

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Thursday, September 1, 2022 – 0730 MDT  
National Preparedness Level 3**

**National Fire Activity:**

Initial attack activity:	Light (88 fires)
New large incidents:	6
Large fires contained:	0
Uncontained large fires: **	18
Area Command teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	1
Type 1 IMTs committed:	2
Type 2 IMTs committed:	9
***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 31 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.

One RC-26 aircraft with Distributed Real-Time Infrared (DRTI) capability and support personnel from the 141st Air Refueling Wing (Washington Air National Guard) have been deployed to Boise, ID.

One Boeing 737 airtanker from New South Wales, Australia is supporting fire suppression efforts in the western United States.

<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>	<b>Change in Personnel</b>
AICC	1	13	1	1	0	26	0
NWCC	19	51,172	108	205	46	4,687	-31
ONCC	3	105,105	42	129	12	2,093	-96
OSCC	5	8,418	38	123	20	1,177	691
NRCC	8	9,912	5	13	6	306	-102
GBCC	10	137,842	33	79	24	1,776	-22
SWCC	1	1,362	0	1	0	7	-509
RMCC	2	6,789	0	18	1	52	30
EACC	1	270	0	7	4	119	119
SACC	3	1,511	0	1	0	13	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>321,033</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>10,249</b>	<b>80</b>

**Northwest Area (PL 3)**

New fires:	24
New large incidents:	2
Uncontained large fires:	8
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	5

**Rum Creek**, Medford District, BLM. IMT 1 (ODF Team 1) and IMT 2 (NW Team 13). Twelve miles northwest of Hugo, OR. Timber and closed timber litter. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, backing, short-range spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect.

**White River**, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, USFS. IMT 2 (NW Team 8). IMT is also managing the Irving Peak fire. Twenty-three miles northwest of Leavenworth, WA. Timber. Active fire behavior with flanking, backing and isolated torching. Numerous structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Irving Peak**, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, USFS. Twenty-six miles northwest of Leavenworth, WA. Timber. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, flanking and backing. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Crockets Knob**, Malheur NF, USFS. IMT 2 (NW Team 12). Nineteen miles north of Prairie City, OR. Brush and timber. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, flanking and group torching. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Cedar Creek**, Willamette NF, USFS. IMT2 (NW Team 6). Fifteen miles east of Oakridge, OR. Timber and closed timber litter. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and single tree torching. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Windigo**, Umpqua NF, USFS. IMT 2 (NW Team 9). IMT is also managing the Potter and Big Swamp fires. Twenty miles southwest of La Pine, OR. Closed timber litter, timber and medium slash. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Potter**, Willamette NF, USFS. Forty-six miles southwest of La Pine, OR. Closed timber litter, timber and medium slash. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and single tree torching. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Big Swamp**, Willamette NF, USFS. Thirty-seven miles southwest of La Pine, OR. Closed timber litter, timber and medium slash. Minimal fire behavior with creeping. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

\* **Copper Lake**, North Cascades NP, NPS. Thirty-six miles northeast of Deming, WA. Timber. Active fire behavior with short crown runs, uphill runs and short-range spotting. Last narrative report unless significant activity occurs.

\* **Goat Mountain Two**, Wallowa-Whitman NF, USFS. Nine miles south of Lostine, OR. Timber. Active fire behavior with group torching and backing. Last narrative report unless significant activity occurs.

**Sturgill**, Wallowa-Whitman NF, USFS. Previously reported incident. Fifteen miles southwest of Enterprise, OR. Timber. Active fire behavior with short crown runs, uphill runs and flanking. 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			
Rum Creek	OR-MED	14,940	3,244	1	Ctn	10/31	1,934	92	49	128	23	3	14.6M	BLM

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
White River	WA-OWF	1,289	217	1	Ctn	10/30	341	11	5	13	5	0	10.9M	FS
Irving Peak	WA-OWF	1,829	53	2	Ctn	10/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.7M	FS
Crocketts Knob	OR-MAF	2,356	497	5	Ctn	9/30	576	-6	14	21	5	0	5.5M	FS
Cedar Creek	OR-WIF	8,421	600	12	Ctn	10/1	773	-28	11	10	8	0	34.1M	FS
Windigo	OR-UPF	1,007	0	99	Ctn	10/1	164	-50	1	5	0	0	17.5M	FS
Potter	OR-WIF	629	0	96	Ctn	10/30	306	11	10	3	4	0	13.1M	FS
Big Swamp	OR-WIF	110	0	97	Ctn	10/30	39	9	1	2	0	0	2.1M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
* Copper Lake	WA-NCP	630	---	0	Comp	10/1	10	---	0	0	0	0	15K	NPS
* Goat Mountain Two	OR-WWF	100	---	0	Comp	10/31	7	---	0	0	1	0	5K	FS
Sturgill	OR-WWF	2,000	1,000	0	Comp	10/31	10	0	0	0	0	0	100K	FS
Brush Creek 2	WA-NCP	1,000	370	96	Comp	10/1	4	-6	0	0	0	0	5K	NPS
Nebo	OR-WWF	800	0	0	Comp	10/31	29	0	1	2	0	0	100K	FS

### **Northern California Area (PL 3)**

New fires:	15
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	4
NIMOs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	2

**2022 SRF Lightning Complex** (2 fires), Six Rivers NF, USFS. NIMO (NIMO Team 4), IMT 2 (CA Team 14) and IMT 2 (CA Team 15). One mile northeast of Willow Creek, CA. Timber and slash. Extreme fire behavior with uphill runs, torching and spotting. Several communities, numerous structures and infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect.

**McKinney**, Klamath NF, USFS. Fifteen miles northwest of Yreka, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Yeti**, Klamath NF, USFS. Eight miles northeast of Happy Camp, CA. Closed timber litter and timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Several communities, numerous structures and communication 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			
2022 SRF Lightning Complex	CA-SRF	37,081	2,719	64	Ctn	9/15	1,815	-75	38	123	12	8	69M	FS
McKinney	CA-KNF	60,138	0	99	Ctn	10/01	208	-21	3	4	0	185	4M	FS
Yeti	CA-KNF	7,886	0	98	Ctn	9/1	70	0	1	2	0	0	17.8M	FS

**Great Basin Area (PL 3)**

New fires:	9
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	2
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	2

**Four Corners**, Payette NF, USFS. Transfer of command from IMT 1 (GB Team 2) to IMT 2 (GB Team 4) will occur today. Six miles west of Cascade, ID. Timber. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, backing and torching. Several communities, numerous structures and communications infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area and road closures in effect.

**Moose**, Salmon-Challis NF, USFS. IMT 2 (GB Team 5). Seventeen miles north of Salmon, ID. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, flanking and single tree torching. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Ross Fork**, Sawtooth NF, USFS. Previously reported incident. Six miles east of Atlanta, ID. Closed timber litter, timber and short grass. Active fire behavior with short-range spotting, running and flanking. Trail closures in effect. Last 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			
Four Corners	ID-PAF	12,398	320	41	Ctn	9/24	877	-5	21	43	10	0	20.9M	FS
Moose	ID-SCF	99,232	555	44	Ctn	10/31	759	21	12	30	6	7	61.6M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Ross Fork	ID-STF	1,720	390	10	Comp	10/31	42	0	0	1	3	0	625K	FS
Woodtick	ID-SCF	6,063	0	16	Comp	9/30	4	-1	0	0	0	0	4.5M	FS
Porphyry	ID-PAF	2,436	---	15	Comp	10/15	41	---	0	0	2	0	1.4M	FS
Norton	ID-SCF	1,404	---	21	Comp	10/31	2	---	0	0	0	0	880K	FS
Wolf Fang	ID-SCF	1,497	---	0	Comp	10/1	1	---	0	0	0	0	65K	FS
Dismal	ID-PAF	1,836	---	0	Comp	10/15	3	---	0	0	0	0	44K	FS
Halfway Hill	UT-SCS	11,702	---	95	Comp	10/1	8	---	0	1	0	2	11.8M	ST

SCS – South Central Area, Utah DOF

**Southern California Area (PL 3)**

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

\* **Route**, Los Angeles County. One mile north of Castaic, CA. Tall grass, chaparral and brush. Extreme fire behavior with uphill runs, running and short-range spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, area and road closures in effect.

\* **Border 32**, San Diego Unit, Cal Fire. One mile northeast of Barrett Junction, CA. Chaparral, brush and tall grass. Extreme fire behavior with uphill runs, running and short-range spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, area and 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			
* Route	CA-LAC	4,625	---	0	Ctn	NR	378	---	13	48	9	1	2.5M	C&L

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Border 32	CA-MVU	1,446	---	0	Ctn	9/7	326	---	8	48	5	4	100K	ST
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Red	CA-YNP	2,084	0	10	Comp	9/28	65	0	4	1	2	0	130K	NPS
Rodgers	CA-YNP	715	0	10	Comp	10/15	18	0	1	0	1	0	130K	NPS

YNP– Yosemite NP, NPS

### **Northern Rockies Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 11  
New large incidents: 1  
Uncontained large fires: 0

\* **Trail Ridge**, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS. Twenty-three miles northwest of Wisdom, MT. Heavy slash, brush and timber. Moderate fire behavior with torching, flanking and spotting. Trail 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	gme	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
* Trail Ridge	MT-BDF	523	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Hog Trough	MT-BRF	1,701	0	77	Comp	10/30	90	-37	2	2	1	0	10.9M	FS
Redhorn	MT-FHA	511	0	50	Comp	10/1	5	0	0	0	1	0	3.4M	BIA
Wallow	ID-NCF	315	---	0	Comp	11/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	25K	FS
Diamond Watch	ID-IPF	832	---	44	Comp	9/30	27	---	1	1	0	0	564K	FS
Dean Creek	MT-FNF	328	---	0	Comp	10/31	7	---	0	0	0	0	35K	FS
Van Camp	ID-NCF	283	---	0	Comp	12/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	7K	FS
Fire Creek	ID-NCF	141	---	0	Comp	12/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Sutton	MT-KNF	108	---	95	Comp	10/15	54	---	2	0	1	0	2.2M	FS
Quartz	MT-GNP	1,696	---	0	Comp	10/31	35	---	0	0	0	0	60K	NPS
Castle	ID-NCF	377	---	0	Comp	12/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	150K	FS
Clover	MT-BDF	1,103	---	51	Comp	10/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	2.1M	FS
Weasel	MT-KNF	2,350	---	40	Comp	9/30	7	---	0	1	0	0	1.3M	FS
Indian Ridge	MT-BRF	4,425	---	0	Comp	10/31	36	---	1	0	0	0	36K	FS
Eneas Peak	ID-IPF	772	---	0	Comp	9/30	4	---	0	0	0	0	525K	FS
Cannon	MT-FNF	1,384	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	10K	FS

BRF– Bitterroot NF, USFS    FHA – Flathead Agency, BIA    NCF – Nez Perce-Clearwater NF, USFS

IPF – Idaho Panhandle NF, USFS    FNF – Flathead NF, USFS    KNF – Kootenai NF, USFS    GNP – Glacier NP, NPS

### **Rocky Mountain Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 6  
New large incidents: 1  
Uncontained large fires: 1

\* **Tank Farm**, Converse County. Five miles from Glenrock, WY. Tall grass. Extreme fire behavior with running. Structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
*Tank Farm	WY-COX	1,500	---	0	Ctn	9/2	30	---	0	11	1	0	200K	CNTY

### **Southwest Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 1  
 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														
Dragon	AZ-GCP	1,362	---	0	Comp	9/1	7	---	0	1	0	0	900K	NPS

GCP – Grand Canyon NP, NPS

**Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):**

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Area	FIRES	0	8	0	0	12	4	24
	ACRES	0	11,956	0	0	3	437	12,396
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	14	0	15
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	6	0	6
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	8	1	9
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	7	0	7
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	11	11
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	29	29
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	7	1	9
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	17	1,629	1,645
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	4	2	6
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1,500	170	1,671
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	2	0	0	0	10	0	12
	ACRES	6	0	0	0	10	0	16
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>11,956</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,543</b>	<b>2,265</b>	<b>15,770</b>

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

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	186	0	0	347	31	564
	ACRES	0	1,531,859	0	0	1,575,752	10	3,107,621
Northwest Area	FIRES	178	332	25	39	772	702	2,048
	ACRES	1,562	60,051	258	577	12,265	15,214	89,927
Northern California Area	FIRES	6	24	5	18	2,337	263	2,653
	ACRES	2	285	20	131	14,579	103,442	118,459
Southern California Area	FIRES	25	37	8	24	2,963	370	3,427
	ACRES	114	295	103	5,386	18,807	3,434	28,138
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	395	21	6	6	893	505	1,826
	ACRES	27,852	2,105	545	1,678	12,575	14,148	58,902
Great Basin Area	FIRES	31	513	5	34	629	298	1,510
	ACRES	6,641	42,961	58	37	36,296	165,702	251,695
Southwest Area	FIRES	386	186	7	27	517	795	1,918
	ACRES	39,404	13,326	15	2,717	159,631	760,797	975,890
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	282	326	13	24	1,063	265	1,973
	ACRES	18,075	6,268	142	598	181,186	10,800	217,068
Eastern Area	FIRES	88	0	20	11	5,730	351	6,200
	ACRES	253	0	680	17	39,477	2,878	43,305
Southern Area	FIRES	812	4	27	65	24,676	628	26,212
	ACRES	103,645	88	5,943	3,054	1,109,851	39,584	1,262,164
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>2,203</b>	<b>1,629</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>39,927</b>	<b>4,208</b>	<b>48,331</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>197,547</b>	<b>1,657,239</b>	<b>7,764</b>	<b>14,195</b>	<b>3,160,419</b>	<b>1,116,007</b>	<b>6,153,171</b>

<b>Ten Year Average Fires (2012 – 2021 as of today)</b>	<b>40,783</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres (2012 – 2021 as of today)</b>	<b>5,391,685</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/>



### Canadian Fires and Hectares

PROVINCES	FIRES YESTERDAY	HECTARES YESTERDAY	FIRES YEAR-TO-DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO-DATE
BRITISH COLUMBIA	23	269	1,354	42,997
YUKON TERRITORY	0	0	274	175,285
ALBERTA	6	1	964	147,233
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	0	1,517	239	489,128
SASKATCHEWAN	1	0	364	252,146
MANITOBA	0	0	184	168,381
ONTARIO	1	0	222	2,517
QUEBEC	0	0	373	29,570
NEWFOUNDLAND	0	0	75	24,259
NEW BRUNSWICK	2	6	177	144
NOVA SCOTIA	0	0	119	3,364
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	2	0
NATIONAL PARKS	0	0	49	22,290
TOTALS	33	1,793	4,473	1,357,315

\*1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

**Predictive Services Discussion:** Isolated mainly dry thunderstorms are likely to be ongoing across north-central Montana in the morning. Well above normal, near record-setting, temperatures are expected again, with most areas in the 90s to low 100s across the West. Very low relative humidity of 6-20% will continue across much of the West, with the lowest values in northern California into central Oregon and across portions of the Great Basin into the Northern Rockies. Poor overnight relative humidity of 15-35% will continue for mid-slopes and ridges across the northwestern US as well. Breezy west to northwest winds of 15-25 mph with gusts 25-35 mph will develop across portions of central Idaho and central and eastern Montana this afternoon creating elevated to locally critical conditions. High fire activity is expected to continue across the northwestern US, especially on existing large fires. Scattered to numerous thunderstorms are expected across much of Texas, with isolated to scattered thunderstorms along the Gulf Coast and Florida. Isolated thunderstorms are likely over the higher terrain of New Mexico and southern Colorado, with isolated to scattered thunderstorms developing over portions of Nebraska and Kansas.

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

## Sundance Fire (Idaho) – September 1, 1967

**Incident Summary:** The Sundance Fire is remembered for its extreme fire behavior. A crown fire, in heavy timber, pushed the fire 16 miles in a single burning period. Two firefighters perished in the blowup event.

**Factors Influencing Fire Behavior:** Lightning started several fires in mid-August of 1967 in the Selkirk Mountains of northern Idaho. The area was in moderate drought conditions. The last wetting rain was in June, and fire danger was classified as extreme. Fuels in this mountainous area were mostly comprised of timber with areas of logging slash. One fire, the Sundance Fire, ignited near the west side of Sundance Mountain summit; it spread relatively slowly at the outset, growing to only 35 acres by August 23. On August 29 and 30, the fire made a major downhill run towards Priest Lake, pushed by strong northeast winds. By August 31, the fire was at 4,000 acres. On September 1, a dry cold front with very strong southwest winds moved over the fire area. The fire weather forecast issued at 0800 called for scattered afternoon and evening thunderstorms, temperatures down five degrees, humidity up 5%, and south-southwest winds at 12 to 18 mph.

**Human Factors and Fire Operations:** In response to the fire's growth, a US Forest Service fire management team was ordered, and it assumed command of the incident at 1000 on September 1. Much of the focus was on the fire's movement to the west, as there was no imminent threat perceived of the fire spreading to the east and over the Selkirk Divide. Indeed, earlier that morning, a dozer with operator and Sector Boss (similar to a Task Force Leader [TFLD] or Strike Team Leader Heavy Equipment [STEQ] in today's organization) were deployed on that side of the Divide, several miles northeast of the fire. Around 1100, they were briefed by a supervisor on work objectives and escape routes. The dozer was assigned to open up roads in the McCormick Creek drainage, starting near the Pack River and moving southwest and up canyon, towards the Selkirk Divide. Fault Lake, their designated safety zone, was four miles and 3,000 vertical feet further up the canyon, and work was to progress toward the safety zone. Due to limited supplies and equipment, the Sector Boss had neither a vehicle nor a two-way radio. The dozer operator had a knee injury that hampered his mobility.

**The Blowup:** On September 1, starting at 1300 with the onset of strong southwest winds, the Sundance Fire became very active, making a significant run up the Soldier Creek drainage, which is aligned mostly in a west to east direction, to the Selkirk Divide. Between 1400 and 1600, the fire crossed east over the Selkirk Divide and burned downslope through the southwest-to-northeast aligned McCormick Creek Canyon and then into the Pack River drainage, where the dozer had worked its way to within ... mile of Fault Lake. At 1600, the fire overran the dozer operator and Sector Boss, killing both. During this blowup event, the Sundance Fire experienced winds of 30 to 50 mph from early afternoon into the night. In the nine-hour period from 1400 to 2300, the fire increased by 50,000 acres and advanced 16 miles to the northeast, with long-range spotting up to 10 miles.

### Discussion Points:

Prior to the blowup, there were signals of escalating risk. Discuss the following:

- Given the predicted weather, extreme fire danger, and other factors, what are your concerns?
- The dozer operator was partially handicapped due to an injured knee. How would you handle an injury that limits your physical ability or that of a coworker?
- How did the alignment of general winds with major canyons and drainages affect fire behavior?
- The Sundance Fire was not predicted to spread into McCormick Creek. Once the fire advanced to the east side of the Divide, what actions would you take?
- Given similar circumstances, discuss how you and your crew could apply LCES throughout the day.
- In the [Incident Response Pocket Guide \(IRPG\)](#), [PMS 461](#), review Human Factor Barriers to Situation Awareness and discuss this in relation to the Sundance Fire.

**References:** [Sundance Fire Reports](#), [Incident Response Pocket Guide \(IRPG\)](#), [PMS 461](#)

Follow NWCG on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/NWCG>) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/NationalWildfireCoordinatingGroup>) Have an idea or feedback? Share it with the NWCG 6MFS Subcommittee: <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/publication-review-form>