National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Thursday, November 1, 2012 – 0800 MT
National Preparedness Level 1

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity:	Light (89 new fires)
New large fires:	1 (*)
Large fires contained:	1
Uncontained large fires: **	0
Area Command Teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	3
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	2

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

Link to Geographic Area daily reports.

Hurricane Sandy Support, Federal Emergency Management Agency. Wilder's Type 1 team is assigned to Annville, PA. Three NIMO's (Quesinberry, Hahnenberg and Houseman) are assigned to Lakehurst, NJ. Two Type 2 teams (Kollmeyer and Pisarek) are assigned to Fort Devens, MA, and Farmingdale, NY.

Southern Area (PL 1)

New fires:	68
New large fires:	1
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
* Cave Branch	KY	DBF	205	---	100	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	13K	FS

DBF – Daniel Boone NF

Other Fires
(As of October 26)

GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AK	1	47,154	0	0	0	0
NW	0	0	0	0	0	0
NO	0	0	0	0	0	0
SO	1	1,705	0	0	0	2
NR	1	8,810	0	0	0	1
EB	1	1,139	0	0	0	0
WB	0	0	0	0	0	0
SW	0	0	0	0	0	0
RM	3	47,707	0	3	0	32
EA	2	32,442	1	5	0	45
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	9	138,957	1	8	0	80

Predictive Services Discussion: Remnants of Hurricane Sandy will gradually move out of the Northeast. Scattered rain showers will continue early across New England but gusty winds will persist over the Great Lakes to the mid-Atlantic region. In the West, a cold front will push through the northern Rockies and the Great Basin, bringing rain and snow showers to the region as well as cooler temperatures. Cold Canadian air will also plunge into the Plains and upper Mississippi valley. The southern third of the nation will remain warm and dry.

http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/outlooks/outlooks.html

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."*

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	1
	ACRES						3	3
Southern California	FIRES					11	3	14
	ACRES					1	2	3
Northern Rockies	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						0	0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES					1	2	3
	ACRES					0	100	100
Eastern Area	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					1		1
Southern Area	FIRES					65	3	68
	ACRES					372	1	373
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	78	11	89
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	374	106	480

Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	4	39	30	22	298	5	398
	ACRES	164	51,616	39,629	76,718	102,211	0	270,338
Northwest	FIRES	128	224	27	29	879	959	2,246
	ACRES	44,235	1,136,941	1,902	20	46,355	268,016	1,497,469
Northern California	FIRES	123	24	1	13	2,793	587	3,541
	ACRES	275	423,780	1	28,526	34,340	284,585	771,507
Southern California	FIRES	35	239	12	65	3,165	673	4,189
	ACRES	47	40,756	8	2,197	42,074	12,521	97,603
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1,302	211	41	23	914	843	3,334
	ACRES	415,952	306,113	11,267	5,174	206,275	489,375	1,434,156
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	61	847	1	33	850	604	2,396
	ACRES	30,314	793,063	2	2,130	222,319	1,003,213	2,051,041
Western Great Basin	FIRES	5	632	3	16	204	144	1,004
	ACRES	1,200	503,356	60	28	66,735	42,748	614,127
Southwest	FIRES	752	201	13	42	528	1,065	2,601
	ACRES	38,362	5,326	187	4,334	33,753	460,810	542,772
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	1,445	551	35	46	1,704	739	4,520
	ACRES	170,888	68,493	4,183	1,838	669,007	181,078	1,095,487
Eastern Area	FIRES	834		65	19	8,938	639	10,495
	ACRES	2,010		4,823	403	87,442	12,550	107,228
Southern Area	FIRES	633		80	46	15,688	640	17,087
	ACRES	122,866		34,318	16,752	265,609	82,308	521,853
TOTAL	FIRES	5,322	2,968	308	354	35,961	6,898	51,811
	ACRES	826,313	3,329,444	96,380	138,120	1,776,120	2,837,204	9,003,581

Ten Year Average Fires	**66,488**
Ten Year Average Acres	**6,997,077**

***** 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		2				16	18
	ACRES		389				738	1,127
Northern California	FIRES			2	0		8	10
	ACRES			860	2		189	1,051
Southern California	FIRES		1				2	3
	ACRES		900				50	950
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES				1			1
	ACRES				1,244			1,244
Southwest	FIRES						3	3
	ACRES						1,508	1,508
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	2						2
	ACRES	17						17
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES				1	12	1	14
	ACRES				1,800	541	150	2,491
TOTAL	FIRES	2	3	2	2	12	30	51
	ACRES	17	1,289	860	3,046	541	2,635	8,388

Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES				2	11	15	28
	ACRES				18	13,449	218	13,685
Northwest	FIRES	19	87	21	3		399	529
	ACRES	3,767	8,038	1,986	39		42,340	56,170
Northern California	FIRES	5	13	35	28	3	164	248
	ACRES	121	203	1,752	316	15	10,005	12,412
Southern California	FIRES		7	11	6	6	131	161
	ACRES		2,421	1,726	1,008	1,831	5,052	12,038
Northern Rockies	FIRES	26	11	75	4	85	267	468
	ACRES	3,060	4,629	18,436	235	3,361	22,277	51,998
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		11	2	4	28	50	95
	ACRES		898	188	230	666	25,330	27,312
Western Great Basin	FIRES		4	4	4	15	4	31
	ACRES		825	419	1,657	3,092	241	6,234
Southwest	FIRES	31	19	12	18		150	230
	ACRES	1,214	8,919	5,515	470		47,240	63,358
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	41	13	113	21	14	56	258
	ACRES	5,423	1,543	22,880	2,492	1,290	8,821	42,449
Eastern Area	FIRES	37		509	50	981	164	1,741
	ACRES	22,116		83,814	9,354	58,689	57,944	231,917
Southern Area	FIRES	21		153	54	9,595	878	10,701
	ACRES	4,543		61,603	39,434	496,454	827,615	1,429,649
TOTAL	FIRES	180	165	935	194	10,738	2,278	14,490
	ACRES	40,244	27,476	198,319	55,253	578,847	1,047,083	1,947,222

***** 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/.

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 ****