

CHAPTER 60 - PREDICTIVE SERVICES

PREDICTIVE SERVICES. Great Basin Coordination Centers are responsible for the coordination and distribution of required reports.

Predictive Services provides decision support to the federal, state, and local wildland fire agencies for operational management and strategic planning for firefighting resources. This is accomplished through the collection, analysis and dissemination of information regarding fire activity, resource status, weather and fuels, and assessments of fire danger and fire potential.

The Predictive Services Handbook and the Predictive Services Operating Principles and Guidelines provide guidance and direction to NICC and GACC Predictive Services Units. The Predictive Services Handbook and Guidelines can be found at:

http://predictiveservices.nifc.gov/NPSG/npsg_pdf/PSHandbook_2009Update.pdf

- **INCIDENT STATUS SUMMARY (ICS-209).** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide for reporting requirements and format.

For any incident within the Great Basin that meets the reporting criteria, an Incident Status Summary will be completed and submitted electronically via the national web based ICS-209 Program. A final ICS 209 will be submitted once the incident is contained or controlled and national resources are no longer being ordered for the incident. An ICS 209 may be changed from final status to an update should the incident escape containment and then become final again upon re-containment. Reports are due by 2100 hours daily (local time), although earlier submission times may be set during those periods when the Great Basin Multi-Agency Coordinating (MAC) Group is active. An ICS-209 User's Guide is available on the website for display/downloading; it is strongly suggested that users familiarize themselves with the definitions and instructions in the User's Guide before attempting to enter information into the website.

When in place at the incident, it is the responsibility of the Type 1 and 2 Incident Management Teams to complete and submit this information. For all other incidents (or in those instances where the IMT has no Internet capability), the dispatch center will ensure complete and accurate ICS-209 information is gathered and electronically submitted via the FAMWEB application.

For incidents managed under a strategy other than Full Suppression AND the incident is likely to remain active for a period greater than 72 hours; See National Interagency Mobilization Guide, OR SIT/209 Users Guide, for reporting requirements and format.

NOTE: Approval Information should be completed for all ICS-209's.

DEFINITIONS

Full Suppression implies a strategy to "put the fire out," as efficiently and effectively as possible, while providing for firefighter and public safety. To complete a fireline around a fire to halt fire spread, and cool down all hot spots that are immediate threat to control line or outside the perimeter, until the lines can reasonably be expected to hold under foreseeable conditions. Synonymous with "Full Perimeter Containment" and "Control."

Monitor is the systematic process of observing, collecting and recording of fire-related data, particularly with regards to fuels, topography, weather, fire behavior, fire effects, smoke, and fire location. This may be done onsite, from a nearby or distant vantage point in person or using a sensor, or through remote sensing (aircraft or satellite).

Confine is to restrict a wildfire to a defined area, using a combination of natural and constructed barriers that will stop the spread of the fire under the prevailing and forecasted weather conditions

until out. This means, “some action is or has been taken” (line construction, bucket drops, etc.) to suppress portions of the fire perimeter.

Point or Zone Protection involves protecting specific points from the fire while not actively trying to line the entire fire edge. Points being protected may be communities, individual homes, communication sites, areas of high resource value, etc.

CRITERIA FOR UPDATING ICS-209'S

Full Suppression: Updated daily until contained or controlled and national resources are no longer being ordered for the incident. If any significant changes occur during the night an update will be made via phone, fax or electronic mail to the appropriate Coordination Center by 0600 hours local time.

Monitor/Confine and Point or Zone Protection: Update after or in anticipation of a significant change event (see below). Otherwise, updates will be reported weekly, by the end of the operational period Thursday, unless more stringent guidelines are specified by the Geographic Area Interagency Mobilization Guide.

Significant Change Event: A forecasted, planned, or experienced event that affects incident management or operations. This includes but may not be limited to the following items:

- A critical fire weather event is forecast, such as a high Haines index, dry cold front, etc; AND fire activity created by the event is expected to threaten, potentially threaten, or cause damage to values at risk;
 - Sufficient increase in acres or activity (such as smoke production) to create public health or nuisance concerns;
 - The Incident strategy is modified;
 - National shared resources are assigned or released, including IMTs;
 - An accident, injury or fatality occurs;
 - The incident is contained or out.
- **INTERAGENCY SITUATION REPORT (SIT).** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide, Page 45.

Dispatch centers will report all fire activity (including prescribed fires) and resource status via the FAMWEB application known as the Interagency Situation Report application at: <https://fam.nwcg.gov/fam-web/>. Information from this centralized database is then retrieved at the Coordination Center and NICC levels to generate summary situation reports for the Area(s) covered. A Situation Report User's Guide is available on the website for display/downloading; It is strongly suggested that users familiarize themselves with the definitions and instructions in the User's Guide before attempting to enter information into the website. The Sit Report User's Guide is located at:

http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/intelligence/Situation_Report_User_Guide_2%200.pdf

Reports are due May through October: Daily by close of business or 2000 hours Mountain Time, whichever comes first. If the 2000 hours' time cannot be met, the dispatcher center will call the Great Basin Intelligence Desk and negotiate a later submission time (generally no later than 2200 hrs local time.).

November through April: During Preparedness Level 1 (national or geographic area), when **any** wildland fire activity occurs (including prescribed fire) the Sit Report will be submitted weekly

(Thursday) before close of business at a minimum. Centers may report the day of activity if they would prefer. During this time period (Nov – April), if the national and/or geographic area Preparedness Level is established as 2 or higher, the SIT will be submitted daily.

Daily fire Statistics. Dispatch centers will report both wildland and prescribed fire activity occurring during the past 24 hours (reporting period is 0001 to 2400 local time) on their units in this screen of the SIT program. If SIT information has been submitted and significant changes in fire activity occur once the Coordination Center has closed, an electronic message or fax with updated information will be submitted to the appropriate Coordination Center by 0600 hours local time. Corrections in numbers of fires/acres will be made on the following day (in the Year-to-Date Statistics screen).

- Incidents that cross dispatch boundaries should be reported by each impacted dispatch center. Coordination among dispatch centers must occur to report the appropriate acres burned in each dispatch center's SIT Report. When this does occur, SIT Report Ownership and Protection acres may not match for the local dispatch center and/or GACC.
- Do not use the daily statistics screen to catch-up activity from previous days. This is important because the users of the data assume the data is current and active for the given date only. Corrections in numbers of fires acres should be made in the Year-to-Date statistics screen only.

Remarks. Dispatch Centers should include a general synopsis of current or expected weather, fuel/drought conditions and anticipated fire activity. Include significant events or concerns, resource shortages, expected lightning or wind events. This area also captures on-call contact information for units/dispatch centers.

Year-to-Date Statistics. This screen captures fire statistics on a calendar year basis. The SIT Report Program automatically calculates new year-to-date totals for all fire types. On a daily basis, the new fires and acres that you reported via the Daily Fire Statistics screen will automatically be added to the YTD totals carried over from the previous day's report.

- Please note, if catch-up data needs to be entered, it should be accomplished through the YTD page.

Incident Priorities. Dispatch centers will use this screen to assign their internal incident priorities.

- **INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT** See the [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#), Page 46, for a description of this report produced by NICC.
- **7 DAY SIGNIFICANT FIRE POTENTIAL / WEEKLY FIRE WEATHER / FIRE DANGER OUTLOOK.** See [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#), for product description and submission requirements.
- **NATIONAL WILDLAND SIGNIFICANT FIRE POTENTIAL OUTLOOK.** See [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#), for a description of this report produced by NICC.
- **FUEL AND FIRE BEHAVIOR ADVISORIES** See [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#), for product information.

The Great Basin Coordination Center(s) Predictive Services staff and the GACC Managers should be involved with the issuance of any fuels/fire behavior within a large percentage of the Great Basin. The GACC Managers should involve the Great Basin Operations Specialist who will coordinate with the GBCG and/or agencies so they can carefully consider both the content and intended audience of the messages.

If a local area (single agency, unit or county) issues an advisory it is recommended they utilized the Standard Template. The local dispatch center should notify the GACC Predictive Services Unit.

- **MONTHLY FIRE WEATHER / FIRE DANGER OUTLOOK.** See [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#), for product description and submission requirements.

- **SEASONAL FIRE WEATHER / FIRE DANGER OUTLOOK.** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide, for product description and submission requirements.

The first product will be issued prior to the onset of the fire season, with a minimum of one update during the fire season, or as deemed necessary.

- **AIRCRAFT TACTICAL REPORT.** The Great Basin Coordination Centers will post an Aircraft Tactical Report to their website each day. The Tactical Report should be posted not later than 0930 PDT. Local dispatch centers will provide current availability of resources as requested by the GACC.

Check with local area dispatch office for current availability of resources.

- **INCIDENT PRIORITIES.**

The Intelligence Coordinator will use the Priority Decision Matrix to determine and establish incident priorities. When the MAC is activated, the Great Basin MAC Coordinator will utilize the Priority Decision Matrix format contained in the Great Basin MAC Group Operating Plan to assign incident priorities on an area basis, based on information contained in the ICS-209's and WFSA's that have been submitted. Time frames and requirements will depend upon the preparedness level or need.