

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2002 0800 MDT  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light across the nation. Nationally, 38 new fires were reported. One new large fire was reported in the Southern California Area. Four large fires were contained, two in the Southern Area, and one each in Southern California and Northern Rockies Areas. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming.

**SOUTHERN AREA LARGE FIRES:**

ROCKY TOP GAP, Cherokee National Forest. This fire is five miles southeast of Newport, TN. Moderate fire behavior was observed in hardwood leaf litter and bug kill timber. Crews are constructing fireline and burning out. Five residences are threatened; structure protection is in place.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
ROCKY TOP GAP	TN	CNF	600	20	9/16	113	5	2	2	0	52K
BIG GULLY	SC	SCS	250	100	---	21	0	0	0	0	NR
MILLER-LACKEY	OK	OKS	155	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	NR

SCS = South Carolina Forestry Commission

OKS = Oklahoma Division of Forestry

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN AREA LARGE FIRES:**

MT. ZIRKEL COMPLEX, Routt National Forest. This complex, comprised of the Burn Ridge and Hinman fires, is 25 miles north of Steamboat Springs, CO. The complex has been placed in monitor status. This will be the last report unless significant activity occurs.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
MT. ZIRKEL COMPLEX	CO	RTF	31,016	95	9/25	2	0	0	1	0	13.3M

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:

WOLF COMPLEX, Yosemite National Park. This previously reported Wildland Fire Use complex, which started on July 11<sup>th</sup>, is near the White Wolf Lodge and consists of the Wolf, Lukens, Morrison and Marshall fires. The fires are in monitor status and a confinement strategy is in place. Occasional torching, spotting and slow rates of spread were observed in lodgepole pine and red fir. Personnel are providing structure protection for several residences and commercial properties. This will be the last report unless significant activity occurs.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
WOLF COMPLEX	CA	YNP	1,130	0	UNK	28	2	2	0	0	NR
OASIS INC	CA	LAC	1,305	100	---	629	14	85	6	0	NR

LAC = Los Angeles County Fire Department

### NORTHERN ROCKIES AREA LARGE FIRES:

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
LOTUS POINT	ID	SJS	122	100	---	169	7	8	1	0	226K

SJS = West St. Joe Area Office, Idaho State

## OUTLOOK:

**\*\*\*A RED FLAG WARNING HAS BEEN POSTED IN NORTHWESTERN AND NORTH-CENTRAL NEVADA FOR STRONG WINDS AND LOW RELATIVE HUMIDITY\*\*\***

**\*\*\*A RED FLAG WARNING HAS BEEN POSTED IN SOUTHWESTERN IDAHO AND THE VALE AND BURNS BLM DISTRICTS OF OREGON FOR LOW RELATIVE HUMIDITY, STRONG WINDS, HIGH HAINES INDEX AND DRY LIGHTNING\*\*\***

**\*\*\*A RED FLAG WARNING HAS BEEN POSTED IN SOUTHEASTERN IDAHO FOR LOW RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND HIGH HAINES INDEX\*\*\***

**\*\*\*A FIRE WEATHER WATCH HAS BEEN ISSUED EAST OF THE CASCADE MOUNTAINS IN OREGON FOR BREEZY WINDS AND LOW RELATIVE HUMIDITY\*\*\***

**\*\*\*A FIRE WEATHER WATCH HAS BEEN ISSUED EAST OF THE CASCADE MOUNTAINS IN WASHINGTON AND IN THE IDAHO PANHANDLE FOR LOW RELATIVE HUMIDITY, STRONG WINDS, HIGH HAINES INDEX AND POOR OVERNIGHT RELATIVE HUMIDITY RECOVERY\*\*\***

**\*\*\*A FIRE WEATHER WATCH HAS BEEN ISSUED ON THE HELENA NATIONAL FOREST IN MONTANA FOR LOW RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND GUSTY WEST WINDS\*\*\***

**\*\*\*A FIRE WEATHER WATCH HAS BEEN ISSUED IN PORTIONS OF CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN WYOMING FOR LOW RELATIVE HUMIDITY, HIGH TEMPERATURES AND INCREASING SOUTHWEST WINDS\*\*\***

The Southern Area can expect partly to mostly cloudy skies with scattered to heavy showers in most areas. High temperatures will be in the 80's and 90's, and winds will be southwest to south at 5 to 15 mph.

High pressure building into the Rocky Mountain Area will bring mostly sunny skies. High temperatures will be 65 to 75 in the mountains and upper 70's to mid 80's at lower elevations. Minimum relative humidity will range from 15 to 25 percent in Wyoming and the Black Hills, and 20 to 30 percent in Colorado. Winds will be southeast at 5 to 15 mph east of the Continental Divide and southwest at 10 to 20 mph elsewhere.

The Southern California Area can expect mostly sunny skies with morning low clouds and fog along the coast. High temperatures will be mid 60's to mid 70's in coastal areas, mid 70's to 80's in the mountains, mid 80's to mid 90's in the valleys, and in the 90's to 108 in the deserts. Minimum relative humidity will range from 10 to 25 percent in the mountains, valleys and deserts, and above 50 percent along the coast. Winds will be southwest to west at 20 to 30 mph and gusty over the Sierra Nevada Mountains, south to west at 12 to 25 mph and gusty over the remaining mountains and high deserts, and onshore at 7 to 15 mph in coastal areas.



[www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/index\\_j.asp](http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/index_j.asp)

## **SAFETY ZONES**

A safety zone is a location where the threatened firefighter can find adequate refuge from an approaching fire.

What is the difference between a safety zone and a deployment site?

- The safety zone is the area where a firefighter can survive without using a fire shelter. The deployment site is used when fire conditions are such that escape routes and safety zones have been compromised.

How do you identify a good safety zone?

- Consider the distance from the escaped fire as well as topography, winds, fire behavior, and fuels in the area.
- The best locations are usually “in the black;” those with a minimum of, or devoid of, ground/aerial vegetation; or large bodies of water.
- Size is sufficient for all present resources with a minimum distance from fire of at least four times the maximum flame length.
- Location is scouted and marked well for visibility at all times.
- Location has been reassessed in relation to line work progress, fatigue, changes in fire behavior, and arrival of additional resources.

**FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES		2					2
	ACRES		0					0
Northern California	FIRES	1				6	1	8
	ACRES	0				0	0	0
Southern California	FIRES					1	5	6
	ACRES					1,305	2	1,307
Northern Rockies	FIRES					1	3	4
	ACRES					22	15	37
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						4	4
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						3	3
	ACRES						0	0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		2					2
	ACRES		4					4
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES					11		11
	ACRES					781		781
TOTAL	FIRES	1	4	0	0	18	14	37
	ACRES	0	4	0	0	803	21	2,133

**FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	32	31	10	452	17	543
	ACRES	4	581,096	345,609	133,708	1,130,847	16	2,191,280
Northwest	FIRES	259	307	36	48	1,439	1,233	3,322
	ACRES	18,244	147,729	2,792	39	108,811	810,640	1,088,255
Northern California	FIRES	206	19	6	14	3,104	605	3,954
	ACRES	610	6,864	818	3,666	11,932	36,472	60,362
Southern California	FIRES	71	77	18	28	2,548	652	3,394
	ACRES	10,209	25,790	86	743	71,090	266,776	374,694
Northern Rockies	FIRES	919	51	32	46	528	886	2,462
	ACRES	13,872	10,537	2,178	9,153	30,957	83,949	150,646
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	69	522	8	42	527	958	2,126
	ACRES	5,326	71,694	100	33	114,627	147,972	339,752
Western Great Basin	FIRES	10	439	2	10	91	146	698
	ACRES	316	37,421	80	6	884	42,300	81,007
Southwest	FIRES	1,118	286	31	70	1,162	1,709	4,376
	ACRES	263,424	20,616	6,870	17,865	198,069	448,803	955,647
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	410	535	45	66	1,147	721	2,924
	ACRES	54,477	62,843	631	9,116	183,790	309,107	619,964
Eastern Area	FIRES	762		19	31	11,056	402	12,270
	ACRES	31,956		1,225	609	64,346	3,318	101,454
Southern Area	FIRES	100		190	45	28,991	818	30,144
	ACRES	17,161		147,132	6,665	284,133	26,153	481,244
TOTAL	FIRES	3,925	2,268	418	410	51,045	8,147	66,213
	ACRES	415,599	964,590	507,521	181,603	2,199,486	2,175,506	6,444,305
<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>								<b>67,561</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>								<b>3,394,063</b>

\*\*\* Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. \*\*\*

**PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

<b>AREA</b>		<b>BIA</b>	<b>BLM</b>	<b>FWS</b>	<b>NPS</b>	<b>ST/OT</b>	<b>USFS</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Alaska</b>	<b>FIRES</b>							<b>0</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>							<b>0</b>
<b>Northwest</b>	<b>FIRES</b>		<b>0</b>					<b>0</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>		<b>400</b>					<b>400</b>
<b>Northern California</b>	<b>FIRES</b>							<b>0</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>							<b>0</b>
<b>Southern California</b>	<b>FIRES</b>							<b>0</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>							<b>0</b>
<b>Northern Rockies</b>	<b>FIRES</b>							<b>0</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>							<b>0</b>
<b>Eastern Great Basin</b>	<b>FIRES</b>		<b>1</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>		<b>1,500</b>				<b>600</b>	<b>2,100</b>
<b>Western Great Basin</b>	<b>FIRES</b>							<b>0</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>							<b>0</b>
<b>Southwest</b>	<b>FIRES</b>						<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>						<b>75</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Rocky Mountain</b>	<b>FIRES</b>							<b>0</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>							<b>0</b>
<b>Eastern Area</b>	<b>FIRES</b>						<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>						<b>129</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>Southern Area</b>	<b>FIRES</b>							<b>0</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>							<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>FIRES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>ACRES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>2,704</b>

**PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES			1				1
	ACRES			1,085				1,085
Northwest	FIRES	22	108	30	10	6	256	432
	ACRES	6,145	17,038	2,691	254	292	40,010	66,430
Northern California	FIRES	7	14	11	11		93	136
	ACRES	163	1,269	19,972	231		14,821	36,456
Southern California	FIRES	1	2	6	7		97	113
	ACRES	70	24	286	670		17,226	18,276
Northern Rockies	FIRES	9	11	107	2	48	342	519
	ACRES	725	1,765	16,109	108	4,583	22,593	45,883
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	21	2	12	9	25	70
	ACRES	7	8,045	445	2,422	379	28,687	39,985
Western Great Basin	FIRES				1		5	6
	ACRES				2		172	174
Southwest	FIRES	4	13	10			136	163
	ACRES	90	17,250	4,722			13,024	35,086
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	8	17	123	8	21	28	205
	ACRES	516	2,949	17,736	2,290	2,170	11,287	36,948
Eastern Area	FIRES	21		281	8	495	142	947
	ACRES	8,709		42,886	437	62,116	16,105	130,253
Southern Area	FIRES	60		238	82	17,300	885	18,565
	ACRES	11,061		109,771	95,553	833,389	708,207	1,757,981
TOTAL	FIRES	133	186	809	141	17,879	2,009	21,157
	ACRES	27,486	48,340	215,703	101,967	902,929	872,132	2,168,557

\*\*\* Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. \*\*\*



**WFU FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES						6	6
	ACRES						12	12
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES				16		4	20
	ACRES				1,383		1	1,384
Northern Rockies	FIRES				14		41	55
	ACRES				3,601		4,455	8,056
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES				1		12	13
	ACRES				0		4,934	4,934
Western Great Basin	FIRES		8				1	9
	ACRES		851				1	852
Southwest	FIRES				1		8	9
	ACRES				380		4,485	4,865
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		13			1	3	17
	ACRES		736			0	22,594	23,330
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES				2			2
	ACRES				260			260
TOTAL	FIRES	0	21	0	34	1	75	131
	ACRES	0	1,587	0	5,624	0	36,482	43,693

\*\*\* Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. \*\*\*

**RESOURCES STATUS: COMMITTED RESOURCES**

AREA	CREWS FED	CREWS ST/OT	ENGS FED	ENGS ST/OT	HELI FED	HELI ST/OT	AIRT FED	AIRT ST/OT	OVRHD FED	OVRHD ST/OT
Alaska										
Northwest	9	41	26	81	3	13			519	304
Northern California	15		2		5					
Southern California	4	12	22	73	2	4	2		178	192
Northern Rockies	2	4	8	17	2	3			4	13
Eastern Great Basin			3	3	1					
Western Great Basin										
Southwest			3							
Rocky Mountain	1			1	1	4			9	
Eastern Area	1		1	1	2				81	
Southern Area	10		2		4				21	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>812</b>	<b>518</b>

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