

National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Thursday, September 12, 2013 – 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 2

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity:	Light (69 new fires)
New large fires:	1 (*)
Large fires contained:	0
Uncontained large fires: **	11
Area Command Teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	0
Type 1 IMTs committed:	4
Type 2 IMTs committed:	0

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

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

Northern California Area (PL 3)

New fires:	14
New large fires:	0
Uncontained large fires:	4
Type 1 IMTs committed:	3

Clover, Shasta-Trinity Unit, Cal Fire. Cal Fire IMT 1 (Smith). Eleven miles west of Anderson, CA. Timber, brush and grass. Minimal fire behavior. Communities of Igo, Ono and Cottonwood are threatened. Evacuations in effect.

Forks Complex, Klamath NF. One mile east of Sawyers Bar, CA. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior. Structures threatened.

Morgan, Santa Clara Unit, Cal Fire. Transfer of command from Cal Fire IMT 1 (Derum) back to the local unit will occur tomorrow. Four miles southeast of Clayton, CA. Chaparral. Creeping and smoldering. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

Corral Complex, Six Rivers NF. Transfer of command from IMT 1 (Pincha-Tulley) back to the local unit will occur today. Ten miles east of Hoopa, CA. Timber and brush. Interior 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
Clover	CA	SHU	7,993	1,198	50	9/15	1,502	156	37	159	4	111	2.2M	ST
Forks Complex	CA	KNF	36,255	295	68	10/10	510	64	18	17	6	0	55M	FS
Morgan	CA	SCU	3,133	-110	80	9/13	1,164	-249	34	95	1	0	3.7M	ST
Corral Complex	CA	SRF	12,295	0	79	9/18	240	-169	3	4	4	0	33.9M	FS

Southern California Area (PL 2)

New fires:	16
New large fires:	0
Uncontained large fires:	3
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1

Rim, Stanislaus NF. IMT 1 (McGowan). Two miles northeast of Buck Meadows, CA. Timber, brush and grass. Surface fire. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road and area closures in effect.

Angora, Sequoia NF. Twenty miles northeast of Springville, CA. Timber. Minimal fire behavior.

Lyon, Monte Vista Unit, Cal Fire. Thirteen miles southeast of El Cajon, CA. Chaparral. Smoldering. Numerous structures 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
Rim	CA	STF	255,560	2,228	80	9/20	2,764	29	64	118	11	111	105M	FS
Angora	CA	SQF	150	0	70	9/13	139	2	5	0	3	0	390K	FS
Lyon	CA	MVU	218	-232	82	9/12	218	-203	5	10	1	0	530K	ST

Eastern Great Basin Area (PL 2)

New fires:	4
New large fires:	0
Uncontained large fires:	2

Kelley, Sawtooth NF. Seven miles southeast of Featherville, ID. Timber, brush and grass. Creeping and smoldering with occasional single tree torching. Structures threatened.

Weiser Complex, Payette NF. Started on BLM land 20 miles west of Midvale, ID. Timber, 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
Kelley	ID	STF	17,346	0	97	UNK	94	0	3	1	2	0	8.9M	FS
Weiser Complex	ID	PAF	29,457	0	98	9/13	131	-10	4	1	1	3	7.5M	BLM

Northwest Area (PL 2)

New fires:	8
New large fires:	0
Uncontained large fires:	1

Dead Canyon, Washington State. Twelve miles south of Mabton, WA. Brush and grass. Moderate fire behavior. Structures 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
Dead Canyon	WA	WFS	3,500	-44	45	9/12	118	118	1	4	1	0	150K	ST

Southern Area (PL 1)

New fires:	13
New large fires:	1
Uncontained large fires:	1

* **Marysville**, Arkansas Forestry Commission. Three miles southeast of Marysville, AR. Timber. 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
* Marysville	AR	ARS	195	---	95	UNK	30	---	0	4	0	0	5K	ST

Other fires

(As of September 6)

GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AK	5	109,470	0	0	0	0
NW	16	68,286	13	17	4	409
NO	0	0	0	0	0	0
SO	1	22,942	1	1	0	23
NR	42	88,097	4	8	7	183
EB	17	50,283	6	2	3	171
WB	0	0	0	0	0	0
SW	3	511	22	1	0	272
RM	7	26,640	2	6	2	119
EA	1	188	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	92	366,417	48	35	16	1,177

Predictive Services Discussion: Scattered showers and thunderstorms will continue across the central and southern Rockies, much of the Great Basin and parts of the Southwest. Scattered rain and thunderstorms will move through the Northeast, while afternoon thunderstorms form over the Florida peninsula. Cool to mild conditions will remain over the Great Basin and the Rockies. Cooler conditions will also spread into the northern Plains, the Great Lakes region and New England. Very warm weather will continue in the West Coast states and across the southern Plains, the lower and mid-Mississippi Valley and the Southeast.



“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.

Tuolumne Fire - September 12, 2004 - California

Incident Summary: The Tuolumne Fire is reported by a Stanislaus lookout at 1233 hours. Dispatch initiates a standard response, including the dispatch of a helicopter with helitack crew. 1259 Air Attack (ATGS) arrives over fire and reports fire to be between 5-10 acres, spreading up-slope and up-canyon with a steady 3-5mph wind. The fire is burning near the bottom of the Tuolumne River Canyon, just upstream of a major river confluence at 1450' elevation in light, flashy fuels, predominantly oak leaf litter, light grass and mixed brush with an oak overstory consistent with Fuel Model 2. FDFM (Fine Dead Fuel Moisture) is 4-5% and live fuel moistures at critical stage. Temperature is 89-94, RH 18-24%, and there is no frontal or thunderstorm activity. The canyon is very steep, observed to be 80-120% slope. At approximately 1335 the helitack crew begins constructing downhill fireline. 10 minutes later they take emergency action when a sudden wind shift that causes a fire flare-up which overruns their position. Of the 7 person crew, 3 firefighters suffer minor injuries and one firefighter is killed.

1305 the helicopter arrives over the fire and drops the crew on a gravel bar 3/4 mile downstream of the fire. They hike from the LZ up-canyon to a dirt road that parallels the river and walk the road toward the right flank of the fire. The fire is burning both above and below the road. Their helicopter is directed to begin dropping water on right flank **above** the road.

A local Division Chief is dispatched to the fire to be IC and drives past the helitack crew to the right flank. He observes a slow backing fire and returns to the location of the helitack crew, who are still hiking. Talking with the helitack captain, he does not identify himself as IC, announce a strategy or specific tactics. He does state that he wants the crew to find a safe anchor point but the crew understands him to want them to “anchor this fire on the right flank, the road **down** to the river”.

1335 the crew arrives at the right flank on the road and looks for access to the river and safe access to the bottom of the fire.

ATGS and IC decide to continue to use the helicopter on the right flank **above** the road. The helitack captain hears this exchange on the radio.

ATGS receives a radio call about a spot fire and misses discussion about helitack crew working below the road. (In a post-incident interview, the ATGS will state that he thought the crew was above the road.)

After scouting down the right flank about 70 feet, it is decided to construct indirect fire line downhill for 250 - 300ft to the river burning out from the road as they go. Safety zones are identified as down to the river, up to the road or into the black. All crew members agree with the plan and inform their helicopter pilot.

An engine is assigned to support the helitack crew. The crew is not notified that the engine was assigned to support them and that it was close by.

1340 firefighters located about 30ft down the line from the road remark that the burn-out is pulling in nicely. There is a “flutter” in the wind and the 3 firefighters closest to the road are told to grab backpack pumps just in case.

1345 a sudden wind shift causes the fire to flare- up, change direction, and overrun the crew. 30 seconds later one crew member is dead. No fire shelters are deployed.

Lessons Learned Discussion Points

During size-up, what fire behavior did the personnel observe? If you were at a fire in a similar setting, what local terrain features and other factors might lead you to distrust the fire behavior seen? (IRPG pg 4)

It is common for people to have communication problems. On an incident where these issues can easily compromise anyone's life safety, what are you going to do to minimize communication errors- as a crew member? Crew boss? Pilot? IC?

Your crew has been dispatched to this fire. How will you handle the "Lookout" aspect of LCES? It is common to hear that "everyone on the crew is a lookout". Discuss what each person must do to make this an effective alternative to the "traditional" lookout.

This fire had an Air Attack and a helicopter. Discuss how aerial resources can be used as additional lookouts and sources of information. What are some downfalls to using them in this role?

References

http://wildfirelessons.net/documents/Tuolumne_2004_Full_Report.pdf

"This Day in History" is a collaborative project between 6 Minutes for Safety and the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center..

Fires and Acres Yesterday

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					1		1
Northwest	FIRES	1					7	8
	ACRES	0					56	56
Northern California	FIRES	1			10	3	14	
	ACRES	0			10	275	285	
Southern California	FIRES			2	9	5	16	
	ACRES			0	1	365	366	
Northern Rockies	FIRES				3	5	8	
	ACRES				4	10	14	
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		3		1		4	
	ACRES		100		0		100	
Western Great Basin	FIRES		1				1	
	ACRES		0				0	
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES					1	1	
	ACRES					2	2	
Eastern Area	FIRES				3		3	
	ACRES				4		4	
Southern Area	FIRES				12	1	13	
	ACRES				276	151	427	
TOTAL	FIRES	2	4	0	2	39	22	69
	ACRES	0	100	0	0	296	859	1,255

Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIREs	1	43	37	28	485	9	603
	ACRES	465	408,261	108,250	169,043	631,698	1	1,317,718
Northwest	FIREs	180	335	54	51	1,102	1,282	3,004
	ACRES	53,531	136,799	794	263	27,591	15,340	234,318
Northern California	FIREs	134	37	1	18	3,014	768	3,972
	ACRES	130	633	48	6	71,839	89,588	162,244
Southern California	FIREs	30	128	26	52	2,983	513	3,732
	ACRES	339	3,048	242	104,916	53,770	265,753	428,068
Northern Rockies	FIREs	584	81	8	18	899	1,011	2,601
	ACRES	7,889	733	1,100	11,601	17,387	137,205	175,915
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs	65	708	1	39	623	607	2,043
	ACRES	314	307,074	0	250	40,148	429,522	777,308
Western Great Basin	FIREs	9	443	6	9	78	127	672
	ACRES	24,470	106,059	1	3	10,303	46,597	187,433
Southwest	FIREs	534	198	31	87	573	1,089	2,512
	ACRES	47,393	6,852	3,335	1,808	45,317	210,996	315,701
Rocky Mountain	FIREs	647	477	14	30	731	476	2,375
	ACRES	878	8,519	601	1,072	38,812	180,430	230,312
Eastern Area	FIREs	335		39	27	4,989	181	5,571
	ACRES	7,205		996	87	33,572	1,330	43,190
Southern Area	FIREs	163		80	17	9,773	349	10,382
	ACRES	11,390		13,475	1,445	110,238	11,702	148,250
TOTAL	FIREs	2,682	2,450	297	376	25,250	6,412	37,467
	ACRES	154,004	977,978	128,842	290,494	1,080,675	1,388,464	4,020,457

Ten Year Average Fires	57,638
Ten Year Average Acres	6,449,261

*** 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	2
	ACRES			10			178	188
Northern California	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIREs				1	1		2
	ACRES				2	5		7
Western Great Basin	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIREs							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIREs					3		3
	ACRES					161		161
Southern Area	FIREs						2	2
	ACRES						1,649	1,649
TOTAL	FIREs	0	0	1	0	4	4	9
	ACRES	0	0	10	0	163	1,832	2,005

Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES			1	2	13		16
	ACRES			5	22	5,150		5,177
Northwest	FIRES	7	34	11	3		121	176
	ACRES	2,066	9,063	595	67		29,372	41,163
Northern California	FIRES	2	12	16	21		126	177
	ACRES	35	780	15,998	254		5,472	22,539
Southern California	FIRES		5	5	4	1	141	156
	ACRES		38	603	298	120	4,875	5,934
Northern Rockies	FIRES	18	13	24	2	93	149	299
	ACRES	1,448	2,904	6,747	156	1,004	9,742	22,001
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	4	18	1	5	22	55	105
	ACRES	696	1,354	1	693	1,359	14,130	18,233
Western Great Basin	FIRES		3	1		12	7	23
	ACRES		24	35		103	300	462
Southwest	FIRES	19	23	5	1		83	131
	ACRES	19,320	11,926	1,372	10		18,865	51,493
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	12	37	33	10	32	94	218
	ACRES	1,760	3,317	3,956	616	5,090	24,916	39,655
Eastern Area	FIRES	22		249	52	784	163	1,270
	ACRES	23,169		31,521	4,790	31,857	15,772	107,109
Southern Area	FIRES	54		108	11	11,067	895	12,135
	ACRES	15,157		47,720	5,872	581,326	857,405	1,507,480
TOTAL	FIRES	138	145	454	111	12,024	1,834	14,706
	ACRES	63,651	29,406	108,553	12,778	626,009	980,849	1,821,246

*** 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 change, and therefore may not match official year-to-date agency records.

** National Interagency Coordination Center **