

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Wednesday, July 22, 2015 – 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 2**

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity:	Light (163 new fires)
New large incidents:	6
Large fires contained:	5
Uncontained large fires: **	9
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.

Eight wildland fire suppression crews and eight fireline management personnel are assigned to support large fires in Alberta, Canada. Two wildland fire suppression crews and twenty-four fireline management personnel are assigned to support large fires in Saskatchewan, Canada. Additionally, several states are supporting Canada through interstate forest fire compacts.

Alaska Area (PL 3)

New fires:	3
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	1

Tanana Area Fires (5 fires), Tanana Zone, BLM. IMT 2 (Grant). Started on native corporation land seven miles northeast of Tanana, AK. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with torching, creeping and smoldering. Numerous structures threatened.

Aggie Creek, Fairbanks Area Forestry, DOF. Thirty miles northwest of Fairbanks, AK. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Numerous structures threatened.

Aniak Complex (4 fires), Southwest Area Forestry, DOF. One mile east of Aniak, AK. Timber. Minimal fire behavior.

Rex Complex (2 fires), Fairbanks Area Forestry, DOF. Started on private land seven miles southeast of Clear, AK. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened.

Tetlin Hills, Tok Area Forestry, DOF. Eight miles southeast of Tok, AK. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering.

Rock, Tanana Zone, BLM. Started on native corporation land nine miles southeast of Hughes, AK. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Numerous structures threatened. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
Tanana Area Fires	AK-TAD	488,547	1,111	4	Comp	NR	380	-7	12	0	2	0	11.2M	TRI
Aggie Creek	AK-FAS	31,705	0	55	Comp	NR	166	-74	5	3	1	0	12M	ST
Aniak Complex	AK-SWS	155,072	0	19	Comp	NR	205	1	7	0	3	0	7M	ST
Rex Complex	AK-FAS	16,179	0	75	Comp	NR	284	1	11	2	2	8	13.9M	PRI
Tetlin Hills	AK-TAS	1,878	0	90	Ctn	7/22	139	0	4	0	1	0	6.3M	ST
Rock	AK-TAD	77,400	3,139	0	Comp	NR	43	-1	2	0	0	0	610K	TRI
West Fork	AK-FAS	231	0	100	Ctn	---	0	0	0	0	0	0	150K	ST

Northwest Area (PL 2)

New fires: 14
New large incidents: 1
Uncontained large fires: 5
Type 2 IMTs committed: 2

Blue Creek, Southeast Region, DNR. IMT 2 (Ciraulo). Started on private land 10 miles east of Walla Walla, WA. Timber and closed timber litter. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, torching and flanking. Structures threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect.

* **PC Complex**, Pacific Cascade Region, DNR. IMT2 (Leitch). Eight miles northeast of Woodland, WA. Timber and light logging slash. Moderate fire behavior with isolated torching and backing.

Corner Creek, Ochoco NF. Eleven miles south of Dayville, OR. Timber, light logging slash and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures and sage-grouse habitat threatened. Road and area closures in effect.

Marion, Willamette NF. Five miles southeast of Marion Forks, OR. Timber and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Area and trail closures in effect.

Newby Lake Long Draw, Northeast Region, DNR. Previously reported as Newby Lake. Started on Forest Service land 12 miles northwest of Loomis, WA. Timber and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior.

I-90, Washington State Fire Marshal's Office. Seven miles southwest of George, WA. Brush and tall grass. No new information.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
Blue Creek	WA-SES	3,800	1,300	0	Ctn	NR	119	0	1	30	3	8	200K	PRI
* PC Complex	WA-PCS	129	---	40	Ctn	7/24	248	---	10	15	4	0	461K	ST
Corner Creek	OR-OCF	29,660	0	95	Ctn	NR	104	-56	2	3	0	1	12.8M	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
Marion	OR-WIF	121	0	90	Ctn	8/1	138	7	5	0	2	0	410K	FS
Newby Lake Long Draw	WA-NES	5,065	0	50	Comp	12/1	93	-236	3	2	0	0	4.6M	FS
I-90	WA-WFS	900	---	0	Ctn	NR	10	---	0	0	2	0	75K	ST

Southern California Area (PL 2)

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

* **TUU Lightning Complex**, Tulare Unit, Cal Fire. One mile south of Springville, CA. Timber. Moderate fire behavior.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
* TUU Lightning Complex	CA-TUU	416	---	15	Ctn	NR	166	---	7	9	0	0	10K	ST
North	CA-BDF	4,250	0	100	Ctn	---	215	-393	4	0	0	23	3M	FS
McCabe	CA-MMU	1,333	0	100	Ctn	---	13	-336	0	2	0	0	725K	ST

BDF – San Bernardino NF MMU – Merced-Mariposa Unit, Cal Fire

Southern Area (PL 2)

New fires: 21
 New large incidents: 2
 Uncontained large fires: 1

* **Pool**, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, FWS. Five miles east of Titusville, FL. Southern rough and tall grass. Extreme fire behavior with running and spotting. Structures threatened. Evacuations in effect.

* **Blue Pond**, National Forests in Mississippi. Five miles west of McLain, MS. Southern rough. Active fire behavior. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
* Pool	FL-MIR	500	---	0	Ctn	NR	12	---	0	4	0	0	10K	FWS
* Blue Pond	MS-MNF	500	---	75	Comp	7/23	8	---	0	2	0	0	4K	FS
10 Mile	FL-EVP	2,772	0	100	Comp	---	16	0	0	0	2	0	65K	NPS

EVP – Everglades National Park, NPS

Great Basin Area (PL 2)

New fires: 7
 New large incidents: 1
 Uncontained large fires: 1

* **Ft. Sage**, Carson City District, BLM. Eleven miles southeast of Herlong, CA. Short grass. Active fire behavior with wind-driven runs. Sage-grouse habitat threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
* Ft. Sage	NV-CCD	373	---	30	Ctn	7/22	84	---	4	6	2	0	63K	BLM

Northern Rockies Area (PL 2)

New fires: 18
 New large incidents: 1
 Uncontained large fires: 0

* **Meeker**, Nez Perce - Clearwater NF. Twenty-nine miles northeast of Elk City, ID. Timber. Active fire behavior with single tree torching. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
* Meeker	ID-NCF	465	---	0	Comp	NR	10	---	1	0	0	0	10K	FS

Southwest Area (PL 2)

New fires: 4
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 0

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn / Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crews	Eng	Heli			
Camp	AZ-TNF	652	0	100	Ctn	---	0	-61	0	0	0	0	200K	FS

Active Incident Resource Summary						
GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AKCC	51	2,216,717	69	7	19	1,913
NWCC	18	53,806	34	105	24	1,428
ONCC	0	0	0	0	0	0
OSCC	6	37,772	22	18	3	708
NRCC	8	12,579	8	19	1	287
GBCC	9	19,237	8	13	5	258
SWCC	8	48,486	3	5	0	105
RMCC	5	48	2	3	0	63
EACC	0	0	0	0	0	0
SACC	14	20,661	0	9	2	53
Total	119	2,409,306	146	179	54	4,815

Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
	ACRES	0	1,302	0	0	0	0	1,302
Northwest Area	FIRES	1	1	0	1	6	5	14
	ACRES	2	0	0	0	2	301	305
Northern California Area	FIRES	1	1	0	0	28	40	70
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	55	12	67
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	2	0	0	10	10	22
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	1	3	0	1	6	7	18
	ACRES	236	22	0	300	157	7	722
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	3	0	0	3	1	7
	ACRES	0	373	0	0	0	0	373
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	21	0	21
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	120	0	120
TOTAL FIRES:		3	14	0	2	77	67	163
TOTAL ACRES:		238	1,697	0	300	335	320	2,890

Fires and Acres Year-to-Date (by Protection):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	251	0	0	427	22	700
	ACRES	0	3,698,946	0	0	1,081,544	775	4,781,265
Northwest Area	FIRES	101	111	22	44	911	723	1,912
	ACRES	7,229	21,656	161	1,897	4,443	30,335	65,721
Northern California Area	FIRES	111	19	5	19	1,780	554	2,488
	ACRES	121	143	354	1	5,509	2,442	8,570
Southern California Area	FIRES	19	40	11	33	2,078	326	2,507
	ACRES	29	1,907	12	99	19,620	35,675	57,342
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	755	42	2	7	652	387	1,845
	ACRES	5,160	8,594	564	305	63,874	6,442	84,939
Great Basin Area	FIRES	28	451	4	25	357	263	1,128
	ACRES	15	31,365	0	60	6,400	20,615	58,455
Southwest Area	FIRES	412	151	4	25	398	579	1,569
	ACRES	41,366	2,546	4	3,737	16,299	81,808	145,760
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	349	171	11	15	593	109	1,248
	ACRES	13,080	504	170	7,408	62,767	752	84,681
Eastern Area	FIRES	527	0	29	14	5,381	337	6,288
	ACRES	2,181	0	2,102	547	43,904	5,489	54,223
Southern Area	FIRES	287	0	12	13	13,352	243	13,907
	ACRES	35,766	0	2,095	188	158,202	13,086	209,337
TOTAL FIRES:		2,589	1,236	100	195	25,929	3,543	33,592
TOTAL ACRES:		104,947	3,765,661	5,462	14,242	1,462,562	197,419	5,550,293

Ten Year Average Fires (2005 – 2014 as of today)	43,335
Ten Year Average Acres (2005 – 2014 as of today)	3,452,125

Prescribed Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Ownership):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	6	6
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	14	1	15
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	183	700	883
TOTAL FIRES:		0	0	0	0	14	3	17
TOTAL ACRES:		0	0	0	0	183	706	889

Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date (by Ownership):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	5	0	0	2	0	7
	ACRES	0	3,965	0	0	988	0	4,953
Northwest Area	FIRES	7	28	3	2	0	147	187
	ACRES	2,457	17,778	51	49	0	23,534	43,869
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	12	11	0	113	136
	ACRES	0	143	5,173	190	0	7,734	13,240
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	3	4	2	0	100	109
	ACRES	0	78	495	83	0	1,860	2,516
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	10	31	28	4	5	118	196
	ACRES	3,651	10,580	12,835	1,590	728	17,735	47,119
Great Basin Area	FIRES	1	24	1	6	31	50	113
	ACRES	24	1,449	1,060	85	1,713	17,315	21,646
Southwest Area	FIRES	41	29	8	7	0	141	226
	ACRES	615	18,888	2,436	4,606	0	72,622	99,167
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	18	34	57	11	48	80	248
	ACRES	2,080	6,299	15,899	1,153	2,134	22,351	49,916
Eastern Area	FIRES	30	0	259	22	1,371	155	1,837
	ACRES	39,398	0	32,921	6,637	65,420	49,486	193,862
Southern Area	FIRES	86	0	142	11	7,956	696	8,891
	ACRES	16,333	0	114,309	14,261	503,018	609,795	1,257,716
TOTAL FIRES:		193	154	514	76	9,413	1,600	11,950
TOTAL ACRES:		64,558	59,180	185,179	28,654	574,001	822,432	1,734,004

*** 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/>

Canada Fires and Hectares

PROVINCES	FIRES YESTERDAY	HECTARES YESTERDAY	FIRES YEAR-TO-DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO-DATE
BRITISH COLUMBIA	102	964	1,256	294,647
YUKON TERRITORY	0	0	181	176,700
ALBERTA	7	0	1,466	490,398
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	0	0	205	534,225
SASKATCHEWAN	0	22,831	646	1,585,212
MANITOBA	1	0	390	42,407
ONTARIO	0	137	399	36,544
QUEBEC	0	0	309	4,975
NEWFOUNDLAND	0	0	111	6,274
NEW BRUNSWICK	0	0	188	251
NOVA SCOTIA	1	0	220	506
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	4	2
NATIONAL PARKS	2	0	89	505,571
TOTALS	113	23,932	5,464	3,677,710

* 1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: Drier southwest flow will work its way into southern California today following a deluge of recent precipitation. Further north, tropical storm remnants will join with an upper level trough over the Great Basin and northern Rockies for showers and thunderstorms. It will continue to be dry and breezy across the Pacific Northwest. Monsoonal rain and thunderstorms are expected for the southern and central Rockies today, while showers and thunderstorms are also expected for the southern Plains and the upper Mississippi Valley. Alaska will see warmer temperatures for the Interior, but scattered showers and thunderstorms will develop from the southwest to south central regions of the state with an upper level trough of low pressure.

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

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 ****



This Day in History is a brief summary of a powerful learning opportunity and is not intended to second guess or be judgmental of decisions and actions. Put yourself in the following situation as if you do not know what the outcome will be. What are the conditions? What are you thinking? What are YOU doing?

Cramer Fire - Idaho – July 22nd 2003

“May the lessons of the Cramer Fire not be lost on an Idaho ridge”

Incident Summary: Central Idaho including the Salmon-Challis Nat'l Forest had been in a period of drought for the last 4 years. Spring and summer rainfall had lagged. 1630 July 20th a fire is reported in the area of Cramer Creek. Jumpers are dispatched and size up the Cramer Fire at 3 acres with high spread potential. High winds keep them from engaging the fire. Firefighters are flown in to a helispot (H1) on a ridge between Cramer and Cache Bar drainages, and due to fire behavior, do not engage the fire. The fire burns actively until 0230. By morning the fire is over 35 acres.

In addition to other air and ground resources, the Indianola helicopter H193 and Helitack crew report to the fire at 1515 on the 21st. By 1952 the fire is 200 acres. At 2000 fire intensity is reported to be low yet due to a thermal belt, the fire burns actively until 0300. Around 0930 the morning of the 22nd, H193 rappels two Helitack into a new helispot (H2) up the ridge from H1. Air attack reports fire perimeter is now over the ridge and in the Cache Bar drainage. The fire is now on both sides of the ridge that the helispots are on. Fire is active below H1. The Helitack are falling large trees on H2 to clear room for medium helicopters that had been ordered for a crew shuttle. H193 transitions to bucket work on H1 at 1127 and minutes later the firefighters on H1 pull back and retreat down the trail toward the river. 20 minutes later H1 is burned over. Fire activity is reported as “intense”.

By **1430** the fire in the Cache Bar drainage is an active fire front. At **1447** plans were made to remove the Helitack from H2. At **1500** the fire on both sides of the ridge begins to spread rapidly...Both helicopters assigned to the fire are at the helibase 15 minutes away for refueling and maintenance when the Helitack call for an immediate pickup. At **1505** they call again for immediate pickup. At **1509** they call for immediate pickup and report that they are fine just taking a lot of smoke. At **1513** the Helitack report fire and smoke below them and request immediate pickup. At **1519** Helitack contact helibase regarding status of helicopter. Arriving at the fire, the helicopter is unable to land due to smoke. Both rappellers leave H2 at **1520**. At **1524** the Cache Bar drainage is fully involved in fire. The rappellers make final call for immediate pickup... Both firefighters die soon after.

History - The Salmon River Breaks area of the Salmon-Challis Nat'l Forest has a long history of entrapping firefighters; 161 to date. Steep slopes predispose areas to rollout and rapid, uphill fire growth commonly leading to extreme fire behavior and difficult suppression.

- *How can information about an area's fire history help your situational awareness?*

Size up – Crews are informed at the July 22 morning briefing that conditions will be getting progressively warmer and drier than previous days. Temperatures surpass 100°F and set record highs. RH's are 10-15%. Fuels in the Cache Bar drainage are short grass on the south aspects and nearly continuous fields of ceanothus on the north. Live fuel moistures are critically low and the Burn Index (BI) and Energy Release Component (ERC) indicate dangerous conditions.

- *Based on the predicted weather and the fire information above, what are your concerns?*
- *How could you and your crew safely engage a fire in a similar situation?*

L – The investigation report states that there were no effective lookouts for the rappellers at H2.

- *It is not uncommon to assign small squads to isolated tasks such as cutting helispots. The rappellers on H2 were clearing large trees to make a larger helispot. How would you and your crew maintain situational awareness of the fire and the felling operation at the same time?*

C – The rappellers were made aware of the low intensity fire in the Cache Bar drainage as soon as they were dropped off but the development of an active fire front in the Cache Bar drainage was observed by the lead plane and air attack 50 minutes before the fire reached H2. It was never communicated to them.

- *What will you and your crew do during any fire assignment to get accurate information about current fire behavior?*

E and S – There were no effective safety zones for the rappellers at H2 and once H1 below them burned over, the only way out was a helicopter.

- *Helicopters have become a common resource on fires transporting us to and from remote fireline, delivering our food, water, supplies, and medevac. But what would you do if the helicopter couldn't come? Discuss why depending on helicopters as an escape route is a bad idea?*

Incident Complexities - On any incident, we may or may not be aware of problems with incident management effectiveness, adequacy of resources, or other big-picture details.

- *Discuss how you and your crew will maintain safety without knowing these things.*

[Cramer Fire Accident Investigation](#) [Cramer Fire Case Study video](#)