

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Friday, October 19, 2012 – 0530 MT  
National Preparedness Level 1**

**National Fire Activity**

Initial attack activity: Light (88 new fires)  
 New large fires: 4 (\*)  
 Large fires contained: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: \*\* 9  
 Area Command Teams committed: 0  
 NIMOs committed: 0  
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 0  
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 0

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

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

This will be the last daily Incident Management Situation Report. This report will be posted every Friday at 0800 Mountain Standard Time unless significant activity occurs.

**Rocky Mountain Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 16  
 New large fires: 2  
 Uncontained large fires: 4

**Vallecito**, San Juan NF. One mile west of Vallecito, CO. Timber. Moderate fire activity. Numerous residences threatened.

**Crookston**, Rosebud Agency, BIA. Eleven miles northwest of Crookston, NE. Brush and grass. Active fire behavior. Residences threatened.

\* **Fork**, South Dakota DOF. Six miles west of Custer, SD. Grass. Active fire behavior with short range spotting. Structures threatened.

\* **Bear Creek**, Nebraska DOF. Eight miles south of Cody, NE. Grass. Active fire behavior 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
Vallecito	CO	SJF	230	30	5	UNK	114	40	3	5	2	0	198K	FS
Crookston	SD	RBA	14,986	11,986	40	10/21	85	37	0	58	0	7	142K	BIA
* Fork	SD	SDS	353	---	50	10/19	81	---	1	16	0	1	50K	ST
* Bear Creek	NE	NES	900	---	85	10/19	104	---	0	41	0	0	5K	ST

### Northern California Area (PL 1)

New fires: 18  
New large fires: 1  
Uncontained large fires: 1

\* **Twenty Nine**, Sonoma-Lake Napa Unit, Cal Fire. Three miles south of Lower Lake, CA. Chaparral and grass. Active fire behavior with 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
* Twenty Nine	CA	LNU	300	---	20	UNK	NR	---	NR	NR	NR	1	300K	ST

### Eastern Great Basin Area (PL 2)

New fires: 8  
New large fires: 1  
Uncontained large fires: 1

\* **Echo Jr.**, Northwest Area, Utah DOF. Twelve miles northeast of Coalville, UT. Brush and grass. Running fire with spotting.

**North Buffalo**, Bridger-Teton NF. Previously reported incident. Fourteen miles northeast of Moran, WY. Timber. Smoldering. 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
* Echo Jr.	UT	NWS	350	---	60	10/19	40	---	0	8	0	0	9K	ST
North Buffalo	WY	BTF	29,950	---	N/A	N/A	2	---	0	0	0	0	852K	FS

### Southwest Area (PL 1)

New fires: 14  
New large fires: 0  
Uncontained large fires: 1

**Big Canyon**, Tonto NF. Fifteen miles northeast of Payson, AZ. Logging slash, brush and grass. Creeping and smoldering. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

**Shorten**, San Carlos Agency, BIA. Previously reported incident. Forty-five miles east of San Carlos, AZ. Timber and grass. Moderate fire activity. 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
Big Canyon	AZ	TNF	110	-60	50	10/28	52	-72	2	0	2	0	593K	FS
Shorten	AZ	SCA	4,000	---	N/A	N/A	9	---	0	3	0	0	20K	BIA

**Western Great Basin Area (PL 2)**

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

**Head**, Humboldt-Toiyabe NF. Eight miles west of Mountain City, NV. Timber, brush and grass. 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
Head	NV	HTF	427	0	90	10/20	20	-11	1	0	0	0	480K	FS

**Eastern Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 4  
 New large fires: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 1

**North Minnie**, Minnesota DNR. Five miles northeast of Fourtown, MN. Timber, grass and peat. Smoldering. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday. 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
North Minnie	MN	MNS	25,396	0	75	11/1	28	-50	0	0	1	0	2M	ST

**Other Fires**

(As of October 18)

GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AK	1	47,154	0	0	0	0
NW	2	26,983	2	6	1	89
NO	0	0	0	0	0	0
SO	1	44	11	22	2	0
NR	21	261,687	2	3	1	128
EB	4	50,372	0	1	0	7
WB	0	0	0	0	0	0
SW	0	0	0	0	0	0
RM	5	49,106	1	4	1	59
EA	2	7,049	1	7	0	39
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	36	442,395	17	43	5	322

This table does not include fires reported in the large fire section of this report. Updated weekly.



**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.

**The Pepper Hill Fire – 1938 - Pennsylvania**

**Incident Summary:** Most of north-central Pennsylvania had been extensively logged by large timber companies from 1890-1930. By 1938, fuels in the area consisted of very young second-growth hardwoods, ericaceous shrubs and logging slash. Following an unusually hot and dry summer, a killing frost on October 7<sup>th</sup> caused the foliage to cure. Precipitation for the past three months had been substantially below normal. High temperatures persisted in the 80's with RH's of 20-25%.

At 11:10am on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1938, the Hunts Run Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) Camp #S-132 is notified of a possible forest fire. Upon investigation, several fires are located on Pepper Hill Mountain. 2 CCC crews are dispatched to the fires. Both crews had just returned from a fire only hours before, and many enrollees requested to stay behind due to fatigue. All enrollees were ordered to go. The two CCC crews began initial attack from both flanks of the fire, anchoring into a nearby road. Both crews began constructing line from the heel of the fire to the top, burning out as needed. For reasons which are still not clear, crew 2 was ordered to abandon their firing operation on the right flank and proceed to the head of the fire to construct direct downhill line. The crew was ¾ of the way up Pepper Hill Mountain when the fire below made a rapid run that overtook them. A few were able to find safety atop large nearby rocks, the remaining crew was severely burned, and ultimately eight of the young CCC enrollees would lose their lives.

**Lessons Learned Discussion Points**

**Training** – Most of the CCC enrollees received little or no formal training. They were expected to learn what to do on the job.

- Most of us will work with new firefighters who have little or no experience. It is not reasonable or safe to assume they will learn everything on the fireline. How will your crew prepare new members for success?

**Fatigue** – Many of the enrollees assigned to the Pepper Hill Fire had just returned to camp from other fires at 5:30am that morning.

- Though we now have work/rest guidelines to help prevent fatigue, a long fire season can still take its toll on even the fittest firefighter. What signs might we see in our crewmembers that could indicate fatigue? (IRPG pgs x-xi)
- What impact can fatigue have on your crew, and what can you do to lessen the associated risks?

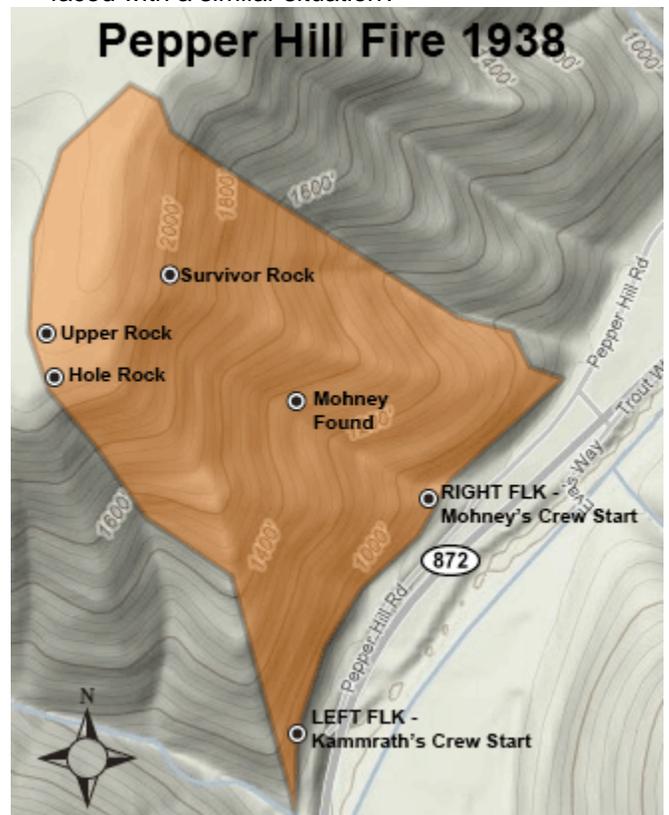
**Tactics** – The original plan to use the road as an anchor point seems sound, but poor choices were made on the right flank when the crew moved to the head and abandoned their burnout.

- Without aviation support, would your crew engage this fire? If so, how?
- Though not a sound decision at Pepper Hill, describe conditions where attacking the head of a fire could be a viable tactic, while ensuring safety.

**Crew Cohesion** – The CCC Enrollees had not worked many fires together. On their way up the hill, they became separated due to differences in physical ability.

There were no indications that their crew leader gave them any direction during this critical time.

- No firefighter intends to get into a bad situation. We all train to avoid them, but "what if"? How would you and your crew manage the safety of all firefighters if faced with a similar situation?



Resources: - [The Pepper Hill Fire of 1938 Incident Review](#)

**Predictive Services Discussion:** A cold front entering the Pacific Northwest will bring rain with snow at higher elevations to the Washington-Oregon coast and inland to the northern Rockies. Otherwise, the West will continue to experience mild conditions. A storm system continues to trek across the Great Lakes and into New England, bringing rain and snow to the upper Mississippi and Ohio Valleys as well as parts of New England. Breezy conditions will continue over the upper Midwest. Mainly dry weather remains over the Plains and the South.

<http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/outlooks/outlooks.html>

### Fires and Acres Yesterday

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES					1	1	2
	ACRES					0	5	5
Northern California	FIRES				1	17		18
	ACRES				0	12		12
Southern California	FIRES		2			9	2	13
	ACRES		0			5	0	5
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		1			6	1	8
	ACRES		0			18	0	18
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	9					5	14
	ACRES	1,783					260	2,043
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	0				13	3	16
	ACRES	11,986				1,330	2	13,318
Eastern Area	FIRES					4		4
	ACRES					3		3
Southern Area	FIRES					13		13
	ACRES					17		17
TOTAL	FIRES	9	3	0	1	63	12	88
	ACRES	13,769	0	0	0	1,385	267	15,421

### Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	4	39	30	21	296	5	395
	ACRES	164	51,289	39,629	76,948	102,264	0	270,294
Northwest	FIRES	128	224	27	29	879	930	2,217
	ACRES	44,235	1,136,341	1,902	20	46,355	265,050	1,493,903
Northern California	FIRES	123	24	2	13	2,735	588	3,485
	ACRES	275	423,780	0	28,526	34,298	321,259	808,138
Southern California	FIRES	35	168	12	65	3,085	623	3,988
	ACRES	47	32,692	8	2,247	42,049	10,226	87,269
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1,259	211	41	23	903	835	3,272
	ACRES	415,571	306,113	11,267	5,174	206,215	462,686	1,407,026
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	61	846	1	33	835	597	2,373
	ACRES	30,314	792,949	2	2,130	219,885	994,706	2,039,986
Western Great Basin	FIRES	5	630	3	16	201	142	997
	ACRES	1,200	513,331	60	28	66,734	42,745	624,098
Southwest	FIRES	748	201	12	42	524	1,060	2,587
	ACRES	37,944	5,326	187	4,334	33,753	460,789	542,333
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	1,440	544	35	41	1,681	716	4,457
	ACRES	170,868	67,791	4,183	1,497	666,952	190,320	1,101,611
Eastern Area	FIRES	834		64	19	8,831	612	10,360
	ACRES	2,010		4,823	403	85,063	12,461	104,760
Southern Area	FIRES	661		79	46	15,120	614	16,520
	ACRES	130,022		34,238	16,752	259,712	81,599	522,323
TOTAL	FIRES	5,298	2,887	306	348	35,090	6,722	50,651
	ACRES	832,650	3,329,612	96,299	138,059	1,763,280	2,841,841	9,001,741

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>64,168</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>6,747,359</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			1			7	8
	ACRES			100			324	424
Northern California	FIRES			0	1			1
	ACRES			248	76			324
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES					0	4	4
	ACRES					4	128	132
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					140		140
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						3	3
	ACRES						1,350	1,350
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES			1				1
	ACRES			250				250
Southern Area	FIRES			1			1	2
	ACRES			153			400	553
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	3	1	1	15	20
	ACRES	0	0	751	76	144	2,202	3,173

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

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES				2	11	15	28
	ACRES				18	13,445	218	13,681
Northwest	FIRES	8	62	21	2		225	318
	ACRES	3,502	6,029	1,986	17		34,487	46,021
Northern California	FIRES	3	13	37	25	3	156	237
	ACRES	108	203	23,670	263	15	13,137	37,396
Southern California	FIRES		6	9	5	6	129	155
	ACRES		1,521	1,526	946	1,831	4,997	10,821
Northern Rockies	FIRES	26	9	75	3	35	197	345
	ACRES	3,060	4,609	18,436	233	1,816	21,010	49,164
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		11	2	4	23	45	85
	ACRES		898	188	230	558	25,186	27,060
Western Great Basin	FIRES		4	4	3	15	4	30
	ACRES		825	419	413	3,079	221	4,957
Southwest	FIRES	31	18	12	18		144	223
	ACRES	1,214	8,519	5,512	470		44,845	60,560
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	39	13	113	21	14	51	251
	ACRES	5,406	1,543	22,880	2,492	1,290	8,662	42,273
Eastern Area	FIRES	37		506	50	980	152	1,725
	ACRES	22,116		81,364	9,354	58,483	57,595	228,912
Southern Area	FIRES	23		147	53	9,390	862	10,475
	ACRES	4,783		59,992	37,634	494,135	817,434	1,413,978
TOTAL	FIRES	167	136	926	186	10,477	1,980	13,872
	ACRES	40,189	24,147	215,973	52,070	574,652	1,027,792	1,934,823

**\*\*\* 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/>.

This report contains information derived from the National Fire and Aviation Management Web Applications (FAMWEB) system and other sources to provide relative information about emerging and ongoing incident activity. This information is considered operational in nature, is subject to correction, and therefore may not match official year to date agency records.

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