

National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Wednesday, August 9, 2017 – 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 4

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity:	Light (146) new fires
New large incidents:	6
Large fires contained:	5
Uncontained large fires:**	27
Area Command Teams Committed:	1
NIMOs committed:	2
Type 1 IMTs committed:	7
Type 2 IMTs committed:	17

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

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

One MAFFS C-130 airtanker and support personnel each from the 152 Airlift Wing, (Nevada Air National Guard), 153rd Airlift Wing, (Wyoming Air National Guard) and the 302nd Airlift Wing (Colorado Springs, Air Force Reserve) have been deployed to Fresno, CA in support of wildland fire operations.

Active Incident Resource Summary						
GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AICC	1	59,106	3	0	1	61
NWCC	20	98,969	118	186	38	4,572
ONCC	7	110,282	105	232	38	4,469
OSCC	9	103,792	28	38	9	1,021
NRCC	18	363,366	82	195	46	3,852
GBCC	15	213,478	23	82	15	1,163
SWCC	2	653	0	1	0	7
RMCC	2	2,840	0	8	0	30
EACC	0	0	0	0	0	0
SACC	3	1,099	0	0	0	1
Total	77	953,586	359	742	147	15,176

Northern Rockies Area (PL 4)

New fires:	21
New large incidents:	2
Uncontained large fires:	5
Area Command teams committed:	1
Type 1 IMTs committed:	3
Type 2 IMTs committed:	6

Area Command Team (Stutler) is managing large fires on the Lolo National Forest and Flathead Reservation.

* **Gibralter Ridge**, Kootenai NF. IMT 2 (Connell). Seven miles east of Eureka, MT. Timber. Extreme fire behavior with uphill runs. Evacuations, trail and area closures in effect.

Rice Ridge, Lolo NF. IMT 2 (Goldman). Six miles north of Seeley Lake, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior with group torching, uphill runs and short-range spotting. Structures threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Sunrise, Lolo NF. IMT 1 (Turman). IMT is also managing the Burdette fire. Eleven miles east of Superior, MT. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with short-range spotting, isolated torching and flanking. Structures threatened. Evacuations, road, trail and area closures in effect.

Burdette, Lolo NF. Thirteen miles southeast of Tarkio, MT. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering.

Sapphire Complex (3 fires), Lolo NF. IMT 2 (Thompson). Fifteen miles southeast of Clinton, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior with backing and group torching. Structures threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Lolo Peak, Lolo NF. IMT 1 (Livingston). Ten miles southwest of Lolo, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior with torching, short crown runs and spotting. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Meyers, Beaverhead - Deerlodge NF. IMT 2 (Almas). Twenty-five miles southwest of Philipsburg, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior with group torching. Structures threatened. Evacuations, road and area closures in effect.

Hanover, Nez Perce - Clearwater NF. IMT 2 (Leach) Four miles northeast of Florence, ID. Timber, brush and grass. Moderate fire behavior with uphill runs and long-range spotting. Structures threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Liberty, Flathead Agency, BIA. IMT 1 (McGowan). Seventeen miles southeast of Arlee, MT. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with backing, flanking and creeping. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Park Creek, Helena - Lewis and Clark NF. IMT 2 (Zombro). IMT is also managing the Arrastra Creek fire. Two miles north of Lincoln, MT. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with backing and creeping. Structures threatened. Area closures in effect.

Arrastra Creek, Helena - Lewis and Clark NF. Six miles northwest of Lincoln, MT. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with backing and creeping. Structures threatened. Area closures in effect.

* **Potato**, Miles City Field Office, BLM. Started on private land thirty-eight miles south of Ekalaka, MT. Short grass and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Sage grouse habitat threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Gibralter Ridge	MT-KNF	800	---	0	Ctn	09/01	67	---	0	10	4	0	400K	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Rice Ridge	MT-LNF	8,423	214	10	Comp	10/01	503	42	9	36	3	0	5.1M	FS
Sunrise	MT-LNF	14,591	582	20	Comp	09/30	518	-22	11	28	5	0	13M	FS
Burdette	MT-LNF	646	0	70	Ctn	09/30	17	0	1	0	0	0	1.1M	FS
Sapphire Complex	MT-LNF	25,949	1,458	32	Comp	10/31	663	20	13	43	5	1	14.6M	FS
Lolo Peak	MT-LNF	7,453	161	0	Ctn	09/09	394	18	6	10	5	0	9.6M	FS
Meyers	MT-BDF	13,236	139	4	Ctn	10/21	552	5	15	14	8	0	10.7M	FS
Hanover	ID-NCF	5,915	484	0	Comp	10/15	294	12	7	9	8	0	2.3M	FS
Liberty	MT-FHA	4,125	154	90	Comp	09/25	361	10	9	4	1	0	5.4M	BIA
Park Creek	MT-HLF	5,189	0	40	Comp	09/30	293	0	8	13	5	0	7.1M	FS
Arrastra Creek	MT-HLF	4,002	0	30	Comp	09/30	98	-19	2	11	0	0	2.6M	FS
* Potato	MT-MCD	1,097	---	45	Ctn	08/16	42	---	0	10	0	0	15K	PRI

Northwest Area (PL 4)

New fires:	7
New large incidents:	1
Uncontained large fires:	8
NIMOs committed	2
Type 1 IMTs committed:	3
Type 2 IMTs committed:	5

Blanket Creek, Rogue River - Siskiyou NF. IMT 1 (von Willow) and IMT 2 (Gales). IMT 2 (Gales) is also managing the Spruce Lake fire. Nine miles northeast of Prospect, OR. Timber. Active fire behavior with torching and spotting. Structures threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Spruce Lake, Crater Lake National Park. Fifteen miles southwest of Diamond Lake, OR. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with isolated torching and flanking. Structures threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Whitewater, Willamette NF. IMT 2 (Knerr). Ten miles east of Idanha, OR. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with backing and single-tree torching. Structures threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Noisy Creek, Colville, NF. IMT 2 (Rabe). Six miles southeast of Metaline Falls, WA. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with backing, flanking and uphill runs. Evacuations, road, trail and area closures in effect.

Bear Butte, Wallowa - Whitman NF. IMT 2 (Goff). Twenty miles northwest of Baker City, OR. Timber. No new information.

* **Flounce**, Medford District, BLM. ODF IMT 1 (Hessel). Started on state land 12 miles northwest of Shady Cove, OR. Timber, brush and tall grass. Active fire behavior with running, short-range spotting and group torching. Structures threatened. Evacuations in effect.

Diamond Creek, Okanogan - Wenatchee NF. Transfer of command from IMT 1 (Schulte) back to the local unit will occur tomorrow. Twenty-five miles north of Winthrop, WA. Timber and grass. Active fire behavior with crowning, running and spotting. Structures threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Chetco Bar, Rogue River - Siskiyou NF. NIMO (Houseman). Sixteen miles west of Selma, OR. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with backing and flanking. Road and trail closures in effect.

Indian Creek, Mt. Hood NF. NIMO (Quesinberry). Six miles south of Cascade Locks, OR. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Trail and area closures in effect.

Cinder Butte, Burns District, BLM. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (Ciraulo) back to the local unit will occur today. Ten miles west of Riley, OR. Timber, brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Sage-grouse habitat threatened. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Suiattle, Northwest Region – DNR. Nine miles northeast of Darrington, WA. Timber. No new information.

Devils Lake, Fremont - Winema NF. Seven miles southeast of Bly, OR. Timber and short grass. No new information.

Clarks Creek, La Grande District, Oregon Department of Forestry. Eighteen miles northeast of La Grande, OR. Timber and short grass. Minimal fire behavior.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Blanket Creek	OR-RSF	4,739	0	39	Ctn	08/31	771	-20	21	24	6	0	10.9M	FS
Spruce Lake	OR-CLP	4,681	0	23	Ctn	08/31	384	-13	16	5	2	0	3.1M	NPS
Whitewater	OR-WIF	5,515	0	0	Comp	10/31	661	39	17	19	6	0	6.8M	FS
Noisy Creek	WA-COF	3,550	430	30	Ctn	09/30	333	23	8	11	3	0	2.8M	FS
Bear Butte	WA-WWF	489	106	30	Ctn	08/20	395	54	9	15	4	0	1M	FS
* Flounce	OR-MED	700	---	0	Ctn	08/25	411	---	16	12	6	0	2.5M	ST
Diamond Creek	WA-OWF	12,525	2,620	0	Comp	10/15	187	-1	2	5	4	0	2.2M	FS
Chetco Bar	OR-RSF	4,821	238	14	Comp	10/15	70	-1	2	0	1	0	1.7M	FS
Indian Creek	OR-MHF	83	0	0	Comp	09/30	79	3	1	0	2	0	1.7M	FS
Cinder Butte	OR-BUD	52,465	-66	90	Comp	08/09	376	-90	10	23	0	4	3.6M	BLM
Suiattle	WA-NWS	216	---	90	Ctn	09/30	178	---	3	6	2	0	2.3M	ST
Devils Lake	OR-FWF	1,706	---	93	Ctn	UNK	277	---	5	4	1	0	3.8M	FS
Clarks Creek	OR-971S	300	0	90	Ctn	08/09	45	-2	0	9	1	0	90K	ST
Hayes Road	WA-WFS	2,306	0	100	Ctn	---	0	-90	0	0	0	1	540K	ST

WFS – Washington State Fire Marshal's Office

Northern California Area (PL 4)

New fires:	59
New large incidents:	1
Uncontained large fires:	7
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	4

Modoc July Complex (2 Fires), Modoc NF. IMT 1 (J. Kurth). Twenty miles northeast of Newell, CA. Brush and grass. Active fire behavior with running, torching and smoldering. Residences and sage-grouse habitat threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Minerva 5, Plumas NF. IMT 2 (Mills). One mile southwest of Quincy, CA. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and single-tree torching. Structures threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Parker 2, Modoc NF. IMT 2 (Young). Eleven miles east of Alturas, CA. Timber, brush and grass. Moderate fire behavior with isolated torching and short-range spotting. Residences threatened. Evacuations, road, trail and area closures in effect.

Orleans Complex, Six Rivers NF. IMT 2 (Wakoski) and IMT 2 (Coots). Twenty miles north of Orleans, CA. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with flanking, backing, and short-range spotting. Structures threatened. Road and area closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Clear, Klamath NF. Nine miles southwest of Happy Camp, CA. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, uphill runs and short-range spotting. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Poslin, Plumas NF. Three miles northeast of Scotts, CA. Chaparral, brush and grass. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened.

* **54 Dutchman**, Six Rivers NF. Six miles south of Ruth, CA. Timber. Active fire behavior. Trail and area closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Modoc July Complex	CA-MDF	83,109	108	91	Ctn	08/16	1,530	-138	39	80	6	0	29.8M	FS
Minerva 5	CA-PNF	4,310	0	91	Ctn	08/12	1,039	-219	21	68	18	0	16.9M	FS
Parker 2	CA-MDF	8,079	78	30	Ctn	08/13	637	47	12	37	6	1	4M	FS
Orleans Complex	CA-SRF	5,033	507	11	Comp	09/30	611	-108	14	13	6	0	9.5M	FS
Clear	CA-KNF	6,400	392	47	Ctn	09/01	481	-20	16	20	2	0	6.5M	FS
Poslin	CA-PNF	859	59	80	Ctn	08/09	131	-144	3	14	0	0	489K	FS
* 54 Dutchman	CA-SRF	500	---	99	Ctn	09/01	0	---	0	0	0	0	65K	FS
Chilcoot	CA-TNF	1,021	0	100	Ctn	---	112	78	3	10	1	0	750K	FS

TNF – Tonto National Forest

Great Basin Area (PL 4)

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

Powerline, Fort Hall Agency, BIA. IMT 2 (Chadwick). Twenty miles southwest of Pocatello, ID. Brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened. Area closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Pole Creek, Bridger - Teton NF. IMT 2 (DeMasters) Twenty-eight miles southeast of Afton, WY. Timber and grass. Moderate fire behavior with flanking, isolated-torching and backing. Road, trail and area closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

* **Dune**, Winnemucca District Office, BLM. Twenty miles northwest of Winnemucca, NV. Short grass and brush. Active fire behavior with running and flanking. Sage-grouse habitat threatened.

***Duncan**, Boise District, BLM. Forty-five miles southwest of Mountain Home, ID. Short grass and brush. Moderate fire behavior with running and flanking. Sage-grouse habitat threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Powerline	ID-FHA	53,076	1,062	47	Ctn	08/13	468	65	12	23	6	0	1.8M	BIA
Pole Creek	WY-BTF	3,159	0	15	Ctn	08/25	164	0	3	12	4	0	280K	FS
* Dune	NV-WID	13,000	---	20	Ctn	08/09	97	---	1	10	2	0	150K	BLM
* Duncan	ID-BOD	600	---	20	Ctn	08/09	55	---	0	9	0	0	150K	BLM
Mammoth Cave	ID-TFD	50,116	0	100	Ctn	---	60	-110	0	13	0	3	560K	BLM
Lava Flow	ID-IDF	22,651	0	100	Ctn	---	5	-119	0	0	0	0	875K	BLM

TFD – Twin Falls District, BLM IFD – Idaho Falls District, BLM

Southern California Area (PL 3)

New fires: 26
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 3

Detwiler, Merced - Mariposa Unit, Cal Fire. Fifteen miles northwest of Mariposa, CA. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior. Last report unless significant fire activity occurs.

Bryant 2, San Bernardino Unit, Cal Fire. Two miles north of Yucaipa, CA. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior.

Indian, Inyo NF. Sixteen miles west of Olancha, CA. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with creeping and uphill runs. Structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Detwiler	CA-MMU	81,826	0	98	Ctn	08/14	83	-19	0	0	0	131	90M	ST
Bryant 2	CA-BDU	325	0	95	Ctn	08/11	205	-161	7	5	1	1	2.5M	ST
Indian	CA-INF	346	95	1	Ctn	09/30	52	52	1	0	4	0	200K	FS

Southern Area (PL 1)

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

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
NW South Unit	TX-AHR	496	45	100	Ctn	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	2K	FWS

AHR - Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge

Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):

Area	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIREs	0	0	0	1	0	1
	ACRES	0	6,680	0	0	0	6,680
Northwest Area	FIREs	0	3	0	0	2	7
	ACRES	0	52,310	0	0	40	52,354
Northern California Area	FIREs	0	0	0	1	26	59
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1,069	1,082
Southern California Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	23	26
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	169	305
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	0	5	0	8	5	21
	ACRES	0	2,499	0	2	1	2,417
Great Basin Area	FIREs	1	6	0	0	4	14
	ACRES	0	4,202	0	0	35	4,246
Southwest Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	2	3
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	51	53
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	0	1	0	0	6	9
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	27	27
Eastern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	4	5
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	15	15
Southern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	1	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	5	5
TOTAL FIRES:	1	15	0	9	74	47	146
TOTAL ACRES:	0	65,691	0	2	245	3,748	69,686

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

Area	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIREs	0	169	0	0	161	13 343
	ACRES	0	557,673	0	0	81,351	1 639,025
Northwest Area	FIREs	160	148	30	14	962	522 1,836
	ACRES	8,091	162,956	2,848	1,602	52,531	35,378 263,406
Northern California Area	FIREs	37	38	2	9	1,725	460 2,271
	ACRES	34	14,484	70	34	23,638	107,099 145,359
Southern California Area	FIREs	160	47	2	26	2,580	277 3,092
	ACRES	290	700	0	350	123,937	44,609 169,886
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	548	117	14	13	1,103	402 2,197
	ACRES	20,407	270,814	400	27	102,541	114,532 508,721
Great Basin Area	FIREs	27	695	4	31	631	259 1,647
	ACRES	53,583	1,048,000	2	38	420,316	86,866 1,608,805
Southwest Area	FIREs	665	210	16	37	649	798 2,375
	ACRES	45,812	22,870	153	1,384	113,871	347,925 532,015
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	587	241	7	17	811	287 1,950
	ACRES	8,505	43,523	202	329	483,563	7,118 543,240
Eastern Area	FIREs	343	0	13	14	3,167	282 3,819
	ACRES	696	0	19	129	16,580	3,113 20,537
Southern Area	FIREs	256	8	44	26	20,409	356 21,099
	ACRES	60,251	36	151,917	53,054	1,319,502	25,887 1,610,647
TOTAL FIRES:	2,783	1,673	132	187	32,198	3,656	40,629
TOTAL ACRES:	197,669	2,121,056	155,611	56,947	2,737,830	772,528	6,041,641

Ten Year Average Fires (2007 – 2016 as of today)	44,039
Ten Year Average Acres (2007 – 2016 as of today)	4,231,578

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
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern California Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern California Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Basin Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southwest Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	100	100
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	9	0	9
	ACRES	0	0	0	19	0	19
TOTAL FIRES:	0	0	0	0	9	0	9
TOTAL ACRES:	0	0	0	0	19	100	119

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

Area	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIREs	0	0	0	6	2	8
	ACRES	0	0	0	64,850	100	64,950
Northwest Area	FIREs	6	11	4	1	0	92
	ACRES	1,782	1,336	4,761	38	0	11,523
Northern California Area	FIREs	1	5	6	11	0	112
	ACRES	20	654	239	258	0	9,671
Southern California Area	FIREs	0	3	5	3	0	152
	ACRES	0	62	464	504	0	4,252
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	6	13	42	6	13	98
	ACRES	462	3,820	18,690	752	1,389	6,413
Great Basin Area	FIREs	3	18	5	6	33	63
	ACRES	24	1,628	933	43	803	12,765
Southwest Area	FIREs	22	32	4	5	5	97
	ACRES	3,721	46,871	4,952	1,639	6,105	60,916
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	17	31	35	10	68	84
	ACRES	741	3,013	18,304	2,370	3,246	37,488
Eastern Area	FIREs	51	0	169	22	1,192	176
	ACRES	26,679	0	26,117	6,148	97,262	65,185
Southern Area	FIREs	48	0	123	28	60,204	689
	ACRES	6,894	0	94,960	133,644	1,485,584	627,574
TOTAL FIRES:	154	113	393	92	61,521	1,520	63,793
TOTAL ACRES:	40,323	57,384	169,420	145,396	1,659,239	835,887	2,907,649

*** 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	15	1,011	915	578,566
YUKON TERRITORY	2	20	94	316,196
ALBERTA	12	16	915	5,223
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	0	8,629	194	338,975
SASKATCHEWAN	1	688	211	32,505
MANITOBA	12	9,914	309	46,213
ONTARIO	28	1,170	396	62,174
QUEBEC	1	0	253	33,988
NEWFOUNDLAND	0	0	62	698
NEW BRUNSWICK	6	0	140	103
NOVA SCOTIA	0	0	157	723
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	4	7
NATIONAL PARKS	0	0	122	55,352
TOTALS	77	21,448	3,772	1,470,723

* 1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: With the upper level disturbance remaining entrenched along the coast of Northern California, expect for another day of widely scattered convection across the northwestern states. Storms will be a mix of dry and wet, and new fire starts are expected. Dry conditions will continue over Southern California as a weakening ridge of high pressure over the Pacific Ocean begins to retreat. The monsoonal flow and associated convection will begin to redevelop over the Four Corners Region as temperatures return to being above normal beneath a re-strengthening of the high pressure ridge centered over New Mexico. In the east, westerly flow will bring near normal temperatures along with breezy winds to the central Great Plains.

<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?

Sadler Fire Entrapment – August 9th 1999 - Nevada

On August 5, 1999, a dry lightning storm passes through northern Nevada that ignites numerous fires. Due to a wet winter and spring, the fuels are abnormally heavy. Now, deep into summer, these fuels are measuring less than 80% live fuel moisture. Normal fire suppression tactics have not been effective on previous fires, particularly direct attack and burning operations during the heat of the day. The weather and fire behavior forecasts predict extreme burning conditions. This same day as the lightning storm, a Type 2 crew—the GNP3—is assembled in California. This crew consists of 21 members (17 FFT2s) from fuels and suppression modules as well as non-fire and overhead positions from various home units. The following day, they are dispatched to the Sadler Complex south of Elko, Nevada. During the next two days, they work on the fireline. The next day, August 9, while conducting a burnout operation, six firefighters from the GNP3 crew are entrapped by wildfire.

0600 Briefing starts unannounced and several crews and overhead miss some or all of it. Briefing places little emphasis on a red flag warning that has been issued for high winds, low RH, and unstable atmospheric conditions. The IAP forecast calls for extreme fire behavior with high rates of spread, south winds increasing in afternoon, minimum RH 6-12%, Haines Index of 6, max temp 85-91, and FDFM of 3%. However, there are not enough IAPs for everyone—including the GNP3 crew boss and a DIVS. Extreme fire behavior is discussed at the GNP3 crew briefing and is characterized as “normal”.

0900 GNP3 is assigned to support 2 Interagency Hotshot Crews asked to burnout from Big Safety Zone to the NW and the dozer line to Black Safety Zone. The dozer line is about ½ mile north of the head of the fire.

1100 After a recon, the hotshot superintendents refuse to accept burnout assignment until the line south of Big Safety Zone is secure. The DIVS and the 2 IHCs leave to do the other burnout. GNP3 waits.

1300 GNP3 accepts assignment to burn out across the head of the fire from Black Safety Zone going east to the “Y”.

1400 Ignition is delayed due to unfavorable winds. Overhead feels if they “didn’t attempt a burn, the fire would get away”. Plan is changed to burnout from the east to the west instead—the very plan that the hotshots had refused.

1430 Due to concerns regarding GPN3 crew’s lack of experience and fitness, only 3 members and the crew boss are used for the firing operation.

1500 This squad begins firing from the “Y”—without an anchor point—supported by an engine. The fireline behind them is unsecured. Due to hills, no one on the burnout squad can see the main fire. There are no aircraft to assist as lookout. Because of occasional wind shifts, the igniters must walk very fast and occasionally trot to keep ahead of their fire. They are unable to use

the black as a safety zone. For these burning conditions, safety zones along the dozer line are too small and too far apart.

1515 Back behind the firing squad, the engine is very busy picking up multiple spot fires and slopovers. The engine captain radios to stop ignition. There is no response. The same tactical channel is also being used by the other burnout and is overloaded with traffic.

1530 Half way through the 1.3 mile burnout, two more GNP3 members join the firing squad.

1540 Overhead watching the burnout sees the main fire become visible and take off down the hill toward the squad. They attempt to warn the squad but are unable to make radio contact. Shortly after, the main fire becomes visible to the squad as it crests the ridge to the south. It is described as a “river of fire” as it makes a run at the dozer line and the crew at speeds in excess of 300 chains per hour with 15 ft. flame lengths.

The engine is cut off from the squad and retreats to a safety zone. The order to “run” is given to the firing squad. Tools and gear are dropped on the way to the safety zone, almost 600 ft. away. Several crewmembers unsuccessfully attempt to deploy their fire shelters.

Crew members receive 1st and 2nd degree burns and smoke inhalation. An injured crewmember, an EMT, suffering from smoke inhalation, is asked to provide first aid for the others.

- *What are your responsibilities if you are asking another resource to take an assignment that has previously been turned down?*
- *The burnout was a potentially dangerous assignment. What will you do to size up your resource’s capabilities and experience and assign them to appropriate tasks?*
- *As a crew/crewmember, you have a responsibility to look after your own safety—which includes the right to accept or reject an assignment. Using the IRPG page 19, have everyone discuss how to properly refuse risk.*
- *Discuss how you and your crew would apply LCES throughout the day on this incident.*

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.