

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Saturday, October 2, 2010 – 0530 MT  
National Preparedness Level 2**

**National Fire Activity**

Initial attack activity: Light (166 new fires)  
 New large fires: 1 (\*)  
 Large fires contained: 1  
 Uncontained large fires: \*\* 3  
 Area Command Teams committed: 0  
 NIMOs committed: 0  
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 0  
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 2

Nationally, there are 81 large fires being managed to achieve multiple objectives.

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

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

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

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

**Twitchell Canyon**, Fishlake NF. IMT 2 (Whalen). Seven miles east of Manderfield, UT. Timber. Creeping and smoldering. Numerous structures, a major power corridor and portions of Interstate 70 threatened.

**River Breaks**, Salmon-Challis NF. IMT 2 (Kidd). Two miles southwest of North Fork, ID. Timber and grass. Creeping fire with torching and spotting. Structures threatened.

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
Twitchell Canyon	UT	FIF	44,446	0	N/A	N/A	579	7	15	23	7	2	15M	FS
River Breaks	ID	SCF	430	30	10	UNK	279	79	9	7	4	0	222K	FS

**Southern Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 106  
 New large fires: 1  
 Uncontained large fires: 2

\* **Drew 2**, Arkansas Forestry Commission. Three miles southeast of Monticello, AR. Timber. No further information received.

**Ashley 179**, Arkansas Forestry Commission. Five miles west of Fountain Hill, AR. Timber. 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
* Drew 2	AR	ARS	100	---	25	UNK	22	---	0	0	0	0	1K	ST
Ashley 179	AR	ARS	100	---	25	UNK	17	---	0	0	0	0	1K	ST
Ft. Gates #22	FL	FNF	1,097	0	100	---	3	0	0	0	0	0	155K	FS

FNF – National Forests in Florida

**Predictive Services Discussion:** Warm and dry conditions will continue across much of the West for one more day. Scattered thunderstorms, some with limited moisture, will develop across portions of southern California, the central and southern Sierra Nevada, Southwest, southern Great Basin and southern Colorado. Low relative humidity will continue across the Mississippi Valley and western Gulf Coast states through the weekend.

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



Today's discussion is from  
"This Day in 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.

## Daniel Holmes – Hazard Tree Fatality - October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004

**Incident Summary:** October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2004, a prescribed fire is planned in the Grant Grove Sub District of Kings Canyon National Park. This park has long been known for its active prescribed fire program and since 1981, has been home to the Arrowhead Hotshots. The unit being burned this day has been burned several times before. The predominant tree in this unit is White Fir, a high-risk species, which had suffered a considerable die-off due to a Tussock Moth infestation. The unit has been prepped and hose-lays installed. Numerous snags along the line have been evaluated for firefighter safety and holding concerns. Some hazard trees were cut down or lined. One white fir snag about 146 feet tall and 12 feet inside the line was considered sound by experienced firefighters and is left standing. Torching brush and short trees during the test burn send embers into the top of the snag and within minutes smoke and then flames are observed. The snag has become a hazard and a holding concern and it is decided that it needs to be felled. Class C-fallers are called over to size-up the tree; Daniel Holmes, an Arrowhead Hotshot, is the swamper. Because of its lean, it is decided to drop it across the line and to move the hose-lay so that it can be suppressed as a spot fire. Holmes and another faller pass under the snag on the fireline as they walk over to assist in moving the hose-lay so that they can then cut the tree. Several firefighters see the top of the snag fall and yell. They start to run but the falling tree top hits Holmes on the head and he is knocked out. He never regains consciousness.

To that date, Daniel Holmes would be the 20<sup>th</sup> firefighter killed by a snag since 1960.

### Lessons Learned Discussion Points

The morning began with a safety briefing and most of the firefighters confirm that snag hazards were emphasized several times.

- If you were giving your crew a briefing about hazard trees in **your** area, what will your emphasis points be?

You and your crew are sizing up hazard trees in preparation for a prescribed burn in **your** area.

- What are the common high-risk species of trees there?
- Discuss how you will determine the soundness of the trees.
- What are the common indicators that they have become unhealthy/unsafe?

Knowing when the top of this tree would fall is impossible. The top of the snag had only been burning for less than 2 hours. The winds had been light.

- Would you have considered this tree as hazardous as it really was?
- Knowing that the top of the tree might eventually fall, what will you do to be ready for it?

Though there were 3 experienced fallers paying attention to the burning snag during its size-up, once the firefighters transitioned to moving the hose-lay there was not a dedicated lookout assigned for that task.

- How will you and your crew manage the safety of all firefighters when you are in a similar transition situation?
- How can you better expect the unexpected after reading this tragic accident?



*Arrowhead Hotshot Daniel Holmes – 2004*

### Resources

- [Holmes Accident Investigation](#)
- [Hazard Tree Safety Website](#)
- [Hazard Tree & Tree Felling Task Group](#)

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

[Online](#) | Mail: 6 Minutes For Safety Task Group • 3833 S. Development Ave • Boise, ID 83705 | FAX: 208-387-5250  
[6 Minutes Home](#)

### Fires and Acres Yesterday

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES			0		0		0
	ACRES			2,049		2,296		4,345
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES					6	1	7
	ACRES					2	1	3
Southern California	FIRES		1		0	20	9	30
	ACRES		0		8	10	2	20
Northern Rockies	FIRES						3	3
	ACRES						0	0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		2			2	5	9
	ACRES		493			1	2,251	2,745
Western Great Basin	FIRES		2			1	1	4
	ACRES		0			0	0	0
Southwest	FIRES					1	2	3
	ACRES					0	21	21
Rocky Mountain	FIRES					3	1	4
	ACRES					3	0	3
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES			2		103	1	106
	ACRES			8		691	19	718
TOTAL	FIRES	0	5	2	0	136	23	166
	ACRES	0	493	2,057	8	3,003	2,294	7,855

### Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	76	69	53	467	16	682
	ACRES	103	294,196	145,476	113,284	570,495	10	1,123,564
Northwest	FIRES	170	226	20	27	540	1,135	2,118
	ACRES	34,756	19,784	3,591	4,942	33,485	8,522	105,080
Northern California	FIRES	65	124		13	1,807	477	2,486
	ACRES	50	12,224		8	18,736	2,903	33,921
Southern California	FIRES	19	212	5	37	2,412	474	3,159
	ACRES	186	12,980	42	11,655	25,620	32,145	82,628
Northern Rockies	FIRES	530	75	7	16	400	588	1,616
	ACRES	4,469	16,326	15,301	3,797	15,206	13,330	68,429
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	43	573	3	30	565	527	1,741
	ACRES	12,382	410,597	610	5,248	171,420	71,089	671,346
Western Great Basin	FIRES	4	226	9	16	78	58	391
	ACRES	0	19,295	35	10	3,171	1,310	23,821
Southwest	FIRES	523	228	8	64	465	978	2,266
	ACRES	7,692	19,257	38	24,855	45,556	81,083	178,481
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	665	458	9	41	522	445	2,140
	ACRES	3,213	11,339	3,064	7,349	67,102	8,363	100,430
Eastern Area	FIRES	636		40	25	11,175	529	12,405
	ACRES	2,709		4,883	32	90,442	4,537	102,603
Southern Area	FIRES	545		66	16	27,173	607	28,407
	ACRES	33,871		6,718	188	425,969	23,583	490,329
TOTAL	FIRES	3,201	2,198	236	338	45,604	5,834	57,411
	ACRES	99,431	815,998	179,758	171,368	1,467,202	246,875	2,980,632

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>65,333</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>5,953,708</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	2					2
	ACRES	185	8					193
Northern California	FIRES				1			1
	ACRES				70			70
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES	2					2	4
	ACRES	138					31	169
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES						0	0
	ACRES						897	897
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	4					2	6
	ACRES	2,549					601	3,150
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES	1						1
	ACRES	200						200
Southern Area	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						999	999
TOTAL	FIRES	7	2	0	1	0	6	16
	ACRES	3,072	8	0	70	0	2,528	5,678

### Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES			1		12	2	15
	ACRES			21		21,502	385	21,908
Northwest	FIRES	15	68	19	1		167	270
	ACRES	7,094	16,486	2,288	11		28,688	54,567
Northern California	FIRES	1	12	28	23	29	237	330
	ACRES	10	771	22,373	1,491	4,042	10,375	39,062
Southern California	FIRES		9	11	7	20	63	110
	ACRES		1,612	1,525	547	2,506	1,969	8,159
Northern Rockies	FIRES	106	35	111	8	29	222	511
	ACRES	4,501	5,465	27,159	1,240	924	19,802	59,091
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	2	19	6	9	29	59	124
	ACRES	4,100	4,710	2,745	775	2,268	23,327	37,925
Western Great Basin	FIRES		8	2	4	1	8	23
	ACRES		1,302	1,395	846	210	638	4,391
Southwest	FIRES	33	20	12	10		142	217
	ACRES	4,726	23,116	8,870	2,146		72,455	111,313
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	47	71	122	21	47	151	459
	ACRES	6,047	17,226	28,031	4,831	6,265	23,567	85,967
Eastern Area	FIRES	49		372	52	1,856	186	2,515
	ACRES	62,997		56,809	6,206	114,120	59,611	299,743
Southern Area	FIRES	22		193	64	8,960	1,124	10,363
	ACRES	3,250		87,468	71,462	267,626	1,053,393	1,483,199
TOTAL	FIRES	275	242	877	199	10,983	2,361	14,937
	ACRES	92,725	70,688	238,684	89,555	419,463	1,294,210	2,205,325

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

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