

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Saturday, July 4, 2009 – 0530 MDT
National Preparedness Level 1**

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity: Light (156 new fires)
 New large fires: 3 (*)
 Large fires contained: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 6
 Area Command Teams committed: 0
 NIMOs committed: 0
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 0
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

** Uncontained large fires do not include confine/contain incidents. **

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

Southern California Area (PL 2)

New fires: 30
 New large fires: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 2
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

Grouse, Yosemite National Park. IMT 2 (Johnson). Five miles east of El Portal, CA. Timber. Backing fire with isolated torching.

Harden, Yosemite National Park. Twelve miles southeast of Yosemite Valley, CA. Timber. Moderate fire activity.

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
Grouse	CA	YNP	1,602	300	20	7/11	348	13	9	6	1	0	1M	NPS
Harden	CA	YNP	1,200	300	30	7/11	137	-4	8	1	1	0	453K	NPS

Northern California Area (PL 2)

New fires: 45
 New large fires: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 1

Trinity, Shasta – Trinity NF. Seven miles north of Denny, CA. Timber and slash. Moderate fire activity with spotting. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
Trinity	CA	SHF	100	-80	20	7/7	175	125	7	0	4	0	100K	FS

Alaska Area (PL 1)

New fires: 8
New large fires: 2
Uncontained large fires: 3

Bear Creek, Tanana Zone, BLM. Thirty-three miles east of Lake Minchumina, AK. Spruce and brush. Moderate fire activity.

Rock Slough, Upper Yukon Zone, BLM. Started on FWS land, 47 miles northeast of Fort Yukon, AK. Black spruce, brush and tundra. Active fire behavior.

* **Sheenjek**, Upper Yukon Zone, BLM. Confine / contain management strategy. Started on FWS land, 45 miles northwest of Fort Yukon, AK. Black spruce and brush. Active fire behavior. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

* **Chakina**, Valdez – Copper River Area, Alaska DOF. Fourteen miles south of McCarthy, AK. Black spruce and grass. Moderate fire activity with spotting.

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
Bear Creek	AK	TAD	15,847	5,140	0	11/1	34	---	1	0	3	0	261K	BLM
Rock Slough	AK	UYD	2,240	1,640	0	UNK	56	33	2	0	2	0	102K	FWS
* Sheenjek	AK	UYD	2,200	---	NR	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FWS
* Chakina	AK	CRS	283	---	0	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	3K	ST

Northwest Area (PL 1)

New fires: 21
New large fires: 1
Uncontained large fires: 0

* **Panther Creek**, North Cascades National Park. Confine / contain management strategy. Twenty-one miles east of Marblemount, WA. Timber and slash. Moderate fire activity with torching. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	St	Unit	Size	Size Chge 24 Hrs	% Ctn	Est Ctn	Totl Pers	Pers Chge 24 Hrs	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
* Panther Creek	WA	NCP	123	---	NR	9/30	15	---		0	0	0	NR	NPS

Predictive Services Discussion: Scattered to numerous thunderstorms will continue across the interior West today, with driest storms developing in eastern Oregon and the Western Great Basin. Hot, dry and unstable conditions will continue along the West Coast states. Low relative humidity will persist into the weekend across the Southeast. Warm and dry conditions will continue in Alaska with isolated dry thunderstorms possible in the eastern interior.

[Link](#) to Predictive Services Outlook products.



Today's discussion is from
"This Day in Wildland Fire History"

"Lessons Learned" serve as brief summaries of powerful learning opportunities. You can use these summaries as a foundation and launch point for further dialogue and discussion. Apply these lessons learned to yourself, your crew, and your unit.

Part II - South Canyon Fire, Colorado, 1994 (A Four-Part Series)

Incident Summary

On July 2, 1994, seven miles west of Glenwood Springs, Colo., lightning ignites a Bureau of Land Management fire in piñon-pine and juniper on a ridge at the base of Storm King Mountain. The fire, paralleled by two deep canyons, is initially believed to have "little chance" to spread. The past two days, lightning has started 40 new fires on this BLM District. The entire general area, in a one-year drought, is experiencing low humidities and record-high temperatures. Over the next two days, the South Canyon Fire increases in size. Visible from Interstate 70 and nearby residential areas, the public becomes concerned. Some initial attack resources are assigned. Between July 3-6, the fire grows to approximately 2,000 acres. On July 6, a dry cold front moves into the fire area. As winds and fire activity increases, the fire makes several 100-foot flame-length rapid runs within the existing burn—in dense, highly flammable Gambel oak. Fourteen firefighters perish as they try to outrun the flames. The remaining 35 firefighters survive either by escaping down a deep drainage or by seeking a safety area and deploying their fire shelters.

July 4 – Summary of Activities

Today this BLM District has five new fire starts. Two exceed 100 acres. In addition, 31 existing fires remain uncontrolled.

Across the district, fire danger continues to be high to extreme. More lightning is forecast for this evening. Red flag warnings have been issued.

For this area's current intense, multiple fire load, radio communication is inadequate. It is recognized that this could pose a problem for the safe and effective use of aircraft.

Due to concerns voiced from Glenwood Springs residents, the South Canyon Fire—burning up on Storm King Mountain—receives a higher priority for receiving firefighting resources.

At 6:30 p.m. an Incident Commander, BLM engine crew, and Forest Service firefighters meet at the bottom of the mountain down beneath the fire.

Due to the approaching darkness and steep terrain, the decision is made to hike up to attack the fire the next morning.

Later that evening, an aerial observer reports: *The fire is in steep and inaccessible terrain. It is actively burning in all directions. The area is too steep for crews. It has few, if any, escape routes. Helicopters with buckets would be very effective.*

From noon to 10 p.m. the fire grows from 3 to 11 acres.

Lessons Learned Discussion Points

If your fire crew was assigned to hike up to the fire on Storm King Mountain, how would you:

- Address the inadequate radio communications for ground and aviation resources.
- Appropriately mitigate an unacceptable level of risk. (Reference page 1 in your IRPG for this discussion.)
- Determine when and how to refuse risk. (Reference pages 20-21 in your IRPG for this discussion.)

What would you be thinking about as a Crew Boss, Squad Boss, or Firefighter?

References

- *South Canyon Fire Investigation*. 1994. http://wildfirelessons.net/documents/S_Canyon_AIReport_1994.pdf
- *Incident Response Pocket Guide*

"This Day in Wildland Fire History" is a collaborative project between "6 Minutes for Safety" and the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center.

Fires and Acres Yesterday

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES		4	1	1	2		8
	ACRES		400	795	150	72		1,417
Northwest	FIRES	17	1			2	1	21
	ACRES	9	0			3	0	12
Northern California	FIRES	11				31	3	45
	ACRES	6				11	4	21
Southern California	FIRES	3	1			25	1	30
	ACRES	3	1			296	156	456
Northern Rockies	FIRES	5				4	6	15
	ACRES	1				0	7	8
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		1		1	2	4	8
	ACRES		140		1	2	0	143
Western Great Basin	FIRES		3				1	4
	ACRES		1				0	1
Southwest	FIRES	1	1				3	5
	ACRES	90	1				60	151
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	3			1		1	5
	ACRES	1			17		1	19
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES					9	6	15
	ACRES					24	37	61
TOTAL	FIRES	40	11	1	3	75	26	156
	ACRES	110	543	795	168	408	265	2,289

Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	25	26	14	259	5	330
	ACRES	1	21,267	58,081	2,732	243,915	0	325,996
Northwest	FIRES	154	90	1	7	282	217	751
	ACRES	957	1,414	2	5	702	320	3,400
Northern California	FIRES	46	24	1	7	913	263	1,254
	ACRES	30	19	0	1	5,795	501	6,346
Southern California	FIRES	19	59	3	7	1,458	219	1,765
	ACRES	39	476	4	1,713	5,177	3,127	10,536
Northern Rockies	FIRES	290	16	5	2	181	125	619
	ACRES	671	440	389	0	15,138	249	16,887
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	15	83	3	10	143	57	311
	ACRES	25	340	186	1	416	359	1,327
Western Great Basin	FIRES	3	114		3	35	36	191
	ACRES	20	298		0	85	8	411
Southwest	FIRES	422	168	5	37	630	449	1,711
	ACRES	10,703	67,857	13	2,052	260,524	42,345	383,494
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	230	88	13	8	242	75	656
	ACRES	953	206	533	61	61,821	231	63,805
Eastern Area	FIRES	389		28	25	11,087	465	11,994
	ACRES	1,206		807	110	102,483	6,551	111,157
Southern Area	FIRES	293		154	47	28,676	522	29,692
	ACRES	35,253		31,431	68,458	852,883	25,736	1,013,761
TOTAL	FIRES	1,862	667	239	167	43,906	2,433	49,274
	ACRES	49,858	92,317	91,446	75,133	1,548,939	79,427	1,937,120

Ten Year Average Fires	43,335
Ten Year Average Acres	2,246,873

*** 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			3				3
	ACRES			53				53
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						10	10
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		4					4
	ACRES		0					0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						900	900
TOTAL	FIRES	0	4	3	0	0	2	9
	ACRES	0	0	53	0	0	910	963

Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					9		9
	ACRES					3,338		3,338
Northwest	FIRES	15	105	19	2	1	87	229
	ACRES	7,122	7,825	4,068	31	1	12,360	31,407
Northern California	FIRES	26	16	20	44	25	203	334
	ACRES	224	2,515	26,582	384	2,791	7,877	40,373
Southern California	FIRES		7	9	4	1	114	135
	ACRES		564	748	274	195	8,522	10,303
Northern Rockies	FIRES	22	28	76	2	23	181	332
	ACRES	1,973	4,434	18,348	345	2,201	17,473	44,774
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	18	2	6	21	49	97
	ACRES	8	2,519	770	272	180	12,930	16,679
Western Great Basin	FIRES		7	2			5	14
	ACRES		1,293	62			219	1,574
Southwest	FIRES	23	28	3	8		201	263
	ACRES	1,673	54,260	501	1,099		104,632	162,165
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	37	45	108	10	35	121	356
	ACRES	3,634	4,759	18,786	5,851	876	28,552	62,458
Eastern Area	FIRES	65		417	40	1,736	162	2,420
	ACRES	72,679		63,548	9,200	81,489	45,557	272,473
Southern Area	FIRES	5		243	78	785	1,022	2,133
	ACRES	2,370		126,674	90,359	284,936	941,601	1,445,940
TOTAL	FIRES	194	254	899	194	2,636	2,145	6,322
	ACRES	89,683	78,169	260,087	107,815	376,007	1,179,723	2,091,484

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

Canada Fires and Hectares

Provinces	Fires Yesterday	Hectares Yesterday	Fires Year-To-Date	Hectares Year-To-Date
British Columbia	8	4	853	38,772
Yukon Territory	5	196	45	32,222
Alberta	26	8	1,097	55,322
Northwest Territory	0	0	18	486
Saskatchewan	0	0	451	37,071
Manitoba	1	1	118	2,428
Ontario	0	0	273	20,091
Quebec	3	3	396	90,045
Newfoundland	0	1	123	13,330
New Brunswick	0	0	153	232
Nova Scotia	0	0	141	931
Prince Edward Island	0	0	0	0
National Parks	0	0	61	27,863
Total	43	213	3,729	318,794

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

**** National Interagency Coordination Center ****