

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Thursday, October 28, 2010 – 0530 MT  
National Preparedness Level 1**

**National Fire Activity**

Initial attack activity: Light (64 new fires)  
 New large fires: 1 (\*)  
 Large fires contained: 1  
 Uncontained large fires: \*\* 8  
 Area Command Teams committed: 0  
 NIMOs committed: 0  
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 0  
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 0

Nationally, there are 24 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.

**Southern Area (PL 3)**

New fires: 23  
 New large fires: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 7

**The Crippled Chinook**, National Forests in Mississippi. Six miles southwest of Augusta, MS. Timber and southern rough. Minimal fire activity. Structures threatened.

**Wrangler**, Kisatchie NF. Twenty miles southwest of Natchitoches, LA. Southern rough, pine and hardwood. Minimal fire activity.

**Bombing Range Nine 21**, National Forests in Florida. Eleven miles west of Astor, FL. Timber and brush. Smoldering.

**Gore Store Road**, Texas Forest Service. Twenty miles southeast of Woodville, TX. Timber. No new information.

**Lucky Hollow**, George Washington and Jefferson NF. Fourteen miles northeast of Harrisonburg, VA. Timber. Smoldering.

**Fish Trap**, Daniel Boone NF. Nine miles northwest of Campton, KY. Hardwood litter. No further information received.

**Toothman**, Osage Agency, BIA. Three miles northeast of Prue, OK. 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
The Crippled Chinook	MS	MNF	5,717	0	90	UNK	16	0	0	2	4	0	262K	FS
Wrangler	LA	KIF	4,363	0	95	10/31	71	-2	2	2	0	0	1.7M	FS
Bombing Range	FL	FNF	2,669	233	80	10/29	25	0	0	2	3	0	310K	FS

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
Nine 21														
Gore Store Road	TX	TXS	1,800	---	90	UNK	25	---	0	0	1	0	NR	ST
Lucky Hollow	VA	VAF	396	96	40	11/8	55	7	1	2	1	0	70K	FS
Fish Trap	KY	DBF	320	0	50	10/29	46	0	2	1	1	0	70K	FS
Toothman	OK	OSA	123	0	95	10/28	25	0	0	10	0	0	7K	BIA
Three Mile Branch	AR	ARS	192	0	100	---	7	1	0	0	0	0	460	ST

ARS – Arkansas Forestry Commission

### **Eastern Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 23

New large fires: 1

Uncontained large fires: 1

\* **Devils Kitchen Mine**, Mark Twain NF. Five miles north of Ellsinore, MO. Hardwood litter. Moderate fire activity. 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
* Devils Kitchen Mine	MO	MTF	100	---	85	10/28	22	---	0	3	0	0	3.5K	FS

**Predictive Services Discussion:** A low pressure system will move into the Northeast today with dry and windy conditions spreading northeastward from Texas to the Appalachians. Precipitation will be confined to the Great Lakes and southeast coast. Dry and warmer conditions will develop across the Rocky Mountain, Southwest and Southern California Geographic Areas.

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



Today's discussion is from the  
Aviation Category.

## Mountain Flying

This outline is not all inclusive, nor is it directive in nature. Many of the subjects discussed in this outline can be found in non-mountainous areas or at low altitudes. For example, density altitudes over 8500' MSL can be found regularly on the eastern plains of Colorado in the summer. Also, dangerous mechanical and or mountain wave turbulence can be found in areas that aren't usually considered mountainous. Places like the Rocky Mountains / Sierra Front are where all of these concepts can be experienced. In addition, keep in mind that fires in any geographic area can and do produce their own localized weather and the hazards described in this outline can occur in these situations as well.

### ● Pilot Ability

- Carefully consider your experience and background before beginning a fire mission into mountainous terrain. Mountain flying in many areas will stretch your abilities to fly the airplane proficiently, navigate, and deal with weather. Consider your ability to react to strong winds and the up and down drafts they may cause. The aircraft gross weight and its affect on performance should be carefully considered.

### ● Visibility

- Many experienced mountain pilots recommend having at least 15 miles of visibility before attempting mountain flights. In the fire environment, make sure you have enough visibility to safely maneuver the aircraft to avoid any obstacles. Remember, turn radius is greater due to increased TAS, engine response time is increased and thrust is reduced due to higher density altitudes....give yourself a margin.

### ● Winds

- Strong winds can cause some of the most dangerous conditions you'll have to contend with in the mountains. Mountain top winds in excess of 25 knots are indicative of moderate to severe turbulence at ridge top levels as well as the likelihood of very strong up and down drafts. Plan your approach / drop and leave an "out" in case you have to go through dry or encounter unexpected turbulence / down drafts. When encountering a downdraft, maintain sufficient airspeed. Jettison part / all of the load if necessary. Guard against stalling the aircraft and fly out of the downdraft immediately with full power. Proceed to an area of updraft or smoother air. Pay close attention to the forecasts at and above the mountain ridges. In the west, that usually means the 9000' and 12,000' wind forecasts. In the east, you'll look at lower wind level forecasts. Winds above 25 knots at these levels should be a warning sign regarding turbulence and updraft / downdraft potential.

### ● Mountain Wave

- When the wind speed is above about 25 knots and flowing perpendicular to the ridge lines, the air flow can form waves, much like water flowing over rocks in a stream bed. The waves form downwind from the ridge line and will be composed of very strong up and down drafts, with the probability of dangerous rotor action under the crests of the waves. If enough moisture is present, (standing) lenticular clouds can form to give a visual indication of the wave action. Standing lenticular clouds are also an indication of moderate to severe turbulence.

### ● Winds Through Passes

- Winds flowing through the narrow restriction of a mountain pass tend to increase in velocity. When the winds are forecast above 20 knots, be aware that this phenomenon may cause turbulence and drafts.

### ● Remove or secure loose articles when working around an operating helicopter.

### ● Be aware of the dust abatement conditions of the landing area, as blowing dust, sand, or rocks caused by the helicopter's rotor wash can be hazardous.

### ● Remove or secure loose articles when working around an operating helicopter.

### References:

[FAA-P-8740-60 / AFS-803 \(1999\), "Tips on Mountain Flying."](#)  
[Air Traffic Manager, Denver Air Route Traffic Control Center, "Mountain Flying, Techniques and Tips"](#)  
[Department of Transportation Book AC91-15, "Terrain Flying."](#)

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Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

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### 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					6		6
	ACRES					16		16
Southern California	FIRES		1		0	8	1	10
	ACRES		0		13	192	0	205
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						0	0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						0	0
Eastern Area	FIRES					9	14	23
	ACRES					561	16	577
Southern Area	FIRES					22	1	23
	ACRES					94	1	95
TOTAL	FIRES	0	1	0	0	45	18	64
	ACRES	0	0	0	13	863	17	893

### Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	76	69	53	473	16	688
	ACRES	103	295,196	145,473	113,280	573,050	10	1,127,112
Northwest	FIRES	180	228	18	29	557	1,174	2,186
	ACRES	34,795	19,861	4,292	4,942	33,522	8,769	106,181
Northern California	FIRES	77	126	1	13	2,148	532	2,897
	ACRES	58	12,224	0	8	19,457	2,899	34,646
Southern California	FIRES	20	291	6	65	2,567	554	3,503
	ACRES	186	13,698	42	11,874	25,953	32,182	83,935
Northern Rockies	FIRES	596	76	7	16	409	605	1,709
	ACRES	5,053	16,327	15,301	3,797	15,208	13,341	69,027
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	47	599	3	29	602	558	1,838
	ACRES	12,382	411,210	605	5,248	175,180	77,701	682,326
Western Great Basin	FIRES	4	242	9	16	79	77	427
	ACRES	0	19,336	35	10	3,164	1,313	23,858
Southwest	FIRES	530	241	10	66	474	1,033	2,354
	ACRES	7,695	19,257	39	24,855	45,561	82,865	180,272
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	867	478	9	43	549	456	2,402
	ACRES	5,361	13,282	3,064	11,076	89,824	10,649	133,256
Eastern Area	FIRES	692		42	27	11,053	622	12,436
	ACRES	2,867		4,889	33	90,353	4,891	103,033
Southern Area	FIRES	551		81	25	29,825	708	31,190
	ACRES	34,103		6,749	199	433,658	33,402	508,111
TOTAL	FIRES	3,565	2,357	255	382	48,736	6,335	61,630
	ACRES	102,603	820,391	180,489	175,322	1,504,930	268,022	3,051,757

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>68,271</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>6,156,680</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		9				2	11
	ACRES		206				206	412
Northern California	FIRES		2	1	2		27	32
	ACRES		36	2	11		1,346	1,395
Southern California	FIRES		1				6	7
	ACRES		50				88	138
Northern Rockies	FIRES						9	9
	ACRES						351	351
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES						0	0
	ACRES						15	15
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES				0		0	0
	ACRES				1		110	111
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		1				2	3
	ACRES		3				209	212
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	0	13	1	2	0	46	62
	ACRES	0	295	2	12	0	2,325	2,634

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES			3		12	3	18
	ACRES			59		14,931	405	15,395
Northwest	FIRES	20	83	23	1		269	396
	ACRES	10,341	25,387	2,532	11		51,780	90,051
Northern California	FIRES	2	15	33	36	29	401	516
	ACRES	24	831	22,554	1,664	4,042	19,675	48,790
Southern California	FIRES	1	10	18	8	21	106	164
	ACRES	2	1,463	4,826	587	2,549	2,656	12,083
Northern Rockies	FIRES	111	43	120	8	85	315	682
	ACRES	5,035	5,911	28,370	1,240	2,028	28,357	70,941
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	2	23	6	12	37	74	154
	ACRES	4,100	2,751	2,745	799	2,489	27,581	40,465
Western Great Basin	FIRES		8	2	4	1	8	23
	ACRES		1,302	1,395	846	210	638	4,391
Southwest	FIRES	39	20	12	10		165	246
	ACRES	6,316	23,116	8,870	2,370		78,066	118,738
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	51	72	128	23	47	165	486
	ACRES	8,589	17,149	28,914	8,449	6,265	26,536	95,902
Eastern Area	FIRES	76		393	52	1,483	206	2,210
	ACRES	63,775		59,651	6,206	98,072	70,180	297,884
Southern Area	FIRES	23		193	65	8,973	1,137	10,391
	ACRES	3,367		87,468	71,587	268,150	1,058,584	1,489,156
TOTAL	FIRES	325	274	931	219	10,688	2,849	15,286
	ACRES	101,549	77,910	247,384	93,759	398,736	1,364,458	2,283,796

**\*\*\* 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/>.