

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2005 0530 MDT  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 4**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light nationally with 127 fires reported. Two new large fires were reported, one each in the Eastern Great Basin and Southern Areas. No large fires were contained. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, 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 Zimmerman). Williams-Rhodes Team is providing Incident Management Team coordination for FEMA Region IV at the Regional Response Coordination Center in Atlanta, GA. Zimmerman'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.

**SOUTHERN AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:**

HURRICANE KATRINA SUPPORT, Federal Emergency Management Agency. Emergency Support Function 4 at the Regional Response Coordination Center in Atlanta, GA, and state Emergency Operations Centers in Tallahassee, FL, Montgomery, AL, Jackson, MS and Baton Rouge, LA are staffed. Seven Type 1 Incident Management Teams (Pincha-Tulley, Gelobter, Cable, Krugman, Molumby, Anderson and Wilcock) are assigned. Pincha-Tulley's Team is operating a base camp and six distribution points for relief supplies from Stennis Space Center in MS. Hurricane Rita evacuation contingency plans are being developed. Gelobter's Team is providing logistical support to FEMA Branches I and II from camps Gautier and Shriner at Gautier, MS, and Mobile, AL. Recovery projects at public schools continue. A transfer of command from Cable's Team to Krugman's Type 1 Incident Management Team will occur today. The Team continues to support nearly 8,000 emergency personnel at the French Quarter and several satellite camps in and around New Orleans and southern Louisiana. A transfer of command from Molumby's Team to a Type 2 Incident Management Team (West) will occur 9/21. The Team is providing logistical and planning support to the FEMA IST, and supporting emergency response and military personnel at Saints Support Base in New Orleans. Anderson's Team is assigned to New Orleans, where it is supporting the New Orleans Fire Department. Wilcock's Team is at the Marietta Mobilization Center, Marietta, GA.

Twelve Type 2 Incident Management Teams (Jenkins, Mullenix, Smith, Thomas, Philbin, Stanford, Paul, Whalen, Sinclair, Koehler, Furlong/Gormley and West) are assigned. Jenkins Team is managing a 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 approximately 3,000 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 nearly 1,300 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. Approximately 60 people remain at the shelter, and the operation is gradually winding down. 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 to 13 points of distribution 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) have cleared more than 830 miles of roadways, and are supporting National Forest recovery operations in Mississippi. Koehler's Florida State Incident Management Team is managing a logistical staging area at Stennis Space Center. Demand for relief supplies is leveling off. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Furlong/Gormley) is managing the distribution of relief supplies at Camp Beauregard, LA.

Three Logistics Management Teams (Floyd, Hayes and Prevey) are assigned at the following locations: Floyd's Team, Bossier City, LA; Hayes Team, Texarkana, AR. The Teams are operating mobilization centers and trailer staging areas. Prevey's Logistics Management Team will transfer its operation back to FEMA today. Two 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.

BAY FIRE, Alabama Forestry Commission. This fire is seven miles north of Bayou La Batre, AL in tall grass. Marshy conditions are hampering equipment operations.

G3-05-WF, Sabine National Wildlife Refuge. This fire is 24 miles east of Hackberry, LA in tall grass and peat. Hot spots in the peat below ground continue to hamper containment efforts. Minimal fire activity was observed. No further information was received.

WF-1100, McFadden National Wildlife Refuge. This fire is 12 miles southwest of Port Arthur, TX. No new information was reported.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
BAY FIRE	AL	ALS	850	25	9/23	0	0	0	0	0	NR	ST
G3-05-WF	LA	SBR	3,540	90	9/20	15	0	3	1	0	65K	FWS
WF-1100	TX	MCR	3,700	60	UNK	3	0	2	0	0	NR	FWS

#### SOUTHWEST AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:

PINE CANYON, Carson National Forest. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Whitney) has been ordered. This complex, formerly named Pinon Canyon, is 69 miles west of Taos, NM in timber. No new information was reported.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
PINE CANYON	NM	CAF	1,200	0	9/23	148	4	15	4	0	NR	FS

## NORTHWEST AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:

TURNER CREEK, Northeast Oregon District, Oregon Department of Forestry. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Lunde) has been ordered. This previously reported fire, which began on 9/14, is nine miles south of Imnaha, OR in grass and understory. Structure protection is in place. Gusty winds and poor humidity recovery created active fire behavior with torching, running and spotting. The fire grew 1,500 acres during the day.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
TURNER CREEK	OR	97S	1,800	25	UNK	85	2	9	3	0	NR	ST

## EASTERN GREAT BASIN AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:

VALLEY ROAD, Sawtooth National Forest. This fire started on private land seven miles south and east of Stanley, ID in timber. The north end of the fire remains a priority for suppression efforts. Helicopter operations are assisting in inaccessible areas. Burned Area Emergency Rehab (BAER) Team continues operations.

CHOKECHERRY, Fishlake National Forest. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) incident is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. The fire is burning 10 miles southeast of Beaver, UT in hardwood litter and timber. Upslope runs, backing fire and torching were reported. This will be the last narrative report unless significant activity occurs.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
VALLEY ROAD	ID	STF	40,868	85	9/27	120	2	1	2	3	NR	PRI
CHOKECHERRY-WFU	UT	FIF	100	N/A	N/A	8	0	2	0	0	NR	FS

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
FAR DRAW - WFU	CO	SJF	1,000	N/A	N/A	15	1	1	0	0	20K	FS

SJF - San Juan National Forest

## OUTLOOK:

**Fire Weather Watch:** For western Utah for dry lightning and gusty winds.

**Weather Discussion:** The cut-off low pressure system off the central California coast will move onshore today. Showers and thunderstorms will develop over portions of California, much of the Four Corner region, the Great Basin, and into southwestern Wyoming. Tropical storm Rita is forecast to strengthen to hurricane status today as it moves west, just south of the Florida Keys.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<b>Rocky Mountain</b> Dry, except isolated afternoon thunderstorms in southwest Colorado.	Mid 70s to lower 80s with 60s to lower 70s in the mountains, except into the upper 80s in southeast Colorado and Kansas.	Relative humidity values from 12% to 25% in Wyoming, Colorado, and western South Dakota, with 25% to 40% in the eastern plains.	West 10 to 20 mph in Wyoming, and variable 5 to 18 mph elsewhere.
<b>Western Great Basin</b> Increasing clouds from the south and west, with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the Sierra and in the far southern parts of Nevada.	North valleys: 72 to 87. South valleys: 83 to 996 Mountains: 64 to 82.	North valleys: 14 to 22%. South valleys: 10 to 20%. Mountains: 14 to 40%.	South 10 mph with afternoon gusts 25 to 30 mph.
<b>Eastern Great Basin</b> Idaho, Bridger-Teton: Partly cloudy, isolated afternoon thunderstorms in the eastern mountain portions. Northern Utah: Partly cloudy with isolated afternoon thunderstorms. Southern Utah, Arizona strip: Mostly cloudy with widely scattered afternoon dry thunderstorms.	Idaho, Bridger-Teton Mountains: 59 to 70. Valleys: 70 to 86. Northern Utah Mountains: 65 to 73. Valleys: 73 to 85. Southern Utah, Arizona strip: Mountains: 64 to 80. Valleys: 80 to 95.	Idaho, Bridger-Teton: Mountains: 17 to 30%. Valleys: 10 to 20%. Northern Utah Mountains: 20 to 26%. Valleys: 11 to 20%. Southern Utah, Arizona strip Mountains: 18 to 30%. Valleys: 11 to 20%.	Idaho, Bridger-Teton: Southwest 10 to 15 mph. Northern Utah: South 10 to 20 mph. Southern Utah, Arizona strip: South 10 to 20,
<b>Southern California</b> Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms.	Mountains: 65 to 80. Valleys: 80 to 90. Upper deserts: 80 to 90. Lower deserts: 90 to 100.	40 to 60%.	Southeast to southwest 5 to 15 mph.
<b>Northern Rockies</b> Flat upper level ridge and westerly flow will bring warm, dry and mostly clear conditions to the geographic area.	West of Divide: 75 to 80. East of Divide: 75 to 85. North Dakota: 75 to 85.	West of Divide: 25 to 30%. East of Divide: 15 to 25%. North Dakota: 25 to 30%.	West of Divide: West 10 to 20 mph. East of Divide: West 5 to 10 mph. North Dakota: Northwest 5 to 10 mph.



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

## DRIVING SAFETY

Driving is one of the most hazardous tasks that we perform when assigned to fires. Because of the fact that we perform the task literally hundreds of times in the course of our daily lives we tend to take it for granted. Based on recent accident trends, vehicle accidents are the source of more deaths and serious injuries to wildland firefighters than any other single cause. Vehicle operators need to recognize their own poor driving habits and strive to develop proper defensive driving techniques.

- A good starting point is attitude. A positive attitude towards improving your defensive driving skills will help you achieve the necessary changes in your driving habits. Most of what you do in operating vehicles is performed from habit. You do not consciously think about every thing you do when you drive. Rather, your subconscious performs most techniques. It's important to remember that a bad habit is as easy to develop as a good one. Take a good, hard look at your driving habits. Are you training yourself to do the right things the right way, like fastening your seat belt, checking your mirrors, and maintaining safe following distances?
- Inattentiveness is a major contributing factor in motor vehicle accidents within the wildland firefighting community. Because driving is such a common component of our lives, it is difficult to realize that it requires 100% of our attention. Since the average adult attention span is 15-20 minutes we must develop techniques that allow us to refocus our attention on the task at hand, operating a motor vehicle safely. There are many forms of inattentive driving; fatigue, telematics, daydreaming, eating, drinking, reading, writing, and talking. Here are some techniques for maintaining your attention while driving.
  - Drive only when you are well rested and alert; avoid driving during the hours of 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM. Take a 10 to 15 minute break after every 2 hours of driving.
  - Practice situational awareness when driving; be aware of what is happening in front, behind, and on both sides of your vehicle. Never drive when taking medications that make you drowsy.
  - Avoid using cell phones, radios, GPS units, CD players or computers while driving. Have a passenger operate them, or pull off the road and park.
  - By constantly moving your vision, checking mirrors and distant road conditions, you can avoid highway hypnosis and daydreaming.
  - Avoid eating or drinking while driving. Take frequent breaks to perform these activities.
  - Do not attempt to read maps or write directions while driving, pull over and park.
  - When talking with passengers, keep your eyes on the road and both hands on the steering wheel. Keep conversations causal and limited to small talk. Avoid conversations of a serious or technical nature. Do not engage in confrontational or argumentative conversations.
  - Do not be in a hurry, be patient. The more impatient you are, the more agitated you can become. Agitation will only magnify other inattentive driving behaviors.
- Safe driving starts with a safe vehicle. While mechanical failure is rarely a contributing factor in motor vehicle accidents something as simple as under inflated tires can have serious consequences. Before operating any vehicle, you must be sure the vehicle is in safe operating condition. Not only should you perform a pre-operation inspection, some vehicle defects can only be detected while the vehicle is operating. The vehicle operator is also responsible pre-operation, during operation, and post-operation inspections.

**FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIREs	2				4	1	7
	ACRES	4				721	0	725
Northern California	FIREs	3				7		10
	ACRES	3				10		13
Southern California	FIREs					11		11
	ACRES					1		1
Northern Rockies	FIREs	1				2	3	6
	ACRES	42				9	6	57
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs		2			2	2	6
	ACRES		3			2	0	5
Western Great Basin	FIREs		1					1
	ACRES		200					200
Southwest	FIREs		2			3	3	8
	ACRES		6			53	1	60
Rocky Mountain	FIREs					1	3	4
	ACRES					500	7	507
Eastern Area	FIREs				1	19		20
	ACRES				0	31		31
Southern Area	FIREs					54		54
	ACRES					428		428
TOTAL	FIREs	6	5	0	1	103	12	127
	ACRES	49	209	0	0	1,755	14	2,027

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIREs	4	96	59	16	404	28	607
	ACRES	4	1,917,948	1,633,875	3,409	849,154	337	4,404,727
Northwest	FIREs	170	225	29	35	1,246	824	2,529
	ACRES	28,030	41,413	5,797	121	72,197	99,816	247,374
Northern California	FIREs	138	30	10	15	1,743	408	2,344
	ACRES	218	24,896	14	101	25,393	5,393	56,015
Southern California	FIREs	42	113	13	47	2,213	576	3,004
	ACRES	972	5,925	136	73,815	32,457	8,894	122,199
Northern Rockies	FIREs	482	53	31	12	618	612	1,808
	ACRES	20,266	7,542	9,793	25	37,650	54,553	129,829
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs	50	687	12	29	661	528	1,967
	ACRES	27,501	621,167	8	2,828	145,799	103,785	901,088
Western Great Basin	FIREs	7	485	19	26	97	111	745
	ACRES	30	878,264	13,312	258	112,217	8,853	1,012,934
Southwest	FIREs	1,519	347	39	52	1,298	1,478	4,733
	ACRES	34,202	158,789	9,639	364	129,816	416,390	749,200
Rocky Mountain	FIREs	281	462	30	22	576	490	1,861
	ACRES	6,870	8,734	553	30	25,630	23,109	64,926
Eastern Area	FIREs	595		36	52	10,076	542	11,301
	ACRES	7,114		1,732	963	67,142	8,237	85,188
Southern Area	FIREs	213		180	37	19,712	510	20,652
	ACRES	26,883		42,064	2,474	259,106	13,141	343,668
TOTAL	FIREs	3,501	2,498	458	343	38,644	6,107	51,551
	ACRES	152,090	3,664,678	1,716,923	84,388	1,756,561	742,508	8,117,148

Ten Year Average Fires	66,928
Ten Year Average Acres	4,463,541

\*\*\* 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	0
	ACRES						1,200	1,200
Northern California	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIREs						4	4
	ACRES						40	40
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs					1	0	1
	ACRES					106	50	156
Western Great Basin	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIREs						2	2
	ACRES						260	260
Rocky Mountain	FIREs		1				0	1
	ACRES		1,300				500	1,800
Eastern Area	FIREs					14		14
	ACRES					259		259
Southern Area	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIREs	0	1	0	0	15	6	22
	ACRES	0	1,300	0	0	365	2,050	3,715

**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		19,186	51,417
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	17		79	107
	ACRES	1,000	282	408	3,366		6,819	11,875
Northern Rockies	FIREs	9	28	99	3	31	260	430
	ACRES	495	3,244	22,053	22	2,131	34,711	62,656
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs	1	23	5	3	13	45	90
	ACRES	1	8,852	1,459	31	273	12,387	23,003
Western Great Basin	FIREs		12	10			2	24
	ACRES		6,367	2,711			2,903	11,981
Southwest	FIREs	8	47	2	12		263	332
	ACRES	6,342	51,790	3,210	17,697		67,025	146,064
Rocky Mountain	FIREs	30	46	102	17	23	109	327
	ACRES	3,871	16,269	20,519	10,348	4,526	34,103	89,636
Eastern Area	FIREs	43		472	36	1,112	145	1,808
	ACRES	17,632		68,381	4,423	69,760	35,835	196,031
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	156	282	1,074	174	1,587	2,397	5,670
	ACRES	42,360	110,239	231,305	93,740	347,946	1,131,876	1,957,466

\*\*\* 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		2,259	10,949
Northern Rockies	FIREs				10		77	87
	ACRES				55		63,035	63,090
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs				3		94	97
	ACRES				166		76,945	77,111
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	2,819	7,163
Eastern Area	FIREs						2	2
	ACRES						5	5
Southern Area	FIREs				13			13
	ACRES				3,641			3,641
TOTAL	FIREs	1	42	2	62	3	237	347
	ACRES	3,680	2,582	27,225	163,628	1,767	287,682	486,564

**\*\*\* 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	3		16	3	3	4	2		12	5
Northern California	3		4				5			
Southern California	3						2			
Northern Rockies				3	1	1			32	
Eastern Great Basin	2	1	9	1	6		2		40	4
Western Great Basin	1	1								
Southwest	4			15	4		5		56	15
Rocky Mountain	2	3	14	3	1				28	16
Eastern Area									6	
Southern Area			8			1	2		5	1
Total	18	5	51	25	15	6	18	0	179	41

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