

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Friday, September 20, 2013 – 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 2**

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity: Light (64 new fires)
 New large fires: 3 (*)
 Large fires contained: 0
 Uncontained large fires: ** 6
 Area Command Teams committed: 0
 NIMOs committed: 0
 Type 1 IMTs committed: 0
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 3

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

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

Rocky Mountain Area (PL 2)

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

BLX Flood, Boulder County. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (Dallas) back to the local unit will occur tomorrow. Personnel are assisting with evacuations, search and rescue operations and damage assessment. Numerous communities threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect.

Larimer Flood 2013, Larimer County. IMT 2 (Del Grosso). Personnel are assisting with evacuations, search and rescue operations and damage assessment. Numerous communities threatened. Evacuations, road and area closures 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
BLX Flood	CO	BLX	---	---	---	UNK	640	-362	6	7	4	348	2M	CNTY
Larimer Flood 2013	CO	LRX	---	---	---	UNK	594	0	2	0	15	3,700	5.2M	CNTY

Southern California Area (PL 2)

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

Rim, Stanislaus NF. IMT 2 (Cooper). Two miles northeast of Buck Meadows, CA. Timber, brush and grass. Surface fire with occasional interior torching. Structures threatened. Evacuations, road and area closures 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
Rim	CA	STF	256,895	0	84	10/1	1,380	9	21	36	8	112	118.1M	FS

Northern California Area (PL 2)

New fires: 9
New large fires: 0
Uncontained large fires: 2

Forks Complex, Klamath NF. One mile east of Sawyers Bar, CA. Timber and brush. Creeping with torching. Structures threatened.

Corral Complex, Six Rivers NF. Ten miles east of Hoopa, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal 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
Forks Complex	CA	KNF	37,246	7	70	10/1	215	0	6	2	3	0	59.3M	FS
Corral Complex	CA	SRF	12,503	0	89	10/2	193	0	5	3	5	0	35.7M	FS

Northwest Area (PL 1)

New fires: 5
New large fires: 1
Uncontained large fires: 1

Riffle, Sheldon-Hart Mountain NWR. Nine miles southeast of Plush, Oregon. Juniper, brush and grass. No further information received.

* **Sam Davis**, Ochoco NF. Eighteen miles southeast of Mitchell, OR. Timber and grass. Creeping and 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
Riffle	OR	SHR	1,007	0	80	9/20	21	0	1	4	0	0	200K	FWS
* Sam Davis	OR	OCF	303	---	N/A	N/A	8	---	0	3	0	0	28K	FS

Northern Rockies Area (PL 1)

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

Irvine Flats 1, Flathead Agency, BIA. Four miles southwest of Polson, MT. Timber and grass. Smoldering.

* **Gardiner**, Nez Perce NF. Twenty-seven miles west of Darby, MT. Timber. No further information received. 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
Irvine Flats 1	MT	FHA	392	0	95	UNK	6	2	0	3	0	0	30K	BIA
* Gardiner	ID	NPF	332	---	N/A	N/A	0	---	0	0	0	0	4K	FS

Southern Area (PL 1)

New fires: 22
New large fires: 1
Uncontained large fires: 1

* **Singleton Creek**, Arkansas Forestry Commission. Six miles southeast of Hermitage, AR. Timber. Structures threatened. 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
* Singleton Creek	AR	ARS	800	---	60	UNK	33	---	0	0	0	0	36.3K	ST

Other Fires

(As of September 20)

GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AK	6	122,853	0	0	0	0
NW	14	69,507	5	14	3	443
NO	0	0	0	0	0	0
SO	0	0	0	0	0	0
NR	44	83,841	1	2	1	55
EB	15	61,772	1	2	0	26
WB	0	0	0	0	0	0
SW	0	0	0	0	0	0
RM	0	0	0	0	0	0
EA	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	79	337,972	7	18	4	524

Predictive Services Discussion: A cold front will stretch from the Great Lakes to Texas, bringing rain and thunderstorms to the region. A second front will enter the Northwest, producing rain along the Washington and Oregon coasts. Temperatures will warm slightly across most of the West and the Plains, with cooling over the far northern Plains and Upper Midwest. The South will remain warm, while mild weather continues across the mid-Atlantic and the Northeast.

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



Mountain Flying

Aviation Category

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 effect 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 altitude, 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 / the entire 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.

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."](#)

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	1				1	3	5
	ACRES	2				0	75	77
Northern California	FIRES					9	0	9
	ACRES					7	11	18
Southern California	FIRES	1				6		7
	ACRES	0				4		4
Northern Rockies	FIRES	1	1			2	2	6
	ACRES	3	0			0	0	3
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES						4	4
	ACRES						0	0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						4	4
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	1				0	1	2
	ACRES	0				65	0	65
Eastern Area	FIRES					6	1	7
	ACRES					18	0	18
Southern Area	FIRES					20	2	22
	ACRES					131	99	230
TOTAL	FIRES	4	1	0	0	44	15	64
	ACRES	5	0	0	0	225	189	419

Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	43	38	29	489	9	609
	ACRES	465	408,261	108,250	169,044	633,213	1	1,319,234
Northwest	FIRES	187	342	56	58	1,138	1,363	3,144
	ACRES	53,532	137,012	1,822	268	27,622	17,804	238,060
Northern California	FIRES	142	38	1	20	3,126	801	4,128
	ACRES	136	633	48	6	73,402	84,109	158,334
Southern California	FIRES	32	128	26	56	3,043	525	3,810
	ACRES	339	3,048	674	79,175	53,934	265,781	402,951
Northern Rockies	FIRES	597	85	9	18	935	1,057	2,701
	ACRES	7,910	747	1,070	11,601	16,796	140,890	179,014
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	66	718	1	39	650	659	2,133
	ACRES	314	310,684	0	250	40,402	430,758	782,408
Western Great Basin	FIRES	10	446	6	10	82	131	685
	ACRES	24,470	104,791	1	3	12,204	47,207	188,676
Southwest	FIRES	526	201	31	95	576	1,102	2,531
	ACRES	47,400	6,852	3,335	1,810	45,317	211,004	315,718
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	654	480	14	32	735	481	2,396
	ACRES	880	8,177	601	1,072	39,233	180,431	230,394
Eastern Area	FIRES	335		39	27	5,047	186	5,634
	ACRES	7,205		996	87	34,464	1,328	44,080
Southern Area	FIRES	165		80	17	9,910	357	10,529
	ACRES	11,520		13,475	1,445	111,827	11,902	150,169
TOTAL	FIRES	2,715	2,481	301	401	25,731	6,671	38,300
	ACRES	154,171	980,205	130,272	264,761	1,088,414	1,391,215	4,009,038

Ten Year Average Fires	59,712
Ten Year Average Acres	6,463,940

*** 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	1			2	4
	ACRES		34	140			300	474
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES					1	1	2
	ACRES					34	27	61
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						0	0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						0	0
	ACRES						90	90
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES				1			1
	ACRES				9			9
Southern Area	FIRES				5		1	6
	ACRES				85		19	104
TOTAL	FIRES	0	1	1	6	1	6	15
	ACRES	0	34	140	94	34	436	738

Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES			1	2	13		16
	ACRES			5	22	5,150		5,177
Northwest	FIRES	7	35	15	3		129	189
	ACRES	2,066	9,097	835	67		29,799	41,864
Northern California	FIRES	2	12	16	21		126	177
	ACRES	35	780	15,998	254		5,472	22,539
Southern California	FIRES		5	5	4	1	141	156
	ACRES		38	603	298	120	4,875	5,934
Northern Rockies	FIRES	18	13	24	2	94	167	318
	ACRES	1,448	2,904	6,747	156	1,038	11,036	23,329
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	4	19	1	5	22	59	110
	ACRES	696	1,394	1	693	1,359	14,401	18,544
Western Great Basin	FIRES		3	1		12	7	23
	ACRES		24	35		103	300	462
Southwest	FIRES	14	23	5	1		83	126
	ACRES	18,285	11,926	1,372	10		18,955	50,548
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	15	37	33	10	32	94	221
	ACRES	2,085	3,317	3,956	616	5,090	24,916	39,980
Eastern Area	FIRES	22		252	53	784	166	1,277
	ACRES	23,169		32,111	4,799	31,857	15,796	107,732
Southern Area	FIRES	56		108	16	11,306	906	12,392
	ACRES	15,415		47,720	5,957	583,502	866,540	1,519,134
TOTAL	FIRES	138	147	461	117	12,264	1,878	15,005
	ACRES	63,199	29,480	109,383	12,872	628,219	992,090	1,835,243

***** 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 change, and therefore may not match official year-to-date agency records.

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