

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2005 0530 MDT  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 4**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light nationally with 102 fires reported. Two new large fires were reported, one each in the Northern California and Southern Areas. Two large fires were contained, one each in the Eastern Great Basin and Northern Rockies Areas. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming.

A Presidential Disaster Declaration was issued on 8/29 for Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana. Two Area Command Teams are assigned (Williams-Rhodes and Ribar). Williams-Rhodes Team is providing Incident Management Team coordination for FEMA Region IV at the Regional Response Coordination Center in Atlanta, GA for Hurricane Katrina Support. Ribar's Team is assigned to the Louisiana Emergency Operations Center in Baton Rouge, LA. The Team is coordinating activities of the Incident Management Teams in FEMA Region VI. A third Area Command Team (Zimmerman) has been ordered, and will replace Ribar's Team.

**SOUTHERN AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:**

HURRICANE KATRINA SUPPORT, Federal Emergency Management Agency. Emergency Support Function 4 are staffed at the Regional Response Coordination Center in Atlanta, GA, and state Emergency Operations Centers in Raleigh, NC, Montgomery, AL, Jackson, MS and Baton Rouge, LA. Six Type 1 Incident Management Teams (Pincha-Tulley, Gelobter, Cable, Wilcock, Molumby and Anderson) are assigned. Pincha-Tulley's Team is operating a mobilization center, base camp, and is supporting the receiving and distribution of relief supplies to six counties from Stennis Space Center in MS. Gelobter's Team is providing logistical support to FEMA Branch II at base camps at Gautier, MS, and Mobile, AL. Cable's Team is supporting emergency personnel at Jackson Square, New Orleans Convention Center and several satellite camps in and around New Orleans and southern Louisiana. Wilcock's Team has established an Incident Command Post in Selma, AL and is managing FEMA mobile trailer staging areas and supporting the allocation of trailers and mobile homes to stricken areas. Molumby's Team is at Saints Field in New Orleans operating a base camp in support of 1,700 emergency response and military personnel. Anderson's Team is assigned to New Orleans, where they are supporting the New Orleans Fire department.

Ten Type 2 Incident Management Teams (Jenkins, Mullenix, Smith, Thomas, Philbin, Stanford, Paul, Whalen, Sinclair and Koehler) are assigned. Jenkins Team is managing an evacuation center and base camp, providing services to military, state, local and federal agencies at Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport in Kenner, LA. Mullenix's Team is assisting with base camp operations and long term support at several facilities housing 5,000 people in San Antonio, TX. Smith's Team is managing a base camp and supporting receiving and distribution operations at Camp Shelby, MS. Thomas Team is managing a base camp and supporting the military and civilian first responders at the Naval Construction Battalion Center at Gulfport, MS. Philbin's Team is managing an evacuee center in Phoenix, AZ. Registered evacuees housed at the center numbers 1,300. Stanford's Texas State Incident Management Team is jointly managing the Hammond Receiving and Distribution Center and the Harahan Regional Staging

Area with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry in Hammond and Reserve, LA. The Team is distributing relief supplies throughout eastern Louisiana. Paul's Team is managing the Louisiana Interagency Emergency Support Base camp and St. Gabriel Mortuary Support Camp at St. Gabriel and Baton Rouge, LA. Two Type 2 Incident Management Teams (Whalen and Sinclear) are clearing roadways and supporting National Forest recovery operations in Mississippi. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Furlong/Gormley) is assigned to Camp Beauregard, LA. Koehler's Florida State Incident Management Team is managing a logistical staging area at Stennis Space Center. The Team is training state personnel to take over management of the staging area.

Four Logistics Management Teams (Prevey, Floyd, Hayes and Phillips) are assigned. Prevey's Team is at Maxwell Air Force Base, AL. Floyd's Team is at Bossier City, LA. Hayes Team is at Texarkana, AR. Phillips Team is at Baton Rouge, LA. The Teams are operating mobilization centers and trailer staging areas. Three National Park Service All Risk Teams have been assigned to various areas to assist with hurricane recovery. A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service team is engaged in road clearing, community assistance, and supporting search and rescue work in LaCombe, LA.

**HURRICANE OPHELIA SUPPORT**, North Carolina State. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Houseman) is pre-positioned at Kinston, NC. The Team is assisting local Emergency Operations Centers and counties with requested resources.

G3-05-WF, Sabine National Wildlife Refuge. This fire is 24 miles east of Hackberry, LA in tall grass and peat. Minimal fire behavior was reported.

WF GATORMARSH EAST, Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge. This fire is 20 miles south of Anahuac, TX in tall grass. No further information was received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
G3-05-WF	LA	SBR	3,540	80	9/20	12	0	2	1	0	40K	FWS
WF GATORMARSH EAST	TX	AHR	300	50	9/16	8	0	3	0	0	3K	FWS

#### **EASTERN GREAT BASIN AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:**

VALLEY ROAD, Sawtooth National Forest. Transfer of command from a Type 1 Incident Management Team (Sexton) to the local unit will occur tomorrow. This fire started on private land seven miles south and east of Stanley, ID in timber. Recreation areas and wildlife habitat remain threatened. Smoldering and creeping were reported. Pockets of heavy fuels continue to burn out.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
VALLEY ROAD	ID	STF	40,838	83	9/27	361	8	1	7	3	6.1M	PRI
FRANK CHURCH WFU	ID	PAF	44,328	N/A	N/A	33	0	0	0	0	NR	FS
WILSON	ID	TFD	5,176	100	---	32	0	6	0	0	NR	PRI

## NORTHERN ROCKIES AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:

ROCKIN, Bitterroot National Forest. This fire is 10 miles northwest of Darby, MT in timber. Difficult access and steep terrain continue to hamper containment efforts. Higher temperatures lower relative humidity and windy conditions increased fire behavior.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
ROCKIN	MT	BRF	6,889	60	10/21	3	0	0	1	0	2.0M	FS
HEARTLAND	MT	LED	13,567	100	---	5	0	1	0	3	UNK	BLM

LED - Lewistown Field Office, Bureau of Land Management

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:

HWY, Mendocino Unit, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. This fire is eight miles south of Laytonville, CA in Oak litter and timber. Residences and other structures are threatened. Steep terrain is hampering containment efforts. Northwest wind produced active fire behavior with a rapid rate of spread.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
HWY	CA	MEU	222	60	UNK	171	19	22	2	0	500K	ST

## OUTLOOK:

**Red Flag Warning:** For central and eastern Nevada due to gusty winds and low relative humidity.

**Fire Weather Watch:** For most of western and southern Nevada due to gusty winds and low relative humidity.

**Weather Discussion:** An upper level low pressure system will move into the Northwest and Northern Rockies today with showers and thunderstorms over the region. Further south, over central and southern portions of the Great Basin, dry conditions with gusty winds will develop. Along the Gulf Coast, scattered thunderstorms are expected over Louisiana and Mississippi with high temperatures in the 90s.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<b>Northern Rockies</b> A Pacific frontal system will move into western sections with cooler temperatures, higher humidity values and scattered showers. This system will move east tonight and Saturday.	West of divide: 56 to 68. East of divide: 60 to 83. North Dakota: 70 to 79.	West of divide: 31-51%. East of divide: 18-53%. North Dakota: 30-45%.	West of divide: Northwest 5 to 15 mph. East of divide: Northeast 10 to 20 mph. North Dakota: Northeast to southeast 10 to 20 mph.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<b>Southern California</b> Morning low clouds and fog to the low coastal mountain slopes, otherwise mostly sunny.	65 to 80 mountains. 75 to 85 valleys. 80 to 90 upper deserts. 90 to 100 lower deserts.	15 to 30%.	Southwest to northwest 5 to 15 mph.
<b>Western Great Basin</b> Increasing clouds in the northwest with a chance of afternoon thunderstorms and evening showers in the far northwest. Otherwise, sunny skies.	North valleys: 72 to 84. South valleys: 72 to 97. Mountains: 64 to 72.	North valleys: 8 to 18%. South valleys: 7 to 16%. Mountains: 16 to 25%.	Southwest to west at 8 to 15 mph with afternoon gusts of 25 to 35 mph.



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

#### COMMON DENOMINATORS OF FIRE BEHAVIOR ON TRAGEDY FIRES

Five common denominators that contribute to accidents/incidents have been identified through studies of tragedy fires. It is important for firefighters to readily recognize the following common denominators so that future tragedies can be prevented:

- Most incidents happen on smaller fires or on isolated portions of larger fires.
- Most fires are innocent in appearance before unexpected shifts in wind direction and/or speed results in flare-ups or extreme fire behavior. In some cases, tragedies occur in the mopup stage.
- Flare-ups generally occur in deceptively light fuels, such as grass and light brush.
- Fires run uphill surprisingly fast in chimneys, saddles, gullies, and on steep slopes.
- Some suppression tools, such as helicopters or airtankers, can adversely affect fire behavior. The blasts of air from low-flying helicopters and airtankers have been known to cause flare-ups.

**FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIREs	1				2	2	5
	ACRES	1				1	0	2
Northern California	FIREs	2				9	2	13
	ACRES	1				5	0	6
Southern California	FIREs	4	1					5
	ACRES	10	3					13
Northern Rockies	FIREs	1				0	2	3
	ACRES	4				15	1	20
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs		1			1	1	3
	ACRES		20			0	2	22
Western Great Basin	FIREs		1		2		1	4
	ACRES		6		0		25	31
Southwest	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIREs		0			1	2	3
	ACRES		20			0	3	23
Eastern Area	FIREs					10		10
	ACRES					33		33
Southern Area	FIREs			1		55		56
	ACRES			300		317		617
TOTAL	FIREs	8	3	1	2	78	10	102
	ACRES	16	49	300	0	371	31	767

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIREs	4	96	59	16	388	21	584
	ACRES	4	1,850,279	1,636,861	3,409	847,173	336	4,338,062
Northwest	FIREs	168	228	25	35	1,242	815	2,513
	ACRES	28,021	41,411	5,787	121	71,476	98,736	245,552
Northern California	FIREs	133	30	10	15	1,689	388	2,265
	ACRES	214	24,896	14	101	23,089	4,618	52,932
Southern California	FIREs	41	111	13	46	2,152	563	2,926
	ACRES	972	5,924	136	73,814	32,377	8,683	121,906
Northern Rockies	FIREs	481	53	31	12	611	604	1,792
	ACRES	20,224	7,542	9,793	25	37,558	54,527	129,669
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs	50	638	11	31	625	498	1,853
	ACRES	27,491	652,503	25	626	113,327	103,752	897,724
Western Great Basin	FIREs	6	448	19	26	93	108	700
	ACRES	27	981,538	13,312	258	112,195	8,780	1,116,110
Southwest	FIREs	1,519	345	37	52	1,293	1,470	4,716
	ACRES	34,202	158,783	9,634	364	129,761	416,382	749,126
Rocky Mountain	FIREs	280	460	30	21	533	476	1,800
	ACRES	6,865	8,646	553	25	25,551	22,946	64,586
Eastern Area	FIREs	595		36	50	10,030	541	11,252
	ACRES	7,114		1,732	953	67,127	8,236	85,162
Southern Area	FIREs	213		179	37	17,707	507	18,643
	ACRES	26,883		38,364	2,474	232,984	13,137	313,842
TOTAL	FIREs	3,490	2,409	450	341	36,363	5,991	49,044
	ACRES	152,017	3,731,522	1,716,211	82,170	1,692,618	740,133	8,114,671

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>66,271</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>4,420,698</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		0				1	1
	ACRES		350				6	356
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES			0				0
	ACRES				161			161
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1						1
	ACRES		60					60
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES		0					0
	ACRES		70					70
Southwest	FIRES					2		2
	ACRES						51	51
Rocky Mountain	FIRES			1			1	2
	ACRES				6		520	526
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						40	40
TOTAL	FIRES	1	0	0	1	0	5	7
	ACRES	60	420	0	167	0	617	1,264

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIREs					4		4
	ACRES					626		626
Northwest	FIREs	18	100	82	3		212	415
	ACRES	5,651	22,334	3,981	265		17,986	50,217
Northern California	FIREs	12	21	140	25		169	367
	ACRES	188	1,101	25,025	2,720		18,439	47,473
Southern California	FIREs	1	5	5	15		79	105
	ACRES	1,000	282	408	3,234		6,819	11,743
Northern Rockies	FIREs	8	28	99	3	31	256	425
	ACRES	475	3,244	22,053	22	2,131	31,671	59,596
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs	1	21	5	3	11	44	85
	ACRES	1	6,172	1,459	31	163	12,276	20,102
Western Great Basin	FIREs		12	10			2	24
	ACRES		6,367	2,711			2,903	11,981
Southwest	FIREs	8	47	2	11		260	328
	ACRES	6,342	51,790	3,210	15,036		66,108	142,486
Rocky Mountain	FIREs	29	48	102	17	21	107	324
	ACRES	3,709	13,824	20,519	10,348	2,526	32,719	83,645
Eastern Area	FIREs	41		468	36	1,098	145	1,788
	ACRES	17,625		68,181	4,423	69,501	35,835	195,565
Southern Area	FIREs	34		157	58	404	1,113	1,766
	ACRES	7,180		83,558	54,868	270,630	900,468	1,316,704
TOTAL	FIREs	152	282	1,070	171	1,569	2,387	5,631
	ACRES	42,171	105,114	231,105	90,947	345,577	1,125,224	1,940,138

\*\*\* 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			2	13			15
	ACRES			27,225	141,624			168,849
Northwest	FIREs				1		1	2
	ACRES				2		36,750	36,752
Northern California	FIREs				2		5	7
	ACRES				1		1	2
Southern California	FIREs				12		14	26
	ACRES				8,690		2,211	10,901
Northern Rockies	FIREs				10		77	87
	ACRES				55		63,035	63,090
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs				3		90	93
	ACRES				166		76,705	76,871
Western Great Basin	FIREs		8		1			9
	ACRES		1		140			141
Southwest	FIREs	1			2	1	35	39
	ACRES	3,680			9,308	5	105,868	118,861
Rocky Mountain	FIREs		34		5	2	9	50
	ACRES		2,581		1	1,762	1,916	6,260
Eastern Area	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIREs				13			13
	ACRES				3,641			3,641
TOTAL	FIREs	1	42	2	62	3	231	341
	ACRES	3,680	2,582	27,225	163,628	1,767	286,486	485,368

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

### CANADA FIRES AND HECTARES:

PROVINCES	FIRES LAST WEEK	HECTARES LAST WEEK	FIRES YEAR-TO-DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO-DATE
British Columbia	12	0	918	34,882
Yukon Territory	0	0	82	187,438
Alberta	14	1	1,262	60,508
Northwest Territory	0	21,105	259	224,095
Saskatchewan	0	0	320	213,523
Manitoba	0	0	245	72,680
Ontario	102	62	1,827	42,274
Quebec	61	1,585	1,332	833,266
Newfoundland	5	0	144	21,429
New Brunswick	14	2	303	284
Nova Scotia	4	2	275	506
Prince Edward Island	0	0	10	42
National Parks	2	7	90	36,333
Total	214	22,764	7,067	1,727,260

\*\*\*Weekly reports will be provided starting 9/7/05.\*\*\*

### 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	21		3	3	1			3
Northern California	8	19	3	22	1	2	3			30
Southern California	6		4		3		5			4
Northern Rockies	2		5	4	3	1				35
Eastern Great Basin	7	1	24		10	2	5		146	22
Western Great Basin			5		1					
Southwest										
Rocky Mountain		1	1		1		1		11	4
Eastern Area					1					7
Southern Area			5			1	1		5	1
Total	25	23	68	26	23	9	16	0	208	60

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