

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC NOTES

August 17, 2026

1100-1300

Topic	Presenter(s)	Purpose
National Fire Activity Overview	Sean Peterson	Information
National Fire Weather Update	John Fox	Information
National Fuels Update	Mark Williams	Information
National Resource Overview & Assessment	Sean Peterson	Information
Geographic Area Associate Member Update	NMAC Associate Members	Information
Agency Updates	NMAC Primary Members	Information
NMAC Operations Report Out	LJ Brown	Information
International and DOW Report Out	Sean Peterson	Information
Administration	Sean Peterson	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: Sean Peterson	☒ IAFC: Craig Daugherty
☒ Alaska: Karis Collet	☒ California: Jay Kurth	☒ Eastern Area: Paul Ludgren
☒ Great Basin: John Foley	☒ Northern Rockies: Dave Williams	☒ Northwest: Sonny Caldwell
☒ Southern Area: Jason Demas	☒ Rocky Mountain: Paul Cerda	☒ Southwest: Mike Spilde
☒ Fuels: Mark Williams	☒ Intel: Scott Mayer	☒ Weather: John Fox
☒ Crews: Josh Acosta	☒ NMAC Operations: LJ Brown	☒ IMTs: Jesse Bender
☐ ICAC: Jason Loomis	☐ External Affairs: Andi Good	☒ 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: Tyler McCowan	☒ Strategic Analytics: Rick Stratton	☒ Smokejumpers: Ben Oakleaf
☒ NMAC Public Affairs: Jessica Gardetto	☒ Note-taker: Nicki Johnston	☐ Rappel: Adam Kahler

Additional Attendees: Hans Ohme, Brian Achziger, Grant Beebe, Mark Goeller, Mark Krupski, Jason Miller, Jeremy Sullens, Shaun Jensen, Maegan Maughan, INLO, Emmaly Read, Mike Theune, Megan Heffentrager, Col Little, Harold Riggs, Mike Henry, Mike Rubenstein, Jason Bruce, Mark Hilton, Ben Gannon, Marcus Medina, Eric Graff, Perry Breitenstein, Penny States, Beale Monday, Trevor Pollock, Bryan Stamps, John Cervantes, Mike Mattfeldt, Jim Wallmann, Mike Riker

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, 18 August 2026, 1100-1300



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National Fire Activity Overview (Sean Peterson)

PL5, 92 new starts, 80 uncontained large fires, 21 CIMTs, 1 NIMO Team, 4 MAFFS, 240 military personnel, 3 international IMTs, 196 international personnel, 591 crews, 1,590 engines, 166 helicopters, 28,710 personnel assigned.

North Ops: PL3, 9 new starts, 1 uncontained large fire, 1 CIMT.

Milepost 18 – CA Team 1, active behavior, timber and brush, 6,550 acres, 19% contained.

Northwest: PL5, 14 new starts, 37 uncontained large fires, 12 CIMTs, 1 NIMO Team.

Picture Rock – Light fuels, extreme behavior, light fuels and timber, 1,600 acres, 0% contained.

Wrights Spring – NW Team 8, moderate behavior, timber, evacuations, 53,600 acres, 51% contained.

Fielder Mtn – ODF Team 1, minimal behavior, timber and light fuels, 573 acres, 29% contained.

Grasshopper – SA Team 2, active behavior, timber and grass, evacuations, 90,600 acres, 47% contained.

Austin – Active behavior, timber, 2,900 acres, 0% contained.

Narrows – 100 acres, 0% contained.

Three Queens – NW Team 13, moderate behavior, timber, evacuations, 3,600 acres, 2% contained.

Little Giant – NW Team 12, active behavior, timber, evacuations, 132,990 acres, 10% contained.

Luna – Active behavior, timber, 5,000 acres, unstaffed, 0% contained.

Border 2 – Moderate behavior, timber, 14,600 acres, 10% contained.

Ptarmigan – NIMO Team 3 TOC local unit today, moderate behavior, timber, 24,600 acres, 55% contained.

Sinlahekin – Cal Fire Team 5, moderate behavior, timber, 153,800 acres, 44% contained.

Kaiser Canyon – NW Team 2, managing Modrite, moderate behavior, timber and brush, 138,200 acres, 83% contained.

Modrite – Moderate behavior, timber and brush, 57,600 acres, 90% contained.

Paradise – NR Team 6, SA Team 3 mobilizing, managing Hagen, active behavior, timber, 5,330 acres, 0% contained.

Hagen – Active behavior, timber and brush, evacuations, 56,400 acres, 14% contained.

Rowe Creek Complex – ODF Team 2, minimal behavior, light fuels and timber, 373,700 acres, 89% contained.

Big Grass – NW Team 10, moderate behavior, light fuels and timber, evacuations, 578,000 acres, 71% contained.

South Ops: PL3, 13 new starts, 1 uncontained large fire, 1 CIMT.

Timber – Cal Fire Team 1, minimal behavior, limited growth, grass and timber, evacuations, 5,100 acres, 17% contained.

Sorento – County, brush, 130 acres.

Northern Rockies: PL3, 8 new starts, 12 uncontained large fires, 2 CIMTs.

Sand Creek – NR Team 3, managing Bobcat Lakes, minimal behavior, timber, evacuations, 31,600 acres, 1% contained.

Bobcat Lakes – Minimal behavior, timber and brush, evacuations, 9,700 acres, 10% contained.



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Moose – Received precipitation, moderate behavior, timber, evacuations, 5,600 acres, 0% contained.

Skillet – GB Team 7, minimal behavior, timber, 3,300 acres, 75% contained.

Black Bear – Received precipitation, minimal behavior, timber and grass, 2,100 acres, 20% contained.

Upper Smith – Moderate behavior, timber and brush, 3,697 acres, 38% contained.

Great Basin: PL4, 20 new starts, 8 uncontained large fires, 2 CIMTs.

Bug – SW Team 1, managing Stallion, minimal behavior, light fuels, 93,733 acres, 85% contained.

Stallion – Minimal behavior, light fuels, 40,600 acres, 82% contained.

Shoshone – Active behavior, light fuels and timber, 1,700 acres, 0% contained.

Widemouth 2 – GB Team 2, minimal behavior, timber and light fuels, evacuations, 129,700 acres, 84% contained.

Black Canyon – Active behavior, timber, evacuations, 3,550 acres, 36% contained.

Rocky Canyon – Moderate behavior, light fuels and timber, 15,900 acres, 77% contained.

Doublesprings – Minimal behavior, timber and brush, received precipitation, 1,880 acres, 17% contained.

Bigfoot – 1,200 acres, 100% contained.

Southern Area: PL2, 14 new starts, 7 uncontained large fires.

Burnt Canyon – Moderate behavior, light fuels, 3,300 acres, 40% contained.

Springhouse – Hardwood litter, moderate behavior, 170 acres, 50% contained.

Pump Station – Minimal behavior, hardwood litter and timber, 100 acres, 60% contained.

Snake Mountain – Moderate behavior, timber, 700 acres, 50% contained.

Clearwater – Minimal behavior, timber, 360 acres, 80% contained.

Rocky Mountain: PL3, 5 new starts, 7 uncontained large fires, 1 CIMT.

Elk – RM Team 2, managing Gold Mountain, received precipitation, moderate behavior, timber and light fuels, 7,300 acres, 35% contained.

Eastern Area: PL2, received precipitation, 1 new start, 4 uncontained large fires, 1 CIMT.

Thumb – SA Team 1, managing 3 other incidents, minimal behavior, timber, litter, received precipitation, 24,755 acres, 44% contained.

Sioux – Minimal behavior, timber litter, 6,800 acres, 55% contained.

Camp – Minimal behavior, timber litter, received precipitation, 4,300 acres, 97% contained.

Southwest: PL2, 8 new starts, 3 uncontained large fires, 1 CIMT.

Frijoles – CA Team 8, extreme behavior, timber and brush, evacuations, 12,000 acres, 12% contained.

Cato 2 – Light fuels, moderate behavior, 2,080 acres, 60% contained.



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Predictive Services Update

National Fire Weather Update (John Fox)

WEATHER SUMMARY

Short-term (Today through Wednesday)

- Very hot temperatures in the upper 90s to 100s combined with occasionally breezy winds, unstable conditions and low relative humidity levels will result in critical fire weather conditions, especially across Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi. Wednesday looks like the most critical day in this region.
- Very warm and breezy conditions are expected at times over the Western US, especially across the Great Basin into portions of the Pacific Northwest. The most critical day due the broader coverage and stronger winds will occur on Tuesday and impact the Columbia Gorge, Columbia Basin and portions of the Great Basin.
- Thunderstorms will continue each day along the outer periphery of a strong ridge over the Southern Plains. This will generally impact locations from the Desert Southwest into the central Plains and into the Mid-Atlantic states and Florida.
- Expect thunderstorms today through Tuesday over the Northern Rockies, most of which will be wet.
- Expect afternoon and evening thunderstorms each day over the Desert Southwest.

Long-term (Thursday through next Wednesday)

- Well above normal temperatures are expected across the West Thursday and Friday with low afternoon RH of 7-20% and fair to poor overnight recovery, followed by temperatures near to above normal and areas of breezy/dry conditions in the northern half of the West
- Isolated mostly dry thunderstorms are possible Friday into Saturday in the northern third of the West, while the monsoon keeps isolated mixed wet/dry thunderstorms in the Four Corners through the weekend, with the best chance for wetting rain north of the Rim this weekend
- Very hot temperatures and low RH will continue in the southern Plains and Lower Mississippi Valley into mid-next week, and isolated thunderstorms in the Lower Mississippi Valley will have small rainfall footprints with new ignitions possible



National Fuels Update (Mark Williams)

Massive improvements in fire danger over the last week.

Flash flooding in the Midwest and good precipitation in the Boundary Waters.

Fuels in Texas continue to be receptive and are likely to not recover at all.

Anticipating increased activity to continue across the Southern Area.

Resistance to control in the Great Basin though fuels look much better.

Mean containment date for fires active in mid-August between 2000 and 2025 is September 12.

Current season-slowng event has improved conditions across large portions of the country.

Areas suffering under long-term drought may still be an issue through late summer/early fall.



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Resource Update (Sean Peterson)

RESOURCE TYPE	# COMMITTED	# AVAILABLE	# OFF
LAT		31	2
VLAT		3	
SCOOPER		8	
AIR ATTACK		41	
LEAD ASM		9	
SEAT	61	0	
SINGLE ENGINE SCOOPERS	21	0	
HELO TYPE1	113	0	
HELO TYPE2	49	0	
HELO TYPE3	69	3	
LARGE TRANS			
CIMT	21	7	
T3 IMT		1	
CREW TYPE 1 (IHC)	66	0	
CREW TYPE 2IA	161	0	
CREW TYPE 2	402	5-10	
SMOKEJUMPERS (LOWER 48)	61	140	
SMOKEJUMPERS (AK)		11	
RAPPELERS		95	
CATERERS	26	0	
SHOWERS	54	2	

UTF TYPE	# Resource UTF
AIRCRAFT	23
TANKER	
HELO	9
AIR ATTACK	
IR	12
UAS	1
SCOOPER	
LEAD/ASM	1
CREWS	0
ENGINES	19
OVERHEAD	145 – middle managers, SEC, SOF, HECM
PENDING	186 oh, 19 T1, 1 T2, 15 helo



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Geographic Area (GA) Associate Member Round-Table Update **Alaska – Tyler Anderson – Karis Collet**

- PL1, SMKJ put out on lightning fire last night.

California – Jay Kurth

- Both fires in NOPS and SOPS continue to see additional crew support.

Eastern Area – Paul Lundgren

- Looking for a small number of crews and engines to support MN within GA.

Great Basin – John Foley

- PL4, light IA, good progress on large fires. Transitioning Bug to T3 on Wednesday Widemouth 2 to T4 organization on Thursday. International resources committed to Black Canyon.

Northern Rockies – Corey Buhl – Dave Williams

- GB Team 7 on Skillet will transition to local T3 IMT tomorrow.

Northwest – Brian Ebert – Sonny Caldwell

- Brian will be back tomorrow.

Rocky Mountain – Paul Cerda – Jason Miller

- Decreasing to PL2 later tonight.

Southern Area – Jason Demas

- 5 westernmost states working to staff for the foreseeable future based on fuels and expected activity.

Southwest – Mike Spilde

- PL2, CA Team 8 extension request approved, no critical needs. Orders for LATs to fly on Frijoles this morning.



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NMAC Agency Updates

USWFS – Chuck Russell

- NTR

USFS – Russ Long

- NTR

USFA – Aitor Bidaburu

- NTR

NASF – Greg Smith

- NTR

NMAC Operations Report Out

Continuing to see aircraft be available, especially in the RM.

Great availability for rappellers and smokejumpers, last few smokejumpers in AK expected to come down.

Decline in usage for fixed-wing aircraft, monitoring flight time.

Revisit MAFFS 5th tail need.

1 IAA platform is down.

Crew availability continues, 8 crews assigned today. Working to balance crews across GAs.



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Liaison Report Out

International – Sean Peterson

CIFFC at PL5.

134 active fires in BC, also at PL5.

Ontario at PL3.

Safety – Tyler McCowan

13 SafeNet reports in the last 7 days, concern with communication from dispatch centers over phone and radio.

Cloning and usage issues seen in several returned repeaters.

NMAC Public Affairs – Jessica Gardetto

Talking points regarding acreage reporting discrepancies sitting with Predictive Services.

1 media inquiry sitting with CIMT Coordinator for response.

Administration

PL – 5 (4.82)

GACC Priority: NW GB, NOPS, SA

Resource Allocation: NTR



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Admin Topics

International

Planning demobilization of first group that has been here for 30 days.

One incident with vehicle damage, personnel is okay.

Meteorologist arrived yesterday, will begin 30 days tomorrow.

CIFFC airtanker and birddog will be mobilizing back to BC on 8/19.

Military

Things are going well on Modrite, crews actively engaged.

Logistics will begin moving camp Thursday to Little Giant.

One individual sent home today.

Managing illness within camp.

Cleared with DCO Col Ellis National Guard and active military both being actively deployed to Little Giant.

Complex Incident Management Teams

Ensure NMAC decisions made over text be communicated to Associates.

SA Team 3 mobilizing to Paradise.

CA Team 8 extended for up to 7 days.

Little Giant CIMT replacement request DTN 8/21. -Revisit 8/18

Wrights Spring CIMT replacement request DTN 8/19. Recommend filling internally with NW Team 7. -Support

Recommend allowing NW to fill one incident request internally.

Revisit national rotation discussion on 8/18.

-Specifically assignment limits and national capacity direction.

IMT application email will be distributed today, CIMT Coordinators included.

FAST

NWCG working on objectives, will send to NMAC later today.

Safety has put together FAST Team, NMAC will work on delegation.

Assistance needed to help roster SME for radio.

