

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2003 0530 MST  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 3**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was moderate in the Northern California and light elsewhere. Nationally, 97 new fires were reported. Four new large fires were reported, one each in the Eastern Great Basin and Northern Rockies Areas, and two in the Northern California Area. Three large fires were contained in the Southern California Area. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Montana, Utah and Wyoming.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:**

OLD, San Bernardino National Forest. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Mortier) is assigned. This fire is in chaparral on the north side of San Bernardino, CA. Large fire runs with 30 to 50 foot flame lengths in chaparral and long range spotting was observed. Structure protection is in place for numerous residences and commercial properties.

CEDAR, Cleveland National Forest. A Unified Command has been established between a CDF Type 1 Incident Command Team (Hawkins) and various fire agencies in San Diego County. This fire is in chaparral, ten miles east of Ramona, CA. Extreme fire behavior with flame lengths over 200 feet and long range spotting was observed. Threatened residences and commercial properties have been evacuated and structure protection is a priority. Interstate 8 and 15 are open, and Highway 67 remains closed.

PARADISE, Monte Vista Unit, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CDF). A CDF Type 1 Incident Command Team (Snell) is assigned. This fire is in heavy chaparral, six miles northeast of Escondido, CA. Fire spread was influenced by the Cedar fire. Some torching and crown fires were observed as the fire moved through wooded areas. Structure protection is in place for numerous residences.

PADUA, Angeles National Forest. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Gelobter) is assigned. This fire is in chaparral, six miles north/northeast of Claremont, CA. Interior islands of fuel continue to burn. Evacuation orders have been lifted for the southern perimeter. Evacuation orders remain in effect for the Mt. Baldy Village area.

SIMI INCIDENT, Ventura County. A Unified Command between a CDF Type 1 Incident Command Team (Haines), Ventura County Fire Department (Sanchez), Los Angeles County and The City of Los Angeles is in place. This fire is in chaparral and grass, five miles north of Simi Valley, CA. The fire was very active on the eastern perimeter, and long range spotting was observed during periods of high winds.

GRAND PRIX, San Bernardino Unit, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CDF). A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Studebaker) is assigned. This fire is in heavy chaparral, two miles west of Mira Loma, CA. Sustained runs and spotting were observed in continuous fuels. Evacuation orders have been lifted for the southern perimeter. Evacuation orders remain in effect for the Lytle Creek area.

PIRU, Los Padres National Forest. A California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CDF) Type 1 Incident Command Team (Kerrigan) is assigned. This fire is in grass and brush, 14 miles northwest of Santa Clarita, CA. Extreme fire behavior, steep and rugged terrain and heavy fuel loading have hampered suppression efforts. The fire crossed the Sespe River drainage and increased in acreage by over 50%. Continued intense fire behavior with rapid uphill runs was observed on the north and west perimeters. Structure protection is a priority.

MOUNTAIN, Riverside Unit, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CDF). A CDF Type 1 Incident Command Team (Chuchel) is assigned. This fire is in heavy brush and hardwood slash, 13 miles northeast of Temecula, CA. Fire activity has decreased from yesterday. Road closures have been lifted.

PARADISE 2, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park. This wildland fire is in mixed conifer and chaparral, seven miles northeast of Three Rivers, CA. Fire activity continued in well developed thermal belts with no perimeter growth.

ROBLAR 2, Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base. This fire is in chaparral, six miles west of Fallbrook, CA. No new information was reported.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
OLD	CA	BDF	36,780	10	UNK	2,127	39	338	10	510	3.7M
CEDAR	CA	CNF	233,192	15	11/5	3,300	28	503	4	960	2.5M
PARADISE	CA	MVU	40,000	20	11/1	1,336	28	126	6	211	1.6M
PADUA	CA	ANF	9,446	50	10/31	773	16	79	0	59	550K
SIMI INCIDENT	CA	VNC	97,880	25	11/4	1,397	21	241	9	80	2.7M
GRAND PRIX	CA	BDU	59,229	35	10/31	2,278	44	199	15	98	9.5M
PIRU	CA	LPF	55,812	20	UNK	1,449	43	105	5	8	3.2M
MOUNTAIN	CA	RRU	9,890	85	10/29	414	12	44	3	61	1.6M
PARADISE 2	CA	KNP	1,297	98	11/15	51	1	0	2	0	1.5M
ROBLAR 2	CA	MCP	8,592	85	UNK	68	2	4	2	0	5.4M
ALBANITA/HOOKER - WFU	CA	SQF	4,100	N/A	N/A	70	2	3	0	0	150K
KAWEAH-KERN COMPLEX WFU	CA	KNP	11,643	N/A	N/A	16	1	0	0	0	786K
VERDALE	CA	LAC	8,650	100	---	59	0	4	0	1	2.4M
CUESTA	CA	SLU	160	100	---	64	3	4	0	0	NR
OTAY	CA	MVU	45,971	100	---	208	8	0	0	6	311K

SQF = Sequoia National Forest

LAC = Los Angeles County

SLU = San Luis Obispo Unit (CDF)

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:

WHITMORE, Shasta-Trinity Unit, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CDF). A CDF Type 1 Incident Command Team (Johnson) is assigned. This fire is in timber, six miles east/northeast of Whitmore, CA. Active fire with crowning and spotting was observed. Voluntary evacuations have occurred in the fire area.

XOWANNUTUK, Redwood National Park. This fire is in dense second growth fir and redwood timber, ten miles east of Orick, CA. Minimal fire activity was reported.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
WHITMORE	CA	SHU	1,000	60	UNK	911	23	84	7	0	NR
XOWANNUTUK	CA	RWP	275	75	10/30	300	11	10	1	0	NR

## SOUTHWEST AREA LARGE FIRES:

SKI RUN, Lincoln National Forest. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Oltrogge) is assigned. This fire is in ponderosa pine and mixed conifer, six miles northwest of Ruidoso, NM. Active fire behavior with torching and spotting was observed. Local residences have been evacuated. Reduction in acreage is due to more accurate mapping.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
SKI RUN	NM	LNF	250	10	11/1	231	6	8	3	0	35K
ROSE - WFU	AZ	GCP	1,800	N/A	N/A	59	2	4	2	0	NR

GCP = Grand Canyon National Park

## EASTERN GREAT BASIN AREA LARGE FIRES:

CHERRY CREEK 2, Uinta National Forest. This fire is in grass and brush, ten miles east/northeast of Springville, UT. An active flame front backing into the wind and occasional uphill runs were observed.

SWIFT CREEK, Ashley National Forest. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) incident is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. The fire is in mixed conifer and aspen, 30 miles north of Duchesne, UT. Fire growth was to the east and west.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
CHERRY CREEK 2	UT	UIF	2,560	20	10/31	202	11	6	4	0	350K
SWIFT CREEK WFU	UT	ASF	230	N/A	N/A	4	0	0	0	0	NR

## NORTHERN ROCKIES AREA LARGE FIRES:

CLIFF SPRING, Custer National Forest. This fire is in ponderosa pine, grass and woody ground fuels, eight miles northeast of Ashland, MT. Fire activity was limited to heavier ground fuel with minimal acreage growth.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
CLIFF SPRING	MT	CNF	100	10	10/29	46	1	3	1	0	NR

## OUTLOOK:

**Red Flag Warning:** For upper slopes and ridges of Mendocino, Humboldt, eastern Del Norte, and Trinity counties for gusty northeast to east winds and low humidity, through midday Wednesday

**Red Flag Warning:** For Wednesday across parts of western Nevada for strong winds and low humidity. (Excludes northwestern corner of the state, north of 41 N. degrees latitude.)

**Fire Weather Watch:** For parts of northeast California from Reno northwest for Wednesday for strong gusty winds west to northwest winds and low humidity.

**Fire Weather Watch:** For much of Utah Wednesday.

**Fire Weather Watch:** For Wednesday across parts of south Nevada for strong winds and low humidity. (Clark County)

**Weather Discussion:** High pressure off the west coast will move westward, allowing winds to turn onshore in Southern California. The winds will be stronger over higher elevations, as well as in and below canyons. The higher winds and low humidity values will create another critical day for fires in Southern California. Over the Great Basin and Rocky Mountain Regions, wind will also increase today along with no rain and low humidity. The increased winds and low relative humidity will also be felt in southern New Mexico, west Texas and Oklahoma.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<b>NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA</b> Mostly sunny in the morning, then increasing clouds in the north mid to late afternoon.	60s to mid 70s higher terrain and 70s to mid 80s lower terrain inland, with 60s near the coast	17 to 33% inland south and 25 to 40% north. Higher relative humidity near the coast	Increasing to west to northwest 10 to 22 mph in the p.m. hours, with gusts to the lower 30s in Sacramento Valley and near 40 mph over high ridges.
<b>EASTERN GREAT BASIN AREA</b> Idaho, Bridger-Teton: Mostly cloudy, windy, and much cooler. Scattered rain or snow showers, especially in the mountains and the Bridger-Teton. Utah, Arizona Strip: Partly to mostly cloudy and windy with a chance of showers over northern Utah. A strong cold front will move into central Utah by late evening.	Idaho, Bridger-Teton: 35 to 45 mountains, 45 to 55 valleys. Utah and Arizona Strip: 50 to 70 northern Utah, 60 to 82 southern Utah and the Arizona Strip.	Idaho, Bridger-Teton: 30 to 45% valleys, 40 to 70% mountains. Utah, Arizona Strip: 5 to 20% southern and eastern Utah and the Arizona Strip, 15 to 45% northwest Utah.	Idaho, Bridger-Teton: West-Northwest 15 to 30 mph with gusts to 40 mph. Utah, Arizona Strip: Southwest 15 to 30 mph with gusts to 40 mph. Winds shifting to the northwest over the northwest third of Utah during the afternoon and evening.
<b>WESTERN GREAT BASIN AREA</b> Mostly cloudy and windy far north with a slight chance of a shower along the northern border. Partly to mostly sunny and windy elsewhere.	50s, 60s, 70s North 70s & 80s South 50s & 60s Mountains	20 to 50% North 10 to 20% Central 5 to 15% South 30 to 40% Sierra s	Becoming west to southwest at 15 to 30 mph with gusts to 40 mph.
<b>EASTERN AREA</b> Partly cloudy, warm and breezy over the western Big Rivers including Iowa, Missouri and western Illinois	55 to 65 across Indiana, 65 to 75 across Missouri and western Illinois	35 to 45% Indiana, 25 to 35% Missouri and western Illinois	South to southwest winds increasing to 15 to 30 mph



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

## **AVIATION WATCH OUT SITUATIONS**

As part of risk management, especially during high activity fires, each aviation manager and employee should be asking questions.

- Is the flight necessary?
- Who is in charge?
- Are all hazards identified and have you made them known?
- Should the operation or the flight be stopped due to a change in conditions? Consider the following:
  - Communications
  - Confusion
  - Personnel
  - Weather
  - Turbulence
  - Conflicting priorities
- Is there a better way to do it?
- Are you driven by the task and sense of urgency?
- Can you justify your actions?
- Are there other aircraft in the area?
- Will the pilot accept the mission?
- Are any guidelines being ignored or policies being broken?
- Are communications getting tense?
- Are you deviating from the assigned operation or flight?

**FIREs AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIREs					1	3	4
	ACRES					4	90,769	90,773
Northern California	FIREs	1		0	7	1		9
	ACRES	0		130	6	0		136
Southern California	FIREs				14	8		22
	ACRES				40,220	4,000		44,220
Northern Rockies	FIREs					1		1
	ACRES					100		100
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs		2			1		3
	ACRES		101			1		102
Western Great Basin	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIREs					2		2
	ACRES					402		402
Rocky Mountain	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIREs				55	1		56
	ACRES				110	8		118
TOTAL	FIREs	1	2	0	0	77	17	97
	ACRES	0	101	0	130	40,340	95,280	135,851

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	2	15	22	11	402	13	465
	ACRES	23	40,821	266,855	3,980	247,925	2	559,606
Northwest	FIRES	304	250	15	50	1,897	1,293	3,809
	ACRES	24,276	18,153	16	1,170	50,565	422,227	516,407
Northern California	FIRES	167	72	17	20	3,061	1,252	4,589
	ACRES	243	12,633	603	6,765	81,403	38,454	140,101
Southern California	FIRES	69	139	10	76	2,895	853	4,042
	ACRES	1,656	2,933	360	1,828	204,402	47,514	258,693
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1,035	71	34	86	991	1,530	3,747
	ACRES	79,165	69,435	23,280	166,679	169,439	366,051	874,049
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	59	845	7	46	897	1,065	2,919
	ACRES	19,424	131,544	1,244	2,733	55,553	143,458	353,956
Western Great Basin	FIRES	9	454	1	11	122	176	773
	ACRES	2	11,408	79	6	1,982	3,288	16,765
Southwest	FIRES	898	193	5	69	898	2,134	4,197
	ACRES	35,695	5,917	284	11,834	16,207	203,605	273,542
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	185	799	40	48	4,213	750	6,035
	ACRES	20,214	17,469	1,964	783	70,779	58,559	169,768
Eastern Area	FIRES	962		67	37	10,356	512	11,934
	ACRES	53,155		6,890	708	115,890	5,796	182,439
Southern Area	FIRES	155		46	15	12,709	361	13,286
	ACRES	21,871		12,130	1,838	196,094	9,029	240,962
TOTAL	FIRES	3,845	2,838	264	469	38,441	9,939	55,796
	ACRES	255,724	310,313	313,705	198,324	1,210,239	1,297,983	3,586,288

Ten Year Average Fires	74,771
Ten Year Average Acres	4,342,541

\*\*\*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						2	2
	ACRES						32	32
Northern California	FIREs						1	1
	ACRES						35	35
Southern California	FIREs						0	0
	ACRES						0	0
Northern Rockies	FIREs						0	0
	ACRES						0	0
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs	0					1	1
	ACRES	15					175	190
Western Great Basin	FIREs						0	0
	ACRES						0	0
Southwest	FIREs						0	0
	ACRES						0	0
Rocky Mountain	FIREs					1		1
	ACRES					500		500
Eastern Area	FIREs						0	0
	ACRES						0	0
Southern Area	FIREs						2	2
	ACRES						113	113
TOTAL	FIREs	0	0	0	0	1	6	7
	ACRES	0	15	0	0	500	355	870

**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	34	105	34	3		333	509
	ACRES	6,292	27,622	6,432	123		44,645	85,114
Northern California	FIREs	2	7	112	19		138	278
	ACRES	31	267	21,764	2,513		11,033	35,608
Southern California	FIREs		2	5	9		170	186
	ACRES		27	698	3,335		13,675	17,735
Northern Rockies	FIREs	12	10	96	4	42	411	575
	ACRES	502	6,972	15,325	760	2,441	29,290	55,290
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs	1	34	7		14	53	109
	ACRES	18	33,457	409		2,358	21,160	57,402
Western Great Basin	FIREs		7		3		1	11
	ACRES		1,120		2,084		230	3,434
Southwest	FIREs	23	37	19	9	3	345	436
	ACRES	4,148	32,711	39,373	8,183	12	59,157	143,584
Rocky Mountain	FIREs	30	34	101	9	19	221	414
	ACRES	1,777	27,349	13,820	9,592	2,215	20,697	75,450
Eastern Area	FIREs	26		352	16	521	231	1,146
	ACRES	10,640		76,009	1,823	84,961	27,699	201,132
Southern Area	FIREs	54		280	105	16,007	1,268	17,714
	ACRES	19,404		97,519	85,021	827,577	950,202	1,979,723
TOTAL	FIREs	182	236	1,006	177	16,612	3,171	21,384
	ACRES	42,812	129,525	271,349	113,434	921,119	1,177,788	2,656,027

\*\*\*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				9		3	12
	ACRES				3,544		251	3,795
Northern California	FIREs						5	5
	ACRES						2	2
Southern California	FIREs	2			52		55	109
	ACRES	0			9,278		23,288	32,566
Northern Rockies	FIREs	8			3		74	85
	ACRES	42			602		56,854	57,498
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs				7		33	40
	ACRES				448		15,663	16,111
Western Great Basin	FIREs		6					6
	ACRES		2					2
Southwest	FIREs				10		19	29
	ACRES				3,555		159,608	163,163
Rocky Mountain	FIREs		25		2		3	30
	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	10	31	1	93	0	192	327
	ACRES	42	1,648	42,800	20,142	0	257,535	322,167

\*\*\*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	2		24			1			36	
Northern California	14	24	29	76	2	7			48	112
Southern California	64	185	195	1499	27	32	1		592	1195
Northern Rockies	3		5			1			26	
Eastern Great Basin	4	11	8	2	1	4	1		24	
Western Great Basin										
Southwest	4	2	3	5	2	1			62	11
Rocky Mountain										
Eastern Area										4
Southern Area										
Total	91	222	264	1582	32	46	2	0	792	1318

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