

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2005 – 0800 MDT  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 1**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Initial attack activity was light nationally with 195 new fires reported. Four new large fires were reported, two in the Alaska Area, and one each in the Southwest and Northwest Areas. Two large fires were contained, one each in the Northwest and Eastern Great Basin Areas. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Alaska, Oregon, Washington, California, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Kansas.

**ALASKA AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:**

SHEENJEK RIVER, Alaska Fire Service, Upper Yukon Zone. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Kurth) is assigned. This fire started on Fish and Wildlife Service land 23 miles north of Ft. Yukon, AK in birch, aspen, black and white spruce. Cabins and outbuildings remain threatened. Use of aerial resources and natural boundaries are enabling containment efforts. Active runs in brush and hardwoods, along with torching and crowning were reported.

DISCOVERY, Alaska Division of Forestry, Southwest Area. This fire is ten miles southwest of Aniak, AK in black spruce and tundra. Running and torching with some open flames was reported.

GROUNDHOG, Alaska Division of Forestry, Southwest Area. This fire is ten miles northwest of Nondalton, AK in timber and tundra. Running and torching with occasional spotting was reported.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
SHEENJEK RIVER	AK	UYD	15,552	10	UNK	167	7	0	3	0	110K	FWS
DISCOVERY	AK	SWS	150	NR	UNK	32	1	0	1	0	NR	ST
GROUNDHOG	AK	SWS	100	NR	UNK	50	2	0	1	0	NR	ST

**SOUTHWEST AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:**

THEBA, Arizona State. This fire is four miles west of Gila Bend in grass. Burn-out operations were conducted. Active fire behavior was reported.

NORTH GILA COMPLEX, Gila National Forest. A Fire Use Management Team (Hall) is assigned. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) complex, comprised of the Fork and Johnson fires, is 13 miles southeast of Reserve, NM in timber and grass. The complex is being managed to accomplish multiple resource objectives. Low to moderate fire behavior was observed.

BLACK RANGE COMPLEX, Gila National Forest. This lightning-caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) complex, comprised of the Bull and Continental fires, is 35 miles east of Glenwood, NM in timber and grass. The complex is being managed to accomplish multiple resource objectives. Moderate fire behavior along with some spotting, smalls runs and occasional torching was reported.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
THEBA	AZ	AZS	1,000	30	6/18	9	1	5	1	0	18K	ST
NORTH GILA COMPLEX - WFU	NM	GNF	7,365	N/A	N/A	90	2	4	0	0	299K	FS
BLACK RANGE COMPLEX - WFU	NM	GNF	5,122	N/A	N/A	42	1	3	0	0	NR	FS

### NORTHWEST AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
HAMMER	WA	BCY	1,000	100	---	70	0	24	0	0	NR	CNTY

BCY = Benton County Emergency Services

### EASTERN GREAT BASIN AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD	ORIGIN OWN
3 ISLAND	ID	TFD	319	100	---	NR	0	0	0	0	NR	BLM

TFD = Twin Falls District, Bureau of Land Management

## OUTLOOK:

**Fire Weather Watches:** Fire Weather Watch in Effect From Saturday Morning to Saturday Evening for High Winds Over Portions of the Northern and Central Interior and the North Slopes of the Alaska Range. Saturday for east-central and southern Nevada for strong winds and low RH. Northwest quarter of Arizona for strong winds and low humidity

**Weather Discussion:** The combination of an upper low off the coast and a high pressure ridge along the Rockies will continue to produce gusty winds and low humidity over portions of the Great Basin and Arizona. In Alaska, an upper low moving in from the west will produce gusty winds over portions of the interior and Alaska Range.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<b>Southwest</b> Breezy to locally windy and dry AZ and NM. Continued hot in NM and west TX, with mostly sunny skies area-wide.	65 to 90 mountains. 90 to 105 lower elevations.	3 to 15% NM and eastern AZ. 10 to 25% western AZ and west TX.	SW 10 to 20 mph AZ & NM, with gusts to 30 to 35 mph parts of AZ and western NM. S 10 to 20 mp across west TX.
<b>Alaska Interior</b> Partly cloudy with increasing clouds in the west.	60s and 70s.	25 to 40%.	East to northeast winds gusting to 25 mph in the north. South to southeast winds 15 to 25 gusting to 25 mph on the north slopes of the Alaska Range.
<b>Western Great Basin</b> Partly to mostly sunny with gusty southwest winds. An isolated shower is possible across the Sierra Nevada's.	North Valleys: 66 to 82. South Valleys: 76 to 96. Mountains: 56 to 76.	North Valleys: 15 to 25%. South Valleys: 8 to 18%. Mountains: 15 to 50%.	Southwest 5 to 20 mph with gusts 30 to 45 mph across the south and east.
<b>Southern California</b> Morning low clouds and fog to the coastal mountain slopes; scattered showers in the north portion of Central California; otherwise partly cloudy.	55 to 70 mountains. 70 to 82 valleys. 80 to 90 upper deserts. 90 to 100 lower deserts.	25 to 40%.	Southwest to west 10 to 20 mph.



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

### **BUILDING FIRELINE DOWNHILL WITH FIRE BELOW**

As a general rule, construct line moving uphill. Many firefighters have lost their lives attacking wildland fires from above. If there is no practical alternative to constructing line downhill, proceed only after weighing the following considerations:

- Has the area been scouted for fire perimeter and behavior? Discuss what you need to know about the fire perimeter and fire behavior before building fireline downhill with fire below.
- Will wind direction be at your back? Will it stay at your back? Talk about how winds can change when you are on a slope (e.g., time of day, upslope and downslope breezes, etc.).
- Is the area free of chimneys and gullies? How would you negotiate your line location if there were chimneys and gullies below where you needed to be working?
- Are there adequate safety zones and escape routes as you progress downhill? How do you maintain adequate safety zones and escape routes as you progress downhill?
- Can you carry your burnout downhill as you go to provide an anchor point and safety zones? Discuss how you decide when to carry the burnout with you or wait until you have tied in down below.
- Have lookouts been posted? What do the lookouts need to be on the watch for?
- Do you have good communications, especially with lookouts and crews working towards you? What are some of the dangers of not communicating with lookouts and crews working towards you? What are the benefits of maintaining good communications?
- Can the line be completed and burned out before the fire reaches the line? Discuss how this would affect where you locate the line.
- Do you have adequate resources to complete the assignment? What additional resources might you need to safely take on an assignment that includes building fireline downhill with fire below?
- Is aerial support available if needed? What benefits can aerial resources provide? What might be an added danger from aerial resources in this type of situation? (Common Denominators)
- Is aerial support available if needed? What benefits can aerial resources provide? What might be an added danger from aerial resources in this type of situation? (Common Denominators)
- Has everyone been briefed on the assignment, fire behavior, weather, communications, escape routes and safety zones, hazards and tactics? Discuss who might provide this briefing and where and when it might occur.
- To reduce the risks:
  - If the answer is “no” to any of these questions, consider other tactics and provide for safety first.
  - Never compromise escape routes to safety zones for the sake of building line. Remind everyone that a situation check is each and every firefighter’s right and responsibility.

**FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES		14	6	1	3		24
	ACRES		616	1,875	70	856		3,417
Northwest	FIRES	1					2	3
	ACRES	1					1	2
Northern California	FIRES					4		4
	ACRES					0		0
Southern California	FIRES					18		18
	ACRES					54		54
Northern Rockies	FIRES					1	2	3
	ACRES					0	0	0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	1			2		4
	ACRES	0	1			1		2
Western Great Basin	FIRES		1			0	1	2
	ACRES		25			1	0	26
Southwest	FIRES	116				5	1	122
	ACRES	180				1,008	30	1,218
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES					1	2	3
	ACRES					1	1	2
Southern Area	FIRES			2		10		12
	ACRES			51		10		61
TOTAL	FIRES	118	16	8	1	44	8	195
	ACRES	181	642	1,926	70	1,931	32	4,782

**FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	2	38	28	5	194	10	277
	ACRES	3	28,057	21,471	577	21,186	320	71,614
Northwest	FIRES	37	24	6	4	108	85	264
	ACRES	145	12	9	4	176	49	395
Northern California	FIRES			1		342	69	412
	ACRES			0		1,967	38	2,005
Southern California	FIRES	7	26	3	7	627	114	784
	ACRES	9	1,074	15	3	9,343	37	10,481
Northern Rockies	FIRES	258	3	15		109	41	426
	ACRES	4,562	136	673		1,267	1,303	7,941
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	4	53		10	70	21	158
	ACRES	811	19,823		1	1,983	3	22,621
Western Great Basin	FIRES	1	56	2	7	10	6	82
	ACRES	0	10,301	70	12	21,016	1	31,400
Southwest	FIRES	748	63	8	11	617	309	1,756
	ACRES	7,488	12,474	9,037	33	37,460	19,407	85,899
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	121	41	17	6	113	70	368
	ACRES	2,679	80	157	9	14,865	1,628	19,418
Eastern Area	FIRES	496		30	33	7,130	403	8,092
	ACRES	7,052		1,693	940	54,403	7,590	71,678
Southern Area	FIRES	159		78	9	13,972	397	14,615
	ACRES	25,807		16,820	149	148,916	10,469	202,161
TOTAL	FIRES	1,833	304	188	92	23,292	1,525	27,234
	ACRES	48,556	71,957	49,945	1,728	312,582	40,845	525,613

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>38,127</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>912,517</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						2	2
	ACRES						1	1
Northern California	FIRES			1			2	3
	ACRES			75			137	212
Southern California	FIRES		1				0	1
	ACRES		60				2	62
Northern Rockies	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						20	20
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES						0	0
	ACRES						189	189
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES		0					0
	ACRES		2,000					2,000
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES				1		4	5
	ACRES				215		1,091	1,306
TOTAL	FIRES	0	1	1	1	0	9	12
	ACRES	0	2,060	75	215	0	1,440	3,790

**PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					4		4
	ACRES					626		626
Northwest	FIRES	18	91	33	2		190	334
	ACRES	5,651	12,267	2,054	249		17,641	37,862
Northern California	FIRES	12	17	133	23		160	345
	ACRES	188	732	24,624	2,217		17,475	45,236
Southern California	FIRES	1	6	4	9		69	89
	ACRES	1,000	683	8	1,991		5,042	8,724
Northern Rockies	FIRES	3	28	90	3	31	231	386
	ACRES	135	3,244	18,457	22	2,131	22,085	46,074
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	16	4	1	10	37	69
	ACRES	1	6,944	711	11	128	7,785	15,580
Western Great Basin	FIRES		5	10			2	17
	ACRES		106	2,711			2,775	5,592
Southwest	FIRES	8	29	2	8		223	270
	ACRES	3,062	33,298	3,210	13,711		64,016	117,297
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	29	38	99	14	16	100	296
	ACRES	3,709	10,074	20,099	10,312	2,501	28,629	75,324
Eastern Area	FIRES	36		422	34	1,022	132	1,646
	ACRES	17,502		65,213	4,422	66,867	25,442	179,446
Southern Area	FIRES	34		142	37	380	1,034	1,627
	ACRES	7,180		78,410	22,759	246,818	846,141	1,201,308
TOTAL	FIRES	142	230	939	131	1,463	2,178	5,083
	ACRES	38,428	67,348	215,497	55,694	319,071	1,037,031	1,733,069

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

**WFU FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						0	0
Southern California	FIRES				0			0
	ACRES				2			2
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES				1		2	3
	ACRES				0		2	2
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES				1	1	8	10
	ACRES				1,870	5	11,880	13,755
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		4		1		1	6
	ACRES		1		1		0	2
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	0	4	0	3	1	12	20
	ACRES	0	1	0	1,873	5	11,882	13,761

\*\*\* 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	4	2	432	26,712
Yukon Territory	4	3,998	31	4,091
Alberta	1	50	841	58,042
Northwest Territory	0	0	44	7,131
Saskatchewan	0	0	112	29,665
Manitoba	1	770	76	2,062
Ontario	0	1	303	1,748
Quebec	0	16,467	436	607,531
Newfoundland	0	0	75	2,514
New Brunswick	0	0	196	203
Nova Scotia	3	0	196	488
Prince Edward Island	0	0	0	0
National Parks	0	0	36	14,909
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>21,288</b>	<b>2,778</b>	<b>755,096</b>

**RESOURCES STATUS: COMMITTED RESOURCES**

AREA	CREWS FED	CREWS ST/OT	ENGS FED	ENGS ST/OT	HELI FED	HELI ST/OT	AIRT FED	AIRT ST/OT	OVRHD FED	OVRHD ST/OT
Alaska	7	6			3	2			62	44
Northwest	1		10	15					13	3
Northern California			9		1					
Southern California	2	2	5	2						
Northern Rockies										
Eastern Great Basin	1		15	1						
Western Great Basin	1		3		1					
Southwest	4		7	6	1				52	1
Rocky Mountain			5		1				2	
Eastern Area			1						9	
Southern Area	2		4		1				5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>48</b>

\*\*\* NATIONAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER \*\*\*