

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2003 0530 MDT**  
**NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 3**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light nationwide. Nationally, 106 new fires were reported. One large fire was contained in the Northern California Area. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Montana, and Wyoming.

**NORTHWEST AREA LARGE FIRES:**

NEEDLES, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. A Washington Interagency Incident Management Team (Andring) is assigned. This fire is in timber and heavy downed fuels, 12 miles northwest of Winthrop, WA. Higher relative humidity and less wind lowered overall fire activity. The fire was most active in the Upper Methow Valley during the morning hours. Structure protection is in place for 65 residences.

CRYSTAL CREEK, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. A Washington Incident Management Team (Berndt/Baarspul) is assigned. This fire is in mixed conifer with dead and downed fuels, six miles southwest of Leavenworth, WA. The fire continued to back down toward the Ingalls Creek Trail; fire activity increased on the east flank. Structure protection is in place for 110 residences and two commercial properties.

ISABEL, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. A Washington Interagency Incident Management Team (Barnett) is assigned. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Anderson) has been ordered. This fire is in timber, seven miles west of Conconully, WA. The fire continued to move slowly toward the Loomis State Forest.

GRIFF, Olympic National Park. This fire is in timber, nine miles south of Port Angeles, WA. Interior torching and uphill runs were observed.

B&B COMPLEX, Deschutes National Forest. This complex, comprised of the Booth and Bear Butte fires, is in timber with heavy ground fuels 14 miles west of Sisters, OR. Smoldering, creeping and isolated torching was observed in the interior.

MAPLE, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. This fire is in timber, 30 miles north-northwest of Leavenworth, WA. There was active fire behavior in several drainages where natural barriers were utilized in the confinement strategy.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
NEEDLES	WA	OWF	20,575	56	10/15	296	5	12	5	1	10.6M
CRYSTAL CREEK	WA	OWF	1,150	35	UNK	184	4	1	8	0	2.1M
ISABEL	WA	OWF	4,230	30	UNK	455	11	16	5	0	6.5M
GRIFF	WA	OLP	795	0	UNK	12	1	0	1	0	408K
B&B COMPLEX	OR	DEF	90,769	98	10/12	90	1	12	3	13	41M
MAPLE	WA	OWF	2,500	40	12/15	67	2	0	2	0	2.1M

## NORTHERN ROCKIES AREA LARGE FIRES

BERG 3, Nez Perce National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Kechter) is assigned. This fire is in grass and mixed conifer, four miles east of Riggins, ID. Active surface fire with rollouts and short uphill runs occurred.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
BERG 3	ID	NPF	2,144	50	10/8	342	12	7	3	0	525K

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
CANOE/HONEYDEW	CA	HUU	24,882	100	--	600	24	30	4	0	30.8M

HUU = Humboldt-Del Norte Unit, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CDF).

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
KAWEAH-KERN COMPLEX - WFU	CA	KNP	9,952	N/A	N/A	92	1	2	2	0	2M

KNP = Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park

## SOUTHWEST AREA LARGE FIRES

POPLAR COMPLEX, Grand Canyon National Park. This complex is in timber with heavy dead and downed fuels, on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. 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
POPLAR COMPLEX	AZ	GCP	8,281	10	12/1	18	0	1	0	0	1.9M

## OUTLOOK:

**Weather Discussion:** A cold front will continue to progress across the Northwest today, entering the Northern Rockies in the afternoon. Some showers will accompany the front as it passes, with most of the rains falling over higher elevations and west facing slopes. South of the front in northern California, breezy higher elevation southwest wind can be expected. In far southern California, Arizona and New Mexico, moisture from the tropics will be moved into the area by an offshore low pressure system. The moisture will produce showers and thunderstorms with some locally heavy rainfall.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<b>NORTHWEST AREA</b> Mostly cloudy. Chance of showers.	Much cooler. Highs in the 50s and 60s, except in the lower 70s in southeast Oregon.	Generally 55 to 80% on the west side, and 30 to 50% east of the Cascades.	Southwest to northwest at 5 to 15 mph.
<b>NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA</b> Partly cloudy in the north in the morning with a slight chance of showers near the Oregon Border. Clearing in all areas during the day.	60s and 70s near the coast and over higher inland terrain, with mostly 80s in the warmer inland valleys	Driest in the inland areas 22 to 34%	Southwest to west 4 to 9 mph gusts, and at 14 to 22 mph over the ridges.
<b>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA</b> Patchy morning low clouds and fog into the coastal valleys, otherwise mostly sunny north. Partly cloudy south with a chance of afternoon showers over the southern mountains and deserts.	65 to 72 coastal areas. 68 to 78 mountains. 72 to 82 valleys. 80s upper desert. 90s low desert.	20 to 35% desert. 20 to 30% mountains. 30 to 45% valleys. 50 to 65% coast.	Southeast 5 to 15 mph over the mountains and deserts. Southwest to west at 5 to 15 mph in coastal areas.
<b>WESTERN GREAT BASIN AREA</b> Partly to mostly sunny.	70s to low 80s in northern valleys. 80s in the south. 60s and 70s mountains.	10 to 20% in western and southern valleys. 15 to 25% in the eastern and northern valleys. 20 to 30% in the Sierra s.	Morning upslope and up valley, becoming southwest at 5 to 15 mph during the afternoon..
<b>EASTERN AREA</b> Partly cloudy/mostly sunny and breezy over Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan	72 to 82 over the western two-thirds of the Great Lakes and northwest Big Rivers	25 to 35%	South to southwest winds increasing to 10 to 20 mph across the western two-thirds of the Great Lakes and northwest Big Rivers



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

## ***BUILDING FIRELINE DOWNHILL WITH FIRE BELOW***

As a general rule, construct line moving uphill. Many firefighters have lost their lives attacking wildland fires from above. If there is no practical alternative to constructing line downhill, proceed only after weighing the following considerations:

- Has the area been scouted for fire perimeter and behavior? Discuss what you need to know about the fire perimeter and fire behavior before building fireline downhill with fire below.
- Will wind direction be at your back? Will it stay at your back? Talk about how winds can change when you are on a slope (e.g., time of day, upslope and downslope breezes, etc.).
- Is the area free of chimneys and gullies? How would you negotiate your line location if there were chimneys and gullies below where you needed to be working?
- Are there adequate safety zones and escape routes as you progress downhill? How do you maintain adequate safety zones and escape routes as you progress downhill?
- Can you carry your burnout downhill as you go to provide an anchor point and safety zones? Discuss how you decide when to carry the burnout with you or wait until you have tied in down below.
- Have lookouts been posted? What do the lookouts need to be on the watch for?
- Do you have good communications, especially with lookouts and crews working towards you? What are some of the dangers of not communicating with lookouts and crews working towards you? What are the benefits of maintaining good communications?
- Can the line be completed and burned out before the fire reaches the line? Discuss how this would affect where you locate the line.
- Do you have adequate resources to complete the assignment? What additional resources might you need to safely take on an assignment that includes building fireline downhill with fire below?
- Is aerial support available if needed? What benefits can aerial resources provide? What might be an added danger from aerial resources in this type of situation? (Common Denominators)
- Has everyone been briefed on the assignment, fire behavior, weather, communications, escape routes and safety zones, hazards and tactics? Discuss who might provide this briefing and where and when it might occur.
- To reduce the risks:
  - If the answer is “no” to any of these questions, consider other tactics and provide for safety first.
  - Never compromise escape routes to safety zones for the sake of building line. Remind everyone that a situation check is each and every firefighter’s right and responsibility.

# FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES					3	6	9
	ACRES					0	9	9
Northern California	FIRES					19	1	20
	ACRES					6	6	12
Southern California	FIRES				0	6	1	7
	ACRES				10	8	1	19
Northern Rockies	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					0		0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES					1	4	5
	ACRES					0	0	0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						0	0
Eastern Area	FIRES					3		3
	ACRES					7		7
Southern Area	FIRES					52	8	60
	ACRES					56	33	89
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	85	21	106
	ACRES	0	0	0	10	77	49	136

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	14	21	10	392	14	452
	ACRES	20	40,271	283,123	3,712	247,595	2	574,723
Northwest	FIRES	299	246	11	34	1,800	1,253	3,643
	ACRES	24,028	17,882	12	971	49,673	294,141	386,707
Northern California	FIRES	150	71	15	17	2,778	1,227	4,258
	ACRES	233	11,583	603	6,562	72,741	37,728	129,450
Southern California	FIRES	65	135	10	76	2,640	864	3,790
	ACRES	854	2,933	360	732	36,308	7,498	48,685
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1,000	71	34	85	969	1,506	3,665
	ACRES	77,962	69,435	23,280	166,669	169,362	359,778	866,486
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	58	835	7	46	871	994	2,811
	ACRES	19,423	130,865	1,244	2,634	54,180	141,106	349,452
Western Great Basin	FIRES	7	451	1	11	118	170	758
	ACRES	1	11,394	79	6	1,976	3,287	16,743
Southwest	FIRES	850	188	5	69	889	2,100	4,101
	ACRES	35,658	5,893	284	11,834	16,185	203,140	272,994
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	184	777	39	48	968	707	2,723
	ACRES	17,714	16,918	1,963	783	17,004	53,134	107,516
Eastern Area	FIRES	908		66	35	9,910	490	11,409
	ACRES	52,188		6,890	706	110,673	5,594	176,051
Southern Area	FIRES	147		46	12	12,078	348	12,631
	ACRES	21,739		12,130	764	192,932	8,890	236,455
TOTAL	FIRES	3,669	2,788	255	443	33,413	9,673	50,241
	ACRES	249,820	307,174	329,968	195,373	968,629	1,114,298	3,165,262

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>70,241</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>3,996,705</b>

\*\*\*Changes in some agency YTD agency 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
	ACRES						114	114
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES			1				1
	ACRES			2				2
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						0	0
	ACRES						50	50
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		1			2		3
	ACRES		275			80		355
Eastern Area	FIRES						10	10
	ACRES						83	83
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	0	1	1	0	2	11	15
	ACRES	0	275	2	0	80	247	604

**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	28	99	24	3		221	375
	ACRES	5,351	25,350	5,835	123		31,793	68,452
Northern California	FIRES	2	7	112	16		127	264
	ACRES	31	267	21,216	2,193		10,562	34,269
Southern California	FIRES		2	4	7		170	183
	ACRES		27	621	3,275		13,675	17,598
Northern Rockies	FIRES	12	9	79	4	23	371	498
	ACRES	502	3,808	11,688	760	1,750	19,032	37,540
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	31	6		12	35	85
	ACRES	18	32,277	408		2,305	12,888	47,896
Western Great Basin	FIRES		7		3		1	11
	ACRES		820		2,084		230	3,134
Southwest	FIRES	16	35	19	8	3	285	366
	ACRES	3,705	26,946	39,373	7,383	12	51,882	129,301
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	29	32	100	9	13	97	280
	ACRES	1,732	23,274	13,819	9,592	300	15,949	64,666
Eastern Area	FIRES	23		315	16	502	217	1,073
	ACRES	10,562		56,669	1,823	80,990	27,059	177,103
Southern Area	FIRES	53		273	72	16,007	1,241	17,646
	ACRES	19,379		96,239	83,793	827,577	940,088	1,967,076
TOTAL	FIRES	164	222	932	138	16,566	2,765	20,787
	ACRES	41,280	112,769	245,868	111,026	914,489	1,123,158	2,548,590

**\*\*\*Changes in some agency YTD agency 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			1				1
	ACRES			42,800				42,800
Northwest	FIRES				21		3	24
	ACRES				3,382		251	3,633
Northern California	FIRES						4	4
	ACRES						1	1
Southern California	FIRES	2			52		55	109
	ACRES	0			8,078		17,530	25,608
Northern Rockies	FIRES				3		74	77
	ACRES				602		55,901	56,503
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES				6		31	37
	ACRES				435		15,433	15,868
Western Great Basin	FIRES		6					6
	ACRES		2					2
Southwest	FIRES				10		19	29
	ACRES				3,555		159,608	163,163
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		26		2		3	31
	ACRES		1,646		0		1,869	3,515
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES				10			10
	ACRES				2,715			2,715
TOTAL	FIRES	2	32	1	104	0	189	328
	ACRES	0	1,648	42,800	18,767	0	250,593	313,808

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

# 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	18	11	11	35	10	19			287	195
Northern California	4	24	17	30		4			8	128
Southern California	10		11		7	3			49	6
Northern Rockies	6	6	5	6	3				44	10
Eastern Great Basin	3	1	8	1	6	4			3	
Western Great Basin										
Southwest										
Rocky Mountain	1		12		1				2	
Eastern Area										
Southern Area										
Total	42	42	64	72	27	30	0	0	393	339

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