

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Tuesday, October 2, 2012 – 0530 MT  
National Preparedness Level 2**

**National Fire Activity**

Initial attack activity: Light (110 new fires)  
 New large fires: 6 (\*)  
 Large fires contained: 2  
 Uncontained large fires: \*\* 18  
 Area Command Teams committed: 0  
 NIMOs committed: 0  
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 3  
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 5  
 \*\* Uncontained large fires include only fires being managed under a full suppression strategy.  
[Link](#) to Geographic Area daily reports.

**Northwest Area (PL 3)**

New fires: 3  
 New large fires: 1  
 Uncontained large fires: 9  
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 2  
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

**Table Mountain**, Okanogan/Wenatchee NF. IMT 1 (Morcom). Eight miles northeast of Cle Elum, WA. Timber, logging slash, brush and grass. Backing fire with isolated torching. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations and area closures in effect.

**Wenatchee Complex** (6 fires), Okanogan/Wenatchee NF. IMT 1 (Reinarz). Two miles west of Wenatchee, WA. Timber, brush and grass. Moderate fire activity with group tree torching. Numerous residences threatened.

**Cascade Creek**, Gifford Pinchot NF. IMT 2 (Nickey). Eight miles north of Trout Lake, WA. Timber. Isolated interior torching. Road and trail closures in effect.

**Pole Creek**, Deschutes NF. Six miles southwest of Sisters, OR. Timber. Backing fire with group tree torching.

\* **South Point**, Gifford Pinchot NF. Six miles south of Packwood, WA. Timber. Creeping and smoldering. Trail closure in effect. 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
Table Mountain	WA	OWF	40,738	617	70	10/5	1,221	-22	28	81	5	4	14.1M	FS
Wenatchee Complex	WA	OWF	55,234	0	55	UNK	764	-67	14	29	6	1	29.2M	FS
Cascade Creek	WA	GPF	16,857	0	63	UNK	345	-111	6	17	6	0	12M	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
Pole Creek	OR	DEF	26,510	0	85	10/15	410	0	11	16	2	0	15.5M	FS
* South Point	WA	GPF	101	---	N/A	N/A	4	---	0	0	1	0	100K	FS

### **Northern Rockies Area (PL 3)**

New fires: 3  
New large fires: 0  
Uncontained large fires: 4  
Type 1 IMTs committed: 1  
Type 2 IMTs committed: 2

**McGuire Complex** (2 fires), Nez Perce NF. IMT 1 (Poncin). One mile northwest of Dixie, ID. Timber. Creeping and smoldering with torching. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations in effect.

**Sheep**, Nez Perce NF. IMT 2 (Kusicko). One mile east of Lucile, ID. Timber, brush and grass. Moderate fire activity. Structures threatened.

**Condon Mountain**, Flathead NF. IMT 2 (Pearson). Three miles northeast of Condon, MT. Timber. Backing fire with torching. Residences threatened.

**Powell SBW Complex**, Clearwater NF. Forty-five miles southwest of Lolo, MT. Timber. Structures threatened. Area closures in effect. 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
McGuire Complex	ID	NPF	76,071	331	25	10/31	649	-7	11	40	4	0	20.7M	FS
Sheep	ID	NPF	47,772	72	41	UNK	337	-8	5	15	3	2	13.9M	FS
Condon Mountain	MT	FNF	5,260	0	45	10/31	157	-24	3	5	4	0	6M	FS
Powell SBW Complex	ID	CWF	60,377	1,037	N/A	N/A	48	-1	0	6	0	0	4.1M	FS

### **Eastern Great Basin Area (PL 2)**

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

**Mustang Complex** (6 fires), Salmon-Challis NF. IMT 2 (Whalen). Three miles northwest of North Fork, ID. Timber, brush and grass. Creeping and smoldering.

**Wesley**, Payette NF. Twelve miles northwest of New Meadows, ID. Timber. Backing fire with group tree 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
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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
Mustang Complex	ID	SCF	339,110	0	N/A	N/A	299	-42	3	15	3	7	36.8M	FS
Wesley	ID	PAF	15,317	28	71	11/1	252	13	6	7	5	0	13.2M	FS
* Krash	ID	BOD	325	---	100	---	25	---	0	4	2	0	15K	BLM

BOD – Boise District, BLM

### **Eastern Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 52  
New large fires: 2  
Uncontained large fires: 3  
Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

**Richardville Border**, Minnesota DNR. IMT 2 (Hinds). Ten miles northwest of Lancaster, MN. Timber, brush and grass. No new information.

\* **Minnie**, Minnesota DNR. Seventeen miles east of Grygla, MN. Timber, brush and grass. Crown fire.

\* **County 27**, Minnesota DNR. Five miles southwest of Karlstad, MN. Timber, brush and grass. Running 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
Richardville Border	MN	MNS	950	---	70	UNK	50	---	0	16	2	5	10K	ST
* Minnie	MN	MNS	600	---	30	10/2	64	---	0	17	1	0	10K	ST
* County 27	MN	MNS	500	---	50	10/2	60	---	0	21	1	0	10K	ST

### **Northern California Area (PL 3)**

New fires: 11  
New large fires: 1  
Uncontained large fires: 1

\* **Flynn**, Mendocino Unit, Cal Fire. One mile north of Comptche, CA. Timber. Active fire behavior with long-range spotting. 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
* Flynn	CA	MEU	200	---	5	UNK	444	---	14	33	2	6	75K	ST

**Southern California Area (PL 3)**

New fires: 13

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
* Range	CA	RRU	364	---	100	---	0	---	0	0	0	3	200K	ST

RRU – Riverside Unit, Cal Fire

**Other Fires**

(As of September 28)

GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AK	2	53,144	0	0	0	0
NW	8	79,067	10	47	3	530
NO	0	0	0	0	0	0
SO	0	0	0	0	0	0
NR	26	108,065	1	11	2	246
EB	9	257,624	1	4	2	89
WB	0	0	0	0	0	0
SW	0	0	0	0	0	0
RM	3	54,630	1	6	5	103
EA	1	288	0	2	0	26
SA	1	252	0	0	0	0
Total	50	553,070	13	70	12	994

This table does not include fires reported in the large fire section of this report. Updated weekly.

**Predictive Services Discussion:** A strong cold front will drop into the northern Rockies and Plains, bringing much cooler weather to the region. Rain and snow showers are possible in western and central Montana by this evening. The Great Basin and the Southwest will remain warm. Windy conditions will also develop from Washington and Oregon to the Great Lakes. Mild to warm weather will continue across the Plains and the East with scattered showers and a few thunderstorms moving through the Southeast and mid-Atlantic states.

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



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.

## Daniel Holmes – Hazard Tree Fatality - October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004

**Incident Summary:** October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2004, a prescribed fire is planned in the Grant Grove Sub District of Kings Canyon National Park. This park has long been known for its active prescribed fire program and since 1981, has been home to the Arrowhead Hotshots. The unit being burned this day has been burned several times before. The predominant tree in this unit is White Fir, a high-risk species, which had suffered a considerable die-off due to a Tussock Moth infestation. The unit has been prepped and hose-lays installed. Numerous snags along the line have been evaluated for firefighter safety and holding concerns. Some hazard trees were cut down or lined. One white fir snag about 146 feet tall and 12 feet inside the line was considered sound by experienced firefighters and is left standing. Torching brush and short trees during the test burn send embers into the top of the snag and within minutes smoke and then flames are observed. The snag has become a hazard and a holding concern and it is decided that it needs to be felled. Class C-fallers are called over to size-up the tree; Daniel Holmes, an Arrowhead Hotshot, is the swamper. Because of its lean, it is decided to drop it across the line and to move the hose-lay so that it can be suppressed as a spot fire. Holmes and another faller pass under the snag on the fireline as they walk over to assist in moving the hose-lay so that they can then cut the tree. Several firefighters see the top of the snag fall and yell. They start to run but the falling tree top hits Holmes on the head and he is knocked out. He never regains consciousness.

To that date, Daniel Holmes would be the 20<sup>th</sup> firefighter killed by a snag since 1960.

### Lessons Learned Discussion Points

The morning began with a safety briefing and most of the firefighters confirm that snag hazards were emphasized several times.

- If you were giving your crew a briefing about hazard trees in **your** area, what will your emphasis points be?

You and your crew are sizing up hazard trees in preparation for a prescribed burn in **your** area.

- What are the common high-risk species of trees there?
- Discuss how you will determine the soundness of the trees.
- What are the common indicators that they have become unhealthy/unsafe?

Knowing when the top of this tree would fall is impossible. The top of the snag had only been burning for less than 2 hours. The winds had been light.

- Would you have considered this tree as hazardous as it really was?
- Knowing that the top of the tree might eventually fall, what will you do to be ready for it?

Though there were 3 experienced fallers paying attention to the burning snag during its size-up, once the firefighters transitioned to moving the hose-lay there was not a dedicated lookout assigned for that task.

- How will you and your crew manage the safety of all firefighters when you are in a similar transition situation?
- How can you better expect the unexpected after reading this tragic accident?



*Arrowhead Hotshot Daniel Holmes – 2004*

### Resources

- [Holmes Accident Investigation](#)
- [Hazard Tree Safety Website](#)
- [Hazard Tree & Tree Felling Task Group](#)

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

[Online](#) | Mail: 6 Minutes For Safety Task Group • 3833 S. Development Ave • Boise, ID 83705 | FAX: 208-387-5250

[6 Minutes Home](#)

### Fires and Acres Yesterday

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					2		2
	ACRES					0		0
Northwest	FIRES		1			1	1	3
	ACRES		0			0	0	0
Northern California	FIRES					9	2	11
	ACRES					3	0	3
Southern California	FIRES					9	4	13
	ACRES					53	2	55
Northern Rockies	FIRES					3	0	3
	ACRES					0	2,515	2,515
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		2			2	4	8
	ACRES		350			21	604	975
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	1	1				3	5
	ACRES	196	0				0	196
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	1	1			2	6	10
	ACRES	0	0			2	13	15
Eastern Area	FIRES	24				18	10	52
	ACRES	58				967	3	1,028
Southern Area	FIRES					3		3
	ACRES					12		12
TOTAL	FIRES	26	5	0	0	49	30	110
	ACRES	254	350	0	0	1,058	3,137	4,799

### Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	37	31	21	295	5	390
	ACRES	43	51,228	39,682	73,415	106,271	0	270,639
Northwest	FIRES	126	218	26	29	806	828	2,033
	ACRES	27,186	1,136,338	1,901	20	46,027	239,532	1,451,004
Northern California	FIRES	111	24	2	12	2,588	570	3,307
	ACRES	258	423,780	0	28,526	33,760	327,682	814,006
Southern California	FIRES	32	160	10	58	2,926	595	3,781
	ACRES	43	32,676	8	1,837	36,761	10,187	81,512
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1,233	209	41	23	666	813	2,985
	ACRES	414,152	329,586	11,267	5,174	185,620	434,141	1,379,940
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	60	829	1	34	798	597	2,319
	ACRES	29,444	785,865	2	2,136	217,411	992,209	2,027,067
Western Great Basin	FIRES	5	638	2	16	195	139	995
	ACRES	1	530,140	0	28	67,933	42,227	640,329
Southwest	FIRES	725	200	12	42	520	1,036	2,535
	ACRES	33,899	5,326	187	4,334	33,752	460,522	538,020
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	1,320	532	35	40	1,651	688	4,266
	ACRES	153,813	56,808	4,183	837	665,318	189,382	1,070,341
Eastern Area	FIRES	792		64	18	8,321	596	9,791
	ACRES	1,966		4,823	402	82,152	12,393	101,736
Southern Area	FIRES	511		79	46	15,003	602	16,241
	ACRES	46,648		34,238	16,752	258,945	82,239	438,822
TOTAL	FIRES	4,916	2,847	303	339	33,769	6,469	48,643
	ACRES	707,453	3,351,747	96,291	133,461	1,733,950	2,790,514	8,813,416

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>62,881</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>6,635,736</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							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
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES				1			1
	ACRES				5			5
Southern Area	FIRES					8		8
	ACRES					42		42
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	1	8	0	9
	ACRES	0	0	0	5	42	0	47



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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES				2	10		12
	ACRES				18	13,314		13,332
Northwest	FIRES	8	66	17			158	249
	ACRES	3,502	6,023	1,335			32,015	42,875
Northern California	FIRES	3	13	25	22	3	156	222
	ACRES	108	203	22,631	158	15	13,137	36,252
Southern California	FIRES		6	6	5	6	159	182
	ACRES		1,521	1,227	946	1,831	4,120	9,645
Northern Rockies	FIRES	26	9	75	3	35	192	340
	ACRES	3,060	4,609	18,436	233	1,811	20,854	49,003
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		11	2	4	20	42	79
	ACRES		898	188	230	324	18,824	20,464
Western Great Basin	FIRES		3	4		15	4	26
	ACRES		625	419		3,079	221	4,344
Southwest	FIRES	31	18	12	18		133	212
	ACRES	1,214	8,519	5,512	470		39,457	55,172
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	38	13	113	21	13	51	249
	ACRES	5,386	1,543	22,880	2,492	1,283	8,662	42,246
Eastern Area	FIRES	37		503	49	881	152	1,622
	ACRES	22,116		79,314	9,067	55,096	57,595	223,188
Southern Area	FIRES	23		146	53	9,172	849	10,243
	ACRES	4,783		59,839	37,634	492,566	814,583	1,409,405
TOTAL	FIRES	166	139	903	177	10,155	1,896	13,436
	ACRES	40,169	23,941	211,781	51,248	569,319	1,009,468	1,905,926

\*\*\* 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 \*\*