

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2003 – 0530 MDT  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 3**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was moderate in the Northern California Area and light elsewhere. Nationally, 60 new fires were reported. Two new large fires were reported, one each in the Southern California and Eastern Great Basin Areas. Two large fires were contained, one each in the Northern California and Northern Rockies Areas. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

Hurricane Isabel, Virginia. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Ferguson) is assigned to provide logistical, operational, planning and resource support. The team will work jointly with GSA, FEMA and the Army Corp of Engineers, at Ft. A.P. Hill in Virginia. The National Park Service All Risk Management Team (Swed) is assigned. The team will be assessing hurricane damage and support needs for National Parks in North Carolina and Virginia.

Hurricane Isabel, North Carolina. Three Type 2 Incident Management Teams (Wathen/Pearson, Collins/Col. Holt/Hendricks) are assigned. The Governor of North Carolina has declared a State of Emergency for 12 counties. A Federal Disaster Declaration was made on 9/18. Through Unified Command, personnel are providing logistical, operational, planning and resource support.

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:**

CANOE / HONEYDEW, Humboldt-Del Norte Unit, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CDF). A CDF Type 1 Incident Command Team (Hawkins) is assigned. The fires, located 16 miles north of Garberville, CA, are in old growth redwood, brush and logging slash. Local up canyon winds and dry conditions continued to increase fire behavior on the Canoe fire. Spotting has been a significant problem. Structure protection is in place for 100 residences.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
CANOE / HONEYDEW	CA	HUU	15,822	60	9/30	1,952	59	109	15	0	16.8M
MOUSE TWO	CA	MEU	231	100	---	674	22	42	1	0	1.1M

MEU = Mendocino Unit, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection

**NORTHWEST AREA LARGE FIRES:**

ISABEL, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. A transfer of command from Jennings' Washington Interagency Incident Management Team to Johnson/Barnett's Washington Interagency Incident Management Team will occur on 9/27. This fire is in timber, ten miles northwest of Conconully, WA. Very active fire behavior with single and group tree torching was reported.

NEEDLE, Okanogan/Wenatchee National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Furlong) is assigned. This fire is in timber and heavy downed fuels, 12 miles northwest of Winthrop, WA. Very active fire behavior with short crown runs, torching and spotting was due to high winds with gust up to 35 mph. All trails in the vicinity of the fire and the road to Hart's Pass remained closed.

B&B COMPLEX, Deschutes National Forest. A transfer of command from Hoff's Type 2 Incident Management Team to a Type 3 organization will occur today. This complex, comprised of the Booth and Bear Butte fires, is in timber with heavy ground fuels 14 miles west of Sisters, OR. Fires within the complex continued to smolder and creep.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
ISABEL	WA	OWF	1,640	10	UNK	323	8	16	5	0	2.3M
NEEDLE	WA	OWF	18,200	39	UNK	334	5	12	6	1	8.2M
B&B COMPLEX	OR	DEF	90,769	98	UNK	266	3	13	2	13	38.3M

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA LARGE FIRES:

KIBBIE COMPLEX, Yosemite National Park. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Rios) has been ordered. This wildland fire complex was previously reported as a lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) incident, which began on 7/20. The complex is 18 miles east of Miwok Village, Yosemite National Park, CA. Air quality impacts in the Central Sierra and San Joaquin Valley are a major concern. The Kibbie fire made a major run to the southwest with torching, spotting and flame lengths up to 15 feet.

HOMERS NOSE 2, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park. A Fire Use Management Team (Bonefeld) is assigned. This fire is in mixed brush and ponderosa pine, 40 miles east of Visalia, CA. The incident was previously reported as a part of the Kaweah Kern Complex. Minimal fire spread was reported.

CARGYLE COMPLEX, Sierra National Forest. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) incident is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. This complex, comprised of the Snake, Seven and Cargyle #2 fires, is 11 miles southwest of Mammoth Lakes. Backing fire with occasional torching and spotting in red fir and lodgepole pine was observed.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
KIBBIE COMPLEX	CA	YNP	4,500	60	10/30	50	4	3	4	0	110k
HOMERS NOSE 2	CA	KNP	230	0	9/29	52	1	0	3	0	748K
CARGYLE COMPLEX – WFU	CA	SNF	300	N/A	N/A	30	1	0	1	0	NR
KAWEAH-KERN COMPLEX – WFU	CA	KNP	5,340	N/A	N/A	43	0	1	2	0	298K
MUD COMPLEX – WFU	CA	STF	3,731	N/A	N/A	71	0	0	3	0	477K
MOUNTAIN COMPLEX – WFU	CA	STF	2,630	N/A	N/A	32	2	0	0	0	167K

STF = Stanislaus National Forest

### EASTERN GREAT BASIN AREA LARGE FIRES:

CASCADE, Uinta National Forest. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Muir) is assigned. This fire is in tall gamble oak, brush and grass, six miles west/southwest of Charleston, UT. Active fire behavior with crowning and isolated torching was due to warm and dry conditions. Structure protection is in place for 12 residences.

HWY 25 MM17, Upper Snake River District, Southern Idaho Area, Bureau of Land Management. This fire is in grass and sage, three miles northwest of Eden, ID. This is a wind-driven fire in light fuels with rapid rates of spread. Structure protection is in place for one residence.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
CASCADE	UT	UIF	4,440	16	UNK	260	8	8	8	0	350K
HWY 25 MM17	ID	SID	600	50	9/26	50	0	12	2	0	NR

### NORTHERN ROCKIES AREA LARGE FIRES:

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
MOLLMAN	MT	FHA	260	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	80k

FHA = Flathead Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs

### SOUTHWEST AREA LARGE FIRES

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
POPLAR COMPLEX - WFU	AZ	GCP	1,379	N/A	N/A	38	1	0	0	0	NR

GCP = Grand Canyon National Park

## OUTLOOK:

**Weather Discussion:** A high pressure ridge along with an easterly offshore flow will produce warm and dry weather over most areas of the Pacific Northwest. A cold front moving out of Canada will bring gusty winds east of the Continental Divide in Montana and Wyoming. Some moisture continues to linger over the Southwest.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<p><b>NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA</b> Clear skies, with extensive fog areas along the coast, extending locally inland night and morning hours</p>	60s to mid 70s near the coast, and 80s and 90s inland.	8 to 18% driest areas, with generally poor nighttime relative humidity recovery on the upper slopes and ridges.	Mostly easterly 4 to 12 mph except southwest to northwest 3 to 9 mph near the coast in the afternoon.
<p><b>NORTHWEST AREA</b> Sunny and dry. Increasing easterly winds west of the Cascades in Oregon.</p>	70s and 80s western Washington ranging to the 90s in southwest Oregon. Generally 80s to lower 90s eastern Oregon and Washington.	Dry. Generally 15 to 25% western Washington and northwest Oregon ranging to 5 to 15% southwest Oregon. 10 to 15% over much of eastern Oregon and Washington but with areas below 10%.	Generally less than 10 mph east of the Cascades. Easterly winds 10 to 20 mph in western Oregon particularly in southwest Oregon where gusts up to 30 mph are likely over the ridges.
<p><b>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA</b> Areas of morning low clouds and fog lower coastal areas, otherwise sunny.</p>	65 to 80 coastal areas. 75 to 90 mountains. 90 to 103 valleys. 95 to 103 upper desert. 102 to 108 low desert.	8 to 15% desert. 8 to 15% mountains. 12 to 20 valleys. 50 to 65% coast.	Northeast to southeast 5 to 15 mph except southwest to northwest 5 to 10 mph coastal areas.
<p><b>EASTERN GREAT BASIN AREA</b> Idaho, Bridger-Teton: Mostly sunny. Utah, Arizona Strip: Mostly sunny.</p>	Idaho, Bridger-Teton: 57 to 78 mountains, 82 to 90 valleys. Utah and Arizona Strip: 68 to 85 higher elevations, 85 to 97 lower elevations.	Idaho, Bridger-Teton: 15 to 28% mountains, 12 to 20% valleys. Utah, Arizona Strip: 4 to 25%	Idaho, Bridger-Teton: West/northwest and 5 to 15 mph in the west, light and variable in the east, except northwest 10 to 15 Gusting to 30 mph in the Bridger-Teton. Utah, Arizona Strip: Upslope/up valley and light.



[http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/dsp\\_sixminutes.php](http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/dsp_sixminutes.php)

## **FALLING SNAGS**

Falling snags (dead, standing trees without leaves or needles in the crowns) present a significant hazard to wildland firefighters. Snags typically have much lower fuel moistures than live, green trees; and they burn more readily. In the process, they often throw spot fires far in advance of the main fire and often burn through more quickly than green trees, falling with little or no warning.

- The risk of injuries from falling snags increases during the night operational period when visibility is greatly reduced.
- While the cooler, nighttime period is generally a more effective time to gain control of wildfires, the increased risk from unseen falling snags may limit the widespread use of crews at night in areas of dead and dying timber.
- Environmental conditions that increase risk from falling snags:
  - Strong winds
  - Night operations
  - Steep slopes
  - Diseased or bug-killed areas
- Things to consider when assessing the potential hazards of both snags and green trees:
  - Trees have been burning for an extended period.
  - High-risk tree species (those that are known for rot and shallow root systems) are in the area.
  - Numerous downed trees
  - Dead or broken tips and limbs overhead
  - Accumulation of downed limbs
  - Absence of needles, bark or limbs
  - Leaning or hung-up trees
- Mitigation measures to take:
  - Identify and flag all high-risk snags and green trees.
  - Keep personnel out of the high-risk areas until the hazard has been removed.
  - Establish lookouts.

**FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					4		4
	ACRES					42		42
Northwest	FIRES		2				1	3
	ACRES		5				0	5
Northern California	FIRES	1				19	3	23
	ACRES	0				499	13	512
Southern California	FIRES					9		9
	ACRES					27		27
Northern Rockies	FIRES				1		3	4
	ACRES				0		28	28
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		1					1
	ACRES		600					600
Western Great Basin	FIRES		2			3		5
	ACRES		16			0		16
Southwest	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						1	1
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					0		0
Southern Area	FIRES					8	1	9
	ACRES					64	2	66
TOTAL	FIRES	1	5	0	1	44	9	60
	ACRES	0	621	0	0	632	44	1,297

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	14	21	10	392	14	452
	ACRES	20	40,271	283,123	3,712	247,595	2	574,723
Northwest	FIRES	294	244	11	55	1,738	1,217	3,559
	ACRES	20,246	17,873	12	3,081	48,938	292,959	383,109
Northern California	FIRES	144	70	14	17	2,642	1,176	4,063
	ACRES	232	11,583	3	6,562	52,682	29,740	100,802
Southern California	FIRES	64	133	10	74	2,538	838	3,657
	ACRES	854	2,933	360	436	36,121	7,276	47,980
Northern Rockies	FIRES	978	61	33	85	953	1,497	3,607
	ACRES	77,623	107,435	23,265	166,669	156,111	364,135	895,238
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	58	809	6	46	655	943	2,517
	ACRES	19,423	135,374	1,242	2,634	47,518	139,989	346,180
Western Great Basin	FIRES	7	431	1	11	115	168	733
	ACRES	1	11,113	79	6	1,941	3,287	16,427
Southwest	FIRES	836	186	5	66	883	2,070	4,046
	ACRES	35,650	5,893	284	3,553	16,173	203,248	264,801
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	182	776	39	47	967	700	2,711
	ACRES	17,414	16,918	1,963	783	17,003	53,133	107,214
Eastern Area	FIRES	908		66	35	9,861	485	11,355
	ACRES	52,188		6,890	706	110,373	5,582	175,739
Southern Area	FIRES	147		46	12	11,761	335	12,301
	ACRES	21,739		12,130	764	186,855	8,839	230,327
TOTAL	FIRES	3,619	2,724	252	458	32,505	9,443	49,001
	ACRES	245,390	349,393	329,351	188,906	921,310	1,108,190	3,142,540

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>68,237</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>3,909,450</b>

\*\*\*Changes in some agency YTD agency 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			0	2
	ACRES		1,200	57			200	1,457
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES						0	0
	ACRES						400	400
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		2				2	4
	ACRES		1,210				113	1,323
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						100	100
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		1			0	2	3
	ACRES		1,100			3	585	1,688
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES						3	3
	ACRES						103	103
TOTAL	FIRES	0	4	1	0	0	9	14
	ACRES	0	3,510	57	0	3	1,501	5,071



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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					6		6
	ACRES					1,555		1,555
Northwest	FIRES	28	95	23	3		218	367
	ACRES	5,351	21,445	5,745	123		29,609	62,273
Northern California	FIRES	2	7	112	16		127	264
	ACRES	31	267	21,216	2,193		10,562	34,269
Southern California	FIRES		2	4	7		170	183
	ACRES		27	621	3,275		13,675	17,598
Northern Rockies	FIRES	12	9	72	4	23	327	447
	ACRES	502	3,808	10,742	760	1,750	16,331	33,893
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	29	4		11	34	79
	ACRES	18	29,635	400		1,565	10,595	42,213
Western Great Basin	FIRES		6		3		1	10
	ACRES		520		2,084		230	2,834
Southwest	FIRES	13	35	19	8	3	267	345
	ACRES	3,333	26,946	39,373	7,383	12	47,796	124,843
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	28	22	90	9	11	84	244
	ACRES	1,730	6,164	12,778	9,592	190	8,279	38,733
Eastern Area	FIRES	23		315	16	502	204	1,060
	ACRES	10,562		56,669	1,823	80,990	26,936	176,980
Southern Area	FIRES	53		270	72	14,130	1,215	15,740
	ACRES	19,379		95,845	83,793	779,616	933,797	1,912,430
TOTAL	FIRES	160	205	909	138	14,686	2,647	18,745
	ACRES	40,906	88,812	243,389	111,026	865,678	1,097,810	2,447,621

**\*\*\*Changes in some agency YTD agency 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			1				1
	ACRES			42,800				42,800
Northwest	FIRES						3	3
	ACRES						251	251
Northern California	FIRES						4	4
	ACRES						1	1
Southern California	FIRES	2			52		55	109
	ACRES	0			6,259		12,270	18,529
Northern Rockies	FIRES				3		71	74
	ACRES				602		55,875	56,477
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES				6		29	35
	ACRES				435		15,270	15,705
Western Great Basin	FIRES		6					6
	ACRES		2					2
Southwest	FIRES				8		19	27
	ACRES				3,555		159,608	163,163
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		26		2		3	31
	ACRES		1,646		0		1,869	3,515
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES				10			10
	ACRES				2,715			2,715
TOTAL	FIRES	2	32	1	81	0	184	300
	ACRES	0	1,648	42,800	13,566	0	245,144	303,158

**\*\*\*Changes in some agency YTD agency 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	16	5	17	41	5	12			314	105
Northern California	17	80	16	143	3	16	2		26	381
Southern California	14	3	7	1	11	8	1		87	5
Northern Rockies	1		2	2	1					
Eastern Great Basin	7	7	33	10	7	6			58	9
Western Great Basin		2	7	2	1					
Southwest	1								17	
Rocky Mountain	1		13	1	1				1	
Eastern Area										
Southern Area										
Total	57	97	95	200	29	42	3	0	503	500

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