

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2005 – 0800 MDT  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 4**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light nationally with 134 fires reported. Three new large fires were reported, one each in the Northern California, Eastern Great Basin and Southern Areas. Two large fires were contained in the Southern Area. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming.

A Presidential Disaster Declaration was issued on 8/29 for Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana. Three Area Command Teams are assigned (Williams-Rhodes, Ribar and Zimmerman). Williams-Rhodes' Team is providing Incident Management Team coordination for FEMA Region IV at the Regional Response Coordination Center in Atlanta, GA. Ribar's Team is assigned to the Louisiana Emergency Operations Center in Baton Rouge, LA. The Team is coordinating activities of the Incident Management Teams in FEMA Region VI. A transfer of command from Ribar's Team to Zimmerman's Area Command Team will occur tomorrow.

**SOUTHERN AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:**

HURRICANE KATRINA SUPPORT, Federal Emergency Management Agency. Emergency Support Function 4 are staffed at the Regional Response Coordination Center in Atlanta, GA, and state Emergency Operations Centers in Raleigh, NC, Montgomery, AL, Jackson, MS and Baton Rouge, LA. Six Type 1 Incident Management Teams (Pincha-Tulley, Gelobter, Cable, Wilcock, Molumby and Anderson) are assigned. Pincha-Tulley's Team is operating a mobilization center, base camp, and is supporting the receiving and distribution of relief supplies to six counties from Stennis Space Center in MS. Gelobter's Team is providing logistical support to FEMA Branch II for base camps at Gautier, MS, and Mobile, AL. Cable's Team is supporting emergency personnel at Jackson Square, New Orleans Convention Center and several satellite camps in and around New Orleans and southern Louisiana. Wilcock's Team has established an Incident Command Post in Selma, AL and is managing FEMA mobile trailer staging areas and supporting the allocation of trailers and mobile homes to stricken areas. Molumby's Team is at Saints Field in New Orleans operating a base camp in support of 1,700 emergency response and military personnel. Anderson's Team is assigned to New Orleans, where they are supporting the New Orleans Fire Department.

Eleven Type 2 Incident Management Teams (Jenkins, Mullenix, Smith, Thomas, Philbin, Stanford, Paul, Whalen, Sinclear, Koehler and Furlong/Gormley) are assigned. Jenkins Team is managing an evacuation center and base camp, providing services to military, state, local and federal agencies at Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport in Kenner, LA. Mullenix's Team is assisting with base camp operations and long term support at several facilities housing 5,000 people in San Antonio, TX. Smith's Team is managing a base camp and supporting receiving and distribution operations at Camp Shelby, MS. Thomas' Team is managing a base camp and supporting the military and civilian first responders at the Naval Construction Battalion Center at Gulfport, MS. Philbin's Team is managing an evacuee center in Phoenix, AZ. Registered evacuees housed at the center numbers 1,300. Stanford's Texas State Incident Management Team is jointly managing the Hammond Receiving and Distribution Center and the Harahan

Regional Staging Area with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry in Hammond and Reserve, LA. The Team is distributing relief supplies throughout eastern Louisiana. Paul's Team is managing the Louisiana Interagency Emergency Support Base camp and St. Gabriel Mortuary Support Camp at St. Gabriel and Baton Rouge, LA. Two Type 2 Incident Management Teams (Whalen and Sinclear) are clearing roadways and supporting National Forest recovery operations in Mississippi. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Furlong/Gormley) is assigned to Camp Beauregard, LA. Koehler's Florida State Incident Management Team is managing a logistical staging area at Stennis Space Center. The Team is training state personnel to take over management of the staging area.

Four Logistics Management Teams (Prevey, Floyd, Hayes and Easterling) are assigned at the following locations: Prevey's Team, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL; Floyd's Team, Bossier City, LA; Hayes' Team, Texarkana, AR and Easterlings' Team, Baton Rouge, LA. The Teams are operating mobilization centers and trailer staging areas. Three National Park Service All Risk Teams have been assigned to various areas to assist with hurricane recovery. A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service team is engaged in road clearing, community assistance, and supporting search and rescue work in LaCombe, LA.

HURRICANE OPHELIA SUPPORT, North Carolina State. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Houseman) is pre-positioned at Kinston, NC. The Team is assisting local Emergency Operations Centers and counties with requested resources.

G3-05-WF, Sabine National Wildlife Refuge. This fire is 24 miles east of Hackberry, LA in tall grass and peat. Fire behavior was minimal.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
G3-05-WF	LA	SBR	3,540	80	9/20	13	0	2	1	0	47K	FWS
WF GATORMARSH EAST	TX	AHR	1,000	100	---	8	0	3	0	0	3K	FWS
WHIPPOORWILL	KY	DBF	108	100	---	12	0	1	0	0	NR	FS

AHR - Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge

DBF - Daniel Boone National Forest

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:

CLOVER, Sonoma-Lake Napa Unit, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. This fire is three miles east of Upper Lake, CA in oak woodland. Residences and a watershed are threatened. Northwest winds produced active fire behavior with spotting and a rapid rate of spread.

HIGHWAY, Mendocino Unit, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. This fire is eight miles south of Laytonville, CA in oak litter and timber. The fire received some light precipitation. Active burning in heavy fuels under the tree canopy was reported.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
CLOVER	CA	LNU	250	0	9/20	250	14	19	3	0	60K	ST
HIGHWAY	CA	MEU	225	90	9/17	477	19	33	1	0	550K	ST

### **EASTERN GREAT BASIN AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:**

ROUND BUTTE, Idaho Falls District, Bureau of land Management. This fire started on private land 25 miles west of Blackfoot, ID in cheatgrass and sage. Residences, other structures, historic sites and wildlife habitat are threatened. Extreme fire behavior was observed.

VALLEY ROAD, Sawtooth National Forest. This fire started on private land seven miles south and east of Stanley, ID in timber. Recreation areas and wildlife habitat remain threatened. Steep, inaccessible terrain continues to hamper containment efforts. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and creeping were reported. Pockets of heavy fuels continue to burn out.

<b>INCIDENT NAME</b>	<b>ST</b>	<b>UNIT</b>	<b>SIZE</b>	<b>% CTN</b>	<b>EST CTN</b>	<b>TOTL PERS</b>	<b>CRW</b>	<b>ENG</b>	<b>HELI</b>	<b>STRC LOST</b>	<b>\$\$\$ CTD</b>	<b>ORIGIN OWN</b>
ROUND BUTTE	ID	IFD	5,000	20	9/17	75	1	12	2	0	UNK	PRI
VALLEY ROAD	ID	STF	40,868	85	9/27	120	3	1	3	3	NR	PRI

### **NORTHERN ROCKIES AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:**

ROCKIN, Bitterroot National Forest. This fire is 10 miles northwest of Darby, MT in timber. No new information was reported.

<b>INCIDENT NAME</b>	<b>ST</b>	<b>UNIT</b>	<b>SIZE</b>	<b>% CTN</b>	<b>EST CTN</b>	<b>TOTL PERS</b>	<b>CRW</b>	<b>ENG</b>	<b>HELI</b>	<b>STRC LOST</b>	<b>\$\$\$ CTD</b>	<b>ORIGIN OWN</b>
ROCKIN	MT	BRF	6,889	60	10/21	3	0	0	1	0	2.0M	FS

## OUTLOOK:

**Weather Discussion:** An upper level low pressure system will continue to move over Idaho and into Montana today with showers and thunderstorms extending from the Northern Rockies, across the northern portion of the Great Basin, and into eastern Oregon. Dry conditions and gusty winds will be a concern over the southern portion of the Great Basin, southern Wyoming, and the four-corners region. Along the Gulf Coast, scattered thunderstorms are expected over Louisiana and Mississippi with high temperatures in the 90s.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<p><b>Northern Rockies</b> West half: Much cooler with widespread wetting moisture diminishing. East half: Turning much cooler with scattered showers.</p>	<p>West of divide: 50s. East of divide: 60s. North Dakota: 60s.</p>	<p>West of divide: 40 to 60%. East of divide: 30 to 45%. North Dakota: 40 to 60%.</p>	<p>West of divide: Northwest 5 to 15 mph. East of divide: Northeast 5 to 15 mph. North Dakota: Northeast 10 to 20 mph with higher gusts.</p>
<p><b>Southern California</b> Morning low clouds and fog to the low coastal mountain slopes, otherwise mostly sunny.</p>	<p>65 to 80 mountains. 75 to 85 valleys. 80 to 90 upper deserts. 90 to 100 lower deserts.</p>	<p>15 to 30%.</p>	<p>Southwest to northwest 5 to 15 mph.</p>
<p><b>Eastern Great Basin</b> Idaho, Bridger-Teton: Mostly cloudy with scattered rain showers in the northern Idaho mountains. Northern Utah: Partly cloudy. Southern Utah, Arizona strip: Mostly sunny.</p>	<p>Idaho, Bridger-Teton: 45 to 54 mountains, 55 to 69 valleys. Northern Utah: 59 to 71 mountains, 71 to 78 valleys. Southern Utah, Arizona strip: 60 to 80 mountains, 80 to 94 valleys.</p>	<p>Idaho, Bridger-Teton: 45 to 65% mountains, 20 to 40% valleys. Northern Utah: 20 to 30% mountains, 11 to 21% valleys. Southern Utah, Arizona strip: 15 to 23% mountains, 10 to 16% valleys.</p>	<p>Idaho, Bridger-Teton: West/northwest 10 to 15 mph. Northern Utah: Northwest 15 mph west. Upslope/upvalley 4 to 8 mph east. Southern Utah, Arizona strip: South/southwest 15 mph.</p>
<p><b>Western Great Basin</b> Increasing clouds in the north with a chance of afternoon thunderstorms and evening showers near the Nevada/Idaho border. Otherwise, mostly sunny skies.</p>	<p>North valleys: 70 to 82. South valleys: 70 to 97. Mountains: 54 to 70.</p>	<p>North valleys: 12 to 24%. South valleys: 6 to 16%. Mountains: 16 to 35%.</p>	<p>Southwest to west at 8 to 15 mph with afternoon gusts of 25 to 35 mph.</p>



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

## **DOZER/TRACTOR PLOW OPERATIONS**

Dozers/tractor plows provide suppression and support capability for fire operations. When working on or around dozers on the fireline, it is important to respect the following guidelines:

- Load/unload equipment from the transport in a safe manner on a level, stable surface.
- Park transport in an area free of fuel. Clear an area if needed to protect parked equipment.
- Do not sit or bed down near equipment. Walk around the equipment before starting or moving it.
- Lower the dozer blade and/or fire plow to the ground when the equipment is idling or stopped.
- When working a dozer or tractor plow, stay at least 100 feet in front or 50 feet behind the equipment.
- Allow no one but the operator to ride on the equipment.
- Never get on or off equipment while it is moving.
- Provide front and rear lights for equipment working at night or in heavy smoke.
- Provide lights and fluorescent vests to personnel working with dozer/tractor plow units.
- Use hand signals for direction and safety. (See Fireline Handbook, Appendix A, for hand signals.)
- Do not use a dozer or tractor plow without a canopy or brush guard and radio communications.
- Operators will wear required PPE and carry a fire shelter.
- Be aware of different fuel types, rates of spread, and flammability.
- Watch for wetlands, steep slopes, rocks, ditches, and other obstacles that might stop the equipment.
- Do not get too far ahead of a firing crew during firing operations.
- Anchor the line to a secure firebreak and create a black line (burn out) until the fire is completely enclosed.
- Tractor plow operators should wear headgear protection for head, face, eyes, and ears while also providing radio reception and ventilation capabilities.
- Tractor plow crews should consist of a minimum of two people.
- When the dozer or tractor plow is equipped with a hand-clutch lever, always take equipment out of gear when mounting and dismounting.

**FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	0					1	1
	ACRES	5					0	5
Northern California	FIRES	1				20	6	27
	ACRES	1				277	0	278
Southern California	FIRES	1				9	1	11
	ACRES	0				5	0	5
Northern Rockies	FIRES					1	2	3
	ACRES					0	20	20
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		1	1		2	2	6
	ACRES		1,500	0		509	2	2,011
Western Great Basin	FIRES	1					0	1
	ACRES	3					28	31
Southwest	FIRES						3	3
	ACRES						1	1
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		2			2	3	7
	ACRES		7			5	2	14
Eastern Area	FIRES					30		30
	ACRES					8		8
Southern Area	FIRES					45		45
	ACRES					435		435
TOTAL	FIRES	3	3	1	0	109	18	134
	ACRES	9	1,507	0	0	1,239	53	2,808

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	4	96	59	16	405	28	608
	ACRES	4	1,850,279	1,637,158	3,409	847,179	337	4,338,366
Northwest	FIRES	168	228	25	35	1,242	816	2,514
	ACRES	28,026	41,411	5,787	121	71,476	98,736	245,557
Northern California	FIRES	134	30	10	15	1,709	394	2,292
	ACRES	215	24,896	14	101	23,366	4,618	53,210
Southern California	FIRES	42	111	13	46	2,177	569	2,958
	ACRES	972	5,924	136	73,814	32,410	8,690	121,946
Northern Rockies	FIRES	481	53	31	12	612	606	1,795
	ACRES	20,224	7,542	9,793	25	37,558	54,547	129,689
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	50	639	12	31	627	502	1,861
	ACRES	27,491	654,003	25	626	113,836	103,777	899,758
Western Great Basin	FIRES	7	482	19	26	93	110	737
	ACRES	30	878,041	13,312	258	112,195	8,853	1,012,689
Southwest	FIRES	1,519	345	37	52	1,293	1,473	4,719
	ACRES	34,202	158,783	9,634	364	129,761	416,383	749,127
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	280	462	30	21	535	479	1,807
	ACRES	6,865	8,653	553	25	25,556	22,948	64,600
Eastern Area	FIRES	595		36	50	10,060	541	11,282
	ACRES	7,114		1,732	953	67,135	8,236	85,170
Southern Area	FIRES	213		179	37	17,752	507	18,688
	ACRES	26,883		38,364	2,474	233,419	13,137	314,277
TOTAL	FIRES	3,493	2,446	451	341	36,505	6,025	49,261
	ACRES	152,026	3,629,532	1,716,508	82,170	1,693,891	740,262	8,014,389

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>66,437</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>4,425,158</b>

\*\*\* 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							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES				0			0
	ACRES				15			15
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1						1
	ACRES	20						20
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		0					0
	ACRES		200					200
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						485	485
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		0			2	2	4
	ACRES		2,000			2,000	834	4,834
Eastern Area	FIRES			2				2
	ACRES			100				100
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	1	0	2	0	2	3	8
	ACRES	20	2,200	100	15	2,000	1,319	5,654



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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					4		4
	ACRES					626		626
Northwest	FIRES	18	100	82	3		212	415
	ACRES	5,651	22,334	3,981	265		17,986	50,217
Northern California	FIRES	12	21	140	25		169	367
	ACRES	188	1,101	25,025	2,720		18,439	47,473
Southern California	FIRES	1	5	5	15		79	105
	ACRES	1,000	282	408	3,249		6,819	11,758
Northern Rockies	FIRES	9	28	99	3	31	256	426
	ACRES	495	3,244	22,053	22	2,131	34,671	62,616
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	21	5	3	11	45	86
	ACRES	1	6,372	1,459	31	163	12,319	20,345
Western Great Basin	FIRES		12	10			2	24
	ACRES		6,367	2,711			2,903	11,981
Southwest	FIRES	8	47	2	11		261	329
	ACRES	6,342	51,790	3,210	15,036		66,593	142,971
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	29	48	102	17	23	109	328
	ACRES	3,709	15,959	20,519	10,348	4,526	33,553	88,614
Eastern Area	FIRES	41		470	36	1,098	145	1,790
	ACRES	17,625		68,281	4,423	69,501	35,835	195,665
Southern Area	FIRES	34		157	58	404	1,113	1,766
	ACRES	7,180		83,558	54,868	270,630	900,468	1,316,704
TOTAL	FIRES	153	282	1,072	171	1,571	2,391	5,640
	ACRES	42,191	107,449	231,205	90,962	347,577	1,129,586	1,948,970

\*\*\* 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			2	13			15
	ACRES			27,225	141,624			168,849
Northwest	FIRES				1		1	2
	ACRES				2		36,750	36,752
Northern California	FIRES				2		5	7
	ACRES				1		1	2
Southern California	FIRES				12		14	26
	ACRES				8,690		2,211	10,901
Northern Rockies	FIRES				10		77	87
	ACRES				55		63,035	63,090
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES				3		90	93
	ACRES				166		76,706	76,872
Western Great Basin	FIRES		8		1			9
	ACRES		1		140			141
Southwest	FIRES	1			2	1	35	39
	ACRES	3,680			9,308	5	105,868	118,861
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		34		5	2	9	50
	ACRES		2,581		1	1,762	1,919	6,263
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES				13			13
	ACRES				3,641			3,641
TOTAL	FIRES	1	42	2	62	3	231	341
	ACRES	3,680	2,582	27,225	163,628	1,767	286,490	485,372

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

**CANADA FIRES AND HECTARES:**

PROVINCES	FIRES LAST WEEK	HECTARES LAST WEEK	FIRES YEAR-TO-DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO-DATE
British Columbia	12	0	918	34,882
Yukon Territory	0	0	82	187,438
Alberta	14	1	1,262	60,508
Northwest Territory	0	21,105	259	224,095
Saskatchewan	0	0	320	213,523
Manitoba	0	0	245	72,680
Ontario	102	62	1,827	42,274
Quebec	61	1,585	1,332	833,266
Newfoundland	5	0	144	21,429
New Brunswick	14	2	303	284
Nova Scotia	4	2	275	506
Prince Edward Island	0	0	10	42
National Parks	2	7	90	36,333
<b>Total</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>22,764</b>	<b>7,067</b>	<b>1,727,260</b>

\*\*\*Weekly reports will be provided starting 9/7/05.\*\*\*

**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	2	1	13		2	2	1		2	1
Northern California	16	27	12	49		4	3			60
Southern California							5			
Northern Rockies	2		3	3	3	1	1		32	
Eastern Great Basin	5		21	4	8		4		37	4
Western Great Basin			3		1					
Southwest										
Rocky Mountain	1	1	5	2	1		1		11	5
Eastern Area					1				8	
Southern Area			6			1	1		15	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>71</b>

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