Fire Danger PocketCard

Northern Utah Interagency Fire Center

http://fam.nwcg.gov/fam-web/pocketcards/

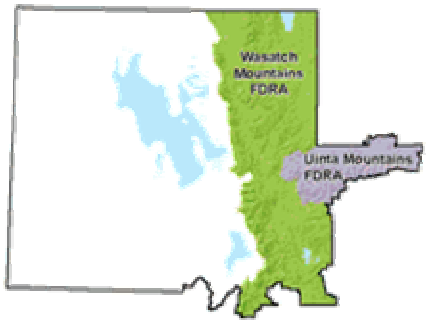
Fire Danger Interpretation

Dispatch Levels	Burning Index - Model G	
	Uinta Mtns	Wasatch Mtns
High: Potential for high to extreme intensity. Expect high rates of spread, flame length, and control difficulty.	59 +	69 +
Moderate: Anticipate moderate fire intensity. The BI can change rapidly with variable weather conditions.	40 - 58	42 - 68
Low: Expect low fire intensity. Containment should be attainable. However, always be cautious.	0 - 39	0 - 41

Local Thresholds: any of these factors significantly increase the potential for extreme fire behavior. The more factors present, the greater the risk.

Weather at 13:00 (LST)	Uinta Mtns FDRA	Wasatch FDRA
20-ft Wind (mph)	> 6	> 7
Relative Humidity (%)	< 18	< 18
Temperature (°F)	> 73	> 83

- **Wind Gusts** exceeding 30 mph will increase the probability of erratic fire behavior and large fire growth.
- **Microbursts** are powerful downdrafts associated with thunderstorms which can seriously affect the spread rate, intensity, and direction from several miles away.
- **Lake Effect Winds** will enhance up-slope winds (in the afternoon) & down-slope winds (after sunset) resulting in unexpected fire intensity adjacent to the Great Salt Lake and Utah Lake.



Burning Index (BI) Facts:

- BI is an index representing the potential difficulty containing a fire due to flame length (intensity) at the head of the fire
- BI is very sensitive to small fluctuations in wind speed
- BI will be different for each NFDRS Fuel Model
- In Northern Utah, BI with Fuel Model G has a very good statistical correlation to large fire occurrence

Recent Fire Experience

Uinta Mountains FDRA

Date	Fire Name	Size (ac)	BI	RH (%)	Temp (°F)	Wind (mph)
09/21/10	C1	2.0	84	11	71	8
09/01/09	Gilbert Creek	0.5	65	16	76	5
09/14/09	Christmas	0.3	58	34	64	5
06/29/02	East Fork	14,208	85	10	77	8

Wasatch Mountains FDRA

Date	Fire Name	Size (ac)	BI	RH (%)	Temp (°F)	Wind (mph)
07/19/10	Second Dam	2	92	17	84	11
07/26/10	Green Canyon	25	79	23	83	8
08/17/10	Washakie	113	90	13	86	11
08/21/10	Spring Creek	61	90	17	86	12

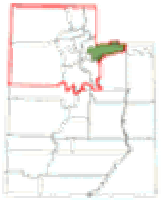
Updated: May 2011

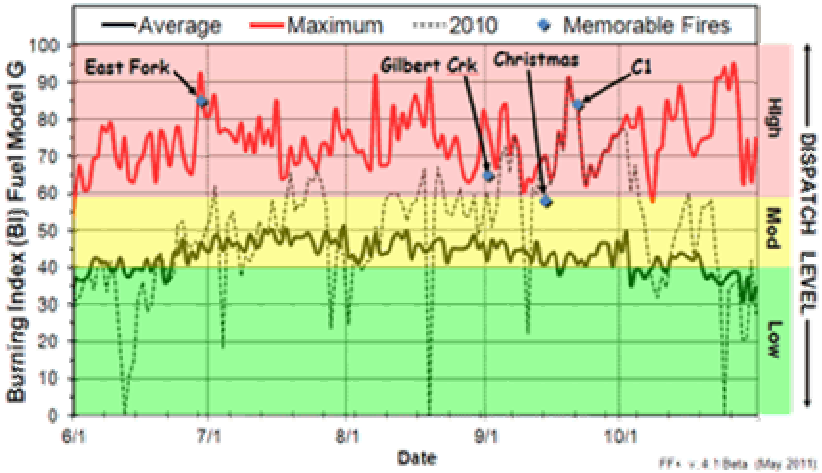
Uinta Mountains FDRA

NWS Forecast Zones 427, 428

RAWS (in SIG)	Number	Elevation	Data Years	Model
Bear River *	420703	8536'	1991 - 2010	7G
Hewinta *	420705	9186'	1991 - 2010	7G

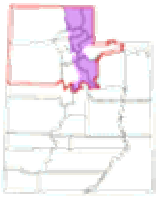
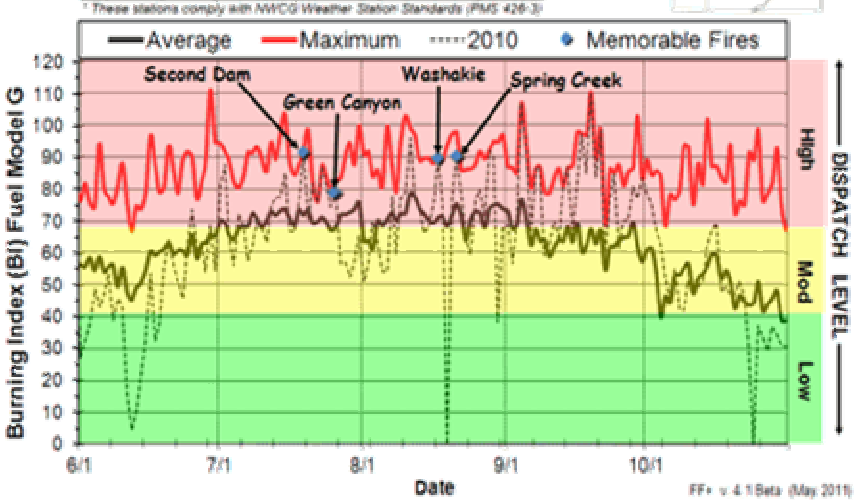
* These stations comply with NWCG Weather Station Standards (PMS 426-3)





Wasatch Mountains FDRA

NWS Forecast Zones 421, 425, 426, 427, 429, 430

RAWS (in SIG)	Number	Elevation	Data Years	Model
Beus Canyon *	420403	5100'	2001 - 2010	7G
Otter Creek *	420912	7160'	2001 - 2010	7G
Norway Flat *	420706	8280'	2001 - 2010	7G
Pleasant Grove *	421101	5200'	2001 - 2010	7G
Rays Valley *	421103	7300'	2001 - 2010	7G

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