

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC NOTES

July 11, 2025

1100-1300

Topic	Presenter(s)	Purpose
IMSR Update	Kat Sorenson	Information
Predictive Services Update	Jim Wallmann /Steve Larrabee	Information
Resource Update	Kat Sorenson	Information
Agency Business and Geographic Area Update	NMAC Representatives	Information
Administration	Kat Sorenson	Information

Attendees:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair: Shane McDonald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Co-Chair: Chuck Russell	<input type="checkbox"/> MAC Coordinator:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FWS/AK/SA: Shane McDonald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USFS/EA/SW: Russ Long	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USFA/FEMA/NR: Aitor Bidaburu
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BLM/GB: Brian Achziger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NASF/RM: Greg Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NPS/CA: Chuck Russell
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BIA/NW: Josh Simmons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NICC: Kat Sorenson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weather: Jim Wallmann
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuels: Steve Larrabee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> External Affairs: Kari Cobb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IAFC: Erik Litzenberg
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BLM Aviation: Angie Forbes	<input type="checkbox"/> BIA Aviation: Robert Dodgen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USFS Aviation: Chris Tipton
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NIIC-D: Mark Hilton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cache: Nate Hesse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DoD: Martha Wilkins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crews: Greg Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Smokejumpers: Hans Ohme	<input type="checkbox"/> Airspace: Kim Owczarzak
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OWF: Jessica Gardetto	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rappel: Adam Kahler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IR: Jan Johnson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BAER: Lou Ballard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NMAC Operations: Kat Sorenson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intel: Scott Mayer
<input type="checkbox"/> CGAC: Jay Kurth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note-taker: Nicki Johnston	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IMTs: Travis Bailey

Additional Attendees: Russ Babiak, Jesse Bender, Kevin Conn, Jeff Walther, Shane Santos, Mike Mattfeldt, Mike Rubenstein, Penny States, Aaron Baldwin, Justin Gilman, Perry Breitenstein, CJ Carter, Ryan Sundberg, Megan Kephart, Beale Monday, Rick Stratton, Kim Albracht, Jason Bruce, Jeremy Sullens, Sarah Fischer, Kristen Sleeper, Wyatt Frampton, Lindsey Lewis, Megan Heffentrager, Persephone Whelan

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, 14 July 2025, 1100-1300



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IMSR Update (Kat Sorenson)

PL3, light IA, 142 new fires, 15 CIMTs, 289 crews, 511 engines, 107 helicopters, 11,400 personnel assigned. 1 short IMT and 5 overhead assigned to Canada.

North Ops: PL3, 12 new starts, 5 uncontained large fires, 3 CIMTs.

Marble Complex – CA Team 9, moderate behavior, timber and brush, 622 acres, 15% contained.

Green – CA Team 10, moderate behavior, brush, residences and infrastructure threatened, 5,000 acres, 0% contained.

Orleans Complex – 2 fires, CA Team 1, active behavior, timber, residences threatened, evacuations, 4,000 acres, 0% contained.

Northwest: PL3, 13 new starts, 10 uncontained large fires, 5 CIMTs.

Hope – WA DNR, NW Team 8, extreme behavior, timber, structures threatened, evacuations, 5,600 acres, 0% contained.

Elk – OR DOF, ODF Team 1, active behavior, timber, structures and infrastructure threatened, 2,800 acres, 0% contained.

Pomas – NW Team 7 TOC NW Team 12 today, managing Apple Acres, active behavior, grass and timber, evacuations, 3,333 acres, 0% contained.

Grizzly Complex – ODF Team 3, active behavior, timber and brush, 845 acres, 0% contained.

South Ops: PL3, 28 new starts, 1 uncontained large fire, 1 CIMT.

Madre – CA Team 8, minimal behavior, light fuels, residences threatened, 80,786 acres, 62% contained.

Northern Rockies: PL2, 14 new starts.

Garnet – MT DNRC, timber and slash, 100 acres.

Great Basin: PL3, 23 new starts, 8 uncontained large fires, 3 CIMTs.

Deer Creek – UT DOF, GB Team 4 mobilizing, extreme behavior, light fuels and timber, heavy use of aircraft, structures threatened, evacuations, 3,000 acres, 0% contained.

White Sage – GB Team 6 mobilizing, North Rim of Grand Canyon, extreme behavior, residences threatened, 4,000-6,000 acres, 0% contained.

Forsyth – GB Team 2, moderate behavior, timber and brush, structures and infrastructure threatened, 14,558 acres, 58% contained.

Hot Canyon – Active behavior, timber, 15% contained.

Southern Area: PL1, 17 new starts, 2 uncontained large fires, supporting TX with saw crews.

Palm Tree – Active behavior, grass, 500 acres, 40% contained.

Rocky Mountain: PL2, 1 uncontained large fire.

South Rim – Black Canyon of Gunnison, active behavior, brush, structures threatened, evacuations, NP closed, 2,000 acres, 0% contained.

Sow Belly – CO BLM, brush, T3 IMT en route.

Alaska: PL5, 2 new starts, 7 uncontained large fires, 3 CIMTs.

Nenana Ridge Complex – AK Team 2, active behavior, timber, structures threatened, evacuations, 31,600 acres, 0% contained.



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Himalaya Road – SW Team 3, RM Team 2 mobilizing, managing Aggie Creek, minimal behavior, timber, residences threatened, 6,000 acres, 0% contained.

Southwest: PL3, 8 new starts, 2 uncontained large fires.

Turkey Feather – Moderate behavior, grass and timber, 7,000 acres, 0% complete.

Predictive Services Update

Weather Summary (Jim Wallmann)

WEATHER SUMMARY

Short-term (through Sunday)

- Hot in California through this weekend, with temperatures 10-15°F above normal becoming widespread across the West by Sunday, coupled with low afternoon RH and poor overnight recovery
- Isolated mixed wet/dry thunderstorms near/east of the Divide in Colorado and New Mexico each day, spreading into southeast Arizona and the Mogollon Rim this weekend
- Locally breezy westerly winds in the Greater Four Corners today and across the Cascade Gaps Sunday
- Gradual relief expected in Florida from increasing showers and thunderstorms
- Warming/drying through the weekend in Alaska, with some breezy northerly winds today in the northern Interior.

Long-term (Monday through next Saturday)

- After a hot day Monday, cooling across much of the West through next week
- Monsoon moisture will gradually increase in the Southwest, especially south of the Rim and east of the Divide, but if/how much moisture makes it into the southern Great Basin and West Slope is uncertain
- Scattered showers/thunderstorms for Montana east of the Divide early next week, but likely to remain dry elsewhere
- Periods of breezy winds likely in the Columbia Basin and western/northern Great Basin, especially early in the week

Logos for various agencies are visible in the bottom right corner of the graphic.

No strong east wind event predicted west of the Cascades.

Fuels Summary (Steve Larrabee)

Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory issued for East Central Nevada.

Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory for Southwest Utah will be renewed today.

Northwest AK will seem some fire danger relief in the next couple of days.

Portions of the AK interior will need days of precipitation prior to seeing fire danger relief.

FL maintaining persisting elevated fire danger levels.

Fire danger increasing in AZ.

All of the western US and

Strategic Analytic Branch (Rick Stratton)

Fires Modeling Comparison Dashboard outlines values at risk for each GA and fire.

Current large fires and emerging large fires are included, out to 7 days.



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Resource Update (Kat Sorenson)

RESOURCE TYPE	# COMMITTED	# AVAILABLE	# OFF
LAT		29	
VLAT		3	
SCOOPER		8	
AIR ATTACK		27	
LEAD ASM		13	
SEAT	89	10	
HELO TYPE1	77	5	
HELO TYPE2	55	22	
HELO TYPE3	72	9	
LARGE TRANS			
CIMT	15	14	
CREW TYPE 1 (IHC)	85	0	
CREW TYPE 2IA	136	0	
CREW TYPE 2	172	550	
SMOKEJUMPERS (LOWER 48)	112	83	
SMOKEJUMPERS (AK)	74	12	
RAPPELERS		85	
CATERERS	11	13	
SHOWERS	15	44	

UTF TYPE	# Resource UTF
AIRCRAFT	24
TANKER	
HELO	
AIR ATTACK	
IR	
UAS	
SCOOPER	
LEAD/ASM	
CREWS	11
ENGINES	6
OVERHEAD	76 (TFLD, HEQB)
PENDING	3 aircraft, 6 engines, 11 IHCs, 5 T2 IA crews, 157 overhead



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Agency Business and Geographic Area (GA) Update

Brian Achziger (BLM and Great Basin)

- BLM: Jump 55 down for maintenance today, putting together wildfire review team for Madre fire.
- Great Basin: Deer Creek inbrief tomorrow at 0800, White Sage inbrief tomorrow, North Rim evacuated yesterday. Fire near Area 51 close to 30,000 acres. Plan to remain at PL3.

Shane McDonald (FWS, Alaska, and Southern Area)

- FWS: Briefing from TX with damage assessment, refuge is heavily engaged.
- Alaska: Considering PL4 tomorrow. Concerned with ensuring AK resource needs continue to be met as lower 48 fire activity increases. Aviation safety team issued report yesterday after statewide inspection.
- Southern Area: Received MA for saw modules.

Aitor Bidaburu (USFA and Northern Rockies)

- USFA: Supporting FEMA for TX response. Region 6 supporting POTUS visit. ESF4 stood up regionally. Emergency declaration for NM issued.
- Northern Rockies: Concerned with Garnett fire. Good IA catches the last few days, 1 IHC made available to go out of GACC.

Russ Long (USFS, Eastern Area and Southwest)

- FS: NIIC-D rectifying disabled scan button concern from last year.
- Eastern Area: NTR
- Southwest: PL3, balancing orders and drawdown.

Greg Smith (NASF and Rocky Mountain)

- NASF: Significant increase in state resource sharing. TN sent T2 IA crew to WA, may be able to crew swap. Increase in northwest state activity.
- Rocky Mountain: Uptick in activity expected to continue, continued crew and aircraft orders. South Rim evaluating CIM need.

Chuck Russell (NPS and California)

- NPS: Evacuating North Rim, working through confusion for North and South Rim.
- NOPs: Critical needs continue to be aircraft, concern with values at risk dangers.
- SOPs: Suppression efforts below 5,000 feet are becoming more difficult to put out.

Josh Simmons (BIA and Northwest)

- BIA: Minor incident on Wooden Thigh incident with Helitack and Smokejumper spotting and gear loss, no injuries.
- NW: Moderating conditions, 6,000 acres growth on existing large fires, national surge package mobilized to Willow incident. Communication issue, waiting on repeater, working off shared comms. Elk managing Smore fire. Apple Acres TOC back to local unit. Grizzly Complex (21 fires) managing Neal Road as separate incident.



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Liaison Report Out

NMAC Operations – Kat Sorenson

No issues or concerns.

Administration

PL – 3 (4.22)

GACC Priority: NW, AK, NOPS, GB, RM

Resource Allocation: N

Admin Topics

Preparedness Level

Intel matrix showing 4.22.

Fire danger may somewhat plateau, but there will not be significant improvement.

Recommend PL4 at 0730 on 7/12. – **Support**

USDA and DOI approves PL changes over the weekend as needed.

Meeting schedule will update to Monday-Friday.

Recommend GACC priority: NW, NOPS, GB, AK

Re-evaluate what GACC priority setting entails and utilization. **-Revisit in exec.**

NIIC-D

5 kits found with scan button disabled.

NIIC-D going through all radios and implementing additional process changes.

COML and COMT able to make updates in the field.



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Strategic Planning Products

Priorities should be moved as quickly as possible but not too much.

Analytics are new and should be utilized to inform the decision but not to make the decision.

There are data points that are unquantifiable.

Consider which elements that define the spider charts should be standardized.

Elements have varying resource values that cannot all be weighed.

Ecological natural values should be considered despite not being included in the charts.

Data elements should be all inclusive across GAs.

Many factors such as the Redwoods, Sequoias, National Parks, etc. cannot be included in the data set, but will need to be factored into decisions.

Concern with timber, habitat, grazing, etc.

Include fire behavior and resource commitment charts.

Revisit.

External Affairs

Request External Affairs stay on through Admin. -Support

Aviation – Airtankers

Concern with IA capacity and LAT distribution across GAs.

0 LATs in RM yesterday, today NOPS and SOPS starting with 0 LATs.

Ensure each GA has a LAT IA force.

Recommend maintaining minimum capacity in each GA not allowed to be reallocated to other areas.

Reprioritization of LATs would all come to NMAC.

Several bases sit on GA borders and are closer to other GAs than parts of the one they sit within.

LAT coordination is based on ordering, recommend additional proactive strategic planning and movement.

FS will be hiring 4 CWN LATs over the next 10 days for additional coverage starting today.

Tanker 131 under maintenance until August 15.

Once CWNs are activated, Lead ASMs and MAFFS can be evaluated.

LATs should be distributed in every GA with IA potential.

IA is the top priority nationally, resources should be in a location they are easily utilized.

Ensure LATs are strategically placed based on predicted weather and fire danger.

Goal is to provide predictable IA capability to GAs that are expecting a need.

Recommended baseline of 2 LATs sitting in each GA with potential need.

Holding LATs in specific GAs could diminish national capacity and limit IA aviation support in GAs with heavy activity.

Aviation SMEs could suggest movement to NMAC Operations during their morning meeting report-out for NMAC Operations to bring to NMAC for discussion and approval.

Expand communication between aviation, NICC, and NMAC.

Baseline LATs in each GA would have designated tail numbers and utilization would be tracked daily.

Consider how to decide which GAs have potential need for baseline LATs.

LAT chat is utilized by aviation coordinators for real-time discussions and decision making.

Aviation group will share draft letter of intent with NMAC on 7/14 for review and discussion.

Consider formalizing an interagency aviation group with clear leader's intent.

