

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2003 – 1000 MST  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was very light nationally, with 18 new fires reported yesterday. No new large fires were reported. Very high fire indices were reported in California.

COLUMBIA RESPONSE, Federal Emergency Management Agency. A FEMA Emergency Operations Center has been established in Lufkin, Texas. Four Type 1 Incident Management Teams (Lohrey, Whitney, Anderson and Ferguson) are assigned in Corsicana, Hemphill, Palestine and Nacogdoches, Texas. One Type 2 Incident Management Teams (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, and Nevada.

**OUTLOOK:**

**\*\*\* A RED FLAG WARNING HAS BEEN ISSUED FOR THE EAST CENTRAL PORTIONS OF THE FLORIDA PENINSULA FOR HIGH DISPERSION \*\*\***

The Southern Area can expect rain to diminish and end as high pressure over Colorado begins to exert its influence on the southeast. The exception to the dry weekend will be across central portions of Texas where upper air disturbances could still kick off some light showers today and Saturday. Sunday is expected to be dry and spring-like across the Area.

A few showers are possible today in the Columbia recovery area, mainly to the west, with a better chance expected for Saturday. High temperatures will be in the upper 60s to the low 70s, with northwest winds at 7 to 12 mph today and lighter Sunday.



[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							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES					2		2
	ACRES					9		9
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES					2		2
	ACRES					1		1
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES					5	5	10
	ACRES					50	12	62
Southern Area	FIRES					4		4
	ACRES					11		11
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	13	5	18
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	71	12	83

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES				1	42		43
	ACRES				432	183		615
Northwest	FIRES	1						1
	ACRES	0						0
Northern California	FIRES				3	45	9	57
	ACRES				2,165	10	2	2,177
Southern California	FIRES	1	4			171	38	214
	ACRES	0	1			29	12	42
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	8	8	1		60	31	108
	ACRES	25	1,318	274		357	31	2,005
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	4	3		1	6	3	17
	ACRES	9	0		200	121	15	345
Eastern Area	FIRES	4			3	168	46	221
	ACRES	12			2	2,104	607	2,725
Southern Area	FIRES	56		5	3	4,916	132	5,112
	ACRES	6,881		755	530	51,906	3,082	63,154
TOTAL	FIRES	74	17	6	11	5,410	259	5,777
	ACRES	6,927	1,319	1,029	3,329	54,739	3,749	71,092
<b>Eight Year Average Fires</b>								<b>11,487</b>
<b>Eight Year Average Acres</b>								<b>224,917</b>

\*\*\*Averages are computed from data reported to NICC during the first 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			11				11
	ACRES			1,155				1,155
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES						5	5
	ACRES						48	48
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						0	0
	ACRES						67	67
Rocky Mountain	FIRES						0	0
	ACRES						5	5
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES	2		1			1	4
	ACRES	138		100			1,098	1,336
TOTAL	FIRES	2	0	12	0	0	6	20
	ACRES	138	0	1,255	0	0	1,218	2,611

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	3	60	13			46	122
	ACRES	4	3,410	1,880			1,270	6,564
Northern California	FIRES	1	7	3	6		37	54
	ACRES	31	110	5,147	495		2,944	8,727
Southern California	FIRES		1		1		59	61
	ACRES		5		2		5,481	5,488
Northern Rockies	FIRES		1				2	3
	ACRES		13				118	131
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		2			4		6
	ACRES		4			121		125
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	3	2	1	1		150	157
	ACRES	460	197	550	1,000		4,944	7,151
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	5	2	4	5	2	14	32
	ACRES	154	110	125	349	39	576	1,353
Eastern Area	FIRES			14	2	3	56	75
	ACRES			2,049	258	1,236	7,880	11,423
Southern Area	FIRES	29		136	20	5,582	659	6,426
	ACRES	5,260		45,288	37,151	342,124	519,498	949,321
TOTAL	FIRES	41	75	171	35	5,591	1,023	6,936
	ACRES	5,909	3,849	55,039	39,255	343,520	542,711	990,283

\*\*\* 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										
Southern California										
Northern Rockies										
Eastern Great Basin										
Western Great Basin									10	74
Southwest									6	
Rocky Mountain										
Eastern Area			10		1				112	1
Southern Area	121	34							513	1691
Total	121	34	10	0	1	0	0	0	641	1766

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