

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2003 – 0530 MDT
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 3

CURRENT SITUATION:

Initial attack activity was light nationwide. 84 new fires were reported and no new large fires were reported. Two large fires were reported contained in the Northern Rockies Area. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah and Wyoming.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:

LOMA, Shasta-Trinity National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Szczepanik) is assigned. This fire is in timber, 21 miles west of Weaverville, CA. A safety alert was issued after a weapons cache of guns and explosives with tripwires was found in the Prairie Creek area. Fire activity included active ground fire with upslope and up canyon runs. Highway 299 is open with a pilot car. Structure protection is in place for eight residences and one commercial property.

GRINDSTONE COMPLEX, Mendocino National Forest. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Vail) is assigned. This complex, comprised of 39 confirmed fires, is in chaparral and mixed conifer, 30 miles west of Willows, CA. The Deafy fire is currently the only active fire in the complex. Active fire with moderate rates of spread on southwest facing slopes was observed.

HUMBOLDT LIGHTNING SERIES, Humboldt-Del Norte Unit, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection. This fire is in timber and logging slash, 16 miles north of Garberville, CA. The fire area is extremely steep with slope angle greater than 100 percent in many areas. No further information was received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
LOMA	CA	SHF	1,400	10	9/20	782	29	16	8	0	1M
GRINDSTONE COMPLEX	CA	MNF	7,807	40	UNK	1,210	25	85	11	0	11.2M
HUMBOLDT LIGHTNING SERIES	CA	HUU	1,094	78	UNK	653	26	7	7	0	7.4M

NORTHWEST AREA LARGE FIRES:

NEEDLE, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Hart) is assigned. This fire is in timber, 12 miles northwest of Winthrop, WA. Minimal torching and creeping was observed.

B&B COMPLEX, Deschutes National Forest. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Martin) is assigned. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Gardner) is assigned to the portion of the Booth fire that is west of the Cascade Divide. This complex, comprised of the Booth and Bear Butte fires, is in timber with heavy ground fuels, 14 miles west of Sisters, OR. Minimal fire activity was due to precipitation and snow received at higher elevations.

MAPLE, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. This fire is in timber, 30 miles north-northwest of Leavenworth, WA. Minimal fire activity was observed.

ISABEL, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. A Washington Interagency Incident Management Team (Jennings) is assigned. This fire is ten miles northwest of Conconully, WA. Even though scattered snow, hail and rain fell on the fire, large fuels continued to burn and an occasional single tree torched.

GLACIER PEAK COMPLEX, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. This incident is in timber, brush and heavy downed fuels, 16 miles southeast of Marblemount, WA. The complex is in monitor status and reconnaissance will be done on an as-needed basis. No further information was received.

MINERAL PARK, Mt Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. This fire is in heavy timber, brush and deep duff, 16 miles southeast of Marblemount, WA. The fire is in monitor status and reconnaissance will be done on an as-needed basis. No further information was received.

MOUNT RAINIER COMPLEX, Mount Rainer National Park. This complex, comprised of the Panther, Redstone and Chenuis fires, is in heavy timber with heavy downed fuels, 13 miles northeast of Packwood, WA. Fire activity was minimal throughout the complex. The Panther fire was controlled yesterday.

SQUARE LAKE FIRE, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. This fire is in timber and brush, 20 miles west of Leavenworth, WA. No further information was received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
NEEDLE	WA	OWF	17,300	73	UNK	480	10	5	8	1	5.4M
B&B COMPLEX	OR	DEF	90,769	88	9/19	1,449	28	49	8	13	33.7M
MAPLE	WA	OWF	1,633	70	10/1	89	2	3	2	0	2.2M
ISABEL	WA	OWF	490	NR	UNK	209	6	1	2	0	1M
GLACIER PEAK COMPLEX	WA	MSF	704	50	10/31	2	0	0	0	0	194K
MINERAL PARK	WA	MSF	3,651	50	10/31	1	0	0	0	0	81K
MOUNT RAINIER COMPLEX	WA	MRP	374	15	10/31	20	0	2	0	0	1.7M
SQUARE LAKE FIRE	WA	OWF	1,097	40	9/30	2	0	0	0	0	1.7M

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:

MICHAELS, Bakersfield District, Bureau of Land Management. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Rios) is assigned. This fire is in grass and pinyon pine, 50 miles south of Lone Pine, CA. A wind event grounded aircraft operations.

DEXTER, Inyo National Forest. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) incident is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. This fire is in Jeffery pine and sagebrush, 15 miles southeast of June Lake, CA. Active fire with some small runs and interior torching was observed. This will be the last narrative report unless significant active occurs.

MUD COMPLEX, Stanislaus National Forest. A Fire Use Management Team (Cones) is assigned. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) incident, comprised of the Mud and Whit fires, is in timber, five miles southeast of Bear Valley, CA. This complex is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. Moderate surface spread with single and group tree torching was observed. An area closure is in place for the portion of the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness north of Spicer Reservoir and west Bull Run Trail. This will be the last narrative report unless significant active occurs.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
MICHAELS	CA	BBD	388	50	UNK	359	12	10	2	0	NR
DEXTER – WFU	CA	INF	1,240	N/A	N/A	125	4	5	3	0	NR
MUD COMPLEX – WFU	CA	STF	3,392	N/A	N/A	45	1	1	2	0	40K
MOUNTAIN COMPLEX – WFU	CA	STF	2,060	N/A	N/A	17	1	0	0	0	142K
KAWEAH-KERN COMPLEX – WFU	CA	KNP	2,258	N/A	N/A	34	0	0	0	0	110K
DUNCAN COMPLEX – WFU	CA	YNP	256	N/A	N/A	14	0	0	0	0	37K

KNP = Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park

YNP = Yosemite National Park

NORTHERN ROCKIES AREA LARGE FIRES:

BLACKFOOT LAKE COMPLEX, Flathead National Forest. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Bennett) is assigned. This incident, comprised of the Beta Lake, Doris Mountain, Ball Creek, Wounded Buck, Doe, Wildcat, Upper Lid, Dead Buck and Blackfoot Lake fires, is in timber, 19 miles east of Kalispell, MT. The fire smoldered under the canopy and in stump holes throughout the entire fire area.

TRAPPER CREEK COMPLEX, Glacier National Park. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Sandman) is assigned. This complex, which includes the Middle Fork, Rampage and Trapper Creek Complexes, is in mixed conifer with heavy dead and downed fuels, 45 miles northeast of Kalispell, MT. Light snows fell and the fires continued to creep and smolder.

ROBERT, Flathead National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Sandman) is assigned. This fire is in timber, eight miles north of Columbia Falls, MT. Light snow fell above the 5000 foot level and the fire continued to creep and smolder. Area closures remain in effect.

FISH CREEK COMPLEX, Lolo National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Larsen) is assigned. This incident, comprised of the Fish Creek, Thompson Creek, Surveyor Creek, Lower Quartz, Siamese Lake, Indian Creek, Middle Fork Indian Creek, Cedar Log and West Fork Indian Creek fires, is 35 miles west of Missoula, MT. The fires received approximately one-half inch rain. No fire behavior was observed.

MINERAL-PRIMM, Lolo National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Larsen) is assigned. This incident, comprised of the Mineral-Primm, Stewart Peak, Upper Rattlesnake, and Boles Meadows fires, is in timber, 19 miles northeast of Missoula, MT. The fire received around one-half inch rain; activity was minimal.

LINCOLN COMPLEX, Helena National Forest. This complex, comprised of the Moose-Wasson and Snow-Talon fires, is ten miles west of Lincoln, MT. The north front continued to burn quietly within the Scapegoat Wilderness.

LITTLE SALMON CREEK WILDLAND FIRE COMPLEX, Flathead National Forest. This complex is 47 miles southeast of Kalispell, MT in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. The incident, comprised of the Gordon, Molly Creek, Leota Peak, Gyp Mountain, Crimson, High, Mid and Some Creek fires, is in ponderosa pine and mixed conifer. No further 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
BLACKFOOT LAKE COMPLEX	MT	FNF	29,836	70	9/30	664	19	7	2	0	19.2M
TRAPPER CREEK COMPLEX	MT	GNP	70,406	40	10/1	0	0	0	0	1	3.5M
ROBERT	MT	FNF	57,570	70	10/1	398	4	27	4	3	30.8M
FISH CREEK COMPLEX	MT	LNF	39,956	75	9/28	138	4	3	0	0	21.7M
MINERAL-PRIMM	MT	LNF	25,202	78	9/20	333	7	5	0	0	22.9M
LINCOLN COMPLEX	MT	HNF	39,707	80	10/1	87	7	0	1	1	NR
LITTLE SALMON CREEK WILDLAND FIRE COMPLEX	MT	FNF	46,078	0	UNK	15	1	0	0	0	704K
LITTLE SALMON CREEK FIRE USE COMPLEX – WFU	MT	FNF	42,256	N/A	N/A	9	0	0	1	1	2M
MYRTLE CREEK	ID	IPF	3,600	100	---	68	2	1	2	0	4.8M
PINE HILLS	MT	SOS	600	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	NR

IPF = Idaho Panhandle National Forest

SOS = Southern Land Office, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

OUTLOOK:

Weather Discussion: A cold front will progress across the eastern portion of the Northern Rockies Area today. Temperatures will continue to be quite cool behind the front in the Northwest and Northern Rockies, with some snow showers above 5000 feet. Wind will start to shift to a more offshore direction today in Northern California, keeping temperatures warm along with decreasing relative humidity. In the east, rains and wind from hurricane Isabel will arrive overnight tonight along coastal North Carolina.

Fire Weather Watch: For the Sacramento District Fish and Wildlife Service, the central and northern Sacramento valley, and the Shasta-Trinity and Mendocino National Forests, for increasing north wind and lowering humidity Wednesday through early Thursday.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
NORTHERN ROCKIES AREA Windy with scattered to widespread rain and snow showers with isolated thunderstorms. Snow accumulations above 4500 to 5000 feet. Cool west and warm east.	Idaho: 55 to 65 Montana: 45 to 60 North Dakota: 55 to 65	Idaho: 30 to 45% Montana: 40 to 55% North Dakota: 60 to 70%	Idaho: southwest 5 to 10 mph Montana: West of the divide west 5 to 15 mph. East of the divide west to north 15 to 30 mph gusts 40 mph North Dakota: northwest 15 to 25 mph
NORTHWEST AREA Chance of a few lingering showers north in the morning. Otherwise clearing skies.	Cool. 50s and 60s except into the 70s southwest Oregon interior.	Mostly 35 to 50% except down to around 25% in the lee of the Cascades.	Mostly west to northwest 5 to 15 mph.
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA Mostly sunny with patchy morning fog along the coast. Locally gusty northwest to northeast winds developing.	60s near the coast and 70s to near 90 inland.	12 to 28% inland and 30 to 50% near the coast.	Northwest to north northeast 5 to 14 mph, with gusts 20 to 27 mph in the Sacramento Valley and foothills, and westward to the coast on upper slopes and ridges.
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA A few high clouds. Otherwise sunny except night and morning fog in coastal areas and some inland valleys.	67 to 77 coastal areas. 75 to 90 mountains. 85 to 95 valleys. 90 to 98 upper desert. 95 to 105 low desert.	8 to 15% desert. 15 to 25% mountains. 25 to 35% valleys. 45 to 60% coast.	West to northwest 10 to 20 mph with higher gusts over the mountains and deserts in the morning, otherwise southwest to northwest 5 to 15 mph.
EASTERN GREAT BASIN AREA Idaho, Bridger-Teton: Snow showers likely on the Bridger-Teton. Chance of rain and snow showers on the Payette National Forest. Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers elsewhere. Utah, Arizona Strip: Partly cloudy in the north with a slight chance of morning showers, mostly sunny in the south.	Idaho, Bridger-Teton: 30 to 67 west, 31 to 63 east. Utah and Arizona Strip: 40 to 70 higher elevations, 60 to 83 lower elevations.	Idaho, Bridger-Teton: 30 to 60% Utah, Arizona Strip: 12 to 26% mountains, 20 to 40% valleys.	Idaho, Bridger-Teton: Light and variable west; northwest 10 to 15 mph east. Gusts up to 25 mph in the Bridger-Teton. Utah, Arizona Strip: north northwest 10 to 20 mph.
EASTERN AREA Partly cloudy and breezy over Minnesota, western Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri.	77 to 87 over the western parts of the Great Lakes and Big Rivers.	37 to 47% over the northwest third of Wisconsin and southeast quarter of Minnesota.	South winds increasing to 15 to 30 mph across the western half of the Great Lakes.



http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/dsp_sixminutes.php

Scenario 1

DOZER/TRACTOR PLOW OPERATIONS

Dozers/tractor plows provide suppression and support capability for fire operations. When working on or around dozers on the fireline, it is important to respect the following guidelines:

- Load/unload equipment from the transport in a safe manner on a level, stable surface.
- Park transport in an area free of fuel. Clear an area if needed to protect parked equipment.
- Do not sit or bed down near equipment. Walk around the equipment before starting or moving it.
- Lower the dozer blade and/or fire plow to the ground when the equipment is idling or stopped.
- When working a dozer or tractor plow, stay at least 100 feet in front or 50 feet behind the equipment.
- Allow no one but the operator to ride on the equipment.
- Never get on or off equipment while it is moving.
- Provide front and rear lights for equipment working at night or in heavy smoke.
- Provide lights and fluorescent vests to personnel working with dozer/tractor plow units.
- Use hand signals for direction and safety. (See Fireline Handbook, Appendix A, for hand signals.)
- Do not use a dozer or tractor plow without a canopy or brush guard and radio communications.
- Operators will wear required PPE and carry a fire shelter.
- Be aware of different fuel types, rates of spread, and flammability.
- Watch for wetlands, steep slopes, rocks, ditches, and other obstacles that might stop the equipment.
- Do not get too far ahead of a firing crew during firing operations.
- Anchor the line to a secure firebreak and create a black line (burn out) until the fire is completely enclosed.
- Tractor plow operators should wear headgear protection for head, face, eyes, and ears while also providing radio reception and ventilation capabilities.
- Tractor plow crews should consist of a minimum of two people.
- When the dozer or tractor plow is equipped with a hand-clutch lever, always take equipment out of gear when mounting and dismounting.

FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						1	1
Northern California	FIRES	1				14	0	15
	ACRES	1				2	990	993
Southern California	FIRES		0			22	3	25
	ACRES		290			35	6	331
Northern Rockies	FIRES					2	6	8
	ACRES					7	1	8
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES					1	0	1
	ACRES					2	30	32
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					0		0
Eastern Area	FIRES					4	1	5
	ACRES					1	0	1
Southern Area	FIRES					28		28
	ACRES					70		70
TOTAL	FIRES	1	0	0	0	72	11	84
	ACRES	1	290	0	0	117	1,028	1,436

FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	14	21	10	384	14	444
	ACRES	20	40,271	283,056	3,712	248,106	2	575,167
Northwest	FIRES	289	234	11	55	1,705	1,206	3,500
	ACRES	20,246	17,923	12	3,081	48,134	292,940	382,336
Northern California	FIRES	134	69	7	17	2,498	1,152	3,877
	ACRES	217	11,583	2	6,562	48,962	23,473	90,799
Southern California	FIRES	64	131	10	73	2,424	818	3,520
	ACRES	854	2,875	360	326	35,940	7,222	47,577
Northern Rockies	FIRES	952	61	33	84	928	1,475	3,533
	ACRES	77,835	107,435	23,265	166,669	156,072	362,241	893,517
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	58	809	4	45	606	932	2,454
	ACRES	17,518	141,956	1,060	2,634	30,008	136,993	330,169
Western Great Basin	FIRES	7	428	1	11	112	166	725
	ACRES	1	11,096	79	6	1,941	2,906	16,029
Southwest	FIRES	792	186	5	70	874	2,059	3,986
	ACRES	36,582	5,893	284	3,553	16,169	202,724	265,205
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	182	775	39	47	966	693	2,702
	ACRES	17,414	16,917	1,963	783	16,928	53,055	107,060
Eastern Area	FIRES	908		66	35	9,788	458	11,255
	ACRES	52,188		6,890	706	110,331	5,575	175,690
Southern Area	FIRES	147		46	12	11,576	330	12,111
	ACRES	21,739		12,130	764	185,929	8,832	229,394
TOTAL	FIRES	3,534	2,707	243	459	31,861	9,303	48,107
	ACRES	244,614	355,949	329,101	188,796	898,520	1,095,963	3,112,943

Ten Year Average Fires	66,611
Ten Year Average Acres	3,585,6300

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				0
	ACRES			1				1
Southern California	FIRES				1			1
	ACRES				57			57
Northern Rockies	FIRES			1				1
	ACRES			310				310
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		0				0	0
	ACRES		20				1,800	1,820
Western Great Basin	FIRES		0		1			1
	ACRES		150		197			347
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES			1		1		2
	ACRES			20		65		85
Southern Area	FIRES				1		1	2
	ACRES				500		50	550
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	2	3	1	1	7
	ACRES	0	170	331	754	65	1,850	3,170

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	92	17	3		217	357
	ACRES	5,351	10,907	4,484	123		29,009	49,874
Northern California	FIRES	2	7	112	16		127	264
	ACRES	31	267	21,146	2,193		9,712	33,349
Southern California	FIRES		2	4	7		170	183
	ACRES		27	621	3,275		13,675	17,598
Northern Rockies	FIRES	12	9	70	4	23	316	434
	ACRES	502	3,808	9,574	760	1,750	15,035	31,429
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	25	3		10	24	63
	ACRES	18	15,250	300		1,510	8,000	25,078
Western Great Basin	FIRES		6		3		1	10
	ACRES		420		2,031		230	2,681
Southwest	FIRES	13	34	19	7	3	237	313
	ACRES	3,333	26,896	39,373	6,927	12	43,802	120,343
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	28	18	90	9	10	75	230
	ACRES	1,730	3,106	12,778	9,542	132	5,883	33,171
Eastern Area	FIRES	23		315	16	493	201	1,048
	ACRES	10,562		56,669	1,823	80,648	26,889	176,591
Southern Area	FIRES	53		270	71	14,130	1,210	15,734
	ACRES	19,379		95,845	83,789	779,616	933,454	1,912,083
TOTAL	FIRES	160	193	900	136	14,675	2,578	18,642
	ACRES	40,906	60,681	240,790	110,463	865,223	1,085,689	2,403,752

*****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						3	3
	ACRES						251	251
Northern California	FIRES						4	4
	ACRES						1	1
Southern California	FIRES	2			52		43	97
	ACRES	0			4,257		8,098	12,355
Northern Rockies	FIRES				3		70	73
	ACRES				602		54,652	55,254
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES				6		29	35
	ACRES				435		14,787	15,222
Western Great Basin	FIRES		6					6
	ACRES		2					2
Southwest	FIRES				8		19	27
	ACRES				3,500		159,608	163,108
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	81	0	171	287
	ACRES	0	1,648	42,800	11,509	0	239,266	295,223

*****Changes in some agency YTD agency 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			2,467	255,468
Yukon Territory			70	32,411
Alberta			1,066	55,822
Northwest Territory			158	126,068
Saskatchewan			618	128,228
Manitoba			1,132	430,109
Ontario			992	301,109
Quebec			660	83,089
Newfoundland			164	24,893
New Brunswick			207	188
Nova Scotia			248	1,362
Prince Edward Island			0	0
National Parks			110	135,393
Total			7,892	1,574,140

*** The next weekly update for CIFFC will be on 9/18/2003 ***

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	28	23	22	45	11	13			539	346
Northern California	44	38	81	38	14	12			214	329
Southern California	28	4	18	5	15	1			146	21
Northern Rockies	26	12	8	59	3	9			396	152
Eastern Great Basin	3	5	24		3				2	
Western Great Basin	2	2	6	2	1					
Southwest										
Rocky Mountain	1		9	1	1				5	3
Eastern Area										
Southern Area										
Total	132	84	168	150	48	35	0	0	1302	851

*** NATIONAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER ***