

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Friday, August 26, 2016 – 0530 MT
National Preparedness Level 4**

National Fire Activity

Initial attack activity:	Light (93 new fires)
New large incidents:	3
Large fires contained:	4
Uncontained large fires:**	30
Area Command Teams Committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	1
Type 1 IMTs committed:	7
Type 2 IMTs committed:	9

**Uncontained large fires include only fires being managed under a full suppression strategy.
[Link](#) to Geographic Area daily reports.

One MAFFS C-130 air tanker and support personnel each from the 153rd Airlift Wing, (Wyoming Air National Guard) and the 302nd Airlift Wing, (Colorado Springs, Air Force Reserve) have been deployed to Boise, ID in support of wildland fire operations.

One Convair 580 airtanker group from both British Columbia and Alberta have been deployed to Pocatello and Boise, Idaho in support of wildland fire operations.

Southern California Area (PL 4)

New fires:	19
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	4
Type 1 IMTs committed:	4

Chimney, San Luis Obispo Unit, Cal Fire. Cal Fire IMT 1 (Patterson). Fifteen miles west of Paso Robles, CA. Timber and chaparral. Extreme fire behavior. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road and area closures in effect.

Cedar, Sequoia NF. IMT 1 (Minton). Five miles north of Alta Sierra, CA. Timber and chaparral. Active fire behavior with short crown runs, group torching and short-range spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road, trail and area closures in effect.

Soberanes, San Benito-Monterey Unit, Cal Fire. Transfer of command from IMT 1 (von Tillow) to IMT 1 (Kurth) will occur today. Seven miles northwest of Big Sur, CA. Timber, chaparral and tall grass. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, flanking and short-range spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road, area and trail closures in effect.

Rey, Los Padres NF. IMT 1 (McGowan). Seven miles north of Goleta, CA. Chaparral. Active fire behavior with short-range spotting and flanking. Structures threatened. Evacuations, road, trail and area closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Chimney	CA-SLU	43,933	2,258	41	Ctn	9/3	3,972	0	98	327	16	70	47.5M	ST
Cedar	CA-SQF	26,845	3,606	20	Ctn	9/15	2,389	15	36	222	16	12	27.7M	FS
Soberanes	CA-BEU	90,062	1,408	60	Ctn	9/30	1,392	-102	21	65	12	68	160.8M	ST
Rey	CA-LPF	31,505	0	39	Ctn	8/31	1,976	-44	57	88	18	0	15.2M	FS

Great Basin Area (PL 4)

New fires:	8
New large incidents:	2
Uncontained large fires:	6
Type 1 IMTs committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs committed:	3

Henrys Creek, Bonneville County. IMT 2 (Demasters). Seven miles southeast of Idaho Falls, ID. Brush and short grass. Moderate fire behavior with running, torching and flanking. Structures and sage-grouse habitat threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Pioneer, Boise NF. IMT 1 (Lund). Eight miles north of Idaho City, ID. Timber. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, short-range spotting and short crown runs. Structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Berry, Grand Teton NP. IMT 2 (Roide). Nineteen miles northwest of Moran, WY. Timber and short grass. Moderate fire behavior with torching, flanking and creeping. Structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Tie, Caribou-Targhee NF. IMT 2 (Bird). Ten miles southwest of Victor, Idaho. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with isolated torching, creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Peterson Hollow, Uinta/Wasatch-Cache NF. Twelve miles northwest of Garden City, UT. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with torching, spotting and backing. Structures threatened. Road, area, and trail closures in effect.

Toponce Creek, Eastern Idaho Area, Idaho Department of Lands. Sixteen miles east of Pocatello, ID. Timber, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior.

* **Holy Oak**, Upper Snake Field Office, BLM. Started on Bureau of Reclamation land six miles east of Burley, Idaho. Brush. Extreme fire behavior with running.

* **Carrot**, Caribou-Targhee NF. Fourteen miles northeast of Tetonia, Idaho. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with creeping, single tree torching and group torching. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Roaring, Salmon-Challis NF. Previously reported incident. Thirty-one miles northwest of Salmon, ID. Timber, brush and short grass. Active fire behavior with short crown runs, spotting and isolated torching. Trail closures in effect. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Henrys Creek	ID-8BN	52,233	1,233	37	Ctn	9/5	350	61	7	25	7	2	1.3M	CNTY
Pioneer	ID-BOF	102,746	824	53	Ctn	10/15	1,678	-169	39	80	13	5	69.4M	FS
Berry	WY-GTP	12,378	99	0	Comp	10/1	260	-18	4	18	7	0	1.1M	NPS
Tie	ID-CTF	1,242	0	25	Ctn	9/15	207	30	4	8	6	0	150K	FS
Peterson Hollow	UT-UWF	1,100	100	10	Ctn	9/8	252	31	6	9	4	0	1.4M	FS
Toponce Creek	ID-EIS	265	0	91	Ctn	8/27	24	-29	0	2	1	0	1.5M	ST
* Holy Oak	ID-USD	305	---	75	Ctn	UNK	31	---	0	8	0	0	50K	OTHER
* Carrot	ID-CTF	330	---	0	Comp	9/30	1	---	0	0	0	0	15K	FS
Roaring	ID-SCF	3,662	1,755	0	Comp	10/31	1	0	0	0	0	0	50K	FS
Sand Ledges	UT-SCS	3,100	0	100	Ctn	---	4	-68	0	1	0	0	90K	ST

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
I84 MM 239	ID-TFD	1,233	-27	100	Ctn	---	72	---	0	17	0	0	80K	BLM

SCS - Central Area Utah DOF TFD - Twin Falls District BLM

Northwest Area (PL 3)

New fires: 9
New large incidents: 1
Uncontained large fires: 11
Type 2 IMTs committed: 5

Cayuse Mtn., Spokane Agency, BIA. IMT 2 (Goff). Eight miles south west of Wellpinit, WA. Timber and tall grass. Moderate fire behavior with single tree torching, short-range spotting and creeping. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road, and trail closures in effect.

Deep North, Northeast Region, Washington DNR. IMT 2 (Ciraulo). Thirty-one miles northeast of Colville, WA. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with flanking, creeping and smoldering. Residences threatened. Reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping.

Hart, Northeast Region, Washington DNR. IMT 2 (Knerr). Thirty-five miles northwest of Spokane, WA. Timber and short grass. Minimal fire behavior. Numerous structures threatened.

Spokane Complex, Northeast Region, Washington DNR. IMT 2 (Rabe). Twelve miles south of Spokane, WA. Timber and short grass. Minimal fire behavior. Numerous structures threatened. Road closures have been lifted.

Rail, Wallowa-Whitman NF. IMT 2 (Sheldon). Five miles west of Unity, OR. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with single tree torching, flanking and backing. Structures threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Cleveland Ridge, Medford Unit, Oregon DOF. Twenty-two miles north of Medford, OR. Timber, brush, and short grass. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, group torching and spotting. No new information.

Cherry Road, Vale District, BLM. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (Johnson) back to the local unit will occur today. Seven miles southwest of Adrian, OR. Brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior.

2500 Road, Toledo Unit, Oregon DOF. Three miles northeast of Depoe Bay, OR. Heavy and medium logging slash. Minimal fire behavior.

Hot Springs, Warm Springs Agency, BIA. Eight miles northeast of Warm Springs, OR. Short grass and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened.

* **Saul**, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF. Forty-eight miles southwest of Twisp, WA. Timber. Active fire behavior with torching and smoldering. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Tule #6, Yakama Agency, BIA. Seven miles south of Toppenish, WA. Timber, brush, and tall grass. No new information.

Kahlotus, Washington State Fire Marshall's Office. One mile southeast of Kahlotus, WA. Brush and short grass. Last report unless new information is received.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Cayuse Mtn.	WA-SPA	18,417	197	50	Ctn	9/1	346	96	8	20	0	13	666K	BIA
Deep North	WA-NES	596	-21	30	Ctn	8/30	395	68	9	33	0	0	1.2M	ST
Hart	WA-NES	4,983	783	55	Ctn	9/1	378	38	7	42	6	39	1.3M	ST
Spokane Complex	WA-NES	6,195	63	80	Ctn	8/30	691	110	12	78	5	17	2M	ST
Rail	OR-WWF	32,829	319	50	Ctn	8/31	859	-13	21	41	7	1	22.6M	FS
Cleveland Ridge	OR-711S	635	---	20	Ctn	8/30	464	---	29	23	7	0	800K	ST
Cherry Road	OR-VAD	35,308	208	95	Ctn	8/29	118	-134	0	6	2	0	1.7M	BLM
2500 Road	OR-553S	202	0	70	Ctn	8/27	364	88	16	14	2	0	845K	ST
Hot Springs	OR-WSA	313	0	90	Ctn	UNK	62	-4	1	8	0	0	50K	BIA
* Saul	WA-OWF	140	---	0	Comp	12/1	1	---	0	0	0	0	2K	FS
Tule #6	WA-YAA	6,200	---	80	Ctn	8/26	179	---	5	20	0	0	364K	BIA
Kahlotus	WA-WFS	5,942	---	80	Ctn	UNK	78	---	2	10	0	4	500K	ST

Northern Rockies Area (PL 2)

New fires:	5
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	3
Type 1 IMTs Committed:	1
Type 2 IMTs Committed:	1

Copper King, Lolo NF. IMT 1 (Poncin). Seven miles east of Thompson Falls, MT. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with short range spotting, single tree torching and creeping. Residences threatened. Evacuations, road, area and trail closures in effect.

Maple, Yellowstone NP. IMT 2 (Hutton). Four miles northeast of West Yellowstone, MT. Timber and grass. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Trail closures in effect.

Gun Club, Nez Perce-Clearwater NF. Started on private land two miles north of Riggins, ID. Timber and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior. Road, trail and area closures in effect.

Flagstaff Hill, Roosevelt County. Twenty miles southwest of Plentywood, MT. Tall grass and brush. Minimal fire behavior.

Moose, Nez Perce - Clearwater NF. Previously reported incident. Eighteen miles northeast of Lowell, ID. Timber. Moderate 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	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Copper King	MT-LNF	22,087	470	15	Ctn	10/31	674	110	17	27	9	0	11.7M	FS
Maple	WY-YNP	30,127	1,127	0	Comp	10/15	177	87	5	5	0	0	212K	NPS
Gun Club	ID-NCF	2,084	0	95	Ctn	8/26	59	-21	1	2	1	0	2.3M	PRI
Flagstaff Hill	MT-LG17	8,634	0	90	Ctn	8/26	22	0	0	5	1	0	35K	PRI

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Moose	ID-NCF	4,128	1,128	0	Comp	12/1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Boundary	WY-YNP	192	0	100	Ctn	---	0	-20	0	0	0	0	1.1M	NPS

Northern California (PL 3)

New fires: 17
New large incidents: 0
Uncontained large fires: 2
Type 1 IMTs Committed: 1

Tulley, Humboldt-Del Norte Unit, Cal Fire. Previously reported as Tully 2. Cal Fire IMT 1 (Lawson). Six miles north of Weitchpec, CA. Timber and heavy logging slash. Moderate fire behavior with uphill runs. Residences threatened. Road and area closures in effect.

Grade, Siskiyou Unit, Cal Fire. Two miles north of Yreka, CA. Chaparral, Tall Grass and Timber. Minimal fire behavior. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road and area closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Tulley	CA-HUU	505	65	20	Ctn	9/2	1,386	-37	47	95	11	2	5.5M	ST
Grade	CA-SKU	710	360	60	Ctn	8/31	667	329	24	40	2	10	725K	CDF

Rocky Mountain (PL 2)

New fires: 5
New large incidents: 0
Uncontained large fires: 3
NIMOs Committed: 1

Beaver Creek, Routt NF. NIMO (Hahnenberg). Twenty-four miles north of Walden, CO. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with torching, creeping and smoldering. Numerous structures and sage-grouse habitat threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

Hunter Peak, Shoshone NF. Fifteen miles southeast of Cooke City, MT. Closed timber litter, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Trail closures in effect.

Broadway, Medicine Bow NF. Thirty miles northwest of Walden, CO. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with torching, backing, and creeping. Road, area and trail closures in effect. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Beaver Creek	CO-RTF	37,403	0	53	Ctn	10/21	240	22	1	14	4	17	24.1M	FS
Hunter Peak	WY-SHF	3,572	0	54	Ctn	10/1	126	-10	1	5	2	0	6.6M	FS
Broadway	WY-MBF	246	11	0	Ctn	10/21	59	10	2	1	0	0	388K	FS
Twin Lakes	WY-WBD	1,500	0	100	Ctn	8/26	73	-136	1	3	2	0	7M	BLM

WBD - Wind River/Bighorn Basin District BLM

Southern Area (PL 1)

New fires: 26
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 1

Spanish Peaks, Oklahoma DOF. Five miles southeast of Liberty, OK. Hardwood litter and tall grass. Last report unless new information in received.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Spanish Peaks	OK-OKS	163	---	90	Ctn	UNK	26	---	1	8	0	0	60K	ST

Active Incident Resource Summary						
GACC	Fires	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel
AICC	1	58,137.8	0	0	0	0
NWCC	18	118,371.8	116	303	31	4,139
ONCC	3	5,144	72	137	14	2,102
OSCC	7	236,928	219	713	66	10,053
NRCC	15	77,190.6	26	59	15	1,173
GBCC	24	252,803	77	195	44	3,646
SWCC	2	431	0	1	0	4
RMCC	9	70,759	7	33	9	598
EACC	1	127	0	0	0	0
SACC	1	163	1	8	0	26
Total	81	820,055.2	518	1,449	179	21,741

Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):

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	1	0	0	0	6	2	9
	ACRES	1	0	0	0	6	340	347
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	12	5	17
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	471	4	475
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	17	1	19
	ACRES	0	0	0	1	4,155	4,906	9,062
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	2	3	5
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	521	521
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	4	0	0	2	2	8
	ACRES	0	320	0	0	1,242	2,704	4,266
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	1	3	4
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	23	23
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	4	0	0	0	1	0	5
	ACRES	13	2	0	0	0	48	63
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	26	0	26
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	62	0	62
TOTAL FIRES:		5	5	0	0	67	16	93
TOTAL ACRES:		14	322	0	1	5,936	8,546	14,819

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

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	180	0	0	334	16	530
	ACRES	0	394,808	0	0	104,812	3	499,623
Northwest Area	FIRES	270	180	26	25	1,036	520	2,057
	ACRES	35,950	300,146	1,866	2,480	17,250	34,465	392,157
Northern California Area	FIRES	96	6	1	25	2,004	313	2,445
	ACRES	139	11	1	5	35,981	8,725	44,862
Southern California Area	FIRES	11	74	6	39	2,424	276	2,830
	ACRES	5,971	29,857	269	1,071	159,994	171,463	368,625
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	581	92	10	22	989	373	2,067
	ACRES	8,257	4,806	1,933	17,273	33,047	44,657	109,973
Great Basin Area	FIRES	27	611	7	41	511	393	1,590
	ACRES	12,443	293,203	3	15,504	139,050	166,701	626,904
Southwest Area	FIRES	637	217	10	60	959	1,024	2,907
	ACRES	79,585	66,464	6,976	32,185	130,864	241,773	557,847
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	623	378	12	22	990	405	2,430
	ACRES	22,087	26,256	614	2,127	454,821	72,077	577,982
Eastern Area	FIRES	490	0	25	19	5,315	360	6,209
	ACRES	2,007	0	1,087	910	30,951	7,155	42,110
Southern Area	FIRES	346	0	52	54	15,461	439	16,352
	ACRES	132,796	0	1,219	27,567	928,012	43,371	1,132,965
TOTAL FIRES:		3,081	1,738	149	307	30,023	4,119	39,417
TOTAL ACRES:		299,235	1,115,551	13,968	99,122	2,034,782	790,390	4,353,048

Ten Year Average Fires (2006 – 2015 as of today)	51,999
Ten Year Average Acres (2006 – 2015 as of today)	5,407,877

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	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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	2	0	0	0	32	1	35
	ACRES	2,088	0	0	0	1,008	10	3,106
TOTAL FIRES:		2	0	0	0	32	1	35
TOTAL ACRES:		2,088	0	0	0	1,008	10	3,106

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

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	7	0	0	2	1	10
	ACRES	0	31,664	0	0	1,566	38	33,268
Northwest Area	FIRES	9	22	6	0	0	152	189
	ACRES	8,752	1,991	356	0	0	24,097	35,196
Northern California Area	FIRES	4	1	9	8	0	126	148
	ACRES	41	90	3,356	328	0	8,244	12,059
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	5	4	1	0	136	146
	ACRES	0	71	422	760	0	3,587	4,840
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	12	12	53	11	14	151	253
	ACRES	5,316	4,358	12,318	651	698	14,904	38,245
Great Basin Area	FIRES	4	22	6	5	36	75	148
	ACRES	110	2,296	3,584	128	915	26,105	33,138
Southwest Area	FIRES	8	30	3	9	1	122	173
	ACRES	894	26,591	92	2,333	2	63,004	92,916
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	25	33	58	24	76	71	287
	ACRES	1,635	2,908	26,221	10,952	4,482	28,161	74,359
Eastern Area	FIRES	87	0	349	23	908	182	1,549
	ACRES	45,614	0	51,090	5,774	61,747	56,182	220,407
Southern Area	FIRES	21	0	198	65	10,474	921	11,679
	ACRES	4,269	0	165,034	51,546	673,990	838,883	1,733,722
TOTAL FIRES:		170	132	686	146	11,511	1,937	14,582
TOTAL ACRES:		66,631	69,969	262,473	72,472	743,400	1,063,205	2,278,150

*** 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	5	334	935	99,316
YUKON TERRITORY	0	0	51	16,383
ALBERTA	4	1	1,240	612,109
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	0	0	186	199,304
SASKATCHEWAN	0	0	358	261,172
MANITOBA	0	0	192	36,307
ONTARIO	0	0	600	86,531
QUEBEC	1	0	547	32,609
NEWFOUNDLAND	2	0	87	10,962
NEW BRUNSWICK	0	0	262	261
NOVA SCOTIA	0	0	241	761
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	6	19
NATIONAL PARKS	1	0	54	6,434
TOTALS	13	335	4,759	1,362,169

* 1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: Scattered showers and thunderstorms will develop across the southern and central Rockies and the eastern half of the Great Basin. A few showers or thunderstorms will form in the northern Rockies. Scattered showers and thunderstorms will move through the Plains and across the Mid and Lower Mississippi Valley. Showers will move through New England. Temperatures will be mild to cool across the Rockies, the northern and central Plains, and the Great Lakes. Warm conditions will continue in the South and across the West Coast states and the desert Southwest.

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



Bees and Wasps

Firefighter Health & First Aid

In general bees sting to protect their hive and seldom sting when they are out foraging unless they feel threatened (like being swatted at or stepped on). On the other hand, a large number of bees or wasps foraging in one area may indicate a colony is nearby. If you intend to work or camp in the area, scout the area for bee/wasp habitat first.

Colonies vary in behavior over time, especially with changes in season, becoming more aggressive and easily agitated in the late summer and fall. You may pass the same colony for weeks and then one day provoke them unexpectedly.

● **Look out for colonies:**

Bees and wasps nest in a wide variety of locations, such as pipes, holes, behind shutters, under shingles, cracks and crevices within trees and rocks, and hanging from branches. Be alert for groups of flying bees entering or leaving an opening and listen for buzzing sounds. Be especially alert when climbing, digging fire line and moving logs. **DO NOT** put your hands where you can't see them.

Be particularly careful when using any heavy equipment that produces sound vibrations, such as chainsaws, weed eaters and pumps. **Keep escape routes in mind.**

!!! If you disturb a nest and are being attacked, run away. Use your shroud or shirt to protect your head neck and face. Swatting and waving your arms aggravates bees/wasps more!

● **About Africanized and European honey bees:**

Honey bees are about 5/8-inch long, brown, hairy insects with black encircling their abdomen, giving them a subtle striped appearance. All honey bees look alike. Only an expert can tell them apart.



The sting from a single Africanized honey bee is no more harmful than one from the common garden or European honey bee. Africanized honey bees are known as "killer bees" because they defend their nests more aggressively, with less provocation, and in larger numbers than the other honey bees, so there is a greater chance of receiving many stings.

Africanized honey bees are found in the southwest and are spreading across the south. You are more likely to be struck by lightning than being killed by Africanized bees.

● **Considerations with all bees and wasps:**

- 1) If a bee gets in the vehicle while you are driving. Stay calm, pull over and stop, let the bee out.
- 2) Keep trash away from your camp and keep it covered.
- 3) Look at what you are drinking and eating before you eat or drink. Bees and wasps are attracted to accessible food and water.

● **If you get Stung:**

The first thing you should do is remove the stinger. The end of a sting is barbed and will remain stuck in the skin even if the bee is removed. Muscles in the stinger allow it to continue pumping venom into the victim, even if it is no longer connected to the bee. Do not pull the stinger out with your fingers or tweezers because this will squeeze out more venom. Instead, scrape the stinger out with your fingernail, the edge of a credit card, a dull knife blade, or other straight edged object.

- **Two kinds of reactions are usually associated with bee stings and those of other stinging insects as well: (1) local or (2) systemic, allergic, or life-threatening.**

(1) Local Reactions:

A local reaction is usually characterized by pain, swelling, redness, itching, and a wheal surrounding the wound made by the stinger. Swelling can sometimes be locally severe. For instance, if stung on the finger, the arm may be swollen even up to the elbow. Swelling such as this is fairly common, even though it may be alarming. Swelling may be reduced by cooling the wound and/or taking an antihistamine such as Benadryl. Topical solutions such as calamine may also help alleviate pain.

(2) Systemic, Allergic, or Life-Threatening Reactions:

Allergic reactions can develop anywhere on the body and may include rash or hives, dizziness or headache, cramps, nausea, vomiting, swelling **not** in the general area of the sting, shortness of breath or difficulty swallowing, shock and unconsciousness. If you experience any of these symptoms, seek emergency medical assistance immediately. Symptoms can begin immediately following the sting or up to 30 minutes later and might last for hours.

- **If you know you are allergic:**

Anaphylaxis, if treated in time, usually can be reversed by epinephrine (adrenaline) injected into the body. Individuals who are aware that they are allergic to stings should carry epinephrine in either a normal syringe (sting kit) or an auto-injector (Epi-Pen) at all times when working outside **and communicate their allergy to supervisor/coworkers in case they become incapacitated.** Epinephrine is obtainable only by prescription from a physician.

- **Discussion Topics:**

- **Have you and your crew identified who is allergic to bee/wasp stings? Are they carrying their prescription Epi? Identify the Epi and its location to the rest of the crew.**
- **If you have an EMT on your crew/team, what are their protocols for treating stings and related allergic reactions?**
- **Discuss how you and your crew will safely flag or mark any identified nests/hives.**

References:

[USDA-ARS Carl Hayden Bee Research Center](#)

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

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