

**National Interagency Coordination Center
Incident Management Situation Report
Monday, July 5, 2021– 0730 MDT
National Preparedness Level 4**

National Fire Activity:

Initial attack activity:	Light (161 fires)
New large incidents:	4
Large fires contained:	7
Uncontained large fires: ***	33
Area Command teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	0
Type 1 IMTs committed:	3
Type 2 IMTs committed:	6

Nationally, there are 14 fires being managed under a strategy other than full suppression.

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

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

[Link](#) to Understanding the IMSR.

Two MAFFS C-130 airtankers and support personnel each from the 152nd Airlift Wing (Nevada Air National Guard) and one additional from the 146th Airlift Wing (California Air National Guard) have been deployed to McClellan, CA to support wildland fire operations nationally.

Active Incident Resource Summary							
GACC	Incidents	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel	Change in Personnel
AICC	5	64,227	6	7	3	226	-14
NWCC	11	27,335	37	60	8	1,057	166
ONCC	5	46,994	87	231	40	3,490	182
OSCC	6	7,379	5	22	4	270	-84
NRCC	10	48,665	7	47	12	463	-143
GBCC	13	57,654	8	19	10	458	1
SWCC	22	507,210	24	59	13	1,173	-80
RMCC	7	26,758	7	23	7	511	-241
EACC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SACC	2	7,720	0	1	0	4	0
Total	81	793,942	181	469	97	7,652	-213

Northern California Area (PL 4)

New fires: 26
New large incidents: 0
Uncontained large fires: 5
Type 1 IMTs committed 3
Type 2 IMTs committed 1

Salt, Shasta-Trinity NF, USFS. IMT 1 (CA Team 2). Three miles south of Lakehead, CA. Chaparral, timber and short grass. Active fire behavior with group torching, short-range spotting and backing. Several communities, numerous residences and energy infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area and road closures in effect.

Lava, Shasta-Trinity NF, USFS. IMT 1 (CA Team 1). Four miles east of Weed, CA. Timber, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with isolated torching, smoldering and uphill runs. Structures and infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area and road closures in effect.

Tennant, Klamath NF, USFS. IMT 2 (CA Team 15). Nine miles northwest of Tennant, CA. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, backing and smoldering. Numerous residences and infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect.

Beckwourth Complex (2 fires), Plumas NF, USFS. IMT 1 (CA Team 4). Three miles northeast of Beckwourth, CA. Timber, brush and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Salt	CA-SHF	10,000	2,050	20	Ctn	7/15	746	15	17	59	9	41	4.8M	FS
Lava	CA-SHF	24,757	297	52	Ctn	7/12	1,414	44	32	102	16	45	15M	FS
Tennant	CA-KNF	10,406	395	33	Ctn	7/31	813	31	23	43	6	5	6.6M	FS
Beckwourth Complex	CA-PNF	1,160	19	23	Ctn	7/8	355	92	10	14	5	0	1.1M	FS

Southwest Area (PL 3)

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

Bottom, San Carlos Agency, BIA. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (SW Team 4) back to the local unit will occur today. Seven miles west of Bylas, AZ. Short grass, brush and timber. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Road closures in effect.

Tiger, Prescott NF, USFS. IMT 2 (SW Team 3). Eleven miles east of Crown King, AZ. Tall grass and brush. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, flanking and single tree torching. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Rafael, Prescott NF, USFS. Three miles northeast of Perkinsville, AZ. Brush and timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures and infrastructure threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Pinnacle, Coronado NF, USFS. Thirteen miles south of Bylas, AZ. Short grass, brush and timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Water Springs, Colorado River District, BLM. Thirty-one miles northeast of Dolan Springs, AZ. Brush and tall grass. No new information.

Backbone, Coconino NF, USFS. Eleven miles west of Pine, AZ. Short grass and brush. No new information.

Horton, Apache-Sitgreaves NF, USFS. Five miles north of Hannigan, AZ. Timber and heavy slash. No new information. 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			
Bottom	AZ-SCA	4,655	0	94	Ctn	7/12	132	-73	0	3	4	0	1.7M	BIA
Tiger	AZ-PNF	11,971	2,171	0	Ctn	7/20	205	46	4	15	3	0	550K	FS
Rafael	AZ-PNF	78,065	0	95	Ctn	7/15	113	0	2	8	0	1	9.6M	FS
Pinnacle	AZ-CNF	34,437	0	90	Ctn	7/15	3	-16	0	1	0	0	10.5M	FS
Water Springs	AZ-CRD	496	---	99	Ctn	7/7	1	---	0	0	0	0	1M	BLM
Backbone	AZ-COF	40,855	---	96	Ctn	7/15	29	---	0	2	0	0	13.1M	FS
Horton	AZ-ASF	12,263	--	37	Ctn	7/30	243	---	6	4	2	0	4.1M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Painted	AZ-TNF	936	0	95	Comp	7/9	29	-17	1	0	3	0	75K	FS
Middle	AZ-TNF	428	26	15	Comp	7/20	35	0	1	1	0	0	25K	FS
Johnson	NM-GNF	88,918	---	24	Comp	7/23	10	---	0	0	0	0	7.4M	FS
Midway	AZ-TNF	1,005	---	0	Comp	7/20	0	---	0	0	0	0	20K	FS
Bear	AZ-ASF	23,868	---	20	Comp	7/31	34	---	1	3	1	0	180k	FS
Moore	AZ-ASF	2,500	---	0	Comp	7/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	20K	FS
Hobo	AZ-ASF	600	---	0	Comp	8/8	0	---	0	0	0	0	30K	FS
Drummond	NM-GNF	502	---	35	Comp	8/10	4	---	0	1	0	0	1.1M	FS

TNF – Tonto NF, USFS GNF – Gila NF, USFS

Northwest Area (PL 3)

New fires: 31
 New large incidents: 1
 Uncontained large fires: 4
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

***Batterman Rd**, Washington State Fire Marshal's Office. IMT 2 (NW team 12) mobilizing. Five miles east of Wenatchee, WA. Tall grass and timber. Active fire behavior with running and short-range spotting. Structures threatened. Evacuations and road closures in effect.

Dixie Creek, John Day Unit, ODF. Three miles northwest of Prairie City, OR. Timber, brush and tall grass. Moderate fire behavior with isolated torching.

Rattlesnake, Warm Springs Agency, BIA. Twelve miles northeast of Warm Springs, OR. Short grass and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

S-503, Warm Springs Agency, BIA. Five miles southwest of Pine Grove, OR. Timber, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
* Batterman Rd	WA-WFS	2,000	---	10	Ctn	7/7	0	---	0	0	0	0	100K	ST

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Dixie Creek	OR-952S	570	270	25	Ctn	7/10	150	44	6	6	2	0	750K	ST
Rattlesnake	OR-WSA	5,479	0	65	Ctn	7/8	140	0	5	12	2	0	600K	BIA
S-503	OR-WSA	6,680	0	97	Ctn	7/5	52	0	2	4	0	0	6.5M	BIA
Sunset Valley	OR-954S	987	0	100	Ctn	--	133	-133	0	0	0	1	226K	ST
Ryegrass 0444RS	OR-PRD	1,102	0	100	Ctn	---	69	-18	2	4	0	0	150K	BLM

954S – The Dalles Unit, ODF PRD – Prineville District, BLM

Northern Rockies Area (PL 3)

New fires:	16
New large incidents:	1
Uncontained large fires:	5
Type 2 IMTs committed:	1

Crooked Creek, Billings Field Office, BLM. IMT 2 (NR Team 3). IMT is also managing the Robertson Draw incident. Twenty-five miles east of Bridger, MT. Short grass, brush and timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping, isolated torching and smoldering. Energy infrastructure threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Robertson Draw, Custer Gallatin NF, USFS. Seven miles south of Red Lodge, MT. Short grass, brush and timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping, single tree torching and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

* **Whitten**, Miles City Field Office, BLM. Eighteen miles south of Lame Deer, MT. Timber and short grass. Active fire behavior with running and single tree torching.

Elkhorn, Dakota Prairie National Grasslands, USFS. Twenty-three miles north of Medora, ND. Short grass and brush. Active fire behavior with running and torching. Structures and energy infrastructure threatened.

Deep Creek Canyon, Helena-Lewis and Clark NF, USFS. Eighteen miles east of Townsend, MT. Short grass, timber and light slash. Minimal fire behavior. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Crooked Creek	MT-BID	4,141	0	84	Ctn	7/21	167	-85	1	5	8	1	5.3M	BLM
Robertson Draw	MT-CGF	29,841	0	69	Ctn	7/7	178	-17	2	9	3	30	9.7M	FS
* Whitten	MT-MCD	1,194	---	10	Ctn	7/10	77	---	1	11	1	0	116K	BLM
Elkhorn	ND-DPF	4,000	3,200	0	Ctn	7/7	40	-18	0	13	0	0	40K	FS
Deep Creek Canyon	MT-HLF	4,648	0	98	Ctn	7/7	12	0	0	2	0	7	5.7M	FS
Right	MT-LG09	840	440	100	Ctn	---	4	-38	0	2	0	0	50K	CNTY

LG09 – Powder River County

Southern California Area (PL 3)

New fires: 43
 New large incidents: 2
 Uncontained large fires: 4

* **Tumbleweed**, Los Angeles County Fire Department. Thirty-four miles north of Santa Clarita, CA. Tall grass, chaparral and brush. Extreme fire behavior with wind-driven runs, uphill runs and spotting. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Inyo Creek, Inyo NF, USFS. Eight miles west of Lone Pine, CA. Brush, timber and hardwood slash. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened.

Willow, Los Padres NF, USFS. Fifteen miles southeast of Big Sur, CA. Chaparral, brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Blue, Sierra NF, USFS. Five miles southeast of Shaver Lake, CA. Timber and chaparral. No new information. 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			
* Tumbleweed	CA-LAC	1,000	---	10	Ctn	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	350K	CNTY
Inyo Creek	CA-INF	592	0	97	Ctn	7/6	57	-1	1	5	0	0	6M	FS
Willow	CA-LPF	2,877	0	90	Ctn	7/11	9	-11	0	0	1	0	8.4M	FS
Blue	CA-SNF	277	---	85	Ctn	UNK	151	---	3	11	3	0	40K	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
* Main	CA-TUU	384	---	100	Comp	---	22	---	0	5	0	0	50K	ST

TUU – Tulare Unit, Cal Fire

Great Basin Area (PL 3)

New fires: 12
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 4

East Fork, Humboldt-Toiyabe NF, USFS. Fourteen miles south of Gardnerville, NV. Timber and brush. Extreme fire behavior with wind-driven runs and torching. Structures threatened. Area and road closures in effect.

Morgan Canyon, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache NF, USFS. Twelve miles west of Stockton, UT. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened.

Inside Lakes, Twin Falls District, BLM. Fifty-two miles southwest of Twin Falls, ID. Short grass and brush. No new information.

Bennion Creek, Manti-La Sal NF, USFS. Twenty-three miles northwest of Helper, UT. Brush, chaparral and timber. No new information.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
East Fork	NV-HTF	1,100	350	30	Ctn	7/8	288	77	8	5	5	0	2.3M	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Morgan Canyon	UT-UWF	509	0	50	Ctn	10/31	19	0	0	0	1	0	1.6M	FS
Inside Lakes	ID-TFD	3,500	---	0	Ctn	UNK	27	---	0	3	0	0	50K	BLM
Bennion Creek	UT-MLF	8,313	---	95	Ctn	7/21	10	---	0	0	1	0	6.6M	FS
Castleford Butte	ID-TFD	5,412	0	100	Ctn	---	27	-27	0	5	1	0	244K	BLM
Snake John	UT-NES	655	0	100	Ctn	---	5	-49	0	1	0	0	42K	ST
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Fritzer	ID-SCF	139	---	75	Comp	UNK	15	---	0	0	0	0	110K	FS

NES – Northeast Area, Utah DOF SCF – Salmon-Challis NF, USFS

Rocky Mountain Area (PL 2)

New fires: 7
 New large incidents: 0
 Uncontained large fires: 4
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

Muddy Slide, Medicine Bow-Routt NF, Thunder Basin National Grassland, USFS. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (RM Team Blue) back to the local unit will occur today. Twenty miles south of Steamboat Springs, CO. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures and energy infrastructure threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Sylvan, White River NF, USFS. Fifteen miles south of Eagle, CO. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures and energy infrastructure threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Wild Horse Creek, Medicine Bow-Routt NF, Thunder Basin National Grassland, USFS. Thirty-five miles northeast of Gillette, WY. Tall grass, brush and timber. Minimal fire behavior with isolated torching and creeping.

Oil Springs, White River Field Office, BLM. Forty-two miles north of Grand Junction, CO. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and creeping. Road closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Muddy Slide	WY-MRF	4,093	0	45	Ctn	7/30	286	-20	4	13	4	18	6.7M	FS
Sylvan	CO-WRF	3,792	0	65	Ctn	8/1	132	-180	1	2	2	0	6.4M	FS
Wild Horse Creek	WY-MRF	908	408	60	Ctn	7/5	31	-18	1	5	0	0	200K	FS
Oil Springs	CO-WRD	12,613	0	97	Ctn	7/10	38	-7	1	0	1	1	4.9M	BLM
Jenne Trail	WY-MRF	556	0	100	Ctn	---	8	---	0	2	0	0	3K	FS

Alaska Area (PL 3)

New fires: 3
 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	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Dry Creek	AK-TAD	45,644	0	0	Comp	7/10	62	0	2	0	0	0	840K	TRI
Munson Creek	AK-FAS	12,000	0	0	Comp	7/30	116	10	3	7	3	0	663K	BIA
Noatak River	AK-GAD	12,765	---	0	Comp	7/10	0	---	0	0	0	0	20K	NPS
Olsons Lake	AK-UYD	4,511	---	0	Comp	8/7	0	---	0	0	0	0	10K	BLM

TAD – Tanana Zone, BLM FAS – Fairbanks Area, Alaska DOF GAD – Galena Zone, BLM UYD – Upper Yukon Zone, BLM

Southern Area (PL 1)

New fires: 0
 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	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Red Sparrow	FL- FLS	7,700	---	95	Comp	UNK	1	---	0	1	0	0	2K	ST

FLS – Florida Forest Service

Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	800	0	800
Northwest Area	FIRES	0	8	1	0	16	6	31
	ACRES	0	13	0	0	57	1	71
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	21	4	26
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	39	2,700	2,739
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	1	0	2	32	8	43
	ACRES	0	0	0	1	244	10	255
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	2	1	0	0	7	6	16
	ACRES	50	1	0	0	3	2	56
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	2	0	0	3	7	12
	ACRES	0	208	0	0	0	0	208
Southwest Area	FIRES	3	1	0	0	1	2	7
	ACRES	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	4	2	7
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	162	0	162
Eastern Area	FIRES	4	0	0	0	8	4	16
	ACRES	1	0	0	0	8	1	10
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL FIRES:		9	15	1	2	95	39	161
TOTAL ACRES:		52	222	0	1	1,314	2,715	4,306

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

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	83	0	0	183	8	274
	ACRES	0	83,893	0	0	22,805	5	106,703
Northwest Area	FIRES	72	145	16	3	1,109	200	1,545
	ACRES	12,171	868	149	18	12,212	7,363	32,783
Northern California Area	FIRES	40	20	4	4	1,787	273	2,128
	ACRES	30	131	332	0	6,847	43,839	51,180
Southern California Area	FIRES	14	85	11	24	2,211	284	2,629
	ACRES	1,292	3,497	199	2,876	15,678	5,525	29,068
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	849	35	8	1	631	243	1,767
	ACRES	72,488	863	566	20	28,630	20,518	123,086
Great Basin Area	FIRES	26	331	47	11	462	179	1,056
	ACRES	2,968	40,233	8	1,637	48,256	16,794	109,897
Southwest Area	FIRES	426	131	8	16	327	630	1,538
	ACRES	23,149	81,463	1,518	3,362	22,089	460,122	591,704
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	141	129	5	10	290	143	718
	ACRES	3,142	21,575	1,256	1,114	76,553	15,312	118,953
Eastern Area	FIRES	409	0	22	13	6,458	379	7,281
	ACRES	12,353	0	13,276	560	31,582	15,748	73,519
Southern Area	FIRES	376	0	52	35	11,955	368	12,786
	ACRES	28,685	0	11,843	8,182	242,381	27,300	318,394
TOTAL FIRES:		2,353	959	173	117	25,413	2,707	31,722
TOTAL ACRES:		156,279	232,527	29,148	17,769	507,036	612,530	1,555,291

Ten Year Average Fires (2011 – 2020 as of today)	28,167
Ten Year Average Acres (2011 – 2020 as of today)	2,395,067

***Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments.

***Additional wildfire information is available through the Geographic Areas at <https://gacc.nifc.gov/>

Canadian Fires and Hectares

PROVINCES	FIRES YESTERDAY	HECTARES YESTERDAY	FIRES YEAR-TO-DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO- DATE
BRITISH COLUMBIA	26	1,067	656	82,671
YUKON TERRITORY	4	13	36	27,492
ALBERTA	23	120	687	15,505
NORTHWEST TERRITORY	0	5,858	38	13,543
SASKATCHEWAN	9	9,342	219	65,429
MANITOBA	8	698	134	292,997
ONTARIO	7	19,823	491	74,634
QUEBEC	1	246	439	11,786
NEWFOUNDLAND	0	0	44	278
NEW BRUNSWICK	0	0	144	309
NOVA SCOTIA	0	0	109	193
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	1	0
NATIONAL PARKS	2	0	33	11,755
TOTALS	80	37,166	3,031	596,590

*1 Hectare = 2.47 Acres

Predictive Services Discussion: Upper-level ridging will continue over much of the West with west-southwest flow aloft stretching across the Pacific Northwest, Northern Rockies, and into the northern Great Basin as an upper low moves south in western Canada. Moisture will shift east and south with thunderstorms likely confined to along and east of the Continental Divide, eastern Arizona, and the eastern Great Basin. Wet thunderstorms are expected along and east of the Divide and in southeast Arizona. Dry and breezy Cascade Gap winds are likely with dry and breezy conditions in northeast and southeast California along eastern slopes of the mountains. Warm and dry conditions will continue across eastern portions of the Alaskan Interior with wetter and cooler conditions across western and southern Alaska. Rain bands from Tropical Storm Elsa will move into South Florida with landfall in the Florida Keys likely overnight.

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

Thirtymile Fire – The Days After

Following release from the scene and check-ups at the hospital, everyone involved were told to meet at the North Cascades Smokejumper Base (a facility able to house the large group) where an official debrief was conducted. While well intended, the way this debrief was conducted wasn't well received by many of the participants.

The next day, separate but overlapping investigations began with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), U.S. Forest Service, and the Office of Inspector General (OIG). The OIG investigation lasted until 2009.

On Thursday July 12th, resources were released. Some were given the option to take a week of paid leave with their families while others were instructed to return to work on Monday or use leave for additional time off.

In the following days and weeks there were a series of memorials for the fallen firefighters.

Organizational Learning

Following feedback from this incident and others, the wildland fire service has learned and continues to learn how to move forward following critical incidents. Peer support is one of many tools used in Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM). For many this has become a preferred model for wildland firefighter-involved critical incidents.

The peer support concept is founded on peers or people of mutual respect helping each other. In our case, firefighters helping firefighters. The shared experience of peers fosters the initial trust and credibility necessary for developing relationships. Peer-to-peer programs facilitate opportunities for individuals to talk with trained peer supporters who serve as a bridge to connect with mental health professionals. Peer support groups can offer educational, social support, build resilience, and provide avenues for additional help if needed. The standard of care for the peer support concept is the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, <https://icisf.org/about-us/>. Peer support training is offered multiple times throughout the year.

“Social connectedness is one of the strongest protective factors against stress reactions and is linked to emotional well-being and recovery following trauma and adversity.”

Dr. Patricia Watson.

Discussion Questions

- 🧑‍🚒 Do you know your organization's plan for taking care of people involved in a critical incident? If not, who does?
- 🧑‍🚒 What can you do to mentally prepare for difficulties faced during and after a critical incident?
- 🧑‍🚒 The need for human connectedness continues long after the trauma, but the traumatized individuals often can't reach out for it themselves. Think 30 days later...what can you do to reach out and connect to someone who experienced a traumatic event? What about one year later? Or 10 years or even 20 years later?

Resources

Critical Incident Stress Management Program, <https://gacc.nifc.gov/cism/training.html>

NWCG Mental Health Subcommittee, <https://www.nwcg.gov/committees/mental-health-subcommittee>