

National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Sunday, July 10, 2022 – 0730 MDT
National Preparedness Level 2

National Fire Activity:

Initial attack activity:	Light (81 fires)
New large incidents:	8
Large fires contained:	2
Uncontained large fires: **	16
Area Command teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	0
Type 1 IMTs committed:	3
Type 2 IMTs committed:	8
***Complex IMTs committed:	0

***Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMTs) are configured to respond to large, complex fires and can expand and reduce staffing in all functional areas as necessary to meet the needs of the incident.

Nationally, there are 89 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.

Active Incident Resource Summary							
GACC	Incidents	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel	Change in Personnel
AICC	14	1,528,675	42	15	19	1,816	56
NWCC	2	71,115	0	10	0	33	0
ONCC	2	5,382	33	138	9	1,884	-220
OSCC	2	3,700	9	21	11	360	111
NRCC	1	355	1	2	1	40	0
GBCC	11	17,615	20	51	13	975	445
SWCC	7	701,530	12	14	2	560	-6
RMCC	1	100	0	6	3	66	66
EACC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SACC	11	23,562	2	31	2	252	-27
Total	51	2,352,035	119	288	60	5,986	425

Alaska Area (PL 5)

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

Clear, Fairbanks Area, Alaska DOF. IMT 2 (NW Team 10). IMT 1 (NR Team 1) mobilizing. Ten miles northwest of Anderson, AK. Timber and short grass. Active fire behavior with torching, short crown runs and spotting. Numerous residences threatened. Evacuations in effect.

Minto Lakes, Fairbanks Area, Alaska DOF. IMT 1 (CA Team 1). Twenty miles southeast of Minto, AK. Timber and light logging slash. Minimal fire behavior with isolated torching, backing and smoldering. Residences threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Bean Complex (4 fires), Tanana Zone, BLM. IMT 2 (NW Team 7). Started on state land 100 miles west of Fairbanks, AK. Timber and short grass. No fire behavior received. Structures threatened. Evacuations in effect.

Middle Tanana Complex (8 fires), Delta Area, Alaska DOF. IMT 2 (NR Team 3). Thirty-two miles northeast of Delta Junction, AK. Timber and grass. Moderate fire behavior with flanking, backing and creeping. Structures and communication infrastructure threatened.

Lime Complex (14 fires), Southwest Area, Alaska DOF. IMT 2 (AK Green Team). Fifty miles east of Chuathbaluk, AK. Short grass, timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with smoldering and creeping. Numerous structures, communication and energy infrastructure threatened. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Poorman Complex (3 fires), Galena Zone, BLM. Previously reported incident. Thirty-eight miles southeast of Ruby, AK. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with backing and creeping. Last narrative report unless significant activity occurs.

Paradise Complex (4 fires), Tanana Zone, BLM. Six miles southwest of Lake Minchumina, AK. Timber and short grass. Active fire behavior with spotting and backing. Community of Lake Minchumina and structures threatened. 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			
Clear	AK-FAS	69,748	3,864	15	Comp	7/30	532	12	14	11	4	1	8.8M	ST
Minto Lakes	AK-FAS	36,753	1,386	0	Comp	7/30	282	0	6	3	2	0	5.1M	ST
Bean Complex	AK-TAD	160,713	5,411	0	Comp	10/1	248	2	5	0	2	0	5M	ST
Middle Tanana Complex	AK-DAS	50,274	19,748	0	Comp	10/31	160	20	3	0	2	0	1M	ST
Lime Complex	AK-SWS	787,135	1,596	35	Comp	8/1	164	-7	3	0	5	8	9.5M	ST

Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned

Poorman Complex	AK-GAD	64,641	9,137	0	Comp	8/1	103	2	2	0	1	0	1.3M	BLM
Paradise Complex	AK-TAD	241,464	3,475	0	Comp	9/1	67	20	3	0	1	0	185K	BLM
Dalton Highway Complex	AK-TAD	76,209	487	0	Comp	8/31	91	0	1	0	2	0	NR	BLM
Slathtouka	AK-TAD	4,193	0	1	Comp	9/30	44	1	1	0	0	0	310K	BLM
Goose	AK-UYD	4,363	0	0	Comp	10/1	24	0	1	0	0	0	NR	FWS
Howling Dog	AK-UYD	5,899	---	0	Comp	9/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FWS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Heart	AK-TAD	1,085	---	0	Comp	9/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	ST
Grayling	AK-UYD	532	---	0	Comp	9/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
Flat	AK-TAD	509	---	0	Comp	9/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
John River	AK-TAD	339	---	0	Comp	9/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	ST
South Fork Kuskokwim	AK-SWS	120	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	ST
Middle Fork	AK-FAS	1,245	---	0	Comp	8/15	2	---	0	0	0	0	60K	ST
Tatlawiksuk	AK-SWS	225,800	---	0	Comp	10/31	14	---	0	0	1	0	8K	ST
Submarine Creek	AK-SWS	31,258	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	24	180K	ST
Lansing Creek	AK-UYD	55,663	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FWS
Schilling Creek	AK-UYD	48,510	---	0	Comp	10/1	10	---	0	0	0	0	31K	BLM
North Fork	AK-UYD	48,290	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	ST
Paddle	AK-UYD	30,301	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FWS
Radio Creek	AK-GAD	29,432	---	0	Comp	8/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	30K	BLM
Pack	AK-UYD	24,137	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
Hilltop	AK-TAD	10,160	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FWS
Koness	AK-UYD	7,195	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FWS
Fanny Mountain	AK-UYD	3,544	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
Belle	AK-UYD	841	---	0	Comp	9/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FWS
Runt	AK-UYD	456	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
Christian River	AK-UYD	433	---	0	Comp	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	TRI
Sinalak	AK-TAD	413	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NF	ST
Sucker	AK-UYD	318	---	0	Comp	9/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FWS
Fourth of July Creek	AK-SWS	51,146	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	68K	ST
Iowithla River	AK-SWS	42,880	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	198K	ST
Kokwok	AK-SWS	31,497	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	13K	ST
Sawpit Creek	AK-SWS	26,243	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	59K	ST
Pauls Creek	AK-SWS	17,948	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	4K	ST
Contact Creek	AK-SWS	10,654	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	25K	NPS
Tuklung River	AK-SWS	6,591	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	20K	FWS
Boatman	AK-UYD	5,250	---	0	Comp	8/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
Eddy Creek	AK-GAD	3,355	---	0	Comp	8/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	BLM
Ponglevik River	AK-SWS	3,081	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	4K	FWS
Fork Creek	AK-SWS	2,741	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	7K	FWS
Waterfall	AK-UYD	2,467	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	TRI
Biederman	AK-UYD	1,568	---	0	Comp	10/1	22	---	0	0	0	0	30K	NPS
Ongoke River	AK-SWS	1,426	---	10	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FWS
Ongivinuk River	AK-SWS	735	---	10	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	2K	ST
Tagagawik 2	AK-GAD	620	---	0	Comp	8/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	2K	BLM
Holonada	AK-TAD	613	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM

Incident Name	Unit	Size		% Acres	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Salmon	AK-UYD	488	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM
Melozitna	AK-GAD	6,491	---	0	Comp	8/24	0	---	0	0	0	0	15K	BLM
Apoon Pass	AK-GAD	84,138	---	0	Comp	8/10	0	---	0	0	0	0	55K	FWS
Fish Creek	AK-TAD	1,054	---	0	Comp	8/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	ST
Adak	AK-SWS	919	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FWS

UYD - Upper Yukon Zone, BLM

Southern California Area (PL 2)

New fires:	17
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	1

Washburn, Yosemite NP, NPS. IMT 2 (CA Team 13). Three miles southeast of Wawona, CA. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with short crown runs, group torching and spotting. Community of Wawona, numerous residences and communication infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail 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			
Washburn	CA-YNP	1,190	724	0	Ctn	7/15	360	151	9	21	11	0	1.5M	NPS

Northern California Area (PL 2)

New fires:	18
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	1
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1

Electra, Amador-El Dorado Unit, Cal Fire. IMT 1 (Cal Fire Team 3). Four miles southwest of Jackson, CA. Brush, short grass and timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Several communities, numerous structures and energy infrastructure threatened. Evacuations and road 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			
Electra	CA-AEU	4,478	0	80	Ctn	7/16	1,782	-220	30	136	8	0	13.5M	ST

Great Basin Area (PL 2)

New fires:	21
New large incidents:	3
Uncontained large fires:	4
Type 2 IMTs committed	1

Halfway Hill, South Central Area, Utah DOF. IMT 2 (GB Team 4) mobilizing. Three miles southeast of Fillmore, UT. Timber and tall grass. Active fire behavior with running, backing and torching. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

* **Jacob City**, Northwest Area, Utah DOF. Three miles southeast of Stockton, UT. Tall grass and brush. Extreme fire behavior with running and wind-driven runs. Structures threatened. Evacuations in effect.

* **Becky Peak**, Ely District Office, BLM. Thirty-nine miles northeast of McGill, NV. Timber, brush and chaparral. Extreme fire behavior with crowning, wind-drive runs and uphill runs. Sage-grouse habitat threatened.

* **Dry Creek**, Central Area, Utah DOF. Four miles southeast of Oak City, UT. Short grass and brush. Moderate fire behavior with flanking, creeping and running. Residences threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		% Acres	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Chge	Total				Chge	Total	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Halfway Hill	UT-SCS	6,640	6,215	0	Ctn	7/30	160	140	4	7	0	0	300K	ST
* Jacob City	UT-NWS	2,100	---	0	Ctn	7/15	107	---	2	16	2	0	350K	ST
* Becky Peak	NV-ELD	600	---	0	Ctn	7/16	49	---	0	6	1	0	50K	BLM
* Dry Creek	UT-SCS	1,816	---	0	Ctn	7/23	158	---	4	10	1	0	300K	ST
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Goshute	NV-EKD	1,966	---	85	Comp	7/18	142	---	4	1	3	0	2.8M	BLM

EKD - Elko District, BLM

Southwest Area (PL 2)

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

Hermits Peak, Santa Fe NF, USFS. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (GB Team 7) to IMT 2 (SW Team 4) will occur tomorrow. Twelve miles northwest of Las Vegas, NM. Hardwood litter and timber. Minimal fire behavior. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

* **Mesa**, Apache-Sitgreaves NF, USFS. Eight miles northwest of Forest Lakes, AZ. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with single-tree torching, backing and creeping.

Pipeline, Coconino NF, USFS. Five miles north of Flagstaff, AZ. Timber, brush and grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Black, Gila NF, USFS. Twenty-four miles north of Mimbres, NM. Grass and timber. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		% Acres	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Chge	Total				Chge	Total	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Hermits Peak	NM-SNF	341,735	0	93	Ctn	7/31	351	-3	5	6	1	903	277M	FS
* Mesa	AZ-ASF	100	---	0	Ctn	7/22	123	---	4	4	1	0	100K	FS
Pipeline	AZ-COF	26,532	0	90	Ctn	7/31	33	0	1	2	0	2	16.1M	FS
Black	NM-GNF	325,136	---	90	Ctn	7/17	39	---	2	0	0	5	59.3M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Adobe	AZ-A5S	1,637	---	0	Comp	7/20	2	---	0	0	0	0	20K	ST

A5S – Northwest District, Arizona DOF

Southern Area (PL 2)

New fires:	2
New large incidents:	3
Uncontained large fires:	4

* **Blanket**, Texas A&M Forest Service. Started on private land 15 miles southwest of Falfurrias, TX. Short grass and brush. Active fire behavior with running and flanking. Structures threatened.

* **Deerhead**, Texas A&M Forest Service. Started on private land seven miles northwest of Seymour, TX. Tall grass and brush. Active fire behavior with group torching and running.

* **Black Cypress Swamp**, Florida Forest Service. Seven miles northeast of Geneva, FL. Timber. Active fire behavior with short-range spotting.

Hard Castle, Texas A&M Forest Service. Started on private land six miles north of Meridian, TX. Tall grass and brush. Active fire behavior with spotting. Residences threatened. Evacuations in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		% Acres	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Chge	Total				Chge	Total	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Blanket	TX-TXS	1,200	---	24	Ctn	7/14	19	---	0	1	0	0	NR	PRI
* Deerhead	TX-TXS	400	---	10	Ctn	7/15	4	---	0	0	0	0	NR	PR
* Black Cypress Swamp	FL-FLS	201	---	30	Ctn	UNK	15	---	0	0	0	0	NR	ST
Hard Castle	TX-TXS	600	0	45	Ctn	7/14	47	-14	0	6	2	1	NR	PRI
Koonce	TX-TXS	3,794	0	100	Ctn	---	2	-10	0	0	0	0	NR	PRI
Deer	TX-TXS	1,062	0	100	Ctn	---	1	-36	0	0	0	0	NR	PRI

Rocky Mountain Area (PL 2)

New fires:	8
New large incidents:	1
Uncontained large fires:	1

* **Monday Creek**, Medicine Bow-Routt NF, Thunder Basin National Grassland, USFS. Thirty-three miles northwest of Wheatland, WY. Timber. Active fire behavior with running and torching. Residences threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		% Acres	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Chge	Total				Chge	Total	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Monday Creek	WY-MRF	100	---	0	Ctn	7/31	66	---	0	6	3	0	300K	FS

Northern Rockies Area (PL 1)

New fires:	4
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	1

Wilks Gulch, Flathead Agency, BIA. Two miles east of Hot Springs, MT. Grass and brush. Moderate fire behavior with smoldering, backing and creeping.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Wilks Gulch	MT-FHA	355	0	20	Ctn	7/11	40	0	1	2	1	0	90K	BIA

Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	2	1	4
	ACRES	0	8,488	0		11,297	0	19,786
Northwest Area	FIREs	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
	ACRES	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Northern California Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	16	2	18
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	62	0	62
Southern California Area	FIREs	0	0	0	1	15	1	17
	ACRES	0	0	0	460	79	0	539
Northern Rockies Area	FIREs	0	0	1	0	1	2	4
	ACRES	0	0	1	0	5	1	7
Great Basin Area	FIREs	0	5	0	0	13	3	21
	ACRES	0	623	0	0	2,167	4	2,794
Southwest Area	FIREs	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	51	51
Rocky Mountain Area	FIREs	2	0	0	0	2	4	8
	ACRES	11	0	0	0	101	120	232
Eastern Area	FIREs	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIREs	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
	ACRES	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL FIRES:		6	6	1	1	49	18	81
TOTAL ACRES:		14	9,112	1	460	13,711	177	23,476

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

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	145	0	0	303	28	476
	ACRES	0	1,069,252	0	0	1,416,935	13	2,486,200
Northwest Area	FIRES	63	76	9	1	266	106	521
	ACRES	709	42,626	22	0	325	17	43,699
Northern California Area	FIRES	6	9	0	6	1,590	103	1,714
	ACRES	2	12	0	0	11,186	324	11,525
Southern California Area	FIRES	15	30	1	14	2,202	253	2,515
	ACRES	9	285	100	845	16,678	1,993	19,910
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	199	7	3	0	318	68	595
	ACRES	827	4	207	0	3,191	91	4,321
Great Basin Area	FIRES	14	197	3	16	345	84	659
	ACRES	37	7,077	0	10	8,933	4,399	20,458
Southwest Area	FIRES	314	130	2	9	439	487	1,381
	ACRES	40,772	8,673	0	5	159,964	756,020	965,436
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	200	105	11	10	789	129	1,244
	ACRES	4,860	1,686	130	573	165,466	7,537	180,253
Eastern Area	FIRES	84	0	20	10	4,418	274	4,806
	ACRES	253	0	680	12	30,418	2,611	33,975
Southern Area	FIRES	544	4	17	57	20,574	521	21,717
	ACRES	96,560	88	2,541	2,511	880,964	37,468	1,020,134
TOTAL FIRES:		1,439	703	66	123	31,244	2,053	35,628
TOTAL ACRES:		144,031	1,129,705	3,680	3,957	2,694,063	810,476	4,785,915

Ten Year Average Fires (2012 – 2021 as of today)	28,684
Ten Year Average Acres (2012 – 2021 as of today)	2,372,843

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

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

Canadian Fires and Hectares

PROVINCES	FIRES YESTERDAY	HECTARES YESTERDAY	FIRES YEAR-TO-DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO- DATE
BRITISH COLUMBIA	4	1,283	262	8,697
YUKON TERRITORY	7	11,151	218	100,983
ALBERTA	6	2,226	529	71,003
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	12	5,771	121	165,808
SASKATCHEWAN	0	12,361	177	79,885
MANITOBA	0	112	31	9,036
ONTARIO	2	0	113	2,396
QUEBEC	2	0	288	29,491
NEWFOUNDLAND	0	0	41	678
NEW BRUNSWICK	0	0	152	129
NOVA SCOTIA	0	0	84	3,362
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	2	0
NATIONAL PARKS	4	2,405	49	5,805
TOTALS	37	35,309	2,077	477,275

*1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: Scattered thunderstorms are expected across much of Alaska, with the greatest coverage likely in the Interior. Warm to hot and dry conditions will continue across the Interior into western and south-central Alaska. Gusty northerly winds are possible over western Alaska, while cooler and wetter weather is expected from southeast Alaska into the Panhandle, including higher humidity near the southern Alaska coast. Dry and breezy conditions will spread from southern Idaho through Wyoming and onto portions of the central High Plains. Hot and dry conditions will continue in much of Texas, Oklahoma, and the ArkLaTex, with above normal temperatures and low humidity across the much of the southern and central Intermountain West away from the Monsoon. Isolated to scattered monsoonal thunderstorms are expected over the greater Four Corners region. Strong to severe thunderstorms are expected from the northern Plains into the Great Lakes, with thunderstorm chances likely remaining in southern Montana. Thunderstorms will continue across much of the Southeast.

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



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 the outcome. What are the conditions? What are you thinking? What are YOU doing?

Thirtymile Fire (Washington) – July 10, 2001

Incident Summary: The Chewuch River runs down a deep V canyon with 70% to 100% slopes and little elevation change along the canyon floor. The southwest to northeast orientation of the canyon aligns with afternoon ridge and up-canyon winds. Dead fuel moistures were at historic lows on July 10: 10-hour at 3%, 100-hour at 5%, and 1,000-hour at 10%. Live fuels were generally less than 100%. Ladder fuels were abundant on the canyon floor and riparian fuels were dry enough to support surface fire and torching throughout the night of July 9 and into the morning of July 10. Crown fuels were dense and drought stressed. On this day, the temperature reached 94 °F with a relative humidity (RH) of 8% along the canyon floor.

At 2126 hours, July 9, a fire was reported near the road along the Chewuch River. The fire was about five acres with two spots ahead of it. An engine with three firefighters arrived just after 2300. One engine arrived just before midnight. An Interagency Hot Shot Crew (IHC) was on scene at 0100 after working another fire the previous day and having had only 30 minutes of sleep. The engine departed the fire around 0130. A local Type 2 crew was called up just after midnight. A majority of the crew had only one or two hours of sleep. By 0530, July 10, there were seven spots covering about five to six acres. Two spots were about an acre each.

At 0700, the Type 2 crew received a briefing at a ranger station prior to heading to the fire and were informed that they would be doing mop-up. They arrived at the fire at 0900. The IHC left the fire for rest at 1100. Mid-morning fire intensity increased with more frequent torching and increasingly longer spotting distances. By about noon, the Type 2 crew was experiencing difficulties with the pumps and multiple broken handtools. Just after noon, the Incident Commander (IC) requested additional resources including a helicopter. The IHC returned to the fire around 1400 with less than 3 hours of rest.

The fire had been burning through hoses and spotting over the line. The IC withdrew the crew back to the road and accepted the fact that the fire was lost. At 1500, the Type 2 crew was joined by the IHC at the safety zone on the west side of the river. The helicopter made water drops on small spots on the south edge of the fire until it was time to refuel. The fire had spread up the east canyon walls and soon after moved back to the canyon floor with spotting on the west wall of the canyon. At 1520, the fire was 50 acres, crowning and going to the ridge. At 1535 the fire was 100 acres.

Two engines are ordered and arrived around 1530. The engines did not check in with the IC or receive a tactical briefing. One engine crew called on the radio for help with a spot. One, then eventually all, of the squads of the Type 2 crew were sent to assist the engines with spots along the road. Minutes later the fire was actively spotting and burning right up to the east side of the road. Some firefighters quickly drove back down the road to their safety zone, shielding their faces from the intense heat as they passed the fire. At 1603, the Thirtymile Fire was forming its own thunderhead. A call was made to the other firefighters to get everyone out of the area. At 1634, as the firefighters attempted to retreat, they saw a "wall of flames," and quickly turned around and drove up the canyon. By 1700, the fire was over 500 acres.

The fire made a strong up-canyon run. At 1724, roaring ash and a "fire snowstorm" abruptly overwhelmed the area and surprised the crew. Cut off from their only escape route, back down the road, eight firefighters and two civilians deployed fire shelters on the road, and six firefighters deployed fire shelters on the talus slope. Four firefighters did not survive.

Discussion Points:

- Local firefighters considered it unusual for green foliage to be burning like it was for this time of year. If you are not familiar with local conditions of a fire you are being dispatched to, what are some quick and effective tools you can use to gain an understanding of that area?
- Identify and discuss the red flags that pop-up during this 8-hour period. If this were your crew, what would you be doing to identify and mitigate these red flags?
- Though water was readily available, relatively little was applied to the fire during the night and morning. This was largely due to operational problems with pumps and hoses, as well as delays in availability of a helicopter. In this situation, how would you and your crew adapt your tactics and develop your trigger points?
- Records indicate that firefighters on the Thirtymile Fire had very little sleep prior to their assignments, and mental fatigue affected situational awareness and decision-making. How can you recognize fatigue in yourself and in your crew/team? Discuss what you will do about it?
- Four of the six firefighters that deployed on the talus slope did not survive. Refer to Last Resort Survival in the *Incident Response Pocket Guide (IRPG)*, PMS 461, discuss the features of an optimal and survivable deployment site. Practice looking for them on PT hikes, when patrolling the fireline, and while preparing prescribed burn units.

References: [Thirtymile Fire Investigation Report, Staff Ride, and additional references](#)

Video: [30 Mile Fire Fatality Case Study](#)

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