

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC NOTES

September 23, 2026

1100-1200

Topic	Presenter(s)	Purpose
National Fire Activity Overview	Megan Kephart	Information
National Fire Weather Update	Jonathan Chriest	Information
National Fuels Update	Ali Reiner	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
International and DOW Report Out	Megan Kephart	Information
Administration	Megan Kephart	Information
Admin Topics	NMAC Representatives	Discussion

Attendees:

☒ Chair: Chuck Russell	☒ Vice Chair: Greg Smith	☐ MAC Coordinator:
☒ USWFS: Chuck Russell	☒ USFS: Russ Long	☒ USFA: Aitor Bidaburu
☒ NASF: Greg Smith	☒ NICC: Megan Kephart	☒ IAFC: Craig Daugherty
☒ Alaska: Karis Collet	☒ California: Jay Kurth	☒ Eastern Area: Paul Ludgren
☒ Great Basin: John Foley	☒ Northern Rockies: Dave Williams	☒ Northwest: Richard Parrish
☒ Southern Area: Jason Demas	☒ Rocky Mountain: Ben Sanders	☒ 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: Ian Fischer	☐ 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: Court Wallace
☐ NMAC Public Affairs: Jessica Gardetto	☒ Note-taker: Nicki Johnston	☒ Rappel: Adam Kahler

Additional Attendees: Brian Achziger, LJ Brown, Perry Breitenstein, Jeremy Sullens, Ali Reiner, Beau Dobberstein, Ben Gannon, Jason Bruce, Megan Heffentrager, Mike Henry, Josh Ingle, Kristin Kirschner, Mike Krupski, Maegan Maughan, Marcus Medina, Trevor Pollock, Harold Riggs, Bryan Stamps, Penny States, Todd Tollefsrud, Dave Underwood, Lindsey Lewis, Shawn Steber

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, 30 September 2026, 1100-1300



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National Fire Activity Overview (Megan Kephart)

PL2, 181 new starts since Monday, 30 uncontained large fires, 6 CIMTs, 135 crews, 337 engines, 48 helicopters, 8,523 personnel assigned.

IA continues in TX.

Uptick in RX, more heat signatures than large fires.

Predictive Services Update

National Fire Weather Update (Jonathan Chriest)

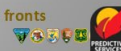
WEATHER SUMMARY

Short-term (Today through Friday)

- Flash flood concerns continue across most of New Mexico through late tonight as monsoonal moisture brings the threat for 1-2" per hour rain rates
- Hot temperatures, low RH, and elevated low level instability will continue to bring moderate to high risk potential for portions of eastern Texas and the Lower Mississippi Valley
- A passing upper level trough will bring southwest winds gusting to 35 mph across northern California amid RH in the 15-25% range Thursday afternoon, bringing moderate risk fire potential
- Westerly wind gusts 20-40 mph are expected across the Cascades and Sierra on Friday afternoon, but with higher afternoon RH
- A developing tropical system south of Hawaii will bring high rainfall rates and flash flooding concerns there through Saturday afternoon
- A strong Nor'easter will bring strong winds, rain, and coastal flooding concerns for coastal areas of Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, and New Jersey

Long-term (Saturday through next Friday)

- Continued dry central Texas to the Lower Mississippi Valley this weekend with moderate significant fire potential, but relief is expected by midweek as widespread wetting rain is expected, with amounts averaging 1-2" possible
- A strong Nor'easter will bring strong easterly winds and coastal flooding to the Mid-Atlantic and New England this weekend, with heavy rain also likely along the coast for Long Island and New England
- Tropical Depression Fifteen-E in the central Pacific is expected to near Hawai'i this weekend as it strengthens into Hurricane Nolo, with heavy rain likely for Maui and the Big Island, but how much rain falls will be determined by how close the storm approaches as track spread is higher than average through the weekend
- In the West, some breezy conditions in the Sierra and Great Basin this weekend and possibly mid-next week as cold fronts bring light to moderate precipitation to the Northwest and northern Rockies



National Fuels Update (Ali Reiner)

ERCs have decreased to normal or below normal for this time of year.

Burning conditions are dropping out of the southeast with expected moisture.

Potential uptick in fire environment through September and October for California and Great Basin.

Strategic Analytics – Ben Gannon

10 fires in 3 Geographic Areas that are not showing much continued threat to values at risk.

Minor uptick in NW and SOPS.

Northwest WA is pushing into atypical seasonality as far as large fires persist.

Southern Sierras are in the peak month of fire potential.



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Resource Update (Megan Kephart)

RESOURCE TYPE	# COMMITTED	# AVAILABLE	# OFF
LAT		24	3
VLAT			
SCOOPER		8	
AIR ATTACK		29	
LEAD ASM		8	
SEAT		38	
SINGLE ENGINE SCOOPERS		16	
HELO TYPE1	42	45	
HELO TYPE2	22	15	
HELO TYPE3	28	30	
LARGE TRANS			
CIMT	6	15	
T3 IMT			
CREW TYPE 1 (IHC)	35	7	
CREW TYPE 2IA	56		
CREW TYPE 2	74	Hundreds	
SMOKEJUMPERS (LOWER 48)	11	41	
SMOKEJUMPERS (AK)			
RAPPELERS		87	
CATERERS	10	14	
SHOWERS	25	34	

UTF TYPE	# Resource UTF
AIRCRAFT	
TANKER	
HELO	
AIR ATTACK	
IR	
UAS	
SCOOPER	
LEAD/ASM	
CREWS	
ENGINES	
OVERHEAD	
PENDING	

1 helicopter, 47 engines, 6 crews, 408 overhead committed to RX.



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Geographic Area (GA) Associate Member Round-Table Update

Alaska – Tyler Anderson – Karis Collet

- Received snow this morning.

California – Jay Kurth

- No needs or concerns.

Eastern Area – Paul Lundgren

- NTR

Great Basin – John Foley

- PL2, discussing PL1.

Northern Rockies – Corey Buhl – Dave Williams

- NTR

Northwest – Brian Ebert – Richard Parrish

- Decreased to PL2.

Rocky Mountain – Paul Cerda – Ben Sanders

- PL2, no needs.

Southern Area – Jason Demas

- VLAT was utilized yesterday. No critical needs.

Southwest – Mike Spilde

- 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

Coming up on the end of season for many aircraft.

7 short-haul available, moving one from RM to GB.

Rappel reaching several end dates on October 5.

6 RX and 7 TFRs utilizing UAS.

Ely and Burns outstations have closed for the season.

16 active TFRs.

EGP platform went down for a couple hours yesterday, back up for IAA today.

Assigned IHC to Grand Canyon flood hazard yesterday.

AK crews are flying back today and 9/29.

The MRB and airtankers in OK have been released for the year.

Airtanker glidepath is planned, will be releasing aircraft as they reach the end of their MAPs.



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Administration

PL – 2 (2.3)

GACC Priority: NTR

Resource Allocation: NTR

Admin Topics

CIM AAR

Fatigue Management is a follow-up to the previous tasking.

Plan to share Australian AAR feedback with CIMTs.

Recommend including military mobilization.

Send feedback and topics to Jesse Bender.

Revisit 9/30.

Less than half of the CIMT feedback forms have been received for this year.

Associates should work with their Coordinating Groups to collect the feedback forms ASAP.

