

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Thursday, May 26, 2011 – 0530 MT  
National Preparedness Level 2**

**National Fire Activity**

|                               |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Initial attack activity:      | Light (100 new fires) |
| New large fires:              | 3 (*)                 |
| Large fires contained:        | 2                     |
| Uncontained large fires: **   | 14                    |
| Area Command Teams committed: | 0                     |
| NIMOs committed:              | 1                     |
| Type 1 IMTs committed:        | 1                     |
| Type 2 IMTs committed:        | 8                     |

Nationally, there is 2 large fire being managed to achieve multiple objectives.

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

Geographic Area daily reports: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/predictive/statelinks.htm>

**Southern Area (PL 3)**

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| New fires:               | 67 |
| New large fires:         | 1  |
| Uncontained large fires: | 9  |
| NIMOs committed:         | 1  |
| Type 2 IMTs committed:   | 4  |

NIMO (Gage) and IMT 2 (Dueitt) are assigned to manage large fires and provide support to initial attack operations for the West Branch Operational Area in Texas. Texas IMT 2 (Hannemann) is managing existing and new fires located in Texas state initial attack zones.

**Honey Prairie**, Okefenokee NWR. Florida IMT 2 (Leneave). Five miles northeast of Fargo, GA. Southern rough. Moderate fire activity.

**Pains Bay**, Alligator River NWR. Transition from North Carolina IMT 2 (Smith) to North Carolina IMT 2 (Hildreth) will occur today. Nineteen miles south of Manns Harbor, NC. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior. Residences threatened.

**Canyon**, Texas Forest Service. Four miles southeast of Canyon, TX. Grass. Extreme fire behavior. Residences threatened. Evacuations in effect.

**Derick**, Texas Forest Service. Eighteen miles east of Andrews, TX. Brush and grass. Minimal fire activity . Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

**Tison**, Sabine NWR. Seventeen miles southwest of Hackberry, LA. Grass. Moderate fire activity.

**Middleton**, Texas Forest Service. Twenty-three miles west of Slaton, TX. Grass. Moderate fire activity.

**Ceed**, Texas Forest Service. Five miles west of Midland, TX. Brush and grass. Minimal fire activity.

\* **Kermit**, Texas Forest Service. Thirty miles northwest of Odessa, TX. Grass. Moderate fire activity.

**Reese Center**, Texas Forest Service. Twelve miles west of Lubbock, TX. Grass. Minimal fire activity. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

**Tiger Cat**, Mississippi Forestry Commission. Six miles northeast of Pearlinton, MS. Timber. No new information. Last report unless new 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 |
|---------------|----|------|---------|------------------|-------|---------|-----------|------------------|-----|-----|------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Honey Prairie | GA | OKR  | 148,444 | 17               | N/A   | N/A     | 227       | -18              | 0   | 35  | 5    | 0         | 8.4M     | FWS        |
| Pains Bay     | NC | ALR  | 28,860  | 798              | 65    | UNK     | 154       | 41               | 0   | 24  | 4    | 0         | 4M       | FWS        |
| Canyon        | TX | TXS  | 10,000  | 5,200            | 50    | UNK     | 98        | 59               | 1   | 12  | 0    | 0         | NR       | ST         |
| Derick        | TX | TXS  | 14,500  | -500             | 75    | UNK     | 0         | -61              | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0         | NR       | ST         |
| Tison         | LA | SBR  | 5,968   | 0                | 90    | 5/27    | 11        | 0                | 0   | 1   | 1    | 0         | 73K      | FWS        |
| Middleton     | TX | TXS  | 3,000   | 1,500            | 70    | UNK     | 0         | -16              | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0         | NR       | ST         |
| Ceed          | TX | TXS  | 2,500   | 0                | 70    | UNK     | 0         | -70              | 0   | 0   | 0    | 1         | 27K      | ST         |
| * Kermit      | TX | TXS  | 2,800   | ---              | 90    | UNK     | 0         | ---              | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0         | NR       | ST         |
| Reese Center  | TX | TXS  | 473     | -727             | 95    | 5/26    | 0         | -14              | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0         | NR       | ST         |
| Tiger Cat     | MS | MSS  | 120     | ---              | 90    | UNK     | 7         | ---              | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0         | 5K       | ST         |
| Sierra Blanca | TX | TXS  | 7,600   | 0                | 100   | ---     | 0         | -41              | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0         | NR       | ST         |

#### **Southwest (PL 4)**

New fires: 7  
 New large fires: 1  
 Uncontained large fires: 3  
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 1  
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 2

**Horseshoe 2**, Coronado NF. IMT 1 (Hughes). Seven miles southwest of Portal, AZ. Timber and grass. Active fire behavior. Residences threatened. Evacuations in effect.

**Miller**, Gila NF. IMT 2 (Templin). Twenty-five miles north of Silver City, NM. Timber and grass. Active fire behavior. Residences threatened.

**Arlene**, Coronado NF. IMT 2 (Philbin). Eighteen miles southeast of Patagonia, AZ. Timber and 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 |
|---------------|----|------|--------|------------------|-------|---------|-----------|------------------|-----|-----|------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Horseshoe 2   | AZ | CNF  | 47,280 | 2,630            | 35    | 6/22    | 899       | 61               | 19  | 35  | 10   | 0         | 15.6M    | FS         |
| Miller        | NM | GNF  | 86,680 | 2,330            | 66    | 8/31    | 456       | -37              | 10  | 4   | 9    | 4         | 8.6M     | FS         |
| Arlene        | AZ | CNF  | 10,610 | 610              | 45    | 5/27    | 377       | 192              | 10  | 10  | 2    | 0         | 680K     | FS         |

| 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 |
|---------------|----|------|--------|------------------|-------|---------|-----------|------------------|-----|-----|------|-----------|----------|------------|
| * 296         | NM | CIF  | 15,280 | ---              | 100   | ---     | 20        | ---              | 0   | 6   | 0    | 0         | 10K      | FS         |

CIF – Cibola NF

### **Alaska Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 8  
New large fires: 1  
Uncontained large fires: 2  
Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

**Moose Mountain**, Fairbanks Area, Alaska DOF. IMT 2 (Allen). Nine miles northwest of Fairbanks, AK. Timber. Minimal fire activity. Residences threatened. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

**Francis Creek**, Fairbanks Area, Alaska DOF. Two miles east of Healy, AK. Brush. Active fire behavior.

\* **Coal Creek**, Fairbanks Area, Alaska DOF. Eighteen miles northeast of Healy, AK. Brush. Moderate fire activity. Last narrative 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 |
|----------------|----|------|-------|------------------|-------|---------|-----------|------------------|-----|-----|------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Moose Mountain | AK | FAS  | 917   | -24              | 90    | 5/27    | 368       | 37               | 15  | 5   | 1    | 0         | 1.4M     | ST         |
| Francis Creek  | AK | FAS  | 1,000 | 0                | 60    | 5/27    | 69        | 0                | 3   | 1   | 0    | 0         | 300K     | ST         |
| * Coal Creek   | AK | FAS  | 3,000 | ---              | N/A   | N/A     | 0         | ---              | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0         | 2K       | ST         |

**Predictive Services Discussion:** Critical fire weather conditions associated with strong winds of 25 to 40 mph and low relative humidity between 10 and 15 percent will develop across eastern Arizona and western New Mexico. Persistent, slow-moving low pressure will cross the Ohio Valley, producing showers and thunderstorms from New England through the Midwest to the central Gulf Coast states. A frontal system moving through the Great Basin will produce scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over the Northwest and northern Rockies and windy conditions across the Southwest. In Alaska, critical fire weather conditions associated with strong winds and low relative humidity will develop over portions of the interior. Scattered showers will form over southwest Alaska with a few thunderstorms in the interior sections of the state.

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



## Today's discussion is from the Aviation Category.

### Mountain Flying

This outline is not all inclusive, nor is it directive in nature. Many of the subjects discussed in this outline can be found in non-mountainous areas or at low altitudes. For example, density altitudes over 8500' MSL can be found regularly on the eastern plains of Colorado in the summer. Also, dangerous mechanical and or mountain wave turbulence can be found in areas that aren't usually considered mountainous. Places like the Rocky Mountains / Sierra Front are where all of these concepts can be experienced. In addition, keep in mind that fires in any geographic area can and do produce their own localized weather and the hazards described in this outline can occur in these situations as well.

#### ● Pilot Ability

- Carefully consider your experience and background before beginning a fire mission into mountainous terrain. Mountain flying in many areas will stretch your abilities to fly the airplane proficiently, navigate, and deal with weather. Consider your ability to react to strong winds and the up and down drafts they may cause. The aircraft gross weight and its affect on performance should be carefully considered.

#### ● Visibility

- Many experienced mountain pilots recommend having at least 15 miles of visibility before attempting mountain flights. In the fire environment, make sure you have enough visibility to safely maneuver the aircraft to avoid any obstacles. Remember, turn radius is greater due to increased TAS, engine response time is increased and thrust is reduced due to higher density altitudes....give yourself a margin.

#### ● Winds

- Strong winds can cause some of the most dangerous conditions you'll have to contend with in the mountains. Mountain top winds in excess of 25 knots are indicative of moderate to severe turbulence at ridge top levels as well as the likelihood of very strong up and down drafts. Plan your approach / drop and leave an "out" in case you have to go through dry or encounter unexpected turbulence / down drafts. When encountering a downdraft, maintain sufficient airspeed. Jettison part / all of the load if necessary. Guard against stalling the aircraft and fly out of the downdraft immediately with full power. Proceed to an area of updraft or smoother air. Pay close attention to the forecasts at and above the mountain ridges. In the west, that usually means the 9000' and 12,000' wind forecasts. In the east, you'll look at lower wind level forecasts. Winds above 25 knots at these levels should be a warning sign regarding turbulence and updraft / downdraft potential.

#### ● Mountain Wave

- When the wind speed is above about 25 knots and flowing perpendicular to the ridge lines, the air flow can form waves, much like water flowing over rocks in a stream bed. The waves form downwind from the ridge line and will be composed of very strong up and down drafts, with the probability of dangerous rotor action under the crests of the waves. If enough moisture is present, (standing) lenticular clouds can form to give a visual indication of the wave action. Standing lenticular clouds are also an indication of moderate to severe turbulence.

#### ● Winds Through Passes

- Winds flowing through the narrow restriction of a mountain pass tend to increase in velocity. When the winds are forecast above 20 knots, be aware that this phenomenon may cause turbulence and drafts.

#### ● Remove or secure loose articles when working around an operating helicopter.

#### ● Be aware of the dust abatement conditions of the landing area, as blowing dust, sand, or rocks caused by the helicopter's rotor wash can be hazardous.

#### ● Remove or secure loose articles when working around an operating helicopter.

#### References:

[FAA-P-8740-60 / AFS-803 \(1999\), "Tips on Mountain Flying."](#)  
[Air Traffic Manager, Denver Air Route Traffic Control Center, "Mountain Flying, Techniques and Tips"](#)  
[Department of Transportation Book AC91-15, "Terrain Flying."](#)

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**Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.**

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### Fires and Acres Yesterday

| AREA                |       | BIA | BLM | FWS | NPS | ST/OT | USFS  | TOTAL |
|---------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| Alaska              | FIRES |     |     |     |     | 3     |       | 3     |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |     |     | 154   |       | 154   |
| Northwest           | FIRES |     |     |     |     |       |       | 0     |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |     |     |       |       | 0     |
| Northern California | FIRES |     |     |     |     |       | 2     | 2     |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |     |     |       | 0     | 0     |
| Southern California | FIRES |     | 1   |     |     |       | 1     | 2     |
|                     | ACRES |     | 0   |     |     |       | 200   | 200   |
| Northern Rockies    | FIRES |     |     |     |     |       |       | 0     |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |     |     |       |       | 0     |
| Eastern Great Basin | FIRES |     |     |     |     | 1     |       | 1     |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |     |     | 0     |       | 0     |
| Western Great Basin | FIRES |     |     |     |     |       |       | 0     |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |     |     |       |       | 0     |
| Southwest           | FIRES | 1   |     |     |     |       | 2     | 3     |
|                     | ACRES | 0   |     |     |     |       | 3,286 | 3,286 |
| Rocky Mountain      | FIRES |     |     |     |     |       | 3     | 3     |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |     |     |       | 0     | 0     |
| Eastern Area        | FIRES |     |     |     |     | 1     |       | 1     |
|                     | ACRES |     |     |     |     | 0     |       | 0     |
| Southern Area       | FIRES |     |     | 1   |     | 43    | 3     | 47    |
|                     | ACRES |     |     | 1   |     | 262   | 68    | 331   |
| TOTAL               | FIRES | 1   | 1   | 1   | 0   | 48    | 11    | 62    |
|                     | ACRES | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 416   | 3,554 | 3,971 |

### Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

| AREA                |       | BIA    | BLM    | FWS    | NPS    | ST/OT     | USFS    | TOTAL     |
|---------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Alaska              | FIRES |        | 1      | 1      |        | 178       | 1       | 181       |
|                     | ACRES |        | 9      | 0      |        | 4,249     | 0       | 4,258     |
| Northwest           | FIRES | 1      | 5      |        |        | 19        | 4       | 29        |
|                     | ACRES | 0      | 9      |        |        | 43        | 0       | 52        |
| Northern California | FIRES |        |        | 3      | 3      |           | 23      | 29        |
|                     | ACRES |        |        | 0      | 2,076  |           | 4       | 2,080     |
| Southern California | FIRES | 2      | 74     |        |        | 555       | 68      | 699       |
|                     | ACRES | 1      | 410    |        |        | 2,692     | 217     | 3,320     |
| Northern Rockies    | FIRES | 80     |        | 4      | 1      | 39        | 16      | 140       |
|                     | ACRES | 250    |        | 49     | 6      | 237       | 22      | 564       |
| Eastern Great Basin | FIRES |        | 31     | 1      |        | 23        | 1       | 56        |
|                     | ACRES |        | 24     | 26     |        | 31        | 0       | 81        |
| Western Great Basin | FIRES | 1      | 29     | 1      | 7      | 7         | 1       | 46        |
|                     | ACRES | 10     | 22     | 12     | 0      | 98        | 0       | 142       |
| Southwest           | FIRES | 366    | 106    | 7      | 10     | 431       | 189     | 1,109     |
|                     | ACRES | 5,275  | 62,809 | 181    | 112    | 390,639   | 217,648 | 676,664   |
| Rocky Mountain      | FIRES | 159    | 13     | 18     | 1      | 197       | 53      | 441       |
|                     | ACRES | 2,956  | 24     | 3,391  | 2,269  | 135,154   | 21,601  | 165,395   |
| Eastern Area        | FIRES | 335    |        | 18     | 12     | 2,570     | 164     | 3,099     |
|                     | ACRES | 353    |        | 2,577  | 70     | 23,461    | 14,026  | 40,487    |
| Southern Area       | FIRES | 200    |        | 197    | 46     | 20,818    | 468     | 21,729    |
|                     | ACRES | 11,285 |        | 41,176 | 45,024 | 1,953,296 | 20,328  | 2,071,109 |
| TOTAL               | FIRES | 1,144  | 259    | 250    | 80     | 24,837    | 988     | 27,558    |
|                     | ACRES | 20,130 | 63,307 | 47,412 | 49,557 | 2,509,900 | 273,846 | 2,964,152 |

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Ten Year Average Fires</b> | <b>29,903</b>    |
| <b>Ten Year Average Acres</b> | <b>1,194,686</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 |     | 1       |       | 0   |       |      | 1       |
|                     | ACRES |     | 596     |       | 20  |       |      | 616     |
| Northern California | FIRES |     |         | 0     |     |       | 1    | 1       |
|                     | ACRES |     |         | 1,976 |     |       | 21   | 1,997   |
| Southern California | FIRES |     |         |       |     |       | 1    | 1       |
|                     | ACRES |     |         |       |     |       | 1    | 1       |
| Northern Rockies    | FIRES |     |         | 1     |     |       |      | 1       |
|                     | ACRES |     |         | 360   |     |       |      | 360     |
| Eastern Great Basin | FIRES |     | 0       |       |     |       | 0    | 0       |
|                     | ACRES |     | 2       |       |     |       | 110  | 112     |
| Western Great Basin | FIRES |     |         |       |     |       |      | 0       |
|                     | ACRES |     |         |       |     |       |      | 0       |
| Southwest           | FIRES |     | 1       |       |     |       |      | 1       |
|                     | ACRES |     | 168,157 |       |     |       |      | 168,157 |
| Rocky Mountain      | FIRES |     |         |       |     |       |      | 0       |
|                     | ACRES |     |         |       |     |       |      | 0       |
| Eastern Area        | FIRES |     |         |       |     | 2     | 4    | 6       |
|                     | ACRES |     |         |       |     | 300   | 82   | 382     |
| Southern Area       | FIRES |     |         |       |     | 7     |      | 7       |
|                     | ACRES |     |         |       |     | 1,584 |      | 1,584   |
| TOTAL               | FIRES | 0   | 2       | 1     | 0   | 9     | 6    | 18      |
|                     | ACRES | 0   | 168,755 | 2,336 | 20  | 1,884 | 214  | 173,209 |

### Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

| AREA                |       | BIA    | BLM     | FWS     | NPS    | ST/OT   | USFS    | TOTAL     |
|---------------------|-------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Alaska              | FIRES |        |         | 1       |        | 11      |         | 12        |
|                     | ACRES |        |         | 20      |        | 5,715   |         | 5,735     |
| Northwest           | FIRES | 1      | 34      | 3       | 1      |         | 85      | 124       |
|                     | ACRES | 1,152  | 5,342   | 245     | 26     |         | 4,033   | 10,798    |
| Northern California | FIRES | 9      | 16      | 7       | 17     |         | 97      | 146       |
|                     | ACRES | 52     | 381     | 18,190  | 131    |         | 3,287   | 22,041    |
| Southern California | FIRES |        | 6       | 8       |        | 1       | 59      | 74        |
|                     | ACRES |        | 579     | 821     |        | 10      | 1,388   | 2,798     |
| Northern Rockies    | FIRES | 38     | 12      | 29      | 1      | 13      | 82      | 175       |
|                     | ACRES | 1,387  | 653     | 6,118   | 141    | 211     | 3,656   | 12,166    |
| Eastern Great Basin | FIRES | 0      | 12      | 3       | 1      | 33      | 19      | 68        |
|                     | ACRES | 54     | 1,841   | 1,023   | 13     | 692     | 4,308   | 7,931     |
| Western Great Basin | FIRES |        | 4       | 1       |        | 2       | 8       | 15        |
|                     | ACRES |        | 121     | 550     |        | 64      | 286     | 1,021     |
| Southwest           | FIRES | 13     | 24      | 3       | 3      |         | 79      | 122       |
|                     | ACRES | 1,681  | 190,980 | 1,428   | 45     |         | 75,407  | 269,541   |
| Rocky Mountain      | FIRES | 38     | 31      | 89      | 17     | 45      | 119     | 339       |
|                     | ACRES | 4,664  | 6,877   | 14,174  | 4,703  | 7,932   | 29,567  | 67,917    |
| Eastern Area        | FIRES | 29     |         | 254     | 21     | 757     | 124     | 1,185     |
|                     | ACRES | 60,253 |         | 30,852  | 3,780  | 47,282  | 38,936  | 181,103   |
| Southern Area       | FIRES | 39     |         | 138     | 15     | 1,151   | 633     | 1,976     |
|                     | ACRES | 7,632  |         | 66,190  | 10,082 | 231,017 | 601,719 | 916,640   |
| TOTAL               | FIRES | 167    | 139     | 536     | 76     | 2,013   | 1,305   | 4,236     |
|                     | ACRES | 76,875 | 206,774 | 139,611 | 18,921 | 292,923 | 762,587 | 1,497,691 |

**\*\*\* 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     | 0               | 86                 | 104                | 365                   |
| Yukon Territory      | 1               | 0                  | 3                  | 1                     |
| Alberta              | 0               | 0                  | 505                | 330,823               |
| Northwest Territory  | 0               | 0                  | 5                  | 0                     |
| Saskatchewan         | 2               | 102                | 130                | 3,508                 |
| Manitoba             | 1               | 1                  | 40                 | 88                    |
| Ontario              | 1               | 0                  | 148                | 1,584                 |
| Quebec               | 0               | 0                  | 59                 | 632                   |
| Newfoundland         | 1               | 0                  | 16                 | 66                    |
| New Brunswick        | 2               | 0                  | 43                 | 29                    |
| Nova Scotia          | 0               | 0                  | 90                 | 128                   |
| Prince Edward Island | 0               | 0                  | 1                  | 1                     |
| National Parks       | 0               | 0                  | 8                  | 8,406                 |
| Total                | 8               | 189                | 1,152              | 345,631               |

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 \*\***