

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Wednesday, July 15, 2009 – 0530 MDT  
National Preparedness Level 2**

**National Fire Activity**

Initial attack activity:	Moderate (209 new fires)
New large fires:	4 (*)
Large fires contained:	2
Uncontained large fires**:	20
Area Command Teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	2
Type 1 IMTs committed:	0
Type 2 IMTs committed:	2

Nationally, there are 37 large fires being managed with minimal or no resource commitment that are not shown on today's report.

\*\* Uncontained large fires do not include confine/contain and resource benefit incidents. \*\*

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

**Alaska Area (PL 3)**

New fires:	7
New large fires:	0
Uncontained large fires:	7
NIMOs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	1

**Railbelt Complex** (3 fires), Fairbanks Area, Alaska DOF. IMT 2 (Allen). Twelve miles southwest of Nenana, AK. Black spruce and tussock with mixed hardwood litter. Running fire with group-tree torching. Numerous structures threatened.

**Shanta Creek**, Kenai – Kodiak Area, Alaska DOF. NIMO (Gage). Started on FWS land twelve miles southeast of Soldotna, AK. Spruce. Moderate fire activity with isolated torching.

**Little Black One**, Upper Yukon Zone, BLM. Previously reported confine / contain incident. Fifty-three miles southeast of Fort Yukon, AK. Black spruce and tundra. Moderate fire activity. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

**Zitziana**, Tanana Zone, BLM. Previously reported incident. Fifty miles southeast of Tanana, AK. Black spruce and brush. Backing fire. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

**Rock Slough**, Upper Yukon Zone, BLM. Started on FWS land, forty-seven miles northeast of Fort Yukon, AK. Black spruce, brush and tundra. Creeping and smoldering with isolated torching. Numerous structures threatened.

**Chakina**, Valdez – Copper River Area, Alaska DOF. Previously reported incident. Fourteen miles south of McCarthy, AK. Black spruce and grass. Moderate fire activity with torching and spotting. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

**Upper Healy River**, Delta Area, Alaska DOF. Forty-six miles east of Delta Junction, AK. Black spruce and hardwoods. Creeping fire with occasional torching.

**Logging Slash**, Fairbanks Area, Alaska DOF. Twenty-three miles northeast of Nenana, AK. Mixed spruce and hardwood slash. Smoldering.

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
Railbelt Complex	AK	FAS	161,344	2,001	2	UNK	353	31	12	5	5	0	2.1M	ST
Shanta Creek	AK	KKS	13,761	317	0	10/10	496	0	16	10	7	0	NR	FWS
Little Black One	AK	UYD	105,000	---	0	10/10	20	---	1	0	1	0	NR	BLM
Zitziana	AK	TAD	71,765	---	NR	9/30	3	---	0	0	0	0	327K	BLM
Rock Slough	AK	UYD	14,681	100	NR	UNK	96	-19	4	0	2	0	1.7M	FWS
Chakina	AK	CRS	13,500	---	NR	UNK	19	---	0	1	1	1	NR	ST
Upper Healy River	AK	DAS	120	---	40	8/1	16	---	0	0	0	0	400K	ST
Logging Slash	AK	FAS	118	0	70	7/17	97	-3	5	0	0	0	534K	ST

**Northern California Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 20  
 New large fires: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 1  
 NIMOs committed: 1  
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

**Backbone**, Six Rivers NF. NIMO (Custer) and IMT2 (Swartzlander). Twelve miles northeast of Willow Creek, CA. Timber and heavy dead and down fuels. Active fire behavior.

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
Backbone	CA	SRF	6,222	66	35	8/30	1,223	25	37	4	12	0	9.4M	FS

**Southern Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 45  
 New large fires: 1  
 Uncontained large fires: 6

**Chester**, Oklahoma DOF. One mile north of Chester, OK. Brush. Active fire behavior.

**Martin**, Texas Forest Service. Ten miles northwest of Jacksboro, TX. Juniper and cedar brush. Minimal fire activity.

**Lost Plains**, Texas Forest Service. Nine miles northwest of Wimberly, TX. Cedar and oak brush. Active fire behavior.

**Bishop**, Texas Forest Service. Started on private land eleven miles northeast of Stephenville, TX. Juniper and cedar brush. Moderate fire activity.

**Airstrip**, Texas Forest Service. Started on private land twelve miles north of Bastrop, TX. Timber. Minimal fire activity.

\* **Switchback**, Southeast Area, Oklahoma DOF. Six miles southwest of Smithville, OK. Timber. No further information received.

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
Chester	OK	OKS	41,497	40	60	7/16	49	-35	0	17	1	27	200K	ST
Martin	TX	TXS	1,078	0	90	7/16	44	0	0	13	0	0	NR	ST
Lost Plains	TX	TXS	500	0	70	7/17	99	0	0	0	3	0	NR	ST
Bishop	TX	TXS	350	0	60	7/17	17	0	0	0	1	0	NR	PRI
Airstrip	TX	TXS	335	20	90	7/15	54	0	0	7	2	0	NR	PRI
* Switchback	OK	SEU	147	---	45	7/15	12	---	0	3	0	0	NR	ST

**Northwest Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 16  
 New large fires: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 1

**Lava Flat**, John Day Unit, Oregon DOF. Thirty miles southwest of Heppner, OR. Timber and grass. No new information.

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
Lava Flat	OR	952S	167	28	50	7/15	115	0	4	6	0	0	250K	ST
Forrest	WA	SES	255	0	100	---	468	126	13	18	3	0	1.4M	ST

SES – Southeast Area, Washington DNR

**Southern California Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 29  
 New large fires: 1  
 Uncontained large fires: 1

\* **Osito**, Angeles NF. Ten miles north of Castaic, CA. Brush. No further information received.

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
* Osito	CA	ANF	300	---	65	UNK	496	---	14	16	7	0	NR	FS
Yankee	CA	MCP	1,300	0	100	---	12	0	0	2	0	0	NR	DOD

MCP – Camp Pendleton, DOD

**Southwest Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 14  
 New large fires: 1  
 Uncontained large fires: 2

**Cross**, Kaibab NF. Eighteen miles southeast of Williams, AZ. Hardwood litter. Backing fire with isolated torching.

**San Miguel**, Bandelier National Monument, NPS. Previously reported confine / contain incident. Thirteen miles south of Los Alamos, NM. Ponderosa pine, pinyon pine and juniper brush. Minimal fire activity with isolated torching. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

**Independence**, Coconino NF. Previously reported confine / contain incident. Three miles south of Clints Well, AZ. Hardwood litter and logging slash. Backing fire. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

\* **Moore**, Gila NF. Confine / contain management strategy. Forty-five miles northeast of Silver City, NM. Timber and hardwood litter. Minimal fire activity. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

**Deer**, Colorado River Agency, BIA. Ten miles west of Parker, AZ. Chaparral. No new information.

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
Cross	AZ	KNF	3,020	422	0	UNK	143	-3	4	7	1	0	315K	FS
San Miguel	NM	BAP	1,632	---	NR	UNK	129	---	5	1	1	0	100K	NPS
Independence	AZ	COF	1,300	---	NR	UNK	50	---	1	2	0	0	60K	FS
* Moore	NM	GNF	977	---	0	UNK	25	---	1	2	0	0	NR	FS
Deer	AZ	CRA	402	0	95	UNK	34	-41	1	2	1	0	120K	BIA

**Eastern Great Basin Area (PL 3)**

New fires: 9  
 New large fires: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 1

**Horse Valley**, Dixie NF. Ten miles southwest of Panguitch, UT. Timber. No further information received.

**Bridge**, Dixie NF. Previously reported confine / contain incident. Eight miles southwest of Bryce Canyon, UT. Timber. Active fire behavior. 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
Horse Valley	UT	DIF	2,916	732	60	UNK	300	16	9	6	5	1	NR	FS
Bridge	UT	DIF	1,750	---	0	UNK	30	---	1	3	0	0	NR	FS

**Rocky Mountain Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 16  
 New large fires: 1  
 Uncontained large fires: 1

\* **Grammar**, Uncompahgre Field Office, BLM. Five miles northwest of Norwood, CO. Timber litter and logging slash. Active fire behavior with torching and spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations in effect.

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
* Grammar	CO	UPD	500	---	0	UNK	108	---	3	10	2	0	NR	BLM

**Predictive Services Discussion:** Some thunderstorm activity and not as hot in the Alaska interior today along with gusty winds in the eastern interior. Hot and dry over much of the West except for a few thunderstorms over portions of the Rockies, Great Basin and Southwest. Thunderstorms are on tap for Oklahoma and north Texas with generally hot and dry weather in central and southern Texas.

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



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

### Hazard Trees

Snags (dead, standing trees without leaves or needles in the crowns) and other hazard trees present a significant hazard to wildland firefighters. Snags typically have much lower fuel moistures than live, green trees; and they burn more readily. In the process, they often throw spot fires far in advance of the main fire and often burn through more quickly than green trees, falling with little or no warning. Live, green trees have been weakened by insects, disease, weather, past fires, and age present equal hazard and can fall without warning.

- The risk of injuries from hazard trees increases during the night operational period when visibility is greatly reduced.
- While the cooler, nighttime period is generally a more effective time to gain control of wildfires, the increased risk from unseen falling snags and weakened live trees may limit the widespread use of crews at night in areas of dead and dying timber.
- Environmental conditions that increase risk from hazard trees: Strong winds or erratic winds from storm cells. Night operations. Air operations - cargo drops, water or retardant drops, helicopter take off/landing, low-level flights. Steep slopes. Diseased or bug-killed areas.
- Things to consider when assessing the potential dangers of hazard trees: Trees have been burning for an extended period. High-risk tree species (those that are known for rot and shallow root systems) are in the area. Numerous downed trees. Dead or broken tips and limbs overhead. Accumulation of downed limbs. Tree decay, cavities, splits, cracks. Absence of needles, bark or limbs. Leaning or hung-up trees. Roots damaged by equipment or erosion.
- Mitigation measures to take: Identify and flag all high-risk areas until the hazard has been removed. Keep personnel out of the high-risk areas until the hazard has been removed. Use saw teams and falling bosses. Establish lookouts. Plan a quick and safe escape route. Do not turn your back on a falling tree. Maintain situational awareness.

### Fires and Acres Yesterday

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES			1		4	2	7
	ACRES			35		122	1	158
Northwest	FIRES	1	1		2	8	4	16
	ACRES	1	1		1	30	0	33
Northern California	FIRES					19	1	20
	ACRES					48	0	48
Southern California	FIRES			1		28	0	29
	ACRES			0		93	98	191
Northern Rockies	FIRES	4	3			4	2	13
	ACRES	4	2			0	0	6
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		3		0	1	5	9
	ACRES		0		100	0	1,709	1,809
Western Great Basin	FIRES		1				1	2
	ACRES		0				0	0
Southwest	FIRES	6	2		0	2	4	14
	ACRES	4	4		210	5	53	276
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		8			5	3	16
	ACRES		1			7	4	12
Eastern Area	FIRES	2				29	7	38
	ACRES	1				189	5	195
Southern Area	FIRES					44	1	45
	ACRES					1,114	2	1,116
TOTAL	FIRES	13	18	2	2	144	30	209
	ACRES	10	8	35	311	1,608	1,872	3,844

### Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	37	30	18	298	16	400
	ACRES	1	130,441	212,701	14,914	478,033	8	836,098
Northwest	FIRES	190	105	1	10	441	324	1,071
	ACRES	963	1,831	1	144	1,043	953	4,935
Northern California	FIRES	71	25	3	11	1,154	366	1,630
	ACRES	68	19	4	1	6,198	6,727	13,017
Southern California	FIRES	26	83	7	8	1,769	312	2,205
	ACRES	42	610	23	1,714	8,159	5,214	15,762
Northern Rockies	FIRES	437	28	10	9	294	216	994
	ACRES	1,060	665	391	2	15,408	337	17,863
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	22	142	3	18	209	99	493
	ACRES	29	2,230	186	291	858	5,320	8,914
Western Great Basin	FIRES	4	132	2	5	45	45	233
	ACRES	29	553	0	0	102	15	699
Southwest	FIRES	448	193	7	42	697	541	1,928
	ACRES	11,590	67,936	145	3,764	281,239	45,897	410,571
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	304	169	13	9	287	107	889
	ACRES	1,457	1,176	533	61	63,043	237	66,507
Eastern Area	FIRES	408		30	25	11,297	496	12,256
	ACRES	1,211		808	110	102,868	6,578	111,575
Southern Area	FIRES	295		162	52	28,557	536	29,602
	ACRES	35,258		35,873	43,960	853,056	25,787	993,934
TOTAL	FIRES	2,206	914	268	207	45,048	3,058	51,701
	ACRES	51,708	205,461	250,665	64,961	1,810,007	97,073	2,479,875

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>46,893</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>2,799,751</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
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						0	0
	ACRES						50	50
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES			1			1	2
	ACRES			300			75	375
Southern Area	FIRES			1	1		2	4
	ACRES			928	250		2,052	3,230
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	2	1	0	3	6
	ACRES	0	0	1,228	250	0	2,177	3,655

### 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	107	19	2	1	88	232
	ACRES	7,122	7,946	4,068	31	1	12,361	31,529
Northern California	FIRES	26	16	20	46	26	163	297
	ACRES	224	2,515	26,582	1,450	2,891	7,697	41,359
Southern California	FIRES		7	9	5	1	115	137
	ACRES		564	748	1,078	195	8,627	11,212
Northern Rockies	FIRES	22	25	76	2	24	181	330
	ACRES	1,973	3,886	18,348	345	2,241	17,473	44,266
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	19	2	7	21	50	100
	ACRES	8	2,485	770	280	180	13,381	17,104
Western Great Basin	FIRES		8	2			5	15
	ACRES		1,742	62			219	2,023
Southwest	FIRES	25	29	3	8		208	273
	ACRES	1,739	54,390	501	1,099		105,334	163,063
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	65	45	108	10	43	121	392
	ACRES	7,304	4,759	18,786	5,851	1,577	28,552	66,829
Eastern Area	FIRES	67		419	40	1,785	165	2,476
	ACRES	72,214		63,898	9,200	82,042	45,670	273,024
Southern Area	FIRES	5		254	80	802	1,025	2,166
	ACRES	2,370		130,230	90,557	296,715	946,701	1,466,573
TOTAL	FIRES	226	256	912	200	2,712	2,121	6,427
	ACRES	92,954	78,287	263,993	109,891	389,180	1,186,015	2,120,320

\*\*\* 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	12	26	1,022	40,837
Yukon Territory	0	0	57	38,272
Alberta	1	3	1,142	55,470
Northwest Territory	0	0	19	746
Saskatchewan	0	0	453	37,343
Manitoba	1	0	129	2,436
Ontario	3	6	304	20,100
Quebec	1	341	407	122,407
Newfoundland	5	110	151	34,467
New Brunswick	0	0	153	232
Nova Scotia	1	1	147	934
Prince Edward Island	0	0	0	0
National Parks	0	0	66	32,860
Total	24	485	4,050	386,103

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

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