

## 2016 NECC End of the Year Report



Connecticut State

Maine State

Massachusetts State

New Hampshire State

New York State

Rhode Island State

Vermont State

New York Fire Department

Province of New Brunswick

Province of Newfoundland/Labrador

Province of Nova Scotia

Province of Prince Edward Island

Province of Quebec

United States Forest Service

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

United States National Park Service

United States Bureau of Indian Affairs

2016 was the first full year NECC spent at its new location in Campton, NH. The center has come a long way since the April 2015 move, but there are still some goals we have yet to achieve but our strides have been long.

NECC obtained various dispatch programs, which are used throughout the country, and will help immensely with documentation and activity workload. The Computer Aided Dispatch program called WildCad is a great tool, not only for initial attack purposes, but for documenting all the activity which we here in the center provide. We were fortunate enough to get the program as a hand me down so to speak (Florida did not want to utilize it), so instead of paying the \$10,000.00 for the program, we got it for free. The compact purchased a Smart Board for us, which we have yet to figure it all out, so it truly is a smart board, and we also obtained 3 Moducom radio consoles for radio communications with White Mountain and Green Mountain personnel. NECC also purchased a printer/copier, additional computer monitors, radio recorder and all the office supplies necessary for running a dispatch center. I'm happy to say we are up and running like a dispatch center should.

The mobilization of resources was steady all summer and into the fall with all the fire activity in the Southern Geographical area. Our mobilizations began early March with the final mobilization occurring early December. We sent folks to 22 different states and 2 Canadian Provinces (Alberta and Quebec) participating in all Geographical areas except Alaska. Participation was for a variety of positions in wildland fire, wildland fire use and prescribed fire as well as all risk incidents.

Documenting our work load is an important piece of an Interagency Coordination Dispatch Center's job, so one of the ways we started documenting this is through WildCad. There is a host of activities we participate in other than wildland fires, prescribed fires and mobilizations such as flight follow Forest Health aircraft when they do their survey's, flight following Civil Air Patrol during their fire patrols, assist Law Enforcement during special events like the National Rainbow Gathering, assist units in various training activities, as well as monitor weather to name just a few. By the end of the year we have a very good track of what all we accomplished, when it occurred, who responded, and how long we worked on it. 2016, which was the first year we utilized WildCad, generating over 1000 incident actions (IA). Each IA shows a workload where we provided a service, support, or input. So it is basically a numbering system for tracking the work we do.

In June, NECC hosted Roshelle Pederson from the IRWIN (Integrated Reporting of Wildland-Fire Information) project where she presented what the program does and how it can benefit individual agencies. The IRWIN program basically orchestrates data exchange between operational applications designed to: 1) Reduce redundant data entry; 2) Increase data consistency; and 3) Provide authoritative operational data.

Maine State was very interested in this program and approached NECC to collaborate on entering their 2016 fires into IRWIN. One of the conduits to do this is through WildCad, so NECC

worked with the State to obtain fire information and entered over 600 fires into WildCad and subsequently into IRWIN. At the end of the year, the State was able to obtain data through a webportal for IRWIN on the State's fire activities.

NECC also started weekly conference calls with the NE LMAC group (NE Operations group members) where updates on local fire activities and resource availability is shared. This was well received by all members to where we will continue this in 2017. NECC also assisted FWS in updating their daily WIMS readings for 10 of their RAWS stations and provided one of their units with a weekly fuels output. This is something we would like to enhance and provide for more units as we move forward. NECC also went through a Forest Service Regional Readiness Review where we learned how we are doing as a National Dispatch/Coordination Center and areas which need some improvements.

All in all, 2016 was a good year for us here at the Northeastern Interagency Coordination Center. Although we are a little shorthanded staff wise, we had a great team that complimented one another, worked well with our many cooperators as well as the GACC and NICC, and we have been able to showcase our strengths which are teamwork and cooperation. Mari and I participated on the EA Dispatch Working Team, while I also participate as the Administrative Assistant for the Eastern Area Coordinating Group, and am part of the National Coordination Systems Committee. Mari was able to attend (S260/S261) and took a fire assignment to Colorado to work on her INTEL qualifications. Don unfortunately was with us only a short time, but his input and quick learning skills was a huge asset to the center during our heaviest time of mobilizations.

With continued support from managers in allowing for our participation on a regional and national level issues, I believe we have and will continue to build a reputation for our center, for our resources we mobilize, and for our continued efforts in making each and every mobilization a cost effective, efficient, and safe one. We all look forward to a safe 2017.

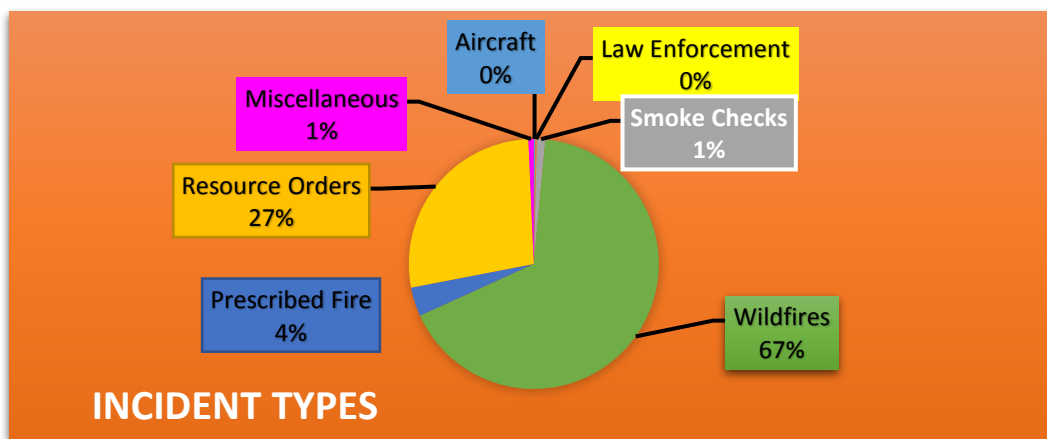
Molly

## Incident Actions

In order to track our workload here at NECC, we give everything we do a number and we call these Incident Actions. For instance each resource order we get, whether it is filled, UTF'd (unable to fill) or cancelled, we give it a number because someone worked on it. Each fire, each prescribed fire project, each Severe Weather Announcement, and all training which we provide assistance on gets a number, so that by the end of the year we can see where we concentrated the majority of our time.

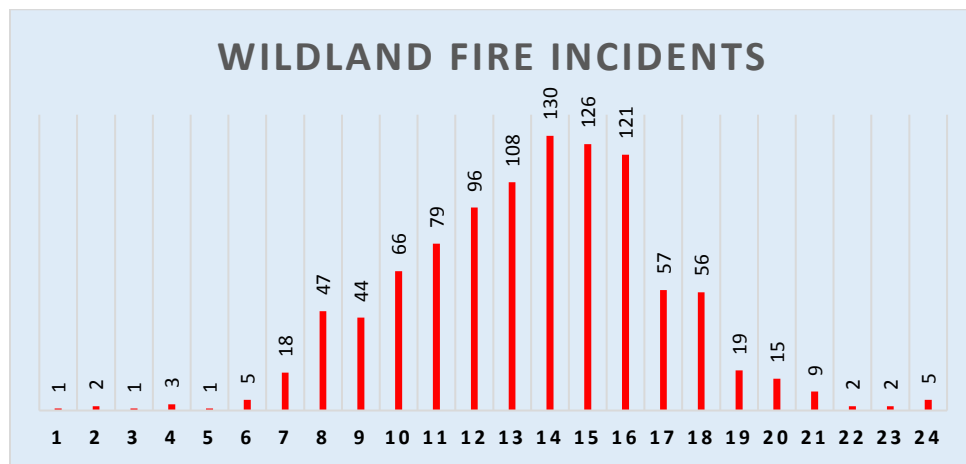
Wildcad makes this easy. With 2016 being the first year of utilizing WildCad, I'm certain there were things that were missed being documented because we didn't get the program until June. However, we did backtrack and enter everything from January that we had on file, and we still entered over 1013 actions. 639 of these were entering Maine State fires in order to get them into IRWIN. This gives us a good baseline for comparing workloads for years to come.

This graph shows the workload in regards to incident types, keeping in mind that the majority Of fires entered into WildCad were from the State of Maine. Without those fires, mobilizations (resource orders) would by far be the largest workload at 74%

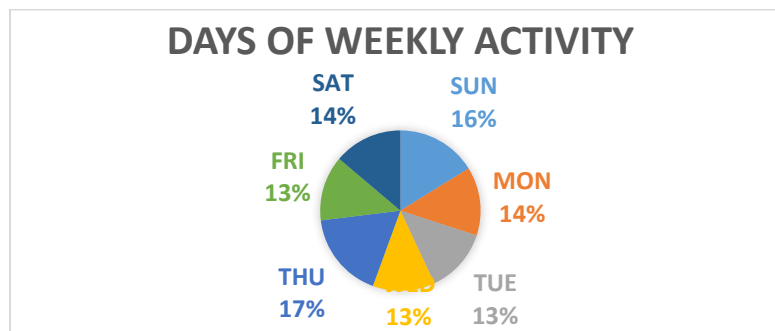


## Wildfires/Prescribed Fires

NECC is the designated dispatch center for the Green Mountain/Finger Lakes and White Mountain National Forests for Initial Attack communications. NECC partners are requested to send in a daily update on their wildfire and prescribed fire activities, however during fire season, this is often difficult, therefore receiving them on a weekly basis is often the norm. NECC updates this information onto the daily Situation report which we upload onto the NFFPC website. Except for the Canadian Provinces, this information also gets added onto the US National Situation Report every day, so daily wildfire activity is available for managers across the country to see.



These two graphs show the wildfire activity data entered into WildCad. As you can see the middle of the day is when the majority of the wildland fires in the NE start. The day of the week is pretty even although Thursday for some odd reason is the day most actually start. I guess visitors are starting the weekends off early.



### New Fire Totals

Today's Date:

12/120/2016

N/R = Not Reported

\* = Reporting Units that represent more than one unit. Details of fires are broken down by unit on the corresponding Refuge and Park Fire Totals Tab

Year to Date Totals										
Reporting Unit	Last Updated	Fires Human Caused	Acres Human Caused	Hectares Human Caused	Fires Lightning Caused	Acres Lightning Caused	Hectares Lightning Caused	Total Number of Fires Per Agency	TOTAL ALL ACRES Per Agency	TOTAL ALL HECTARES Per Agency
CT-CTS	11/15/16	266	391.46	158.42	2	386.50	156.41	268	777.96	314.83
MA-CCP*	01/01/16	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
MA-MAS	10/28/16	1,526	1,380.56	558.69	0	0.00	0.00	1,526	1,380.56	558.69
ME-ACP*	10/26/16	17	6.50	2.63	0	0.00	0.00	17	6.50	2.63
ME-MES	11/01/16	742	858.60	347.46	34	61.00	24.69	776	919.60	372.15
NB	09/22/16	265	259.00	104.81	10	6.00	2.43	275	265.00	107.24
NH-NHS	10/28/16	125	533.02	215.71	7	14.68	5.94	132	547.70	221.65
NH-WMF	10/20/16	15	331.60	134.19	1	0.25	0.10	16	331.85	134.29
NL	09/15/16	76	877.20	354.99	13	26,198.20	10,602.04	89	27,075.40	10,957.03
NS	10/13/16	270	1,947.19	788.00	0	0.00	0.00	270	1,947.19	788.00
NY-NYS	12/15/16	169	4,138.60	1,674.83	16	52.40	21.21	185	4,191.00	1,696.04
PA-DWP*	10/27/16	14	47.00	19.02	0	0.00	0.00	14	47.00	19.02
QC	12/16/16	424	573.00	231.88	78	1,357.00	549.16	502	1,930.00	781.04
RI-RIS	10/31/16	78	45.80	18.53	1	11.00	4.45	79	56.80	22.99
USBIA-ER	01/01/16	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
USFWS-R5*	10/26/16	5	20.40	8.26	1	8.60	3.48	6	29.00	11.74
VT-GMF	05/19/16	9	2.50	1.01	0	0.00	0.00	9	2.50	1.01
VT-VTS	10/31/16	141	383.00	154.99	0	0.00	0.00	141	383.00	154.99
Totals	YTD	4,142	11,795.43	4,773.44	163	28,095.63	11,369.90			
Combined Totals		Total All Fires	4,305	Total All Acres	39,891.06	Total All Hectares	16,143.34			

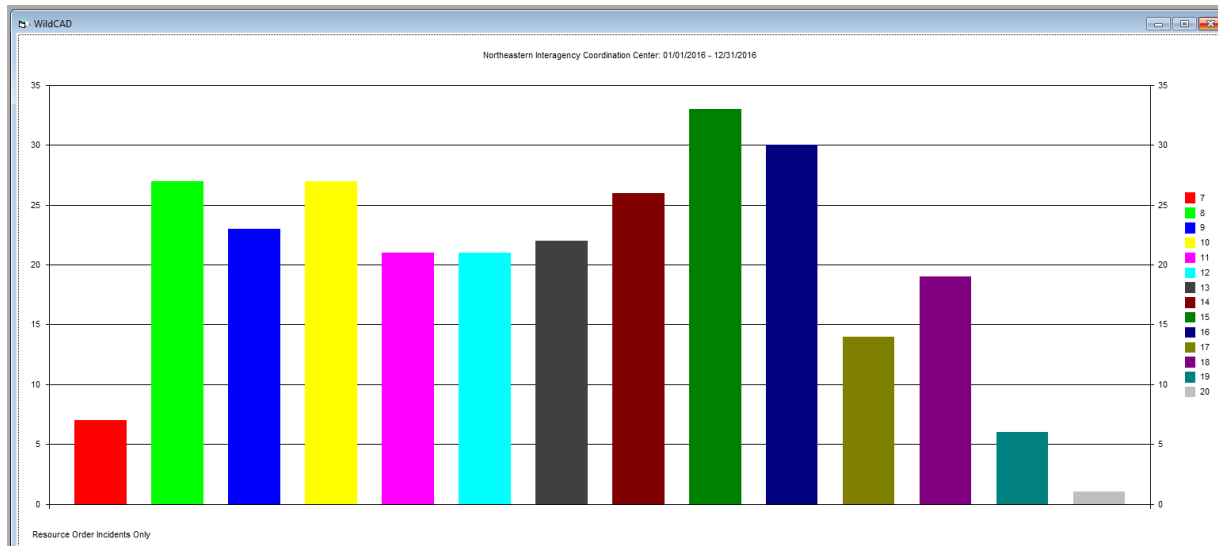
The above and below graph shows what was submitted to NECC at the end of 2016.

### YTD Prescribed Burn Totals

Reporting Unit	Last updated	YTD Rx Fire	Rx Acres	Rx Hectares
CT-CTS	11/15/16	3	152.00	61.56
MA-CCP	01/01/16	0	0.00	0.00
MA-MAS	10/28/16	25	637.20	258.07
ME-ACP	10/26/16	1	75.00	30.38
ME-MES	11/01/16	18	128.60	52.08
NB	09/22/16	0	0.00	0.00
NH-NHS	10/28/16	2	4.70	1.90
NH-WMF	10/20/16	8	34.30	13.89
NL	09/15/16	1	212.40	0.00
NS	10/13/16	0	0.00	0.00
NY-NYS	12/15/16	13	351.80	142.48
PA-DWP	10/27/16	6	328.00	132.84
QC	12/16/16	0	0.00	0.00
RI-RIS	10/31/16	2	0.50	0.20
USBIA-ER	01/01/16	0	0.00	0.00
USFWS-R5	10/26/16	10	126.70	51.31
VT-GMF	05/19/16	7	703.00	284.72
VT-VTS	10/31/16	4	62.00	25.11
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12/120/2016</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,816.20</b>	<b>1,054.54</b>

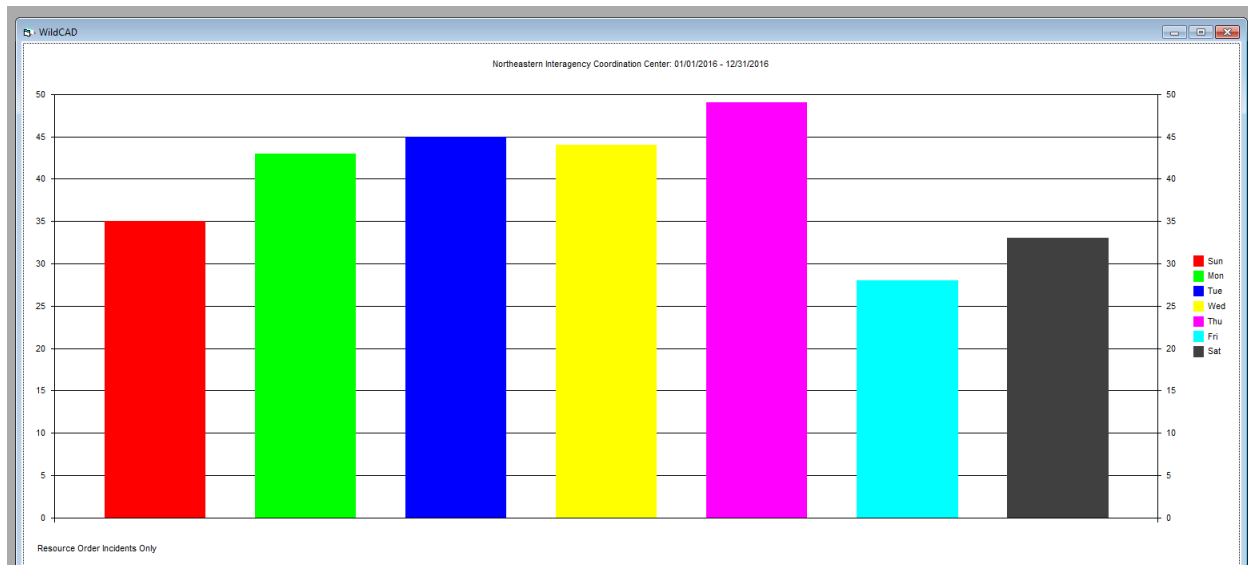
# Mobilizations

Mobilizations were fairly smooth this year and they started early and went all the way into December. Mobilizations are the biggest workload at NECC from about April through October



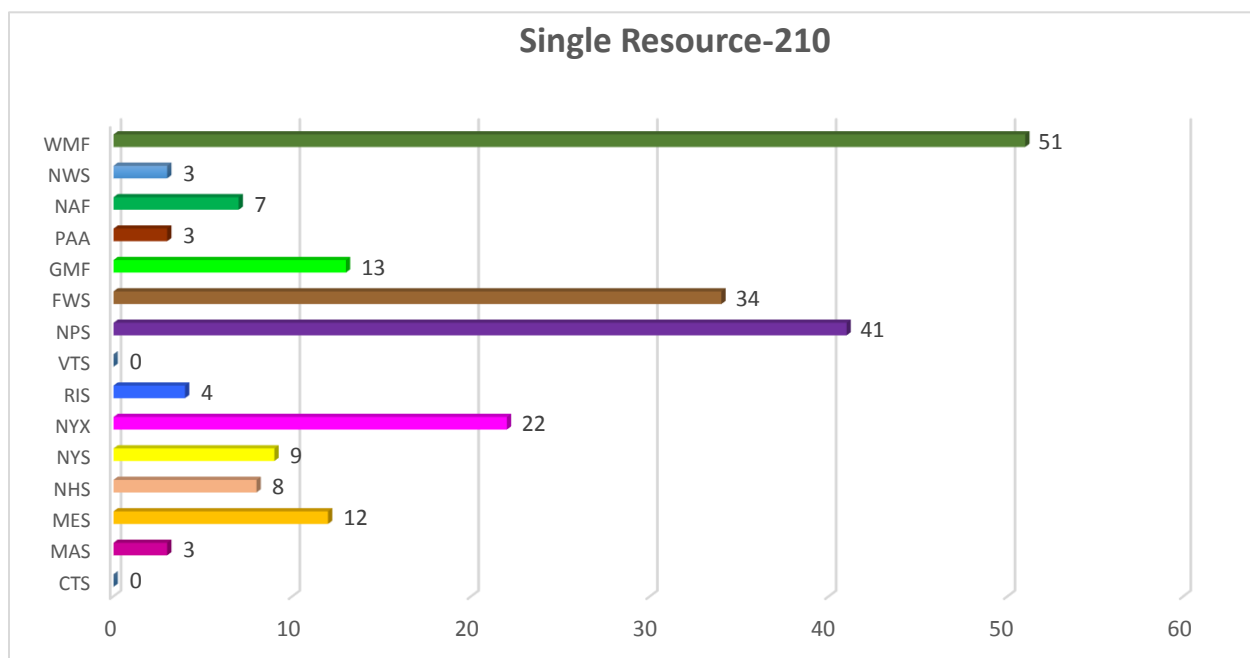
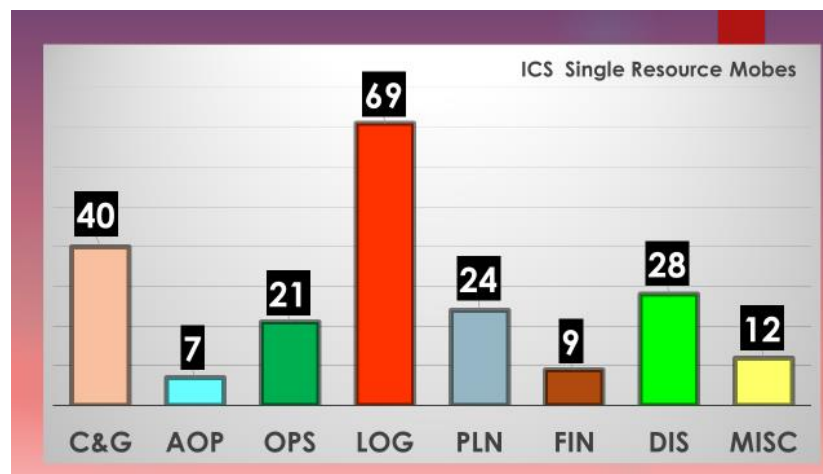
The above graph shows the time of day we receive resource orders at NECC. You can see that 1500-1600 is the most active, although 0800 and 1000 are also fairly busy.

The graph below shows which days are the most active for us in receiving resource orders and like wildland fire activity, Thursday's are the day we most likely will receive an order.



**Overhead** mobilizations keep us very busy during the summer months. Even though crew mobilizations are the most work, the single resource orders keep us very busy, especially when we get multiple orders at the same time, with things like making travel arrangements, securing a vehicle, making sure all necessary documentation is on the order, making contact with the resource (sometimes they forget their phone ☺) and making sure all necessary documentation is completed in our office.

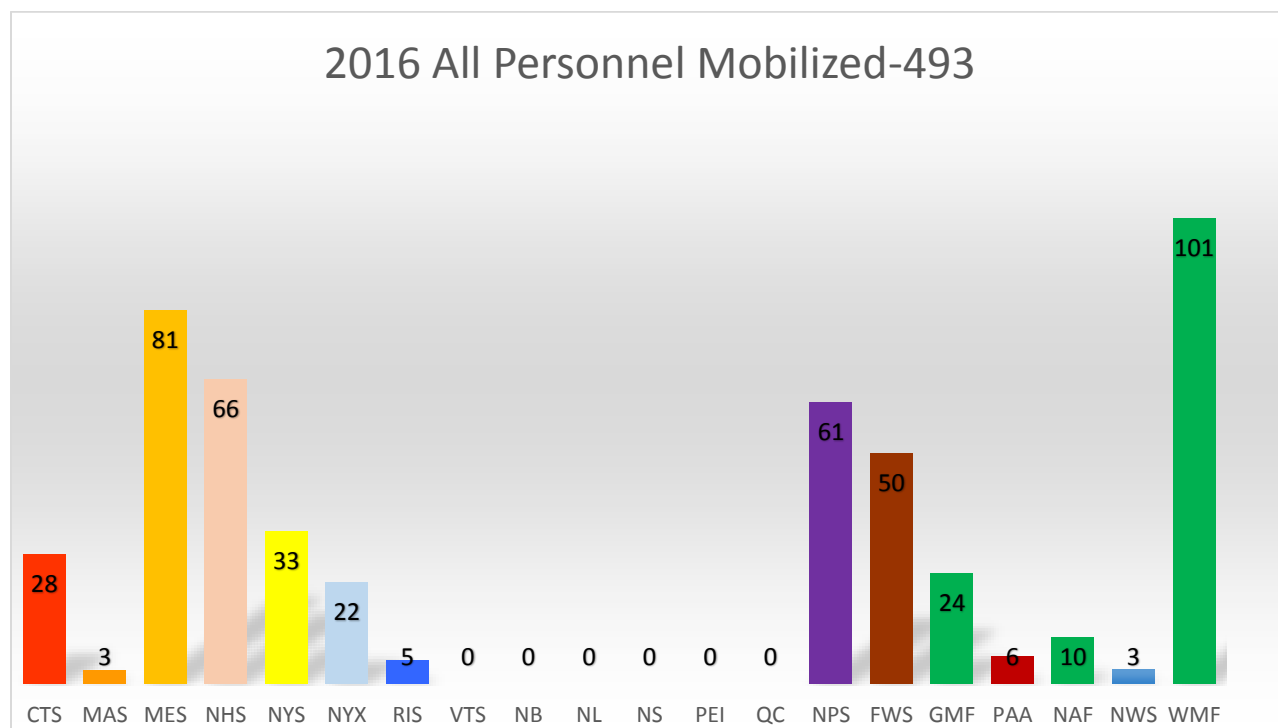
This year I wanted to see which NWCG positions were we most likely to fill with single resources, and as you can see Logistics is where we are most active.



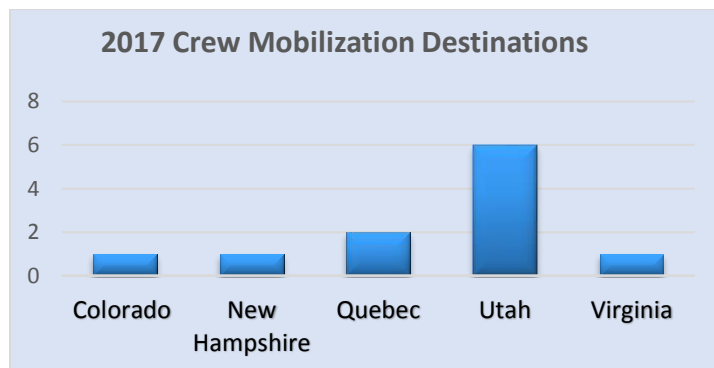
This graph above shows the breakdown per agency in single resource order fills for 2016. Unfortunately we were unable to use our Canadian Partners this year on the US side, however we were able to assist them in their wildland fire efforts (individuals who went to Canada are included in MES and NYS totals)



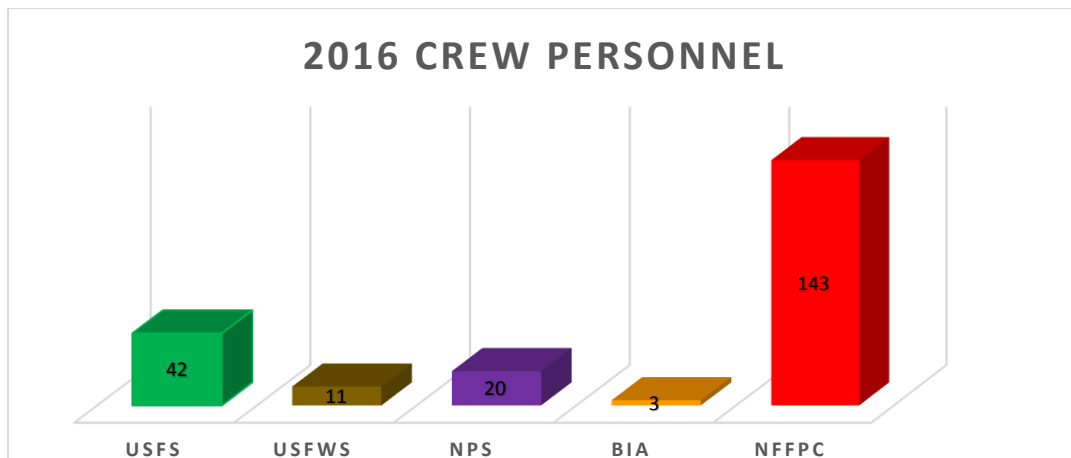
Nationally we were at a PL 4 for 19 days never reaching a PL5 like in 2015, however the NE was still able to send numerous resources on engines, crews, and as single resources to help out the National effort.



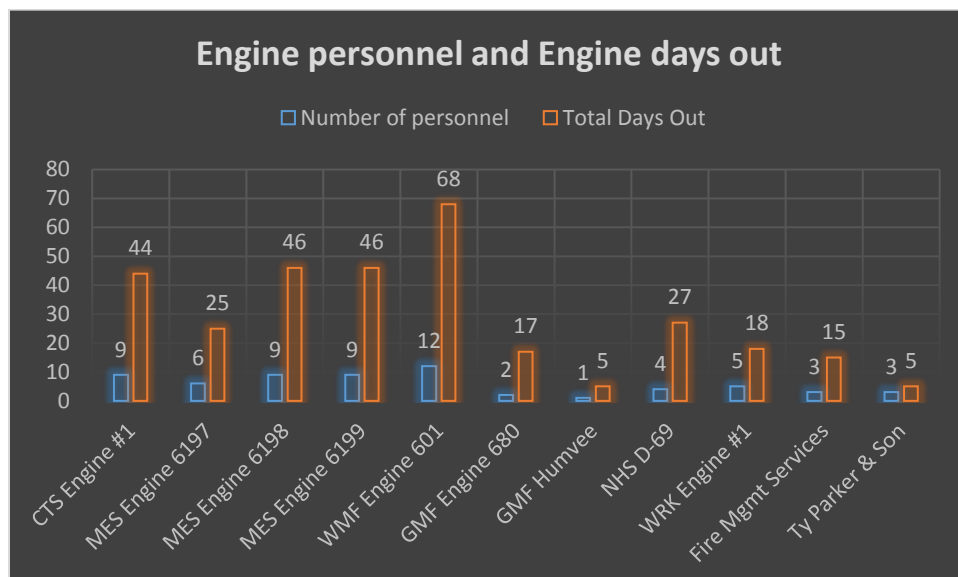
**Crew** mobilizations, when they occur, are a whirlwind event. There are a lot of moving parts, from the agencies trying to contact their crewmembers, to the coordination with Homeland Security for Canadian mobilizations, coordination with New Hampshire State folks opening the mobilization center to house and feed incoming personnel if needed, as well as the coordination with EACC on the arrival of the NICC jet to name a few. Typically we get a few days notice, but not always, especially if the crew flies commercial. So it is always nice to remember that once the crew goes available on the boards, everyone knows an order can arrive at any time, and mobilization can occur that day, so please carry your phones 😊



This is a break down on agency participation in crew mobilizations for 2016

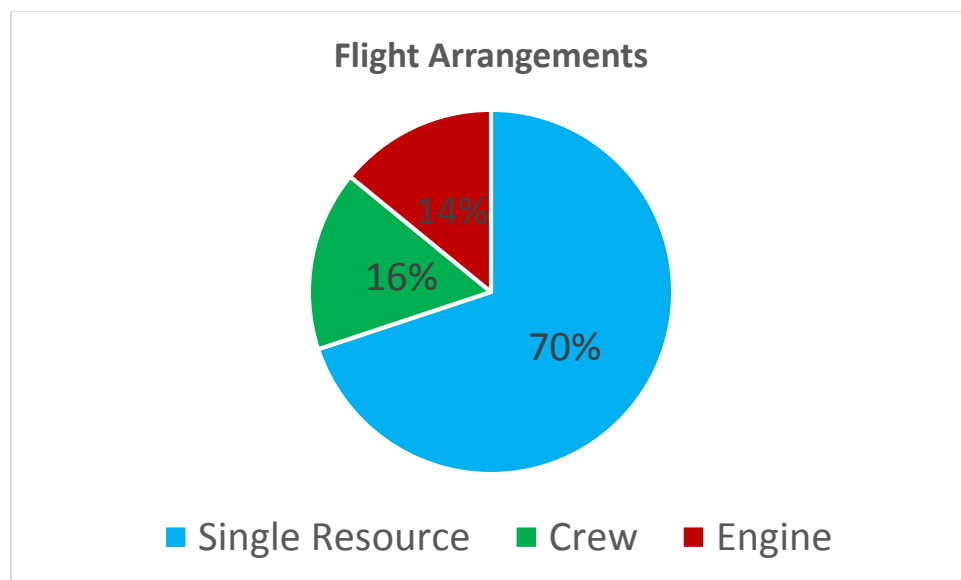


**Engine** mobilizations vary from year to year. In 2015 a really busy year, only a few engines were mobilized and one didn't even make it to their assignment before being turned around. This year, we filled 14 engines orders (a few went out more than once) with the majority of the orders coming from the Southern Geographical Area in October and November. There were rotations of crewmembers which typically goes smoothly, however this year is was a bit of a challenge at times (Thanksgiving Holiday didn't help), but none the less, Engine mobilizations for 2016 were very successful.



**Making Flight Arrangements** keeps us very busy during the summer. One resource order could take anywhere from 15 minutes to an hour and 15 minutes or more, depending on national fire activity, aircraft seat availability, coordination of all passengers flying and even rental vehicle availability. Many times if a vehicle is needed, and the airport which the individual is requested to flying into does not have a vehicle, we often have to change airports, so that takes time to arrange. When we fly a handcrew commercial, not everyone always flies out of the same airport so we work with the travel agent to coordinate the best we can to get arrivals close together making it a bit easier for the CRWB to gather his crewmembers. So there are many things which we do in order to get someone to their final destination and incident.

NECC in 2016 made 206 flight arrangements: 144 Single Resource Orders, 33 for crew members and 29 for engine personnel.



**Overall** NECC mobilized 493 individuals; mobilized 11 handcrews; mobilized 14 Engines and flew 206 individuals to their incidents in 9 Geographical Areas and 2 Provinces in Canada for a total of 3399 accumulated days where resources were assisting National and International fire efforts. 2016 was actually average for NECC 😊