

National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Wednesday, August 5, 2015 - 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 4

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity:	Light (149 new fires)
New large incidents:	15
Large fires contained:	3
Uncontained large fires: **	50
Area Command Teams committed:	1
NIMOs committed:	1
Type 1 IMTs committed:	9
Type 2 IMTs committed:	10

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

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

Four MAFFS C-130 air tankers and support personnel from the 146th Airlift Wing (California Air National Guard) and the 302nd Airlift Wing (Colorado Springs, Air Force Reserve) have been deployed to McClellan, CA in support of wildland fire operations.

Northern California Area (PL 5)

New fires:	34
New large incidents:	11
Uncontained large fires:	32
Area Command Teams committed:	1
NIMOs committed:	1
Type 1 IMTs committed:	4
Type 2 IMTs committed:	4

Area Command Team (Van Bruggen) is assigned to the Shasta-Trinity and Six Rivers National Forests for large fire support.

Rocky, Sonoma-Lake Napa Unit, Cal Fire. Cal Fire IMT 1 (Patterson). Six miles east of Lower Lake, CA. Timber, chaparral and tall grass. Active fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Numerous structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Fork Complex (5 fires), Shasta-Trinity NF. Unified command between IMT 1 (Opliger) and Cal Fire. Three miles east of Hayfork, CA. Timber, light logging slash and chaparral. Moderate fire behavior with uphill runs, group torching and backing. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road, area and trail closures in effect.

South Complex (5 fires), Shasta-Trinity NF. IMT 2 (Young). Five miles north of Hyampom, CA. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, short-range spotting and single tree torching. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road and area closures in effect.

Mad River Complex, Six Rivers NF. IMT 1 (Minton) Eight miles south of Mad River, CA. Timber, chaparral and tall grass. Moderate fire behavior with isolated torching, backing and flanking. Numerous structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

River Complex (4 fires), Shasta-Trinity NF. IMT 1 (Vontillow). Three miles southwest of Denny, CA. Timber, chaparral and tall grass. Active fire behavior with backing and torching. Structures threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect.

Frog, Modoc NF. NIMO (Houseman) and IMT 2 (Kurth). Five miles west of Scarface, CA. Timber. Active fire behavior with wind driven runs, group torching and short-range spotting. Structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

* **Humboldt Complex (7 fires)**, Humboldt-Del Norte Unit, Cal Fire. Previously reported as Humboldt LCA. Five miles west of Phillipsville, CA. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with running and backing.

* **Gasquet Complex (4 fires)**, Six Rivers NF. IMT 2 (Garwood). Thirteen miles northeast of Crescent City, CA. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and torching. Structures threatened.

* **Route Complex**, Six Rivers NF. IMT 2 (Walker). Six miles north of Hyampom, CA. Timber, chaparral and tall grass. Active fire behavior with uphill runs and isolated torching. Numerous structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Dodge, Northern California District, BLM. Seventeen miles northeast of Ravendale, CA. Brush. Active fire behavior with wind driven runs, flanking and short-range spotting. Structures and sage-grouse habitat threatened.

Lowell, Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit, Cal Fire. Transfer of command from IMT 1 (Gouvea) back to the local unit occurred yesterday. Two miles west of Gold Run, CA. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Wragg, Sonoma-Lake Napa Unit, Cal Fire. Transfer of command from IMT 1 (Estes) back to the local unit occurred yesterday. Four miles west of Winters, CA. Brush. Minimal fire behavior.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
Rocky	CA-LNU	67,000	5,000	20	Ctn	08/10	3,478	333	81	327	19	91	20.3M	ST
Fork Complex	CA-SHF	10,318	2,235	7	Ctn	NR	1,338	333	36	139	4	0	4.6M	FS
South Complex	CA-SHF	11,456	456	0	Ctn	NR	310	4	5	22	1	0	403K	FS
Mad River Complex	CA-SRF	13,802	245	8	Ctn	08/31	656	-87	15	49	1	4	2.8M	FS
River Complex	CA-SHF	7,059	3,314	0	Ctn	10/01	381	74	2	23	1	0	1.5M	FS
Frog	CA-MDF	4,745	532	50	Ctn	08/10	523	32	8	38	3	0	2.7M	FS
* Humboldt Complex	CA-HUU	3,242	347	25	Ctn	08/17	1,239	134	30	78	7	4	6.3M	ST
* Gasquet Complex	CA-SRF	910	---	2	Ctn	NR	106	---	0	12	0	0	1K	FS
* Route Complex	CA-SRF	14,141	---	2	Ctn	08/31	283	---	6	8	3	0	1K	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
Dodge	CA-NOD	10,700	8,700	20	Ctn	08/11	111	40	3	7	2	0	170K	BLM
Lowell	CA-NEU	2,304	0	87	Ctn	08/11	254	35	3	15	1	3	17.8M	ST
Wragg	CA-LNU	8,051	0	97	Ctn	08/06	144	-10	2	5	0	2	21.7M	ST

Northwest Area (PL 4)

New fires:	36
New large incidents:	2
Uncontained large fires:	9
Type 1 IMTs committed:	3
Type 2 IMTs committed:	3

Stouts Creek, South Unit, ODF. ODF IMT 1 (Buckman). Sixteen miles east of Canyonville, OR. Timber and medium logging slash. Active fire behavior with creeping and single tree torching. Numerous structures threatened. Road and area closures in effect.

Wolverine, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF. IMT 1 (Schulte). Three miles northwest of Lucerne, WA. Timber. Active fire behavior with torching, wind driven runs and spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, area and trail closures in effect.

Cable Crossing, Central Unit, ODF. ODF IMT 1 (Smith). Six miles east of Glide, OR. Timber, medium logging slash and brush. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and isolated torching. Road and area closures in effect.

Baldy, Colville NF. IMT 2 (Gales). Six miles northwest of Lone, WA. Timber and light Logging Slash. Active fire behavior with group torching, short crown runs and backing. Structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Phillips Creek, Umatilla NF. IMT 2 (Fillis). Seven miles northwest of Elgin, OR. Seven miles northwest of Elgin, OR. Timber, short grass and brush. Active fire behavior with group torching and creeping. Numerous structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

* **National Creek Complex**, Rogue River-Siskiyou NF. IMT 2 (Hutton). Thirty miles northwest of Prospect, OR. Timber. Active fire behavior with creeping, group torching and short-range spotting.

* **Hwy 8**, Washington State Fire Marshal's Office, DNR. Two miles northwest of Roosevelt, WA Tall Grass and brush. Active fire behavior with wind driven runs and smoldering. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect.

North Boulder 2, Colville NF. Twenty-seven miles northwest of Colville, WA. Timber, closed timber litter and brush. Minimal fire behavior.

Blue Creek, Southeast Region, DNR. Started on private land 10 miles east of Walla Walla, WA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering, creeping and isolated torching. Road and trail closures in effect.

153 West Fork, Malheur NF. Ten miles southeast of Dayville, OR. Timber. Moderate fire behavior. Structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
Stouts Creek	OR-732S	17,168	2,086	15	Ctn	08/18	1,436	212	45	53	9	0	6.4M	ST
Wolverine	WA-OWF	25,640	640	0	Comp	10/13	191	-66	4	0	8	4	2.2M	FS
Cable Crossing	OR-733S	1,800	50	40	Ctn	08/12	1,164	-191	44	29	10	0	5.2M	ST
Baldy	WA-COF	300	0	0	Ctn	09/30	288	188	8	2	1	0	1M	FS
Phillips Creek	OR-UMF	1,538	396	5	Ctn	08/15	406	130	14	23	2	0	1M	FS
* National Creek Complex	OR-RSF	65	0	0	Ctn	NR	109	0	4	2	1	0	97K	FS
* Hwy 8	WA-WFS	10,000	---	0	Ctn	08/09	117	---	1	34	0	0	25K	ST
North Boulder 2	WA-COF	233	0	80	Ctn	NR	98	0	2	0	2	0	3.4M	FS
Blue Creek	WA-SES	6,004	0	98	Ctn	NR	116	-51	1	12	1	12	10.2M	PRI
153 West Fork	OR-MAF	894	124	80	Ctn	NR	125	122	3	10	0	0	1.3M	FS
Long Lake	WA-NES	432	0	100	Ctn	NR	192	17	7	15	0	0	420K	ST

WA-NES Northeast Region, DNR

Southern California Area (PL 3)

New fires:	12
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	3
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	2

Cabin, Sequoia NF. IMT 1 (McGowan). Seven miles northeast of Sequoia Crest, CA. Timber. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, group torching and spotting. Structures threatened. Area and trail closures in effect.

Willow, Sierra NF. IMT 2 (Cooper). Two miles west of Wishon, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with isolated torching, creeping and smoldering. Road and area closures in effect.

Chorro, Los Padres NF. IMT 2 (Nunez). Ten miles north of Ojai, CA. Chaparral and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
Cabin	CA-SQF	4,294	244	0	Comp	NR	419	-29	13	0	7	0	2.7M	FS
Willow	CA-SNF	5,702	0	80	Ctn	08/15	900	-413	18	45	4	0	17.6M	FS
Chorro	CA-LPF	282	0	90	Ctn	NR	330	-122	7	16	1	0	1M	FS

Northern Rockies Area (PL 2)

New fires:	11
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	1

Reynolds, Glacier NP. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
Reynolds	MT-GNP	3,913	0	64	Ctn	NR	384	-56	10	7	6	2	9.2M	NPS

Alaska Area (PL 2)

New fires:	3
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	0

Rock, Tanana Zone, BLM. Started on native corporation land nine miles southeast of Hughes, AK. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with group torching, creeping, and smoldering. Numerous structures threatened. Road closures in effect.

Carlson Lake, Tanana Zone, BLM. Previously reported incident. Five miles southeast of Lake Minchumina. Closed Timber Litter. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened.

Hamlin Creek, Upper Yukon Zone, BLM. Previously reported incident. Four miles south of Stevens Village. Closed Timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
Rock	AK-TAD	132,272	4,094	77	Comp	NR	82	0	3	0	2	0	1.3M	TRI
Carlson Lake	AK-TAD	40,257	-3,927	0	Comp	NR	4	4	0	0	0	0	8K	NPS
Hamlin Creek	AK-UYD	33,207	5,601	0	Comp	NR	0	0	0	0	0	0	8K	TRI

Southern Area (PL 1)

New fires:	26
New large incidents:	2
Uncontained large fires:	2

Fort McKavett Complex, Texas A & M Forest Service. Started on private land 13 miles east of Sonora, TX. Tall grass and brush. Moderate fire behavior. Structures threatened.

Wolf Creek, National Forests in North Carolina. Five miles northwest of Old Fort, NC. Hardwood Litter. Active fire behavior.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
Fort McKavett Complex	TX-TXS	10,350	2,350	70	Ctn	08/07	25	1	0	4	1	0	1K	PRI
Wolf Creek	NC-NCF	150	---	35	Ctn	08/15	46	---	3	1	1	0	80K	FS
* Hickman Cemetery Road Fire	TX-TXS	150	---	100	Ctn	08/04	12	---	0	0	0	0	1K	PRI
* Rocky Point	OK-ECU	300	---	100	Ctn	NR	5	---	0	3	0	0	5K	ST

OK-ECU East Central, Oklahoma Division of Forestry

Southwest Area (PL 2)

New fires: 9
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 2

SA Hill, Prescott National Forest, Forest Service. Five miles north of Cleator, AZ. Short grass and chaparral. Moderate fire behavior with wind driven runs, single tree torching and short-range spotting. Structures threatened.

Ft. Craig, Socorro Field Office, BLM. Twenty-three miles southwest of San Antonio, NM. Chaparral and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
SA Hill	AZ-PNF	1,083	703	10	Ctn	08/09	110	110	4	6	1	0	225K	FS
Ft. Craig	NM-SCD	685	0	92	Ctn	08/05	4	-1	0	1	0	0	350K	BLM

Rocky Mountain Area (PL 1)

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

Sheep Creek, Wyoming State Forestry, DNR. Four miles west of Dayton, WY. Timber. Active fire behavior. Numerous structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
SHEEP CREEK	WY-CDS	1,126	1,026	0	Ctn	NR	90	24	4	0	2	0	424K	SF

Active Incident Resource Summary						
GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AKCC	23	1,482,791.3	7	3	9	263
NWCC	19	67,316	136	207	35	4,412
ONCC	17	156,600	203	772	44	9,317
OSCC	7	10,759.5	47	68	15	1,899
NRCC	16	14,984.53	13	14	8	606
GBCC	9	6,635.25	8	9	3	283
SWCC	4	4,651	4	7	1	121
RMCC	8	3,840.45	4	4	2	112
EACC	1	103	0	0	0	0
SACC	14	16,745	4	25	2	188
Total	118	1,764,426.03	426	1,109	119	17,201

Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Area	FIREs	0	11	0	1	9	15	36
	ACRES	0	5	0	0	30	67	102
Northern California Area	FIREs	0	3	0	0	25	6	34
	ACRES	0	1	0	0	15,240	770	16,011
Southern California Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	11	1	12
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	26	40	66
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	8	3	11
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	83	5	88
Great Basin Area	FIREs	1	3	0	1	2	5	12
	ACRES	150	25	0	0	0	90	265
Southwest Area	FIREs	1	2	0	0	1	5	9
	ACRES	1	4	0	0	0	420	425
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1,026	0	1,026
Eastern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	2	2	4
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Southern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	26	0	26
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	47	0	47
TOTAL FIRES:		2	20	0	2	87	38	149
TOTAL ACRES:		151	35	0	0	16,453	1,393	18,032

Fires and Acres Year-to-Date (by Protection):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIREs	0	259	0	0	452	22	733
	ACRES	0	3,870,021	0	0	1,077,448	775	4,948,244
Northwest Area	FIREs	245	222	33	57	1,068	934	2,559
	ACRES	8,021	59,619	14,624	2,551	9,743	39,096	133,654
Northern California Area	FIREs	114	27	5	21	2,209	844	3,220
	ACRES	126	244	354	1	90,884	37,662	129,271
Southern California Area	FIREs	20	46	11	80	2,266	397	2,820
	ACRES	30	1,907	12	160	20,580	43,818	66,507
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	768	59	3	8	823	468	2,129
	ACRES	7,604	14,690	565	3,918	72,476	9,464	108,717
Great Basin Area	FIREs	33	514	4	28	424	309	1,312
	ACRES	165	34,937	0	60	6,507	23,164	64,833
Southwest Area	FIREs	392	151	5	25	435	626	1,634
	ACRES	51,888	2,803	4	3,737	16,687	87,318	162,437
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	436	200	12	17	710	131	1,506
	ACRES	13,543	4,214	178	7,408	78,513	687	104,543
Eastern Area	FIREs	527	0	29	16	5,455	355	6,382
	ACRES	2,181	0	2,102	549	44,118	5,495	54,445
Southern Area	FIREs	292	0	15	13	14,345	281	14,946
	ACRES	36,111	0	2,363	188	189,149	14,010	241,821
TOTAL FIRES:		2,827	1,478	117	265	28,187	4,367	37,241
TOTAL ACRES:		119,669	3,988,435	20,202	18,572	1,606,105	261,489	6,014,472

Ten Year Average Fires (2005 – 2014 as of today)	46,712
Ten Year Average Acres (2005 – 2014 as of today)	4,024,627

Prescribed Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Ownership):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern California Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern California Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Basin Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southwest Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	10	10
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Area	FIREs	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Southern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	10	1	11
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	43	1,031	1,074
TOTAL FIRES:		0	0	1	0	10	2	13
TOTAL ACRES:		0	0	3	0	43	1,041	1,087

Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date (by Ownership):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIREs	0	5	0	0	2	0	7
	ACRES	0	3,965	0	0	988	0	4,953
Northwest Area	FIREs	7	28	3	2	0	147	187
	ACRES	2,457	17,778	51	49	0	23,534	43,869
Northern California Area	FIREs	0	0	12	11	0	113	136
	ACRES	0	143	5,173	190	0	7,734	13,240
Southern California Area	FIREs	0	3	4	3	0	100	110
	ACRES	0	78	495	261	0	1,860	2,694
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	10	31	28	4	5	118	196
	ACRES	3,651	10,580	12,835	1,590	728	17,735	47,119
Great Basin Area	FIREs	1	24	1	6	31	50	113
	ACRES	24	1,447	1,060	85	1,713	17,314	21,643
Southwest Area	FIREs	41	29	8	7	0	146	231
	ACRES	615	18,888	2,436	4,606	0	72,906	99,451
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	19	35	57	11	48	80	250
	ACRES	2,085	6,433	15,899	1,153	2,134	22,351	50,055
Eastern Area	FIREs	30	0	262	22	1,373	158	1,845
	ACRES	39,398	0	32,937	6,637	65,482	49,780	194,234
Southern Area	FIREs	88	0	145	11	8,167	701	9,112
	ACRES	16,583	0	115,220	14,261	512,292	615,313	1,273,669
TOTAL FIRES:		196	155	520	77	9,626	1,613	12,187
TOTAL ACRES:		64,813	59,312	186,106	28,832	583,337	828,527	1,750,927

*** 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	12	573	1,398	282,446
YUKON TERRITORY	0	0	182	176,700
ALBERTA	46	357	1,575	487,165
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	1	0	214	579,697
SASKATCHEWAN	1	2,248	675	1,774,394
MANITOBA	1	0	440	43,599
ONTARIO	3	6	490	37,608
QUEBEC	1	0	326	4,983
NEWFOUNDLAND	1	0	113	6,274
NEW BRUNSWICK	0	0	193	252
NOVA SCOTIA	0	0	221	503
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	4	2
NATIONAL PARKS	1	704	97	510,494
TOTALS	67	3,889	5,928	3,904,116

* 1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: An upper trough over western Canada will push a cold front through the Northwest and into the northern Rockies. Widely scattered thunderstorms will form ahead of the front from northern California to the northern Rockies. Breezy conditions will develop behind the front across Washington. A few thunderstorms will also form over the central Rockies. The remainder of the West will be warm and dry. East of the Rockies, scattered thunderstorms will develop along a stationary front stretching from the northern Plains to the Mid-Atlantic. Cool conditions will remain over the Great Lakes and New England. Hot and humid conditions will persist from the southern Plains to the Southeast coast. Alaska will have widely scattered showers over the north, warm and mainly dry weather in the Interior and south.

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

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 ****



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?

The Mann Gulch Fire - August 5th, 1949

Summary: Lightning started many fires on the Helena National Forest August 4th, 1949 including one near the top of a ridge between Meriwether and Mann Gulches. At 12:55pm August 5th, the fire was observed at 6 acres. At 1:30 the call went out for smokejumpers from the Missoula jumpbase. By the time the jump plane flew over at 3pm the fire was 60 acres. The crew jumped and are scattered by a nearby thunder cell.

The crew gathers at the bottom of the gulch up-canyon of the fire. Jumper Foreman goes to scout the fire and meets up with a fire guard working alone near the head of the fire. Observing increased fire activity, the decision is made to start from the toe. While hiking to the toe, the foreman noted that there was fire below them in the gulch and that it had crossed to the other side of the canyon blocking their ability to escape to the river. They reversed direction and headed up toward the NW ridge. The fire is 500 feet behind them crowning in timber and doghair thickets.

The foreman knows that they will not outrun the fire and starts to burn off some grass for a "refuge". He gives the order for his crew to come into the black with him. The foreman stayed in his black and survived the fire passing over. It is not clear how many of the crew heard the orders over the roar of the fire or understood what the foreman was trying to do (burning out was neither taught nor common practice at this time). The crew continued running up the steep slope for the ridge. Two made it to safety in rocks at the top. 5:56pm marks the time on one firefighter's watch that stopped when the 15 Missoula Smokejumpers and one Meriwether Fire Guard were burned over. Only 5 would survive the blow-up. 2 would die from their burns the next day.

This Day in Wildland Fire History is dedicated to all those at Mann Gulch August 5th, 1949.

Predicted Fire Danger was "low" but readings from a nearby ranger station were RH=22%, fuel sticks = 5%, and wind=16mph indicating more severe fire danger. No weather was recorded at the fire, but steady SW winds were observed at the time of the jump. The Gulch runs SW down to the Missouri River. Also note the thunder cell that was in the area.

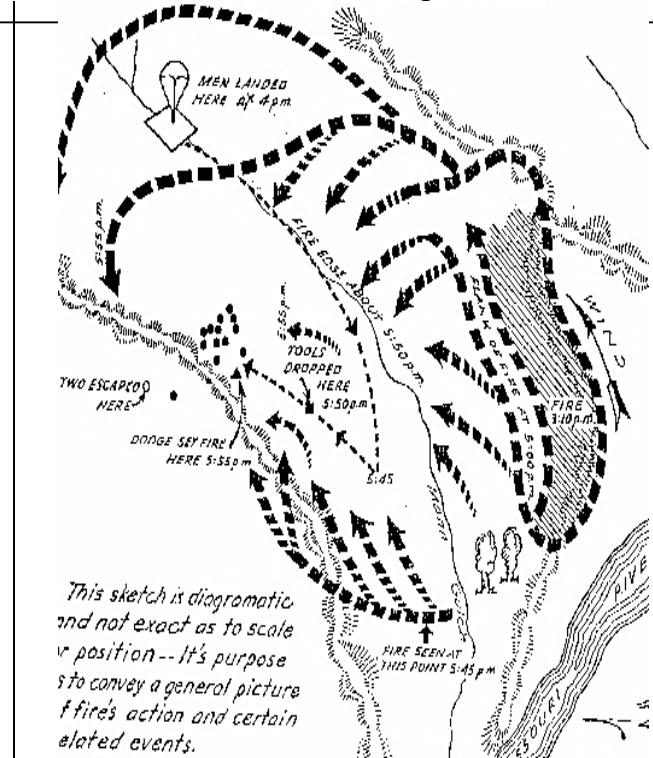
- Open your IRPG to page 1. Based on the above information coupled with the increase in fire size, use the Risk Management Process and the map (right) to discuss some of the actions you will take to ensure crew safety: as the FFT2, squad boss, crew boss, etc.

Based on initial aerial size-up, the strategy was to hold the fire on the ridge by anchoring the head of the fire and flanking down both sides to the toe. The fire was noted as "appearing relatively quiet".

- Discuss other tactics that your crew could use if presented with a similar situation. Look at the different options available at different steps of the initial attack.

Though his ability as a firefighter was well respected by his peers, the Foremen was not known by this young group of smokejumpers.

- When we find ourselves in this position (such as a Crew boss assignment) what can we do to create and encourage crew cohesion?



Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.