

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Sunday, July 23, 2017 – 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 4**

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity:	Light (169) new fires
New large incidents:	7
Large fires contained:	6
Uncontained large fires:**	35
Area Command Teams Committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	0
Type 1 IMTs committed:	4
Type 2 IMTs committed:	9

**Uncontained large fires include only fires being managed under a full suppression strategy.
[Link](#) to Geographic Area daily reports.

One MAFFS C-130 airtanker and support personnel from the 152nd Airlift Wing, (Nevada Air National Guard) has been deployed to Fresno, CA in support of wildland fire operations.

Active Incident Resource Summary						
GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AICC	5	140,810.6	3	0	1	98
NWCC	13	35,651	34	90	14	1,299
ONCC	6	92,692	6	28	4	462
OSCC	9	190,097	130	602	34	6,731
NRCC	46	172,897.8	66	160	30	2,771
GBCC	19	236,183	24	84	14	1,232
SWCC	7	127,933	0	5	1	63
RMCC	10	25,385.2	12	26	9	587
EACC	1	3,577	0	10	1	35
SACC	3	4,400	0	4	0	14
Total	119	1,029,626.6	275	1,009	108	13,292

Northern Rockies Area (PL 4)

New fires:	26
New large incidents:	1
Uncontained large fires:	19
Type 1 IMTs committed	2
Type 2 IMTs committed	5

Lodgepole Complex (4 fires), Miles City Field Office, BLM. IMT 2 (Connell). Includes previously reported South Breaks, Bridge Coulee, Square Butte and Barker fires. Fifty-two miles northwest of Jordan, MT. Timber,

brush and short grass. Extreme fire behavior with running and torching. Sage-grouse habitat and structures threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect.

Chinn, Central Land Office, Montana DNR. Started on county land 12 miles south of White Sulphur Springs, MT. Timber, brush and tall grass. Extreme fire behavior with running and flanking. Structures threatened.

Goat Creek, Lolo NF. IMT 2 (Leach). IMT is also managing the Little Hogback and Sliderock fires. Nine miles southeast of Clinton, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior with backing, creeping and torching. Structures threatened. Evacuations, road, trail and area closures in effect.

Little Hogback, Lolo NF. Twenty miles northwest of Stevensville, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior with backing, creeping and group torching. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Sliderock, Lolo NF. Twenty-eight miles southeast of Missoula, MT. Timber and closed timber litter. Active fire behavior with backing, creeping and isolated torching. Structures threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Whetstone Ridge, Beaverhead/Deerlodge NF. Twenty-five miles southwest of Philipsburg, MT. Timber and heavy logging slash. Active fire behavior with group torching and short-range spotting. Area closures in effect.

Sunrise, Lolo NF. IMT 2 (Pearson). IMT is also managing the Burdette fire. Eleven miles east of Superior, MT. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with running and torching. Structures threatened. Road closures in effect. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

Burdette, Lolo NF. Thirteen miles southeast of Tarkio, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior.

Meyers, Beaverhead/Deerlodge NF. IMT 1 (Turman) Twenty-five miles southwest of Philipsburg, MT. Timber and logging slash. Active fire behavior with spotting and torching. Area closures in effect.

Park Creek, Helena-Lewis and Clark NF. IMT 2 (Hutton). IMT is also managing Arrastra Creek fire. Two miles north of Lincoln, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior with running, backing and spotting. Structures threatened. Area closures in effect.

Arrastra Creek, Helena NF. Six miles northwest of Lincoln, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior with running, backing and short-range spotting. Area closures in effect.

Powerline, Craig Mountain Area, IDL. IMT 2 (Almas). IMT is also managing the Corral Creek fire. Fifteen miles west of Winchester, ID. Brush and grass. Moderate fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened. Road and area closures in effect.

Corral Creek, Craig Mountain Area, IDL. Fifteen miles east of Anatone, ID. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Road and area closures in effect.

Lolo Peak, Lolo NF. IMT 1 (Poncin). Nine miles west of Carlton, MT. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and single-tree torching. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Lookout, Central Land Office, Montana DNR. Seven miles northwest of Sieben, MT. Timber. Minimal fire behavior.

* **Yooper**, Miles City Field Office, BLM. Started on private land 34 miles northwest of Sidney, MT. Timber. Moderate fire behavior. Structures threatened.

Crying, Petroleum County. Twenty miles northwest of Benzien, MT. Timber, brush and short grass. Active fire behavior with backing, flanking and creeping. Structures threatened. Evacuations in effect.

Microwave, Crow Agency, BIA. Thirty-seven miles southeast of Billings, MT. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior.

Magpie, Dakota Prairie National Grasslands. Forty-four miles northwest of Dickinson, ND. Brush and short grass. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

Coyote, Northern Cheyenne Agency, BIA. Twenty-two miles southwest of Ashland, MT. Timber and short grass. Minimal fire behavior. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

Sage Hills, Yellowstone County. Four miles south of Billings, MT. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Residences threatened. Road closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Lodgepole Complex	MT-MCD	200,000	75,000	0	Comp	08/02	153	0	3	23	0	12	955K	BLM
Chinn	MT-CES	3,300	2,300	15	Ctn	07/28	154	119	3	14	4	0	600K	CNTY
Goat Creek	MT-LNF	968	525	0	Ctn	10/15	0	0	0	0	0	0	20K	FS
Little Hogback	MT-LNF	1,957	238	0	Ctn	10/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	132K	FS
Sliderock	MT-LNF	370	23	5	Comp	10/15	295	60	7	12	4	1	2.5M	FS
Whetstone Ridge	MT-BDF	1,344	346	0	Ctn	10/21	54	-31	0	0	2	0	650K	FS
Sunrise	MT-LNF	800	-200	0	Ctn	09/30	200	65	7	0	3	0	1.5M	FS
Burdette	MT-LNF	440	330	0	Ctn	09/30	34	17	2	0	0	0	250K	FS
Meyers	MT-BDF	838	149	0	Ctn	10/21	60	20	2	0	1	0	420K	FS
Park Creek	MT-HLF	2,802	77	18	Comp	09/30	202	-16	2	9	3	0	1.7M	FS
Arrastra Creek	MT-HLF	2,336	237	10	Comp	09/30	61	58	2	2	0	0	126K	FS
Powerline	ID-CMS	38,698	618	20	Ctn	07/31	164	0	6	5	3	0	2.1M	ST
Corral Creek	ID-CMS	1,826	0	85	Ctn	07/26	469	22	13	12	2	0	2.9M	ST
Lolo Peak	MT-LNF	397	148	0	Ctn	09/09	72	72	1	0	0	0	250K	FS
Lookout	MT-CES	320	-70	98	Ctn	07/26	171	-112	5	0	2	0	2.3M	ST
* Yooper	MT-MCD	7,817	---	30	Ctn	07/24	39	---	0	15	1	0	15K	PRI
Crying	MT-LG55	7,925	1,942	30	Ctn	07/24	82	1	1	15	2	2	442K	CNTY
Microwave	MT-CRA	5,906	-2,094	91	Ctn	07/23	18	1	0	6	0	0	100K	BIA
Magpie	ND-DPF	4,907	0	94	Ctn	UNK	17	-1	0	4	0	0	910K	FS
Coyote	MT-NCA	795	-705	95	Ctn	07/23	33	24	1	4	0	0	5K	BIA
Sage Hills	MT-LG03	1,092	0	90	Ctn	UNK	24	-59	0	8	0	0	425K	CNTY
* Basin Creek	MT-MCD	865	---	100	Ctn	---	5	---	0	2	0	0	5K	BLM

Great Basin Area (PL 4)

New fires:	24
New large incidents:	1
Uncontained large fires:	5
Type 2 IMTs committed	2

Missouri, Payette NF. IMT 2 (Roide). Four miles northeast of Yellow Pine, ID. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with backing, flanking and isolated torching. Residences threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Wildcat, Salt Lake Field Office, BLM. Twelve miles northeast of Park Valley, UT. Timber, brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior. Sage-grouse habitat threatened. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Cedar Mountain, Salt Lake Field Office, BLM. Twenty-three miles west of Grantsville, UT. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior.

Four Seasons Complex (2 fires), Elko District, BLM. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (Goff) back to the local unit will occur today. IMT is also managing the Roosters Comb fire. Started on state land 50 miles north of Battle Mountain, NV. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior.

* **Etna**, Bear River Area, Utah DOF. Two miles southeast of Etna, UT. Timber, brush and short grass. Moderate fire behavior. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Roosters Comb, Northern Region, Nevada DOF. Twenty-five miles north of Battle Mountain, NV. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior.

MM155, Winnemucca District, BLM. Twenty-one miles southwest of Winnemucca, NV. Brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior. Sage-grouse habitat threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Missouri	ID-PAF	1,276	14	18	Comp	10/01	436	33	12	6	6	0	2.7M	FS
Wildcat	UT-SLD	13,184	12,184	90	Comp	07/24	129	11	0	17	1	0	350K	BLM
Cedar Mountain	UT-SLD	21,372	0	95	Ctn	07/23	68	-85	2	3	1	0	863K	BLM
Four Seasons Complex	NV-EKD	159,986	0	96	Comp	07/24	295	-100	3	10	4	0	4.3M	BLM
* Etna	UT-BRS	703	---	50	Comp	07/23	52	---	0	8	1	0	165K	ST
Roosters Comb	NV-NNS	218,380	0	95	Ctn	07/24	0	0	0	0	0	0	4M	ST
MM155	NV-WID	22,360	0	97	Ctn	07/24	43	2	1	4	0	0	2.4M	BLM
Onaqui Mountain Complex	UT-SLD	37,974	0	100	Comp	---	96	-56	3	4	0	0	1.9M	BLM
Grass Valley	NV-WID	11,590	0	100	Ctn	---	46	-184	1	4	1	2	1.4M	BLM

Southern California Area (PL 4)

New fires: 18
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 3
 Type 1 IMTs committed 2

Detwiler, Merced-Mariposa Unit, Cal Fire. Cal Fire IMT 1 (Derum). Fifteen miles northwest of Mariposa, CA. Brush and tall grass. Moderate fire behavior with creeping . Residences threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect.

Whittier, Los Padres NF. IMT 1 (von Tillow). Eleven miles northeast of Goleta, CA. Chaparral and brush. Moderate fire behavior. Residences threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Park, Fresno-Kings Unit, Cal Fire. Transfer of command from IMT 1 (Patterson) back to the local unit occurred yesterday. Four miles south of Parkfield Junction, CA. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Detwiler	CA-MMU	75,500	500	40	Ctn	08/05	4,645	237	86	501	20	131	27.9M	ST
Whittier	CA-LPF	18,430	0	87	Ctn	07/31	806	-235	18	23	10	46	33.6M	FS
Park	CA-FKU	1,649	0	95	Ctn	UNK	727	-354	17	35	1	0	6.6M	ST

Rocky Mountain Area (PL 2)

New fires: 29
 New large incidents: 1
 Uncontained large fires: 4
 Type 2 IMTs committed 1

June, Shoshone NF. IMT 2 (Greer). Thirty-four miles west of Cody, WY. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and single-tree torching. Residences threatened. Trail closures in effect.

* **Spring Glade**, Larimer County. One mile south of Fort Collins, CO. Grass. Active fire behavior. Residences threatened. Evacuations in effect.

Keystone, Medicine Bow NF. Thirty-five miles southwest of Laramie, WY. Timber and medium logging slash. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Gutzler, White River NF. Thirteen miles southwest of Kremmling, CO. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Residences threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
June	WY-SHF	1,938	0	17	Ctn	09/30	271	38	6	5	4	0	1.3M	FS
* Spring Glade	CO-LRX	325	---	40	Ctn	07/26	125	---	3	15	1	0	200K	CNTY
Keystone	WY-MBF	2,520	0	75	Ctn	07/31	102	-50	1	3	2	1	12.7M	FS
Gutzler	CO-WRF	974	0	50	Ctn	08/04	20	7	0	1	1	0	1.6M	FS

Northern California Area (PL 3)

New fires: 28
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 1
 Type 2 IMTs committed 1

Marble, Six Rivers NF. IMT 2 (Young.) Transfer of command from IMT 2 (Young) back to the local unit will occur on 7/24. Seven miles north of Somes Bar, CA. Timber. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Marble	CA-SRF	316	36	55	Ctn	07/28	307	21	4	23	4	0	1M	FS

Northwest Area (PL 3)

New fires: 27
 New large incidents: 1
 Uncontained large fires: 2

400, Southeast Region, Washington DNR. Started on DOD land four miles west of Mattawa, WA. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior.

* **Horn Butte 0594**, Prineville District, BLM. Four miles east of Arlington, OR. Brush and short grass. Moderate fire behavior with running and torching. Structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
400	WA-SES	24,650	1,450	90	Ctn	07/26	196	-28	3	16	2	0	602K	DOD
* Horn Butte 0594	OR-PRD	3,300	---	50	Ctn	07/23	12	---	0	4	1	0	50K	BLM
Redford Canyon	WA-COA	722	-78	100	Ctn	---	196	-151	5	9	0	0	2.4M	BIA

COA – Colville Agency, BIA

Southern Area (PL 1)

New fires: 1
 New large incidents: 1
 Uncontained large fires: 1

* **Bowers Ranch**, Texas A&M Forest Service. Started on private land eight miles northeast of Borger, TX. Brush and tall grass. Active fire behavior.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Bowers Ranch	TX-TXS	1,000	---	5	Ctn	07/24	5	---	0	0	0	0	1K	PRI
Harmon Co. River	OK-OKS	3,000	0	100	Ctn	---	8	-45	0	4	0	0	24K	ST

OKS – Oklahoma DOF

Southwest Area (PL 2)

New fires: 12
 New large incidents: 1
 Uncontained large fires: 0

* **Peggy**, Santa Fe NF. Two miles west of Gilman, NM. Timber litter and brush. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and isolated torching. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Peggy	NM-SNF	160	---	20	Comp	08/05	15	---	0	0	0	0	15K	FS

Eastern Area (PL 1)

New fires: 0
New large incidents: 0
Uncontained large fires: 0

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Penn Swamp	NJ-NJS	3,577	777	100	Ctn	---	35	-5	0	10	1	0	13K	ST

NJS – New Jersey Forest Fire Service

Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
	ACRES	0	10,479	0	0	0	0	10,479
Northwest Area	FIRES	0	1	1	0	15	10	27
	ACRES	0	0	1	0	30	38	69
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	2	0	0	23	3	28
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	16	3	19
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	15	3	18
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	193	80	273
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	17	8	26
	ACRES	0	10,008	0	0	521	10	10,539
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	12	0	0	5	7	24
	ACRES	0	253	0	0	10,006	46	10,305
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	3	0	1	3	5	12
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	5	98	103
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	1	9	0	0	13	6	29
	ACRES	1	4	0	0	359	9	373
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
TOTAL FIRES:		1	32	1	1	92	42	169
TOTAL ACRES:		1	20,744	1	0	11,131	284	32,161

Fires and Acres Year-to-Date (by Protection):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	157	0	0	150	11	318
	ACRES	0	452,367	0	0	80,997	1	533,365
Northwest Area	FIRES	126	87	21	7	543	303	1,087
	ACRES	3,819	46,605	748	1	15,635	3,449	70,257
Northern California Area	FIRES	30	9	2	5	1,368	168	1,582
	ACRES	28	13,124	70	5	17,053	2,785	33,065
Southern California Area	FIRES	151	42	1	12	2,261	212	2,679
	ACRES	183	616	0	6	117,125	41,958	159,888
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	520	62	11	4	633	290	1,520
	ACRES	16,325	232,293	415	24	61,379	12,248	322,684
Great Basin Area	FIRES	21	505	4	27	509	176	1,242
	ACRES	289	789,488	2	37	338,166	70,098	1,198,080
Southwest Area	FIRES	588	193	10	31	609	710	2,141
	ACRES	45,676	22,381	191	1,319	112,091	299,866	481,524
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	526	205	7	12	552	249	1,551
	ACRES	2,663	35,665	202	110	476,264	7,054	521,958
Eastern Area	FIRES	343	0	13	14	3,056	277	3,703
	ACRES	696	0	19	129	12,900	3,110	16,854
Southern Area	FIRES	256	8	42	26	19,506	352	20,190
	ACRES	60,251	36	151,442	53,054	1,292,528	25,698	1,583,009
TOTAL FIRES:		2,561	1,268	111	138	29,187	2,748	36,013
TOTAL ACRES:		129,930	1,592,575	153,089	54,685	2,524,138	466,267	4,920,684

Ten Year Average Fires (2007 – 2016 as of today)	39,509
Ten Year Average Acres (2007 – 2016 as of today)	3,423,709

Prescribed Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Ownership):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern California Area	FIRES	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	41	41
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	8	0	8
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	807	0	807
TOTAL FIRES:		1	0	0	0	8	1	10
TOTAL ACRES:		0	0	0	0	807	41	848

Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date (by Ownership):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	6	1	7
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	64,850	100	64,950
Northwest Area	FIRES	5	11	4	1	0	70	91
	ACRES	1,298	1,336	4,761	38	0	11,523	18,956
Northern California Area	FIRES	1	5	6	11	0	91	114
	ACRES	0	654	239	258	0	9,953	11,104
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	3	5	4	0	152	164
	ACRES	0	62	464	504	0	4,252	5,282
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	6	11	42	6	13	93	171
	ACRES	462	3,820	18,690	752	1,389	6,413	31,526
Great Basin Area	FIRES	3	18	5	6	30	63	125
	ACRES	24	1,628	933	43	802	12,765	16,195
Southwest Area	FIRES	21	32	2	5	5	83	148
	ACRES	2,856	46,871	4,894	1,639	6,105	59,903	122,268
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	17	31	35	10	67	84	244
	ACRES	741	3,013	18,304	2,370	2,664	37,488	64,580
Eastern Area	FIRES	51	0	169	22	1,189	175	1,606
	ACRES	26,679	0	26,117	6,148	97,062	65,103	221,109
Southern Area	FIRES	48	0	122	28	58,460	686	59,344
	ACRES	6,894	0	94,771	133,644	1,472,284	624,000	2,331,593
TOTAL FIRES:		152	111	390	93	59,770	1,498	62,014
TOTAL ACRES:		38,954	57,384	169,173	145,396	1,645,156	831,500	2,887,563

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

***Additional wildfire information is available through the Geographic Areas at <http://gacc.nifc.gov/>

Canada Fires and Hectares

PROVINCES	FIRES YESTERDAY	HECTARES YESTERDAY	FIRES YEAR- TO-DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO-DATE
BRITISH COLUMBIA	14	203	726	361,801
YUKON TERRITORY	0	0	87	316,173
ALBERTA	6	0	775	3,040
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	3	12,985	127	132,283
SASKATCHEWAN	4	73	120	503
MANITOBA	6	361	119	25,988
ONTARIO	3	2,854	167	44,336
QUEBEC	2	1	164	33,548
NEWFOUNDLAND	1	28	53	688
NEW BRUNSWICK	4	0	76	33
NOVA SCOTIA	1	0	143	720
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	4	7
NATIONAL PARKS	0	127	102	40,433
TOTALS	44	16,632	2,663	959,553

* 1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: Critical fire weather conditions are possible across Northern California, northern Nevada, Oregon and Idaho as a strong disturbance moves inland from the coast producing scattered, strong storms capable of producing significant lightning. Further inland, widely scattered wet and dry storms are expected from the Four Corners region north into southwestern Montana. As has been the case the past couple of weeks, storms over Arizona and New Mexico may be very wet and capable of producing localized flash flooding. Breezy winds will continue across the Great lakes region as a weak dry front moves east toward the East Coast. Scattered showers will continue across the Alaskan interior as a moist westerly flow continues over the state.

<http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/outlooks/outlooks.htm>



This Day in History is a brief summary of a powerful learning opportunity and is not intended to second guess or be judgmental of decisions and actions. Put yourself in the following situation as if you do not know what the outcome will be. What are the conditions? What are you thinking? What are YOU doing?

Helicopter Accident – Elk Fire, California – July 23rd 2007

Incident Summary: A handcrew is assigned to mop up on the Elk Complex. The crew's superintendent requests blivets through the division supervisor (DIVS) to support the operation. A medium helicopter will longline the blivets.

Two days before the accident - The DIVS anchors a fluorescent panel to the ground (used for indicating landing and drop zones) for the handcrew to use. The terrain in the area contains steep slopes and trees from 75 to 200 feet tall.

Day before the accident - The crew prepares for blivet delivery. The location of the panel remains as placed by the DIVS. The helicopter makes the blivet drop close to the panel. The crew member who is marshaling warns the pilot about the proximity of one tree located to the right and upslope. Concerned with their own safety, two ground crew members distance themselves from the blivet drop. The division safety officer visits the site after the blivet delivery. There was no discussion regarding the drop zone location or recognized hazards. At the After Action Review (AAR) in camp that evening, there is no mention of it. Additional blivets and back haul are requested by the crew superintendent through the DIVS for the following day.

Day of the accident - The pilot is informed that he would be delivering more blivets to the same drop zone. Two crew members, not the same from the previous day, staff the drop site. The panel remains in the same location as the previous day. Though the helicopter is equipped with a 150ft longline, the marshaller communicates with the DIVS that a longer longline is recommended. By the time the recommendation is transmitted to the helibase, the helicopter is enroute with blivets. Due to radio traffic, the marshaller and pilot did not communicate until the helicopter is on final approach to the drop site. Crew members witness the helicopter drift right as the blivets were set down, and the main rotor striking the tall tree.

The longline and the blivets remain attached as the helicopter turns left and flies downhill impacting trees as it falls to the ground. The helicopter is destroyed. Though crew members attempt to provide assistance, the pilot is killed.

Lessons Learned Discussion Points

Lookouts – In medium helicopters many pilots fly external load missions from the left seat, leaning left out the bubble window. This decreases the pilots ability to see to the right of the aircraft. As ground personnel working with helicopters, you may have a view of hazards that the pilot does not.

- *If you are giving a new pilot a briefing about hazards in **your** area, what will your emphasis points be?*

Communications – During a post-accident interview two crew members stated that they were so concerned about the potential for an accident that they briefed each other three times on what action would be taken in the event of an accident.

- *Discuss some of the reasons that people do not speak up when they see something wrong.*
- *During your work today, you may only get one chance to communicate a hazard before an accident happens. Identify how you and your crew will combat the reluctance to verbalize hazards.*

There was a wider open spot down the line a short ways that would have made a better drop site, but the DIVS had placed the panel in a convenient spot for the crews and did not communicate that he did not intend it to be the drop site for the blivets.

- *Discuss how your crew leader wants crew members to speak up with questions, ideas and solutions.*

Escape Routes – We strive to work as safe as possible, but when things go wrong we need a way out. Just as with fire and felling, pilots in aircraft and the ground crews working with them need to establish escape routes for the aircraft and the ground crew.

Safety Circle - The helicopter's main rotor impacted the top 15 feet of a 165ft tree. This means the helicopter's safety circle was not big enough to remain clear of hazards. (A safety circle is generally recognized as 1 ½ times the rotor diameter and are used for keeping a safe distance from hazards both on the ground and in flight).

- *Using your IRPG, identify the minimum size of a safety circle for a medium helicopter.*
 - *What are some ways to estimate the height of a tree?*
 - *What are some options you have as a ground crew to improve a drop site with a hazardous tree?*
 - *What are some options you have as a ground crew if you have an unsafe condition at the drop site and the helicopter is enroute?*
 - *What immediate actions do you take as a ground crew at a drop site if the helicopter is getting too close to a hazard?*
- Could asking the pilot to do a recon of the drop site have potentially changed the outcome of this accident*

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

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