

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC NOTES

August 23, 2026

1100-1145

Topic	Presenter(s)	Purpose
National Fire Activity Overview	Sean Peterson	Information
National Fire Weather Update	Jim Wallmann	Information
National Fuels Update	Steve Larrabee	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	Erica Lamb	Information
International	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: Tyler Anderson	☒ California: Jay Kurth	☒ Eastern Area: Paul Ludgren
☒ Great Basin: John Foley	☒ Northern Rockies: Dave Williams	☒ Northwest: Brian Ebert
☒ Southern Area: Jason Demas	☒ Rocky Mountain: Paul Cerda	☒ Southwest: Harold Riggs
☒ Fuels: Steve Larrabee	☐ Intel: Perry Breitenstein	☒ Weather: Jim Wallmann
☐ Crews: Chase Maness	☒ NMAC Operations: Erica Lamb	☒ IMTs: LJ Brown
☐ ICAC: Jason Loomis	☒ External Affairs: Caleb Ashby	☒ DOW: Brian West
☒ USWFS Aviation: Matt Shaddle	☒ USFS Aviation: Chris Tipton	☐ Airspace: Emmaly Read
☐ NIIC-D: Kim Albracht	☒ Cache: Nate Hesse	☐ IR: Kat Sorenson
☒ Safety: Tyler McCowan	☐ Strategic Analytics: Rick Stratton	☒ Smokejumpers: Court Wallace
☐ NMAC Public Affairs: Jessica Gardetto	☒ Note-taker: Lisa Sandoval	☐ Rappel: Adam Kahler

Additional Attendees: Col. Jason Little, Mark Goeller, Marcus Medina, Bryan Stamps, Penny States, Michael Theune, Jason Miller, John McKee, Jason Bruce, Ben Oakleaf, Karis Collett, Beau Dobbersetin, Jake Sjolund, Casey Teske, Brian Achziger

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, 24 August 2026, 1100-1300



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National Fire Activity Overview (Sean Peterson)

PL5, 5 new large fires, 79 uncontained large fires, 21 CIMTs and 1 NIMO committed, 300+ international personnel, 5 MAFFS, 240 military personnel, 425 crews, 1,142 engines, 22,122 personnel assigned.

Northwest: PL5. 2 new large fires. 29 uncontained large fires. 11 CIMTs assigned.

Grasshopper Fire: Transfer to GB Team 4 tomorrow. Active behavior. 93,700 acres. 76% contained.

Austin Fire: Active behavior. 5,000 acres. 0% contained.

Colwash Fire: Extreme behavior. 35,000 acres. Residences threatened. 0% contained.

Three Queens Fire: 6,700 acres. 0% contained.

King Fire: Active behavior. 600 acres. 0% contained.

Little Giant Fire: Transfer to CA Team 5 today. 2,600 acres of growth. 145,000 acres. 15% contained.

Sisi Fire: 0% contained.

Sinlahekin Fire: CA Team 5 assigned. Moderate behavior. 155,000 acres. 47% contained.

Casey Fire: 1,000 acres. 0% contained.

Paradise Fire: SA Team 3 assigned. 8,000 acres. 0% contained.

Hagan Fire: 60,000 acres. 19% contained.

Middle Ridge Fire: ODF fire. 150 acres.

North Pole Fire: Extreme behavior. Structures threatened. Evacuations in place. 200 acres.

Expected merge with McCulley Fire.

McCulley Fire: Extreme behavior. 1,200 acres. CIMT ordered.

Northern Rockies: PL3. 18 uncontained large fires. 2 CIMTs assigned.

Upper Smith Fire: Active behavior. 4,300 acres. 38% contained.

Moose Mountain Fire: Active behavior. Structures threatened. 4,000 acres. 8% contained.

Deer Creek Fire: Moderate behavior. 800 acres. 0% contained.

Cherry Peak Fire: 200 acres. 0% contained.

Windmill Fire: Minimal behavior. 57% contained.

Sand Creek Fire: NR Team 1 mobilizing. Moderate behavior. 10% contained.

Bobcat Fire: 40% contained.

Great Basin: PL3. 2 new large fires. 12 uncontained large fires.

Hawk Fire: Residences threatened. 15,000 acres. 0% contained.

Crooked Fire: Structures threatened. 1,700 acres. 0% contained.

Shale Butte Fire: 1,500 acres. 0% contained.

Fraser Fire: 3,900 acres. 100% contained.

Slough Canyon Fire: Extreme behavior. More than doubled in size. 4,000 acres. 0% contained.

Black Canyon Fire: Moderate behavior. 78% contained.

Rocky Mountain: PL2. 6 uncontained large fires. 1 CIMT assigned.

Elk Fire/Gold Mountain Fire: Transfer from RM Team 2 to local unit today.



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North Ops: PL3. 1 uncontained large fire. 2 CIMTs assigned.
MP 18 Fire: Transfer to CA Team 2 today. Moderate behavior. 7,600 acres. 74% contained.

Southern Area: PL2. 1 new large fire. 7 uncontained large fires.
Sugar Creek Fire: 370 acres. 10% contained.
Rustler Fire: 1,500 acres. 25% contained.

Southwest: PL2. 1 uncontained large fire. 1 CIMT assigned.
Frijoles Fire: CA Team 8 assigned. 15,220 acres. 42% contained.

South Ops: PL3. 1 uncontained large fire. 2 CIMTs assigned.
Timber Fire: Transfer to CA Team 3 tomorrow. 10,000 acres. 25% contained.

Alaska: PL2. 1 uncontained large fire. 1 CIMT assigned.
Mukluk Fire: AK Team 1 assigned. 7,300 acres. 20% contained.

Eastern Area: PL2. 3 uncontained large fires. 1 CIMTs assigned. 1 NIMO assigned.
NTR



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Predictive Services Update National Fire Weather Update (Jim Wallmann)

WEATHER SUMMARY

Short-term (Today through Tuesday)

- A significant increase in fire activity will continue with dozens of new large fires in the northern half of the West into midweek as yesterday's lightning is followed by winds today and more lightning/wind combinations are forecast through at least Thursday
- Periods of high-risk significant fire potential will also continue across much of the Southern Area into Tuesday due to lightning, winds, or a favorable burn environment, focused over the southern Plains, Lower Mississippi Valley, and south Florida
- The unrelenting heat will continue across the Southern Plains, with the heat spreading into much of the Southwest and southern California
- Temperatures in the northern half of the West will rise to above normal Monday and Tuesday, as well, following today's brief respite
- Cooler and wetter for Alaska into midweek, although rainfall for the southeast Interior will be light if it were to occur today, while Tropical Storm Moke is expected to pass south of Hawai'i with breezy northeast winds and areas of heavy rain, mostly for the windward areas of the Big Island

Long-term (Wednesday through next Tuesday)

- Critical conditions are likely to continue in the northern half of the West through Thursday due to the breakdown of the upper-level ridge with thunderstorms and breezy westerly winds
- Conditions will moderate some in the northern half of the west due to cooler conditions and slightly higher RH, but periods of breezy winds will continue into early next week
- Very hot temperatures are likely in the southern third of the West through next weekend which will coincide with a rapid decrease in the monsoon as these temperatures will coincide with very low afternoon RH, poor overnight recovery and long burn periods, especially from the Mojave Desert to the West Slope
- A brief respite is expected in the Southern Area late this week as a weak cold front elevates RH with areas of wetting rain, but the extreme heat will return to the southern Plains and portions of the Lower Mississippi Valley this weekend into early next week



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Resource Update (Sean Peterson)

RESOURCE TYPE	# COMMITTED	# AVAILABLE	# OFF
LAT	31		3
VLAT	3		3 MAFFS out of service
SCOOPER	8		
AIR ATTACK	41		
LEAD ASM	15		
SEAT			
SINGLE ENGINE SCOOPERS			
HELO TYPE1	111	1	
HELO TYPE2	49		
HELO TYPE3	65		
LARGE TRANS			
CIMT	21	6	
T3 IMT		0	
CREW TYPE 1 (IHC)	78	2	
CREW TYPE 2IA	155	1	
CREW TYPE 2	291	100	
SMOKEJUMPERS (AK)	13	12	
SMOKEJUMPERS (LOWER 48)	102	104	
RAPPELERS	16/91		
CATERERS	23	1	
SHOWERS	46	10	

UTF TYPE	# Resource UTF
AIRCRAFT	44
TANKER	15
HELO	7
AIR ATTACK	
IR	3
UAS	2
SCOOPER	
LEAD/ASM	
CREWS	
ENGINES	
OVERHEAD	80
PENDING	87 (64 OH)



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Geographic Area (GA) Associate Member Round-Table Update

Alaska – Tyler Anderson

- Mukluk watching 35 mph gusts.

California – Jay Kurth

- Airtanker lost engine on return flight after partial retardant drop, IFE declared, safe landing. No estimated time of return.

Eastern Area – Paul Lundgren

- NIMO Team 1 will shadow on Wednesday, assume command Thursday.

Great Basin – John Foley

- 4 new and emerging. Hawk Fire, multiple structures lost. Reported burn injuries (civilian and firefighter).

Northern Rockies – Dave Williams

- Expect increased IA today

Northwest – Brian Ebert

- Emerging fires. Moving prepo resources around. Goat Fire will be managed by NW Team 13. Expected to merge into Three Queens and King.
- Critical needs: aviation.

Rocky Mountain – Paul Cerda

- NTR

Southern Area – Jason Demas

- Uptick in IA. SEAT Base in OK open 8/25, requested more SEATs.
- USWFS in FL will order a helo.

Southwest – Harold Riggs

- NTR



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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

-1x Type 1 CWN going to NR

-Mechanical Issues for Aviation:

-3 of 5 MAFFS down for mechanical

-MAFFS 5 back 8/25.

-MAFFS 2 and MAFFS 9 unknown return date

-Jump 41 and 43 down for mechanical issues.

46 TFRs (1500+ for the year)

Logistics: NIIC-D activity increasing

Crews:

Moved:

-2x IHCs from NOPs to GB

-1x IHC to GB

-1x IHC to NW

-1x 2IA to NR

Available:

-2x IHCs up today

-5x IHCs up tomorrow.

-12x IHCs coming available over next 5 days.

Downtrend in crews available over next several days

-Focus on shifting to NW, GB, NR



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Liaison Report Out

International – Sean Peterson

NTR

Safety – Tyler McCowan

NTR

NMAC Public Affairs – Caleb Ashby

NTR

Administration

PL – 5 (4.8)

GACC Priority: NW NR GB, SA, SOPs, NOPs, SW, RM, AK

Resource Allocation: NTR

Admin Topics

Teams:

New Requests:

- NW for McCulley Fire
 - NW Team 3 will be available for date/time needed. Internal fill is recommended.
 - NW Team 3 to McCulley Fire – supported.

Previous Requests:

- Rowe Creek Complex (today is Day 10)
 - CA Team 4 is on the rotation (last CIMT with only one assignment)
 - Recommend CA Team 4 to Rowe Creek Complex – supported
 - *Once CA Team 4 goes, we are back into full rotation with SA at the top.
 - SA has no available teams, so it moves to SW in the #2 spot.
- Sinlahekin Fire (tomorrow is Day 10)
 - Procedurally, we would wait until Day 10
 - With a determination needing to be made with Frijoles Fire, recommend filling with a SW Team (up to SW), with the option to divert if needed. - supported

FAST:

- draft delegation was sent to primaries in NW yesterday.
- have full roster with representation from ops, safety, admin dispatch, radio, writer/editor.
- plan for virtual in-brief tomorrow, travel Tuesday to Olympia as first location.

