

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC NOTES

July 26, 2026

1100-1300

Topic	Presenter(s)	Purpose
National Fire Activity Overview	Megan Kephart	Information
National Fire Weather Update	Jim Wallmann	Information
National Fuels Update	Steve Larrabee	Information
National Resource Overview & Assessment	Megan Kephart	Information
Geographic Area Associate Member Update	NMAC Associate Members	Information
Agency Updates	NMAC Primary Members	Information
NMAC Operations Report Out	Erica Lamb	Information
Strategic Analytics Report	Rick Stratton	Information
Administration	Megan Kephart	Information
Admin Topics	NMAC Representatives	Discussion

Attendees:

☒ Chair: Chuck Russell	☒ Co-Chair: Aitor Bidaburu	☐ MAC Coordinator:
☒ USWFS: Chuck Russell	☒ USFS: Russ Long	☒ USFA: Aitor Bidaburu
☒ NASF: Greg Smith	☒ NICC: Megan Kephart	☒ IAFC: Craig Daugherty
☒ Alaska: Karis Collet	☒ California: John Goss	☒ Eastern Area: Seth Grimm
☒ Great Basin: John Foley	☒ Northern Rockies: Dave Williams	☒ Northwest: Brian Ebert
☒ Southern Area: Jason Demas	☒ Rocky Mountain: Paul Cerda	☒ Southwest: Mike Spilde
☒ Fuels: Steve Larrabee	☒ Intel: Scott Mayer	☒ Weather: Jim Wallmann
☒ Crews: Chase Maness	☒ NMAC Operations: Erica Lamb	☒ IMTs: Jesse Bender
☐ ICAC: Jason Loomis	☒ External Affairs: Brian Reublinger	☒ DOW: Brian West
☐ USWFS Aviation: Matt Shaddle	☒ USFS Aviation: Chris Tipton	☐ Airspace: Kim Owczarzak
☒ NIIC-D: Kim Albracht	☐ Cache: Nate Hesse	☐ IR: Kat Sorenson
☐ Safety:	☐ Strategic Analytics:	☐ Smokejumpers:
☐ CGAC:	☒ Note-taker: Nicki Johnston	☒ Rappel: Adam Kahler

Additional Attendees: Brian Achziger, George Geissler, Harold Riggs, Chief Fennessy, Grant Beebe, Jeremy Sullens, Josh Acosta, Bea Day, Maj Fort, Jason Bruce, Beau Dobberstein, Col Little, Kurt Rohrbach, Robin Cole, Megan Heffentrager, Shaun Jensen, Marcus Medina, Trevor Pollock, Ricardo Reynoso, Dave Underwood, Ryan McCliment

NEXT MEETING:

Sunday, 26 July 2026, 1700-1830



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National Fire Activity Overview (Megan Kephart)

PL5, 159 new starts, 90 uncontained large fires, 4 MAFFS, 30 CIMTs, 2 NIMO Teams, 25,310 personnel assigned.

Northwest: PL5, 15 new starts, 52 uncontained large fires, 19 CIMTs.

Ptarmigan – Extreme behavior, timber, 9,000 acres, 0% contained.

Little Giant – CA Team 2, extreme behavior, timber, 17,000 acres, 0% contained.

Pearl Hill – Light fuels, active behavior, evacuations, T3 IMT ordered, 3,000 acres, 0% contained.

Kaiser Canyon – NR Team 2, extreme behavior, timber, evacuations, 121,00 acres, 12% contained.

Bradeen Hill – Grass and timber, active behavior, evacuations, 3,000 acres, 0% contained.

Hagen – NW Team 7, timber, active behavior, 24,000 acres, 0% contained.

Bob Creek – Grass and timber, active behavior, 300 acres.

Powder River – SW Team 3, managing Fox, minimal behavior, grass, evacuations, 21,000 acres, 52% contained.

Fox – Light fuels and timber, extreme behavior, evacuations, 21,000 acres, 0% contained.

Grasshopper – Timber, extreme behavior, evacuations, 7,500 acres, 0% contained.

Hay Creek Complex – NW Team 10, most activity on Little Buck, active behavior, light fuels, evacuations, 168,000 acres, 50% contained.

Rowe Creek Complex – NW Team 2, merged with Box Springs and Brewer, extreme behavior, evacuations, 199,000 acres, 31% contained.

Green Mountain – Extreme behavior, timber, 2,100 acres, 0% contained.

Bench – SW Team 4, merged with Beachcomb, light fuels, extreme behavior, evacuations, 25,000 acres, 0% contained.

Shingle – GB Team 5, timber, extreme behavior, evacuations, 65,000 acres, 0% contained.

Akawa Butte – ODF Team 2, timber, active behavior, evacuations, 26,400 acres, 5% contained.

Castle – Timber, active behavior, CIMT ordered, 1,000 acres, 0% contained.

Second Flat – SA Team 2, managing Jackass Butte, extreme behavior, timber and light fuels, 76,000 acres, 0% contained.

Jackass Butte – Minimal behavior, light fuels, 12,000 acres, 10% contained.

Bald Mountain – Light fuels, active behavior, 8,900 acres, 1% contained.

Hat – CA Team 5 mobilizing, light fuels, extreme behavior, 20,000 acres, 10% contained.

Coleman Creek – Light fuels, 45,000 acres.

Big Grass – Brush and grass, extreme behavior, 48,000 acres, 0% contained.

Northern Rockies: PL3, 17 new starts, 1 uncontained large fire, 1 CIMT.

Upper Smith – NR Team 1, active behavior, timber, 1,600 acres, 15% contained.

Silver Tip – Timber, 600 acres.

Several small but established fires in MT.

Great Basin: PL3, 50 new starts, 10 uncontained large fires, 2 CIMTs.

Tartar – Light fuels, active behavior, evacuations, 2,000 acres, 25% contained.

Peer – Active behavior, light fuels, 300 acres, 0% contained.

Scorp – Active behavior, light fuels, 4,000 acres, 0% contained.



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Rocky Mountain: PL3, 11 new starts, 8 uncontained large fires, 6 CIMTs.

All fires saw minimal activity, several CIMT transitions occurring today and tomorrow.

Eastern Area: PL4, 5 new starts, 6 uncontained large fires, 1 CIMT, 2 NIMO Teams.

Camp – SA Team 1, managing 4 other incidents, received precipitation, moderate behavior, hardwood litter, evacuations, 4,400 acres, 39% contained.

Little Knife – NIMO Team 3 TOC NIMO Team 1 tomorrow, minimal behavior, timber, received precipitation, 4,900 acres, 38% contained.



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Predictive Services Update

National Fire Weather Update (Jim Wallmann)

WEATHER SUMMARY

Short-term (Today through Tuesday)

- Breezy west winds will occur today from northeast California to the northern/central Great Basin and northern Rockies near/west of the Divide with widespread moderate to high-risk significant fire potential, although eastern Oregon to Montana are likely to see lighter winds than expected due to significant smoke
- High-risk significant fire potential in eastern Montana to the western Dakotas due to isolated mixed wet/dry thunderstorms, but northern extent may be limited due to smoke that reduces daytime heating
- High-risk significant fire potential due to lightning from isolated to scattered thunderstorms in central Minnesota and northern Wisconsin today into tomorrow morning
- Breezy/dry conditions continue into Tuesday for much of the northern half of the West amid continued low RH, but winds may be lighter in some areas due to smoke impacts in the Northwest and northern Rockies
- Hot temperatures will spread throughout the southern Plains and Lower Mississippi Valley through the weekend with increasing potential and locally breezy winds in the southern Plains for moderate to high-risk significant fire potential
- Florida and south-Georgia will see a temporary reprieve begin, with low potential in the Southwest and Four Corners

Long-term (Wednesday through next Tuesday)

- Very hot temperatures and breezy winds on the southern Plains into Friday with moderate to high-risk significant fire potential, while potential increases in much of the Lower Mississippi Valley as the heat wave weakens but isolated thunderstorms may result in new ignitions
- Above normal temperatures for much of the West into Saturday, with cooler temperatures as the ridge breaks down in the northern half of the West but the strength of the winds associated with the breakdown is uncertain
- The monsoon will weaken by the weekend with only isolated thunderstorms in the Southwest, and extremely hot temperatures expected for the Southwest, southern California, and Greater Four Corners will result in gradually increasing significant fire potential
- Moderate potential is likely to persist in much of the western Great Lakes, but scattered thunderstorms in slightly cooler northwest flow may result in localized areas of wetting rainfall and reduced potential



National Fuels Update (Steve Larrabee)

NTR



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Resource Update (Megan Kephart)

RESOURCE TYPE	# COMMITTED	# AVAILABLE	# OFF
LAT		28	5
VLAT		3	2
SCOOPER		8	
AIR ATTACK		36	
LEAD ASM		8	
SEAT		59	
SINGLE ENGINE SCOOPERS		21	
HELO TYPE1	107	0	
HELO TYPE2	63	0	
HELO TYPE3	68	1	
LARGE TRANS			
CIMT	30		
CREW TYPE 1 (IHC)	62		
CREW TYPE 2IA	115		
CREW TYPE 2	430	216	
SMOKEJUMPERS (LOWER 48)	182	55	
SMOKEJUMPERS (AK)	0	16	
RAPPELERS		80	
CATERERS	24	3	
SHOWERS	42	11	

UTF TYPE	# Resource UTF
AIRCRAFT	42
TANKER	21
HELO	5
AIR ATTACK	4
IR	10
UAS	
SCOOPER	
LEAD/ASM	
CREWS	1
ENGINES	4
OVERHEAD	205
PENDING	392 overhead, 48 crews, 1 engine, 13 helicopters



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Geographic Area (GA) Associate Member Round-Table Update

Alaska – Tyler Anderson – Karis Collet

- PL1, no issues or concerns. Smokejumpers will be cycled into the system as they come off planned leave.

California – Jay Kurth – John Goss

- PL3 in SOPS and NOPS. SOPS moderate IA, good progress on existing fires. NOPS light IA, Biscar is 92% contained, TOC to local unit scheduled for 7/29.

Eastern Area – Paul Lundgren – Seth Grimm

- PL4, minimal IA, minimal growth on existing large fires. MAC Group will discuss PL3 tomorrow with updated weather.

Great Basin – John Foley

- PL3, moderate IA, 4 new and emerging incidents. Prioritizing 6 large fires. Tartar reported at 10,000-15,000 acres, GB Team 3 has been reassigned from Duncan.

Northern Rockies – Corey Buhl – Dave Williams

- PL3, moderate IA. Elder 1 is 100-200 acres, expecting continued growth. North Fork Lost Horse expected to be a long term incident. Working with coordinators to fill crew orders.

Northwest – Brian Ebert

- PL5, light IA, rapid fire spread, aviation support challenging with smoke. Several structure losses occurred yesterday, one vehicle was a total loss. Requesting SW Team to take another incident. CA Team on Little Giant expecting extension request. Critical need for aviation.

Rocky Mountain – Paul Cerda

- PL3, light to moderate IA. Right sizing critical resources to assist national effort.

Southern Area – Jason Demas

- NTR

Southwest – Mike Spilde – Harold Riggs

- Light IA, exporting resources as able.



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NMAC Agency Updates

USWFS – Chuck Russell

- Honor Watch in Grand Junction includes many agencies at all levels. Heavy focus on interagency coordination and collaboration.

USFS – Russ Long

- Appreciate strategic look of NW at all incidents. Focus on supporting all incidents. Decision for international IMT location must be made today.

USFA – Aitor Bidaburu

- Grasshopper and Signal Peak received FMAGs last night in addition to a fire on the big island in Hawaii.

NASF – Greg Smith

- Training ongoing with international resources, urged all resources to say something if they see something. Encourage open lines of communication. Few additional states are now seeing increased IA as well. 2,500-acre fire in WA, Bradeen Hill, that the Modrite CIMT is taking over. Several incidents across WA DNR lands. OR activated National Guard helicopters, working with PNW MAC Group to assist federal incidents. Discussing potential utilization of National Guard crews in OR this afternoon, not experiencing issues with civilian crews at this time.

NMAC Operations Report Out

Rappelers and smokejumpers flying in OR, WA, ID and MT.

One rappel ship down mechanical.

75 rappellers on IA missions this morning.

118 smokejumpers committed, bringing additional resources down from AK.

Realigning rotor-wing resources to areas of highest need.

One additional lead plane coming back on from days off.

2 MAFFS tails moving from SOPS to Redding today, tail swap will occur on Wednesday.

24 UTFs for airtanker fleet yesterday.

19 UMODs committed, 8 additional module-capable crews committed.

Full IAA capacity.

Continuing to prioritize crews to NW, GB and NR.

Uptick in crew availability over the next 4 days with over 20 crews coming back online.

3 IHCs to NW, 3 IHCs to SOPS and 3 IHCs to GB yesterday.

Increased RIST support requests.

Cache remains busy, working on cache-to-cache order from AK to NW.

Recommend moving 2 scoopers out of EA.



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Liaison Report Out

International – Megan Kephart

CIFFC remains at PL4.

Safety – Persephone Whelan

N/A

NMAC Public Affairs – Robin Cole

Information distributed regarding the international training and mobilization.

Administration

PL – 5

GACC Priority: NTR

Resource Allocation: NTR

Admin Topics

Land Fire

Challenges with land fire and the impact to support strategic services.

Breaks over the weekend requires waiting until Monday to provide fixes.

Runs are taking 10+ hours to receive a response.

Include Henry Bashton on all concern emails, he has oversight of contract.

Aviation

Scoopers will need to move from EA to ND today to avoid incoming weather.

Concern with growing indices expected across Great Lakes states.

Request gap support for IA in EA.

Recommend moving 2 scoopers from EA to NW. -Support

There are several additional rotor-wing and aviation resources in EA.

Scoopers in NW are being utilized daily.



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Complex Incident Management Teams

Grasshopper requesting CIMT to replace current T3 IMT.

Request reassigning GB Team 3 on day 8 to Tartar with the potential to extend.

3 CIMTs available, including the preposition AK.

CA Team 6 is available, SW Team 2 can be available, CA Team 3 is demobilizing from Biscar available to travel later this week with 9 days left.

Recommend let GB reassign GB Team 3 to Tartar. -Support

Recommend assigning CA Team 6 to Grasshopper. -Support

AK mobilizing to Boise DTN is 7/28 at 2000.

Working through NERV vehicle needs.

Next CA team would come available on 7/29, NW team available on 7/28.

Potential for CIMT request for Big Grass.

SW team 2 will need 48 hours to be available.

SW Team 1 on day 1 of R&R, available on 7/31 if needed.

AK unable to stand up second team.

SA uncertain if they are able to stand up third team.

GB teams are currently out of rotation.

Teams coming available is two teams on 8/1, one on 8/2, one on 8/3.

NW Team 12 has been extended, would not be asked to early up.

NW Team 8 is available on 8/5.

FDNY T3 IMT enroute to Big Grass. Ebert will follow up on CA Team 5 taking over a bigger land mass.

NW working on glidepath movements and recommendations.

CA Team on Hat may be willing to pick up Big Grass.

GB has teams down off their internal rotation and not asking them to come up early, SA discussing with their team off internal rotation.

Revisit GB rotation structure today.

