

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Sunday, August 9, 2020 – 0730 MDT
National Preparedness Level 4**

National Fire Activity:

Initial attack activity:	Light (115 new fires)
New large incidents:	10
Large fires contained:	5
Uncontained large fires:***	36
Area Command teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	1
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	8

Nationally, there are 11 large fires being managed under a strategy other than full suppression.

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

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

[Link](#) to Understanding the IMSR.

NIMO (Houseman) has been assigned to COVID-19 support at Forest Service headquarters in Washington, D.C.

One RC-26 aircraft with Distributed Real-Time Infrared (DRTI) capability and support personnel from the 141st Air Refueling Wing (Washington Air National Guard) has been deployed to Fairchild AFB (Spokane, WA), in support of wildland fire operations.

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

Active Incident Resource Summary						
GACC	Incidents	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AICC	0	0	0	0	0	0
NWCC	12	13,243	40	37	7	1,257
ONCC	9	124,143	42	70	18	1,988
OSCC	5	43,062	78	284	30	4,069
NRCC	8	10,763	10	34	10	443
GBCC	20	63,965	45	82	23	1,883
SWCC	10	26,497	17	30	9	733
RMCC	7	31,690	12	50	5	781
EACC	0	0	0	0	0	0
SACC	5	12,413	4	10	1	111
Total	76	325,776	248	597	103	11,265

Southern California Area (PL 3)

New fires:	20
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	4
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	2

Apple, Riverside Unit, Cal Fire. IMT 1 (CA Team 2). One mile northeast of Cherry Valley, CA. Timber, chaparral and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and creeping. Numerous residences threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Stagecoach, Central California District, BLM. IMT 2 (CA Team 15). Four miles southwest of Havilah, CA. Brush and tall grass. Moderate fire behavior with flanking, creeping and smoldering. Numerous residences threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Trimmer, Sierra NF, USFS. IMT 2 (CA Team 10). Ten miles northeast of Piedra, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and creeping. Structures and energy infrastructure threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Pond, San Luis Obispo Unit, Cal Fire. Nine miles east of Santa Margarita, CA. Chaparral and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior. Numerous structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Apple	CA-RRU	32,412	1,895	35	Ctn	8/17	2,721	-124	42	241	18	13	32.9M	ST
Stagecoach	CA-CND	7,748	0	46	Ctn	8/12	941	122	27	21	9	29	5.5M	BLM
Trimmer	CA-SNF	600	0	25	Ctn	8/15	304	-69	8	19	2	0	500K	FS
Pond	CA-SLU	1,962	0	99	Ctn	8/9	8	-83	0	2	0	14	5.6M	ST

Great Basin Area (PL 3)

New fires:	20
New large incidents:	2
Uncontained large fires:	8
Type 2 IMTs committed:	2

Phillips Creek, Sawtooth NF, USFS. IMT 2 (GB Team 3). Eight miles north of Fairfield, ID. Timber, brush and short grass. Active fire behavior with running and wind-driven runs. Structures and sage-grouse habitat threatened. Area and road closures in effect.

Pumpkin, Southwest Area, Idaho Department of Lands. Eight miles southwest of Garden Valley, ID. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with torching, flanking and backing. Structures and communication infrastructure threatened.

Upper Provo, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache NF, USFS. Fifteen miles east of Kamas, UT. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with isolated torching, creeping and backing. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Baldy, Ely District, BLM. Fifty-two miles northeast of Ely, NV. Timber, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping, smoldering and isolated torching. Structures and sage-grouse habitat threatened.

Comet, Ely District, BLM. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (GB Team 7) back to the local unit will occur on 8/10. Five miles northwest of Pioche, NV. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and creeping.

* **Lake Walcott**, Twin Falls District, BLM. Nine miles east of Rupert, ID. Brush and short grass. Active fire behavior with running.

* **Sugar**, Boise District, BLM. Three miles northeast of Glens Ferry, ID. Brush and short grass. Moderate fire behavior with running, flanking and backing.

Lost, Elko District, BLM. Twenty miles northwest of Wendover, NV. Timber, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Energy and railroad infrastructure and 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			
Philips Creek	ID-STF	2,149	549	7	Ctn	8/15	224	39	6	12	5	6	425K	FS
Pumpkin	ID-SWS	357	107	0	Ctn	9/7	240	40	8	7	3	0	1.5M	ST
Upper Provo	UT-UWF	480	0	78	Ctn	9/30	189	-13	6	4	2	0	1.8M	FS
Baldy	NV-ELD	1,439	0	75	Ctn	8/10	179	-4	4	6	2	0	450K	BLM
Comet	NV-ELD	754	0	85	Ctn	8/12	170	-18	6	4	4	0	1.1M	BLM
* Lake Walcott	ID-TFD	400	---	0	Ctn	UNK	29	---	0	4	0	0	100K	BLM
* Sugar	ID-BOD	330	---	51	Ctn	UNK	40	---	0	6	0	0	50K	BLM
Lost	NV-EKD	7,115	0	80	Ctn	8/10	118	-66	4	3	1	0	1.2M	BLM
North	NV-CCD	6,882	0	100	Ctn	---	37	-31	0	2	0	0	2.5M	BLM
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Howell Peak	UT-RID	1,885	---	98	Comp	8/15	1	---	0	0	0	0	250K	BLM

CCD – Carson City District, BLM RID – Richfield Field Office, BLM

Northern California Area (PL 3)

New fires:	16
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	6
Type 2 IMTs committed:	1

Red Salmon Complex (2 fires), Six Rivers NF, USFS. IMT 2 (CA Team 14). Fourteen miles northeast of Willow Creek, CA. Timber, chaparral and short grass. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, flanking and backing.

July Complex, Modoc NF, USFS. Thirty-six miles northwest of Canby, CA. Timber, brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area and road closures in effect.

Gold, Lassen-Modoc Unit, Cal Fire. Five miles south of Adin, CA. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering.

Hog, Lassen-Modoc Unit, Cal Fire. Ten miles west of Susanville, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Trail closures in effect.

Stump, Lassen NF, USFS. Fourteen miles west of Chester, 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			
Red Salmon Complex	CA-SRF	4,620	3	12	Ctn	8/28	1,265	87	29	22	14	0	11.1M	FS
July Complex	CA-MDF	83,261	0	97	Ctn	8/22	108	4	1	5	3	9	32.5M	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Gold	CA-LMU	22,634	0	98	Ctn	8/12	52	-21	0	3	0	13	35.3M	ST
Hog	CA-LMU	9,564	0	98	Ctn	8/10	39	0	0	2	1	2	35M	ST
Stump	CA-LNF	684	---	85	Ctn	8/12	194	---	5	11	0	0	2.4M	FS

Northwest Area (PL 2)

New fires: 13
New large incidents: 2
Uncontained large fires: 3
Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

Neals Hill, Burns District, BLM. IMT 2 (NW Team 9). Twenty miles southeast of Princeton, OR. Short grass. Minimal fire behavior with backing and smoldering.

Fir Mountain, The Dalles Unit, Oregon DOF. Five miles southeast of Odell, OR. Timber. Minimal fire behavior. Residences threatened. Area and road closures in effect.

Worthington, Medford Unit, Oregon DOF. Started on BLM land five miles northeast of Eagle Point, OR. Timber, hardwood litter and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and creeping. Structures threatened.

* **North Brownstown 2**, Yakama Agency, BIA. Seven miles northwest of Brownstown, WA. Brush and grass. Moderate fire behavior with creeping, backing and smoldering. Area closures in effect. Last narrative 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			
Neals Hill	OR-BUD	3,391	0	80	Ctn	8/12	148	-1	4	0	0	0	676K	BLM
Fir Mountain	OR-954S	313	0	80	Ctn	8/12	350	-46	13	12	1	0	2.6M	ST
Worthington	OR-711S	761	0	90	Ctn	8/14	253	-31	7	3	0	0	4.2M	BLM
* North Brownstown	WA-YAA	344	---	100	Ctn	---	3	---	0	1	0	0	250K	BIA
Buckhorn Creek	OR-952S	310	0	100	Ctn	---	76	-2	4	0	1	0	250K	ST
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
* North Brownstown 2	WA-YAA	969	---	35	Comp	8/11	59	---	1	12	1	0	100K	BIA
Chikamin	WA-OWF	347	0	50	Comp	10/31	149	0	4	2	4	0	1.8M	FS

952S – John Day Unit, Oregon DOF OWF – Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, USFS

Rocky Mountain Area (PL 3)

New fires: 20
New large incidents: 1
Uncontained large fires: 4
Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

Pine Gulch, Grand Junction Field Office, BLM. IMT 2 (RM Black Team). Eighteen miles north of Grand Junction, CO. Timber and brush. Extreme fire behavior with group torching and short-range spotting. Structures and sage-grouse habitat threatened. Road closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Cassadore Springs	AZ-SCA	19,532	390	25	Ctn	8/18	369	0	7	10	4	1	3.2M	BIA
* Winters	AZ-TNF	420	---	0	Ctn	8/13	88	---	2	8	1	0	500K	FS
Bumble Bee	AZ-PHD	2,993	1,993	57	Ctn	8/10	149	10	5	1	3	0	371K	BLM
Pine	AZ-PNF	2,184	0	90	Ctn	8/10	0	0	0	0	0	0	60K	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Dark Canyon	NM-LNF	280	---	10	Ctn	8/23	11	---	0	1	0	0	15K	FS
Pig	AZ-COF	495	0	80	Ctn	UNK	22	5	0	3	0	0	445K	FS

Northern Rockies Area (PL 3)

New fires: 9
New large incidents: 2
Uncontained large fires: 3

Magpie Rock, Flathead Agency, BIA. Eight miles east of Dixon, MT. Timber and tall grass. Moderate fire behavior with creeping, single tree torching and smoldering.

* **Judith River Road 2**, Fergus County. Six miles west of Winifred, MT. Timber. Moderate fire behavior.

Old Baldy, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS. Eight miles east of Twin Bridges, MT. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Magpie Rock	MT-FHA	3,539	0	75	Ctn	8/15	200	0	6	10	3	0	2.1M	BIA
* Judith River Road 2	MT-LG08	1,031	---	50	Ctn	8/11	76	---	0	9	5	0	120K	C&L
Old Baldy	MT-BDF	129	0	65	Ctn	9/1	70	-41	2	2	1	0	918K	FS
* Horse Creek 2	MT-LG22	1,670	---	100	Ctn	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	50K	C&L

LG22 – Big Horn County

Southern Area (PL 2)

New fires: 9
New large incidents: 1
Uncontained large fires: 2

Mays, Texas A&M Forest Service. Started on private land 16 miles east of Brady, TX. Brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Residences threatened.

Pocket Complex, Texas A&M Forest Service. Started on private land 52 miles southwest of Sonora, TX. Brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and creeping.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Mays	TX-TXS	9,813	0	90	Ctn	8/9	34	0	0	3	1	0	NR	PRI
Pocket Complex	TX-TXS	625	0	90	Ctn	UNK	43	0	3	2	0	0	NR	PRI
* ST19	FL-APQ	369	---	100	Ctn	---	0	---	0	0	0	0	25K	DOD

APQ – Avon Park AFB, DOD

Alaska Area (PL 1)

New fires: 0
 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			
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Billy Hawk Creek	AK-GAD	2,240	0	95	Comp	9/15	0	0	0	0	0	0	9K	FWS
Wapoo Creek 2	AK-GAD	1,693	0	95	Comp	9/15	0	0	0	0	0	0	3K	ST
Wapoo Creek	AK-GAD	600	---	0	Comp	9/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	10K	ST
Coleen	AK-UYD	1,542	0	0	Comp	10/1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5K	FWS
Sheenjek River	AK-UYD	5,736	0	0	Comp	10/1	0	0	0	0	0	0	474K	FWS
Iwaktok Hill	AK-SWS	13,030	---	0	Comp	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	3K	FWS
Clear Creek	AK-MID	1,285	---	0	Comp	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	10K	BLM

GAD – Galena Zone, BLM

UYD – Upper Yukon Zone, BLM

SWS – Southwest Area, Alaska DOF

MID – Military Zone, BLM

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	0	0	1	0	6	6	13
	ACRES	0	0	1	0	16	2	19
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	13	3	16
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	31	342	373
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	16	3	20
	ACRES	0	0	0	3	354	50	407
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	5	0	0	0	3	1	9
	ACRES	58	0	0	0	22	10	90
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	8	0	0	8	4	20
	ACRES	0	738	0	0	285	5	1,028
Southwest Area	FIRES	1	1	0	0	0	5	7
	ACRES	0	53	0	0	0	105	158
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	2	6	0	0	7	5	20
	ACRES	15	103	0	0	22	2	141
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	9	0	9
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	24	0	24
TOTAL FIRES:		8	16	1	0	62	28	115
TOTAL ACRES:		73	894	1	3	754	516	2,241

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

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	135	0	0	169	16	320
	ACRES	0	45,264	0	0	135,455	26	180,745
Northwest Area	FIRES	192	146	44	14	1,129	516	2,041
	ACRES	7,597	7,323	10,272	85	28,200	1,125	54,601
Northern California Area	FIRES	8	40	2	30	2,171	406	2,657
	ACRES	102	4,116	0	10,005	47,069	83,890	145,182
Southern California Area	FIRES	18	95	3	21	3,009	419	3,565
	ACRES	28	2,475	1	1,148	52,620	29,051	85,322
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	727	46	4	2	635	219	1,633
	ACRES	10,671	1,856	780	1	40,052	457	53,817
Great Basin Area	FIRES	33	644	17	33	769	256	1,752
	ACRES	399	335,047	64	66	95,175	39,462	470,214
Southwest Area	FIRES	750	200	20	27	477	935	2,409
	ACRES	136,862	19,643	1,842	744	43,997	520,953	724,040
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	331	259	11	9	815	376	1,801
	ACRES	5,012	47,815	367	98	95,759	3,859	152,910
Eastern Area	FIRES	329	0	33	15	6,076	406	6,859
	ACRES	297	0	3,278	52	20,460	1,590	25,677
Southern Area	FIRES	252	86	23	44	9,934	307	10,646
	ACRES	18,491	404	3,419	32,849	318,264	22,837	396,264
TOTAL FIRES:		2,640	1,651	157	195	25,184	3,856	33,683
TOTAL ACRES:		179,459	463,941	20,023	45,048	877,050	703,249	2,288,770

Ten Year Average Fires (2010 – 2019 as of today)	37,419
Ten Year Average Acres (2010 – 2019 as of today)	4,308,183

***Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments.

***Additional wildfire information is available through the Geographic Areas at <https://gacc.nifc.gov/>

Prescribed Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Ownership):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL FIRES:		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ACRES:		0	0	0	0	0	0	0

***Prescribed fire acres are for reference only and may not reflect the most up-to-date information.

***Official prescribed fire accomplishment reporting occurs through agency specific systems of record.

Canadian Fires and Hectares

PROVINCES	FIRES YESTERDAY	HECTARES YESTERDAY	FIRES YEAR-TO-DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO- DATE
BRITISH COLUMBIA	1	2	366	839
YUKON TERRITORY	0	0	21	15,136
ALBERTA	3	2	484	753,630
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	1	68	69	21,477
SASKATCHEWAN	8	14	104	42,073
MANITOBA	2	7	119	49,486
ONTARIO	4	0	490	6,611
QUEBEC	0	0	635	68,162
NEWFOUNDLAND	1	37	62	2,117
NEW BRUNSWICK	4	1	339	1,143
NOVA SCOTIA	0	0	121	654
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	1	2	11	10
NATIONAL PARKS	0	0	56	1,656
TOTALS	25	133	2,877	962,994

*1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: A cold front will push east and south across the northern Plains with the front stalling in southern Wyoming through northern Nevada. Dry and breezy post-frontal conditions are expected in portions of southern Idaho, eastern Montana, and Wyoming. Thunderstorms will develop across the northern and central Plains into the Great Lakes with severe thunderstorms possible in the Upper Midwest to western Great Lakes. Thunderstorms are likely across much of the Gulf Coast, South, and into the Mid-Atlantic. Monsoonal thunderstorms will be confined to southeast Arizona into New Mexico and southern Colorado.

<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

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. The 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 (Day 3), August 9, while conducting a burnout operation, six firefighters from the GNP3 crew are entrapped by wildfire.

0600 Briefing starts unannounced, several crews and overhead miss some and/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 GNP3 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 the current 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 ~~slovers~~. 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 see 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.

Discussion:

- 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.

Resources:

[Sadler Fire Entrapment Investigation Report](#)
[Incident Response Pocket Guide](#)

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

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