

National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Monday, July 17, 2017 – 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 4

National Fire Activity

Initial activity:	Light (176) new fires
New large incidents:	10
Large fires contained:	9
Uncontained large fires:**	35
Area Command Teams Committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	0
Type 1 IMTs committed:	5
Type 2 IMTs committed:	12

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

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

Active Incident Resource Summary						
GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AICC	3	130,399	3	0	2	85
NWCC	17	19,464	56	127	15	1,878
ONCC	7	87,999	35	85	13	1,303
OSCC	9	116,646	145	529	39	6,713
NRCC	27	62,007	30	69	16	1,207
GBCC	32	750,306	39	132	15	1,946
SWCC	18	200,563	10	23	5	467
RMCC	8	18,614	13	32	4	586
EACC	0	0	0	0	0	0
SACC	4	8,682	0	2	1	20
Total	125	1,394,681	331	999	110	14,205

Great Basin Area (PL 4)

New fires:	17
New large incidents:	3
Uncontained large fires:	7
Type 2 IMTs committed	5

Long Valley, Northern California District, BLM. IMT 2 (Fogle). Fifty miles north of Reno, NV. Brush and short grass. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, wind driven runs and short-range spotting. Numerous residences threatened. Evacuations, area and trail closures in effect. Energy infrastructure threatened. Sage-grouse habitat threatened.

MM155, Winnemucca District, BLM. Twenty-one miles southwest of Winnemucca, NV. Brush and short grass. Active fire behavior with running. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations in effect. Sage-grouse habitat threatened.

* **Four Seasons Complex** (2 fires), Elko District, BLM. Includes previously reported Snowstorm and Cornucopia incidents. IMT 2 (Goff). IMT is also managing Roosters Comb incident. Started on state land 50 miles north of Battle Mountain, NV. Brush and tall grass. Active fire behavior with flanking and running. Structures threatened. Sage-grouse habitat threatened.

Roosters Comb, Northern Region, Nevada DOF. Twenty-five miles north of Battle Mountain, NV. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior. Sage-grouse habitat threatened.

* **Missouri**, Payette NF. IMT 2 (Roide). One miles southwest of Yellow Pine, ID. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with uphill runs and torching. Structures threatened. Trail closures in effect.

* **Water Tower**, Uinta/Wasatch-Cache NF. One mile east of Alpine, UT. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, backing and group torching. Residences threatened. Evacuations in effect.

Bravo17, Fallon Naval Air Station, DOD. IMT 2 (Rohrer). Started on BLM land 25 miles east of Fallon, NV. Closed timber litter, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

Brianhead, Southwest Area, Utah DOF. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (DeMasters) back to the local unit will occur today. One mile north of Brian Head, UT. Timber and hardwood litter. Minimal fire behavior. Road, area and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Long Valley	CA-NOD	77,642	25,892	35	Ctn	07/25	873	340	23	51	13	6	5.2M	BLM
MM155	NV-WID	15,432	3,643	20	Ctn	07/17	313	140	5	14	0	0	1.1M	BLM
* Four Seasons Complex	NV-EKD	146,851	---	0	Ctn	07/23	513	---	9	26	6	0	947K	ST
Roosters Comb	NV-NNS	218,380	0	96	Ctn	07/17	29	-333	0	5	0	0	3.7M	ST
* Missouri	ID-PAF	600	---	0	Comp	10/01	44	---	3	0	1	0	250K	FS
* Water Tower	UT-UWF	505	---	0	Ctn	07/31	111	---	3	4	4	0	300K	FS
Bravo17	NV-FNAQ	22,964	-367	45	Comp	09/30	62	-3	2	2	0	0	333K	BLM
Brianhead	UT-SWS	71,673	0	95	Ctn	07/30	328	-27	7	7	2	26	35.2M	ST
Juni	ID-BOD	2,719	0	100	Ctn	---	44	-7	0	7	1	0	100K	BLM
Summer	NV-NNS	1,250	0	100	Ctn	---	33	-168	1	3	0	0	130K	ST
Eastline	ID-STF	176	0	100	Ctn	---	84	0	2	6	2	0	75K	FS

BOD – Boise District, BLM

STF – Sawtooth NF

Northern Rockies Area (PL 4)

New fires:	57
New large incidents:	3
Uncontained large fires:	9
Type 1 IMTs committed	1
Type 2 IMTs committed	4

Corral Creek, Craig Mountain Area, IDL. IMT 2 (Almas). Fifteen miles east of Anatone, ID. Brush and tall grass. Active fire behavior with flanking and wind driven runs. Structures threatened. Road and area closures in effect.

Lookout, Central Land Office, DNR. IMT 1 (Turman). Seven miles northwest of Sieben, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior.

* **Powerline**, Craig Mountain Area, IDL. Fifteen miles west of Winchester, ID. Brush and grass. Active fire behavior with backing and flanking. Structures threatened.

Sliderock, Lolo NF. IMT 2 (Leach). Twenty-eight miles southeast of Missoula, MT. Timber and closed timber litter. Active fire behavior with creeping, smoldering and single tree torching. Structures threatened. Road and trail closures in effect.

Park Creek, Helena-Lewis and Clark NF. IMT 2 (Hutton). Two miles north of Lincoln, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior with running and short-range spotting. Structures threatened.

Lazier Creek 3, Northwestern Land Office, DNR. IMT 2 (Thompson). Twenty-two miles southwest of Marion, MT. Timber. Minimal fire behavior.

* **Whetstone Ridge**, Beaverhead/Deerlodge NF. Twenty-five miles southwest of Philipsburg, MT. Timber and heavy logging slash. Active fire behavior with spotting, group torching and short crown runs. Area closures in effect.

July, Lewistown Field Office, BLM. One mile southwest of Zortman, MT. Timber and short grass. Minimal fire behavior.

North Delphia, Musselshell County. Fifteen miles northeast of Roundup, MT. Timber and grass. Minimal fire behavior.

Blue Ridge Complex, Miles City Field Office, BLM. Thirty-nine miles northwest of Jordan, MT. Timber, hardwood litter and grass. No new information.

Magpie, Dakota Prairie National Grasslands. Forty-four miles northwest of Dickinson, ND. Brush and short grass. No new information.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Corral Creek	ID-CMS	900	300	0	Ctn	07/20	15	-2	0	0	1	0	100K	ST
Lookout	MT-CES	390	190	0	Ctn	07/26	0	0	0	0	0	0	120K	ST
* Powerline	ID-CMS	925	---	0	Ctn	07/20	18	---	0	2	2	0	100K	ST
Sliderock	MT-LNF	185	65	0	Comp	10/15	107	46	2	1	4	0	500K	FS
Park Creek	MT-HLF	900	700	0	Comp	09/30	99	33	3	4	2	0	213K	FS
Lazier Creek 3	MT-NWS	1,145	0	70	Ctn	07/21	436	-47	10	24	1	0	4.4M	ST
* Whetstone Ridge	MT-BDF	371	---	0	Ctn	10/21	36	---	1	0	1	0	70K	FS
July	MT-LED	11,699	0	95	Ctn	UNK	39	-78	1	2	0	5	6.2M	BLM
North Delphia	MT-LG23	3,700	1,675	90	Ctn	07/18	60	-85	1	12	0	0	375K	CNTY
Blue Ridge Complex	MT-MCD	3,034	---	85	Ctn	UNK	74	---	2	7	0	0	115K	BLM
Magpie	ND-DPF	5,000	0	94	Ctn	07/21	84	-32	1	5	1	0	884K	FS
Cedar Creek	MT-MCD	800	---	100	Ctn	---	48	---	1	6	0	0	20K	PRI
* Highway 435 MA	MT-CES	767	---	100	Ctn	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	25K	CNTY

Southern California Area (PL 4)

New fires:	33
New large incidents:	1
Uncontained large fires:	6
Type 1 IMTs committed	4
Type 2 IMTs committed	1

Whittier, Los Padres NF. IMT 1 (von Tillo). Eleven miles northeast of Goleta, CA. Chaparral and Brush. Active fire behavior with backing, flanking and short-range spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road, area and trail closures in effect.

* **Detwiler**, Merced-Mariposa Unit, Cal Fire. Cal Fire IMT 1 (Derum). Fifteen miles northwest of Mariposa, CA. Brush and tall grass. Extreme fire behavior with uphill runs and long-range spotting. Residences threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect.

Garza, Fresno-Kings Unit, Cal Fire. Cal Fire. IMT 1 (Patterson). Ten miles southeast of Avenal City, CA. Chaparral, brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering.

Alamo, San Luis Obispo Unit, Cal Fire. Cal Fire IMT1 (Gouvea). Eight miles northeast of Santa Maria, CA. Chaparral and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior. Road closures in effect.

Schaeffer, Sequoia NF. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (Arroyo) back to the local unit will occur tomorrow. Seventeen miles north of Kernville, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with backing, flanking and isolated torching. Structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Bridge 2, San Bernardino Unit, Cal Fire. Two miles northeast of Mentone, CA. Brush and tall grass. No new information.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Whittier	CA-LPF	18,015	4,816	49	Ctn	07/31	2,271	347	50	144	16	46	19.7M	FS
* Detwiler	CA-MMU	2,500	---	0	Ctn	07/25	780	---	22	100	5	1	300K	ST
Garza	CA-FKU	48,403	0	80	Ctn	07/18	1,033	-225	18	76	4	1	13.2M	ST
Alamo	CA-SLU	28,687	0	95	Ctn	07/22	990	0	15	92	0	14	18.2M	ST
Schaeffer	CA-SQF	16,002	0	77	Ctn	07/31	585	0	14	11	7	0	12.7M	FS
Bridge 2	CA-BDU	450	---	20	Ctn	07/19	470	---	16	42	2	0	600K	ST

Northwest Area (PL 3)

New fires:	22
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	6
Type 2 IMTs committed	1

Canyon Creek, Northeast Region, Washington DNR. Two miles north of Carlton, WA. Timber, brush and tall grass. Moderate fire behavior. Structures threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect.

Redford Canyon, Colville Agency, BIA. Eight miles southeast of Keller, WA. Light logging slash, brush and tall grass. No new information.

Snake River, Washington State Fire Marshal's Office. Eight miles northwest of Clarkston, WA. Brush and tall grass. Active fire behavior with creeping, smoldering and uphill runs. Structures threatened.

Dry Creek, Southeast Region, Washington DNR. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (Sheldon) back to the local unit will occur today. Six miles north of Husum, WA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with backing, smoldering and creeping.

Buck, Wallowa-Whitman NF. Sixteen miles northeast of Imnaha, OR. Brush and grass. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened.

McCarty, Lakeview District, BLM. Four miles southeast of Alkali Lake, OR. Brush and grass. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Canyon Creek	WA-NES	1,192	892	10	Ctn	07/21	185	-208	11	53	3	2	204K	ST
Redford Canyon	WA-COA	450	---	10	Ctn	07/19	43	---	1	2	2	0	50K	BIA
Snake River	WA-WFS	3,980	1,480	20	Ctn	08/16	265	80	7	0	2	0	500K	ST
Dry Creek	WA-SES	337	0	94	Ctn	07/24	350	-171	12	8	0	0	3.9M	ST
Buck	OR-WWF	1,015	0	95	Ctn	UNK	14	0	1	0	1	0	900K	FS
McCarty	OR-LAD	848	---	82	Ctn	UNK	12	---	0	3	0	0	415K	BLM

Rocky Mountain Area (PL 3)

New fires:	6
New large incidents:	1
Uncontained large fires:	5
Type 2 IMTs committed	1

Keystone, Medicine Bow NF. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (Esperance) back to the local unit will occur tomorrow. Thirty-five miles southwest of Laramie, WY. Timber and medium logging slash. Moderate fire behavior with isolated torching, creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened. Evacuations, road, area and trail closures in effect.

Wilson, White River Field Office, BLM. Eight miles north of Meeker, CO. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

Peekaboo, Little Snake Field Office, BLM. Forty-four miles northwest Maybell, CO. Dormant brush, hardwood slash. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Sage-grouse habitat threatened.

Gutzler, White River NF. Thirteen miles southwest of Kremmling, CO. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Residences threatened.

East Rim, Tres Rios Field Office, BLM. Ten miles northeast of Dove Creek, CO. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Keystone	WY-MBF	2,466	59	35	Ctn	07/31	479	-52	13	22	3	1	9.9M	FS
Wilson	CO-WRD	700	-10	90	Ctn	07/23	10	-20	0	3	0	0	815K	BLM
Peekaboo	CO-LSD	12,839	0	95	Ctn	07/20	31	-41	1	2	1	0	2.4M	BLM
Gutzler	CO-WRF	974	0	50	Ctn	08/04	9	-5	0	1	0	0	1.6M	FS
East Rim	CO-SJD	700	0	65	Ctn	08/01	17	3	0	1	0	0	425K	BLM

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Mill Creek	CO-RTX	482	0	100	Ctn	---	0	-12	0	0	0	0	1.1M	CNTY
* Sand Creek	WY-CAD	364	---	100	Ctn	---	8	---	0	2	0	0	NR	BLM

RTX - Routt County

CAD – Casper District, BLM

Northern California Area (PL 3)

New fires:	27
New large incidents:	1
Uncontained large fires:	2

* **Grade**, Mendocino Unit, Cal Fire. Two miles west of Laughlin, CA. Active fire behavior with wind driven runs, uphill runs and spotting. Residences threatened. Evacuations in effect.

Wall, Butte Unit, Cal Fire. Eight miles southeast of Oroville, CA. Chaparral and tall 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			
* Grade	CA-MEU	900	---	0	Ctn	07/21	313	---	12	30	2	1	750K	ST
Wall	CA-BTU	6,033	0	98	Ctn	07/17	148	0	4	10	0	91	14.7M	ST
Dobe	CA-MDF	410	-1	100	Ctn	---	10	-62	0	2	0	0	750K	FS

MDF – Modoc NF

Southwest Area (PL 3)

New fires:	7
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	0

Hyde, Prescott NF. Thirty miles northwest of Prescott, AZ. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing. Road, area and trail closures in effect. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Hyde	AZ-PNF	7,831	---	0	Comp	08/15	68	---	3	2	1	0	75K	FS
Bull	AZ-TNF	5,699	0	100	Ctn	---	68	-29	1	5	0	0	60K	FS

TNF – Tonto NF

Alaska Area (PL 2)

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

Campbell River, Upper Yukon Zone, BLM. Previously reported incident. Started on FWS land 65 miles northeast of Chalkyitsik, AK. Timber, brush and short grass. Moderate fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Boulder Creek, Upper Yukon Zone, BLM. Previously reported incident. Started on FWS land 66 miles southeast of Arctic Village, AK. Timber and short grass. Active fire behavior with backing, smoldering and single tree torching. Structures threatened. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Big Waldron Fork**, Southwest Area, Alaska DOF. Forty miles south of McGrath, AK. Timber, short grass and hardwood litter. Active fire behavior with running, creeping and single tree torching. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Campbell River	AK-UYD	84,919	29,610	0	Comp	10/1	29	0	1	0	2	0	750K	FWS
Boulder Creek	AK-UYD	43,775	20,392	0	Comp	07/31	46	3	2	0	0	0	551K	FWS
* Big Waldren Fork	AK-SWS	1000	---	0	Comp	08/10	0	---	0	0	0	0	1K	ST

Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):

Area	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL	
Alaska Area	FIREs	0	2	0	0	0	2	
	ACRES	0	1,569	0	0	309	0	1,878
Northwest Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	16	6	22
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	2,025	115	2,140
Northern California Area	FIREs	0	1	0	0	21	5	27
	ACRES	0	9,260	0	0	41	35	9,336
Southern California Area	FIREs	0	1	0	0	31	1	33
	ACRES	0	1	0	0	590	0	591
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	6	5	0	0	20	26	57
	ACRES	1,011	30	0	0	1,658	605	3,304
Great Basin Area	FIREs	0	8	0	0	4	5	17
	ACRES	0	59,092	0	0	13	530	59,635
Southwest Area	FIREs	0	3	0	0	1	3	7
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	31	31
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	0	2	0	0	3	1	6
	ACRES	0	26	0	0	66	1	93
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	12	0	12
TOTAL FIRES:		6	22	0	0	101	47	176
TOTAL ACRES:		1,011	69,978	0	0	4,714	1,317	77,020

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

Area	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIREs	0	144	0	0	148	10 302
	ACRES	0	429,690	0	0	80,687	1 510,378
Northwest Area	FIREs	100	76	17	6	475	266 940
	ACRES	3,200	39,153	983	1	6,956	3,250 53,543
Northern California Area	FIREs	30	7	2	5	1,252	155 1,451
	ACRES	28	9,805	70	5	15,580	2,712 28,200
Southern California Area	FIREs	147	42	1	9	2,130	206 2,535
	ACRES	150	616	0	6	107,217	40,713 148,702
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	497	47	11	2	564	228 1,349
	ACRES	14,014	22,204	415	0	23,178	5,618 65,429
Great Basin Area	FIREs	18	446	3	20	468	150 1,105
	ACRES	285	437,276	0	37	465,814	67,595 971,007
Southwest Area	FIREs	577	181	10	25	575	640 2,008
	ACRES	45,672	22,332	191	1,296	111,158	299,412 480,061
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	390	141	7	11	483	204 1,236
	ACRES	2,549	34,686	202	75	474,773	5,297 517,582
Eastern Area	FIREs	343	0	13	14	3,022	272 3,664
	ACRES	696	0	19	129	12,849	3,105 16,798
Southern Area	FIREs	255	8	42	26	19,315	350 19,996
	ACRES	60,250	36	151,442	53,054	1,289,787	25,694 1,580,263
TOTAL FIRES:	2,357	1,092	106	118	28,432	2,481	34,586
TOTAL ACRES:	126,844	995,798	153,322	54,603	2,587,999	453,397	4,371,963

Ten Year Average Fires (2007 – 2016 as of today)	37,638
Ten Year Average Acres (2007 – 2016 as of today)	3,158,747

Prescribed Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Ownership):

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	1	7
	ACRES	0	0	0	64,850	100	64,950
Northwest Area	FIREs	5	11	4	1	0	91
	ACRES	1,298	1,336	4,761	38	0	11,523
Northern California Area	FIREs	0	5	6	11	0	111
	ACRES	0	654	239	258	0	9,671
Southern California Area	FIREs	0	3	5	4	0	164
	ACRES	0	62	464	504	0	4,252
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	6	11	42	6	10	93
	ACRES	462	3,820	18,690	752	513	6,413
Great Basin Area	FIREs	3	18	5	6	29	63
	ACRES	24	1,628	933	43	802	12,687
Southwest Area	FIREs	21	32	2	5	5	82
	ACRES	2,856	46,871	4,894	1,639	6,105	59,862
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	17	31	35	10	66	73
	ACRES	741	3,013	18,304	2,370	2,664	39,624
Eastern Area	FIREs	51	0	169	22	1,171	175
	ACRES	26,679	0	26,117	6,148	96,628	65,103
Southern Area	FIREs	46	0	122	28	58,180	684
	ACRES	6,694	0	94,771	133,644	1,469,338	622,599
TOTAL FIRES:	149	111	390	93	59,467	1,482	61,692
TOTAL ACRES:	38,754	57,384	169,173	145,396	1,640,900	831,834	2,883,441

*** 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	10	8,566	638	132,969
YUKON TERRITORY	3	900	84	290,379
ALBERTA	10	8	737	2,888
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	2	16,362	105	114,823
SASKATCHEWAN	3	2	116	414
MANITOBA	9	25	105	20,465
ONTARIO	1	2	147	14,569
QUEBEC	2	26	150	33,182
NEWFOUNDLAND	3	1	44	652
NEW BRUNSWICK	0	0	66	30
NOVA SCOTIA	0	0	140	720
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	2	7
NATIONAL PARKS	5	957	84	34,552
TOTALS	48	26,849	2,418	645,650

* 1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: The strong, hot thermal ridge of high pressure will begin its eastward trek toward the Great Plains as a cold front begins to move into the Pacific Northwest. Scattered storms will be possible across the Interior West as monsoonal flow works its way north along the backside of the ridge. Breezy winds across the Columbia Basin could create pockets of critical fire weather conditions. The Northeast will remain dry and warm while the Southeast remains wet beneath a stalled cold front that is draped across the Gulf Coast. In Alaska Warm and dry conditions are expected as a weakening high pressure remains anchored over the interior.

<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?

Battlement Creek Fire, Colorado – July 17th, 1976

Incident Summary: It's 1976 and western Colorado is experiencing an unusually severe fire season caused partly by unusual fuel conditions and heavy lightning activity during dry weather. A severe frost in June kills a high percentage of the leaves on Gambel oak which remain on the branches and is considered one of Colorado's most flammable fuels. 10 hour fuels are at 3-5%. A large scale high pressure weather pattern sits over western Colorado allowing for local weather to be influenced by terrain and diurnal winds averaging 10-15 mph in the afternoon with higher gusts. The weather is fair and hot with the temperatures at Grand Junction and Rifle reaching into the mid and upper 90's. A fire is reported 40 miles northeast of Grand Junction, in the Battlement Creek drainage. The fire is burning over an elevation range of 6200-8400 ft on a steep west-facing slope.

Friday July 16, 0630, two hotshot crews from the Coconino NF Arizona arrive at the Battlement Creek fire. This is the seventeenth fire of the first season for the newly formed Mormon Lake Hotshot Crew. The strategy is to prevent western and southern spread. The crews begin a major burnout of the catline (dozer line) from the rocky bluffs (Point A) at about 1615, downhill along the catline toward the Battlement Creek road at the bottom (Point C) ending about 2030. The fire makes an uphill run in oak brush burning out a large portion of the drainage (from the road east to the ridgeline) in about 20 minutes. Two "impressive" fire whirls are observed between 1600-1700. The night shift continues the burn out (Point C-D and beyond along the road) but is spotty with considerable unburned fuel remaining. Other night shift crews construct line along the ridgeline (Point E to G). Based on Friday's fire behavior, the E-G line is a crucial spot on the fire. Saturday July 17th, 0700, at morning briefing the Mormon Lake crew is assigned to burn out this section of line.

Saturday morning, July 17th - Due to a delay with the helicopter, the Mormon Lake crew does not get to the base of the rock bluff (Point E) until 1100. They are instructed to improve and burn out the line from the rocky bluff to the helispot (Point E-G). The burnout squad consisted of the crew boss, squad boss and 2 crewmembers. The rest of the crew is improving the handline down the ridgeline.

At this same time another crew is burning out in the bottom of the draw (Point C-D). The draw burns readily, uphill toward the ridge and the Mormon Lake crew. Neither crew knew of the specific location or assignment of the other.

1400 - 1/3 the way from the rock bluff to the upper helispot, there is a noticeable increase in smoke from the draw below (where the other crew had been burning). The crew boss is instructed to speed up the line improvement squad on toward the safety zone (Point G) and to narrow down and speed up his burnout on down the ridgeline to join the remainder of the crew in the safety zone when his burnout was done. Upslope winds have increased to 25-35 mph.

1425-1440 – The line improvement squad just makes it into the safety zone when the flame front hits the ridge. 200 yards back, the burnout squad radios that they are "trapped". Their escape is blocked by heavy smoke and flames.

1440 – 1445 – The squad removes their canvas vests to cover their head and face, moistened the vests and their clothes with water from their canteens, and lays face down in the mineral soil of the fireline.

1448 – All four firefighters are very badly burned.
Three will lose their lives.

Discussion Points

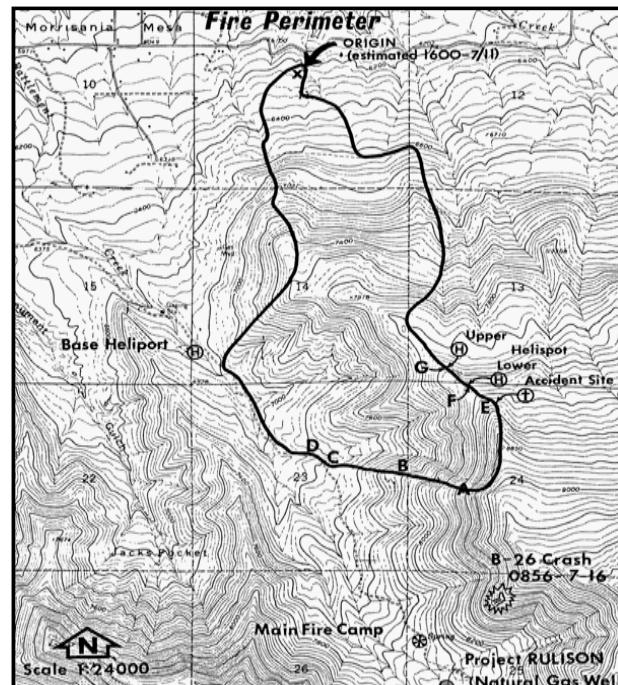
The day prior to the burnover, an airtanker crashed during a retardant dropping mission on the Battlement Creek fire killing the pilot.

Resources [Staff Ride to the Battlement Creek Fire](#)
[Google Earth Fly Around of Battlement Creek Fire](#)
[Sequence of Events PowerPoint](#)
[Battlement Creek Fire Investigation Report](#)

- ✓ Discuss how incidents and distractions can affect our judgment and situational awareness.

The crew all wore aluminum hardhats, canvas vests, Nomex shirts and non-fire-resistant work pants. Fire shelters were not used. Fire shelters may have prevented serious burns and death at this incident. Policy on issuing and carrying shelters had not been established yet. This incident became the catalyst for the mandatory use of fire shelters and fire resistant clothing.

- ✓ **Take this opportunity to inspect, repair or replace your PPE and fire shelter if needed to ensure that it protects you as well as possible.**



Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

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