

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2002 0530 MDT  
 NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light across the nation. Nationally, 77 new fires were reported. One large fire was reported in the Southern California Area. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon and Wyoming.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:**

WILLIAMS, Angeles National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Walker) is assigned. This fire is 25 miles north of Azusa, CA. Extreme fire behavior was observed in heavy brush. Crews are constructing fireline in steep terrain. Camp Williams, Camp Follows and Heaton Canyon were evacuated. One hundred residences are threatened; structure protection is in place.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
WILLIAMS	CA	ANF	750	0	UNK	551	19	39	10	0	NR

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:**

BIG HILL, Hoopa Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs. This incident, comprised of six fires, is burning in timber, four miles northeast of Hoopa, CA. Steep terrain, very limited access, and heavy fuels are contributing to control problems. The fire burned actively overnight with spotting.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
BIG HILL	CA	HIA	250	0	UNK	271	9	13	4	0	NR

**SOUTHERN AREA LARGE FIRES:**

ROCKY TOP GAP, Cherokee National Forest. This fire is five miles southeast of Newport, TN and is burning in hardwood leaf litter and bug kill timber. No new information was reported. This will be the last report unless new information is received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
ROCKY TOP GAP	TN	CNF	1,025	60	UNK	34	1	2	1	0	205K

## OUTLOOK:

### **\*\*\*A FIRE WEATHER WATCH HAS BEEN POSTED ON THE RIDGES OF SOUTHWESTERN OREGON TONIGHT FOR GUSTY EAST WINDS AND VERY LOW RELATIVE HUMIDITY\*\*\***

High pressure over the Southern California Area will bring sunny skies with morning fog and low clouds along the coast. High temperatures will be in the mid 70's to mid 80's in coastal areas, upper 80's to 90's in the mountains, 90's to 104 in the valleys and high deserts, and 100 to 110 in the low deserts. Minimum relative humidity will range from 8 to 15 percent in the mountains and deserts, 10 to 20 percent in the inland valleys, and above 40 percent near the coast. Winds will be southeast to southwest at 5 to 15 mph over the mountains and deserts, and southwest to northwest at 6 to 12 mph along the coast.

High pressure over the Northern California Area will bring sunny skies with morning low clouds and fog along the coast. High temperatures will be in the 60's to 70's near the coast and in the 80's to near 100 inland. Minimum relative humidity will range from 40 to 50 percent along the coast and 7 to 15 percent inland. Winds will be variable to 10 mph.

A weakening cold front exiting the Southern Area will bring mostly sunny skies to the interior and partly cloudy skies with a chance of showers along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts. High temperatures will be in the upper 70's to low 90's. Winds will be north to east at 5 to 20 mph.



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

## **BACKFIRING OR BURNOUT OPERATIONS**

Backfiring or burn out operations are often critical operations in the fire management job. If planned and executed correctly, they can speed control of a fire and greatly reduce suppression costs. Conversely, if done incorrectly, they can endanger personnel, extend control time and increase cost. Safety considerations must always be given first priority. No backfiring or burn out action, regardless of strategic importance or other critical factors, is worth risking one human life!

Backfiring or burn out operations must not jeopardize the safety of personnel or equipment or compromise suppression actions on adjacent portions of the fireline.

One qualified individual must be responsible for controlling and directing the firing operation.

Before beginning backfiring or burn out operations, assure that:

- Lookouts are posted.
- Communications are established with both firing and holding teams.
- Escape routes and safety zones are established, known to all resources, and will not be compromised by the firing operations.

If it is necessary, and time allows, concentrations of fuel adjacent to and inside the control line should be removed.

Fuel outside the control line may be removed; concentrations of fuel may be scattered, covered with foam or wet down, or treated by ground or aerial retardant applications.

Critical points such as hooks in the fireline, saddles or canyon may require extra holding forces.

**FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES					7	2	9
	ACRES					2	14	16
Northern California	FIRES	2			1	13	2	18
	ACRES	0			0	2	0	2
Southern California	FIRES				1	29	7	37
	ACRES				1	12	756	769
Northern Rockies	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					0		0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		3			3	5	11
	ACRES		3			0	5	8
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					4		4
TOTAL	FIRES	2	3	0	2	54	16	77
	ACRES	0	3	0	1	20	775	799

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	260	314	36	49	1,490	1,265	3,414
	ACRES	18,244	147,687	2,799	39	109,563	815,181	1,093,513
Northern California	FIRES	217	22	6	16	2,219	631	3,111
	ACRES	680	6,884	818	3,666	13,105	36,494	61,647
Southern California	FIRES	75	80	18	33	2,654	679	3,539
	ACRES	10,237	25,790	86	747	69,993	282,416	389,269
Northern Rockies	FIRES	930	51	32	46	539	904	2,502
	ACRES	13,893	10,537	2,178	9,153	31,257	84,034	151,052
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	69	549	8	42	547	969	2,184
	ACRES	5,326	75,673	408	33	114,115	148,002	343,557
Western Great Basin	FIRES	10	461	2	11	91	151	726
	ACRES	316	39,389	80	6	884	42,302	82,977
Southwest	FIRES	1,168	286	31	70	1,238	1,717	4,510
	ACRES	263,685	20,616	6,870	17,865	215,557	448,882	973,475
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	410	576	51	66	1,147	743	2,993
	ACRES	54,478	68,345	685	9,115	195,198	323,143	650,964
Eastern Area	FIRES	762		19	33	11,345	402	12,561
	ACRES	31,956		1,225	609	65,617	3,313	102,720
Southern Area	FIRES	102		190	45	29,568	820	30,725
	ACRES	17,172		147,132	6,665	289,319	26,154	486,442
TOTAL	FIRES	4,004	2,371	424	421	51,290	8,298	66,808
	ACRES	415,991	976,017	507,890	181,606	2,235,455	2,209,937	6,526,896

Ten Year Average Fires	68,844
Ten Year Average Acres	3,438,273

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

**PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES		1	1			1	3
	ACRES		3,400	7			260	3,667
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						17	17
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						0	0
	ACRES						90	90
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	0	1	1	0	0	3	5
	ACRES	0	3,400	7	0	0	367	3,774

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	113	31	10	6	261	443
	ACRES	6,145	22,969	2,698	254	292	40,437	72,795
Northern California	FIRES	7	14	11	11		93	136
	ACRES	163	1,269	20,019	231		14,821	36,503
Southern California	FIRES	1	2	6	8		97	114
	ACRES	70	24	286	817		17,226	18,423
Northern Rockies	FIRES	9	11	118	2	48	364	552
	ACRES	725	1,765	16,600	108	4,583	23,084	46,865
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	7,490	2	12	9	32	7,546
	ACRES	7	9,745	445	2,422	379	31,417	44,415
Western Great Basin	FIRES				1		5	6
	ACRES				2		172	174
Southwest	FIRES	4	13	10			141	168
	ACRES	90	17,250	4,722			13,567	35,629
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	147	952
	ACRES	8,709		42,886	437	62,116	20,985	135,133
Southern Area	FIRES	60		238	85	17,300	890	18,573
	ACRES	11,061		109,771	97,853	833,389	723,486	1,775,560
TOTAL	FIRES	133	7,660	821	145	17,879	2,058	28,696
	ACRES	27,486	55,971	216,248	104,414	902,929	896,482	2,203,530

\*\*\* 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				1,385		1	1,386
Northern Rockies	FIRES				14		42	56
	ACRES				3,627		4,509	8,136
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES				1		12	13
	ACRES				0		4,964	4,964
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		12			1	3	16
	ACRES		736			0	22,594	23,330
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES				2			2
	ACRES				260			260
TOTAL	FIRES	0	20	0	34	1	76	131
	ACRES	0	1,587	0	5,652	0	36,566	43,805

\*\*\* 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	14	19	19	63	2	8			292	178
Northern California	8	6	17	11	3	1			5	27
Southern California	16	10	33	16	12	3	2		25	16
Northern Rockies			3							
Eastern Great Basin	2	1	7	3	4				10	
Western Great Basin										
Southwest			2							
Rocky Mountain					1	2				1
Eastern Area										
Southern Area										
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>222</b>

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