

National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Tuesday, July 28, 2015 - 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 2

National Fire Activity

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Initial attack activity: | Light (109 new fires) |
| New large incidents: | 4 |
| Large fires contained: | 3 |
| Uncontained large fires: ** | 14 |
| Area Command Teams committed: | 0 |
| NIMOs committed: | 0 |
| Type 1 IMTs committed: | 3 |
| Type 2 IMTs committed: | 6 |

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

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

Five wildland fire suppression crews and an IARR are assigned to support large fires in Alberta, Canada. Additionally, several states are supporting Canada through interstate forest fire compacts.

Northern California Area (PL 3)

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| New fires: | 23 |
| New large incidents: | 0 |
| Uncontained large fires: | 3 |
| Type 1 IMTs committed: | 2 |

Lowell, Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit, Cal Fire. IMT 1 (Gouvea). Two miles west of Gold Run, CA. Timber. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, single tree torching and flanking. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road, area and trail closures in effect.

Wragg, Sonoma-Lake Napa Unit, Cal Fire. Cal Fire IMT 1 (Estes). Four miles west of Winters, CA. Chaparral, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Area closures in effect.

Queen, Humboldt-Del Norte Unit, Cal Fire. Twelve miles northwest of Weitchpec, CA. Heavy logging slash. 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 | | | |
| Lowell | CA-NEU | 1,700 | 0 | 25 | Ctn | 8/01 | 2,048 | 624 | 46 | 187 | 18 | 0 | 5.8M | ST |
| Wragg | CA-LNU | 6,591 | 0 | 75 | Ctn | 7/30 | 1,166 | -244 | 24 | 75 | 8 | 2 | 11M | ST |
| Queen | CA-HUU | 200 | 0 | 42 | Ctn | NR | 922 | -129 | 37 | 59 | 0 | 0 | 1.5M | ST |

Southern California Area (PL 3)

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| New fires: | 4 |
| New large incidents: | 0 |
| Uncontained large fires: | 2 |
| Type 2 IMTs committed: | 2 |

Cutca, Cleveland NF. IMT 2 (Wakoski). Four miles south of Aguana, CA. Chaparral. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Trail closures in effect.

Willow, Sierra NF. IMT 2 (Cooper). Two miles west of Wishon, CA. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, group torching and short-range spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Road closures in effect.

| Incident Name | Unit | Size | | % Chge | Ctn / Comp | Est | Personnel | | Resources | | | Strc Lost | \$\$ CTD | Origin Own |
|---------------|--------|-------|------|-----------|------------|------|-----------|------|-----------|-----|------|-----------|----------|------------|
| | | Acres | Chge | | | | Total | Chge | Crews | Eng | Heli | | | |
| Cutca | CA-CNF | 167 | 0 | 75 | Ctn | 7/29 | 385 | -40 | 12 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 1.8M | FS |
| Willow | CA-SNF | 1,521 | 0 | 5 | Ctn | 8/01 | 1,215 | 430 | 21 | 71 | 8 | 0 | 2.1M | FS |

Northern Rockies Area (PL 2)

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| New fires: | 14 |
| New large incidents: | 2 |
| Uncontained large fires: | 4 |
| Type 1 IMTs committed: | 1 |
| Type 2 IMTs committed: | 1 |

Muddy Creek Two, Northern Cheyenne Agency, BIA. IMT 2 (Leach). Five miles southwest of Lame Deer, MT. Active fire behavior with single tree torching and creeping. Structures threatened. Road closures in effect.

Reynolds, Glacier NP. IMT 1 (Poncin). Twelve miles southwest of Babb, MT. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Road, area and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

* **Pine Ridge**, Crow Agency, BIA. Four miles northeast Crow Agency, MT. Brush. Moderate fire behavior. Structures threatened.

* **5 mile**, Yellowstone County. Five miles northwest of Custer, MT. Timber, brush and short grass. Extreme fire behavior with crowning, running and torching. Structures and sage-grouse habitat threatened. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

| Incident Name | Unit | Size | | % Chge | Ctn / Comp | Est | Personnel | | Resources | | | Strc Lost | \$\$ CTD | Origin Own |
|-----------------|--------|-------|------|-----------|------------|-----|-----------|------|-----------|-----|------|-----------|----------|------------|
| | | Acres | Chge | | | | Total | Chge | Crews | Eng | Heli | | | |
| Muddy Creek Two | MT-NCA | 2,000 | 553 | 10 | Ctn | NR | 145 | 105 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 400K | BIA |
| Reynolds | MT-GNP | 3,170 | -67 | 45 | Ctn | NR | 691 | 36 | 16 | 23 | 8 | 2 | 4.3M | NPS |
| * Pine Ridge | MT-CRA | 1,700 | --- | 80 | Ctn | UNK | 13 | --- | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 50K | BIA |

| Incident Name | Unit | Size | | % | Ctn / Comp | Est | Personnel | | Resources | | | Strc Lost | \$\$ CTD | Origin Own |
|----------------|---------|-------|------|-----|------------|------|-----------|------|-----------|-----|------|-----------|----------|------------|
| | | Acres | Chge | | | | Total | Chge | Crews | Eng | Heli | | | |
| * 5 mile | MT-LG03 | 300 | --- | 0 | Ctn | 7/28 | 30 | --- | 0 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 20K | CNTY |
| Cabin Gulch | MT-HNF | 1,616 | 0 | 100 | Ctn | --- | 147 | -139 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2.6M | FS |
| Beaver | MT-LG40 | 1,539 | -461 | 100 | Ctn | --- | 0 | -32 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20K | CNTY |
| Missouri River | MT-LED | 423 | --- | 100 | Ctn | --- | 0 | --- | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50K | BLM |

HNF – Helena NF

LG40 – Sweet Grass, County

LED – Lewiston Field Office, BLM

Northwest Area (PL 2)

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| New fires: | 20 |
| New large incidents: | 0 |
| Uncontained large fires: | 4 |
| Type 2 IMTs committed: | 2 |

Blue Creek, Southeast Region, DNR. IMT 2 (Ciraulo). Started on private land 10 miles east of Walla Walla, WA. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

North Boulder 2, Colville NF. IMT 2 (Rabe). Twenty-seven miles northwest of Colville, WA. Timber, closed timber litter and brush. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Rye, Wallowa Unit, DOF. Started on private land four miles northeast of Paradise, OR. Tall grass. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened.

Oak Canyon, Prineville District, BLM. Started on private land nine miles southeast of Dufur, OR. Short grass. No new information.

| Incident Name | Unit | Size | | % | Ctn / Comp | Est | Personnel | | Resources | | | Strc Lost | \$\$ CTD | Origin Own |
|-----------------|---------|-------|------|----|------------|------|-----------|------|-----------|-----|------|-----------|----------|------------|
| | | Acres | Chge | | | | Total | Chge | Crews | Eng | Heli | | | |
| Blue Creek | WA-SES | 6,004 | -221 | 73 | Ctn | NR | 879 | -106 | 21 | 65 | 10 | 12 | 7.3M | ST |
| North Boulder 2 | WA-COF | 175 | 0 | 22 | Ctn | NR | 385 | 24 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1M | FS |
| Rye | OR-974S | 763 | 0 | 80 | Ctn | 7/28 | 25 | 25 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 611K | PRI |
| Oak Canyon | OR-PRD | 930 | --- | 90 | Ctn | NR | 77 | --- | 3 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 75K | BLM |

Alaska Area (PL 2)

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| New fires: | 2 |
| New large incidents: | 1 |
| Uncontained large fires: | 0 |
| Type 2 IMTs committed: | 1 |

Tanana Area Fires (5 fires), Tanana Zone, BLM. IMT 2 (Grant). Started on native corporation land seven miles northeast of Tanana, AK. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with isolated torching, creeping and smoldering. Numerous structures threatened.

Aggie Creek, Fairbanks Area Forestry, DOF. Thirty miles northwest of Fairbanks, AK. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Numerous structures threatened. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Aniak Complex (3 fires), Southwest Area Forestry, DOF. One mile east of Aniak, AK. Timber. Minimal fire behavior.

* **Bridge**, Tanana Zone, BLM. Thirty-five miles southeast of Poorman, AK. Timber. Minimal fire behavior. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

| Incident Name | Unit | Size | | % | Ctn / Comp | Est | Personnel | | Resources | | | Strc Lost | \$\$ CTD | Origin Own |
|-------------------|--------|---------|------|----|------------|-----|-----------|------|-----------|-----|------|-----------|----------|------------|
| | | Acres | Chge | | | | Total | Chge | Crews | Eng | Heli | | | |
| Tanana Area Fires | AK-TAD | 491,366 | 36 | 90 | Comp | NR | 256 | -60 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 13.1M | TRI |
| Aggie Creek | AK-FAS | 31,705 | 0 | 55 | Comp | NR | 159 | -21 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 13M | ST |
| Aniak Complex | AK-SWS | 155,072 | 0 | 85 | Comp | NR | 74 | -45 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 8.3M | ST |
| * Bridge | AK-TAD | 2,279 | --- | 0 | Comp | NR | 0 | --- | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1K | BLM |

Rocky Mountain Area (PL 1)

New fires: 6
 New large incidents: 1
 Uncontained large fires: 1

* **Bitter Creek**, High Desert District, BLM. Twenty miles southeast of Green River, WY. Brush and short grass. Extreme fire behavior with wind-driven runs.

| Incident Name | Unit | Size | | % | Ctn / Comp | Est | Personnel | | Resources | | | Strc Lost | \$\$ CTD | Origin Own |
|----------------|--------|-------|------|---|------------|------|-----------|------|-----------|-----|------|-----------|----------|------------|
| | | Acres | Chge | | | | Total | Chge | Crews | Eng | Heli | | | |
| * Bitter Creek | WY-HDD | 2,366 | --- | 0 | Ctn | 8/02 | 101 | --- | 2 | 13 | 2 | 0 | 80K | BLM |

| Active Incident Resource Summary | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|
| GACC | Fires | Cumulative Acres | Crews | Engines | Helicopters | Total Personnel |
| AKCC | 46 | 1,990,308 | 31 | 5 | 11 | 979 |
| NWCC | 16 | 47,601 | 51 | 109 | 17 | 1,988 |
| ONCC | 4 | 8,566 | 109 | 327 | 26 | 4,216 |
| OSCC | 3 | 2,134 | 33 | 76 | 11 | 1,600 |
| NRCC | 15 | 11,617 | 33 | 71 | 15 | 1,383 |
| GBCC | 11 | 19,423 | 3 | 11 | 3 | 158 |
| SWCC | 2 | 1,097 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| RMCC | 5 | 2,455 | 2 | 15 | 2 | 117 |
| EACC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SACC | 4 | 4,614 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 22 |
| Total | 106 | 2,087,818 | 262 | 620 | 85 | 10,463 |

Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):

| Area | | BIA | BLM | FWS | NPS | ST/OT | USFS | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|-------|------------|------------|----------|----------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Alaska Area | FIREs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Northwest Area | FIREs | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 6 | 20 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 6 |
| Northern California Area | FIREs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 7 | 23 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 36 | 4 | 40 |
| Southern California Area | FIREs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 13 | 0 | 19 |
| Northern Rockies Area | FIREs | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 6 | 14 |
| | ACRES | 500 | 82 | 0 | 0 | 101 | 0 | 683 |
| Great Basin Area | FIREs | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 5 | 19 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 132 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 1 | 145 |
| Southwest Area | FIREs | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| | ACRES | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Rocky Mountain Area | FIREs | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 101 |
| Eastern Area | FIREs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 1 | 18 |
| Southern Area | FIREs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 9 | 12 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 | 126 | 155 |
| TOTAL FIRES: | | 1 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 55 | 39 | 109 |
| TOTAL ACRES: | | 505 | 316 | 0 | 6 | 213 | 132 | 1,172 |

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

| Area | | BIA | BLM | FWS | NPS | ST/OT | USFS | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|-------|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Alaska Area | FIREs | 0 | 258 | 0 | 0 | 440 | 22 | 720 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 3,638,602 | 0 | 0 | 1,080,581 | 775 | 4,719,958 |
| Northwest Area | FIREs | 105 | 156 | 31 | 44 | 1,031 | 835 | 2,202 |
| | ACRES | 7,267 | 36,320 | 14,584 | 1,897 | 6,674 | 37,434 | 104,176 |
| Northern California Area | FIREs | 113 | 20 | 5 | 21 | 1,937 | 611 | 2,707 |
| | ACRES | 121 | 143 | 354 | 1 | 15,500 | 2,678 | 18,797 |
| Southern California Area | FIREs | 19 | 40 | 11 | 33 | 2,155 | 349 | 2,607 |
| | ACRES | 29 | 1,907 | 12 | 111 | 20,449 | 35,676 | 58,184 |
| Northern Rockies Area | FIREs | 761 | 51 | 2 | 8 | 747 | 444 | 2,013 |
| | ACRES | 7,120 | 9,321 | 564 | 3,171 | 69,410 | 8,634 | 98,220 |
| Great Basin Area | FIREs | 28 | 481 | 4 | 25 | 384 | 284 | 1,206 |
| | ACRES | 15 | 32,120 | 0 | 60 | 6,453 | 20,785 | 59,433 |
| Southwest Area | FIREs | 406 | 158 | 5 | 25 | 410 | 603 | 1,607 |
| | ACRES | 51,905 | 2,554 | 4 | 3,737 | 16,306 | 83,111 | 157,617 |
| Rocky Mountain Area | FIREs | 422 | 186 | 11 | 16 | 607 | 117 | 1,359 |
| | ACRES | 13,495 | 2,181 | 178 | 7,408 | 62,937 | 822 | 87,021 |
| Eastern Area | FIREs | 527 | 0 | 29 | 14 | 5,416 | 342 | 6,328 |
| | ACRES | 2,181 | 0 | 2,102 | 547 | 43,979 | 5,490 | 54,299 |
| Southern Area | FIREs | 287 | 0 | 15 | 13 | 13,672 | 259 | 14,246 |
| | ACRES | 35,766 | 0 | 2,108 | 188 | 160,487 | 13,417 | 211,966 |
| TOTAL FIRES: | | 2,668 | 1,350 | 113 | 199 | 26,799 | 3,866 | 34,995 |
| TOTAL ACRES: | | 117,899 | 3,723,148 | 19,906 | 17,120 | 1,482,776 | 208,822 | 5,569,671 |

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Ten Year Average Fires (2005 – 2014 as of today) | 44,992 |
| Ten Year Average Acres (2005 – 2014 as of today) | 3,701,633 |

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 | 0 | 0 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rocky Mountain Area | 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 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,219 | 2,219 |
| TOTAL FIRES: | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| TOTAL ACRES: | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,219 | 2,219 |

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 | 2 | 0 | 100 | 109 |
| | ACRES | 0 | 78 | 495 | 83 | 0 | 1,860 | 2,516 |
| 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 | 144 | 229 |
| | ACRES | 615 | 18,888 | 2,436 | 4,606 | 0 | 72,839 | 99,384 |
| Rocky Mountain Area | FIREs | 19 | 34 | 57 | 11 | 48 | 80 | 249 |
| | ACRES | 2,085 | 6,299 | 15,899 | 1,153 | 2,134 | 22,351 | 49,921 |
| Eastern Area | FIREs | 30 | 0 | 261 | 22 | 1,372 | 157 | 1,842 |
| | ACRES | 39,398 | 0 | 32,934 | 6,637 | 65,469 | 49,517 | 193,955 |
| Southern Area | FIREs | 86 | 0 | 142 | 11 | 8,042 | 699 | 8,980 |
| | ACRES | 16,333 | 0 | 114,309 | 14,261 | 506,581 | 613,582 | 1,265,066 |
| TOTAL FIRES: | | 194 | 154 | 516 | 76 | 9,500 | 1,608 | 12,048 |
| TOTAL ACRES: | | 64,563 | 59,178 | 185,192 | 28,654 | 577,613 | 826,466 | 1,741,666 |

*** 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 | 3 | 0 | 1,342 | 297,632 |
| YUKON TERRITORY | 1 | 0 | 182 | 176,700 |
| ALBERTA | 11 | 0 | 1,492 | 486,568 |
| NORTHWEST TERRITORY | 0 | 0 | 207 | 599,071 |
| SASKATCHEWAN | 1 | 156,295 | 661 | 1,738,185 |
| MANITOBA | 9 | 756 | 419 | 43,403 |
| ONTARIO | 5 | 117 | 421 | 37,154 |
| QUEBEC | 1 | 0 | 312 | 4,975 |
| NEWFOUNDLAND | 0 | 0 | 111 | 6,274 |
| NEW BRUNSWICK | 0 | 0 | 191 | 252 |
| NOVA SCOTIA | 0 | 0 | 220 | 506 |
| PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 |
| NATIONAL PARKS | 1 | 0 | 90 | 509,544 |
| TOTALS | 32 | 157,168 | 5,652 | 3,900,265 |

* 1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: While a ridge of high pressure aloft dominates the southern U.S. today, a deep low pressure trough will move eastward through the northern Rockies and Dakotas. A strong cold front extending through the high Plains and central Rockies will continue to bring gusty winds to the region. Showers and thunderstorms with these features will focus on eastern Montana, the southern Rockies, and the upper Mississippi River Valley. Further west, significant warming and drying will begin over California and Oregon today with some areas seeing gusty offshore winds and poor humidity recoveries through morning. It will continue to be unsettled in Florida with showers and thunderstorms triggered by a frontal boundary. In Alaska, the northwest part of the state will remain dry, but wetting rain is expected elsewhere as an upper level low pressure system moves into the Gulf.

<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?

Point Fire - Idaho – July 28th 1995

Incident Summary: On July 28, 1995, dry thunderstorms move into southwestern Idaho sparking dozens of wildfires. At **1829**, a fire is reported about 16 miles southwest of Boise. BLM and Kuna Rural Fire District (RFD) resources are dispatched to the fire. As resources arrive on scene, the fire is 60-65 acres actively burning in mature sagebrush and dense cheatgrass with moderate rates of spread. West winds 4 to 6 mph fan 3-5 foot flame lengths along the flanks. The IC (BLM) instructs the BLM engines to split up and directly attack the flanks with the Kuna engines following behind the BLM engines. Kuna Command instructs the two Kuna engines to stay together and follow the BLM engines to compensate for less experienced firefighters occupying engine 620. By **2010**, it is reported that engines on both flanks had met and the spread of the fire had been stopped at 120 acres.

At **2022**, a Red Flag warning for dry lightning and locally strong winds is issued by the National Weather Service predicting wind gusts of up to 50 mph from a thunderstorm that was moving toward the fire. Engines along the northern perimeter of the fire are alerted via BLM Dispatch on a BLM radio channel.

Kuna RFD engines 620 and 622 continue to mop-up along the northern flank passing multiple federal fire resources and end up at a fence on the southeast corner of the fire line where they are given instructions to turn around and work back around the perimeter. The Kuna RFD engines work in tandem until Kuna 622 runs out of water. Kuna 620 takes the lead and continues using its remaining water. Using the radio in a nearby BLM engine, Kuna 622 contacts the IC and is instructed to refill and standby due to predicted high winds. Kuna 622 leaves the fireline to refill.

While Kuna 622 is enroute to refill, Kuna 620 contacts them with a report that their vehicle is overheating. They are instructed to clean the radiator screen. Soon after, and for unknown reasons, Kuna 620 turns north on a two track road and then north-northeast driving cross-country through unburned heavy sagebrush. At this point, the vehicle becomes disabled.

At about **2046**, the fire escapes the northern perimeter at several locations, fanned by strong south winds from the thunderstorm. Several fire personnel immediately drive north to assess fire behavior. They see that the fire is burning intensely with flame lengths over 20 feet long, and estimate the rate of spread to be about 560 ft./min. They see a stationary engine in the path of the oncoming flame front and make repeated attempts to contact the engine on the BLM tactical channel, but receive no response. They do not know if the engine is occupied.

At **2049**, Kuna 620 contacts the Kuna Commander on a local non-federal frequency and reports "we are on the north line, we have fire coming hard, and this thing has died." The Kuna 620 engine crew makes a radio transmission one minute later "the truck's been overtaken by fire!" That was their last transmission. Two firefighters lose their lives. It took 4 minutes from the point of escape for the fire to overrun the engine.

Discussion Points

L - *How do you establish and maintain lookouts during initial attack?*

- *If terrain is relatively flat, can we be lookouts for other crews nearby? If so, how?*

C - The BLM IC could not monitor Kuna Command because the frequency was not programmed into his radio, some Kuna crews could utilize the Boise District frequencies while others could not, Kuna Command did not have radio communications capability at all times with all the units, and Kuna RFD Engines 620 and 622 had communication capabilities with both BLM and Kuna Command, but could not communicate with Kuna Command when they switched to the BLM frequency.

- *During initial attack, how do you establish and maintain effective communications with other agencies and cooperators?*
- *As an IC, how do you ensure Red Flag warnings and other vital information is received by all resources on the fire?*

- *What will you and your crew do during any fire assignment to get accurate information about weather and current fire behavior?*

E and S - Sometimes it is necessary to travel through the unburned fuel while accessing the fire, burning out, or shuttling water.

- *What are your concerns?*
- *How do you maintain your Escape Routes and Safety Zones:*
 - *As you move down the line?*
 - *When enroute to refill?*
 - *How much water do you keep as reserve in the tank?*

[Point Fire Accident Investigation](#)