

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Sunday, August 21, 2022 – 0730 MDT
National Preparedness Level 3**

National Fire Activity:

Initial attack activity:	Light (95 fires)
New large incidents:	4
Large fires contained:	1
Uncontained large fires: **	26
Area Command teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	1
Type 1 IMTs committed:	2
Type 2 IMTs committed:	8
***Complex IMTs committed:	0

***Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMTs) are configured to respond to large, complex fires and can expand and reduce staffing in all functional areas as necessary to meet the needs of the incident.

Nationally, there are 31 fires being managed under a strategy other than full suppression.

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

[Link](#) to Geographic Area daily reports.

[Link](#) to Understanding the IMSR.

One RC-26 aircraft with Distributed Real-Time Infrared (DRTI) capability and support personnel from the 141st Air Refueling Wing (Washington Air National Guard) have been deployed to Boise, ID. One RC-26 aircraft with Distributed Real-Time Infrared (DRTI) capability and support personnel from the 162nd Operations Group (Arizona Air National Guard) have been deployed to Eugene, OR in support of wildland fire operations.

One Boeing 737 airtanker from New South Wales, Australia is supporting fire suppression efforts in the western United States.

Active Incident Resource Summary							
GACC	Incidents	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel	Change in Personnel
AICC	1	20	2	1	0	53	0
NWCC	13	30,978	70	70	17	2,574	-1
ONCC	3	112,456	43	85	17	1,997	0
OSCC	3	20,069	8	8	9	322	0
NRCC	21	41,366	18	49	13	886	-75
GBCC	11	110,000	25	88	16	1,480	0
SWCC	1	341,735	2	3	1	438	0
RMCC	1	839	0	0	0	9	-16
EACC	4	3	0	16	0	64	0
SACC	13	14,946	1	28	1	184	-1
Total	71	672,413	169	348	74	8,007	-93

Northwest Area (PL 3)

New fires: 21
 New large incidents: 2
 Uncontained large fires: 8
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 1
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 3

White River, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, USFS. IMT 2 (NW Team 7). IMT is also managing the Irving Peak fire. Twenty-three miles northwest of Leavenworth, WA. Timber. Active fire behavior with flanking, backing and isolated torching. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect.

Irving Peak, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, USFS. Twenty-six miles northwest of Leavenworth, WA. Timber. Active fire behavior with flanking, backing and isolated torching. Structures threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect.

Windigo, Umpqua NF, USFS. IMT 2 (NW Team 10). IMT is also managing the Potter and Big Swamp fires. Twenty miles southwest of La Pine, OR. Closed timber litter, timber and medium slash. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Potter, Willamette NF, USFS. Forty-six miles southwest of La Pine, OR. Closed timber litter, timber and medium slash. Moderate fire behavior with wind-driven runs, single tree torching and spotting. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Big Swamp, Willamette NF, USFS. Thirty-seven miles southwest of La Pine, OR. Closed timber litter, timber and medium slash. Moderate fire behavior with creeping and isolated torching. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

Cedar Creek, Willamette NF, USFS. IMT 1 (PNW Team 3). Fifteen miles east of Oakridge, OR. Timber and closed timber litter. Active fire behavior with backing, creeping and isolated torching. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

* **Rum Creek**, Medford District, BLM. IMT2 (NW Team 13). Twelve miles northwest of Hugo, OR. Timber, tall grass and brush. Moderate fire behavior with backing, short crown runs and torching. Structures threatened. Area and trail closures in effect.

Wagner Road, Washington State Fire Marshal's Office. Twelve miles west of St. John, WA. Tall grass and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened.

* **Hat Top**, Vale District, BLM. Thirteen miles southeast of Juntura, OR. Brush and short grass. Active fire behavior with running, flanking and creeping.

Thor, Colville NF, USFS. Six miles southeast of Metaline Falls, WA. Timber and closed timber litter. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
White River	WA-OWF	900	29	1	Comp	10/30	564	106	16	21	3	0	3.6M	FS
Irving Peak	WA-OWF	650	35	1	Comp	10/31	38	0	2	0	0	0	724K	FS
Windigo	OR-UPF	1,007	0	96	Ctn	10/1	270	-10	8	2	1	0	15.3M	FS
Potter	OR-WIF	614	17	65	Ctn	10/30	355	-27	12	8	4	0	8.7M	FS
Big Swamp	OR-WIF	110	-9	50	Ctn	10/30	94	-4	3	1	0	0	682K	FS
Cedar Creek	OR-WIF	6,121	402	0	Ctn	10/1	788	-75	16	16	7	0	18.3M	FS
* Rum Creek	OR-MED	80	---	0	Ctn	12/31	250	---	7	0	0	0	650K	BLM
Wagner Road	WA-WFS	7,381	0	80	Ctn	8/22	134	8	3	20	0	4	741K	ST
* Hat Top	OR-VAD	1,200	---	0	Ctn	8/24	61	---	2	2	1	0	100K	BLM
Thor	WA-COF	107	---	0	Ctn	10/31	15	---	1	0	0	0	150K	FS

Northern California Area (PL 3)

New fires:	9
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	4
NIMOs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	2

2022 SRF Lightning Complex (2 fires), Six Rivers NF, USFS. NIMO (NIMO Team 1) and IMT 2 (CA Team 14). One mile northeast of Willow Creek, CA. Timber and slash. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and isolated torching. Several communities, numerous structures and infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect.

McKinney, Klamath NF, USFS. IMT 2 (CA Team 12). Fifteen miles northwest of Yreka, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Several communities and numerous residences threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

Yeti, Klamath NF, USFS. Eight miles northeast of Happy Camp, CA. Closed timber litter and timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Several communities, numerous structures and communication infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
2022 SRF Lightning Complex	CA-SRF	25,832	99	81	Ctn	8/27	946	-517	21	56	12	8	43.4M	FS
McKinney	CA-KNF	60,138	-254	95	Ctn	8/30	927	-13	20	21	5	185	67.3M	FS
Yeti	CA-KNF	7,886	0	95	Ctn	9/1	124	-5	2	8	0	0	16.1M	FS

Great Basin Area (PL 3)

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

Moose, Salmon-Challis NF, USFS. IMT 1 (NR Team 2). Seventeen miles north of Salmon, ID. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with uphill runs, isolated torching and backing. Numerous residences and energy infrastructure threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Four Corners, Payette NF, USFS. IMT 2 (GB Team 4). Six miles west of Cascade, ID. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, group and single tree torching. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, area and road closures in effect.

Woodtick, Salmon-Challis NF, USFS. Previously reported incident. Twenty-seven miles northwest of Challis, ID. Timber, short grass and brush. Moderate fire behavior with creeping, smoldering and backing. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect. 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			
Moose	ID-SCF	92,219	2,875	34	Ctn	10/31	785	9	11	41	6	7	49.2M	FS
Four Corners	ID-PAF	7,603	2,043	0	Ctn	9/15	506	87	11	35	6	0	5.3M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Woodtick	ID-SCF	6,300	579	17	Comp	9/30	37	-7	1	0	1	0	3.3M	FS
Porphyry	ID-PAF	2,000	500	0	Comp	10/15	64	28	1	3	0	0	70K	FS
Ross Fork	ID-STF	462	3	0	Comp	10/31	17	0	0	1	0	0	425K	FS
Dismal	ID-PAF	1,664	---	0	Comp	10/15	12	---	0	0	1	0	38K	FS
Norton	ID-SCF	679	---	0	Comp	10/31	2	---	0	0	0	0	98K	FS
Halfway Hill	UT-SCS	11,702	---	93	Comp	10/1	11	---	0	2	0	2	11.7M	ST
Wolf Fang	ID-SCF	1,266	---	0	Comp	10/1	1	---	0	0	0	0	60K	FS

STF – Sawtooth NF, USFS SCS – South Central Area, Utah DOF

Northern Rockies Area (PL 3)

New fires:	18
New large incidents:	2
Uncontained large fires:	8

* **Bay**, Powder River County. Started on private land 25 miles southeast of Broadus, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior with running and spotting. Structures threatened.

*** Long Butte**, Powder River County. Started on private land 40 miles southeast of Ashland, MT. Timber. Active fire behavior with running. Structures threatened.

Garceau, Flathead Agency, BIA. Seven miles northeast of Hot Springs, MT. Tall grass and timber. Active fire behavior with single tree torching, creeping and backing. Structures and energy infrastructure threatened.

Quinn, Craig Mountain Supervisory Area Office, IDL. Seventeen miles southwest of Grangeville, ID. Tall grass and timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering.

Sutton, Kootenai NF, USFS. Thirteen miles southeast of Eureka, MT. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and single tree torching. Road and trail closures in effect.

Elmo, Flathead Agency, BIA. Eight miles west of Elmo, MT. Grass and timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures and energy infrastructure threatened.

Deep Draw, Crow Agency, BIA. Ten miles east of Bridger, MT. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Residences and energy infrastructure threatened.

Blister, Fort Peck Agency, BIA. Twenty-five miles north of Wolf Point, MT. Grass. No new information.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Bay	MT-LG09	700	---	0	Ctn	UNK	24	---	0	5	0	0	2K	PRI
* Long Butte	MT-LG09	1,500	---	0	Ctn	UNK	28	---	0	9	0	0	5K	PRI
Garceau	MT-FHA	6,712	725	30	Ctn	8/31	210	0	5	8	7	0	2.9M	BIA
Quinn	ID-CMS	450	0	75	Ctn	8/21	121	-24	4	5	0	0	911K	ST
Sutton	MT-KNF	108	3	35	Ctn	10/15	137	20	4	2	0	0	1.7M	FS
Elmo	MT-FHA	21,349	0	81	Ctn	8/31	30	-2	0	5	0	8	15.3M	BIA
Deep Draw	MT-CRA	794	0	75	Ctn	8/23	19	-45	0	3	0	0	900K	BIA
Blister	MT-FPA	3,500	---	80	Ctn	UNK	29	---	0	7	0	1	25K	BIA
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Redhorn	MT-FHA	511	0	5	Comp	10/1	10	0	0	0	1	0	2.9M	BIA
Hog Trough	MT-BRF	1,620	0	76	Comp	10/15	135	1	1	0	3	0	9.3M	FS
Quartz	MT-GNP	1,163	663	0	Comp	10/31	10	2	0	0	0	0	12K	NPS
Castle	ID-NCF	400	---	0	Comp	12/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	50K	FS
Clover	MT-BDF	1,103	---	51	Comp	10/30	13	---	0	0	0	0	2.1M	FS
Weasel	MT-KNF	1,683	---	20	Comp	9/30	9	---	0	1	0	0	1.3M	FS
Diamond Watch	ID-IPF	597	---	0	Comp	9/30	25	---	1	1	0	0	425K	FS
Indian Ridge	MT-BRF	4,425	---	0	Comp	10/31	8	---	0	0	0	0	18K	FS
Eneas Peak	ID-IPF	150	---	0	Comp	9/30	4	---	0	0	0	0	17K	FS
Cannon	MT-FNF	995	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	17K	FS

BRF – Bitterroot NF, USFS GNP – Glacier NP, NPS NCF – Nez Perce-Clearwater NF, USFS
 BDF – Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS IPF – Idaho Panhandle NF, USFS FNF – Flathead NF, USFS

Southern California Area (PL 2)

New fires: 17
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 1

Wishon, Sequoia NF, USFS. Six miles northeast of Springville, CA. Timber, brush and chaparral. 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			
Wishon	CA-SQF	325	0	91	Ctn	8/28	234	-71	5	6	7	0	2.6M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Red	CA-YNP	500	---	0	Comp	9/28	24	---	2	0	1	0	20K	NPS

YNP – Yosemite NP, NPS

Southwest Area (PL 2)

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

Hermits Peak, Santa Fe NF, USFS. IMT 2 (SW Team 3) and IMT 2 (SW Team 4). Twelve miles northwest of Las Vegas, NM. Hardwood litter and timber. Minimal fire behavior. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Hermits Peak	NM-SNF	341,735	0	98	Ctn	10/18	438	-23	2	3	1	913	300M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Dragon	AZ-GCP	1,362	---	0	Comp	9/1	7	---	0	1	0	0	900K	NPS
Keystone	AZ-FTA	471	---	60	Comp	10/1	2	---	0	1	0	0	50K	BIA

GCP – Grand Canyon NP, NPS FTA – Fort Apache Agency, BIA

Southern Area (PL 2)

New fires: 9
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 2

Juniper Road Two, North Carolina Forest Service. Seven miles northwest of Holly Ridge, NC. Southern rough. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering.

Pine Pond, Texas A&M Forest Service. Started on private land nine miles east of Bastrop, TX. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Residences and energy infrastructure threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Juniper Road Two	NC-NCS	1,226	0	79	Ctn	9/15	38	-38	0	0	0	0	695K	ST
Pine Pond	TX-TXS	700	0	90	Ctn	8/21	40	-3	1	7	0	0	NR	PRI

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Black Rock	OK-OSA	2,743	0	100	Ctn	---	6	-4	0	2	0	0	8K	BIA

OSA – Osage Agency, BIA

Alaska 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			
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Christian	AK-UYD	8,769	---	0	Comp	9/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	10K	TRI
Minnkohwin	AK-TAD	4,718	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	30K	FWS
Clear	AK-FAS	73,284	---	91	Comp	8/31	18	---	0	1	0	33	27.1M	ST
Hardscrabble Creek	AK-SWS	2,514	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	3K	ST
Middle Tanana Complex	AK-DAS	62,861	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	3.4M	ST

UYD – Upper Yukon Zone, BLM TAD – Tanana Zone, BLM FAS – Fairbanks Area, Alaska DOF
 SWS – Southwest Area, Alaska DOF DAS – Delta Area, Alaska DOF

Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):

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	1	3	0	1	5	11	21
	ACRES	1	1,400	0	0	7	1	1,409
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	1	8	0	9
	ACRES	0	0	0	44	14	0	58
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	10	7	17
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	9	1	10
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	9	9	18
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	2,214	1	2,215
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	2	0	0	5	11	18
	ACRES	0	28	0	0	0	3,270	3,298
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	9	0	9
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	308	0	308
TOTAL FIRES:		2	5	0	3	46	39	95
TOTAL ACRES:		1	1,428	0	44	2,552	3,273	7,297

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

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	186	0	0	345	30	561
	ACRES	0	1,521,544	0	0	1,573,631	10	3,095,185
Northwest Area	FIRES	142	271	23	27	636	562	1,661
	ACRES	1,224	46,914	257	3	13,312	10,460	72,170
Northern California Area	FIRES	6	23	5	17	2,209	253	2,513
	ACRES	2	286	20	131	14,332	94,890	109,661
Southern California Area	FIRES	23	37	8	23	2,835	357	3,283
	ACRES	114	295	103	5,372	18,572	3,013	27,468
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	356	18	4	2	736	310	1,426
	ACRES	26,883	2,103	527	1	11,345	10,720	51,579
Great Basin Area	FIRES	28	468	5	32	570	246	1,349
	ACRES	6,568	26,792	58	29	36,200	147,385	217,032
Southwest Area	FIRES	383	182	6	26	515	767	1,879
	ACRES	39,403	13,326	15	2,717	159,631	760,791	975,883
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	263	306	12	23	1,024	254	1,882
	ACRES	18,062	5,916	130	597	177,394	10,631	212,730
Eastern Area	FIRES	88	0	20	11	5,429	320	5,868
	ACRES	253	0	680	17.3	39,217	2,894	43,061
Southern Area	FIRES	792	4	26	65	21,357	628	22,872
	ACRES	103,503	88	5,942	3,054	1,026,969	39,584	1,179,140
TOTAL FIRES:		2,081	1,495	109	226	35,656	3,727	43,294
TOTAL ACRES:		196,012	1,617,264	7,732	11,921	3,070,603	1,080,378	5,983,909

Ten Year Average Fires (2012 – 2021 as of today)	38,586
Ten Year Average Acres (2012 – 2021 as of today)	4,782,329

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

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

Canadian Fires and Hectares

PROVINCES	FIRES YESTERDAY	HECTARES YESTERDAY	FIRES YEAR-TO-DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO- DATE
BRITISH COLUMBIA	107	208	976	37,626
YUKON TERRITORY	0	0	273	175,285
ALBERTA	11	1,308	823	114,893
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	4	103	234	407,256
SASKATCHEWAN	3	850	339	225,142
MANITOBA	9	1,118	158	136,173
ONTARIO	4	2	205	2,433
QUEBEC	4	0	362	29,574
NEWFOUNDLAND	0	0	72	23,989
NEW BRUNSWICK	0	0	173	137
NOVA SCOTIA	0	0	117	3,363
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	2	0
NATIONAL PARKS	8	140	49	6,526
TOTALS	150	3,729	3,845	1,162,396

*1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: Isolated mixed wet and dry thunderstorms are likely to develop across northern Washington, central and southeast Idaho, and western Montana. Isolated to scattered mainly dry thunderstorms will develop tonight across northeast Oregon into southeast Washington with strong outflow winds possible. Temperatures 5-15 degrees above normal will continue across the northwestern US, with afternoon relative humidity dropping to 10-25%. Locally elevated fire weather conditions are possible across south-central Oregon into northeast California and northwest Nevada due to southwest winds of 12-20 mph as well. Scattered monsoon thunderstorms will continue over the Southwest and Greater Four Corners. Widespread thunderstorms are forecast across southern Oklahoma and much of Texas with locally heavy rain, with scattered to numerous thunderstorms from the Lower Mississippi Valley into the Southeast, Appalachians, Mid-Atlantic, and eastern Great Lakes.

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



Bees and Wasps

Firefighter Health & First Aid Category

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, many bees or wasps foraging in one area may indicate a colony is nearby. If you intend to work or camp in the area, scout for bee or wasp nests 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 in pipes or 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 fireline, 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 honeybees:



Honeybees are brown, hairy insects, about 5/8-inch long, with black encircling their abdomen, giving them a subtle striped appearance. All honeybees look alike. Only an expert can tell them apart. The sting from a single Africanized honeybee is no more harmful than one from the common garden or European honeybee. Africanized honeybees are known as killer bees because they defend their nests more aggressively, with less provocation, and in larger numbers than other honeybees, so there is a greater chance of receiving many stings.

Africanized honeybees are found in the southwest and are spreading across the southern United States. You are more likely to be struck by lightning than be 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 to 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 other stinging insects:

1. Local Reactions:

A local reaction is usually characterized by pain, swelling, redness, and 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 away from the general area of the sting, shortness of breath, 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 (EpiPen) at all times when working outside, **and they should 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 EpiPen? Identify the EpiPen 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,

<https://www.ars.usda.gov/Research/docs.htm?docid=11067&page=5>

NWCG Incident Response Pocket Guide (IRPG), PMS 461, <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/461>

Interagency Standards for Fire & Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book),

<https://www.nifc.gov/standards/guides/red-book>

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Have an idea or feedback?

Share it with the NWCG 6MFS Subcommittee: <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/publication-review-form>