

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Thursday, October 2, 2014 – 0530 MT  
National Preparedness Level 1**

**National Fire Activity**

Initial attack activity: Light (33 new fires)  
 New large fires: 0 (\*)  
 Large fires contained: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: \*\* 4  
 Area Command Teams committed: 0  
 NIMOs committed: 0  
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 1  
 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 2)**

New fires: 10  
 New large fires: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 1  
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 1

**King**, Amador-El Dorado Unit, Cal Fire. Unified command between IMT 1 (McGowan) and Cal Fire. Eleven miles east of Placerville, CA. Timber and grass. Minimal fire behavior. Area closures in effect.

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
King	CA	AEU	97,099	0	94	10/4	2,557	193	57	134	9	80	99M	ST

**Northwest Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 1  
 New large fires: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 2

**36 Pit**, Mt. Hood NF. Eight miles southeast of Estacada, OR. Timber. Minimal fire behavior. Road and area closures in effect.

**Onion Mountain**, Rogue River-Siskiyou NF. Fifteen miles west of Grants Pass, OR. Timber. Smoldering. 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
36 Pit	OR	MHF	5,520	0	75	11/30	104	-139	2	1	1	0	11.3M	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
Onion Mountain	OR	RSF	4,105	0	95	UNK	18	-20	1	1	0	0	9M	FS

### **Northern Rockies Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 1

New large fires: 0

Uncontained large fires: 1

**Johnson Bar**, Nez Perce - Clearwater NF. Twenty miles southeast of Kooskia, ID. Timber. 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
Johnson Bar	ID	NCF	13,261	---	65	10/10	47	---	1	6	0	0	13.3M	FS

### **Other Fires**

(As of September 26)

GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AK	0	0	0	0	0	0
NW	3	66,589	1	2	1	31
NO	0	0	0	0	0	0
SO	1	4,772	0	0	1	17
NR	4	5,884	1	2	1	31
EB	0	0	0	0	0	0
WB	0	0	0	0	0	0
SW	0	0	0	0	0	0
RM	0	0	0	0	0	0
EA	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	8	77,245	2	4	3	79

**Predictive Services Discussion:** Hot and very dry conditions are expected in California with breezy offshore winds today and tonight. An upper level ridge of high pressure will continue to strengthen with warm and dry weather spreading across much of the western U.S. Scattered showers and thunderstorms with heavy rain are expected along a strong cold front stretching from the southern Plains through the upper Mid-West ahead of a low pressure system aloft. The central Gulf Coast will also see showers and thunderstorms today.

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



This Day in History is a brief summary of a powerful learning opportunity and is not intended to second guess or be judgmental of decisions and actions. Put yourself in the following situation as if you do not know what the outcome will be. What are the conditions? What are you thinking? What are YOU doing?

## Grant West Prescribed Fire – 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 and other documents](#)
- [Hazard Tree Subcommittee website](#)

**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	0	3	0	0	1	0	4
	ACRES	0	7	0	0	2	0	9
Northwest	FIRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Northern California	FIRES	0	0	0	0	10	0	10
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	6	0	6
Southern California	FIRES	0	0	0	0	4	3	7
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Rockies	FIRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Western Great Basin	FIRES	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southwest	FIRES	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
	ACRES	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	60	0	60
TOTAL	FIRES	2	5	0	0	23	3	33
	ACRES	2	7	0	0	70	0	79

### Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	0	58	0	0	301	24	383
	ACRES	0	31,532	0	0	202,022	7	233,561
Northwest	FIRES	328	303	54	66	1,169	1,510	3,430
	ACRES	81,767	702,413	152	2,938	109,322	183,623	1,080,215
Northern California	FIRES	98	36	8	11	2,898	762	3,813
	ACRES	314	16,102	370	31	87,342	374,533	478,692
Southern California	FIRES	39	73	13	60	2,444	590	3,219
	ACRES	235	2,989	518	227	20,981	24,093	49,043
Northern Rockies	FIRES	667	78	7	12	912	707	2,383
	ACRES	10,785	2,868	1,168	6	82,539	21,719	119,085
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	42	431	1	29	582	544	1,629
	ACRES	1,160	61,033	0	206	21,608	14,804	98,811
Western Great Basin	FIRES	9	310	1	16	53	94	483
	ACRES	166	32,503	0	7	1,111	24,989	58,776
Southwest	FIRES	482	166	11	54	612	834	2,159
	ACRES	99,079	1,871	577	11,031	14,330	81,328	208,216
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	561	360	23	17	705	261	1,927
	ACRES	2,535	10,874	1,201	2,505	48,810	2,197	68,122
Eastern Area	FIRES	408	0	51	22	4,949	322	5,752
	ACRES	602	0	1,815	186	34,170	4,894	41,667
Southern Area	FIRES	414	0	147	26	14,986	509	16,082
	ACRES	111,392	0	9,786	282	319,185	35,272	475,917
TOTAL	FIRES	3,048	1,815	316	313	29,611	6,157	41,260
	ACRES	308,035	862,185	15,587	17,419	941,420	767,459	2,912,105

Ten Year Average Fires	61,801
Ten Year Average Acres	6,726,067

\*\*\* 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	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern California	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern California	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Rockies	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	7	7
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	28	28
Western Great Basin	FIRES	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	32	0	0	32
Southwest	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	18	0	25	43
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	14	0	14
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	46	0	46
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	1	14	4	19
	ACRES	0	0	0	50	46	60	156

### Prescribed Fires and Acres Year to Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	0	7	0	0	0	0	7
	ACRES	0	59,591	0	0	0	0	59,591
Northwest	FIRES	12	47	16	3	16	184	278
	ACRES	2,906	13,255	3,340	49	533	24,452	44,535
Northern California	FIRES	2	3	18	9	1	128	161
	ACRES	56	135	7,390	60	7	5,953	13,601
Southern California	FIRES	2	5	3	7	0	71	88
	ACRES	9	277	191	455	0	2,082	3,014
Northern Rockies	FIRES	13	25	46	5	18	163	270
	ACRES	2,553	8,122	11,227	3,256	608	24,204	49,970
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	3	14	5	7	31	77	137
	ACRES	355	4,062	2,184	56	1,228	20,757	28,642
Western Great Basin	FIRES	0	3	1	6	7	4	21
	ACRES	0	716	300	993	147	316	2,472
Southwest	FIRES	10	16	7	1	1	57	92
	ACRES	2,036	18,298	1,959	52	75	21,332	43,752
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	30	38	94	21	87	89	359
	ACRES	3,683	6,084	19,843	5,357	2,346	13,809	51,122
Eastern Area	FIRES	53	0	392	51	1,197	202	1,895
	ACRES	58,417	0	58,147	5,551	72,073	64,508	258,696
Southern Area	FIRES	88	0	188	28	8,187	880	9,371
	ACRES	17,721	0	77,886	31,863	344,431	891,529	1,363,430
TOTAL	FIRES	213	158	770	138	9,545	1,855	12,679
	ACRES	87,736	110,540	182,467	47,692	421,448	1,068,942	1,918,825

\*\*\* 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 \*\*