

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Friday, March 17, 2017 – 0800 MT  
National Preparedness Level 1**

**National Fire Activity (Mar. 10 – Mar. 16)**

Initial attack activity: Light (773 new fires)

New large incidents: 19

Large fires contained: 22

Uncontained large fires:\*\* 15

Area Command Teams Committed: 0

NIMOs committed: 0

Type 1 IMTs committed: 1

Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

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

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

| <b>Active Incident Resource Summary</b> |              |                         |              |                |                    |                        |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| <b>GACC</b>                             | <b>Fires</b> | <b>Cumulative Acres</b> | <b>Crews</b> | <b>Engines</b> | <b>Helicopters</b> | <b>Total Personnel</b> |
| AICC                                    | 0            | 0                       | 0            | 0              | 0                  | 0                      |
| NWCC                                    | 0            | 0                       | 0            | 0              | 0                  | 0                      |
| ONCC                                    | 0            | 0                       | 0            | 0              | 0                  | 0                      |
| OSCC                                    | 0            | 0                       | 0            | 0              | 0                  | 0                      |
| NRCC                                    | 0            | 0                       | 0            | 0              | 0                  | 0                      |
| GBCC                                    | 0            | 0                       | 0            | 0              | 0                  | 0                      |
| SWCC                                    | 1            | 2,466                   | 0            | 1              | 0                  | 4                      |
| RMCC                                    | 2            | 1,249                   | 3            | 11             | 0                  | 85                     |
| EACC                                    | 0            | 0                       | 0            | 0              | 0                  | 0                      |
| SACC                                    | 32           | 354,577.8               | 4            | 65             | 1                  | 264                    |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>35</b>    | <b>358,292.8</b>        | <b>7</b>     | <b>77</b>      | <b>1</b>           | <b>353</b>             |

**Southern Area (PL 3)**

New fires: 680

New large incidents: 14

Uncontained large fires: 13

Type 1 IMTs committed: 1

Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

\* **NW Oklahoma Complex** (3 fires), Oklahoma DOF. IMT 1 (Dueitt). Contains previously reported Starbuck, 283, and Selman fires. Six miles west of Laverne, OK. Tall grass and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Numerous residences threatened.

**Lee Williams Rd**, Florida Forest Service. Florida Forest Service IMT 2 (Dolan). Thirteen miles east of Naples, FL. Short grass. Minimal fire behavior. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

**Milsap**, Osage Agency, BIA. Seven miles east of Hominy, OK. Hardwood litter, brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior.

\* **North Cane**, Florida Forest Service. Four miles northeast of Christmas, FL. Southern rough. Minimal fire behavior.

**Irate**, Okmulgee Field Office, BIA. One mile northeast of Lamar, OK. Hardwood litter and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior.

\* **Howell**, Osage Agency, BIA. Four miles north of Bartlesville, OK. Hardwood litter and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Residences threatened.

**Trail**, Florida Forest Service. Five miles southwest of Doral, FL. Short grass. Minimal fire behavior.

**Tucker**, Wewoka Agency, BIA. Seven miles southeast of Bowlegs, OK. Hardwood litter and brush. Minimal fire behavior.

**Bunch Mt**, Northeast Area, Oklahoma DOF. Seven miles northeast of Cookson, OK. Hardwood litter and short grass. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

\* **Nuclear**, Florida Forest Service. Six miles southeast of Homestead, FL. Southern rough. Minimal fire behavior. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

**Watsimoie**, Osage Agency, BIA. Three miles southeast of Hominy, OK. Hardwood litter and brush. Minimal fire behavior.

\* **Spring Mountain**, East Central Area, Oklahoma DOF. Six miles northwest of Talihina, OK. Hardwood litter. Moderate fire behavior with creeping and flanking.

| Incident Name         | Unit   | Size    |       | %   | Ctn/<br>Comp | Est   | Personnel |      | Resources |     |      | Strc<br>Lost | \$\$<br>CTD | Origin<br>Own |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|-------|-----|--------------|-------|-----------|------|-----------|-----|------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
|                       |        | Acres   | Chge  |     |              |       | Total     | Chge | Crw       | Eng | Heli |              |             |               |
| * NW Oklahoma Complex | OK-OKS | 782,333 | ---   | 85  | Ctn          | 03/23 | 170       | ---  | 0         | 12  | 0    | 139          | 2.2M        | ST            |
| Lee Williams Rd       | FL-FLS | 7,230   | -270  | 85  | Ctn          | UNK   | 77        | -33  | 0         | 11  | 0    | 6            | 546K        | ST            |
| Milsap                | OK-OSA | 9,636   | 0     | 75  | Ctn          | 03/25 | 6         | 2    | 0         | 2   | 0    | 0            | 31K         | BIA           |
| * North Cane          | FL-FLS | 7,000   | ---   | 80  | Ctn          | UNK   | 4         | ---  | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 1K          | ST            |
| Irate                 | OK-OMA | 3,000   | 650   | 70  | Ctn          | UNK   | 16        | -18  | 1         | 3   | 0    | 0            | 40K         | BIA           |
| * Howell              | OK-OSA | 1,900   | ---   | 50  | Ctn          | 03/25 | 8         | ---  | 0         | 2   | 0    | 0            | 46K         | BIA           |
| Trail                 | FL-FLS | 1,065   | 0     | 85  | Ctn          | UNK   | 0         | -4   | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 1K          | ST            |
| Tucker                | OK-WEA | 1,030   | 530   | 91  | Ctn          | 03/17 | 20        | 5    | 2         | 2   | 0    | 0            | 7K          | BIA           |
| Bunch Mt              | OK-NEU | 1,100   | ---   | 50  | Ctn          | UNK   | 10        | ---  | 1         | 2   | 0    | 0            | 4K          | ST            |
| * Nuclear             | FL-FLS | 400     | ---   | 90  | Comp         | UNK   | 0         | ---  | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 1K          | ST            |
| Watsimoie             | OK-OSA | 314     | 0     | 80  | Ctn          | 03/20 | 16        | -22  | 1         | 4   | 0    | 0            | 22K         | BIA           |
| * Spring Mountain     | OK-ECU | 200     | ---   | 10  | Ctn          | 03/18 | 4         | ---  | 0         | 2   | 0    | 0            | 2K          | ST            |
| Perryton              | TX-TXS | 318,156 | 3,000 | 100 | Ctn          | ---   | 17        | -13  | 0         | 1   | 0    | 11           | 1K          | PRI           |
| Spocogee              | OK-OMA | 6,478   | 0     | 100 | Ctn          | ---   | 0         | -8   | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 18K         | BIA           |
| Lost Creek            | OK-OMA | 2,135   | 0     | 100 | Ctn          | ---   | 3         | 0    | 0         | 1   | 0    | 0            | 52K         | BIA           |
| Staples Road          | OK-SEU | 940     | 0     | 100 | Ctn          | ---   | 2         | -15  | 0         | 1   | 0    | 0            | 3K          | ST            |
| Spring Creek Farm     | OK-WEA | 687     | 0     | 100 | Ctn          | ---   | 5         | -10  | 0         | 2   | 0    | 0            | 7K          | BIA           |

| Incident Name      | Unit   | Size  |      | %   | Ctn/<br>Comp | Est | Personnel |      | Resources |     |      | Strc<br>Lost | \$\$<br>CTD | Origin<br>Own |
|--------------------|--------|-------|------|-----|--------------|-----|-----------|------|-----------|-----|------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
|                    |        | Acres | Chge |     |              |     | Total     | Chge | Crw       | Eng | Heli |              |             |               |
| * Spitline         | FL-FLS | 616   | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 0         | ---  | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 1K          | ST            |
| * Delhi            | OK-OKS | 600   | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 70        | ---  | 0         | 26  | 0    | 0            | 36K         | ST            |
| * Rolls            | FL-FLS | 572   | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 4         | ---  | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 1K          | ST            |
| * Boone BCT        | AR-ARS | 512   | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 7         | ---  | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 10K         | PRI           |
| Territory          | OK-OKS | 500   | 0    | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 9         | 0    | 0         | 4   | 0    | 0            | 14K         | ST            |
| Conway Ranch       | OK-ECU | 497   | 0    | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 3         | 0    | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 1K          | ST            |
| Badcock Grub Rd    | FL-FLS | 400   | 0    | 100 | Comp         | --- | 0         | -2   | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 1K          | FS            |
| * Keifer           | TX-TXS | 360   | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 4         | ---  | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 1K          | PRI           |
| * Blue Bluff       | AR-BUP | 285   | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 0         | ---  | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 5K          | NPS           |
| * Walker Gamble Rd | SC-SCS | 250   | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 6         | ---  | 0         | 5   | 0    | 0            | 2K          | ST            |
| * Midnight         | GA-GAS | 106   | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 4         | ---  | 0         | 1   | 0    | 0            | 2K          | ST            |
| * Anniversary      | SC-FMF | 102   | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 0         | ---  | 0         | 0   | 0    | 0            | 3K          | FS            |

TXS – Texas A&M Forest Service

SEU – Southeast Area, Oklahoma DOF

ARS – Arkansas Forestry Commission

BUP – Buffalo National River

SCS – South Carolina Forestry Commission

GAS – Georgia Forestry Commission

FMF – Francis Marion & Sumter NF

### **Rocky Mountain Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 12

New large incidents: 4

Uncontained large fires: 2

**Reno County**, Reno County. Four miles northeast of Hutchinson, KS. Grass. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

**Q and 140th**, Kingman County. Three miles northeast of Smith Center, KS. Grass. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

| Incident Name     | Unit   | Size   |      | %   | Ctn/<br>Comp | Est | Personnel |      | Resources |     |      | Strc<br>Lost | \$\$<br>CTD | Origin<br>Own |
|-------------------|--------|--------|------|-----|--------------|-----|-----------|------|-----------|-----|------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
|                   |        | Acres  | Chge |     |              |     | Total     | Chge | Crw       | Eng | Heli |              |             |               |
| Reno County       | KS-RNX | 6,000  | ---  | 70  | Ctn          | UNK | 17        | ---  | 0         | 1   | 0    | 9            | 450K        | C&L           |
| Q and 140th       | KS-KMX | 1,100  | ---  | 0   | Ctn          | UNK | 54        | ---  | 0         | 16  | 0    | 1            | 22K         | C&L           |
| * Hodgeman County | KS-HGX | 18,000 | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 24        | ---  | 0         | 12  | 0    | 8            | 1K          | C&L           |
| Highlands         | KS-RNX | 5,441  | -144 | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 39        | -88  | 0         | 5   | 0    | 13           | 694K        | C&L           |
| * Raceway Park    | KS-FOX | 2,326  | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 60        | ---  | 0         | 24  | 0    | 36           | 1K          | C&L           |
| * Yonkers         | KS-CNX | 1,100  | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 70        | ---  | 0         | 27  | 0    | 0            | 12K         | C&L           |
| * Pike            | KS-BAX | 420    | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 30        | ---  | 0         | 15  | 0    | 0            | 17K         | C&L           |

HGX – Hodgeman County

FOX – Ford County

CNX – Cheyenne County

BAX – Barber County

## Southwest Area (PL 1)

New fires: 37  
 New large incidents: 1  
 Uncontained large fires: 0

| Incident Name | Unit   | Size  |      | %   | Ctn/<br>Comp | Est | Personnel |      | Resources |     |      | Strc<br>Lost | \$\$<br>CTD | Origin<br>Own |
|---------------|--------|-------|------|-----|--------------|-----|-----------|------|-----------|-----|------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
|               |        | Acres | Chge |     |              |     | Total     | Chge | Crw       | Eng | Heli |              |             |               |
| * Ranch       | AZ-A3S | 2,466 | ---  | 100 | Ctn          | --- | 4         | ---  | 0         | 1   | 0    | 0            | 10K         | ST            |

A3S – Southeast District, Arizona State Forestry

### Fires and Acres Last Week (by Protection):

| 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   | 1   | 7      | 1    | 9      |
|                          | ACRES | 0     | 0   | 0   | 1   | 2      | 0    | 3      |
| Southern California Area | FIRES | 0     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0      | 1    | 1      |
|                          | 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     | 1   | 0   | 0   | 8      | 0    | 9      |
|                          | ACRES | 0     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 134    | 0    | 134    |
| Southwest Area           | FIRES | 21    | 2   | 0   | 0   | 6      | 8    | 37     |
|                          | ACRES | 59    | 8   | 0   | 0   | 2,771  | 121  | 2,959  |
| Rocky Mountain Area      | FIRES | 0     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 12     | 0    | 12     |
|                          | ACRES | 0     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 135    | 9    | 144    |
| Eastern Area             | FIRES | 0     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 23     | 2    | 25     |
|                          | ACRES | 0     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 32     | 2    | 34     |
| Southern Area            | FIRES | 18    | 0   | 3   | 2   | 650    | 7    | 680    |
|                          | ACRES | 5,626 | 0   | 208 | 75  | 10,381 | 129  | 16,419 |
| TOTAL FIRES:             |       | 39    | 3   | 3   | 3   | 706    | 19   | 773    |
| TOTAL ACRES:             |       | 5,685 | 8   | 208 | 76  | 13,455 | 261  | 19,693 |

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

| <b>Area</b>              |       | <b>BIA</b>    | <b>BLM</b> | <b>FWS</b> | <b>NPS</b> | <b>ST/OT</b>     | <b>USFS</b>   | <b>TOTAL</b>     |
|--------------------------|-------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Alaska Area              | FIRES | 0             | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0                | 0             | <b>0</b>         |
|                          | ACRES | 0             | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0                | 0             | <b>0</b>         |
| Northwest Area           | FIRES | 0             | 1          | 0          | 0          | 3                | 0             | <b>4</b>         |
|                          | ACRES | 0             | 1          | 0          | 0          | 3                | 0             | <b>4</b>         |
| Northern California Area | FIRES | 0             | 0          | 0          | 1          | 25               | 2             | <b>28</b>        |
|                          | ACRES | 0             | 0          | 0          | 1          | 19               | 0             | <b>20</b>        |
| Southern California Area | FIRES | 2             | 0          | 0          | 2          | 64               | 15            | <b>83</b>        |
|                          | ACRES | 4             | 0          | 0          | 2          | 5                | 11            | <b>22</b>        |
| Northern Rockies Area    | FIRES | 1             | 0          | 0          | 0          | 11               | 0             | <b>12</b>        |
|                          | ACRES | 15            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 36               | 0             | <b>51</b>        |
| Great Basin Area         | FIRES | 0             | 8          | 0          | 2          | 12               | 1             | <b>23</b>        |
|                          | ACRES | 0             | 9          | 0          | 3          | 134              | 0             | <b>146</b>       |
| Southwest Area           | FIRES | 60            | 23         | 1          | 3          | 88               | 27            | <b>202</b>       |
|                          | ACRES | 148           | 16         | 0          | 5          | 10,705           | 1,887         | <b>12,761</b>    |
| Rocky Mountain Area      | FIRES | 23            | 2          | 1          | 0          | 81               | 20            | <b>127</b>       |
|                          | ACRES | 1,466         | 1          | 0          | 0          | 456,480          | 1,353         | <b>459,300</b>   |
| Eastern Area             | FIRES | 7             | 0          | 0          | 2          | 450              | 93            | <b>552</b>       |
|                          | ACRES | 105           | 0          | 0          | 82         | 2,981            | 2,435         | <b>5,603</b>     |
| Southern Area            | FIRES | 161           | 0          | 13         | 5          | 9,435            | 184           | <b>9,798</b>     |
|                          | ACRES | 21,103        | 0          | 687        | 80         | 1,554,399        | 7,836         | <b>1,584,105</b> |
| <b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>      |       | <b>254</b>    | <b>34</b>  | <b>15</b>  | <b>15</b>  | <b>10,169</b>    | <b>342</b>    | <b>10,829</b>    |
| <b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>      |       | <b>22,841</b> | <b>27</b>  | <b>687</b> | <b>173</b> | <b>2,024,762</b> | <b>13,522</b> | <b>2,062,012</b> |

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| <b>Ten Year Average Fires (2007 – 2016 as of today)</b> | <b>8,687</b>   |
| <b>Ten Year Average Acres (2007 – 2016 as of today)</b> | <b>216,894</b> |

**Prescribed Fires and Acres Last Week (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   | 1     | 0   | 0      | 4      | 5       |
|                          | ACRES | 0   | 35  | 80    | 43  | 0      | 168    | 326     |
| Southern California Area | FIRES | 0   | 0   | 0     | 0   | 0      | 11     | 11      |
|                          | ACRES | 0   | 0   | 0     | 0   | 0      | 889    | 889     |
| Northern Rockies Area    | FIRES | 0   | 0   | 0     | 0   | 0      | 0      | 0       |
|                          | ACRES | 0   | 0   | 0     | 0   | 0      | 0      | 0       |
| Great Basin Area         | FIRES | 1   | 0   | 0     | 0   | 0      | 5      | 6       |
|                          | ACRES | 0   | 0   | 0     | 0   | 213    | 341    | 554     |
| Southwest Area           | FIRES | 0   | 2   | 0     | 0   | 0      | 4      | 6       |
|                          | ACRES | 0   | 653 | 0     | 0   | 0      | 4,522  | 5,175   |
| Rocky Mountain Area      | FIRES | 1   | 2   | 0     | 0   | 0      | 1      | 4       |
|                          | ACRES | 8   | 278 | 0     | 0   | 0      | 803    | 1,089   |
| Eastern Area             | FIRES | 0   | 0   | 1     | 2   | 5      | 5      | 13      |
|                          | ACRES | 0   | 0   | 193   | 605 | 543    | 5,796  | 7,137   |
| Southern Area            | FIRES | 2   | 0   | 6     | 0   | 3,642  | 14     | 3,664   |
|                          | ACRES | 465 | 0   | 2,132 | 0   | 98,815 | 11,725 | 113,137 |
| TOTAL FIRES:             |       | 4   | 4   | 8     | 2   | 3,647  | 44     | 3,709   |
| TOTAL ACRES:             |       | 473 | 966 | 2,405 | 648 | 99,571 | 24,244 | 128,307 |

**Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date (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             | 4             | 0             | 0              | 0              | 3              | 7                |
|                          | ACRES | 0             | 721           | 0             | 0              | 0              | 158            | 879              |
| Northern California Area | FIRES | 0             | 2             | 4             | 4              | 0              | 13             | 23               |
|                          | ACRES | 0             | 397           | 182           | 60             | 0              | 556            | 1,195            |
| Southern California Area | FIRES | 0             | 2             | 1             | 0              | 0              | 103            | 106              |
|                          | ACRES | 0             | 52            | 100           | 0              | 0              | 1,669          | 1,821            |
| Northern Rockies Area    | FIRES | 0             | 7             | 0             | 0              | 0              | 7              | 14               |
|                          | ACRES | 0             | 335           | 0             | 0              | 0              | 494            | 829              |
| Great Basin Area         | FIRES | 2             | 11            | 2             | 4              | 14             | 15             | 48               |
|                          | ACRES | 1             | 527           | 2             | 35             | 709            | 1,524          | 2,798            |
| Southwest Area           | FIRES | 5             | 22            | 1             | 1              | 3              | 31             | 63               |
|                          | ACRES | 459           | 19,538        | 4,814         | 1              | 242            | 11,781         | 36,835           |
| Rocky Mountain Area      | FIRES | 2             | 18            | 2             | 8              | 27             | 57             | 114              |
|                          | ACRES | 122           | 762           | 0             | 345            | 703            | 30,022         | 31,954           |
| Eastern Area             | FIRES | 2             | 0             | 12            | 6              | 170            | 44             | 234              |
|                          | ACRES | 3,477         | 0             | 926           | 2,548          | 12,039         | 37,943         | 56,933           |
| Southern Area            | FIRES | 39            | 0             | 83            | 26             | 35,348         | 441            | 35,937           |
|                          | ACRES | 5,961         | 0             | 53,197        | 130,116        | 913,187        | 386,042        | 1,488,503        |
| <b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>      |       | <b>50</b>     | <b>66</b>     | <b>105</b>    | <b>49</b>      | <b>35,562</b>  | <b>714</b>     | <b>36,546</b>    |
| <b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>      |       | <b>10,020</b> | <b>22,332</b> | <b>59,221</b> | <b>133,105</b> | <b>926,880</b> | <b>470,189</b> | <b>1,621,747</b> |

\*\*\* 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/>

**Predictive Services Discussion:** The ridge of high pressure over the West will migrate east to be over the plains this weekend. This will allow for a return to a cooler and periodically wetter pattern for most western states except Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado who are expected to remain dry and periodically windy. While pockets of critical fire weather conditions are expected across these areas and the Southern Plains through the weekend, the period of heightened awareness may come Wednesday when a passing front introduces a possibility for dry storms to portions of New Mexico and Southern Colorado in addition to anticipated winds and low humidities. The breezy and dry conditions will expand east across Texas Thursday raising the potential there. Looking east, Florida and coastal areas north through the Carolinas into Virginia will remain warm and dry through the period. Fuels across much of Florida will remain very dry. In Alaska, the extended period of drier than normal conditions will continue through the week across the state's interior while temperatures remain slightly below normal.

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



## New Research on Safety Zones

*Operational Engagement*

*[If you have computer or smart phone access, [please watch the video for this subject](#) using the link or QR code...Otherwise, read on Old School...]*

First, a Fire Behavior 101 refresher: You can warm yourself around the sides of a campfire for quite some time; that's **radiant heat**. If you hold your hands over the top of the fire, you'll get burned relatively quickly; that's **convective heat**.

Basically, wind or slope can tip the flames over, so that the convective heat is no longer going straight up, but is now aimed more along the ground, sending the heat and hot gasses much further ahead. This causes pre heating of the fuels, faster fire spread and greater fire intensities. You'll need a larger Safety Zone if that fire is coming towards you.

The current equation for safety zone size in the IRPG (page 8) is:

$$4 \times \text{Flame Height} = \text{Safe Separation Distance}$$

To make estimations of flame height though, you either have to use past fire behavior observations or use your experience to guess what the fire may do in the future. After a decade of research, Bret Butler, at the Missoula Technology and Development Center, suggests removing the uncertainty and guesswork that comes with estimating flame height by taking the general rule of thumb: Flame Height = 2 x Vegetation Height

...and substituting that Flame Height equation into the original IRPG equation, to give:

$$4 \times 2 \times \text{Vegetation Height} = \text{Safe Separation Distance, which simplified is:}$$
$$8 \times \text{Vegetation Height} = \text{Safe Separation Distance}$$

But remember, that's still for **radiant heat** only, on flat ground, with no wind. To take into account the **convective heat** from slope or wind, Butler's research suggests that a "Slope Wind Factor" is needed in the equation:

$$8 \times \text{Vegetation Height} \times \text{Slope Wind Factor} = \text{Safe Separation Distance}$$

But what is the Slope Wind Factor? Current research is indicating that the Slope Wind Factor is between 1 and 10; with Butler arguing it may be closer to between 1 and 5. Butler's ongoing research is focused on answering that question by gathering sensor data on fires, running computer simulations, and refining the models...Stay tuned.

In the meantime, utilize the calculations on page 8 of your IRGP to help you determine a bare minimum size for your safety zone with the understanding that slope and wind need to be considered in your decision making.

But remember, a safety zone is only good if you can get there...join us tomorrow for some thoughts on Escape Routes.

**Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.**



