

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT
FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2003 – 1000 MDT
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 2**

CURRENT SITUATION:

Initial attack activity was light nationally, with 247 new fires reported yesterday. Six new large fires were reported, four in the Eastern Area and two in the Southern Area. Seven large fires were contained, five in the Eastern Area and two in the Southern Area. Very high fire indices were reported in Colorado.

COLUMBIA RESPONSE, Federal Emergency Management Agency. A FEMA Emergency Operations Center is established in Lufkin, Texas. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Bennett) is assigned in Palestine, Texas. Four Type 2 Incident Management Teams (Chrisman, Dietrich, Morcom and Raley) are assigned in Longview, Nacogdoches, Corsicana, and Hemphill, Texas. Forty-eight agencies are cooperating in the search and collection of shuttle materials. Approximately 85 percent of the current assigned area, or 595,032 acres, has been searched.

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.

EASTERN AREA LARGE FIRES:

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
PEACH ORCHARD	OH	OHS	766	100	---	0	0	0	0	4	20K
COLUMBIANA	OH	OHS	168	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	NR
BIRCH CREEK	MO	MOS	165	100	---	11	1	0	0	0	NR
BLAIRS CREEK FIRE	MO	MOS	121	100	---	12	11	0	0	0	NR
SNAPPS BRANCH	MO	MTF	232	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	19K

OHS = Ohio Division of Forestry

MOS = Missouri Department of Conservation

MTF = Mark Twain National Forest

SOUTHERN AREA LARGE FIRES:

TAMMY FAYE FIRE, Oklahoma Division of Forestry. The fire, burning in mixed hardwoods with areas of pine, is 10 miles southwest of Stilwell, OK. The fire burned hot throughout the operational period with some spotting observed.

BLUE HOLE, Oklahoma Division of Forestry. The fire is four miles west of Clayton, OK, burning in Hardwood leaf litter and pine needles. Active burning occurred throughout the operational period. Minimal spread is expected.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
TAMMY FAYE FIRE	OK	OXS	190	85	4/18	5	0	2	0	0	NR
BLUE HOLE	OK	OXS	120	90	4/18	12	0	5	0	0	NR
BAKER FIRE	OK	OXS	500	100	---	2	0	1	0	0	NR
MOLLENKOPF	OK	OXS	180	100	---	2	0	1	0	0	NR

OUTLOOK:

Red Flag Warnings: North Texas and central Oklahoma for high wind, low relative humidity and high fire danger.

Fire Weather Watches: Fire weather watch Saturday for the Guadalupe Mountains, southeastern New Mexican plains, northwestern Permian Basin, upper Trans Pecos, Davis Mountains and Marfa Plateau for high wind and low relative humidity.

Weather Discussion: A weak front will move toward the Eastern Seaboard today, providing showers from the New River Valley of Virginia northward into southern Pennsylvania. This front will also spark some thunderstorms in the eastern Carolinas. In the central U.S today, a storm system will move out of Colorado and into South Dakota. The storm will trigger showers and thunderstorms in the central states, but conditions will remain dry from eastern New Mexico to western Oklahoma. Low pressure in the west will slowly make its way to the east today, providing unsettled weather over most of the western states once again. However, a ridge of high pressure will start to build toward the Pacific Northwest by the end of the day. Alaska's southern interior will remain dry through Saturday.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
EASTERN AREA Partly Sunny to mostly cloudy with a chance of afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms across the western Big Rivers and southwest Great Lakes. There is also a chance of showers across the mid-Atlantic states.	Low 40s to low 50s northern tier Mid 50s to upper 60s southern tier	37 to 47% SW portion of EA	South winds increasing to 15 to 25 mph in the afternoon over the western Big Rivers compact.
ROCKY MOUNTAIN AREA Southern Colorado east of the divide: Scattered rain or mountain snow showers, with thunderstorms.	Mountains: 40-55 Lower elevations: 60-75	Mountains: 20%-30% Lower elevations: 13%-23%	West 15 to 25 mph.
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA Partly cloudy.	40s-50s mountains 57-67 coast, valleys 65-80 deserts	25-40%	W to NW 15 to 25 mph Over the deserts and mountains, otherwise 8 to 15 mph.



www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/index_j.asp

WILDLAND/URBAN INTERFACE WATCHOUTS

The primary consideration is to first assure firefighter and public safety. It is a must to assess potential fire behavior, ingress/egress routes, nature of the threat, hazardous materials, and available water supplies before engaging in the protection of any structures. The first step in conducting a safe operation is to assess whether the firefighting operations can be conducted safely.

● Consider the “Wildland/Urban Interface Watchouts” in completing a risk analysis for the urban interface area to be protected. Remember there are three categories of structures:

- Those that are not threatened.
- Those that are threatened.
- Those that have already been lost or too dangerous to protect.

● Wildland/Urban Interface Watchouts:

- Poor access and narrow, one-way roads. A rapidly spreading fire could trap apparatus and personnel before they can turn around or move away from the flames and smoke.
- Observe bridge limits. Exceeding bridge limits could lead to bridge failure with a resultant blocking of ingress/egress routes that could result in the loss of an escape route or loss of equipment.
- Inadequate water supply. Without a reserve supply of water, the fire can overtake an area before the fuels can be cleared away.
- Natural fuels are located 30 feet or closer to structures on level ground. Remember structures on slopes require greater clearance. Structures are located on canyon slopes or “chimneys” on slopes of 30% or more with continuous, flashy fuels. The resulting rate of spread of any fire in this terrain can quickly extend beyond control.
- Extreme fire behavior: Situations involving crowning, large flame heights and erratic fire behavior can extend in an unpredictable manner beyond the control of any number of personnel. Strong winds of 25+ MPH: Winds increase the chance of spotting over the heads of firefighters and trapping them between both fire areas. Winds also cause greater preheating of fuels in the path of a fire front.

- - The need to evacuate the public, livestock, pets, and/or animals. This critical activity can pull personnel from the firefighting activity and can distract attention from fire behavior at a time when the greatest alertness is needed.
 - Propane and above ground fuel tanks that are next to wooden structures or close to vegetation
 - Power lines and poles: What is their location in relation to the structures that are being protected? Watch for both overhead and downed power lines.
 - Local citizens are attempting suppression activities. Lack of knowledge in fire suppression may lead to unsafe tactics.
 - Airtanker retardant drops and helicopter bucket operations: Establish communications and keep fire personnel out of the drop zone.

FIRES AND ACRES FOR 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				1	11	1	13
	ACRES				0	5	3	8
Northern Rockies	FIRES	12				1		13
	ACRES	32				0		32
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					0		0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						0	0
	ACRES						5	5
Rocky Mountain	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					2		2
Eastern Area	FIRES					34	5	39
	ACRES					674	13	687
Southern Area	FIRES	10			1	165	4	180
	ACRES	7			50	2,842	67	2,966
TOTAL	FIRES	22	0	0	2	213	10	247
	ACRES	39	0	0	50	3,523	88	3,700

FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES				1	48		49
	ACRES				432	219		651
Northwest	FIRES	3	1	1			3	8
	ACRES	1	0	1			1	3
Northern California	FIRES				4	90	16	110
	ACRES				2,210	19	12	2,241
Southern California	FIRES	1	4		1	236	52	294
	ACRES	0	1		0	26	19	46
Northern Rockies	FIRES	83	1	3		54	9	150
	ACRES	1,161	0	32		16,298	1,342	18,833
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		8			7	2	17
	ACRES		3			244	0	247
Western Great Basin	FIRES		3					3
	ACRES		2					2
Southwest	FIRES	35	16	3		135	51	240
	ACRES	44	2,789	274		4,072	172	7,351
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	5	6	4	1	40	5	61
	ACRES	123	2	213	200	225	15	778
Eastern Area	FIRES	521		35	14	2,338	206	3,114
	ACRES	50,925		1,485	614	63,890	3,601	120,515
Southern Area	FIRES	82		6	11	7,983	241	8,323
	ACRES	7,839		755	756	119,417	6,182	134,949
TOTAL	FIRES	730	39	52	32	10,931	585	12,369
	ACRES	60,093	2,797	2,760	4,212	204,410	11,344	285,616

Eight Year Average Fires	24,808
Eight Year Average Acres	527,184

Averages are computed from data reported to NICC during the third reporting period in April

and

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

PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES FOR YESTERDAY:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						366	366
Northern California	FIRES		0					0
	ACRES		1					1
Southern California	FIRES						5	5
	ACRES						28	28
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1	2				8	11
	ACRES	150	110				1,062	1,322
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						4	4
	ACRES						29	29
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		0				0	0
	ACRES		40				85	125
Eastern Area	FIRES					2		2
	ACRES					280		280
Southern Area	FIRES			1			9	10
	ACRES			355			8,449	8,804
TOTAL	FIRES	1	2	1	0	2	28	34
	ACRES	150	151	355	0	280	10,019	10,955

PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	8	73	145			61	287
	ACRES	679	8,750	4,640			3,045	17,114
Northern California	FIRES	2	8	5	10		70	95
	ACRES	31	121	16,865	499		3,861	21,377
Southern California	FIRES		2	1	2		64	69
	ACRES		25	37	12		7,859	7,933
Northern Rockies	FIRES	2	7				34	43
	ACRES	162	418				2,605	3,185
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	8	3		4	3	19
	ACRES	18	746	300		121	62	1,247
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	4	11	4	4		200	223
	ACRES	485	7,719	816	4,877		14,054	27,951
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	26	8	10	5	3	21	73
	ACRES	1,718	878	391	349	43	2,845	6,224
Eastern Area	FIRES	8		46	7	121	82	264
	ACRES	9,937		9,706	1,556	14,080	19,308	54,587
Southern Area	FIRES	46		199	33	5,626	967	6,871
	ACRES	7,494		68,543	49,046	373,132	765,540	1,263,755
TOTAL	FIRES	97	117	413	61	5,754	1,502	7,944
	ACRES	20,524	18,657	101,298	56,339	387,376	819,179	1,403,373

*** 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										
Southwest										
Rocky Mountain										
Eastern Area	7	16	14	26	3	3			72	1
Southern Area	43	89	11	11	2				462	1249
Total	50	105	25	37	5	3	0	0	534	1250

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