

National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Thursday, October 19, 2017 – 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 3

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity:	Light (77) new fires
New large incidents:	6
Large fires contained:	6
Uncontained large fires:**	8
Area Command teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	0
Type 1 IMTs committed:	3
Type 2 IMTs committed:	2

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

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

On October 16, a firefighter was fatally injured while working on the Nuns Fire, part of the Central LNU Complex. The firefighting community extends its condolences to family and friends of the deceased.

Active Incident Resource Summary						
GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AICC	0	0	0	0	0	0
NWCC	3	231,231	11	15	2	380
ONCC	8	225,112	240	1,007	51	11,182
OSCC	3	28,317	19	42	3	624
NRCC	6	199,797	2	12	0	95
GBCC	1	118	2	5	0	64
SWCC	0	0	0	0	0	0
RMCC	0	0	0	0	0	0
EACC	2	598	4	2	0	111
SACC	8	6,001	0	21	2	76
Total	34	619,174	278	1,104	58	12,532

Northern California Area (PL 4)

New fires:	19
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	8
Type 1 IMTs Committed:	3

Central LNU Complex, Sonoma Lake Napa Unit, Cal Fire. Cal Fire IMT 1 (Gouvea). One mile north of Santa Rosa, CA. Brush and tall grass. Moderate fire behavior with single tree torching, backing and smoldering. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road and area closures are in effect.

Southern LNU Complex, (3 fires). Sonoma Lake Napa Unit, Cal Fire. Cal Fire IMT 1 (Lawson). One mile east of Napa, CA. Timber, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior. Residences threatened. Evacuations, road and area closures in effect.

Mendocino Lake Complex, (2 fires). Mendocino Unit, Cal Fire. Cal Fire IMT 1 (Derum). One mile west of Potter Valley, CA. Timber, brush and grass. Minimal fire behavior.

Bear, San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit, Cal Fire. Five miles northeast of Boulder Creek, CA. Timber. Moderate fire behavior. Structures threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect.

Buck, Shasta – Trinity NF. Previously reported incident. Eleven miles southwest of Platina, CA. Timber, brush and short grass. Moderate fire behavior with flanking, backing and creeping. Structures threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Table, Eldorado NF. Seventeen miles northeast of Pollock Pines, CA. Timber. No new information.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Central LNU Complex	CA-LNU	105,080	2,295	73	Ctn	10/20	5,422	110	99	550	32	5,791	57.2M	ST
Southern LNU Complex	CA-LNU	51,064	0	84	Ctn	10/23	2,869	-438	60	268	13	728	31.5M	ST
Mendocino Lake Complex	CA-MEU	38,730	723	81	Ctn	10/24	1,493	-450	41	68	2	706	21.4M	ST
Bear	CA-CZU	300	72	15	Ctn	10/21	850	475	26	96	2	4	500K	ST
Buck	CA-SHF	12,475	1,210	68	Comp	11/5	237	155	7	9	2	0	9.1M	FS
Table	CA-ENF	426	---	95	Ctn	UNK	39	---	3	2	0	0	1M	FS
NEU Wind Complex	CA-NEU	17,037	0	100	Ctn	---	272	-360	4	14	0	398	15.5M	ST

NEU - Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit, Cal Fire

Northwest Area (PL 2)

New fires:	2
New large incidents:	1
Uncontained large fires:	2
Type 2 IMTs Committed:	1

Miller Complex, (2 fires), Rogue River - Siskiyou NF. IMT2 Sheldon. Seventeen miles east of Cave Junction, OR. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, smoldering and creeping. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

* **Frog Creek**, Burns District, BLM. Eight miles east of Diamond, OR. Brush and grass. Active fire behavior with wind-driven runs, isolated torching and creeping.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Miller Complex	OR-RSF	39,606	57	86	Comp	10/31	312	2	10	11	2	0	36.7M	FS
* Frog Creek	OR-BUD	500	---	50	Ctn	10/20	14	---	0	2	0	0	20K	BLM

Southern Area (PL 3)

New fires:	16
New large incidents:	2
Uncontained large fires:	1
Type 2 IMTs Committed:	1

Hurricane Harvey, Texas A&M Forest Service. Texas IMT 2 (Hanneman) has mobilized to College Station, TX to support recovery and mitigation efforts, surveying impacts on local fire departments and distributing donated fire equipment.

* **WF Perkins Blowout**, McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge. Fifteen miles west of Sabine Pass, TX. Tall grass. Moderate fire behavior with running and flanking. Structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		% Acres	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Hurricane Harvey	TX-TXS	N/A	---	N/A	N/A	---	239	0	4	1	0	0	NR	ST
* WF Perkins Blowout	TX-MCR	1,500	---	5	Ctn	10/19	16	---	0	0	1	0	15K	FWS
* 2018 North Sargent WF	TX-SNR	3,891	---	100	Ctn	---	22	---	0	4	1	0	8K	FWS

SNR – San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge

Eastern Area (PL 1)

New fires:	5
New large incidents:	1
Uncontained large fires:	1

North, Monongahela NF. Three miles southeast of Hopeville, WV. Hardwood litter. Minimal fire behavior. Trail and area closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		% Acres	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
North	WV-MOF	198	0	60	Ctn	12/1	86	-2	4	1	0	0	1.4M	FS
* Fuelwood Sale	MN-MNS	400	---	100	Ctn	---	25	---	0	1	0	0	10K	ST

MNS – Minnesota DNR

Northern Rockies Area (PL 1)

New fires:	20
New large incidents:	3
Uncontained large fires:	1

* **Lower Train**, Northwestern Land Office, DOF. Two miles northwest of McGregor Lake, MT. Timber and medium logging slash. Moderate fire behavior with single tree torching, creeping and smoldering.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		% Acres	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Lower Train	MT-NWS	675	---	0	Ctn	10/23	24	---	0	3	0	0	20K	ST
* Binger	MT-FHA	1,206	---	100	Ctn	---	12	---	0	2	0	0	10K	BIA
* Eagle Creek	MT-BRF	4,500	---	100	Comp	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	1K	FS

FHA – Flathead Agency, BIA

BRF - Bitterroot NF

Fires and Acres Yesterday (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	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
	ACRES	1	500	0	0	0	0	501
Northern California Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	19	0	19
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	4,789	72	4,861
Southern California Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	12	0	12
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	8	2,690	2,698
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	2	0	0	0	12	6	20
	ACRES	31	0	0	0	573	737	1,341
Great Basin Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southwest Area	FIREs	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
	ACRES	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Eastern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	122	0	122
Southern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	16	0	16
	ACRES	0	0	5,341	0	96	0	5,437
TOTAL FIRES:		5	2	0	0	64	6	77
TOTAL ACRES:		34	500	5,341	0	5,588	3,499	14,962

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

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIREs	0	171	0	0	176	13	360
	ACRES	0	571,516	0	0	81,348	1	652,865
Northwest Area	FIREs	190	243	38	26	1,462	1,321	3,280
	ACRES	11,933	212,975	20,988	5,359	38,934	510,133	800,322
Northern California Area	FIREs	83	74	6	16	2,848	933	3,960
	ACRES	118	39,891	71	38	294,634	346,572	681,324
Southern California Area	FIREs	163	75	2	46	3,608	496	4,390
	ACRES	641	37,861	0	10,992	216,309	126,811	392,614
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	655	97	20	30	1,581	701	3,084
	ACRES	58,647	377,312	1,325	22,318	238,481	724,861	1,422,944
Great Basin Area	FIREs	36	1,034	4	37	915	459	2,485
	ACRES	56,329	1,260,347	2	38	448,633	213,738	1,979,087
Southwest Area	FIREs	735	234	19	42	717	1,022	2,769
	ACRES	46,668	23,399	1,027	1,389	114,115	365,095	551,693
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	719	355	9	24	1,074	407	2,588
	ACRES	9,869	58,693	354	2,474	561,910	13,527	646,827
Eastern Area	FIREs	344	0	13	15	3,569	325	4,266
	ACRES	696	0	19	130	17,350	3,401	21,596
Southern Area	FIREs	304	472	49	27	23,226	395	24,473
	ACRES	43,498	6,546	159,415	54,654	1,354,232	26,260	1,644,605
TOTAL FIRES:		3,229	2,755	160	263	39,176	6,072	51,655
TOTAL ACRES:		228,399	2,588,540	183,201	97,392	3,365,946	2,330,399	8,793,877

Ten Year Average Fires (2007 – 2016 as of today)	56,729
Ten Year Average Acres (2007 – 2016 as of today)	6,039,972

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	1	0	0	0	3	4
	ACRES	287	75	0	0	0	708	1,070
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	15	0	0	15
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	14	14
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	3	3
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	3,648	3,648
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	0	1	2	1	1	3	8
	ACRES	0	50	55	171	76	296	648
Eastern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	15	15
Southern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	19	1	20
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	700	654	1,354
TOTAL FIRES:		0	2	2	1	20	11	36
TOTAL ACRES:		287	125	55	186	776	5,335	6,764

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

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	IRES	0	0	0	0	6	2	8
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	64,850	100	64,950
Northwest Area	FIREs	10	15	14	2	3	123	167
	ACRES	2,645	1,645	5,568	39	19	19,188	29,104
Northern California Area	FIREs	1	5	7	13	0	95	121
	ACRES	20	654	389	396	0	10,579	12,038
Southern California Area	FIREs	0	3	9	6	0	153	171
	ACRES	0	62	1,412	803	0	4,606	6,883
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	6	13	42	6	27	132	226
	ACRES	462	3,820	18,690	752	1,155	7,271	32,150
Great Basin Area	FIREs	4	22	7	9	30	87	159
	ACRES	455	8,059	2,501	4,327	799	18,495	34,636
Southwest Area	FIREs	25	34	4	5	5	144	217
	ACRES	3,943	46,888	4,952	1,639	6,105	95,808	159,335
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	25	36	41	11	84	91	288
	ACRES	1,116	3,018	18,864	2,541	3,365	41,427	70,331
Eastern Area	FIREs	51	0	170	23	1,275	218	1,737
	ACRES	26,679	0	26,117	6,162	97,291	66,098	222,347
Southern Area	FIREs	48	0	125	28	68,208	610	69,019
	ACRES	6,894	0	95,837	133,644	1,547,028	529,614	2,313,017
TOTAL FIRES:		170	128	419	103	69,638	1,655	72,113
TOTAL ACRES:		42,214	64,146	174,330	150,303	1,720,612	793,186	2,944,791

*** 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: As the high pressure ridge moves east from the Great Plains into the East, it will strengthen. Temperatures across the East will be well above normal, and winds will be light. Across the Great Plains, a breezy southwesterly flow will develop as a disturbance moves northeast from the Four Corners region. A strong, wet system will move further inland from the coast across the Pacific Northwest into the Northern Rockies spreading valley rain and middle to high elevation snow as far east as Idaho by late afternoon. By late in the day, the precipitation will extend as far south as northern California. Look for the wetting rainfall to expand as far south as the Bay area in California overnight. Southern California is not expected to receive rainfall from this system.

<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?

The Pepper Hill Fire – October 19th, 1938 - Pennsylvania

Incident Summary: Most of north-central Pennsylvania had been extensively logged by large timber companies from 1890-1930. By 1938, fuels in the area consisted of very young second-growth hardwoods, ericaceous shrubs and logging slash. Following an unusually hot and dry summer, a killing frost on October 7th caused the foliage to cure. Precipitation for the past three months had been substantially below normal. High temperatures persisted in the 80's with RH's of 20-25%.

At 11:10am on October 19th, 1938, the Hunts Run Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) Camp #S-132 is notified of a possible forest fire. Upon investigation, several fires are located on Pepper Hill Mountain. 2 CCC crews are dispatched to the fires. Both crews had just returned from a fire only hours before, and many enrollees requested to stay behind due to fatigue. All enrollees were ordered to go. The two CCC crews began initial attack from both flanks of the fire, anchoring into a nearby road. Both crews began constructing line from the heel of the fire to the top, burning out as needed. For reasons which are still not clear, crew 2 was ordered to abandon their firing operation on the right flank and proceed to the head of the fire to construct direct downhill line. The crew was $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way up Pepper Hill Mountain when the fire below made a rapid run that overtook them. A few were able to find safety atop large nearby rocks, the remaining crew was severely burned, and ultimately eight of the young CCC enrollees would lose their lives.

Lessons Learned Discussion Points

Training – Most of the CCC enrollees received little or no formal training. They were expected to learn what to do on the job.

- Most of us will work with new firefighters who have little or no experience. It is not reasonable or safe to assume they will learn everything on the fireline. How will your crew prepare new members for success?

Fatigue – Many of the enrollees assigned to the Pepper Hill Fire had just returned to camp from other fires at 5:30am that morning.

- Though we now have work/rest guidelines to help prevent fatigue, a long fire season can still take its toll on even the fittest firefighter. What signs might we see in our crewmembers that could indicate fatigue?
- What impact can fatigue have on your crew, and what can you do to lessen the associated risks?

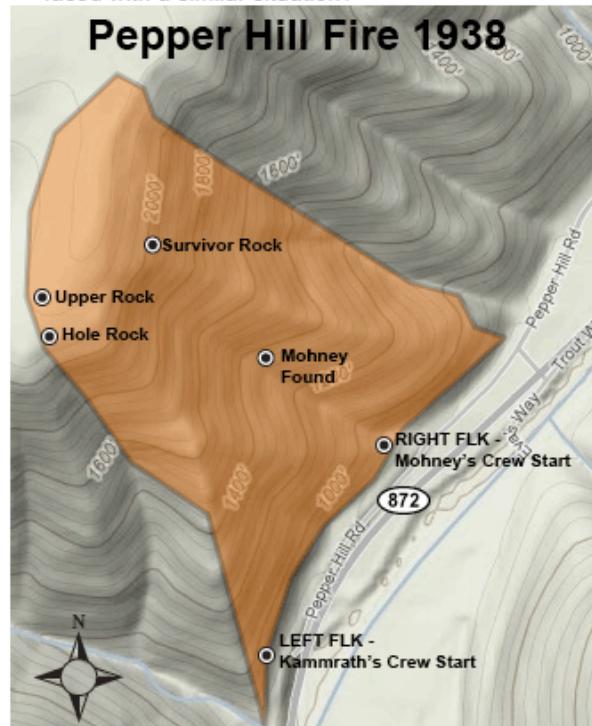
Tactics – The original plan to use the road as an anchor point seems sound, but poor choices were made on the right flank when the crew moved to the head and abandoned their burnout.

- Without aviation support, would your crew engage this fire? If so, how?
- Though not a sound decision at Pepper Hill, describe conditions where attacking the head of a fire could be a viable tactic, while ensuring safety.

Crew Cohesion – The CCC Enrollees had not worked many fires together. On their way up the hill, they became separated due to differences in physical ability.

There were no indications that there crew leader gave them any direction during this critical time.

- No firefighter intends to get into a bad situation. We all train to avoid them, but "what if"? How would you and your crew manage the safety of all firefighters if faced with a similar situation?



Resources: - [The Pepper Hill Fire of 1938 Incident Review](#)

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

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