

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT**  
**WEDNESDAY MAY 21, 2003 - 0530 MDT**  
**NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light nationally, with 106 new fires reported yesterday. Two new large fires were reported in the Southwest Area. One large fire was contained in the Southern Area. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona and New Mexico.

**SOUTHWEST AREA LARGE FIRES:**

ROUND, Coconino National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Waldrip) is assigned. The fire is burning in mixed conifer and chaparral eight miles northwest of Sedona, AZ. Minimal fire activity was observed yesterday. Extreme terrain where the fire is located is hampering containment efforts, and presents safety concerns.

CHOLLA, Arizona State Land Department. This fire is burning in grass, mesquite and cottonwood near the town of Wikieup, AZ. Minimal fire behavior was observed yesterday. Continued mopup is planned for today.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
ROUND	AZ	COF	67	0	UNK	193	6	0	5	0	132K
CHOLLA	AZ	AZS	270	70	UNK	98	2	11	1	0	NR

**SOUTHERN AREA LARGE FIRES:**

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
SOUTH MARSH 1	FL	LWR	1,500	100	UNK	0	0	0	1	0	NR

LWR = Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge

**OUTLOOK:**

**Weather Discussion:** Surface high pressure will be in control many central and western states today. However, some weak systems embedded in westerly flow will spark some showers in northern Idaho and over the Dakotas in the afternoon. A slow moving front will be draped across the east today, with a trailing front which is drifting very slowly southward through New Mexico. Instability around the trailing edge of the cold front will spark some thunderstorms today once again in New Mexico, eastern Arizona and central Colorado. In the southeast, a warm and humid air mass will be in place ahead of the front. This will cause showers and thunderstorms from the Gulf Coast north to the Virginia Piedmont. The majority of southern Alaska will remain dry today.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<b>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA</b> Areas of morning low clouds and fog coastal areas, otherwise sunny	68-88 Mountains 88-98 Valleys 90-110 Deserts	10-20% Mountains 20-30% Valleys 5-15% Deserts	SW-NW 5 to 15 mph

<b>EASTERN AREA</b> Mostly sunny across the northwest half of MN where elevated fire potential is expected	62 to 72	27 to 37%	Southwest wind increasing to at 10 to 20 mph in the afternoon
<b>SOUTHWEST AREA</b> Partly to mostly sunny. Isolated dry thunderstorms across far eastern AZ and western NM, isolated thunderstorms with wetting rainfall eastern NM and west TX.	60s to 70s mountains and 70s and 80s lower elevations of NM and TX, 90s to 105 southwestern deserts.	5-15% AZ, 15-30% western NM and 30-60% remainder.	Terrain driven across AZ at 5-10 mph, South to Southeast at 5-20 mph remainder.



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

### THUNDERSTORM SAFETY

Thunderstorms cause significant hazards for wildland firefighters, including downbursts that can cause extreme fire behavior and lightning. When thunderstorm development is likely, lookouts should be posted and aware of signs of a developing storm. A sudden reversal in wind direction, a noticeable rise in wind speed, and a sharp drop in temperature may note the mature stage of a storm. Heavy rain, hail and lightning occur only in the mature stage of a thunderstorm. During a storm, use the following guidelines:

- Do not lie down.
  - The best position is sitting on the pack or crouching with feet close together.
  - Avoid sitting directly on the ground, if possible; but, if necessary, keep feet and butt close together.
  - Avoid grouping together. Keep a minimum of 15 feet between people when possible.
  - Removing caulk boots will not provide safety if stocking covered or bare feet are then in contact with the ground--don't bother!
- "Stay out of dry creek beds" is correct for flash floods, but has nothing to do with lightning.
- Handheld radios (with short rubber antennas) or cell phones are safe to use. Communication is vital to crew safety. Do not use land line radios or radios with elevated antennas.
- Wide, open spaces are better than trees or clumps of trees in the vicinity. Ridge tops, etc., should be avoided.
- If you feel the hair on your arms or head "stand up," there is a high probability of a strike in the vicinity. Crouch or sit on a pack.
- Put down all tools.
- Take shelter in vehicles if possible.

**FIREs AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIREs					3	1	4
	ACRES					6	0	6
Northwest	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIREs					4	3	7
	ACRES					2	1	3
Northern Rockies	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIREs						2	2
	ACRES						2	2
Rocky Mountain	FIREs		2		1			3
	ACRES		0		0			0
Eastern Area	FIREs						3	3
	ACRES						4	4
Southern Area	FIREs					87		87
	ACRES					1,148		1,148
TOTAL	FIREs	0	2	0	1	94	9	106
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1,156	7	1,163

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	2			2	160	1	165
	ACRES	20			672	469	0	1,161
Northwest	FIRES	6	1	1		8	13	29
	ACRES	3	0	1		4	2	10
Northern California	FIRES				4	118	18	140
	ACRES				2,210	23	12	2,245
Southern California	FIRES	1	8	2	2	296	74	383
	ACRES	0	527	1	0	39	103	670
Northern Rockies	FIRES	427	1	14		73	22	537
	ACRES	2,957	0	690		16,330	1,372	21,349
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		13		1	17	4	35
	ACRES		21		0	315	6	342
Western Great Basin	FIRES		15			5	1	21
	ACRES		14			17	0	31
Southwest	FIRES	113	44	12	1	297	140	607
	ACRES	187	2,828	1,288	1	7,149	7,066	18,519
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	12	15	22	2	47	24	122
	ACRES	144	3	1,354	200	235	464	2,400
Eastern Area	FIRES	805		80	16	6,575	324	7,800
	ACRES	51,447		6,605	685	100,776	5,254	164,767
Southern Area	FIRES	92		11	11	9,359	280	9,753
	ACRES	20,295		2,681	756	139,371	7,985	171,088
TOTAL	FIRES	1,458	97	142	39	16,955	901	19,592
	ACRES	75,053	3,393	12,620	4,524	264,728	22,264	382,582
<b>Nine Year Average Fires</b>								<b>33,901</b>
<b>Nine Year Average Acres</b>								<b>697,251</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	1					1	2
	ACRES	81					453	534
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						42	42
Northern Rockies	FIRES			1			1	2
	ACRES			40			35	75
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						2	2
Rocky Mountain	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						1	1
Eastern Area	FIRES			3		6	1	10
	ACRES			378		470	40	888
Southern Area	FIRES					1	1	2
	ACRES					800	499	1,299
TOTAL	FIRES	1	0	4	0	7	8	20
	ACRES	81	0	418	0	1,270	1,072	2,841

**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	74	146	5		97	347
	ACRES	2,659	8,950	4,675	88		10,224	26,596
Northern California	FIREs	2	8	98	13		78	199
	ACRES	31	128	15,474	700		4,061	20,394
Southern California	FIREs		2	2	1		79	84
	ACRES		27	99	20		9,266	9,412
Northern Rockies	FIREs	11	9	53	3	17	149	242
	ACRES	492	3,788	7,812	510	766	9,579	22,947
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs	1	11	3		6	17	38
	ACRES	18	1,236	300		135	2,880	4,569
Western Great Basin	FIREs		1				1	2
	ACRES		100				230	330
Southwest	FIREs	7	36	4	4		218	269
	ACRES	1,985	12,004	816	4,877		27,404	47,086
Rocky Mountain	FIREs	26	11	41	6	8	68	160
	ACRES	1,718	1,160	8,198	446	113	4,229	15,864
Eastern Area	FIREs	30		256	15	364	173	838
	ACRES	10,660		54,039	1,796	71,044	25,296	162,835
Southern Area	FIREs	52		243	44	11,446	1,076	12,861
	ACRES	15,879		85,743	60,846	705,960	834,293	1,702,721
TOTAL	FIREs	154	152	846	91	11,847	1,956	15,046
	ACRES	33,442	27,393	177,156	69,283	779,573	927,462	2,014,309

**\*\*\*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			1
	ACRES				0			0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					30,000		30,000
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	30,000	30,000

**\*\*\*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	9	86	173	1,502
Yukon Territory	3	0	10	12
Alberta	31	39	182	273
Northwest Territory	0	0	4	8
Saskatchewan	1	4	103	1,262
Manitoba	5	510	310	21,945
Ontario	9	188	244	1,203
Quebec	27	52	198	328
Newfoundland	5	3	20	23
New Brunswick	10	5	78	116
Nova Scotia	6	4	98	385
Prince Edward Island	0	0	0	0
National Parks	0	0	1	1
Total	106	891	1,421	27,057

**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										
Northwest	1		19	2	1					45
Northern California										
Southern California	2			5					15	324
Northern Rockies										
Eastern Great Basin										
Western Great Basin										
Southwest	10	1	7	16	6				95	23
Rocky Mountain										1
Eastern Area	1	2		19		1			12	22
Southern Area	10		2		1	1				6
Total	24	3	33	37	8	2	0	0	174	369

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