	8	17	46	12	2			327	73
Rocky Mountain	2		6		1				3	
Eastern Area									3	
Southern Area				1						
Total	107	25	113	67	28	6	2	0	415	578

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