

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1998 - 0530 MDT  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL III

CURRENT SITUATION:

Initial attack and large fire activity continued in the Northern Rockies and Southern Areas. The National Interagency Coordination Center processed orders for helicopters, aircraft, equipment, overhead, and a commissary. Very high to extreme indices were reported in Texas, New Mexico, Utah, California, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, South Dakota, and Nebraska.

NORTHERN ROCKIES LARGE FIRES:

CHALLENGE, Flathead NF. A Type I Incident Management Team (Frye) is assigned. The fire is located about 40 miles east northeast of Kalispell. Crews completed line construction on the critical northeastern flanks yesterday. Cooler temperatures and light rain allowed crews to work portions of the fire that were too hot to work earlier. High winds prevented helicopter deployment of personnel to the eastern perimeter. Continuing safety concerns include steep and inaccessible terrain with snag concentrations, numerous unburned islands and bears.

DOME, Kootenai NF. A Type I Incident Management Team (Foster) is assigned. This fire is located about six miles west of Libby. Burnout operations were completed along the desired holding lines. Control problems include steep, inaccessible terrain and snags. The threat to the town of Libby is now very low.

KOPSI CREEK, Kootenai NF. A Type II Incident Management Team (Sherwood) is assigned. The fire is located about 40 miles northwest of Kalispell. Scattered rain showers helped crews make good progress toward containment yesterday. Direct attack was accomplished due to favorable weather conditions.

BOWL, Flathead NF. A Type II Incident Management Team (Swope) is assigned. The fire is located in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area. This fire was mistakenly reported as a suppression fire on 9/7. Its status continues to be a fire used for resource benefit being managed as a separate incident outside the Bob Marshall Wilderness complex. Crews made good progress on mop-up where the fire has burned out of the prescription area. The remote location is contributing to logistical problems.

BOYER, Montana State. A Type II Incident Management Team (Specht) is assigned. This fire is located about five miles northeast of Plains. Air operations were delayed yesterday due to morning fog, but helicopter bucket work and water delivery was maximized when the fog lifted. Concerns include unburned islands within the fire perimeter and large amounts of unburned fuels close to the fire line. IR imagery indicated that there is still a lot of heat along the entire fire perimeter.

BITTERROOT COMPLEX, Bitterroot NF. A Type I Incident Management Team (Kohut) is assigned. The fire is located about six miles south of Darby. Fire activity was minimal on the North Fork Rye Fire yesterday, due to

prevailing weather conditions. Line construction was completed and mop-up is in progress. Demobilization of some resources has begun. The Coulter Fire is contained and mop-up and rehabilitation have been completed. This will be the last report on this incident unless it becomes active again. KOOTENAI COMPLEX, Glacier NP. A Fire Use Management Team (Adams) is assigned. This fire is being managed for resource benefit. Cooler weather, higher humidity levels and rain prevented the McDonald and Anaconda fires from spreading much yesterday.

SPRUCE FIRE, Nez Perce NF. This fire is located in the Selway/Bitterroot Wilderness Area. Heavy rain and lightning passed over the fire yesterday afternoon. The fire is not now considered a threat to cross into Montana. Current threats include a cabin and a campground. The District will assess the need for continued area closure.

BOULDER LAKE, Lolo NF. A Type II Incident Management Team (Cowin) is assigned. This fire is located about 25 miles northeast of Missoula. Fire behavior moderated yesterday due to precipitation and higher humidities.

GILBERT CREEK, Lolo NF. A Type II Incident Management Team (Gauger) is assigned. The fire is located 24 miles southeast of Missoula. The incident received significant rainfall yesterday. Crews used the favorable conditions to continue mop-up operations and begin rehabilitation on the suppression damage. Some demobilization began yesterday.

BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS COMPLEX, Flathead NF. This fire complex is located in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area. The complex consists of 10 fires, all being managed for resources benefit. Fire activity on the large fires in the complex was minimal yesterday due to precipitation.

WEST FORK WILDERNESS FIRES, Bitterroot NF. A Type I Incident Management Team (Kohut) is assigned in addition to the Bitterroot Complex. There are 14 fires in the complex, which are being managed for resource benefit. No significant activity occurred yesterday due to precipitation. Control problems include limited access and steep terrain. There is a continued threat to historic structures, threatened and endangered aquatic species and an outfitter camp.

MOOSE COMPLEX, Nez Perce NF. An Interagency Fire Use Management Team (Johnson) is assigned. The complex consists of 11 Wildland Fire For Resource Benefit (WFURB) fires located in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. Wide spread rain showers were received across the complex yesterday resulting in minimal fire activity; however, some torching was observed. The Fish Lake Airstrip was reopened at 1800 hours yesterday.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTAL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOSS	EST LOSS	\$\$\$ C-T-D
CHALLENGE	MT	FNF	9,000	35	9/14	1,155	37	18	10	0	UNK	1773K
DOME	MT	KNF	3,340	60	9/10	652	18	6	6	0	UNK	1725K
KOPSI CREEK	MT	KNF	1,060	30	9/13	301	12	0	3	0	UNK	328K
BOWL	MT	FNF	3,000	65	9/11	157	5	0	3	0	UNK	101K
BOYER	MT	NWS	6,500	80	9/10	828	26	30	5	1	UNK	2600K
BITTERROOT COMP	MT	BRF	4,090	85	9/10	727	22	15	3	1	UNK	770K
TIEGEN	MT	NES	720	100	---	34	0	11	1	0	UNK	UNK

KOOTENAI COMPLE	MT	GNP	9,662	0	UNK	88	1	0	3	0	UNK	UNK
SPRUCE	ID	NPF	530	0	UNK	7	0	0	1	0	UNK	7K
BOULDER LAKE	MT	LNF	220	95	9/9	218	8	1	2	0	UNK	922K
GILBERT	MT	LNF	1,760	90	9/9	495	14	4	3	0	UNK	1020K
BOB MARSHALL WL	MT	FNF	791	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	UNK	UNK
W. FORK WILDERN	MT	BRF	8,937	0	UNK	51	1	0	1	0	UNK	450K
MOOSE CREEK	ID	NPF	6,766	0	UNK	99	2	0	2	0	0	395K
SELWAY BITTERRO			13	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

SOUTHERN AREA LARGE FIRES:

HILL, Texas State Forest Service. This fire is located in Stephens County. It is burning in heavy grass and brush. Extreme fire behavior was observed yesterday. Current threats include a gas plant with associated structures.

POTOSI, Texas State Forest Service. This fire is located in Callahan County and is burning in heavy grass and shrubs in an urban interface area. One trailer house and one out building were destroyed. A number of other homes and outbuildings are also threatened.

TURTLE HOLE, Texas State Forest Service. This fire is located northeast of the community of Matador, Texas. The fire is burning in grass with an overstory of mesquite and cedar. Access to the incident is restricted due to steep terrain. No new information was received.

CEMENT, Texas State Forest Service. This fire is located in Young and Jack counties. The fire is burning in grass with a mesquite overstory. No new information was received.

MIDGET, Texas State Forest Service. The fire is located in Hopkins County. Control of the fire was hampered by burning hay bales which were difficult to extinguish.

WARD, Texas State Forest Service. This fire is located in Clay County. The fire is burning in grass with a heavy oak and mesquite overstory. No other information was received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTAL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOSS	EST LOSS	\$\$\$ C-T-D
HILL	TX	TXS	100	35	9/10	25	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
POTOSI	TX	TXS	75	30	9/10	35	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
TURTLE HOLE	TX	TXS	2,800	70	9/9	NR	NR	8	2	NR	NR	NR
CEMENT	TX	TXS	150	80	9/9	4	0	3	3	0	NR	NR
MIDGET	TX	TXS	150	30	9/10	NR	0	2	0	0	NR	NR
WARD	TX	TXS	300	80	9/9	NR	0	3	3	0	NR	NR
RUSTBURG	VA	VAS	200	100	---	NR	NR	NR	1	0	0	0

EASTERN GREAT BASIN LARGE FIRES:

MAIN SALMON COMPLEX, Salmon-Challis NF. An Interagency Fire Use Management Team (Zimmerman) is assigned. This complex is 40 miles west northwest of

Salmon. The complex consists of 15 fires in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness on the Salmon-Challis, Payette, Nez Perce and Bitterroot National Forests. Three new starts were confirmed within the complex. Decision criteria prompted a suppression response on all three starts. Weather conditions were mostly overcast with rain last night. Ground fog and clouds obscured much of the fire from aerial observation.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTAL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOSS	EST LOSS	\$\$\$ C-T-D
POCATELLO VALLE	ID	IFD	6,500	100	----	47	0	10	1	NR	UNK	UNK
MAIN SALMON COM	ID	SCF*	21,610	0	10/15	58	1	0	1	0	OK	1020K

\* Primary ordering office location.

NORTHWEST LARGE FIRES:

DALLES MOUNTAIN ROAD, Washington State. This fire is located about two miles east of Dallesport. No new information was received. This will be the last time this fire will be reported unless new information is received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTAL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOSS	EST LOSS	\$\$\$ C-T-D
DALLES MOUNTAIN	WA	WAS	800	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
LOW CREEK	OR	VAD	1,300	100	----	50	0	14	1	0	UNK	UNK

OUTLOOK:

A strong cold front will move onshore in the Pacific Northwest resulting in mostly cloudy skies with showers and thunderstorms for northern California, Washington and Oregon. Also, expect wet thunderstorms in the desert Southwest, northern and central Rocky Mountains and the Great Basin. Partly cloudy skies are expected elsewhere. High temperatures will range from 85 to 105 in the valleys and 70's to the 80's in the mountains.

FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
ALASKA	FIRES						0
	ACRES						0
NORTHWEST	FIRES						0
	ACRES						0
CA-NORTH	FIRES	1			23	7	31
	ACRES	0			9	0	9
CA-SOUTH	FIRES						0



PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
ALASKA	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
NORTHWEST	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
CA-NORTH	FIRES	1						1
	ACRES	18						18
CA-SOUTH	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
NORTHERN	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
GB-EAST	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						100	100
GB-WEST	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
SOUTHWEST	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
ROCKY MTN	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
EASTERN	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
SOUTHERN	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
	ACRES	18	0	0	0	0	100	118

WILDLAND FIRE USE (WFU) FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
ALASKA	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
NORTHWEST	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
CA-NORTH	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
CA-SOUTH	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
NORTHERN	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						61	61
GB-EAST	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
GB-WEST	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
SOUTHWEST	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
ROCKY MTN	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0

EASTERN	FIRES								0
	ACRES								0
SOUTHERN	FIRES								0
	ACRES								0
USA TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	61

Fires and acres reported to the National Interagency Coordination Center are for operational uses. Official totals may be obtained by contacting the Agencies directly.

CANADA FIRES AND HECTARES:

Provinces	Fires	Hectares	Fires	Hectares
	Last Week	Last Week	Year-to-date	Year-to-date
BRITISH COLUMBIA	55	147	2,137	64,562
YUKON TERRITORY		24,200	190	385,391
ALBERTA	25	24,454	1,535	567,742
NORTHWEST TERRITORY			397	1,367,892
SASKATCHEWAN	19	0	1,193	934,456
MANITOBA	8	0	455	313,935
ONTARIO	17	24	2,079	157,584
QUEBEC		1,400	782	358,789
NEWFOUNDLAND			193	34,504
NEW BRUNSWICK	1	0	273	284
NOVA SCOTIA			328	373
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND			16	66
NATIONAL PARKS			93	32,481
TOTALS	125	50,225	9,671	4,218,059

Canada is reporting weekly on Wednesday

RESOURCE STATUS: COMMITTED RESOURCES:

Area	Crews		Engs		Heli		Airt		Ovrhd	
	Fed	ST/OT	Fed	ST/OT	Fed	ST/OT	Fed	ST/OT	Fed	ST/OT
ALASKA										
NORTHWEST	1	14	3	3	4				101	
CA-NORTH	1	3	4	2	1					1
CA-SOUTH										
NORTHERN	129	17	20	65	21	22			1,235	288
GB-EAST	4	1	30	3	7				46	9
GB-WEST										
SOUTHWEST										
ROCKY MTN	1		4	1						
EASTERN	1				1	1				21
SOUTHERN	1	2	10	138		26	2	2		7

TOTAL		138	37	71	212	34	49	2	2 1,382	326
-------	--	-----	----	----	-----	----	----	---	---------	-----

---

\*\*\* NATIONAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER \*\*\*