# 2020

# **Boise Interagency Dispatch Center**

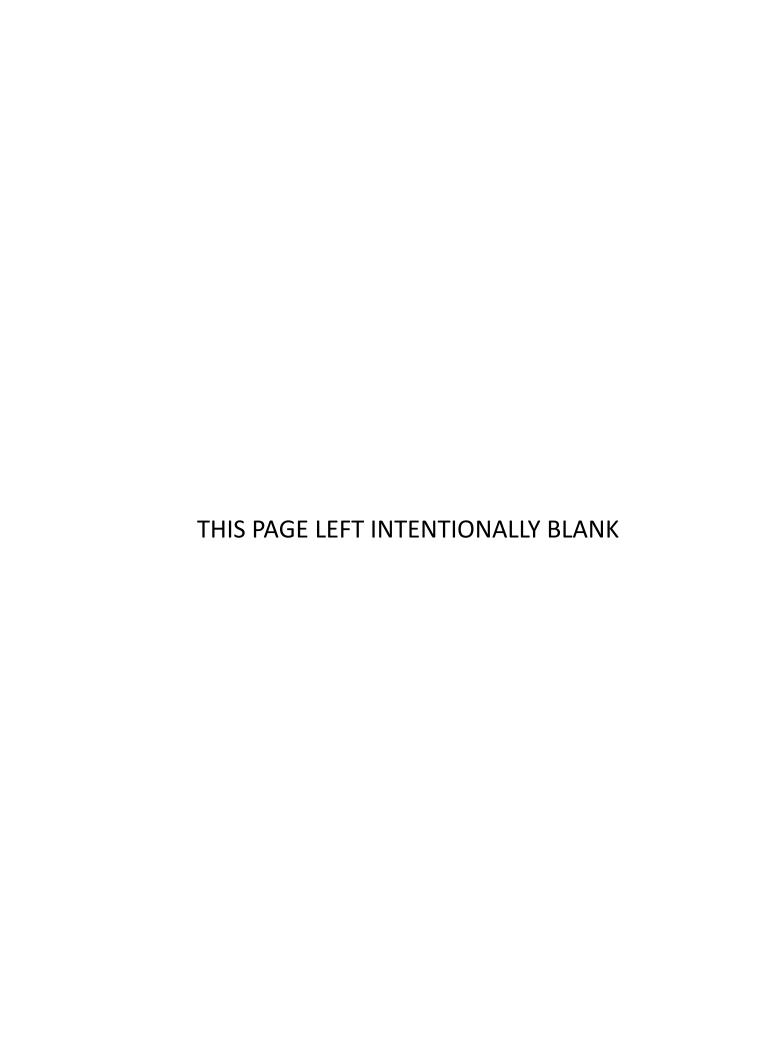
# ANNUAL REPORT







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# **AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY**

The Boise Interagency Dispatch Center continued its interagency success in providing safe, cost effective service for wildland fires within southwest Idaho for Boise District Bureau of Land Management, Boise National Forest, and Southwest Idaho Department of Lands. Listed below is the total acreage responsibility of Boise Interagency Dispatch Center and each agency's ownership and protection areas.



	OWNERSHIP ACRES	PROTECTION ACRES
BOISE DISTRICT BLM	3,825,258	6,480,186
BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	2,080,394	2,194,016
SOUTHWEST AREA IDL	504,361	454,212
BOISE DISPATCH TOTAL	6,410,013	9,128,414

OWNERSHIP ACRES BY PROTECTION AREA						
	BOISE DISTRICT BLM	BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	SOUTHWEST AREA IDL			
BLM	3,791,221	13,794	20,242			
BOR	29,320	63,652	1,424			
HISTORIC WATER	23,000	5,368	893			
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	38,359	142	1,492			
MILITARY/ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS	13,011	972	971			
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE	11,443	0	0			
PRIVATE	2,137,162	131,769	226,576			
STATE - DEPARTMENT OF LANDS	401,011	44,180	59,170			
STATE - FISH & GAME	20,921	4,233	1,725			
STATE - PARKS & REC	5,736	0	0			
USFS	8,768	1,929,906	141,719			
OTHER FEDERAL*	233	0	0			

<sup>\*</sup>includes parcels managed by DOI, FHA (Federal Housing Administration) and the GSA

Boise Interagency Dispatch Center staffing consists of one Center Manager, two Assistant Center Managers, and nine Initial Attack Dispatchers. The Center Manager position serves as the primary floor supervisor and liaison with the duty officers. The primary duties of the Assistant Center Managers are Logistics, Intelligence, and covering the Center Manager duties when needed. Alan Mebane serves in the Logistics Assistant and Elise Hawes serves as the Intelligence Assistant. Of the nine primary IA dispatchers, two are assigned as Aviation Dispatchers and one as Night dispatcher. Each dispatcher also has an area of responsibility which could include Boise District Bureau of Land Management, Boise National Forest or the Southwest Idaho Forest Protective District.

There were a few additions to Boise Dispatch for 2020. We hired 3 new seasonal dispatchers, Amanda Raines, Britt McCracken, and Jenna Narducci. Mardi Crockett accepted a permanent Forest Service position in our office. We filled behind Mardi on the BLM side with an experienced dispatcher, Dane Vanhoozer. Both are great additions to the permanent workforce. Boise Dispatch was fully staffed going into the summer. In August, Alan Mebane took a job as the Aircraft Coordinator at the Southern Area Coordination Center, and we were able to have a detailer behind Alan. Matt Sorensen from the NICC was able to start in September to detail as the FS Assistant Center Manager.

The 2020 fire season was busy nationwide, while the Boise Dispatch area was well under the amount of ignitions and acres burned from our historical averages. Nationally, NICC spent a lengthy period at PL5, thus ensuring a hefty logistical workload for the dispatchers. The activity started early this year by sending an interagency group of firefighters to Australia in January. BLM seasonal hiring and FS FireHire were completed in February. By the middle of March, the office was minimally staffed with 2 employees while the rest teleworked due to COVID-19. During this trying time, one of the BDC employees' primary focuses was coming together to write a plan for the office to include; Initial Attack Operations, Continuance of Operations, and Expanded Dispatching during the pandemic. Normal

Jill Leguineche Center Manager GS-11 PFT (FS) Alan Mebane Elise Hawes Asst. Center Manager Asst. Center Manager FS-09 PFT (FS) FS-09 PFT (BLM) Andra Peterson Mark Rich Lead Dispatcher IA Dispatcher GS-07 PFT (FS) GS-07 PSE (BLM) Tom Green Dane Vanhoozer Lead Dispatcher IA Dispatcher GS-07 PFT (FS) GS-07 PSE (BLM) Ed Harper Mardi Crockett IA Dispatcher Lead Dispatcher GS-5/6/7 GS-07 PFT (FS) 1039 (BLM) Jenna Narducci Ken Mack IA Dispatcher Material Handler GS-5/6/7 WS-04 PFT 1039 (BLM) Dave Golec Britt McCracken Material Handler IA Dispatcher WG-05 GS-5/6/7 1039 (BLM) Amanda Raines IA Dispatcher GS-4/5/6/7

spring work continued during this time including, BLM prescribed burning, pre-green up fire activity and dispatch readiness. Additionally, Boise Dispatch assisted in facilitating a FEMA ESF4 tasking to mobilize a Type 2 IMT. The IMT was made up of resources residing in the Boise Dispatch area, and it supported the Idaho Office of Emergency Management for multiple weeks. BDC also tracked additional administrative employees to ensure targets were met for the Boise National Forest, as the Ranger Districts were closed. BDC had 147 requests to track non-fire related employees (see page 4 for comprehensive breakdown of data).

In May, the office moved to 7-day staffing that was broken into two "Module-As-One" groups and remained that way until activity deemed it necessary to come together at the end of July. Expanded was officially opened on July 28<sup>th</sup> in support of outside activity and the Boise National Forest, Golden Type 3 incident. Expanded was set up at the Boise Outlet Malls to ensure social distancing and to avoid impacting the Boise District compound. BDC Outlet Expanded was operational until October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Night shift was covered by Andra Peterson again this year., which began mid-July and ended on November 6<sup>th</sup>. BDC moved back to 5-day staffing mid-November.

BDC was challenged in 2020 in multiple ways. With no operable COOP plan, COVID-19 became a daunting reality. Additionally, interagency cooperation was also tested due to COVID guidance not aligning between agencies. This forced the office to go with the most restrictive guidance due to staffing comprised of interagency employees. Unrelated to COVID, the BDC UPS transformer failed on August 15th and the office was without computers, radio's and phones for an hour and a half while fire-fighters were actively engaged in suppression activities. The office embraced multiple new computer programs that rolled out going into the fire season. IROC, Inform, and FireNet were navigated by the dispatchers with a bit of remote learning and a lot of self-teaching. The office had a large increase in the amount of all-risk (non-fire) responses due to the increased use of public lands. One seasonal employee dispatched more all-risk (non-fire) responses than fire. While at PL 5 Nationally, the Boise NF, Grouse Incident ordered an IMT2 and it was unable to be filled. The Mountain Home Ranger District and its employees made the best of a complex situation while hanging onto the incident as a Type 3. Multiple type 3 incidents this year were border fires that were shared with other dispatch centers which always adds additional complexity. Boise Dispatchers were up for the challenge and were resilient, able to adapt, and overcame obstacles that arose.

Boise Dispatch did not host any Wildland Fire Apprentices this year due to COVID-19. The office facilitated 2 tours in January and February prior to being closed to visitors. Both tour groups were IT related, NOC - BLM Information Resource Management and the USDA CIO group.

INCIDENT	INCIDENT HOST	IMT TYPE	IMT NAME	TEAM HOME UNIT
FEMA R10 Idaho COVID-19	WA-FE10-000001	IMT2	Kuo	Boise Dispatch
Pumpkin	ID-SWS-000558	IMT3	McCowan	ID BLM
Buck	ID-BOF-000714	IMT3	Whalen	NV BLM
Buck	ID-BOF-000714	IMT3	Uhlig	NV BLM
Grouse	ID-BOF-000777	IMT2 – UTF	Erne	Boise NF
Schill	ID-BOF-000859	CISM	Ronk/Rahman	GBCC







Dispatch employees helped clean out the records area in the BOF warehouse.

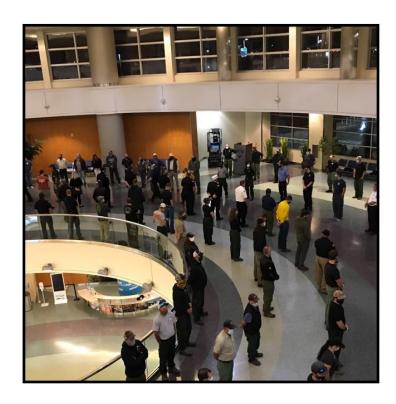
Above: BLM radio tech. acquired a squirrel trap to relocate some squirrels that were chewing on radio wires. The trap also caught a quail and a cute little skunk. All animals released safely.

Right Bottom: Dane Vanhoozer working on getting BDC Outlet Expanded setup.



On September 22<sup>nd</sup>; during Initial Attack of the Schill Incident, Boise Dispatch assisted with a Single Engine Air Tanker (SEAT) accident, when T-857 made contact with the ground near Emmett, Idaho. Dispatch was able to get an Air Ambulance as well as local volunteer responders to the scene to assist the BLM resources. Unfortunately, Firefighter/Pilot Ricky Fulton, 58 years of age, was fatally injured. Boise Dispatch personnel were able to participate in the final procession service for Ricky Fulton and his family. This incident will impact this office and its employees for years to come.



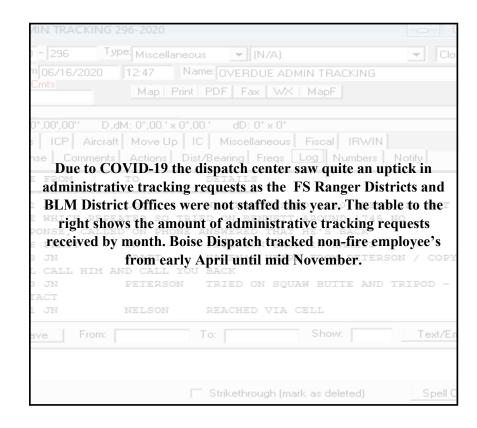


Left: Boise Airport ARF trucks sending Pilot Ricky Fulton off with a tribute.

Right: Fire employees paying respect to Ricky Fulton's family upon their arrival in Boise.

# **Administrative Tracking**

BOISE	BOISE DISPATCH			
MONTH	REQUESTS			
January	1			
February	0			
March	0			
April	9			
May	24			
June	34			
July	37			
August	20			
September	13			
October	9			
November	0			
December	0			
TOTAL	147			

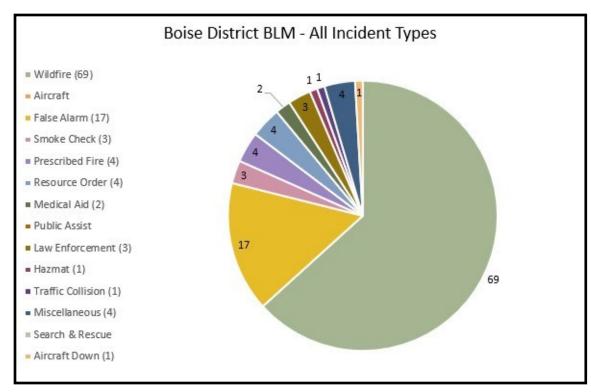


BOISE NATIONAL FOREST				
DISTRICT	REQUESTS			
Boise S.O.	20			
Mountain Home RD	10			
Idaho City RD	5			
Cascade RD	1			
Lowman RD	11			
Emmett RD	12			
Miscellaneous (NZ, SZ, etc)	83			
TOTAL	142			

BOISE DISTRICT BLM				
FIELD OFFICE REQUESTS				
Bruneau Field Office	3			
Owyhee Field Office	1			
BOD Fuels Crew	1			
TOTAL	5			

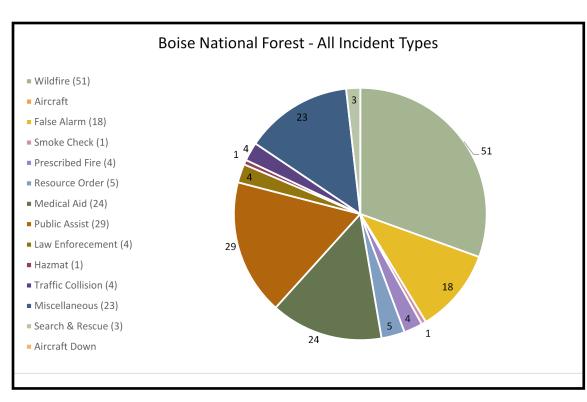
# WIIdCAD WORKLOAD REPORTS

# **Boise District BLM- All Incident Types**



As the chart to the left shows, Wildfire (69) was the largest workload for the BLM. False Alarms (17) came in at second.

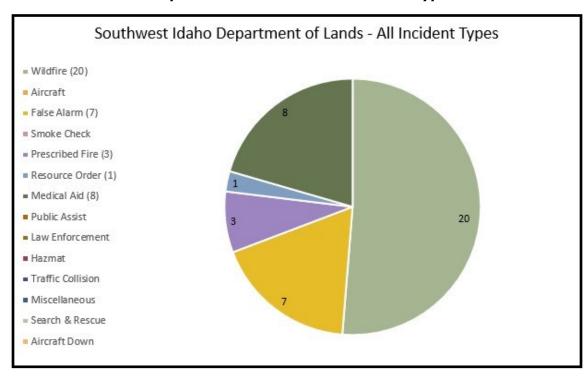
# **Boise National Forest- All Incident Types**



This pie chart and data show that Wildfire (51) and Public Assist (29) accounted for much of the workload for the Forest Service.

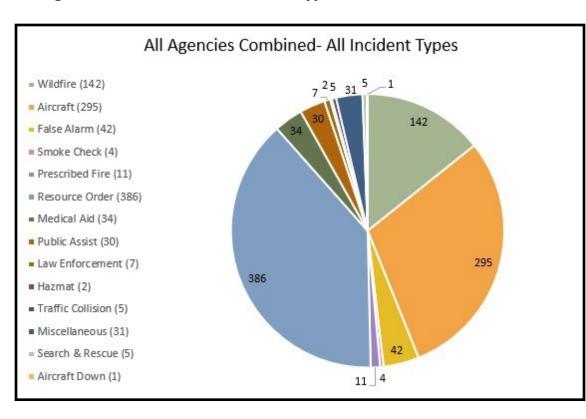
#### WIIdCAD WORKLOAD REPORTS

# Southwest Idaho Department of Lands- All Incident Types



Wildfire (20) was the biggest workload for IDL, Medical Aid (8) being the 2nd most created incident.

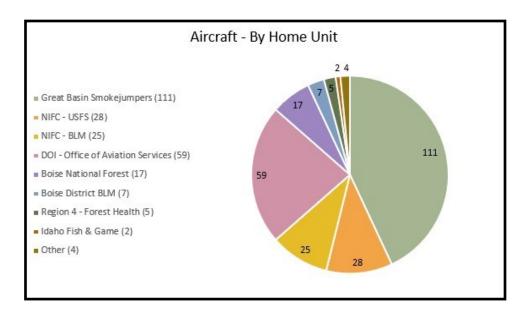
## All Agencies Combined- All Incident Types



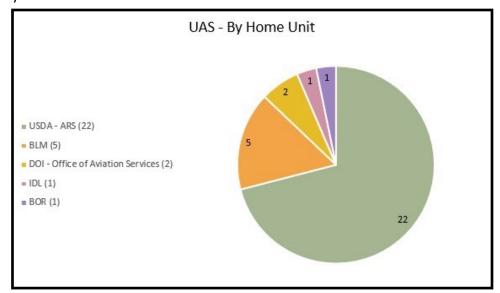
Resource Order (386) was the biggest workload. Aircraft (295) was second, with Wildfire (142) coming in third.

#### WILD WORKLOAD REPORTS

#### **Aircraft**



The chart above shows Boise Dispatch's workload for Aircraft. The biggest workload was for the Boise Smokejumpers (111). A majority of this tracking was done during the spring, due to training and proficiency jumps that prepare them for the fire season. Our second largest Aircraft workload was for Office of Aviation Services (59) doing proficiency training with their helicopter pilots. The chart below shows our UAS workload by unit. We saw quite the decrease from last year (80), mostly due to the DOI UAS only being allowed to fly for Emergency Operations or Emergency Proficiency.



#### **Orchard Training Range**

Orchard Training Range (OTR) leases land from the Boise District BLM, so any fire that occurs within their protection area must be recorded in the Interagency Fire Occurrence Reporting Modules (InFORM) because it burnt BLM owned land. This data is input by dispatch. In 2020, there were 25 fires that burned 11.5 acres. These were all human starts caused by military training activities. 2019 stats were close to the same for 2020, 27 fires burned 10.35 acres.

# **FIRE ACTIVITY**

#### **HISTORICAL COMPARISONS - ALL AGENCIES**

In 2020, Boise Interagency Dispatch Center dispatched a total of 139 wildland fire incidents for 31,555 acres. The amount of fires is 71% of the 10 year average while the acres are 21% of the 10 year average. Comparing the 5-year, 10-year and 25-year average data, the amount of ignitions and acres burned has decreased significantly over time.

The table below shows this year's number of fires and acres broken out by protection agency, and also Southwest Idaho as a whole, and compares them to the 5 year (2016-2020), 10 year (2011-2020), and 25 year(1996-2020) averages.

					SW IDAHC	DEPT OF		
	BOISE DISTRICT BLM		<b>BOISE NATIO</b>	NAL FOREST	LAN	IDS	BDC- SW	IDAHO
	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES
2020	68	7,150	51	23,908	20	497	139	31,555
5 YR AVG	89	25,828	48	50,686	18	1,187	156	77,701
% OF 5 YR AVG	76%	28%	106%	47%	109%	42%	89%	41%
10 YR AVG	99	92,719	73	56,197	24	2,426	195	151,342
% OF 10 YR AVG	69%	8%	70%	43%	85%	20%	71%	21%
25 YR AVG	103	74,969	113	42,586	24	1,538	240	119,093
% OF 25 YR AVG	66%	10%	45%	56%	84%	32%	58%	26%

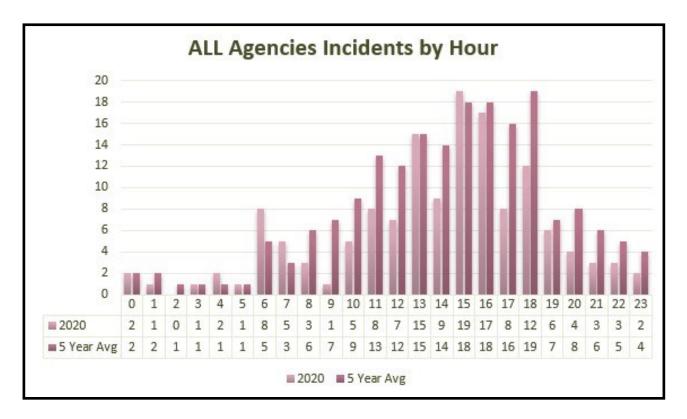
Looking at the individual agencies in the above table compared to the 10-year average: The Boise District BLM was at 69% of ignitions and only burned 8% of the average acres. The Boise National Forest was at 70% of ignitions and 43% of acres burnt. The Southwest Idaho Department of Lands had 85% of ignitions while only 20% of acres burnt.

The following table shows the last 10 years of fire data by protection agency compared to the 10 year average.

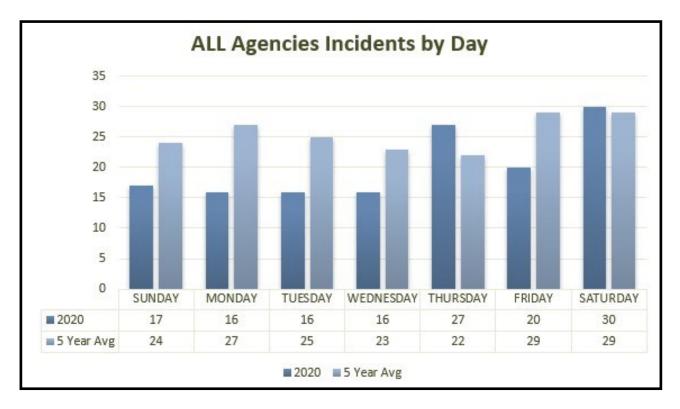
	BOISE DISTRICT BLM		BOISE NATIONAL FOREST			ARTMENT OF NDS
YEAR	# OF FIRES	TOTAL ACRES	# OF FIRES	TOTAL ACRES	# OF FIRES	TOTAL ACRES
10 YR AVG	99	92,719	73	56,197	24	2,426
2020	68	7,150	51	23,908	20	497
2019	89	8,109	84	623	22	6
2018	100	69,003	31	6,419	16	5,184
2017	119	31,756	31	28,246	18	205
2016	71	13,123	43	194,232	16	43
2015	89	309,046	66	1,600	28	6,317
2014	64	7,179	122	9,170	27	7,823
2013	119	172,027	134	139,282	48	3,201
2012	148	156,726	62	153,540	20	802
2011	118	153,070	105	4,954	21	179

#### **HISTORICAL COMPARISONS- ALL AGENCIES**

The chart below compares occurrences of ignitions in 2020, by time of day, compared to the 5 year average for all agencies.



The chart below compares occurrences of ignitions in 2020, by day, compared to the 5 year average for all agencies.



# **FIRE ACTIVITY**

# **BY PROTECTION AGENCY- Boise District BLM**

BOD PROTECTION TOTAL FIRES & ACRES						
FIRES ACRES						
HUMAN CAUSED	62	4,924.65				
LIGHTNING CAUSED 6 2,225.75						
TOTAL 68 7,150.4						

BOD PROTECTION ASSISTS FIRES & ACRES				
FIRES ACRES				
FEDERAL AND STATE ASSISTS	9	N/A		
RURAL FIRE COUNTY ASSISTS	3	47.1		

	BOD PROTECTION FIRES & ACRES BY LAND OWNERSHIP							
LAND OWNERSHIP	HUMAN CAUSED	HUMAN ACRES	LIGHTNING CAUSED	LIGHTNING ACRES	TOTAL FIRES	TOTAL ACRES		
BLM-ID-BOD	32	3,400.65	5	2,012.95	37	5,413.6		
USFS-ID-BOF	1	8.6	0	0	1	8.6		
IDL-ID-SWS	9	349	1	117.8	10	466.8		
PRIVATE	12	1,015.55	0	95	12	1,110.55		
FWS-ID-DFR	2	13.5	0	0	2	13.5		
MILITARY-ID-MHQ	0	0	0	0	0	0		
MILITARY-ID-LPE	2	8.7	0	0	2	8.7		
BOR-ID-SRL	4	127.35	0	0	4	127.35		
OTHER*	_	1.3	_	0	_	1.3		
COMBINED TOTALS	62	4,924.65	6	2,225.75	68	7,150.4		

<sup>\*</sup>Other includes land that is protected by another dispatch area that a fire that started on BOD protection burned onto.

# **BY PROTECTION AGENCY- Boise District BLM**

The table below shows how many fires started and how many acres burned in each field office. \*Note acres burned are only BLM land ownership acres.\*

This table shows how fires were reported to ID-BDC. It gives the total number by method and the percentage of reports in relation to the total number of fires.

FIELD OFFICE STATISTICS - BLM OWNED ACRES				
	# FIRES	HUMAN ACRES	LIGHTNING ACRES	TOTAL ACRES
BIRDS OF PREY	10	142.1	0	142.1
BRUNEAU	5	112.8	1,891.8	2,004.6
FOUR RIVERS	40	1,544.8	226.6	1,771.4
OWYHEE	13	3,124.95	107.35	3,232.3

FIRE DETECTION - BOD PROTECTION				
DETECTION METHOD	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE		
AGENCY PERSONNEL	12	17.65%		
AIRCRAFT	1	1.47%		
COUNTY DISPATCH	43	63.24%		
LOOKOUTS	1	1.47%		
PRIVATE CITIZEN	11	16.18%		

The table below shows how many fires burned in areas of concern and also how many times certain tactics were used to suppress fire.

MANAGEMENT STATISTICS - BOD PROTECTION		
AREA OF CONCERN OR STRAGEGY USED	TOTAL OCCURANCES	
DOZER LINE USED	17	
LEPA AREA	6	
RETARDANT USED	12	
RFD RESPONSE	40	
RFPA RESPONSE	12	
SAGE-GROUSE	19	
WILDERNESS/JMSFMA	3	
WUI	5	

FIRE SIZE OCCURANCE - BOD PROTECTION		
<b>A</b> (025 acres)	17	
<b>B</b> (.26-9 acres)	28	
<b>C</b> (10-99 acres)	14	
<b>D</b> (100-299 acres)	5	
<b>E</b> (300-999 acres)	2	
<b>F</b> (1000-4999 acres)	2	
<b>G</b> (5000+ acres)	0	
TOTAL	68	



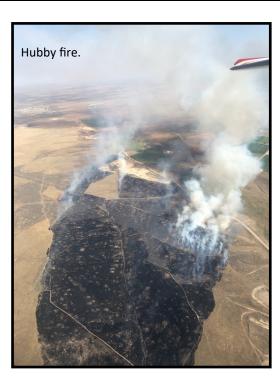
# **BY PROTECTION AGENCY - Boise District BLM**

# SIGNIFICANT ACREAGE

The following chart includes all the Boise District BLM protection area fires that burned 300 acres or more.

ID-BOD PROTECTION FIRES OVER 300 ACRES					
DATE	NAME	FIRE CODE	FILED OFFICE	CAUSE	ACRES
07/22/2020	ANTELOPE	NAT9	BFO	L	1,890
08/03/2020	HUBBY	NC6R	FRFO	Н	455.3
08/08/2020	SUGAR	ND46	FRFO	Н	456.7
10/30/2020	JORDAN	NP39	OFO	Н	3,092.7



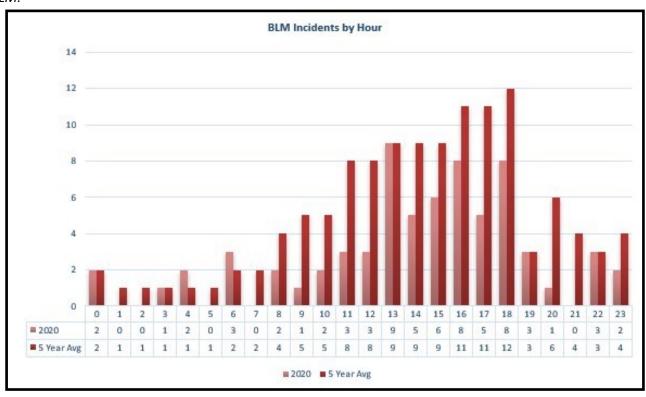


ID-BOD PROTECTION FIRES & ACRES BY MONTH					
	TOTAL # FIRES	HUMAN FIRES	LIGHTNING FIRES	ACRES	
JANUARY	0	0	0	0	
FEBRUARY	0	0	0	0	
MARCH	0	0	0	0	
APRIL	0	0	0	0	
MAY	6	6	0	123.25	
JUNE	8	8	0	31.75	
JULY	15	12	3	2,281.85	
AUGUST	17	14	3	1,407.8	
SEPTEMBER	10	10	0	122.75	
OCTOBER	10	10	0	3,179.9	
NOVEMBER	2	2	0	3.1	
DECEMBER	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	68	62	6	7,150.4	

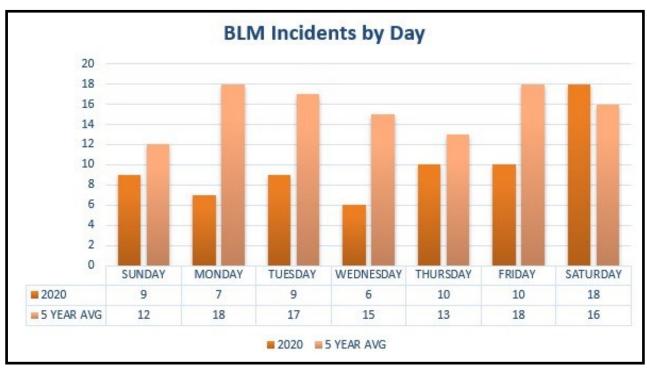
# **BY PROTECTION AGENCY- Boise District BLM**

#### **WILDING** REPORTS

The chart below compares occurrences of ignition in 2020, by time of day, as compared to the 5 year average for the Boise District BLM.



The chart below compares occurrences of ignition in 2019, by day, as compared to the 5 year average for the Boise District BLM.



# **BY PROTECTION AGENCY - Boise National Forest**

BOF PROTECTION TOTAL FIRES & ACRES				
	FIRES ACRES			
HUMAN CAUSED	28	4,177.47		
LIGHTNING CAUSED	23	19,730.55		
TOTAL 51 23,908.02				

BOF PROTECTION ASSISTS FIRES & ACRES				
	FIRES	ACRES		
FEDERAL AND STATE ASSISTS	25	N/A		
RURAL FIRE COUNTY ASSISTS	1	41		

	BOF PROTECTION FIRES & ACRES BY LAND OWNERSHIP					
LAND OWNERSHIP	HUMAN CAUSED	HUMAN ACRES	LIGHTNING CAUSED	LIGHTNING ACRES	TOTAL FIRES	TOTAL ACRES
USFS-ID-BOF	18	1,196.74	21	19,427.65	39	20,624.39
BLM-ID-BOD	0	0	0	0	0	0
IDL-ID-SWS	0	0	0	0	0	0
PRIVATE	2	1.76	2	6.9	4	8.66
MILITARY-ID-LPE	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOR-ID-SRL	8	12.97	0	0	8	12.97
OTHER		2,966		296		3,262
COMBINED TOTALS	28	4,177.47	23	19,730.55	51	23908.02

<sup>\*</sup>Other includes land that is protected by another dispatch area that a fire that started on BOF protection burned onto.

# **BY PROTECTION AGENCY- Boise National Forest**

The table below shows how many fires started and how many acres burned in each district. \*Note acres burned are only USFS land ownership acres, but this does include fires protected by other agencies that started on USFS land\*

The table below shows how many fires burned in areas of concern and also how many times certain tactics were used to suppress fire.

FIELD OFFICE STATISTICS - USFS OWNED ACRES					
	# FIRES	HUMAN ACRES	LIGHTNING ACRES	TOTAL ACRES	
MOUNTAIN HOME	13	4,036.43	3.23	4,039.66	
IDAHO CITY	15	95.85	1.3	97.15	
CASCADE	7	0.8	19,674.35	19,675.15	
LOWMAN	5	0.92	41.35	42.27	
EMMETT	11	0	10.32	10.32	

MANAGEMENT STATISTICS - USFS PROTECTION				
AREA OF CONCERN OR STRAGEGY USED	TOTAL OCCURANCES			
RETARDANT USED	10			
RFD RESPONSE	8			
WUI	2			

This table shows how fires were reported to ID-BDC. It gives the total number by method and the percentage of reports in relation to the total number of fires.

FIRE DETECTION - USFS PROTECTION				
DETECTION METHOD	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE		
AGENCY PERSONNEL	11	21.57%		
AIRCRAFT	11	21.57%		
COUNTY DISPATCH	15	29.41%		
LOOKOUTS	7	13.73%		
PRIVATE CITIZEN	7	13.73%		

FIRE SIZE OCCURANCE	- USFS PROTECTION
<b>A</b> (025 acres)	31
<b>B</b> (.26-9 acres)	14
<b>C</b> (10-99 acres)	4
<b>D</b> (100-299 acres)	0
<b>E</b> (300-999 acres)	0
<b>F</b> (1000-4999 acres)	1
<b>G</b> (5000+ acres)	1
TOTAL	51

# **BY PROTECTION AGENCY - Boise National Forest**

The following chart includes all the Boise National Forest protection area fires that burned 10 acres or more.

ID-BOF PROTECTION FIRES OVER 10 ACRES										
DATE	NAME	FIRE CODE	DISTRICT	CAUSE	ACRES					
07/27/2020	WARM	EKW2	D5	L	41.1					
07/27/2020	GOLDEN	NBX2	D3	Н	91.3					
08/26/2020	BUCK	NH0G	D4	L	19,674					
09/06/2020	GROUSE	NJ80	D1	Н	3,998					
10/29/2020	WOODARD	NP4A	D6	Н	34					
10/30/2020	LAMB	NP4B	D1	Н	34					

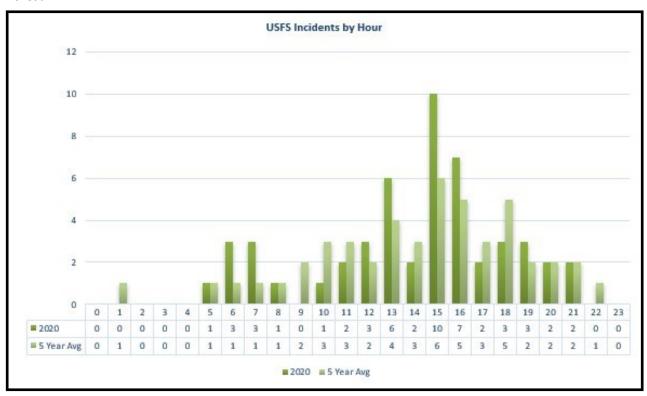


ID-BOF PROTECTION FIRES & ACRES BY MONTH									
	TOTAL # FIRES	HUMAN FIRES	LIGHTNING FIRES	ACRES					
JANUARY	0	0	0	0					
FEBRUARY	0	0	0	0					
MARCH	0	0	0	0					
APRIL	1	1	0	0.1					
MAY	4	1	0	10.22					
JUNE	1	1	0	0.1					
JULY	8	4	0	133.8					
AUGUST	21	5	0	19,684.88					
SEPTEMBER	5	5	0	4,005.3					
OCTOBER	10	10	0	73.43					
NOVEMBER	1	1	0	0.22					
DECEMBER	0	0	0	0					
TOTAL	51	28	0	23,908.05					

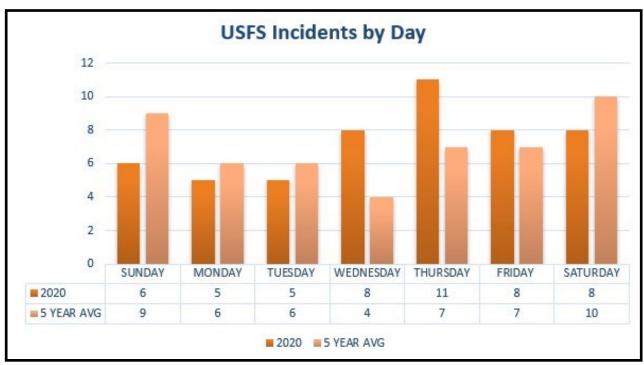
#### **BY PROTECTION AGENCY - Boise National Forest**

#### WildCAD Reports

The chart below compares occurrences of ignition in 2020, by time of day, as compared to the 5 year average for the Boise National Forest.



The chart below compares occurrences of ignition in 2020, by day, as compared to the 5 year average for the Boise National Forest.



# **BY PROTECTION AGENCY - Southwest Idaho Department of Lands**

SWS PROTECTION TOTAL FIRES & ACRES								
FIRES ACRES								
HUMAN CAUSED	13	54.5						
LIGHTNING CAUSED	7	442.48						
TOTAL	20	496.98						

SWS PROTECTION ASSISTS FIRES & ACRES						
FIRES ACRES						
FEDERAL ASSISTS	4	N/A				
RURAL FIRE COUNTY ASSISTS	0	0				



SWS PROTECTION FIRES & ACRES BY LAND OWNERSHIP										
LAND	HUMAN CAUSED	HUMAN ACRES	LIGHTNING CAUSED			TOTAL ACRES				
IDL-ID-SWS	0	0	1	169	1	169				
USFS-ID-BOF	4	2.5	5	220.98	9	223.48				
BLM-ID-BOD	0	0.9	0	52	0	52.9				
PRIVATE	9	51.1	1	0.5	10	51.6				
MILITARY-ID-LPE	0	0	0	0	0	0				
BOR-ID-SRL	0	0	0	0	0	0				
COMBINED TOTALS	13	54.5	7	442.48	20	496.98				

# **BY PROTECTION AGENCY- Southwest Idaho Department of Lands**

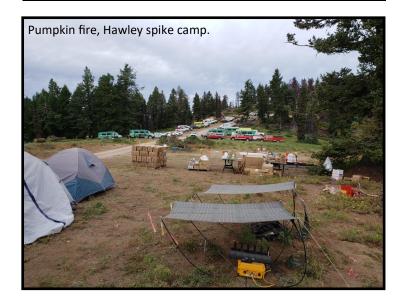
The table below shows how many fires burned in areas of concern and also how many times certain tactics were used to suppress fire.

MANAGEMENT STATISTICS - IDL PROTECTION								
AREA OF CONCERN OR STRAGEGY USED	TOTAL OCCURANCES							
RETARDANT USED	6							
RFD RESPONSE	17							
WUI	0							



This table shows how fires were reported to ID-BDC. It gives the total number by method and the percentage of reports in relation to the total number of fires.

FIRE DETECTION - IDL PROTECTION								
DETECTION METHOD	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE						
AGENCY PERSONNEL	2	10%						
AIRCRAFT	2	10%						
COUNTY DISPATCH	9	45%						
LOOKOUTS	1	5%						
PRIVATE CITIZEN	6	30%						



FIRE SIZE OCCURANO	CE - IDL PROTECTION
<b>A</b> (025 acres)	6
<b>B</b> (.26-9 acres)	12
<b>C</b> (10-99 acres)	1
<b>D</b> (100-299 acres)	0
<b>E</b> (300-999 acres)	1
<b>F</b> (1000-4999 acres)	0
<b>G</b> (5000+ acres)	0
TOTAL	20

# **BY PROTECTION AGENCY - Southwest Idaho Department of Lands**

 $The following \ chart \ includes \ all \ the \ Southwest \ Idaho \ Department \ of \ Lands \ protection \ area \ fires \ that \ burned \ more \ than \ 10 \ acres.$ 

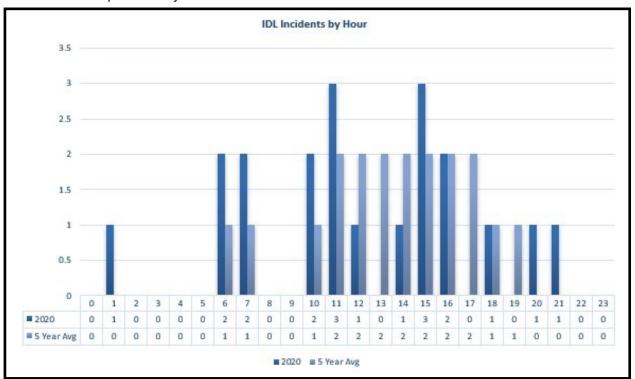
ID-SWS PROTECTION FIRES OVER 10 ACRES											
DATE	E NAME FIRE CODE CAUSE ACRES										
04/19/2020	WEST SLOPE	M2EF	Н	46.5							
08/06/2020	PUMPKIN	NDP9	L	438							

ID-SWS PROTECTION FIRES & ACRES BY MONTH									
	TOTAL # FIRES	ACRES							
JANUARY	0	0	0						
FEBRUARY	1	1	0	0.1					
MARCH	1	1	0	0.1					
APRIL	3	3	0	48					
MAY	3	2	1	1.2					
JUNE	0	0	0	0					
JULY	2	1	1	0.8					
AUGUST	8	3	5	444.38					
SEPTEMBER	1	1	0	0.9					
OCTOBER	1	1	0	1.5					
NOVEMBER	0	0	0	0					
DECEMBER	0	0	0	0					
TOTAL	20	13	7	496.98					

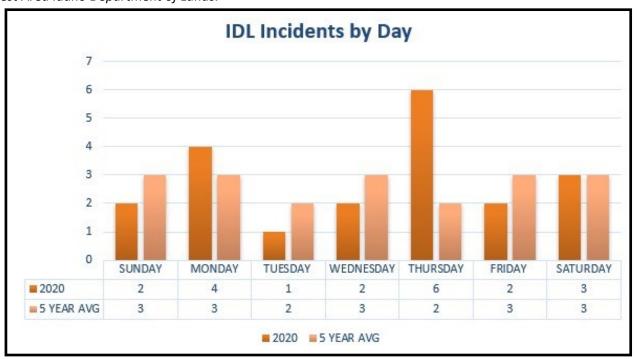
# **BY PROTECTION AGENCY - Southwest Idaho Department of Lands**

# **WildCAD Reports**

The chart below compares occurrences of ignition in 2020, by time of day, as compared to the 5 year average for the Southwest Area Idaho Department of Lands.



The chart below compares occurrences of ignition in 2020, by day, as compared to the 5 year average for the Southwest Area Idaho Department of Lands.



# LOGISTICAL ACTIVITY

Boise Dispatch Center mobilizes 1353 personnel representing the following agencies:

AGENCY	BOD	BOF	sws	BOS	DFR	UT	ISO	DC	OTHER		NAT	IONAL IN	ITERAGE	NCY FIRE	CENTER	
AGENCY	ВОО	ВОГ	3003	воз	DFK	R04	130	WOI	İΕR	FCD	FCA	FCF	FCR	FCP	AMDH	AM- RO
CAREER	58	136	267	19	5	2	36	8	9	88	15	92	13	21	10	6
CAREER SEASONAL	39	65	21	0	0	0	5	0	0	15	0	1	0	0	1	0
CASUAL HIRE	100	76	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	9	0	0	0	0
INTERMITTENT	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	59	156	1	0	0	0	4	0	1	5	0	0	0	2	0	0
VOLUNTEER	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

BOD – Boise District BLM, BOF – Boise National Forest, SWS –Southwest Idaho Department of Lands, BOS – Boise Staff Office Idaho Department of Lands, DFR – Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge, UTR04 – Region 4- USFS, ISO – Idaho State Office BLM, DCWOI – Office of Wildland Fire Coordination, OTHER - (National Operations Center, Eagle Fire Department, Intermountain Regional Office, Etc..), FCD – National Interagency Fire Center - Bureau of Land Management, FCA – National Interagency Fire Center - United States Forest Service, FCR – National Interagency Fire Center - Fish and Wildlife Service, FCP – National Interagency Fire Center - National Park Service, AMDH – Aviation Management National Business Center Headquarters, AMRO – Aviation Management Western Regional Office

#### **MOBILIZATION**

The chart below shows how many of our resources supported each geographic area, excluding Boise Dispatch incidents. \*Note: Due to issues with IROC the majority of Crew, Equipment, and Aircraft orders were not rostered for 2020.\*

	ALASKA	EASTERN AR- EA	GREAT BASIN	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	NORTHERN ROCKIES	NORTHWEST	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	SOUTHERN AREA	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	SOUTHWEST	AUSTRAILA	MILITARY SUPPORT	NATIONAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION
OVERHEAD	34	7	380	150	25	94	113	12	71	82	8	5	25
CREW	0	0	73	3	3	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	215	135	2	15	64	0	57	2	0	0	0
AIRCRAFT	1	10	259	8	19	33	19	0	12	20	0	0	0

#### WORKLOAD

Boise Interagency Dispatch Center processed **7,687** resource orders in 2020. Below is a chart showing the breakdown of the type of work processed. In comparison, last year we processed **15,777** orders. The five year average (2016-2020) is **24,517** orders processed. \*Note: Due to issues with IROC the majority of Crew, Equipment, and Aircraft orders were not rostered for 2020, which caused a dramatic decrease in orders processed from previous years.\*

	Cancelled UTF	AT INCIDENT	FILL/ CLOSE	CANCELLED	REASSIGNED	CLOSED	COMPLETE
AIRCRAFT	2	0	75	106	251	471	117
CREW	19	0	0	22	64	88	14
EQUIPMENT	35	2	0	94	75	594	275
OVERHEAD	126	0	0	185	725	1199	492
SUPPLY	27	0	2369	59	0	199	2
TOTAL	209	2	2444	466	1115	2551	900

## **LOGISTICAL ACTIVITY**

#### **Mob Center**

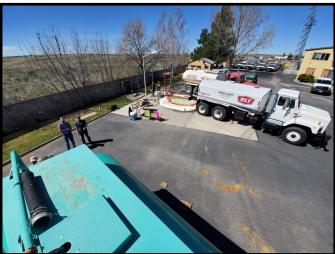
The Boise Mob Center was activated 3 times in 2020. The first activation was on June 24<sup>th</sup> for the Boise BLM Helitack and Boise IHC to return from Alaska assignments. The second activation was on July 21<sup>st</sup> to mobilize Chena IHC, Midnight Suns IHC and White Mountain T2IA crews. The second activation included procuring 10 NERV rental vehicles for crew transportation. The crews stayed for 74 days in the Lower 48 and BDC assisted them throughout that duration as well as helped to procure COVID test for all members before returning to Alaska in October. The final activation was on August 31<sup>st</sup> to mobilize 3 crews from Quebec, Canada to assist in the National firefighting efforts during PL5.

#### Warehouse/Rental Vehicles

The Boise National Forest warehouse can get very busy during fire season. At the warehouse they complete inspections on VIPR equipment and manage rental vehicles for local & non-local incidents. The number of inspections and rental vehicles vary depending on fire activity.

BOF WAREHOUSE STATISTICS								
YEAR	YEAR INSPECTIONS							
2020	243	23						
2019	25	12						
2018	353	85						
2017	127	27						
4 YEAR AVERAGE	187	37						





2019 pre-season inspections. Pre-season inspections did not happen like they normally do in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

# **FIRE SUPPRESSION RESOURCES**

Below is the list of resources that are dispatched through BDC.

AGENCY	BLM	USFS	IDL		
UNIT IDENTIFICATION	ID-BOD	ID-BOF	ID-SWS		
AIR ATTACK PLATFORM	1	1	0		
TYPE 1 HELICOPTER	1	2	0		
TYPE 2 HELICOPTER	0	1	0		
TYPE 3 HELICOPTER	0	1	0		
HELITACK PERSONNEL	23	28	0		
TYPE 1 IHC	0	2	0		
TYPE 2 REGULAR IA CREW	0	2	0		
TYPE 2 CREW	0	1	0		
WILDLAND MODULE	0	1	0		
SUPER HEAVY ENGINE (TYPE 3)	2	0	0		
TYPE 4 ENGINE	13	8	0		
TYPE 5/6/7 ENGINE	0	0	3		
TYPE 5/6/7 PATROL/PREVENTION	0	10	0		
WATER TENDER	3	0	0		
DOZER	5	0	0		
FUEL TRUCK	1	0	0		
MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER	1	0	0		
MOBILE CACHE/COMMAND TRAILER	1	2	0		
CONTRACT RESOURCES			•		
NATIONAL TYPE 2 IA CREW			2		
REGIONAL ENGINES TYPE 3			3		
REGIONAL ENGINES TYPE 4			10		
REGIONAL ENGINES TYPE 5			7		
REGIONAL ENGINES TYPE 6			20		
NATIONAL BUSES – CREW CARRIER			6		
REGIONAL WATER TENDERS - TACTICAL			6		
REGIONAL WATER TENDERS - SUPPORT			15		
CHIPPER			11		
SKIDGINE			4		
DOZERS			21		
EXCAVATORS			12		
FALLER MODULE			4		
SINGLE FALLER			9		
ROAD GRADERS			3		
SKIDDER			3		
HELICOPTER OPERATIONS SUPPORT TRAILER			10		
TRANSPORTS TRACTOR/TRAILER			3		
FELLER BUNCHER			2		
MECHANICS/SERVICE TRUCK			8		
REFRIGERATED TRUCK/TRAILER			5		
WEED WASHING UNIT			8		
FUEL TENDER			5		
GRAY WATER TRUCK		4			
POTABLE WATER TRUCK		9			
HANDWASHING STATION – TRAILER MOUNTED		8			
COMMUNICATION TRAILER		20			
GIS TRAILER		3 5			
	MULCHER/MASTICATOR				
PICKUP			24		
SOFTTRACK			2		
SUV			1		
STAKESIDE  MORII E SLEEDED LINIT			11		
MOBILE SLEEPER UNIT			10		

#### **LOCAL RESOURCE ACTIVITY**

#### **CREWS - IHC**

After Boise IHC tackled the Pinney fire on the Emmett district (05/05/2020), the 2020 season started just 6 days later in The Greatest Basin. Boise and Idaho City IHCs mobilized to the Basin fire, managed by the Arizona Strip Field Office. Two days later, Boise IHC was committed to the Mine fire, also located in Arizona. Four days later Idaho City IHC was reassigned to Color Country's GACC Support. For the rest of the season, the crews spent time in NV, ID, CA and UT. Boise IHC finished off the year on the East Fork in Utah and Idaho City IHC worked the Buck fire located on the Cascade Ranger District. Both crews completed their seasons without any crew members testing positive for COVID-19.

	DATE OF FIRST FIRE	DATE OF LAST ASSIGNMENT	DAYS CREW ASSEMBLED	DAYS IN TRAVEL STATUS	PROJECT WORK	DAYS – COMMITTED	DAYS UNPAID	14 DAY TOURS	LARGE FIRE ASSIGNMENTS	IA FIRE ASSIGNMENTS	MILES TRAVELED	TRAINEE ASSIGNMENTS
BOISE IHC	05/05	10/11	182	21	18	134	13	08	15	04	77,944	28
IDAHO CITY IHC	05/11	09/11	148	16	0	115	06	07	06	12	85,136	21













## CREWS - Type 2 IA

The Type 2 Crews in our area are an essential part of our fire organization. Our area has 3 agency type 2 initial attack crews: Crew 3 out of Idaho City, Crew 5 off the Lowman Ranger District and Crew 8 which is provided by the Boise Wildland Firefighter Academy (BWFA). We also dispatch two national contract IA crews from PatRick Environmental. These crews are critical to our success in initial attack at the local level. They also had off-unit assignments to Idaho, Utah, California, Colorado and Nevada.

	CREW 3	CREW 5	CREW 8	CREW 13A	CREW 13B
AGENCY	BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	BOF BWFA	PATRICK ENVIRONMENTAL INC	PATRICK ENVIRONMENTAL INC
DATE FIRST ASSIGNMENT (ON OR OFF UNIT)	05/10	06/14	06/27	05/11	06/26
OFF-UNIT ASSIGNMENTS	04	02	03	09	08

# **ENGINES**

Below shows the activity the engine crews received off-unit which included traveling to the Twin Falls District, Sawtooth National Forest, Payette National Forest, Salmon-Challis National Forest, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Elko District and Vale District. Besides providing support to our neighbors, our engine crews were also dispatched to UT, CA and CO.

	BLM	USFS	IDL	CONTRACT
STAFFED TYPE 3 ENGINES	2	0	0	3
STAFFED TYPE 4 ENGINES	13	8	0	10
STAFFED TYPE 6 ENGINES	0	0	3	20
TOTAL NUMBER OF OFF-UNIT INCIDENT ASSIGNMENTS	29	23	2	54
DATE OF FIRST OFF-UNIT ASSIGNMENT	06/03	06/22	07/26	07/23



The incident that a majority of our engine resources responded to was the East Fork fire on the Ashley National Forest in Utah.



# **AIRCRAFT**

# **HELICOPTERS**

The USFS had a new Type 2 EXU and 2 Type 1 EXU(1 Surge) contract helicopters at Lucky Peak this year.

	BLM	USFS	USFS	USFS	USFS
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	N803PJ	N262HQ	N809PJ	N864H	N620TJ
TYPE OF AIRCRAFT	UH-60A+	Bell 205A-1+	UH-60A	Bell 407	UH-60A
CATEGORY TYPE	1	2	1	3	1
MANDATORY AVAILABILITY PERIOD	135	120	75	115	90
DAYS ON EXTENTION	30	12	46	34	57
BASE LOCATION	Boise, ID	Lucky Peak Helibase	Lucky Peak Helibase	Garden Valley (U88)	Cascade (U70)
CREW SIZE	21	12	1	10	1
TOTAL FLIGHT HOURS	418.7	253.8	299.6	303.4	351.7
FIRE MANAGEMENT HOURS	410.9	239.4	299.6	298	351.7
OTHER HOURS	7.8	14;4	0	5.4	0
INITIAL ATTACK INCIDENTS	14	19	6	25	18
LARGE FIRE INCIDENTS	8	12	14	8	17
PERSON DAYS ON FIRES	2505	988	N/A	537	N/A
% IA SUPPORTED WITH BUCKET	93%	84%	100%	6800%	100%
GALLONS OF WATER	1,987,960	297,590	1,288,593	164,328	2,332,930
GALLONS OF RETARDANT	N/A	0	0	0	0
PERSONNEL TRANSPORTED	138	1,119	N/A	976	N/A
OPERATIONAL RAPPELS	0	3	N/A	0	N/A
FIRES STAFFED BY RAP- PELLERS	0	2	N/A	0	N/A
POUNDS OF INTERNAL CARGO	46,336	126,135	0	94,795	0
POUNDS OF EXTERNAL CARGO	10,880	46,954	0	31,855	0
AERIAL IGNITION HOURS	0	0	0	1.9	0
HELITACK VEHICLE MILEAGE	90158	41315	0	60000	0
DETAILER TOTAL DAYS	0	0	0	56	42
TOTAL OPERATIONAL COST	\$3,561,038.37	\$1,436,634.00	\$2,533,467.33	\$838,369.00	\$2,717,354.27



BLM Exclusive Use type 1, N803PJ.



USFS Exclusive Use type 1,H809PJ

# **AIRCRAFT**

# **FIXED WING**

I IXED WING							
	BLM	USFS					
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	N425DT	N711PB					
TYPE OF AIR- CRAFT	AERO COMMANDER 690B	AERO COMMANDER 690B					
DAYS UNDER CONTRACT	134	120					
BASE LOCATION	BOI	BOI					
AMOUNT OF INCIDENTS	58	59					
DAYS USED	64	71					
TOTAL FLIGHT TIME	271.36	311.66					
TOTAL COST	\$559,665	\$802,500					

Grouse Fire

# **MOUNTAIN HOME SEAT BASE- BLM**

Base Operational Dates	6/15-10/10/20
Water (Total Gal.)	7,887
Retardant (Total Gal.)	236,675
# of Loads	336
# of Aircraft Support	20
Total Flight Time	307.19
# Fires Supported	34
Retardant Cost	\$928,624.00
Aircraft Cost (FT, EP, etc.)	\$859,168.14
Misc. Cost	\$91,486.26
Gallons by User	
ID-BDC dispatch area	200,406
Outside of ID-BDC dispatch area	44,156
ID-BOD	78,892
ID-BOF	44,158
ID-SWS	57,051
DOD	20,305
1st Load Out	
June 27th Valley Fire—NV-EIC-10100	
Last Load Out	
Oct 5th Meridian Fire—ID-SCF-020174	
One Day Record	
August 7th, 48 Loads Pumpkin ID-SWS-000	)558
Personnel	
# Gov personnel assigned	1
# detailers / temp support	13



SEATs over Grouse Fire

# **AIRCRAFT**

# **BOISE TANKER BASE- USFS**

Base Operatio	nal Dates					06/01/20-09/30/20
Water (Total G	Gal.)					0
Retardant (To	tal Gal.)					923,485
# of Loads						360
# of Aircraft Su	upport					21
Total Flight Tir	ne					349.90
# Fires Suppor	ted					72
Retardant Cos	t					\$2,450,303.40
Aircraft Cost (I	FT & ES)					\$2,850,809.65
1st Load Out						
MATLIN (UT-B	RS) -06/03/20					
Last Load Out						
CAMERON PEA	AK (CO-ARF) 09/28/20					
One Day Reco	rd					
08/7/20	6 AIRCRAFT	1 FIRE	138,860 ga	illons	PUMPKIN	



# **FUELS MANAGEMENT**

# **BOISE DISTRICT BLM**

BOD FUELS ACCOMPLISHMENTS*							
TYPE OF PROJECT	2019 ACRES COMPLETED	2020 ACRES COMPLETED					
PRESCRIBED BURNING	14,461	1,129					
MECHANICAL TREATMENT	42,501	35,857					
OTHER FUEL REDUCTION CONTROL	1,144	1,897					
TOTAL	58,106	38,883					



Fenceline burning on Rattlesnake Grade off HWY 51.

# **BOISE NATIONAL FOREST**



Emmett Pile Burning

BOF FUELS ACCOMPLISHMENTS*								
TYPE OF PROJECT	2019 ACRES COMPLETED	2020 ACRES COMPLETED						
PRESCRIBED BURNING	3,308	7,751						
MECHANICAL TREATMENT	6,534	8,256						
TOTAL	9,842	16,007						

<sup>\*</sup>Numbers are reported by fiscal year

# **IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS**

SWS FUELS ACCOMPLISHMENTS						
TYPE OF PROJECT	ACRES					
Prescribed Fire	761					
TOTAL	761					

<sup>\*</sup>Numbers are reported by fiscal year

# **PREVENTION & MITIGATION**

#### **BOISE DISTRICT BLM**

The outbreak of COVID19 in the Spring of 2020, and the ensuing pandemic, affected all aspects of fire management during the 2020 Fire Season, including the Boise District BLM's (BOD) Mitigation, Education, and Prevention Program. The BOD organized, hosted, and participated in a handful of education and prevention programs; however, due to the pandemic and the Center for Disease Control's guidelines, which included quarantining and social distancing, the BOD canceled numerous events scheduled for the 2020 Fire Season.

Despite the new challenges posed by the Corona Virus Pandemic, the BOD's Mitigation, Education, and Prevention Program continued to nurture and cultivate its relationships with stakeholders and the communities it serves in Southwest Idaho. As part of the program's continued efforts, the BOD has proposed and developed a hazardous fuels reduction project (fuel break) in Elmore County, near the rural communities of Pine and Glenn's Ferry, ID. In addition, the Surprise Valley and Avimore Subdivisions, located within the Boise Front, have nearly completed their proposed projects. Finally, the Highland Nines HOA is preparing to undertake Phase I of the community assistance projects.

The BOD program worked closely with Cole Valley Christian School students to develop and innovate new methods to communicate to local communities the importance of establishing defensible space in their communities. The students, along with their BLM counterparts, developed unique solutions and projects aimed at helping communities in the Wildland Urban Interface limit the risk of catastrophic wildfire within those communities in Southwest Idaho. The BOD program also reached out and made pubic contacts during the 2020 Sportsman's Show, prior to the Covid19 pandemic shutting down the remainder of the year's scheduled outreach events. And, for the fifth year-in-a-row, the BOD awarded a Smokey Bear brass-belt buckle to the individual who won the mutton busting event during the annual Bruneau Roundup.

The BLM program continued to provide prevention supplies (Smokey Bear paraphernalia) for several events as requested. And, despite the novel challenges posed by the pandemic, the BOD program continued to work with its stakeholders and rural communities to spread the word about the importance of preventing wildfires, mitigating the damage caused by unplanned (human) ignitions, and educating the public on the importance of fire management throughout Southwest Idaho and across public lands.

- BLM investigated 62 total fires.
- Vehicle fires started 19 of the 62 fires investigated by the BLM.
- Discharging firearms (shooting) started 8 of the 62 fires investigated.
- ♦ Fireworks started 5 of the 62 fires investigated during the 2020 Fire Season.

#### **BOISE NATIONAL FOREST**



#### Boise National Forest—Prevention, Education, and Mitigation Committee

The mission of the Boise National Forest Fire Prevention, Education, and Mitigation Committee is to reduce the frequency, size, and cost associated with unplanned ignitions (human starts) through education and the enforcement of the agency's natural resource management principles.

#### (D1) MOUNTAIN HOME RANGER DISTRICT

The Mountain Home Ranger District Fire Prevention and Patrol program consists of four positions. These four agency personnel staff three fire stations, located at various points on the Mountain Home Ranger District, which is the largest district on the Boise National Forest, encompassing 650,000 acres. This district is located adjacent to the Boise Front and the Boise Metro area with a population nearing 670,000 people, which creates unique challenges for the districts prevention and patrol resources. The district also covers a wide variety of vegetation types, due to its elevation gradient and relief elevation, as well as rangeland. This wildland urban interface (WUI) and "rangeland interface" creates the potential for more unplanned ignitions (human starts) and potentially undesirable wildfires throughout the fire season. As part of the Boise National Forest's overall program, the Mountain Home Fire Prevention group undertakes programs and hosts unique events to educate its stakeholders and those communities it services in the greater Treasure Valley area and the rural communities of Pine and Featherville.

#### (D3) IDAHO CITY RANGER DISTRICT

The Idaho City Ranger District Fire Prevention and Patrol program is comprised of two permanent 18/8 PFE positions. During the 2020 Fire Season Chris Hightower and Kailie Leggett successfully filled the roles of PT-31 and PT-32 respectively. PT-31 (Hightower) completed multiple fire assignments off district and off forest. Although PT-32 (Leggett) did not complete an off district assignment, she worked closely with the Public Affairs Office to produce five public service announcements and assisted in writing two news stories for use by U.S. Forest Service prevention programs agency wide throughout the nation.

#### (D4) CASCADE RANGER DISTRICT

The Cascade Ranger District Fire Prevention and Patrol Program consists of one permanent 18/8 fire prevention employee and one 13/13 fire prevention employee, although during the 2020 Fire Season the 13/13 prevention position remained vacant. PT41-Kim Drake made it off forest at least once during the fire season and made significant contributions to the overall success of the Cascade program throughout the summer. In order to provide coverage for the district, the BOF order several off district resources including units from the following forests: the Lincoln National Forest, the Klamath National Forest, the Humboldt-Toyaibe National Forest, Pike National Forest, and the Coconino National Forest. In addition, Engine 441 and district recreation staff assisted with patrolling the district during the season. with two 1039 Recreation Technicians.

#### (D5) LOWMAN RANGER DISTRICT

The Lowman Fire Prevention and Patrol Program is comprised of one 18/8 fire prevention position and one 13/13 fire prevention slot. During the 2020 Fire Season, PT52-Mary Wright contributed to the programs overall success, while the PT51 slot remained vacant. The Lowman Ranger District saw a significant increase in the number of campers and public recreating across the district. PT52 and other district employees focused their efforts and making contacting with campers and the public to establish a presence, provide education, and to ensure compliance with U.S. Forest Service policies. Due to the increased use the district reported significant resource damage, specifically in designated as well as undesignated dispersed campsites. Engine 451 and several recreation employees moved barriers into place to blockade future use of those dispersed sites that have not been designated for camping., and the district hopes to implement a project in 2021 to further address the resource issue.

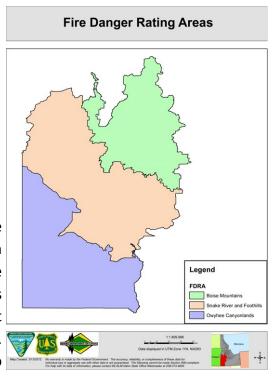
#### (D6) EMMETT RANGER DISTRICT

The Emmett Ranger District Fire Prevention and Patrol Program is comprised of one permanent 18/8 prevention slot, one 13/13 prevention slot, and one 1039 prevention technician. During the 2020 season, the forest only staffed PT63 and PV61. PV61-Willie Rockhill covered the west side of the district, while PT63 patrolled the Payette River corridors. Occasionally, Engine 461 and other off district engines patrolled the district while on severity. During the summer, the Sage Hen area remained closed due to an active timber sale. In addition, the COVID19 pandemic altered the way the BOF's prevention and patrol employees interacted with the public. Overall, COVID19 resulted in a significant reduction in the number of contacts agency personnel made with the public, which created its own unique challenges. In addition, trainees did not get the typical exposure or experience they might have during a more typical years.. Prevention 61 was not able to get certified as an FPO, and therefore did not have the ability to issue warnings or citations.

# **FIRE DANGER RATING AREAS**

A Fire Danger Rating Area (FDRA) is defined as a large geographic area relatively homogenous with respect to climate, vegetation and topography. Because of these similarities, it can be assumed that the fire danger within a FDRA is relatively uniform. Fire Danger Rating Areas were delineated based upon an analysis of these three factors: climate, vegetation, and topography. After these environmental factors were considered, the draft FDRAs were edge-matched to existing administrative boundaries using Response Areas.

Each FDRA uses RAWS (remote automated weather stations) to obtain the weather information needed to produce fire danger outputs. Each area uses the weather data compiled with either ERC (energy release component) (Boise Mountains) or BI (burning index) (Snake River Foothills and Owyhee Canyonlands) to measure critical burning conditions and set staffing levels. Below is a list of each area with the weather stations used. Some the stations used are not managed by BDC but are used due to completeness of data and overall topographic representation.



	RAWS STATIONS USED FOR EACH FDRA									
STATION NAME	STATION ID	LOCATION	ELEVATION	TYPE OF STATION	OWNER					
BOISE MOUNTAINS FDRA RAWS STATIONS										
PINE CREEK	101222	6 MI SW OF SMITH'S FERRY	5600	FTS	BOISE NF					
TOWN CREEK	101708	2 MI E OF PLACERVILLE	4500	FTS	BOISE NF					
LITTLE ANDERSON	101710	2 MI NE OF GARDEN VALLEY	4560	FTS	BOISE NF					
WAGONTOWN	102712	3 MI SW OF FEATHERVILLE	6200	FTS	BOISE NF					
TEAPOT	101220	18 MI E OF MCCALL	5152	FTS	PAYETTE NF					
SNAKE RIVER FOOTHIL	LS FDRA RAWS									
CATFISH	101402	10 MI NW OF WEISER	3570	FTS	BOISE BLM					
MOUNTAIN HOME	102709	MOUNTAIN HOME AFB	3350	FTS	BOSE BLM					
HORSE BUTTE	103205	37 MI SE OF GLENNS FERRY	5000	FTS	TWIN FALLS BLM					
OWYHEE CANYONLAN	DS FDRA RAWS									
BRACE FLAT	103207	29 MI WNW OF RIDDLE	4900	FTS	BOISE BLM					
TRIANGLE	103208	13 MI SE OF SILVER CITY	5330	FTS	BOISE BLM					
OWYHEE RIDGE	353614	12 MI W OF HOMEDALE	4400	FTS	VALE BLM					

# PREPARDENESS LEVELS - FIRE DANGER LEVELS - DISPATCH LEVELS

# **Southwest Idaho**

	2020	5 YR AVG
PREPAREDNESS LEVEL	DAYS	DAYS
1	71	67
2	58	48
3	15	24
4	0	2
5	0	0

# **Boise Mountains FDRA**

	_	
BOISE MOUNTAINS FDRA	2020	5 YR AVG
FIRE DANGER RATING	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	39	35
MODERATE	60	52
HIGH	37	37
VERY HIGH	9	16
EXTREME	0	0

BOISE MOUNTAINS FDRA	2020	5 YR AVG
DISPATCH LEVEL	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	54	43
MODERATE	75	68
HIGH	15	29

#### **Snake River Foothills FDRA**

<b>SNAKE RIVER FOOTHILLS FDRA</b>	2020	5 YR AVG
FIRE DANGER RATING	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	16	18
MODERATE	65	54
HIGH	40	36
VERY HIGH	24	28
EXTREME	0	1

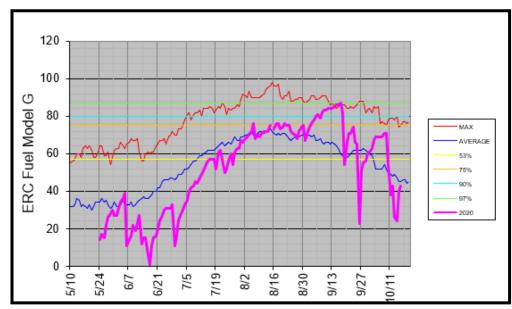
SNAKE RIVER FOOTHILLS FDRA	2020	5 YR AVG
DISPATCH LEVEL	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	22	28
MODERATE	106	97
HIGH	17	16

# **Owyhee Canyonlands FDRA**

OWHYEE CANYONLANDS FDRA	2020	5 YR AVG
FIRE DANGER RATING	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	31	26
MODERATE	91	75
HIGH	16	19
VERY HIGH	6	15
EXTREME	0	0

OWHYEE CANYONLANDS FDRA	2020	5 YR AVG
DISPATCH LEVEL	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	46	37
MODERATE	75	74
HIGH	23	29

# **OUTPUTS**

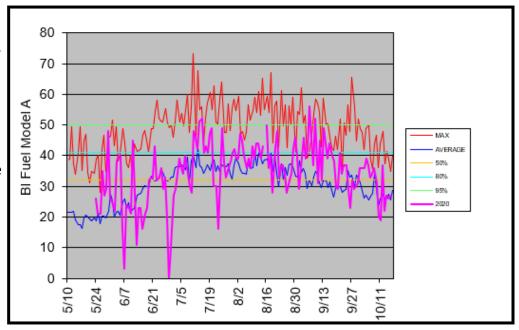


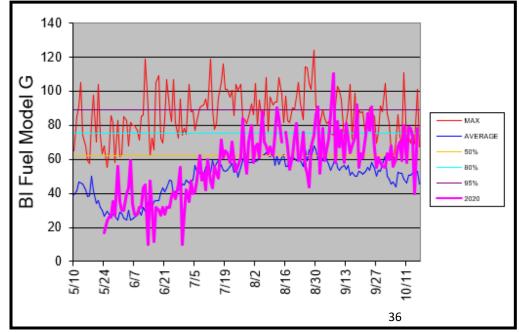
#### **Boise Mountains FDRA**

The chart to the left shows this years ERC levels for the Boise Mountains FDRA compared to certain various percentages and also the average and max ERC levels determined from the Fire Danger Operating Plan.

#### **Snake River & Foothills FDRA**

The chart to the left shows this years BI levels for the Snake River Foothills FDRA compared to various threshold percentages and also the average and max BI levels determined from the Fire Danger Operating Plan.





# **Owyhee Canyonlands FDRA**

The chart to the left shows this year's BI levels for the Owyhee Canyonlands FDRA compared to various threshold percentages and also the average and max BI levels determined from the Fire Danger Operating Plan.

# **WEATHER**

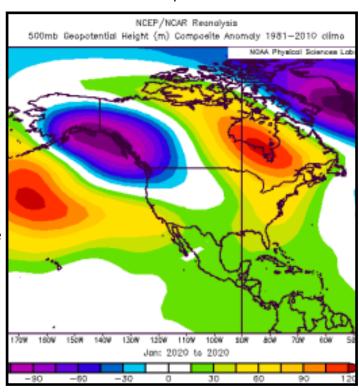
# **Boise National Weather Service**

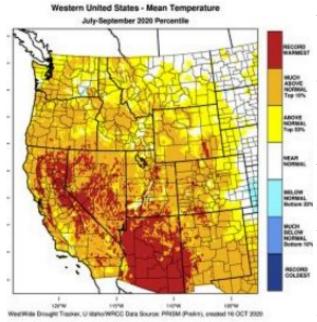
#### WINTER

Information taken directly from the Boise Weather Service 2020 Fire Weather Annual Report

Warm conditions continued into the New Year as a progressive weather pattern pushed inland off the Pacific Ocean with several winter storms moving through the region. This pattern, since no long lasting winter inversions formed, allowed for above normal conditions to prevail for the month. Burns recorded mean temperatures of over 5 degrees above normal, Twin Falls + 4, Baker +7, and Boise +6 degrees above normal. For the Boise Airport, it was the 5th warmest January since 1940, and the 8th for the period of record in the Boise area dating back to 1864. The snowpack across the forecast area had huge gains as the "flood gates opened" due to the winter storms that traversed the region. Snow water equivalent values increased 10 to 20 inches across the central and northern portions of the state with lesser amounts across the Fig 2 and 3 West Central Mountains. Precipitation observed at the Boise Airport was nearly one inch (liquid water content - LWC) above normal (9 inches of snowfall vs a normal 5 inches) and McCall 3.00 inches (LWC). Similar recordings were observed region wide.

The weather pattern that existed in January continued through the remainder of the winter and through the month of June.





#### **SUMMER**

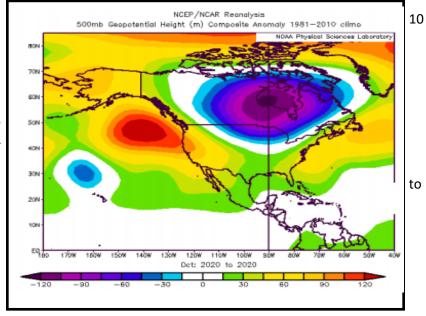
The upper ridge that was suppressed in June across the Desert Southwest States and towards Hawaii amplified northward. This upper ridge remained through a majority of the summer and early fall. Precipitation for the time period was well below normal, not only for Fig 9 and 10 Idaho but for most of the Pacific Northwest. Above normal temperatures were recorded during this time (see figure to the left). Some records were broken, including the 103 degrees observed in Boise on the 16th. This broke the previous record of 102 which was set back in 1897! Weak fronts along with thunderstorm activity moved through the area at times bringing sparse rainfall. One such thunderstorm event moved through the region at the end of August, sparking a few fires across the west central mountains in Idaho. The Buck (Boise NF) and the Porphyry Fire (Payette NF) both started during this time period. Spot forecasts were completed through the end of September. A very strong dry cold front moved through the region during the Labor Day weekend. This

brought very strong winds to the entire region. Widespread wind gusts of 40 to 70 mph were recorded with the frontal passage. Some notable observations include 70 mph at Catfish RAWS just north of Ontario, 63 mph at the Jerome Airport, 60 mph at Midvale Hill and 58 mph at Little McCoy

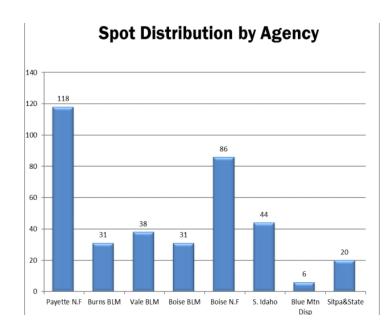
#### **OCTOBER**

October was the month of extremes with temperatures -15 degrees above normal for the first several days of the month. This as an upper ridge remained parked over the region (Fig 13). Boise for instance hit 84 degrees, Burns 75, and McCall 64. Theoretically, high temperatures could have been warmer if it wasn't for the continued widespread smoke sitting over the region from wild-fires across the West. By the middle of the month, a light at the end of the "fire season tunnel" was starting take shape as the upper ridge pushed to the west allowing systems to start moving into the region. One such front, on October 10th, dropped 0.42 inches of rain in Boise,.

Cold temperatures finally moved into the region bringing a winter feel to the region. The northwest flow con-



tinued into mid/late month spreading an arctic air mass into portions of the region. Boise reported a record low of 17 degrees on the 26th, breaking the previous record of 19 degrees which was set back in 1878.



summer fire season were the two main culprits.

#### **Spot Forecasts:**

As shown in both the wildfire and Rx spots, the season was delayed by about a month as spot load didn't increase until July, whereas a normal year increased in June. The fire season also extended much later than past years. The period of record of Spot Requests (on station in NWS Boise) goes back to 1984. This year, a record number of wildfire spots were requested in both October and November (45 and 17 respectively) and the month of September (96) was the most we have completed since 1988! The average for those months are 24, 7, and 1 respectively. As for Prescribed burns, the numbers for this year were down for the entire season. More than likely COVID-19 restrictions along with the prolonged

#### **Red Flag Warnings**:

NWS-Boise issued 67 Red Flag Warnings (RFWs) for the 2020 fire season. Of these warnings, 47 verified and 19 had no verification. Additionally, there were 3 events in August which red flag conditions occurred, but no warning was issued. With these numbers in mind, this gave us a Probability of Detection (POD) of 0.94 and a False Alarm Rate (FAR) of 0.23. Our average lead time was 17 hours. All the numbers showed improvement compared to the 2019 fire season.

# **LIGHTNING SUMMARY**

#### **Boise District BLM**

The Boise District BLM had just 6 lightning fires in 2020. July 22<sup>nd</sup> was the first day of lightning and the only day with multiple lighting ignitions, with 2. The largest lightning fire was the Antelope fire, which started on July 22<sup>nd</sup> and burned 1,890 acres. The last lightning fire occurred on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Total acres burned under BLM protection was 2,226. To compare this to 2019, the amount of fires was down considerably, with 26 fires ignitions in 2019 for 3,689 acres.

#### **Boise National Forest**

The Boise National Forest had 23 lighting ignitions in 2020. The first lightning fire occurred on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Pinney fire burned 9.5 acres. The first day with multiple lighting ignitions was August 6<sup>th</sup>. August 27<sup>th</sup> had the most lightning activity with 5 new starts, closely followed by August 26<sup>th</sup> with 4 new fires, it was also the last day for lightning starts for the year. The largest lighting fire was the Buck fire that started on August 26<sup>th</sup> and burned 19,674 acres. In comparison to 2019 the amount of fires were down in 2020 from 53, but acreage burnt increased, in 2019 365 acres burnt and in 2020, 19,730 acres burned.

#### **Southwest Idaho Department of Lands**

Southwest Idaho Department of Lands had 7 lighting fires this year. The first occurred on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and the last ignition was on August 6<sup>th</sup>. August 6th was the only day with multiple ignitions with 4 and the last day the IDL had a lightning start. The Pumpkin fire was one of the four and was the largest fire with 438 acres burned. In 2019 IDL had 12 lightning ignitions for 2.5 acres burned, compared to 7 fires and 442 acres. In 2020.



Buck Fire - taken on 9/20/20

# **FUEL MOISTURE**

## **Snake River Foothills and Owyhee Canyonlands Areas**

The Boise District BLM Fuels program collects the live fuel moisture data at five different locations throughout the district. The following is a chart of their readings which are color coded by expected fire behavior. From the Guidelines for Fire Behavior and tactics based on Live Fuel Moisture Values in the Great Basin Fuel Project as described below: Fuel moistures from 101-125% will exhibit high fire behavior, therefore direct attack with engines and/or dozers would be nearly impossible on large fires. All fuel moisture sites had reached the high threshold by the first of July and had reached extreme or advanced fire fuel moisture by the first of August. Fuel moisture levels were about 2 weeks ahead of what they were in 2019.

SAGEBRUSH	5/1	5/15	6/1	6/15	7/1	7/15	8/1	8/15	9/1	9/15	10/01	10/15
HAMMETT	179	188	177	133	121	100	90	88	79	72	69	79
HAMMETT AVG	205	182	166	143	113	101	89	84	82	80	82	85
KUNA	136	128	156	145	123	106	84	67	66	60	67	85
KUNA AVG	191	177	156	134	104	92	81	75	75	74	69	80
WILD WEST	198	193	255	202	153	143	92	97	103	122	114	124
WILD WEST AVG	213	192	195	171	129	118	84	98	93	88	125	139
TRIANGLE	73	76	93	93	108	96	99	100	99	96	85	87
TRIANGLE AVG	81	84	83	91	92	100	92	89	83	77	72	81
BLACKSTONE	140	NO DATA	167	160	125	101	87	73	72	66	65	68
BLACKSTONE AVG	178	186	171	137	95	81	71	73	74	70	96	88

GREEN: Very Low and Low Fire Behavior. BLUE: Moderate Fire Behavior. YELLOW: High Fire Behavior. ORANGE: Extreme Fire Behavior. RED:

Advanced Fire Behavior.

# FIRE BEHAVIOR AND TACTICS Live Fuel Moisture

**181% & Above** - Fires will exhibit **VERY LOW BEHAVIOR** with difficulty burning. Residual fine fuels from the previous year may carry the fire. Foliage will remain on the stems following the burn. Fires can generally be attacked at the head or flanks by persons using hand tools. Hand line should hold fire without any problems. Fires will normally go out as soon as wind dies down.

**151%-180%** - Fires will exhibit **LOW FIRE BEHAVIOR** with fire beginning to be carried in the live fuels. Both foliage and stem material up to 1/4 inch in diameter will be consumed by the fire. Burns will be generally patchy with many unburned islands. Engines may be necessary to catch fires at the head and handling will be more difficult to construct, but should hold at the head and the flanks.

**126%-150%** - Fires will exhibit **MODERATE FIRE BEHAVIOR** with a fast continuous rate of spread that will consume stem material up to 2 inches in diameter. These fires may be attacked at the head with engines but may require support of dozers and retardant aircraft. Handline will become ineffective at the fire head, but should still hold at the flanks. Under high winds and low humidity, indirect line should be given considerations.

**101%-125%** - Fires will exhibit **HIGH FIRE BEHAVIOR** leaving no material unburned. Head attack with fire engines and dozers will be nearly impossible on large fires, but may still be possible on smaller, developing fires. Retardant aircraft will be necessary on all these fires. Flanking attack by engines and indirect attack ahead of the fire must be used. Spotting should be anticipated. Fires will begin to burn through the night, calming down several hours before sunrise.

**75%-100%** - Fires will exhibit **EXTREME FIRE BEHAVIOR**. Extreme rates of spread and moderate to long range spotting will occur. Engines and dozers may be best used to back up firing operations, and to protect structures. Indirect attack must be used to control these fires. Fires will burn actively through the night. Air turbulence caused by the fire will cause problems for air operations.

74% & Below - Fires will have ADVANCED FIRE BEHAVIOR with high potential to control their environment. Large acreage will be consumed in a very short time period. Backfiring from indirect line, roads, etc. must be considered. Aircraft will need to be cautious of hazardous turbulence around the fire.