

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2003 – 1000 MST  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light nationally, with 117 new fires reported yesterday. One new large fire was reported in the Southern Area. Four large fires were contained, two in the Southern Area and two in the Eastern Area. Very high fire indices were reported in Colorado.

COLUMBIA RESPONSE, Federal Emergency Management Agency. A FEMA Emergency Operations Center has been established in Lufkin, Texas. Four Type 1 Incident Management Teams (Lohrey, Oltrogge, McCombs and Ferguson) are assigned in Corsicana, Hemphill Palestine, and Nacogdoches, Texas. One Type 2 Incident Management Team (Hildreth) is assigned in Longview, Texas. Forty-eight agencies are cooperating in the search and collection of shuttle materials.

NEWCASTLE, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA. State and Federal personnel have been mobilized in response to the outbreak of the Exotic Newcastle Disease. They are working in support of the USDA APHIS operation under a Unified Command. Support operations are being conducted in Arizona, California, Maryland and Nevada.

**SOUTHERN AREA LARGE FIRES:**

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
ARMADILLO	OK	OKS	450	100	---	4	0	2	0	0	NR
SOUTH GRANNY	OK	OKS	250	100	---	3	0	2	0	0	NR

OKS = Oklahoma Division of Forestry

**EASTERN AREA LARGE FIRES:**

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
BEER CAN ALLEY	MO	MTF	100	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	2K
TIN TOP	MO	MTF	71	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	2K

MTF = Mark Twain National Forest

## **OUTLOOK:**

**\*\*\*A RED FLAG WARNING IS IN EFFECT FOR THE INLAND COUNTIES OF THE NORTHWEST-CENTRAL FLORIDA PANHANDLE FOR LOW MINIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY\*\*\***

A dry cold front will become stationary over Central Florida by this evening bringing lower minimum relative humidity in the Appalachians and northern Florida areas. Minimum relative humidity will increase as wind flow becomes more southerly bringing a better chance for rain on Wednesday and Thursday.

Today should be a fair weather day for the Columbia recovery area, although rain showers and thunderstorm activity will be returning today through Saturday. Temperatures will be near normal, and winds are expected to be light from the south.



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

## THUNDERSTORM SAFETY

Thunderstorms cause significant hazards for wildland firefighters, including downbursts that can cause extreme fire behavior and lightning. When thunderstorm development is likely, lookouts should be posted and aware of signs of a developing storm. A sudden reversal in wind direction, a noticeable rise in wind speed, and a sharp drop in temperature may note the mature stage of a storm. Heavy rain, hail and lightning occur only in the mature stage of a thunderstorm. During a storm, use the following guidelines:

- Do not lie down.
  - The best position is sitting on the pack or crouching with feet close together.
  - Avoid sitting directly on the ground, if possible; but, if necessary, keep feet and butt close together.
  - Avoid grouping together. Keep a minimum of 15 feet between people when possible.
  - Removing caulk boots will not provide safety if stocking covered or bare feet are then in contact with the ground--don't bother!
  
- "Stay out of dry creek beds" is correct for flash floods, but has nothing to do with lightning.
  
- Handheld radios (with short rubber antennas) or cell phones are safe to use. Communication is vital to crew safety. Do not use land line radios or radios with elevated antennas.
  
- Wide, open spaces are better than trees or clumps of trees in the vicinity. Ridge tops, etc., should be avoided.
  
- If you feel the hair on your arms or head "stand up," there is a high probability of a strike in the vicinity. Crouch or sit on a pack.
  
- Put down all tools.
  
- Take shelter in vehicles if possible.

**FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES		1					1
	ACRES		0					0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES						18	18
	ACRES						18	18
Southern Area	FIRES					96	2	98
	ACRES					933	3	936
TOTAL	FIRES	0	1	0	0	96	20	117
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	933	21	954

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	1						1
	ACRES	0						0
Northern California	FIRES				3	45	5	53
	ACRES				2,165	10	2	2,177
Southern California	FIRES	1	4			151	34	190
	ACRES	0	1			20	12	33
Northern Rockies	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					29		29
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		2			1		3
	ACRES		0			0		0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	5	7			41	27	80
	ACRES	23	5			346	30	404
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	2	3		1		3	9
	ACRES	0	0		200		15	215
Eastern Area	FIRES	4			2	132	31	169
	ACRES	12			1	1,834	308	2,155
Southern Area	FIRES	56		5	3	4,168	94	4,326
	ACRES	6,881		755	530	40,683	2,789	51,638
TOTAL	FIRES	69	16	5	9	4,539	194	4,832
	ACRES	6,916	6	755	2,896	42,922	3,156	56,651
<b>Eight Year Average Fires</b>								<b>12,116</b>
<b>Eight Year Average Acres</b>								<b>253,063</b>

\*\*\*Averages are computed from data reported to NICC during the second reporting period in March\*\*\*

and

\*\*\*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							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES		1					1
	ACRES		5					5
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						5	5
	ACRES						48	48
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	4			1		0	5
	ACRES	25			300		40	365
Eastern Area	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						176	176
Southern Area	FIRES				1	1	24	26
	ACRES				109	330	15,036	15,475
TOTAL	FIRES	4	1	0	2	1	31	39
	ACRES	25	5	0	409	330	15,300	16,069

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	3	57	2			38	100
	ACRES	4	3,306	725			1,241	5,276
Northern California	FIRES	1	7	3	6		30	47
	ACRES	31	100	4,823	475		2,034	7,463
Southern California	FIRES		1				36	37
	ACRES		5				4,921	4,926
Northern Rockies	FIRES		1				2	3
	ACRES		13				118	131
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		2			2		4
	ACRES		4			110		114
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	3	2		1		143	149
	ACRES	460	197		1,000		4,258	5,915
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	4	2	4	5	2	12	29
	ACRES	25	110	125	349	39	530	1,178
Eastern Area	FIRES					2	31	33
	ACRES					1,200	1,638	2,838
Southern Area	FIRES	23		115	12	5,563	502	6,215
	ACRES	4,762		38,601	20,492	333,788	383,673	781,316
TOTAL	FIRES	34	72	124	24	5,569	794	6,617
	ACRES	5,282	3,735	44,274	22,316	335,137	398,413	809,157

\*\*\* 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							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
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							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

\*\*\* 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										
Northern California	1								13	
Southern California									25	389
Northern Rockies										
Eastern Great Basin										
Western Great Basin									14	83
Southwest									4	
Rocky Mountain										
Eastern Area			6		1				91	
Southern Area	141	31	3	4					483	1656
Total	142	31	9	4	1	0	0	0	630	2128

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