

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
MONDAY OCTOBER 4, 2004 0530 MDT  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light nationally with 45 new fires reported. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in California, Nebraska and Nevada.

Presidential Disaster Declarations have been issued for Hurricane Frances in Florida on 9/4; for Hurricane Ivan in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi on 9/16; and for Hurricane Jeanne in Florida on 9/26. An Area Command Team (Zimmerman) is assigned to the Florida Disaster Field Office, Orlando, FL. Numerous resources have been mobilized as part of the relief effort, including aviation assets, mobile caterers and showers, national buying teams, crews and miscellaneous overhead personnel.

On October 2, a firefighter was fatally injured when the top of a tree fell where crews were working on the Grant West Prescribed Fire in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park, CA. The firefighting community extends condolences to family and friends of the deceased.

**SOUTHERN AREA INCIDENTS:**

**HURRICANE FRANCES / IVAN RESPONSE**, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Hart) is managing a base camp at Saufley Field Naval Air Station in Pensacola, FL. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Mullenix) is managing a base camp in Brewton, AL, supporting the receiving and distribution of supplies and debris removal in central Alabama.

**HURRICANE JEANNE RESPONSE**, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Kearney) is managing a base camp in Martin County, FL. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Frye) is assigned to the Jacksonville Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, FL and is supporting the receiving and distribution of relief supplies.

**HURRICANE JEANNE RECOVERY**, State of Florida. A transfer of command from two Florida Division of Forestry Type 2 Incident Management Teams (Beauchamp and Johnson) to Type 3 organizations has occurred. A Florida Division of Forestry Type 2 Incident Management Team (Jones) is managing the distribution of relief supplies in Polk County, FL.

**HURRICANE IVAN RECOVERY**, Gulf Islands National Seashore. A National Park Service All-Risk Incident Management Team (Wissinger) is assigned. The Team is managing clean-up and recovery efforts.

**OUTLOOK:**

**Weather Discussion:** High pressure will cause warm and dry conditions to continue over the West today. Some thunderstorms will be possible in the afternoon heating over Colorado, New Mexico and northern Texas. There is also a slight chance of thunderstorms over the California Sierra Crest. Elsewhere, conditions will be dry with temperatures well above normal for this time of year.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<b>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA</b> Areas of morning low clouds and fog into the coastal valleys. Otherwise mostly sunny, except partly cloudy with isolated afternoon thunderstorms over the Sierra.	65 to 75 coastal areas. 65 to 80 mountains. 80 to 90 valleys. 80 to 90 upper deserts. 90 to 100 lower deserts.	15 to 30% mountains. 20 to 35% valleys. 10 to 20% deserts.	Southeast to southwest 5 to 15 mph.
<b>WESTERN GREAT BASIN AREA</b> Sunny in the south; partly cloudy in the north with isolated afternoon thunderstorms.	72 to 84 north valleys. 74 to 88 south valleys. 60 to 77 mountains.	13 to 18% north valleys. 18 to 29% north mountains. 10 to 16% south valleys. 16 to 23% south mountains.	South to west 5 to 10 mph.



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

#### BUILDING FIRELINE DOWNSHILL 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					1	3	4
	ACRES					0	2	2
Northern California	FIRES	2				10	10	22
	ACRES	0				5	3	8
Southern California	FIRES			1	4	4		9
	ACRES			0	0	2		2
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES				1	3		4
	ACRES				0	0		0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES					2		2
	ACRES					0		0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					0		0
Eastern Area	FIRES				2			2
	ACRES				1			1
Southern Area	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						1	1
TOTAL	FIRES	2	0	0	1	18	24	45
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	6	8	14

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIREs	6	58	81	18	490	23	676
	ACRES	6,109	1,194,125	1,875,977	29,426	3,292,494	5	6,398,136
Northwest	FIREs	358	306	38	62	1,712	1,287	3,763
	ACRES	22,673	4,796	1,370	258	18,157	74,593	121,847
Northern California	FIREs	136	87	12	22	2,611	978	3,846
	ACRES	178	8,894	43	481	51,544	9,731	70,871
Southern California	FIREs	38	111	34	49	2,889	770	3,891
	ACRES	671	6,036	1,867	30	67,057	11,565	87,226
Northern Rockies	FIREs	971	63	19	13	783	858	2,707
	ACRES	6,361	1,448	1,062	4	18,143	11,081	38,099
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs	62	854	2	47	566	720	2,251
	ACRES	522	41,384	1	60	8,791	37,451	88,209
Western Great Basin	FIREs	16	640	13	17	99	148	933
	ACRES	340	23,138	2,666	51	7,858	8,363	42,416
Southwest	FIREs	728	171	5	76	673	1,725	3,378
	ACRES	5,287	6,127	201	514	7,046	282,427	301,602
Rocky Mountain	FIREs	336	465	36	50	455	465	1,807
	ACRES	5,465	4,998	1,273	37	24,431	8,058	44,262
Eastern Area	FIREs	495		47	31	10,569	489	11,631
	ACRES	5,109		2,335	110	82,457	5,783	95,794
Southern Area	FIREs	140		65	44	25,762	609	26,620
	ACRES	16,015		21,186	3,468	329,982	73,635	444,286
TOTAL	FIREs	3,286	2,755	352	429	46,609	8,072	61,503
	ACRES	68,730	1,290,946	1,907,981	34,439	3,907,960	522,692	7,732,748

**\*\*\* 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						2	2
	ACRES						425	425
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		90					90
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	1	0	0	0	2	3
	ACRES	0	90	0	0	0	425	515

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIREs		1			5		6
	ACRES		33,000			22,901		55,901
Northwest	FIREs	38	92	68	1		308	507
	ACRES	7,626	18,429	5,152	30		67,752	98,989
Northern California	FIREs	14	39	106	21		184	364
	ACRES	251	2,097	15,482	4,615		23,685	46,130
Southern California	FIREs		4	20	13		76	113
	ACRES		27	1,686	851		6,213	8,777
Northern Rockies	FIREs	43	9	93	3	98	571	817
	ACRES	2,761	3,336	16,873	1,046	4,342	48,402	76,760
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs	1	30	4	5	22	75	137
	ACRES	149	14,572	2,447	4,753	1,985	25,083	48,989
Western Great Basin	FIREs		10	5	3		5	23
	ACRES		2,347	541	414		971	4,273
Southwest	FIREs	22	15	7	14		399	457
	ACRES	4,964	4,846	12,769	10,976		88,956	122,511
Rocky Mountain	FIREs	47	48	163	19	13	133	423
	ACRES	6,277	13,411	23,593	13,864	3,347	49,586	110,078
Eastern Area	FIREs	27		372	23	1,095	208	1,725
	ACRES	14,804		43,704	4,443	74,514	36,417	173,882
Southern Area	FIREs	51		204	81	395	1,153	1,884
	ACRES	8,503		91,851	86,652	212,772	1,000,914	1,400,692
TOTAL	FIREs	243	248	1,042	183	1,628	3,112	6,456
	ACRES	45,335	92,065	214,098	127,644	319,861	1,347,979	2,146,982

**\*\*\* 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				3			3
	ACRES				62,266			62,266
Northwest	FIRES				5		13	18
	ACRES				200		1,771	1,971
Northern California	FIRES				10		3	13
	ACRES				3,165		0	3,165
Southern California	FIRES				11		2	13
	ACRES				4,712		222	4,934
Northern Rockies	FIRES				15		63	78
	ACRES				0		2,410	2,410
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES				1	0	61	62
	ACRES				0	10	13,498	13,508
Western Great Basin	FIRES		14		2			16
	ACRES		494		0			494
Southwest	FIRES				9		26	35
	ACRES				1,705		14,759	16,464
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		28	1,022	2	0	6	1,058
	ACRES		6,996	295	0	2,271	613	10,175
Eastern Area	FIRES				3		1	4
	ACRES				1,436		1	1,437
Southern Area	FIRES				1			1
	ACRES				3,007			3,007
TOTAL	FIRES	0	42	1,022	62	0	175	1,301
	ACRES	0	7,490	295	76,491	2,281	33,274	119,831

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**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					2				
Northern California	5			2						
Southern California	1									
Northern Rockies										
Eastern Great Basin										
Western Great Basin										
Southwest										
Rocky Mountain										
Eastern Area										
Southern Area	6	3			1				428	197
Total	14	3	2	0	3	0	0	0	428	197

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