

CHAPTER 60 - PREDICTIVE SERVICES

PREDICTIVE SERVICES

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

GBCC is responsible for the coordination and distribution of decision support products produced by the Predictive Services Unit.

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

- **INCIDENT STATUS SUMMARY (ICS-209)**

See National Interagency Mobilization Guide Chapter 60, for reporting requirements and format.

Any incident within the Great Basin that meets the reporting criteria will have an Incident Status Summary ICS-209 completed and submitted electronically via the Fire and Aviation Management Web (FAMWEB) ICS-209 application. A final ICS-209 will be submitted once the incident is contained or controlled and national resources are no longer being ordered for or assigned to the incident. An ICS-209 may be changed from Final status to Update status in the event the incident escapes containment. A final ICS-209 will be subsequently submitted upon re-containment.

Reports are due by 1900 hours daily (local time), although earlier submission times may be established during those periods when the GBMAC Group is active. Local centers will call GBCC by 1900 if a later submission time is necessary. The [ICS-209 User's Guide](#) is available on the Great Basin website for display/downloading.

Users should familiarize themselves with the definitions and instructions within the user's guide before attempting to enter information into the ICS-209 application.

It is the responsibility of the Type 1 and/or 2 IMT to complete and submit ICS-209s when they are in place on an incident. For all other incidents, the dispatch center will ensure complete and accurate ICS-209 information is gathered and electronically submitted.

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 ICS-209 User's Guide page 13, for reporting requirements and format.

- **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 on-site, 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-209s**

Full Suppression

Updated daily until contained or controlled and national resources are no longer being ordered for or assigned to the incident. If any significant changes occur overnight, a verbal update will be made to the GBCC by 0700 hours Mountain Time.

Monitor/Confine and Point or Zone Protection

Update will be reported weekly, by close of business on Thursdays. Alternatively, updates will be completed when a significant change event occurs, on the day of the activity.

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 resources are assigned or released;
- An accident, injury or fatality occurs;
- The incident is contained or out.

○ **Incident Priorities**

The Intelligence Coordinator will use the Priority Decision Matrix supported by information contained within current ICS-209s to determine and establish incident priorities. When the GBMAC is activated, the GBMAC Coordinator will utilize the Priority Decision Matrix contained within the GBMAC Operating Plan to establish incident priorities.

● **INTERAGENCY SITUATION REPORT (SIT)** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.

Dispatch centers will report all fire activity, including prescribed fires via the FAMWEB application known as the Interagency Situation Report located at <https://fam.nwccg.gov/fam-web/>. Information from the SIT application is retrieved by GBCC, and subsequently by NICC, to generate summary situation reports.

The Interagency Situation Report User's Guide is available on the GBCC website [http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/intelligence/Situation Report User Guide 2%200.pdf](http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/intelligence/Situation%20Report%20User%20Guide%20200.pdf) for display/downloading.

Users should familiarize themselves with the definitions and instructions captured within the user's guide before attempting to enter information into the SIT application.

- **Situation Report Schedule, Statistics And Priorities**
 - **May 15 through October 15:**
For all Great Basin dispatch centers, the Situation Report will be completed **daily** by close of business or 1900 hours local time every day the center is staffed. The dispatch center will call the Great Basin Intelligence Desk if a later submission time is necessary.
 - **October 15 through May 15:**
The SIT Report will be submitted **weekly**, close of business on Thursday, at a minimum. Centers may choose to report fire information daily, during this time frame. Should national or geographic area's Preparedness Level be elevated to 2 or higher, the SIT Report will be submitted daily.
 - **Daily Fire Statistics**
Dispatch centers will report both wildfire and prescribed fire activity that occurred during the past 24 hours on their units in this field. The reporting period is 0001 to 2400 local time. If significant changes in fires/acres transpire after the report has been submitted, the updated information will be relayed to the Coordination Center by 0700 hours local time. Corrections of fires and/or acres, will be made on the Year-to-Date Statistics screen at the earliest possible reporting period.
 - **Local Incident Priorities**
Dispatch centers will use this screen to assign their internal incident priorities. If there is a significant change in priorities once GBCC has closed for the day, a phone call will be placed to the GBCC on-call phone to facilitate relaying the information to NICC. This will enable NICC to effect the appropriate changes in the Incident Management Situation Report (IMSR) for the following day.
 - **INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT** See the [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#)
 - **NATIONAL WILDLAND SIGNIFICANT FIRE POTENTIAL OUTLOOK**
See [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#)
 - **FUEL AND FIRE BEHAVIOR ADVISORIES** See [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#)
- The GBCC Predictive Services staff, along with the GACC Center Manager, will be involved with the issuance of any fuels/fire behavior advisories within the Great Basin. A GACC Meteorologist will coordinate with the GBCG and/or agencies in order to carefully consider both the content and intended audience of the messages.
- Within the local area when a single agency, unit or county issues an advisory, it is recommended they utilize the standard template for Fuel and Fire Behavior Advisories. The local dispatch center will coordinate with the GACC Predictive Services Unit.
- **SEASONAL FIRE WEATHER / FIRE DANGER OUTLOOK**
 - **Fire Potential Impact Map**
Graphical guidance regarding short term fire weather impacts for the GACC. Includes potential for lightning, critical winds, and wetting rains. This product will be issued daily during fire season.
 - **7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook**
A color-coded week-long forecast of fire potential, based on projected fuels dryness and weather conditions. Firefighting resources information is also included. This product will be issued daily during fire season.

- **Monthly and Seasonal Outlook**

A long term outlook that combines recent and future climatic conditions, and expected fuel conditions, to produce a fire potential outlook for the upcoming four month period. This product is issued monthly throughout the year, and available both in hard-copy and video format in the Outlooks section of the Predictive Services webpage.

GBCC Outlook: <https://gacc.nifc.gov/gbcc/predictive/docs/monthly.pdf>

National Outlook: <https://gacc.nifc.gov/gbcc/outlooks.php>

GREAT BASIN PREDICTIVE SERVICE PRODUCTS

- **GREAT BASIN EVENING SUMMARY REPORT**

Evening Summary Report will be produced and available on the GBCC website when more than one IMT has been mobilized within the geographic area, PL 4 and above, or significant competition for resources exists. The summary can be found on the GBCC Intelligence webpage.

- **GREAT BASIN NFDRS FUEL CHARTS**

Current Fuel Charts of ERC, 100-hr and 1000-hr fuel levels are generated for all Predictive Service Areas, (PSAs) across the Great Basin, with comparisons to normal and record dry levels. These charts are produced daily during fire season in Fire Family Plus and can be found in the Fuels/Fire Danger section of the Predictive Services webpage.

- **GREAT BASIN CRITICAL FUEL STATUS**

An interactive map indicates whether fuels are currently critical or not for fire potential, and is updated regularly through the fire season with input from local units. This map can be found in the Fuels/Fire Danger section of the Predictive Services webpage.

- **GREAT BASIN RAWS POINT ERC MAP**

A color coded map which indicates daily ERC values, percentiles and trends for specific RAWs stations, and can be found in the Fuels/Fire Danger section of the Predictive Services webpage.