

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2003 1000 MST**  
**NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light to moderate nationally, with 226 new fires reported yesterday. Four new large fires were reported in the Southern Area. Three large fires were contained, two in the Southern Area and one in the Eastern Area. Very high fire indices were reported in Arizona and Indiana.

COLUMBIA RESPONSE, Federal Emergency Management Agency. A FEMA Emergency Operations Center is established in Lufkin, Texas. Four Type 1 Incident Management Teams (Studebaker, Gelobter, Anderson and Ferguson) are assigned in Corsicana, Hemphill, Palestine and Nacogdoches, Texas. One Type 2 Incident Management Team (Houseman) is assigned in Longview, Texas. Forty-eight agencies are cooperating in the search and collection of shuttle materials.

NEWCASTLE, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA. State and Federal personnel have been mobilized in response to the outbreak of the Exotic Newcastle Disease. They are working in support of the USDA APHIS operation under a Unified Command. Support operations are being conducted in Arizona, California, and Nevada.

**SOUTHERN AREA LARGE FIRES:**

STANLEY FIRE, Oklahoma Division of Forestry. This fire is burning in oak and pine woodlands six miles southwest of Clayton, OK. Erratic fire behavior was observed yesterday due to winds and steep terrain. Continued line construction and burn out are planned for today.

DRY CREEK PLANTATION, Oklahoma Division of Forestry. This fire is six miles west of Colcord, OK, burning in a pine plantation. Steep terrain and strong winds caused containment problems. Control lines will be completed today.

STICK SPRINGS, Oklahoma Division of Forestry. This fire is burning in a mixed hardwood stand four miles southeast of Jay, OK. Active fire behavior was observed yesterday, with six to ten foot flame lengths at the head of the fire. Line construction and burn out operations are planned for today.

| INCIDENT NAME           | ST | UNIT | SIZE | %<br>CTN | EST<br>CTN | TOTL<br>PERS | CRW | ENG | HELI | STRC<br>LOST | \$\$\$<br>CTD |
|-------------------------|----|------|------|----------|------------|--------------|-----|-----|------|--------------|---------------|
| STANLEY FIRE            | OK | OKS  | 200  | 50       | 3/29       | 13           | 0   | 5   | 1    | 0            | NR            |
| DRY CREEK<br>PLANTATION | OK | OKS  | 250  | 85       | 3/28       | 3            | 0   | 2   | 0    | 0            | NR            |
| STICK SPRINGS           | OK | OKS  | 345  | 87       | 3/28       | 17           | 0   | 1   | 0    | 0            | NR            |
| COUNTY LINE FIRE        | OK | OKS  | 400  | 100      | ---        | 4            | 0   | 2   | 0    | 0            | NR            |
| BLUE VALLEY             | OK | OKS  | 160  | 100      | ---        | 8            | 0   | 4   | 0    | 0            | NR            |

## EASTERN AREA LARGE FIRES:

| INCIDENT NAME       | ST | UNIT | SIZE | %<br>CTN | EST<br>CTN | TOTL<br>PERS | CRW | ENG | HELI | STRC<br>LOST | \$\$\$<br>CTD |
|---------------------|----|------|------|----------|------------|--------------|-----|-----|------|--------------|---------------|
| AITKEN FIRE COMPLEX | MN | MNS  | 300  | 100      | ---        | 20           | 0   | 6   | 0    | 1            | 12K           |

MNS = Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

## OUTLOOK:

**\*\*\*A FIRE WEATHER WATCH IS IN EFFECT TODAY FOR THE WESTERN PORTIONS OF THE FLORIDA PANHANDLE FOR HIGH DISPERSION INDICES\*\*\***

The Southern Area will see a strong cold front produce widespread showers and thunderstorms across northeast Texas, southeast Oklahoma, and most of Arkansas today before heading into Kentucky, Tennessee, Louisiana and Mississippi tonight. Strong winds will also accompany the front as it moves across the area, and dramatically colder temperatures will follow. Morning lows will be below freezing over much of the Southern Area over the weekend.

The Columbia recovery area will see mild morning temperatures give way to showers and thunderstorms as the day progresses. Winds should shift to the northwest and increase to 20 mph. Temperatures will fall during the afternoon, likely reaching the upper 30s by nightfall.

A strong low pressure system is forecast to push northeast through the Great Lakes region Thursday night and Friday. Rainfall is expected near and ahead of this system in the warm air to the east of the storm, with rain changing to snow in the cold air in its wake. The heaviest snow should fall across central and southern Minnesota as well as northern Wisconsin. Strong southerly winds will prevail over the Mid-Atlantic and New England states with brisk northerly winds expected across the Great Lakes and Big Rivers compacts.



[www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/index\\_j.asp](http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/index_j.asp)

### **COMMON DENOMINATORS OF FIRE BEHAVIOR ON TRAGEDY FIRES**

Five common denominators that contribute to accidents/incidents have been identified through studies of tragedy fires. It is important for firefighters to readily recognize the following common denominators so that future tragedies can be prevented:

- Most incidents happen on smaller fires or on isolated portions of larger fires.
- Most fires are innocent in appearance before unexpected shifts in wind direction and/or speed results in flare-ups or extreme fire behavior. In some cases, tragedies occur in the mopup stage.
- Flare-ups generally occur in deceptively light fuels, such as grass and light brush.
- Fires run uphill surprisingly fast in chimneys, saddles, gullies, and on steep slopes.
- Some suppression tools, such as helicopters or airtankers, can adversely affect fire behavior. The blasts of air from low-flying helicopters and airtankers have been known to cause flare-ups.

# 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 |       |     |     |     |       | 6    | 6     |
|                     | ACRES |       |     |     |     |       | 2    | 2     |
| Northern Rockies    | FIRES |       |     |     |     |       |      | 0     |
|                     | ACRES |       |     |     |     |       |      | 0     |
| Eastern Great Basin | FIRES |       | 0   |     |     |       |      | 0     |
|                     | ACRES |       | 1   |     |     |       |      | 1     |
| Western Great Basin | FIRES |       |     |     |     |       |      | 0     |
|                     | ACRES |       |     |     |     |       |      | 0     |
| Southwest           | FIRES |       |     |     |     | 10    |      | 10    |
|                     | ACRES |       |     |     |     | 17    |      | 17    |
| Rocky Mountain      | FIRES |       |     |     |     |       |      | 0     |
|                     | ACRES |       |     |     |     |       |      | 0     |
| Eastern Area        | FIRES | 48    |     |     | 2   | 4     | 3    | 57    |
|                     | ACRES | 1,202 |     |     | 180 | 103   | 10   | 1,495 |
| Southern Area       | FIRES | 2     |     |     |     | 146   | 5    | 153   |
|                     | ACRES | 160   |     |     |     | 1,693 | 25   | 1,878 |
| TOTAL               | FIRES | 50    | 0   | 0   | 2   | 160   | 14   | 226   |
|                     | ACRES | 1,362 | 1   | 0   | 180 | 1,813 | 37   | 3,393 |

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

| AREA                |       | BIA   | BLM   | FWS   | NPS   | ST/OT  | USFS  | TOTAL  |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| Alaska              | FIRES |       |       |       | 1     | 42     |       | 43     |
|                     | ACRES |       |       |       | 432   | 183    |       | 615    |
| Northwest           | FIRES | 1     |       | 1     |       |        |       | 2      |
|                     | ACRES | 0     |       | 1     |       |        |       | 1      |
| Northern California | FIRES |       |       |       | 4     | 83     | 12    | 99     |
|                     | ACRES |       |       |       | 2,210 | 19     | 4     | 2,233  |
| Southern California | FIRES | 1     | 4     |       |       | 171    | 44    | 220    |
|                     | ACRES | 0     | 1     |       |       | 29     | 14    | 44     |
| Northern Rockies    | FIRES | 18    |       |       |       | 1      | 2     | 21     |
|                     | ACRES | 39    |       |       |       | 29     | 1,500 | 1,568  |
| Eastern Great Basin | FIRES |       | 3     |       |       | 1      | 1     | 5      |
|                     | ACRES |       | 1     |       |       | 0      | 0     | 1      |
| Western Great Basin | FIRES |       |       |       |       |        |       | 0      |
|                     | ACRES |       |       |       |       |        |       | 0      |
| Southwest           | FIRES | 8     | 8     | 1     |       | 78     | 32    | 127    |
|                     | ACRES | 25    | 1,318 | 274   |       | 383    | 32    | 2,032  |
| Rocky Mountain      | FIRES | 4     | 3     |       | 1     | 6      | 3     | 17     |
|                     | ACRES | 9     | 0     |       | 200   | 121    | 15    | 345    |
| Eastern Area        | FIRES | 124   |       |       | 5     | 369    | 62    | 560    |
|                     | ACRES | 1,338 |       |       | 182   | 4,777  | 1,323 | 7,620  |
| Southern Area       | FIRES | 60    |       | 5     | 5     | 5,892  | 167   | 6,129  |
|                     | ACRES | 7,201 |       | 755   | 550   | 65,433 | 3,314 | 77,253 |
| TOTAL               | FIRES | 216   | 18    | 7     | 16    | 6,643  | 323   | 7,223  |
|                     | ACRES | 8,612 | 1,320 | 1,030 | 3,574 | 70,974 | 6,202 | 91,712 |

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Eight Year Average Fires</b> | <b>14,425</b>  |
| <b>Eight Year Average Acres</b> | <b>264,483</b> |

\*\*\*Averages are computed from data reported to NICC during the fourth reporting period in March\*\*\*

and

\*\*\*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 |     |     | 62    |     |       |        | 62     |
|                     | ACRES |     |     | 1,504 |     |       |        | 1,504  |
| Northern California | FIRES |     |     |       |     |       |        | 0      |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |       |     |       |        | 0      |
| Southern California | FIRES |     | 1   | 1     |     |       | 2      | 4      |
|                     | ACRES |     | 8   | 37    |     |       | 983    | 1,028  |
| Northern Rockies    | FIRES |     |     |       |     |       |        | 0      |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |       |     |       |        | 0      |
| Eastern Great Basin | FIRES |     | 1   |       |     |       |        | 1      |
|                     | ACRES |     | 25  |       |     |       |        | 25     |
| Western Great Basin | FIRES |     |     |       |     |       |        | 0      |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |       |     |       |        | 0      |
| Southwest           | FIRES |     |     |       | 2   |       | 15     | 17     |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |       | 90  |       | 345    | 435    |
| Rocky Mountain      | FIRES |     |     |       |     |       | 0      | 0      |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |       |     |       | 2      | 2      |
| Eastern Area        | FIRES |     |     |       |     | 1     |        | 1      |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |       |     | 4     |        | 4      |
| Southern Area       | FIRES | 1   |     |       | 2   | 2     | 19     | 24     |
|                     | ACRES | 125 |     |       | 194 | 168   | 11,550 | 12,037 |
| TOTAL               | FIRES | 1   | 2   | 63    | 4   | 3     | 36     | 109    |
|                     | ACRES | 125 | 33  | 1,541 | 284 | 172   | 12,880 | 15,035 |

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

| AREA                |       | BIA   | BLM   | FWS    | NPS    | ST/OT   | USFS    | TOTAL     |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Alaska              | FIRES |       |       |        |        |         |         | 0         |
|                     | ACRES |       |       |        |        |         |         | 0         |
| Northwest           | FIRES | 3     | 60    | 82     |        |         | 49      | 194       |
|                     | ACRES | 4     | 3,410 | 3,684  |        |         | 1,287   | 8,385     |
| Northern California | FIRES | 1     | 7     | 5      | 9      |         | 58      | 80        |
|                     | ACRES | 31    | 110   | 7,533  | 496    |         | 2,997   | 11,167    |
| Southern California | FIRES |       | 2     | 1      | 1      |         | 61      | 65        |
|                     | ACRES |       | 13    | 37     | 2      |         | 6,554   | 6,606     |
| Northern Rockies    | FIRES |       | 1     |        |        |         | 2       | 3         |
|                     | ACRES |       | 13    |        |        |         | 118     | 131       |
| Eastern Great Basin | FIRES |       | 4     |        |        | 4       |         | 8         |
|                     | ACRES |       | 81    |        |        | 121     |         | 202       |
| Western Great Basin | FIRES |       |       |        |        |         |         | 0         |
|                     | ACRES |       |       |        |        |         |         | 0         |
| Southwest           | FIRES | 3     | 5     | 1      | 3      |         | 168     | 180       |
|                     | ACRES | 460   | 2,827 | 550    | 1,090  |         | 5,451   | 10,378    |
| Rocky Mountain      | FIRES | 10    | 2     | 4      | 5      | 2       | 15      | 38        |
|                     | ACRES | 598   | 110   | 125    | 349    | 39      | 1,788   | 3,009     |
| Eastern Area        | FIRES | 2     |       | 18     | 3      | 10      | 56      | 89        |
|                     | ACRES | 296   |       | 7,549  | 1,108  | 2,100   | 6,558   | 17,611    |
| Southern Area       | FIRES | 41    |       | 176    | 28     | 5,601   | 827     | 6,673     |
|                     | ACRES | 7,287 |       | 62,855 | 44,733 | 362,094 | 644,731 | 1,121,700 |
| TOTAL               | FIRES | 60    | 81    | 287    | 49     | 5,617   | 1,236   | 7,330     |
|                     | ACRES | 8,676 | 6,564 | 82,333 | 47,778 | 364,354 | 669,484 | 1,179,189 |

\*\*\* 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 |     |     |     |     |       |      | 0     |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |     |     |       |      | 0     |
| 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     | 0    | 0     |
|                     | ACRES | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0     | 0    | 0     |

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



### RESOURCES STATUS: COMMITTED RESOURCES

| AREA                | CREWS<br>FED | CREWS<br>ST/OT | ENGS<br>FED | ENGS<br>ST/OT | HELI<br>FED | HELI<br>ST/OT | AIRT<br>FED | AIRT<br>ST/OT | OVRHD<br>FED | OVRHD<br>ST/OT |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Alaska              |              |                |             |               |             |               |             |               |              |                |
| Northwest           |              |                |             |               |             |               |             |               |              |                |
| Northern California |              |                |             |               |             |               |             |               |              |                |
| Southern California |              |                |             |               |             |               |             |               | 30           | 293            |
| Northern Rockies    |              |                | 2           |               |             |               |             |               |              |                |
| Eastern Great Basin |              |                |             |               |             |               |             |               |              |                |
| Western Great Basin |              |                |             |               |             |               |             |               | 5            | 36             |
| Southwest           |              |                |             |               |             |               |             |               |              |                |
| Rocky Mountain      |              |                |             |               |             |               |             |               |              |                |
| Eastern Area        |              |                | 10          | 12            | 1           |               |             |               | 89           | 4              |
| Southern Area       | 113          | 48             | 1           | 12            | 1           | 1             |             |               | 443          | 1718           |
| Total               | 113          | 48             | 13          | 24            | 2           | 1             | 0           | 0             | 567          | 2051           |

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