

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Tuesday, October 27, 2020 – 0730 MDT  
National Preparedness Level 3**

**National Fire Activity:**

Initial attack activity:	Light (52 new fires)
New large incidents:	2
Large fires contained:	1
Uncontained large fires:***	29
Area Command teams committed:	2
NIMOs committed:	2
Type 1 IMTs committed:	6
Type 2 IMTs committed:	6

Nationally, there are 24 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.

NIMO (Reinarz) has been assigned to provide wildland fire support to California.

<b>Active Incident Resource Summary</b>						
<b>GACC</b>	<b>Incidents</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	5	726,872	5	8	1	157
ONCC	5	1,512,727	24	58	13	1,558
OSCC	9	807,330	31	69	27	1,966
NRCC	0	0	0	0	0	0
GBCC	6	101,972	3	12	5	193
SWCC	7	75,104	5	12	3	410
RMCC	9	656,975	69	198	38	3,040
EACC	2	327	0	0	0	8
SACC	1	340	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>3,881,647</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>7,333</b>

#### **Rocky Mountain Area (PL 4)**

New fires:	0
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	7
Area Command:	1
Type 1 IMTs committed:	3
Type 2 IMTs committed:	1

Area Command Team (Jalbert) has been mobilized to support wildland fire in Colorado.

**East Troublesome**, Medicine Bow-Routt NF and Thunder Basin National Grassland, USFS. IMT 1 (PNW Team 3). IMT is also managing the Williams Fork fire. Seventeen miles northeast of Kremmling, CO. Timber and grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Numerous structures, infrastructure and sage-grouse habitat threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

**Williams Fork**, Arapaho and Roosevelt NF and Pawnee National Grassland, USFS. Fifteen miles southwest of Fraser, CO. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

**Cameron Peak**, Arapaho and Roosevelt NF and Pawnee National Grassland, USFS. Transfer of command from IMT 1 (RM Team 1) to IMT 1 (PNW Team 2) will occur today. Fifteen miles southwest of Redfeather Lakes, CO. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Several communities threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

**Calwood**, Boulder County. Ten miles northwest of Boulder, CO. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (RM Team Black) back to the local unit will occur tomorrow. Timber, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

**Middle Fork**, Medicine Bow-Routt NF and Thunder Basin National Grassland, USFS. Ten miles north of Steamboat Springs, CO. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Energy infrastructure threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Mullen**, Medicine Bow-Routt NF and Thunder Basin National Grassland, USFS. Thirty-eight miles west of Laramie, WY. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Several communities and infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

**Ice**, San Juan NF, USFS. Five miles west of Silverton, CO. Timber 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			
East Troublesome	WY-MRF	192,560	0	20	Ctn	11/10	794	324	21	57	12	26	9M	FS
Williams Fork	CO-ARF	14,749	0	35	Ctn	10/30	0	-42	0	0	0	0	25.5M	FS
Cameron Peak	CO-ARF	208,663	0	64	Ctn	11/8	1,541	-323	34	116	13	434	105.8M	FS
Calwood	CO-BLX	10,105	0	76	Ctn	10/31	355	-19	8	15	9	28	5.2M	CNTY
Middle Fork	WY-MRF	20,433	0	12	Ctn	11/15	84	-15	0	1	1	0	7.4M	FS
Mullen	WY-MRF	176,878	0	85	Ctn	10/30	161	-7	2	6	1	66	41.6M	FS
Ice	CO-SJF	596	---	90	Ctn	11/1	65	---	2	3	0	0	935K	FS

**Northern California Area (PL 4)**

New fires: 16  
 New large incidents: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 7  
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 3

**August Complex** (2 fires), Mendocino NF, USFS. IMT 2 (CA Team 10) mobilizing. Fourteen miles northwest of Elk Creek, CA. Timber, chaparral and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Red Salmon Complex**, Six Rivers NF, USFS. IMT 2 (CA Team 12). Fourteen miles northeast of Willow Creek, CA. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and single tree torching. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**North Complex**, Plumas NF, USFS. IMT 2 (CA Team 11). One mile southwest of Crescent Mills, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with creeping, backing and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Slater**, Klamath NF, USFS. Five miles northeast of Happy Camp, CA. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with creeping and backing. Numerous structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Devil**, Klamath NF, USFS. Five miles north of Seiad, CA. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area and trail closures in effect.

**Fork**, Eldorado NF, USFS. Fifteen miles northeast of Pollock Pines, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Numerous structures and infrastructure threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
August Complex	CA-MNF	891,704	3	93	Ctn	11/15	578	-151	9	24	2	881	148.8M	FS
Red Salmon Complex	CA-SRF	143,735	91	78	Ctn	11/15	420	-72	8	14	7	0	110M	FS
North Complex	CA-PNF	318,930	0	96	Ctn	11/30	334	-65	3	12	2	2,352	175.8M	FS
Slater	CA-KNF	156,688	0	85	Ctn	11/1	221	-151	4	7	2	440	50.5M	FS
Devil	CA-KNF	8,885	0	67	Ctn	11/1	0	0	0	0	0	0	680K	FS
Fork	CA-ENF	1,670	0	85	Ctn	11/1	5	0	0	1	0	0	7.2M	FS

**Southern California Area (PL 3)**

New fires: 12  
 New large incidents: 2  
 Uncontained large fires: 8  
 Area Command: 1  
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 2  
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 2

Area Command Team (Sexton) has been mobilized to support planning operations in California.

**Creek**, Sierra NF, USFS. IMT 1 (CA Team 1). Thirty-five miles northeast of Clovis, CA. Timber, chaparral and tall grass. Active fire behavior with torching, backing and creeping. Numerous structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**SQF Complex**, Sequoia NF, USFS. IMT 2 (EA Gold Team). Thirty-three miles east of Porterville, CA. Timber and chaparral. Active fire behavior with flanking, backing and creeping. Numerous structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Dolan**, Los Padres NF, USFS. IMT 2 (EA Silver Team). IMT is also managing the Coleman fire. Ten miles south of Big Sur, CA. Brush, chaparral and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Coleman**, Los Padres NF, USFS. Thirteen miles southwest of King City, CA. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

\* **Silverado**, Orange County Fire Authority. IMT 1 (CALFIRE 6) mobilizing. Nine miles east of Irvine, CA. Chaparral, brush and tall grass. Extreme fire behavior with wind-driven runs, long-range spotting and running. Several communities and infrastructure threatened. Evacuations in effect.

\* **Blue Ridge**, Orange County Fire Authority. Four miles west of Corona, CA. Brush and tall grass. Extreme fire behavior with wind-driven runs and spotting. Several communities and infrastructure threatened. Evacuations in effect.

**Moraine**, Sequoia & Kings Canyon NP, NPS. Five miles northeast of Kanawyers, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with backing, flanking and creeping.

**El Dorado**, San Bernardino Unit, Cal Fire. Three miles northeast of Yucaipa, CA. Timber, chaparral and brush. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Numerous structures threatened. Area and trail closures in effect.

**Bobcat**, Angeles NF, USFS. Twelve miles northeast of Pasadena, CA. Chaparral, brush and tall 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			
Creek	CA-SNF	369,362	3,648	63	Ctn	10/31	865	85	16	16	7	856	167.6M	FS
SQF Complex	CA-SQF	169,757	69	75	Ctn	11/1	490	-41	7	11	9	228	106.9M	FS
Dolan	CA-LPF	124,924	0	98	Comp	10/29	139	-45	2	2	0	19	65M	FS
Coleman	CA-LPF	574	0	74	Ctn	10/30	163	-85	4	3	2	0	3.2M	FS
* Silverado	CA-ORC	7,200	---	0	Ctn	11/26	NR	---	NR	NR	NR	0	NR	CNTY
* Blue Ridge	CA-ORC	2,000	---	0	Ctn	11/30	118	---	0	28	3	0	1.5M	CNTY
Moraine	CA-KNP	988	0	70	Ctn	10/30	8	0	0	0	1	0	130K	NPS
El Dorado	CA-BDU	22,744	0	94	Ctn	12/31	93	10	1	6	2	20	38.8M	ST
Bobcat	CA-ANF	115,796	---	95	Ctn	10/30	89	---	1	3	3	171	80M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Bullfrog	CA-SNF	1,185	0	60	Comp	11/15	1	0	0	0	0	0	370K	FS
Rattlesnake	CA-KNP	6,867	---	40	Comp	10/30	8	---	0	0	1	0	130K	NPS
Bluejay	CA-YNP	6,840	---	50	Comp	11/20	17	---	0	0	0	1	225K	NPS
Wolf	CA-YNP	1,935	---	40	Comp	11/20	0	---	0	0	0	0	51K	NPS

YNP – Yosemite NP, NPS

**Southwest Area (PL 3)**

New fires: 4  
 New large incidents: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 5  
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 1

**Luna**, Carson NF, USFS. Sixteen miles southeast of Taos, NM. IMT 1 (CA Team 5). Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire yesterday.

**Horse**, Prescott NF, USFS. Nineteen miles south of Prescott, AZ. Timber, dormant brush, hardwood slash and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior.

**Cow Canyon**, Apache-Sitgreaves NF, USFS. Four miles southeast of Blue, AZ. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with flanking, backing and creeping. Residences threatened. Area and trail closures in effect.

**Trail**, Phoenix District Office, BLM. Five miles north of Black Canyon City, AZ. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering.

**Habanero**, Southeast District, Arizona DOF. Fifteen miles southwest of Globe, AZ. Grass and chaparral. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Luna	NM-CAF	10,142	0	27	Ctn	11/10	164	-101	0	0	0	2	4.6M	FS
Horse	AZ-PNF	9,537	0	74	Ctn	11/15	88	-42	1	2	2	0	6M	FS
Cow Canyon	AZ-ASF	35,371	0	23	Ctn	10/31	100	-23	2	6	1	0	2.5M	FS
Trail	AZ-PHD	1,674	0	50	Ctn	10/29	50	-15	2	3	0	0	180K	BLM
Habanero	AZ-A3S	3,218	0	70	Ctn	10/30	2	-95	0	0	0	0	950K	ST

**Great Basin Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 2  
 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														
East Fork	UT-ASF	89,463	0	70	Comp	11/15	133	-31	1	7	4	11	22.5M	FS
Range	UT-NWS	3,496	---	93	Comp	10/31	32	---	1	4	1	0	3M	ST
Woodhead	ID-PAF	96,614	---	70	Comp	10/31	11	---	0	2	0	34	11.2M	ST
Pilgrim Creek 1	WY-BTF	498	---	0	Comp	11/1	1	---	0	0	0	0	65K	FS
Meridian	ID-SCF	628	---	7	Comp	11/1	1	---	0	0	0	0	204K	FS
Buck	ID-BOF	19,682	---	45	Comp	10/31	3	---	0	0	0	0	5.3M	FS
Trap	ID-STF	2,523	---	90	Comp	10/30	9	---	0	1	0	0	2M	FS
Grouse	ID-BOF	3,999	---	61	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	3.6M	FS
William	UT-NWS	5,832	---	96	Comp	11/1	1	---	0	0	0	0	6.2M	PRI

ASF – Ashley NF, USFS    NWS – Northwest Area, Utah DOF    PAF – Payette NF, USFS    BTF – Bridger-Teton NF, USFS  
 SCF – Salmon-Challis NF, USFS    BOF – Boise NF, USFS    STF – Sawtooth NF, USFS

**Northwest Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 4  
 New large incidents: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 2

**Riverside**, Mt. Hood NF, USFS. One mile southeast of Estacada, OR. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Energy infrastructure threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**White River**, Mt. Hood NF, USFS. Twenty miles west of Wamic, OR. 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			
Riverside	OR-MHF	138,054	0	72	Ctn	10/31	29	0	1	0	0	139	20.7M	FS
White River	OR-MHF	17,383	---	90	Ctn	11/30	33	---	1	3	0	1	22.9M	FS
OR-WIF-200430	OR-WIF	173,393	0	100	Ctn	---	4	-44	0	0	0	768	29M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Thielsen	OR-UPF	9,975	---	80	Comp	UNK	40	---	0	1	0	0	13M	FS
Big Hollow	WA-GPF	24,995	---	70	Comp	UNK	11	---	0	2	0	0	4.1M	FS
Downey Creek	WA-MSF	3,166	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	200K	FS

WIF – Willamette NF, USFS    UPF – Umpqua NF, USFS    GPF – Gifford Pinchot NF, USFS  
 MSF – Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF, USFS

**Northern Rockies 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														
Double	ID-NCF	1,134	---	0	Comp	11/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	6.7K	FS
Bryan Mountain	ID-NCF	1,000	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	25K	FS
Lobo Mesa	MT-BDF	330	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	250K	FS
Shissler	ID-NCF	10,686	---	50	Comp	10/29	3	---	0	0	0	0	3.7M	FS
State Creek	MT-BDF	4,400	---	50	Comp	10/30	0	---	0	0	0	2	2M	FS
Lion Creek	MT-FNF	198	---	50	Comp	10/31	3	---	0	1	0	0	165K	FS
Bear Creek	MT-BDF	12,150	---	85	Comp	10/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	11.5M	FS

NCF – Nez Perce-Clearwater NF, USFS    BDF – Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS    FNF – Flathead NF, USFS

**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	0	0	3	1	4
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	14	2	16
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	319	104	423
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	10	1	12
	ACRES	0	25	0	0	0	1	26
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	1	1	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1	70	71
Southwest Area	FIRES	1	2	0	0	0	1	4
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	10	525	535
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	7	2	9
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	7	0	7
Southern Area	FIRES	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL FIRES:		6	3	0	0	35	8	52
TOTAL ACRES:		0	25	0	0	337	700	1,062

**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	140	0	0	186	16	<b>342</b>
	ACRES	0	45,295	0	0	135,915	24	<b>181,234</b>
Northwest Area	FIRES	278	219	65	18	1,811	1,039	<b>3,430</b>
	ACRES	395,171	146,638	32,965	86	309,753	619,750	<b>1,504,364</b>
Northern California Area	FIRES	59	69	3	39	3,433	629	<b>4,232</b>
	ACRES	22,041	90,450	44	10,007	1,128,079	1,269,731	<b>2,520,352</b>
Southern California Area	FIRES	34	127	8	37	4,179	611	<b>4,996</b>
	ACRES	304	26,935	1	64,370	123,414	401,962	<b>616,987</b>
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	1,568	80	6	10	1,028	554	<b>3,246</b>
	ACRES	137,667	11,668	833	4,132	226,907	62,719	<b>443,926</b>
Great Basin Area	FIRES	45	929	17	54	1,124	558	<b>2,727</b>
	ACRES	7,052	384,577	154	70	122,174	315,571	<b>829,599</b>
Southwest Area	FIRES	956	272	23	40	592	1,311	<b>3,194</b>
	ACRES	162,912	33,105	1,929	1,525	97,827	719,795	<b>1,017,094</b>
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	485	384	11	16	1,071	564	<b>2,531</b>
	ACRES	12,751	198,082	462	20,131	183,497	487,345	<b>902,268</b>
Eastern Area	FIRES	345	0	34	16	7,321	487	<b>8,203</b>
	ACRES	305	0	3,415	52	21,643	2,359	<b>27,774</b>
Southern Area	FIRES	318	86	26	55	13,173	348	<b>14,006</b>
	ACRES	18,949	404	4,236	32,986	409,716	23,817	<b>490,109</b>
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>4,088</b>	<b>2,306</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>33,918</b>	<b>6,117</b>	<b>46,907</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>757,153</b>	<b>937,155</b>	<b>44,039</b>	<b>133,359</b>	<b>2,758,927</b>	<b>3,903,076</b>	<b>8,533,711</b>

<b>Ten Year Average Fires (2010 – 2019 as of today)</b>	<b>51,141</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres (2010 – 2019 as of today)</b>	<b>6,357,425</b>

\*\*\*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	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	ACRES	195	0	0	0	0	0	195
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	4	4
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	111	111
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	100	0	0	9	109
Southwest Area	FIRES	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	ACRES	8	0	0	0	0	0	8
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	2	0	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>203</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>426</b>

\*\*\*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.

**Predictive Services Discussion:** An upper-level trough will slowly move east over the Southwest and southern High Plains with well below average temperatures remaining across much of the Intermountain West, Plains, and Midwest. Precipitation will continue from New Mexico eastward into the Southeast with winter-mixed precipitation and snow likely at higher elevations and on the southern High Plains. Dry, gusty offshore winds will abate by this evening across northern and southern California with dry and breezy post-frontal conditions across the southern Great Basin and Desert Southwest during the day.

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



## Fire Shelter Deployment

Operational Engagement

**Firefighters must never rely on fire shelters, but instead, depend on well-defined and pre-located escape routes and safety zones. However, if the need for shelter deployment should ever arise, it is imperative that the firefighter knows how to deploy and use the shelter.**

- Don't think of your fire shelter as a tactical tool.
- Recognize when deployment is your only option. When considering escape, remember that you can hold your breath for only about 15 seconds while running through flames or superheated air.
- If time runs out while attempting to escape, get on the ground before the flame front arrives and finish deploying on the ground. Death is almost certain if the fire catches a person off the ground. (The optimal survival zone with or without a shelter is within a foot of the ground.) Once entrapped, the highest priority is to protect the lungs and airways.
- When deploying, remove packs and place them away from the deployment area.
- Even though deploying your shelter is a last resort, time is critical when entrapped. Play it safe; give yourself ample time to deploy. Failure to adequately anticipate the severity and timing of the burnover and failure to utilize the best location and proper deployment techniques contributed to the fatalities and injuries on the Thirty Mile incident. Don't let the cost of opening a shelter become a factor in your decision.
- Before passing through superheated gases, try to close the front of your shroud. You can take your shelter out of the plastic bag and use it for a heat shield to pass quickly through a hot area. If you use the shelter in this way, don't drop it or allow it to snag on brush. Remember that your lungs are still vulnerable.
- If flames contact the shelter, the glass/foil fabric heats up more rapidly. If flame contact is prolonged, spots of aluminum foil can melt or tear away, reducing protection. Even if this happens, it is still safer inside the shelter. Your flame-resistant clothing becomes your backup protection. It's even more critical to keep your nose pressed to the ground and stay in your shelter.
- Remember, direct contact with flames or hot gases is the biggest threat to your shelter. It is vital to deploy in a spot that offers the least chance of such contact. The heavier the fuels, the bigger your fuel break needs to be.
- Remember, once you commit yourself to the shelter, stay there. No matter how bad it gets inside, it is usually much worse outside. If you panic and leave the shelter, one breath of hot, toxic gases could damage your lungs. Suffocation may follow. Most firefighters were killed as a result of heat-damaged airways and lungs, not by external burns. Protect your airways and lungs at all costs by keeping your face close to the ground and staying in your shelter.

**If your crew becomes entrapped, identify everything you and your crew/team are going to do to survive. Start your discussion using the Last Resort Survival in the Specific Hazards section (gray) of your *Incident Response Pocket Guide* (IRPG), PMS 461.**

***Activity: Consider having a mock fire shelter deployment exercise in realistic terrain and fuels using practice shelters (no live fire). Assess the exercise using an After Action Review (AAR.)***

Resources:

[Your Fire Shelter Guide and Video](#), [Incident Response Pocket Guide](#), [Interagency Standards for Fire & Fire Aviation Operations](#)  
[Wildland fire Incident Management Field Guide](#)

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

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