

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Thursday, August 11, 2011 – 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 2**

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity:	Light (122 new fires)
New large fires:	7 (*)
Large fires contained:	13
Uncontained large fires: **	16
Area Command Teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	0
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	1

Nationally, there are 37 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.

Southern Area (PL 3)

New fires:	28
New large fires:	4
Uncontained large fires:	9
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1

Lateral West, Great Dismal Swamp NWR. IMT 1 (Quesinberry). Nine miles southeast of Suffolk, VA. Brush. Active fire behavior.

Cherry Homes, Texas Forest Service. Twelve miles east of Jacksboro, TX. Brush. Moderate fire activity. Residences threatened.

Brad Kelly, Texas Forest Service. Started on private land thirty-nine miles southwest of Alpine, TX. Brush. Minimal fire behavior. Residences threatened.

* **Fletcher**, Texas Forest Service. Fifteen miles west of Marfa, TX. Brush. Active fire behavior.

Colony, Concho Field Office, BIA. One mile south of Colony, OK. Grass. No further information received.

* **Oxbow Ranch**, Texas Forest Service. Ten miles northeast of Turkey, TX. Brush. Extreme fire behavior.

County Line, Oklahoma DOF. Five miles southeast of Grove, OK. Hardwood litter. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

* **Wildcat Creek**, Oklahoma DOF. Twelve miles north of Antlers, OK. Timber. No further information received.

Gurney, Osage Agency, BIA. Six miles southwest of Pawhuska, OK. Grass. No new information.

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
Lateral West	VA	GDR	4,705	1,505	10	8/31	158	25	2	21	4	0	200K	FWS
Cherry Homes	TX	TXS	7,328	-20	70	UNK	66	-12	1	7	1	2	NR	ST
Brad Kelly	TX	TXS	3,435	0	95	UNK	0	-41	0	0	0	0	NR	PRI
* Fletcher	TX	TXS	2,400	---	90	UNK	18	---	0	3	0	0	NR	ST
Colony	OK	COA	1,500	0	75	UNK	0	0	0	0	0	5	30K	BIA
* Oxbow Ranch	TX	TXS	650	---	0	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	ST
County Line	OK	OKS	580	---	70	8/12	43	---	0	14	0	1	8K	ST
* Wildcat Creek	OK	OKS	324	---	60	8/12	20	---	0	5	1	0	30K	ST
Gurney	OK	OSA	450	---	95	8/11	8	---	0	2	0	0	5K	BIA
Apache Mountain	TX	TXS	3,443	0	100	---	0	-42	0	0	0	0	NR	ST
Yancy Mountain	OK	OKS	1,442	0	100	---	24	0	0	10	0	0	3K	ST
Honey Creek	AR	ARS	994	94	100	---	62	0	0	10	1	0	4K	ST
Gobbler Creek	OK	OMA	823	0	100	---	0	-3	0	0	0	0	16K	BIA
John Ashley Road	AR	ARS	313	213	100	---	11	0	0	0	1	0	2K	ST
Moro Bay	AR	ARS	310	-25	100	---	4	0	0	0	0	0	2K	ST
Hermitage 1	AR	ARS	305	58	100	---	4	0	0	0	0	0	2K	ST
Schaal Road	AR	ARS	181	81	100	---	86	81	0	19	1	0	2K	ST
* Forked Mountain	AR	OUF	180	---	100	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Opal	AR	OUF	139	-11	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	0	17K	FS

ARS – Arkansas Forestry Commission

OMA - Okmulgee Field Office, BIA

OUF – Ouachita NF

Southwest (PL 2)

New fires: 3

New large fires: 2

Uncontained large fires: 4

Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

Baton Rouge Complex (2 fires), Roswell Field Office, BLM. IMT 2 (Pierson). Includes previously reported Flying H fire. Thirty-five miles west of Roswell, NM. Grass. Moderate fire activity. Structures threatened.

Tom's Canyon, Carlsbad Field Office, BLM. Twenty miles west of Carlsbad, NM. Grass. Creeping. Structures threatened.

Dinner, Lincoln NF. Thirty-two miles southwest of Carlsbad, NM. Brush and grass. No further information received.

*** Indian Draw**, Las Cruces Field Office, BLM. Thirty-five miles southeast of Alamogordo, NM. 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
Baton Rouge Complex	NM	ROD	21,865	21,165	55	8/17	456	456	13	15	0	0	270K	BLM
Tom's Canyon	NM	CAD	7,529	729	40	8/14	99	-4	4	8	0	0	70K	BLM
Dinner	NM	LNF	3,200	121	70	8/12	158	-10	5	4	1	1	612K	FS
* Indian Draw	NM	LCD	2,707	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	70K	BLM
* Cuevo Canyon	NM	N5S	550	---	100	---	6	---	0	1	0	0	15K	ST

N5S – Capitan District, New Mexico DOF

Northwest Area (PL 2)

New fires: 7

New large fires: 1

Uncontained large fires: 2

Clarks Butte, Vale District, BLM. Ten miles west of Jordan Valley, OR. Brush and grass. Moderate fire activity.

*** Maryls Road**, Washington DNR. Fifteen miles east of Tonasket, WA. Grass. Minimal fire activity. Residences threatened.

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
Clarks Butte	OR	VAD	13,229	2,229	50	8/11	199	-1	4	22	4	0	600K	BLM
* Maryls Road	WA	NES	408	---	50	8/12	107	---	3	14	0	1	350K	ST
Vansycle Canyon	WA	WFS	4,508	208	100	---	150	-64	0	30	0	0	535K	ST

WFS - Washington DNR

Northern Rockies Area (PL 2)

New fires: 7

New large fires: 0

Uncontained large fires: 1

Van Creek, Nez Perce NF. Ten miles east of Riggins, ID. Timber. Minimal fire activity.

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
Van Creek	ID	NPF	375	0	75	8/12	167	0	6	5	3	0	566K	FS

Southern California Area (PL 1)

New fires: 32
 New large fires: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 0

Lion, Sequoia NF. Twenty miles northeast of Springville, CA. Timber and brush. Backing fire.

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
Lion	CA	SQF	22,330	2,109	N/A	N/A	102	-40	5	1	2	0	1.5M	FS

Eastern Great Basin Area (PL 3)

New fires: 16
 New large fires: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 0

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
Taber	ID	IFD	910	510	100	---	31	4	1	3	0	0	70K	BLM

IFD – Idaho Falls District, BLM

Predictive Services Discussion: A stalled front stretching from Colorado through the mid-Mississippi Valley to the mid-Atlantic coast will continue to trigger showers and thunderstorms through much of the south. Widely scattered thunderstorms will develop over Arizona and New Mexico. A weak wave crossing the northern Rockies will produce widely scattered thunderstorms over the northern Plains. Hot weather will continue for much of Texas.

Predictive Services Outlook products: <http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/outlooks/outlooks.htm>



Today's discussion is from

"This Day in History"

"This Day in History" is a brief summary of a powerful learning opportunity. You can use this summary as a foundation and launch point for further dialogue and discussion. Apply these lessons learned to yourself, your crew, your team and your unit.

Helicopter Longline Accident - August 11th, 2004

Incident Summary: August 10th 2004, firefighters arrive to suppress two lightning fires nearby each other on the Wenatchee National Forest. The area is heavily wooded and mountainous. That evening the firefighters request supplies be flown into a drop zone they have established in a creek bed. The firefighters estimate the trees in the drainage to be an average of 80 feet tall with some 120 foot tall trees near the drop zone. A 150 foot longline is requested. The next morning, a Bell 205 A1 helicopter is dispatched with a tandem sling load to deliver to the firefighters, one net for each fire.

A pink flagging "X" is placed near the stream on a sand bar at the southern end of a cut bank overlooking the sand bar. There is a tall snag located on the cut bank. The helicopters approach is from the SW perpendicular to the drainage and the snag is on the helicopters right side. One of the firefighters establishes communications with the pilot and says that if he doesn't like the drop zone they chose that it is okay to choose his own spot. The pilot acknowledges the firefighter and indicates that he will give it a try. The pilot is not told about the snag. The pilot places both nets on the drop zone; one of the firefighters unhooks their net and re-hooks the load for the other crew. The helicopter begins to lift to depart. Near the top of the snag, the pilot (sitting left seat) slowly turns the nose to the left. The tail of the helicopter strikes the snag causing the helicopter to spin, and impacts the ground just upstream of the drop zone. The pilot is killed.

Size up - The snag was cut down and measured at 169'5" tall. Adding the height of the cut bank to the height of the snag, the tree was 172'11" above the drop zone surface. The longline was measured and was 160 feet long. The strike marks were found 15'4" down from the top of the snag.

- **When you and your crew are sizing up a potential cargo drop zone, what are some methods to estimate tree and obstacle height?**

L - A pilots' ability to see their surroundings is fairly limited, especially when looking down at an external load. The ability of the ground personnel to see the helicopter in relation to the surrounding hazards can often be better. When a helicopter pilot is working with an external load consider yourself and your crew to be a "Lookout" for that pilot just as you would other members of your crew. Watch the main rotor and tail rotor, not just the load. When any hazard encroaches on the safety circle (zone) communicate it immediately. Never assume that the pilot sees it or that someone else will say something. IF YOU SEE SOMETHING...SAY SOMETHING.

- **In addition to trees and snags, as a lookout for a helicopter, what other hazards will you be looking out for?**

C - You and your crew must be able to communicate with the pilot by radio. Before the helicopter arrives at your site, brief the pilot on hazards including trees and their estimated height. It is generally considered better to over-estimate the height than to under-estimate it.

- **When communicating to a pilot, how do you refer to the direction of a hazard in reference to the helicopter? (IRPG cover)**

E - Helicopters delivering external loads via longline will be flying in the Height-Velocity Curve (aka "dead man's curve", page 11-2 IHOG) which diminishes the pilot's ability to land safely or recover from a loss of control or power.

- **Consider the pilots and your crews' escape routes if the helicopter were to lose control or power. Where will it go? Where will you go?**

S - Consider the safety zone and a safety circle to be very similar places. It needs to be big enough for the helicopter to operate without hazards and is considered to be a minimum of 1 ½ times the rotor diameter. The rotor diameter of this helicopter was 48 feet. The snag was 36 feet from the drop zone marker.

- **Refer to page 57 in your IRPG for safety circle sizes. How big should the safety circle (zone) be for a Type III? Type II? Type 1?**

Resources

Incident Response Pocket Guide (IRPG) page 60 – Longline Missions

[USFS Accident Review](#) (IAT website) – click thru to page 8 of 9

[USFS Aviation Safety Alert 04-08 – Clearance from Obstacles During External Load Operations](#)

[NTSB Factual Report #SEA04TA158](#)

[Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide \(IHOG\) Chapter 11, Cargo Transport](#)

[A-219 – Interagency Helicopter Transport of External Loads](#) course material (note: A-219 was created in response to this accident)

Fires and Acres Yesterday

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES		2			1	4	7
	ACRES		5			0	1	6
Northern California	FIRES	2			0	11	1	14
	ACRES	12			4	3	0	19
Southern California	FIRES		2			29	1	32
	ACRES		27			3	105	135
Northern Rockies	FIRES					1	6	7
	ACRES					1	22	23
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		6			4	6	16
	ACRES		761			25	236	1,022
Western Great Basin	FIRES		2				1	3
	ACRES		0				1	1
Southwest	FIRES		1				2	3
	ACRES		2,707				1,590	4,297
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	0	2			6	2	10
	ACRES	59	131			11	0	201
Eastern Area	FIRES					2		2
	ACRES					18		18
Southern Area	FIRES	1		1		26		28
	ACRES	331		8		464		803
TOTAL	FIRES	3	15	1	0	80	23	122
	ACRES	402	3,631	8	4	525	1,955	6,525

Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	2	25	26	17	406	6	482
	ACRES	8	47,653	36,821	8,041	199,916	1	292,440
Northwest	FIRES	169	117	3	13	245	263	810
	ACRES	3,097	33,889	32	4	454	135	37,611
Northern California	FIRES	41	10	5	13	1,096	130	1,295
	ACRES	45	274	4	2,178	4,646	4,787	11,934
Southern California	FIRES	17	268	4	16	2,345	269	2,919
	ACRES	224	2,338	2	376	35,670	22,238	60,848
Northern Rockies	FIRES	284	42	6	6	213	228	779
	ACRES	809	463	141	7	661	1,013	3,094
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	16	331	1	7	304	223	882
	ACRES	1,914	93,636	26	6	15,030	2,655	113,267
Western Great Basin	FIRES	14	258	4	14	92	33	415
	ACRES	74	55,283	69	3	18,422	166	74,017
Southwest	FIRES	805	274	11	40	854	988	2,972
	ACRES	33,877	113,511	273	17,908	588,816	1,252,905	2,007,290
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	448	241	25	29	523	333	1,599
	ACRES	3,322	1,191	3,502	2,278	237,976	46,510	294,779
Eastern Area	FIRES	339		27	17	3,547	205	4,135
	ACRES	354		2,612	81	25,345	14,078	42,470
Southern Area	FIRES	722		231	68	29,201	788	31,010
	ACRES	124,639		80,068	55,680	3,097,828	32,477	3,390,692
TOTAL	FIRES	2,857	1,566	343	240	38,826	3,466	47,298
	ACRES	168,363	348,238	123,550	86,562	4,224,764	1,376,965	6,328,442

Ten Year Average Fires	52,599
Ten Year Average Acres	4,713,183

*** 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						1	1
	ACRES						34	34
Northern California	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						4	4
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
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						367	367
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	405	405

Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES			1	2	11		14
	ACRES			20	19	5,715		5,754
Northwest	FIRES	8	44	7	1		122	182
	ACRES	5,268	6,885	429	42		8,699	21,323
Northern California	FIRES	15	16	17	21		132	201
	ACRES	61	655	19,205	141		5,366	25,428
Southern California	FIRES		10	10	4	3	75	102
	ACRES		756	1,963	1,060	48	2,090	5,917
Northern Rockies	FIRES	40	13	41	1	16	84	195
	ACRES	1,477	853	7,849	141	211	4,253	14,784
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	0	16	3	1	38	26	84
	ACRES	54	8,552	1,023	55	709	6,072	16,465
Western Great Basin	FIRES		4	1		2	9	16
	ACRES		121	550		64	296	1,031
Southwest	FIRES	17	28	3	3		84	135
	ACRES	1,722	192,284	1,428	45		73,212	268,691
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	42	32	89	17	45	121	346
	ACRES	4,683	5,407	14,174	4,703	7,932	30,247	67,146
Eastern Area	FIRES	29		340	28	832	128	1,357
	ACRES	60,253		44,856	3,786	49,200	39,266	197,361
Southern Area	FIRES	42		138	18	1,409	540	2,147
	ACRES	7,835		69,560	13,168	300,114	444,569	835,246
TOTAL	FIRES	193	163	650	96	2,356	1,321	4,779
	ACRES	81,353	215,513	161,057	23,160	363,993	614,070	1,459,146

***** 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	5	104	339	11,765
YUKON TERRITORY	0	0	53	39,746
ALBERTA	4	0	898	940,020
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	4	0	198	368,068
SASKATCHEWAN	0	0	247	339,940
MANITOBA	1	0	229	84,277
ONTARIO	8	108	825	569,067
QUEBEC	3	5	232	11,700
NEWFOUNDLAND	0	0	42	352
NEW BRUNSWICK	0	0	69	39
NOVA SCOTIA	0	0	109	131
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	1	1
NATIONAL PARKS	0	0	46	85,600
TOTALS	25	216	3,288	2,450,707

This report contains information derived from the National Fire and Aviation Management Web Applications (FAMWEB) system and other sources to provide relative information about emerging and ongoing incident activity. This information is considered operational in nature, is subject to correction, and therefore may not match official year to date agency records.

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