

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Wednesday, September 4, 2019 – 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 2**

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity:	Light (158 new fires)
New large incidents:	5
Large fires contained:	6
Uncontained large fires:***	15
Area Command teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	2
Type 1 IMTs committed:	4
Type 2 IMTs committed:	4

Nationally, there are 36 large fires being managed under a strategy other than full suppression.

*** Uncontained large fires include only fires being managed under a full suppression strategy.

Resources mobilized to Southern Area in support of Hurricane Dorian recovery efforts:

- * NIMO (Atlanta) and two fire suppression crews staged in FL.
- * IMT 1 (NR Team 2) and two fire suppression crews staged in GA.
- * IMT 1 (SA Blue Team) and two fire suppression crews staged in NC.

Link to Geographic Area daily reports.

Link to Understanding the IMSR.

Active Incident Resource Summary						
GACC	Incidents	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AICC	6	217,414	43	57	14	1,549
NWCC	8	17,299	16	18	8	762
ONCC	1	3,380	2	0	0	52
OSCC	5	7,124	19	30	6	734
NRCC	6	10,367	3	17	6	199
GBCC	19	32,110	34	65	22	1,286
SWCC	11	36,152	10	24	3	363
RMCC	7	26,223	11	28	9	546
EACC	0	0	0	0	0	0
SACC	9	24,219	0	23	2	2,430
Total	72	374,281	138	262	70	7921

Alaska Area (PL 2)

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

Swan Lake, Kenai Kodiak Area, Alaska DOF. IMT 1 (GB Team 1). IMT is also managing the Caribou Lake incident. Started on FWS land five miles northeast of Sterling, AK. Timber, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with single tree torching, creeping and smoldering. Numerous structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Caribou Lake, Kenai-Kodiak Area, Alaska DOF. Seven miles northwest of Fox River, AK. Heavy logging slash, timber and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened.

McKinley, Mat-Su Area, Alaska DOF. IMT 2 (NR Team 7). Started on private land 18 miles north of Willow, AK. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and single tree torching. Numerous residences threatened. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Deshka Landing, Mat-Su Area, Alaska DOF. IMT 2 (NW Team 10). Seven miles southwest of Willow, AK. Timber, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Tokaina 2, Valdez-Copper River Area, Alaska DOF. Previously reported incident. Thirty-two miles southwest of Glennallen, AK. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with creeping, smoldering and isolated torching. Structures threatened. Last narrative 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			
Swan Lake	AK-KKS	162,179	0	29	Comp	10/1	719	9	20	24	7	0	38.8M	FWS
Caribou Lake	AK-KKS	904	0	92	Ctn	9/8	78	0	3	1	2	0	1.65M	ST
McKinley	AK-MSS	3,289	0	95	Ctn	10/1	536	0	14	32	2	139	9M	PRI
Deshka Landing	AK-MSS	1,318	0	95	Ctn	12/31	191	0	6	1	2	0	3.4M	ST
Tokaina 2	AK-CRS	10,175	5,195	0	Comp	9/30	5	1	0	0	1	0	658K	ST
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Ethel Creek	AK-SWS	31,000	0	0	Comp	UNK	0	-8	0	0	0	0	369K	ST
Levelock	AK-SWS	8,549	0	5	Comp	UNK	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.1M	TRI
Lower Klutuk	AK-SWS	4,699	0	0	Comp	10/14	0	0	0	0	0	0	2K	BLM
Tokaina Creek	AK-CRS	823	---	0	Comp	9/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	13K	ST
Tokaina 3	AK-CRS	156	---	0	Comp	9/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	2K	ST

SWS – Southwest Area, Alaska DOF

Northwest Area (PL 2)

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

204 Cow, Malheur NF, USFS. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (NW Team 9) to NIMO (Boise) will occur tomorrow. Seventeen miles southwest of Unity, OR. Timber, closed timber litter and brush. Moderate fire behavior with flanking, group torching and spotting. Structures threatened. Area and road closures in effect.

Box, Malheur NF, USFS. Thirty miles northwest of Burns, OR. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and creeping

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
204 Cow	OR-MAF	8,452	586	55	Comp	10/15	624	-28	12	9	7	0	8.3M	FS
Box	OR-MAF	100	0	25	Ctn	9/6	16	0	0	5	0	0	40K	FS
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Granite Gulch	OR-WWF	5,400	200	0	Comp	10/31	15	0	0	0	1	0	440K	FS
Devore Creek	WA-OWF	630	---	0	Comp	11/30	3	---	0	0	0	0	1.1M	FS
South Fork Creek	WA-OWF	160	---	10	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	15K	FS

WWF – Wallowa-Whitman NF, USFS OWF – Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, USFS

Great Basin Area (PL 2)

New fires: 18
 New large incidents: 2
 Uncontained large fires: 5

* **Green Ravine**, Salt Lake Field Office, BLM. One mile east of Lakepoint, UT. Brush and short grass. Active fire behavior with uphill runs. Structures threatened. Area closures in effect.

Cherry, Humbolt-Toiyabe NF, USFS. Fifty miles south of Elko, NV. Brush. Extreme fire behavior with wind-driven runs, short-range spotting and crowning. Structures and Sage-grouse habitat threatened.

* **George**, Arizona Strip Field Office, BLM. Forty miles south of St. George, UT. Chaparral, brush and tall grass. Active fire behavior with isolated torching, backing and smoldering.

Nethker, Payette NF, USFS. Thirty miles northeast of McCall, ID. Timber and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Cove Creek, Salmon-Challis NF, USFS. Twenty-seven miles northwest of Salmon, ID. Timber and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened. Trail closures in effect. No new information.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
*Green Ravine	UT-SLD	500	---	0	Ctn	9/7	101	---	2	5	2	0	250K	BLM
Cherry	NV-HTF	2,000	0	0	Ctn	9/9	290	0	6	20	2	0	300K	FS
*George	AZ-ASD	567	---	0	Ctn	9/5	42	---	1	2	1	0	250K	BLM
Nethker	ID-PAF	2,360	0	98	Ctn	9/8	41	-1	1	2	1	0	13.1M	FS
Cove Creek	ID-SCF	5,332	---	79	Ctn	9/30	25	---	1	2	1	0	5.5M	FS
Saddle Butte	WY-TDX	255	5	100	Ctn	---	64	-20	1	5	1	0	280K	CNTY
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Little Bear	UT-DIF	2,669	27	55	Comp	9/14	97	-3	3	5	1	0	815K	FS
Smith Knob	ID-PAF	425	0	0	Comp	10/1	37	-18	1	0	1	0	200K	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Mammoth	UT-MLF	600	-200	60	Comp	10/1	68	0	2	4	1	0	NR	FS
Shady	ID-SCF	6,201	100	0	Comp	10/31	15	-16	0	1	1	0	395K	FS
Trumbull	AZ-ASD	2,925	---	0	Comp	9/5	88	---	3	1	1	0	500K	BLM
Park Ridge	UT-FIF	186	---	35	Comp	9/15	6	---	0	1	0	0	155K	FS

TDX – Teton County DIF – Dixie NF, USFS MLF – Manti-La Sal NF, USFS FIF – Fishlake NF, USFS

Rocky Mountain (PL 2)

New fires: 7
 New large incidents: 1
 Uncontained large fires: 2
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

Pedro Mountain, Rawlins Field Office, BLM. Forty miles north of Rawlins, WY. Timber, brush and short grass. Moderate fire behavior with backing and creeping. Structures and sage-grouse habitat threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect.

* **Fishhawk**, Shoshone NF, USFS. IMT 2 (RM Team Blue) mobilizing. Forty-two miles west of Cody, WY. Timber. Extreme fire behavior with crowning, short-range spotting and wind-driven runs. Structures threatened. Area and trail closures in effect.

Currant, Rock Springs Field Office, BLM. Twenty-six miles southwest of Rock Springs, WY. Brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Pedro Mountain	WY-RAD	21,463	633	60	Ctn	9/10	292	-72	5	21	3	7	6M	BLM
* Fishhawk	WY-SHF	4,034	---	0	Comp	10/31	29	---	0	3	2	0	40K	FS
Currant	WY-RSD	383	0	50	Ctn	9/4	84	-9	4	4	0	0	NR	BLM
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Middle Mamm	CO-WRF	250	---	1	Comp	10/31	71	---	1	0	1	0	150K	FS
Reveille	CO-PSF	230	---	80	Comp	UNK	1	---	0	0	0	0	2.7M	FS

WRF – White River NF, USFS PSF – Pike and San Isabel NF, USFS

Southern California Area (PL 2)

New fires: 24
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 1

Broder, Sequoia NF, USFS. Twelve miles west of Haiwee, CA. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with creeping and smoldering.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Broder	CA-SQF	370	20	30	Ctn	9/21	72	-20	2	1	1	0	571K	FS
Creek	CA-TUU	756	0	100	Ctn	---	185	-143	9	11	0	0	1.2M	ST

Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Cow	CA-INF	1,875	75	30	Comp	10/11	73	-23	0	0	2	0	1.8M	FS
Springs	CA-INF	3,844	---	50	Comp	10/1	176	---	2	7	1	0	4.9M	FS

TUU – Tulare Unit, Cal Fire INF – Inyo NF, USFS

Southern Area (PL 3)

New fires: 44
 New large incidents: 1
 Uncontained large fires: 0
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 1

Hurricane Dorian, Florida Forest Service. Eastern Seaboard of Florida. Florida State IMT 1 (Red Team) staged in Orlando, FL to manage support and coordination for FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Force operations in Florida. Evacuations in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Hurricane Dorian	FL-FLS	N/A	---	N/A	N/A	---	2348	966	0	0	0	0	N/A	ST
Haverlah	TX-TXS	1,480	0	100	Ctn	---	6	-11	0	1	0	0	NR	PRI
* Gene Wilburn RD	GA-GAS	114	---	100	Ctn	---	4	---	0	1	0	0	1K	ST

TXS – Texas A&M Forest Service GAS – Georgia Forestry Commission

Southwest Area (PL 2)

New fires: 11
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 2

Champion, San Carlos Agency, BIA. Eleven miles NE of Globe, AZ. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering.

Clair, Tonto NF, USFS. Eleven miles north of Rio Verde, AZ. Brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Champion	AZ-SCA	1,986	0	65	Ctn	9/4	16	-4	1	2	0	0	65K	BIA
Clair	AZ-TNF	680	0	90	Ctn	9/5	31	-13	1	1	0	0	600K	FS
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Redondo	NM-BAP	317	0	80	Comp	9/9	4	-27	0	1	0	0	225K	NPS
Sheridan	AZ-PNF	21,510	---	49	Comp	9/15	100	---	1	6	1	0	3.5M	FS
Buckhorn	AZ-A3S	1,900	---	85	Comp	UNK	31	---	1	2	0	0	49K	ST
Ikes	AZ-GCP	6,500	---	80	Comp	9/15	32	---	0	3	1	0	1.9M	NPS
Saber	AZ-COF	3,283	---	75	Comp	9/15	4	---	0	1	0	0	745K	FS
Cueva	NM-SNF	1,176	---	90	Comp	9/6	42	---	1	2	1	0	177K	FS
Castle	AZ-KNF	19,368	---	96	Comp	9/15	64	---	1	6	0	0	5.2M	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Triple Nickle	NM-CIF	8,063	0	100	Comp	---	39	-35	2	0	1	0	1.4M	FS

BAP – Bandelier National Monument, NPS PNF – Prescott NF, USFS A3S – Southeast District, Arizona DOF
GCP – Grand Canyon NP, NPS COF – Coconino NF, USFS SNF – Santa Fe NF, USFS KNF – Kaibab NF, USFS
CIF – Cibola NF, USFS

Northern California Area (PL 2)

New fires: 14
New large incidents: 0
Uncontained large fires: 1

R-1 Ranch, Northern California District, BLM. Thirteen miles northeast of Susanville, CA. Timber, brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
R-1 Ranch	CA-NOD	3,380	0	98	Ctn	9/4	52	-127	2	0	0	0	3.5M	BLM

Northern Rockies (PL 2)

New fires: 18
New large incidents: 1
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			
* Stuckey Rd	MT-CES	7,000	---	100	Ctn	---	26	---	1	2	0	9	150K	CNTY
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
McClusky	MT-BDF	406	176	51	Comp	11/1	72	0	2	2	0	0	700K	FS
Beeskove	MT-LNF	430	---	73	Comp	9/30	4	---	0	1	0	0	7M	FS
Horsefly	MT-HLF	1,352	---	60	Comp	9/30	44	---	1	0	1	0	6.5M	FS
Crab	ID-NCF	198	---	40	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	2.6M	FS
Snow Creek	MT-FNF	1,815	---	3	Comp	10/31	4	---	0	0	0	0	77K	FS
Barren Hill	ID-NCF	605	---	0	Comp	10/31	8	---	0	0	0	0	15K	FS
Snow Peak	ID-IPF	100	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS

CES – Central Land Office, Montana DNR BDF – Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS LNF – Lolo NF, USFS HLF – Helena-Lewis and Clark NF, USFS NCF – Nez Perce-Clearwater NF, USFS FNF – Flathead NF, USFS IPF – Idaho Panhandle NF, USFS

Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Northwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	15	3	18
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	14	586	600
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	12	2	14
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	22	0	22
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	21	3	24
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	83	85	168
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	3	4	0	0	9	2	18
	ACRES	2	2	0	0	7,062	0	7,066
Great Basin Area	FIRES	1	8	0	3	4	2	18
	ACRES	2	909	0	0	136	2,231	3,278
Southwest Area	FIRES	2	2	0	0	1	6	11
	ACRES	39	0	0	0	1	9	49
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	1	0	0	0	2	4	7
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	3,584	3,584
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Southern Area	FIRES	5	0	0	0	39	0	44
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	261	0	261
TOTAL FIRES:		12	14	1	3	105	23	158
TOTAL ACRES:		43	911	1	0	7,580	6,495	15,030

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

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	238	0	0	402	43	683
	ACRES	0	1,707,560	0	0	880,863	13	2,588,436
Northwest Area	FIRES	216	163	14	14	1,499	747	2,653
	ACRES	48,900	27,944	89	1.1	20,601	18,451	115,986
Northern California Area	FIRES	51	34	4	6	1,973	351	2,419
	ACRES	28	5,316	25	1	23,006	15,511	43,887
Southern California Area	FIRES	14	70	9	16	2,736	261	3,106
	ACRES	140	414	2,727	106	16,766	10,990	31,143
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	699	46	22	11	722	420	1,920
	ACRES	10,698	924	10,026	36	35,547	6,847	64,078
Great Basin Area	FIRES	31	608	8	29	715	353	1,744
	ACRES	136	228,981	18	9	139,956	33,598	402,698
Southwest Area	FIRES	584	184	11	46	554	744	2,123
	ACRES	51,819	6,493	55	8,019	27,824	310,092	404,301
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	239	255	1	9	455	245	1,204
	ACRES	2,142	4,156	5,048	29	17,738	12,463	41,576
Eastern Area	FIRES	301	0	9	30	3,518	288	4,146
	ACRES	569	0	53	520	26,293	5,134	32,569
Southern Area	FIRES	247	0	34	44	13,664	222	14,211
	ACRES	22,650	0	2,498	2,303	341,196	13,331	381,978
TOTAL FIRES:		2,382	1,598	112	205	26,238	3,674	34,209
TOTAL ACRES:		137,082	1,981,788	20,540	11,024	1,529,790	426,430	4,106,653

Ten Year Average Fires (2009 – 2018 as of today)	46,082
Ten Year Average Acres (2009 – 2018 as of today)	5,784,379

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

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

Canadian Fires and Hectares

PROVINCES	FIRES YESTERDAY	HECTARES YESTERDAY	FIRES YEAR-TO- DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO-DATE
BRITISH COLUMBIA	4	1	893	21,152
YUKON TERRITORY	0	0	112	252,911
ALBERTA	4	0	966	883,290
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	0	3,752	145	105,167
SASKATCHEWAN	0	40	232	47,954
MANITOBA	0	0	277	101,453
ONTARIO	1	0	530	269,757
QUEBEC	2	0	330	10,225
NEWFOUNDLAND	1	5	88	777
NEW BRUNSWICK	0	0	175	224
NOVA SCOTIA	2	16	132	153
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	2	9
NATIONAL PARKS	0	0	70	117,830
TOTALS	14	3,815	3,952	1,810,902

*1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: Hurricane Dorian will continue moving north toward the coast of South Carolina as it begins to take a turn to the northeast which should prevent a landfall from occurring. Nevertheless, high winds and flooding are expected near coastal areas. Breezy conditions will continue across the Great Lakes Region and New England as an upper level trough moves east toward the coast. While shallow, it should be strong enough to begin to steer the hurricane eventually out to sea. Hot and dry conditions will return to Texas as the Four Corners High migrates to be over the region. With the axis of the ridge extending northwestward to Oregon, the heat will remain in place across the Great Basin. A low pressure area along the Coast of Northern California will draw residual monsoonal moisture up into the Sierra, Siskiyou, and Cascades creating scattered dry and wet storms. Expect breezy westerly winds to continue across the northern Great Plains.

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



Bees and Wasps

Firefighter Health & First Aid

In general, bees sting to protect their hive and seldom sting when they are foraging unless they feel threatened (like being swatted at or stepped on). On the other hand, a large number of bees or wasps foraging in one area may indicate a colony is nearby. If you intend to work or camp in the area, scout the area for bee/wasp habitat first.

Colonies vary in behavior over time, especially with changes in season, becoming more aggressive and easily agitated in the late summer and fall. You may pass the same colony for weeks and then one day provoke them unexpectedly.

● **Look out for colonies:**

Bees and wasps nest in a wide variety of locations, such as pipes, holes, behind shutters, under shingles, within cracks and crevices in trees and rocks, and hanging from branches. Be alert for groups of flying bees entering or leaving an opening and listen for buzzing sounds. Be especially alert when climbing, digging fire line and moving logs. **DO NOT** put your hands where you can't see them.

Be particularly careful when using any heavy equipment that produces sound vibrations, such as chainsaws, weed eaters, and pumps. **Keep escape routes in mind.**

!!! If you disturb a nest and are being attacked, run away. Use your shroud or shirt to protect your head neck and face. Swatting and waving your arms aggravates bees/wasps more!



● **About Africanized and European honey bees:**

Honey bees are about 5/8-inch long, brown, hairy insects with black encircling their abdomen, giving them a subtle striped appearance. All honey bees look alike. Only an expert can tell them apart.

The sting from a single Africanized honey bee is no more harmful than one from the common garden or European honey bee. Africanized honey bees are known as "killer bees" because they defend their nests more aggressively, with less provocation, and in larger numbers than the other honey bees, so there is a greater chance of receiving many stings.

Africanized honey bees are found in the southwest and are spreading across the south. You are more likely to be struck by lightning than being killed by Africanized bees.

● **Considerations with all bees and wasps:**

- 1) If a bee gets in the vehicle while you are driving. Stay calm, pull over and stop, let the bee out.
- 2) Keep trash away from your camp and keep it covered.
- 3) Look at what you are drinking and eating before you eat or drink. Bees and wasps are attracted to accessible food and water.

● If you get Stung:

The first thing you should do is remove the stinger. The end of a stinger is barbed and will remain stuck in the skin even if the bee is removed. Muscles in the stinger allow it to continue pumping venom into the victim, even if it is no longer connected to the bee. Do not pull the stinger out with your fingers or tweezers because this will squeeze out more venom. Instead, scrape the stinger out with your fingernail, the edge of a credit card, a dull knife blade, or another straight-edged object.

● Two kinds of reactions are usually associated with bee stings and those of other stinging insects as well: (1) local or (2) systemic, allergic, or life-threatening.

(1) Local Reactions:

A local reaction is usually characterized by pain, swelling, redness, itching, and a welt surrounding the wound made by the stinger. Swelling can sometimes be locally severe. For instance, if stung on the finger, the arm may be swollen even up to the elbow. Swelling such as this is fairly common, even though it may be alarming. Swelling may be reduced by cooling the wound and/or taking an antihistamine such as Benadryl. Topical solutions such as calamine may also help alleviate pain.

(2) Systemic, Allergic, or Life-Threatening Reactions:

Allergic reactions can develop anywhere on the body and may include rash or hives, dizziness or headache, cramps, nausea, vomiting, swelling **not** in the general area of the sting, shortness of breath or difficulty swallowing, shock, and unconsciousness. If you experience any of these symptoms, seek emergency medical assistance immediately. Symptoms can begin immediately following the sting or up to 30 minutes later and might last for hours.

● If you know you are allergic:

Anaphylaxis, if treated in time, usually can be reversed by epinephrine (adrenaline) injected into the body. Individuals who are aware that they are allergic to stings should carry epinephrine in either a normal syringe (sting kit) or an auto-injector (Epi-Pen) at all times when working outside **and communicate their allergy to supervisor/coworkers in case they become incapacitated.** Epinephrine is obtainable only by prescription from a physician.

● Discussion Topics:

- **Have you and your crew identified who is allergic to bee/wasp stings? Are they carrying their prescription Epi? Identify the Epi and its location to the rest of the crew.**
- **If you have an EMT on your crew/team, what are their protocols for treating stings and related allergic reactions?**
- **Discuss how you and your crew will safely flag or mark any identified nests/hives.**

Resources:

[USDA-ARS Carl Hayden Bee Research Center](#)

[Incident Response Pocket Guide, PMS 461](#)

[Interagency Standards for Fire & Fire Aviation Operations](#)

[Wildland Fire Incident Management Field Guide, PMS 210](#)

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

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