

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Saturday, July 17, 2010 – 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 2**

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity: Light (152 new fires)
 New large fires: 22 (*)
 Large fires contained: 6
 Uncontained large fires: ** 10
 Area Command Teams committed: 0
 NIMOs committed: 0
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 0
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 2

Nationally, there are 52 large fires being managed to achieve multiple objectives.

** Uncontained large fires include only fires being managed under a full suppression strategy. **

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

Interagency personnel are assigned to a number of locations in the Gulf of Mexico to assess and mitigate impacts resulting from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

- Support to the Fish and Wildlife Service include these areas: Delta, Breton and Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuges, as well as Houma, LA and Mobile, AL.

- Support to the National Park Service include these areas: Gulf Islands National Seashore, Jean Lafitte Park and Preserve, Everglades National Park, Dry Tortugas, Biscayne National Park, De Soto National Memorial and Big Cypress National Preserve.

BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	USFS
1	4	778	107	33

Northwest Area (PL 2)

New fires: 6
 New large fires: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 2
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 2

Swakane, Washington DNR. Washington IMT 2 (Barnett). Six miles north of Wenatchee, WA. Timber and grass. Moderate fire activity.

Line, Spokane Agency, BIA. Washington IMT2 (Lentz). Four miles southeast of Wellpinit, WA. Timber, brush and grass. Moderate fire activity. Residences threatened. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
Swakane	WA	SES	19,746	0	65	7/30	382	-7	13	19	7	0	2.6M	ST

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
Line	WA	SPA	900	-48	80	7/18	297	-3	8	14	3	1	787K	BIA

Southern California Area (PL 2)

New fires: 58
New large fires: 2
Uncontained large fires: 3

* **Cactus**, Riverside Unit, Cal Fire. Seven miles southeast of Hemet, CA. Chaparral and grass. Moderate fire activity.

Bodfish, Central California District, BLM. Two miles southwest of Bodfish, CA. Brush and Grass. No further information received.

* **Skinner**, Riverside Unit, Cal Fire. Six miles southwest of Hemet, CA. Brush and grass. Creeping and smoldering.

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
* Cactus	CA	RRU	647	---	30	7/18	207	---	5	4	2	0	64K	ST
Bodfish	CA	CND	528	128	10	7/17	209	0	8	16	4	0	75K	BLM
* Skinner	CA	RRU	503	---	60	7/17	177	---	8	15	3	0	50K	ST

Alaska Area (PL 2)

New fires: 3
New large fires: 16
Uncontained large fires: 2

Peavey Creek, Tanana Zone, BLM. Fifteen miles southwest of Bettles, AK. Black spruce. Creeping and smoldering with isolated torching.

Pat Creek, Upper Yukon Zone, BLM. Fifteen miles north of Stevens Village, AK. Black spruce and tundra. Group tree torching and short runs.

* **Derby Creek**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Fifty miles southeast of Selawik, AK. Spruce, tundra and brush. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Louie Creek, Galena Zone, BLM. Previously reported confine/contain incident. Seven miles southwest of Huslia, AK. Mixed hardwoods and brush. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Kaluktavik River**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Sixty-five miles northeast of Noatak, AK. Tundra and brush. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Rok North**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Seventy-five miles northeast of Noatak, AK. Tundra and brush. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Lake Tutusirok**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Seventy-nine miles northwest of Ambler, AK. Tundra and grass. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

No Name Creek, Southwest Area Forestry, Alaska DOF. Previously reported confine/contain incident. Fifteen miles northwest of Telida, AK. Timber. Smoldering. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Nanielik Creek**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Sixty miles north of Ambler, AK. Tundra and grass. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Takhakdona Hills**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Seventy miles northeast of Galena, AK. Spruce, brush and tundra. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Yuki River**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Twenty-five miles southeast of Galena, AK. Spruce, tundra and brush. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Klikhtentotzna Creek**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Thirty-three miles northwest of Hughes, AK. Black spruce and brush. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Tipooktulearuk River**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Twenty-three miles northeast of Koyuk, AK. Black spruce and brush. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Avan River**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Eighty miles northwest of Ambler, AK. Tundra and grass. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Niakogon Mtn**, Tanana Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Started on state land fifty miles north of Brooks Range, AK. Tundra and grass. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Salmon River**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Fifty-five miles northwest of Ambler, AK. Black spruce, tundra and brush. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Squirrel River South**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Twenty miles northwest of Noatak, AK. Black spruce and brush. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Kobuk**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Nine miles west of Kiana, AK. Black spruce and brush. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Timber Creek**, Galena Zone, BLM. Confine/contain incident. Twelve miles south of Kiana, AK. Tundra and grass. No further information received. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
Peavey Creek	AK	TAD	17,508	0	0	UNK	31	-1	1	0	2	0	369K	BLM
Pat Creek	AK	UYD	16,018	2,291	35	UNK	178	-4	7	0	3	0	6M	BLM
* Derby Creek	AK	GAD	23,577	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
Louie Creek	AK	GAD	18,110	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	4.8M	BLM
* Kaluktavik River	AK	GAD	13,642	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
* Rok North	AK	GAD	13,106	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
* Lake Tutusirok	AK	GAD	7,312	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
No Name Creek	AK	SWS	7,110	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	348K	ST

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
* Nanielik Creek	AK	GAD	6,538	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
* Takhakdona Hills	AK	GAD	6,160	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
* Yuki River	AK	GAD	3,840	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
* Klikhtentotzna Creek	AK	GAD	2,680	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
* Tipooktulearuk River	AK	GAD	1,200	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
* Avan River	AK	GAD	603	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
* Niakogon Mtn	AK	TAD	580	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	ST
* Salmon River	AK	GAD	350	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
* Squirrel River South	AK	GAD	332	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
* Kobuk	AK	GAD	302	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
* Timber Creek	AK	GAD	300	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
Lone Mountain	AK	SWS	51,996	---	100	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	10K	BLM
* Kiliovilik Creek	AK	GAD	17,207	---	100	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
North Fork	AK	SWS	12,188	---	100	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	221K	ST
Mystery	AK	SWS	18,952	---	100	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	22K	BLM
Sischu 2	AK	TAD	2,741	---	100	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
Sischu 1	AK	TAD	1,433	---	100	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM

Eastern Great Basin Area (PL 2)

New fires: 8
New large fires: 1
Uncontained large fires: 1

* **Penneys**, Wasatch Front Area, Utah DOF. Ten miles east of Rush Valley, UT. Grass. Running, wind-driven fire behavior.

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
* Penneys	UT	NWS	1,500	---	10	UNK	31	---	0	22	1	0	40K	ST

Rocky Mountain Area (PL 2)

New fires: 8
New large fires: 1
Uncontained large fires: 1

* **Indian Valley**, Rio Blanco County. Fifteen miles northwest of Meeker, CO. Pinyon pine, juniper, brush and grass. Moderate fire activity with isolated group torching.

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
* Indian Valley	CO	RBX	322	---	70	7/17	62	---	2	3	2	0	100K	CNTY

Northern Rockies Area (PL 1)

New fires: 4
New large fires: 1
Uncontained large fires: 1

* **Lakeside**, Helena NF. Eight miles northeast of Helena, MT. Grass. No further information received.

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
* Lakeside	MT	HNF	360	---	0	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	10K	FS

Southern Area (PL 1)

New fires: 4
New large fires: 1
Uncontained large fires: 0

* **Pepper**, Merritt Island NWR. Limited perimeter control incident. Nine miles southeast of Titusville, FL. Southern rough. Active fire behavior with running, torching and spotting. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
* Pepper	FL	MIR	1,400	---	N/A	N/A	17	---	0	5	0	0	15K	FWS

Predictive Services Discussion: Hot and dry weather will continue today over most of the West. Thunderstorms are expected over portions of the Sierras and the Intermountain West.

[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.

Battlement Creek Fire, Colorado – July 17th, 1976

Incident Summary: It's 1976 and western Colorado is experiencing an unusually severe fire season caused partly by unusual fuel conditions and heavy lightning activity during dry weather. A severe frost in June kills a high percentage of the leaves on Gambel oak which remain on the branches and is considered one of Colorado's most flammable fuels. 10 hour fuels are at 3-5%. A large scale high pressure weather pattern sits over western Colorado allowing for local weather to be influenced by terrain and diurnal winds averaging 10-15 mph in the afternoon with higher gusts. The weather is fair and hot with the temperatures at Grand Junction and Rifle reaching into the mid and upper 90's. A fire is reported 40 miles northeast of Grand Junction, in the Battlement Creek drainage. The fire is burning over an elevation range of 6200-8400 ft on a steep west-facing slope.

Friday July 16, 0630, two hotshot crews from the Coconino NF Arizona arrive at the Battlement Creek fire. This is the seventeenth fire of the first season for the newly formed Mormon Lake Hotshot Crew. The strategy is to prevent western and southern spread. The crews begin a major burnout of the catline (dozer line) from the rocky bluffs (Point A) at about 1615, downhill along the catline toward the Battlement Creek road at the bottom (Point C) ending about 2030. The fire makes an uphill run in oak brush burning out a large portion of the drainage (from the road east to the ridgetop) in about 20 minutes. Two "impressive" fire whirls are observed between 1600-1700. The night shift continues the burn out (Point C-D and beyond along the road) but is spotty with considerable unburned fuel remaining. Other night shift crews construct line along the ridgetop (Point E to G). Based on Friday's fire behavior, the E-G line is a crucial spot on the fire. Saturday July 17th, 0700, at morning briefing the Mormon Lake crew is assigned to burn out this section of line.

Saturday morning, July 17th - Due to a delay with the helicopter, the Mormon Lake crew does not get to the base of the rock bluff (Point E) until 1100. They are instructed to improve and burn out the line from the rocky bluff to the helispot (Point E-G). The burnout squad consisted of the crew boss, squad boss and 2 crewmembers. The rest of the crew is improving the handline down the ridgetop.

At this same time another crew is burning out in the bottom of the draw (Point C-D). The draw burns readily, uphill toward the ridge and the Mormon Lake crew. Neither crew knew of the specific location or assignment of the other.

1400 - 1/3 the way from the rock bluff to the upper helispot, there is a noticeable increase in smoke from the draw below (where the other crew had been burning). The crew boss is instructed to speed up the line improvement squad on toward the safety zone (Point G) and to narrow down and speed up his burnout on down the ridgetop to join the remainder of the crew in the safety zone when his burnout was done. Upslope winds have increased to 25-35 mph.

1425-1440 - The line improvement squad just makes it into the safety zone when the flame front hits the ridge. 200 yards back, the burnout squad radios that they are "trapped". Their escape is blocked by heavy smoke and flames.

1440 - 1445 - The squad removes their canvas vests to cover their head and face, moistened the vests and their clothes with water from their canteens, and lays face down in the mineral soil of the fireline.

1448 - All four firefighters are very badly burned.
Three will lose their lives.

Discussion Points

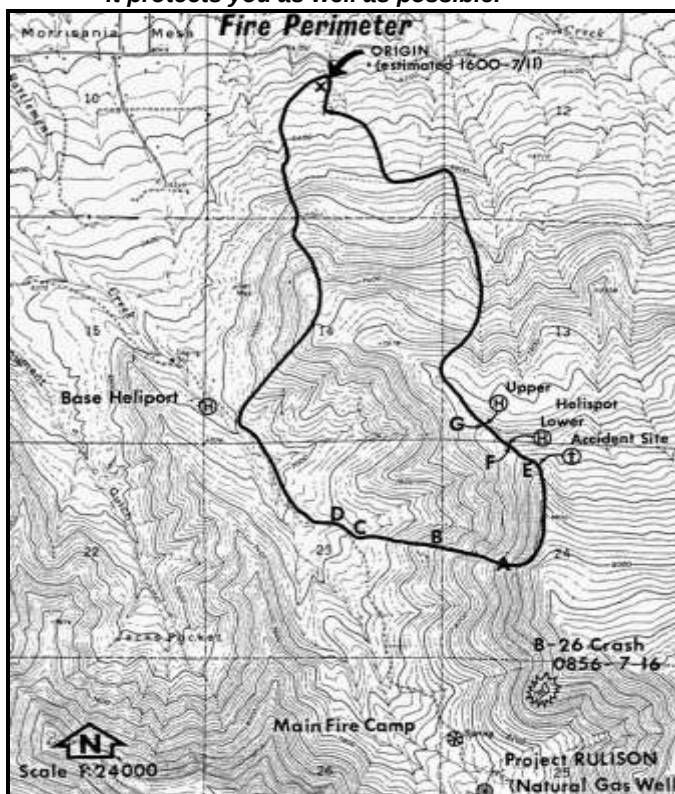
The day prior to the burnover, an airtanker crashed during a retardant dropping mission on the Battlement Creek fire killing the pilot.

Resources [Staff Ride to the Battlement Creek Fire](#)
[Google Earth Fly Around of Battlement Creek Fire](#)
[Sequence of Events PowerPoint](#)
[Battlement Creek Fire Investigation Report](#)
[Battlement Creek dynamic PPT \(Powershow\)](#)

- ✓ Discuss how incidents and distractions can affect our judgment and situational awareness.

The crew all wore aluminum hardhats, canvas vests, Nomex shirts and non-fire-resistant work pants. Fire shelters were not used. Fire shelters may have prevented serious burns and death at this incident. Policy on issuing and carrying shelters had not been established yet. This incident became the catalyst for the mandatory use of fire shelters and fire resistant clothing.

- ✓ **Take this opportunity to inspect, repair or replace your PPE and fire shelter if needed to ensure that it protects you as well as possible.**



Fires and Acres Yesterday

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES		0	0	1	2		3
	ACRES		320	3,326	1,667	680		5,993
Northwest	FIRES		3			1	2	6
	ACRES		10			0	0	10
Northern California	FIRES					17	4	21
	ACRES					23	0	23
Southern California	FIRES		3		1	49	5	58
	ACRES		510		1	211	2	724
Northern Rockies	FIRES					1	3	4
	ACRES					2	361	363
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		1		0	4	3	8
	ACRES		6		4	1,301	0	1,311
Western Great Basin	FIRES		2			1	5	8
	ACRES		0			0	1	1
Southwest	FIRES	2				6	22	30
	ACRES	1				1	342	344
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		4				4	8
	ACRES		58				70	128
Eastern Area	FIRES			1		1		2
	ACRES			0		0		0
Southern Area	FIRES					4		4
	ACRES					27		27
TOTAL	FIRES	2	13	1	2	86	48	152
	ACRES	1	904	3,326	1,672	2,245	776	8,924

Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	74	65	50	386	11	587
	ACRES	103	298,761	69,507	101,161	634,179	9	1,103,720
Northwest	FIRES	77	32	3	4	131	172	419
	ACRES	706	1,876	0	0	20,912	133	23,627
Northern California	FIRES	11	12		6	1,132	133	1,294
	ACRES	2	15		5	12,387	25	12,434
Southern California	FIRES	13	92	3	5	1,339	218	1,670
	ACRES	184	5,644	14	5	17,749	398	23,994
Northern Rockies	FIRES	350	11	1	3	125	117	607
	ACRES	2,497	126	761	0	1,293	520	5,197
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	16	171	2	6	222	99	516
	ACRES	519	43,314	1	42	122,653	290	166,819
Western Great Basin	FIRES	1	88	2	6	32	16	145
	ACRES	0	620	17	1	655	22	1,315
Southwest	FIRES	431	164	4	40	364	609	1,612
	ACRES	7,321	18,338	33	24,295	37,078	63,986	151,051
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	362	195	4	22	207	192	982
	ACRES	2,511	2,376	3,051	7,208	11,916	2,667	29,729
Eastern Area	FIRES	615		38	19	8,758	458	9,888
	ACRES	2,708		4,883	27	77,838	4,301	89,757
Southern Area	FIRES	513		47	22	15,385	435	16,402
	ACRES	32,278		1,684	150	205,503	18,906	258,521
TOTAL	FIRES	2,390	839	169	183	28,081	2,460	34,122
	ACRES	48,829	371,070	79,951	132,894	1,142,163	91,257	1,866,164

Ten Year Average Fires	45,496
Ten Year Average Acres	2,874,582

*** 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							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES		0					0
	ACRES		285					285
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					500		500
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	ACRES	0	285	0	0	500	0	785

Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					11		11
	ACRES					21,497		21,497
Northwest	FIRES	12	55	4	1		121	193
	ACRES	6,781	8,616	1,610	11		17,529	34,547
Northern California	FIRES	1	20	23	20	25	229	318
	ACRES	10	347	22,238	64	3,570	9,397	35,626
Southern California	FIRES		9	10	4	17	68	108
	ACRES		1,612	1,493	410	2,359	2,408	8,282
Northern Rockies	FIRES	73	33	99	8	29	162	404
	ACRES	2,329	4,674	25,262	1,240	934	17,287	51,726
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		17	6	7	30	40	100
	ACRES		1,560	2,745	520	2,288	10,198	17,311
Western Great Basin	FIRES		3	2	2		7	14
	ACRES		68	1,395	546		638	2,647
Southwest	FIRES	27	22	10	5		99	163
	ACRES	1,575	22,399	8,870	951		62,921	96,716
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	41	56	117	26	49	135	424
	ACRES	5,860	8,215	26,508	5,019	6,300	19,528	71,430
Eastern Area	FIRES	47		366	26	1,520	168	2,127
	ACRES	62,783		55,331	5,514	91,918	58,134	273,680
Southern Area	FIRES	17		185	69	8,807	1,147	10,225
	ACRES	2,905		81,149	72,148	261,803	1,130,789	1,548,794
TOTAL	FIRES	218	215	822	168	10,488	2,176	14,087
	ACRES	82,243	47,491	226,601	86,423	390,669	1,328,829	2,162,256

***** 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/>.

Canada Fires and Hectares

Provinces	Fires Yesterday	Hectares Yesterday	Fires Year-To-Date	Hectares Year-To-Date
British Columbia	475	16,367	487	16,439
Yukon Territory	62	150,997	62	150,997
Alberta	1,164	40,021	1,184	40,034
Northwest Territory	98	96,567	114	96,587
Saskatchewan	353	862,096	356	1,019,650
Manitoba	356	94,875	361	94,885
Ontario	711	13,640	723	13,647
Quebec	550	357,018	556	363,075
Newfoundland	30	791	30	791
New Brunswick	117	109	118	109
Nova Scotia	265	473	267	473
Prince Edward Island	2	5	2	5
National Parks	54	4,723	54	4,723
Total	4,237	1,637,683	4,314	1,801,415

**** National Interagency Coordination Center ****