

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Monday, October 19, 2009 – 0530 MDT
National Preparedness Level 1**

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity:	Light (22 new fires)
New large fires:	0 (*)
Large fires contained:	0
Uncontained large fires : **	0
Area Command Teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	0
Type 1 IMTs committed:	0
Type 2 IMTs committed:	0

Nationally, there are 53 large fires being managed with minimal or no resource commitment that are not shown on today's report.

** Uncontained large fires do not include confine/contain and resource benefit incidents.

[Link](#) to Geographic Area daily reports.

Predictive Services Discussion: Onshore flow will continue to bring mild weather and high humidity to the southern California coastal area today. Gusty winds are expected from the southern California mountains and deserts eastward to the Rocky Mountains.

[Link](#) to Predictive Services Outlook products.



Today's discussion is from
"This Day in History"

"Lessons Learned" serve as brief summaries of powerful learning opportunities. You can use these summaries as a foundation and launch point for further dialogue and discussion. Apply these lessons learned to yourself, your crew, and your unit.

1938 – Pennsylvania

Incident Summary: Most of north-central Pennsylvania had been extensively logged by large timber companies from 1890-1930. By 1938, fuels in the area consisted of very young second-growth hardwoods, ericaceous shrubs and logging slash. Following an unusually hot and dry summer, a killing frost on October 7th caused the foliage to cure. Precipitation for the past three months had been substantially below normal. High temperatures persisted in the 80's with RH's of 20-25%.

At 11:10am on October 19th, 1938, the Hunts Run Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) Camp #S-132 is notified of a possible forest fire. Upon investigation, several fires are located on Pepper Hill Mountain. 2 CCC crews are dispatched to the fires. Both crews had just returned from a fire only hours before, and many enrollees requested to stay behind due to fatigue. All enrollees were ordered to go. The two CCC crews began initial attack from both flanks of the fire, anchoring into a nearby road. Both crews began constructing line from the heel of the fire to the top, burning out as needed. For reasons which are still not clear, crew 2 was ordered to abandon their firing operation on the right flank and proceed to the head of the fire to construct direct downhill line. The crew was $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up Pepper Hill Mountain when the fire below made a rapid run that overtook them. A few were able to find safety atop large nearby rocks, the remaining crew was severely burned, and ultimately eight of the young CCC enrollees would lose their lives.

Lessons Learned Discussion Points

Training – Most of the CCC enrollees received little or no formal training. They were expected to learn what to do on the job.

- Most of us will work with new firefighters who have little or no experience. It is not reasonable or safe to assume they will learn everything on the fireline. How will your crew prepare new members for success?

Fatigue – Many of the enrollees assigned to the Pepper Hill Fire had just returned to camp from other fires at 5:30am that morning.

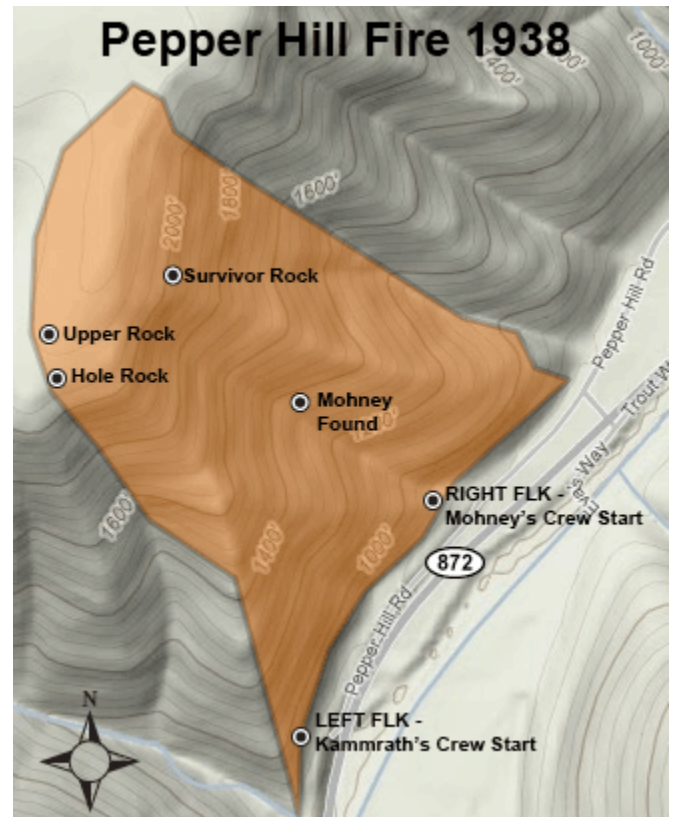
- Though we now have work/rest guidelines to help prevent fatigue, a long fire season can still take its toll on even the fittest firefighter. What signs might we see in our crewmembers that could indicate fatigue? (IRPG pgs x-xi)
- What impact can fatigue have on your crew, and what can you do to lessen the associated risks?

Tactics – The original plan to use the road as an anchor point seems sound, but poor choices were made on the right flank when the crew moved to the head and abandoned their burnout.

- Without aviation support, would your crew engage this fire? If so, how?
- Though not a sound decision at Pepper Hill, describe conditions where attacking the head of a fire could be a viable tactic, while ensuring safety.

Crew Cohesion – The CCC Enrollees had not worked many fires together. On their way up the hill, they became separated due to differences in physical ability. There were no indications that their crew leader gave them any direction during this critical time.

- No firefighter intends to get into a bad situation. We all train to avoid them, but *"what if"*? How would you and your crew manage the safety of all firefighters if faced with a similar situation?



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		1			4	1	6
	ACRES		2			0	0	2
Southern California	FIRES					8	1	9
	ACRES					0	0	0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
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					7		7
	ACRES					20		20
TOTAL	FIRES	0	1	0	0	19	2	22
	ACRES	0	2	0	0	20	0	22

Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	49	42	21	376	27	516
	ACRES	1	764,818	754,710	101,190	1,321,312	10	2,942,041
Northwest	FIRES	389	321	26	80	1,077	1,450	3,343
	ACRES	9,573	30,769	2,353	2,221	56,106	48,499	149,521
Northern California	FIRES	155	63	4	39	2,788	881	3,930
	ACRES	1,464	1,533	5	1,759	63,110	36,788	104,659
Southern California	FIRES	43	184	16	33	3,377	574	4,227
	ACRES	1,589	4,208	45	6,021	23,703	268,515	304,081
Northern Rockies	FIRES	818	121	18	33	650	842	2,482
	ACRES	4,110	1,015	398	10,878	24,722	24,046	65,169
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	49	541	5	30	614	539	1,778
	ACRES	106	69,628	226	7,038	18,164	42,270	137,432
Western Great Basin	FIRES	10	402	9	11	102	143	677
	ACRES	2,440	29,477	150	22	956	318	33,363
Southwest	FIRES	826	266	10	63	856	1,341	3,362
	ACRES	46,719	89,439	3,843	8,010	287,217	142,911	578,139
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	612	474	19	27	701	398	2,231
	ACRES	3,103	10,642	535	67	73,062	8,003	95,412
Eastern Area	FIRES	438		42	29	12,944	569	14,022
	ACRES	1,241		889	110	113,096	6,701	122,037
Southern Area	FIRES	699		235	54	34,496	589	36,073
	ACRES	90,888		48,205	44,166	959,255	31,072	1,173,586
TOTAL	FIRES	4,040	2,421	426	420	57,981	7,353	72,641
	ACRES	161,234	1,001,529	811,359	181,482	2,940,703	609,133	5,705,440

Ten Year Average Fires	69,049
Ten Year Average Acres	6,357,673

*** 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
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES				1		5	6
	ACRES				5		95	100
Southern California	FIRES				0			0
	ACRES				5			5
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
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	0	0	1	0	5	6
	ACRES	0	0	0	10	0	95	105

Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					9	1	10
	ACRES					3,438	95	3,533
Northwest	FIRES	18	146	22	4	1	161	352
	ACRES	6,487	34,410	3,123	47	1	33,784	77,852
Northern California	FIRES	26	17	27	63	23	172	328
	ACRES	224	2,515	27,707	2,506	2,540	10,023	45,515
Southern California	FIRES	1	10	13	11	1	124	160
	ACRES	1	636	1,732	1,465	195	8,980	13,009
Northern Rockies	FIRES	35	26	92	2	33	241	429
	ACRES	9,656	4,354	21,824	345	3,043	26,144	65,366
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	28	4	14	33	113	193
	ACRES	8	12,437	1,225	701	814	24,743	39,928
Western Great Basin	FIRES		4	2			6	12
	ACRES		1,652	62			859	2,573
Southwest	FIRES	41	20	3	4		258	326
	ACRES	13,370	45,612	501	530		130,394	190,407
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	71	49	132	16	52	156	476
	ACRES	8,658	5,241	21,328	7,706	2,013	33,332	78,278
Eastern Area	FIRES	71		547	51	2,595	196	3,460
	ACRES	72,390		78,315	9,251	150,742	52,514	363,212
Southern Area	FIRES	7		287	85	816	1,109	2,304
	ACRES	3,056		156,381	92,929	299,369	1,004,665	1,556,400
TOTAL	FIRES	271	300	1,129	250	3,563	2,537	8,050
	ACRES	113,850	106,857	312,198	115,480	462,155	1,325,533	2,436,073

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

Additional wildfire information is available through the Geographic Areas at <http://gacc.nifc.gov/>.

** National Interagency Coordination Center **