

2023

Boise Interagency Dispatch Center

ANNUAL REPORT



Boise Interagency Dispatch Center
3948 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705 208.384.3398

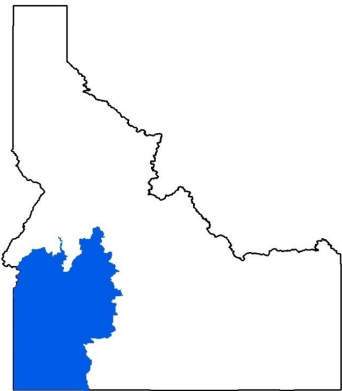
THIS PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Area of Responsibility	1
Dispatch	3
Dispatch - Administrative Tracking	5
Dispatch - Workload Reports	6
Fire Activity - Historical Comparisons	9
Fire Activity - Boise District BLM	11
Fire Activity - Boise National Forest	15
Fire Activity - Southwest Area IDL	19
Logistical Activity	23
Fire Suppression Resources	25
Local Resource Activity - Crews	26
Local Resource Activity - Engines	27
Local Resource Activity - Helicopters	28
Local Resource Activity - Air Attacks	29
Local Resource Activity - SEAT Base	29
Local Resource Activity - Tanker Base	30
Fuels Management - Boise District BLM	31
Fuels Management - Boise National Forest	31
Fuels Management - Southwest Area IDL	31
Prevention & Mitigation - Boise District BLM	32
Prevention & Mitigation - Boise National Forest	33
Fire Danger Rating Areas	36
Fire Danger Rating Areas - Preparedness Level	37
Fire Danger Rating Areas - Outputs	38
Weather - Boise National Weather Service	39
Weather - Lightning Summary	42

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 Legal Authority (Responsibility) areas. The new Master Agreement Operating Plan created a new Dispatch Boundary which effected a change and update to both Ownership and Legal Authority (Responsibility) acres. See map on the following page.

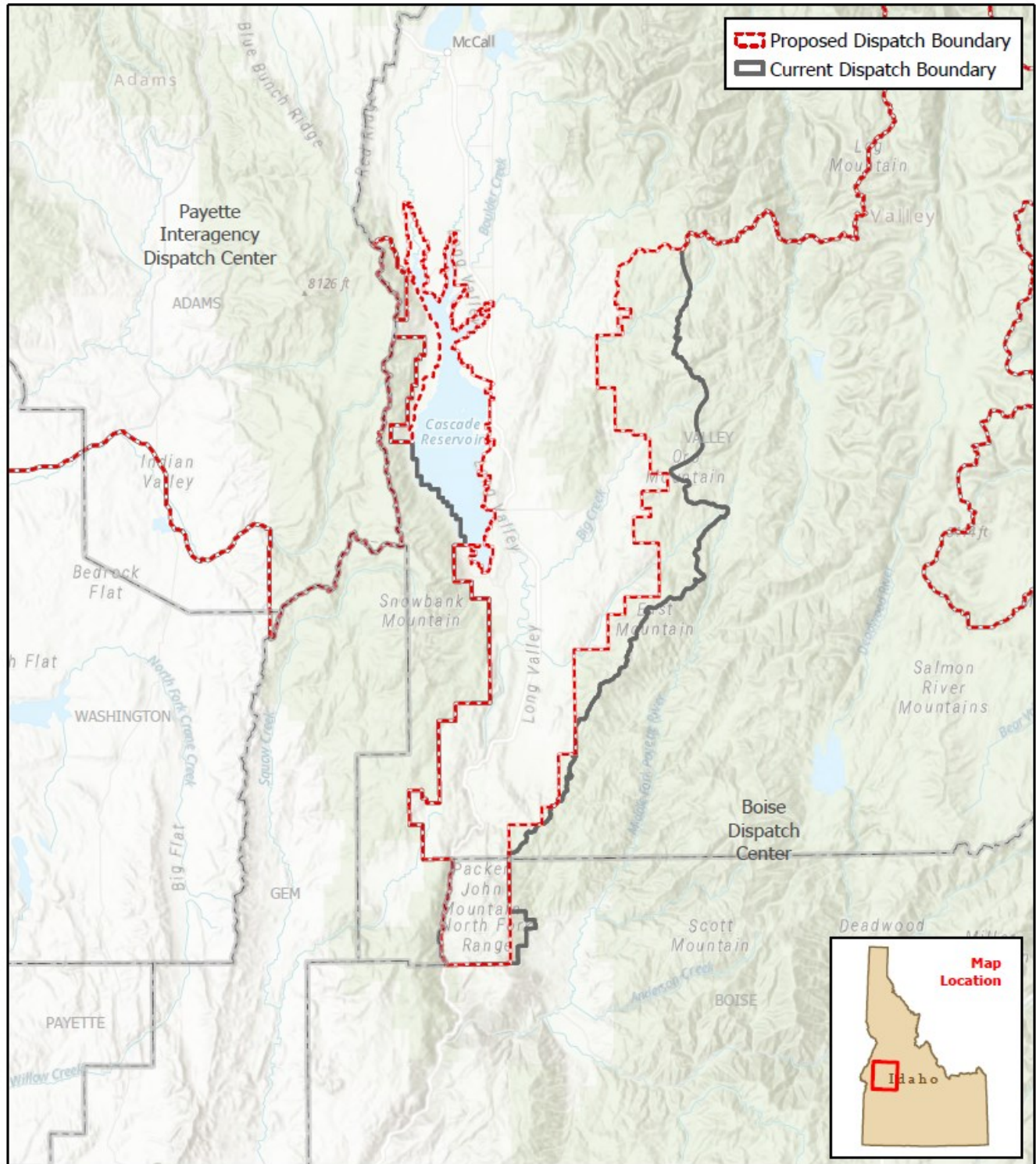


	OWNERSHIP ACRES	LEGAL AUTHORITY (RESPONSIBILITY) ACRES
BOISE DISTRICT BLM	3,813,276	3,867,762
BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	2,134,120	2,081,547
SOUTHWEST AREA IDL	518,196	745,550
BOISE DISPATCH TOTAL	6,465,592	9,214,419

ACRES BY LEGAL AUTHORITY (RESPONSIBILITY)					
	BOISE DISTRICT BLM	BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	IDAHO NATIONAL GUARD	PRIVATE	SOUTHWEST AREA IDL
BLM	3,807,230		51,009		27,471
BOR	34,009	89,647			
MILITARY/USACE	14,952				
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REF- UGE	11,339				
PRIVATE		5,308		2,465,962	22,307
STATE - DEPARTMENT OF LANDS		51	2,588		515,558
STATE - FISH & GAME		24			26,877
STATE - PARKS & REC					5,736
USFS		1,986,518			147,602
OTHER FEDERAL*	233				

*includes parcels managed by DOI, FHA (Federal Housing Administration) and the GSA

Boise and Payette Dispatch Center Boundaries Current and Proposed



Miles
0 5 10 15



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management, Idaho
Boise District Office
Map date: August 23, 2023



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management. The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed. For help with its data or information, please contact the BLM Boise District Office at 208-384-3300.

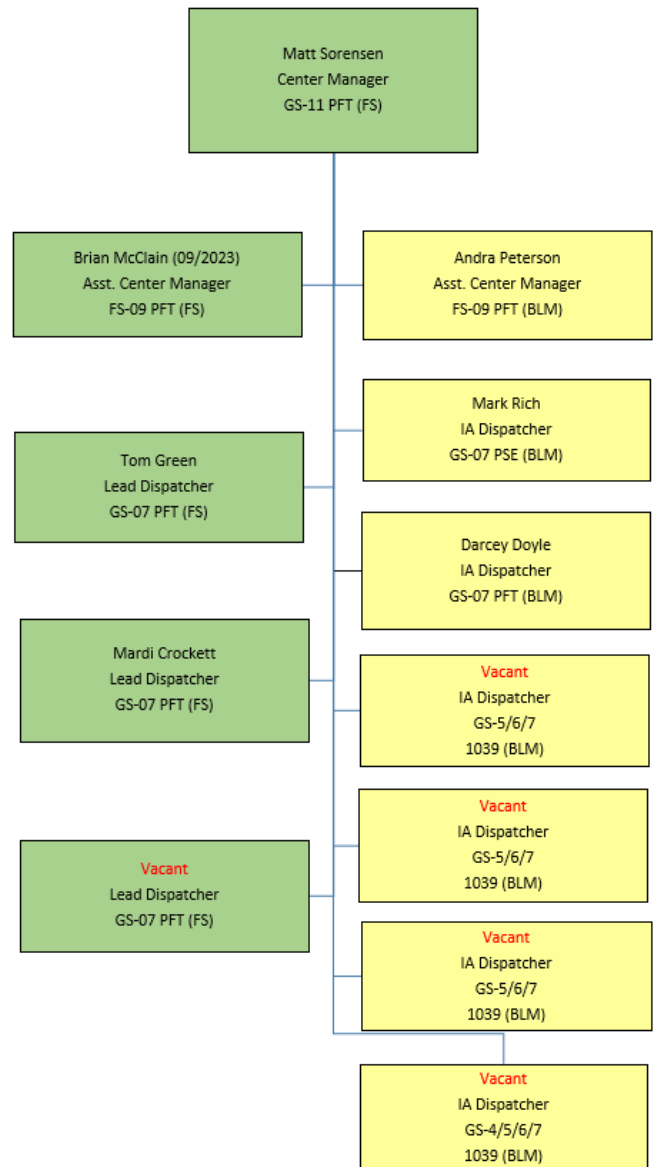
DISPATCH

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. Brian McClain serves in the Logistics Assistant position and Andra Peterson is 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 Bureau of Land Management, Southern Boise National Forest, Northern Boise National Forest or Southwest Area IDL Forest Protective District.

Jill Leguineche accepted a position with Fire and Aviation Management Washington Office after 13 years of service as Center Manager for Boise Dispatch. Her leadership in Boise Dispatch and the greater dispatch community will surely be missed. Dane Vanhoozer also accepted a position at the National Interagency Coordination Center. We had no returning seasonal dispatchers and were unsuccessful in hiring those positions. This left us with a significant shortage of staffing for the season, but we were able to hire Brian McClain to backfill behind Dane. The BLM also offered us two Lead Dispatch positions and were able to fill one of them with Darcey Doyle. Tom Green and Brian worked the Aircraft desk. Mardi Crockett and Darcey worked the Forest IA Desks and Mark Rich covered the BLM, IDL, and assisted in Intel. Matt Sorensen accepted the Center Manager position behind Jill and Brian picked up the Assistant Center Manager position behind Matt. Brian remained on the Aircraft desk for the season and Matt covered Logistics due to the low staffing levels. We had no night dispatcher and everyone pitched in to cover nights when needed. We bid a fond farewell to Mardi towards the end of the season and congratulated her on her way to retirement.

The 2023 fire season had moderate activity. Nationally, the US was able to support Canada with crews and overhead for their record breaking fire season. The Boise Dispatch area was below average but had a moderate logistical workload throughout the year. We opened Expanded Dispatch in July and it remained open until early October. Boise Dispatch supported one Type 2 Team on the Boise NF and one Type 3 Team for the IDL. Dispatch also supported 7 Mobilization Center Activations. The zone had weekly calls for Fire Restrictions but did not enter restrictions.

In May, the office moved to 7-day staffing and did not go back to 5-day staffing until the end of October. A BLM national fire readiness review was conducted in the spring. Prescribed fire activity kicked off early in 2023 with the Boise NF building a local Type 3 team to support the above average number of RX fires and acres burned. This spring also brought about a new Radio Over Internet Protocol (ROIP) radio system. The new Idaho Cooperative Master Agreement went into effect this spring also which required some updates in our WildCAD map to assist dispatchers with labeling the Unit ID of new fires. Another big change was Boise Dispatch updating to WildCAD-E which took place in November.



DISPATCH

Boise Dispatch hosted one Wildland Fire Apprentice and one Job Corps student 2023. Boise Dispatch facilitated 7 official tours of the office. Tours included: a DOI Chief Information Officer and Staff Group, an IROC Project Group, two Enterprise Timber Groups, a DOI Office of Emergency Management Group, two individuals from the Department of Forests of Cyprus coordinated by Forest Service Fire & Aviation Management, All-Hazard & International Fire Support Branch, and an Alerian delegation of Fire Managers coordinated from Global Ties-Idaho.

Dispatchers took on additional duties to assist the national effort throughout the year. Listed are a few of those highlights from 2023. Andra Peterson continued her role in the Great Basin Dispatch Steering Committee. Matt Sorensen and Dane Vanhoozer assisted the Wildland Fire Apprentice Academy as instructors for D-110 in the Spring. Matt also continued his work on a task group working on electronic records and archiving. The work this group is doing will set standards for how we do business in the future. Tom Green continues to assist Aviation by being part of the NASTA cadre. Tom also assisted with the D-311 course. The Boise Dispatch, Aviation desk (Dane and Tom) were a large part of the Boise Smokejumper spring training and Aerial Supervision refresher training, which occurs in Boise annually. Mark Rich and Andra Peterson assisted in a S-300 course. Darcey Doyle assisted in a S-203 course and also took an assignment as IA Dispatcher at Rogue Valley Interagency Coordination Center. Boise Dispatch hosted 2 IMTs in 2023, one Type 3 Team on an IDL fire and one Type 2 Team on a Boise NF fire, as well as one Buying Team.

INCIDENT	INCIDENT HOST	IMT TYPE	IMT NAME	TEAM HOME UNIT
Goldrun	IDL	3	ID Team 1– Lauch	GBCC
East	Boise NF	2	GB Team 6- Kiesling	GBCC
East	Boise NF	Buying Team	GB Buying Team - Pitchford	GBCC



Above: Mark and Boise Dispatch alumnus Pat
Below: Going away party for Jill at a Steelheads Game



Tour Group from Algeria coordinated through Global Ties-Idaho (and Brian and Matt)

DISPATCH

Administrative Tracking for 2023

BOISE DISPATCH	
MONTH	REQUESTS
January	1
February	1
March	3
April	3
May	20
June	40
July	23
August	18
September	28
October	24
November	5
December	0
TOTAL	166

BOISE DISTRICT BLM	
FIELD OFFICE	REQUESTS
Bruneau Field Office	0
Owyhee Field Office	0
BOD Fuels Crew	0
TOTAL	0

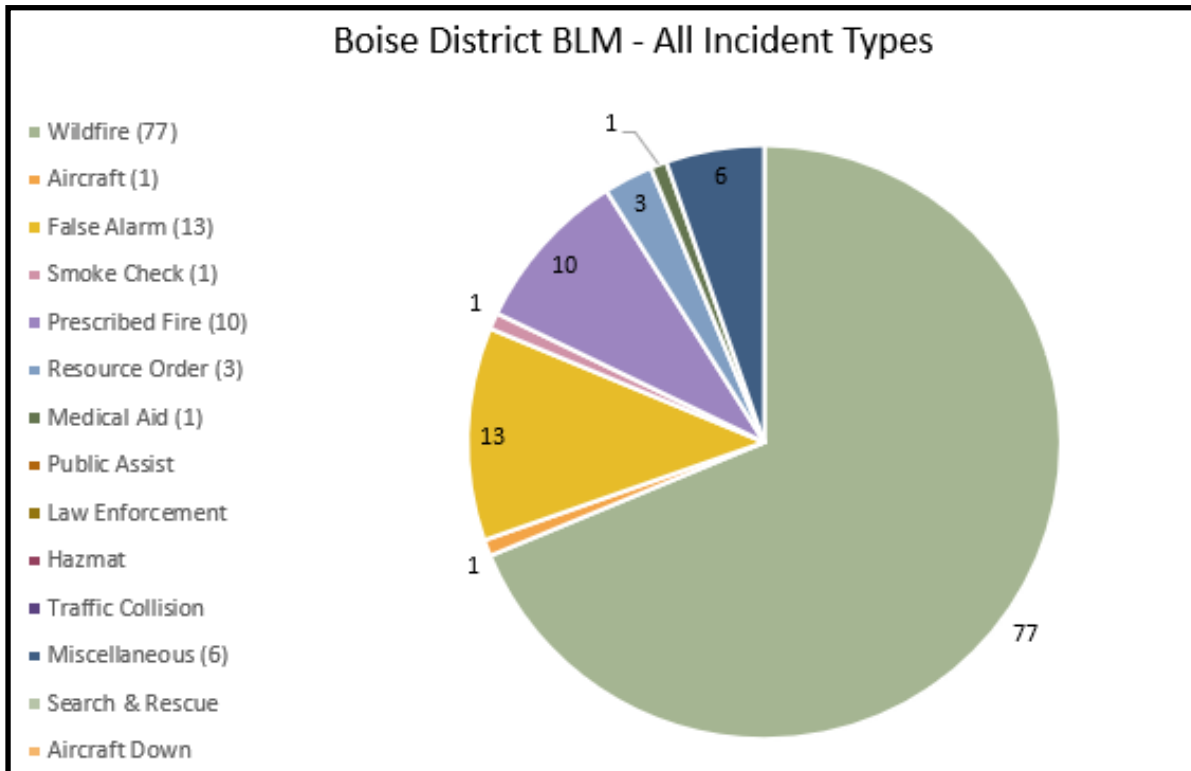
Administrative Tracking is when Boise Dispatch tracks non-fire employees. With the changes that we made for 2021 with a Google form, the information assisted Boise Dispatch by having current information readily available when looking for resources that missed their check-in time. Dispatch uses WildCAD to document overdue employees; there was 1 instance of overdue employees in 2023, which is far less than the 11 in 2022. Boise Dispatch spent roughly 9 hours attempting to locate these individuals, which was approximately 8.5 more hours than in 2023. Requests for tracking was up from 2022 by 36 requests.

The screenshot shows the WildCAD interface with a contact log entry. The entry details include the date 10/06/20, time 1831 JN, the name NELSON, and the status REACHED VIA CELL. The interface includes fields for Clear, Save, From, To, Show, and Text/Email, as well as a Details section and a Strikethrough checkbox.

BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	
DISTRICT	REQUESTS
Boise S.O.	112
Mountain Home RD	2
Idaho City RD	10
Cascade RD	32
Lowman RD	1
Emmett RD	6
Miscellaneous (NZ, SZ, etc..)	3
TOTAL	166

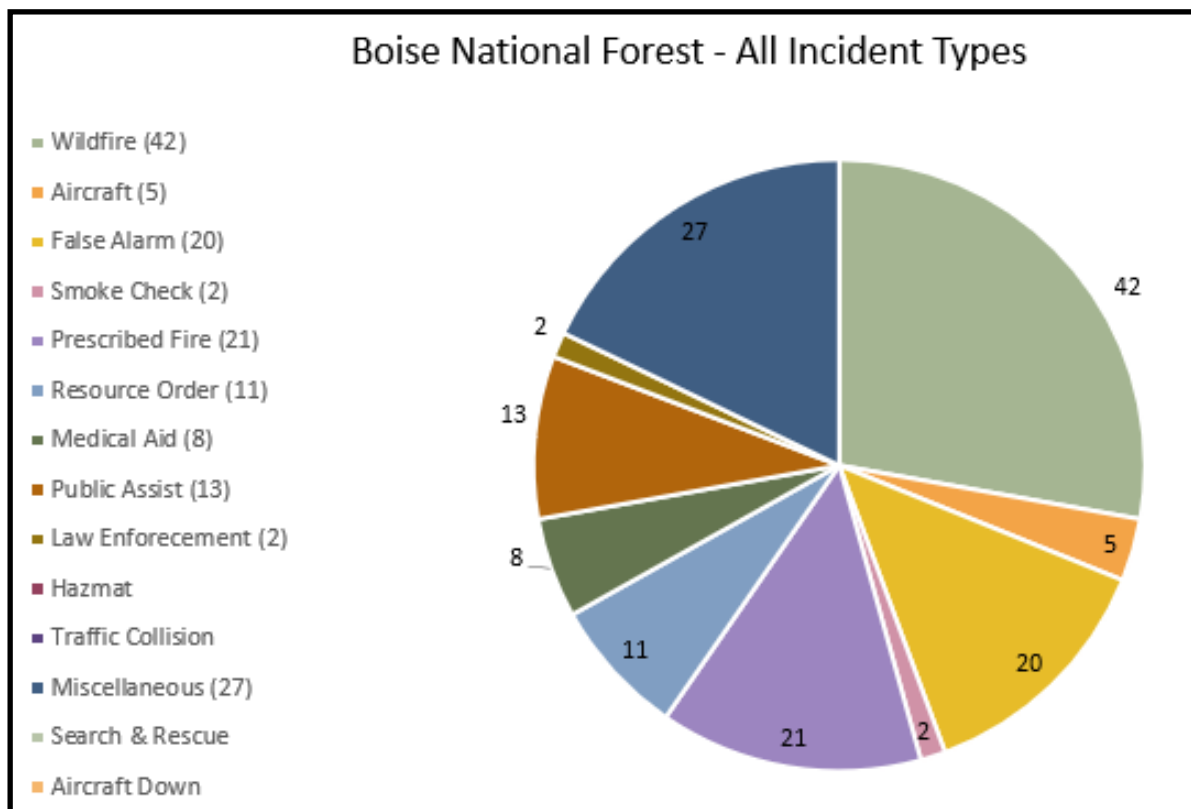
WildCADE WORKLOAD REPORTS

Boise District BLM– All Incident Types



As the chart to the left shows, Wildfire (77) was the largest workload for the BLM. False Alarms (13) came in at second.

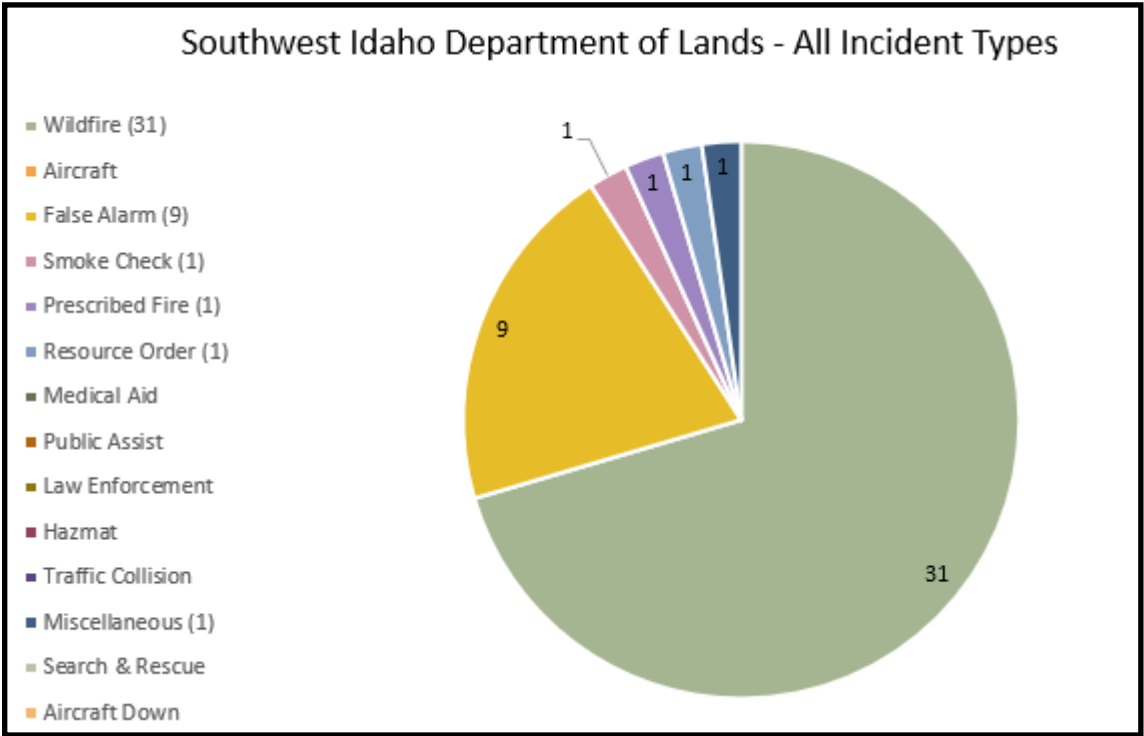
Boise National Forest– All Incident Types



This pie chart and data show that Wildfire (42) and Prescribed Fire (21) accounted for much of the workload for the Forest Service.

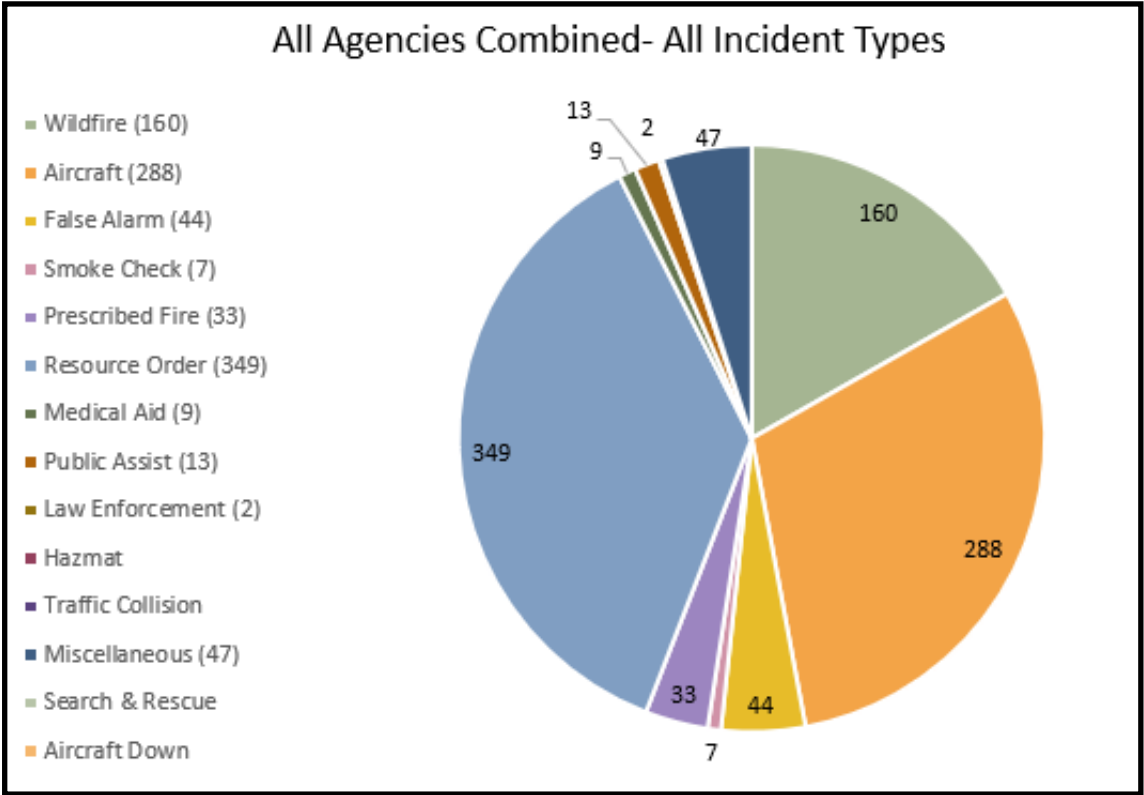
WildCAD WORKLOAD REPORTS

Southwest Idaho Department of Lands– All Incident Types



Wildfire (31) was the biggest workload for IDL, which doubled from last year with the new Master Agreement in place. False Alarms (9) being the 2nd most created incident.

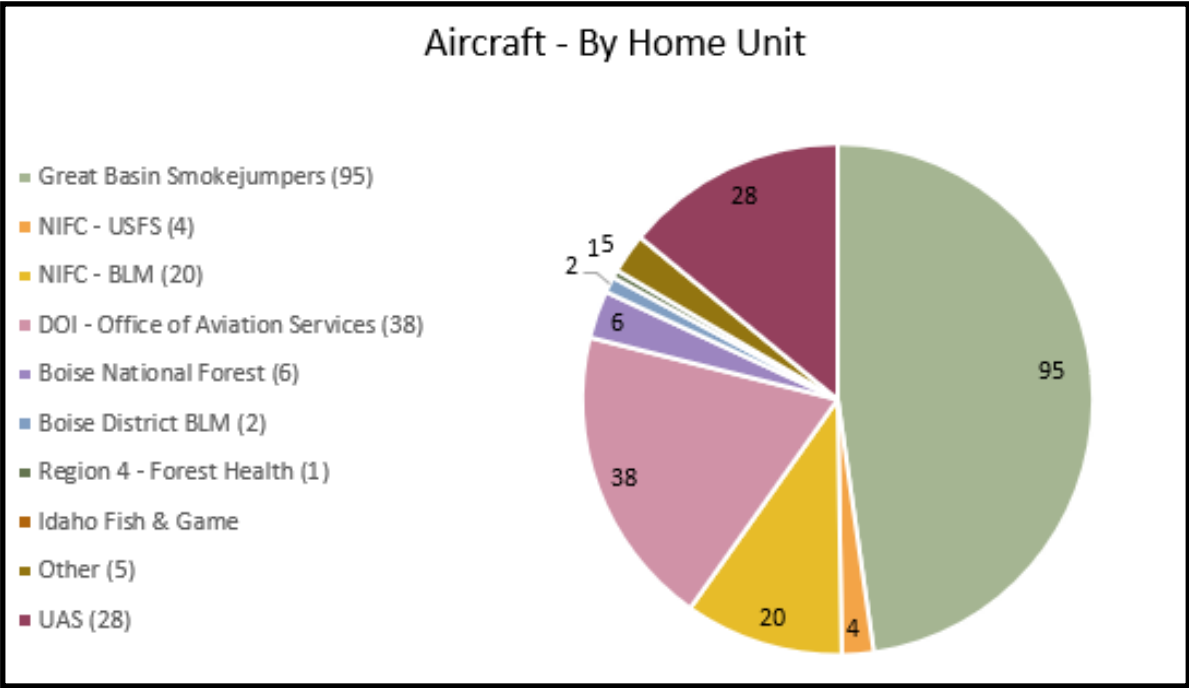
All Agencies Combined– All Incident Types



Resource Order (349) was the biggest workload. Wildfire (160) came in third, up 4 from 2022. We went from 90 OTR fires in 2022, to 172 in 2023.

WildCAD WORKLOAD REPORTS

Aircraft



The chart above shows Boise Dispatch’s workload for Aircraft. The biggest workload was for the Boise Smokejumpers (95). 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 the Office of Aviation Services (38) doing proficiency training with their helicopter pilots. In 2021 there were 60 OAS incidents created, in 2022, only 28.

Orchard Training Range

Orchard Training Range (OTR) is located 18 miles South of Boise, ID and is 143,000 acres. OTR leases land from the Boise District BLM, so any fire that occurs within their operations 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 2023, there was an increase from 90 fires to 172, and significant increase in acres burned, from 248 acres in 2022 to 1,026 in 2023. These were all human starts caused by military training activities.



FIRE ACTIVITY

HISTORICAL COMPARISONS - ALL AGENCIES

In 2023, Boise Interagency Dispatch Center dispatched a total of 149 wildland fire incidents for 18,581 acres. The number of fires is 84% of the 10 year average while the acres account for 17% of the 10 year average. Below are the 5-year, 10-year and 25-year average data.

The table below shows this year's number of fires and acres broken out by agency, and also Southwest Idaho as a whole, and compares them to the 5 year (2018-2022), 10 year (2013-2022), and 25 year(1998-2022) averages.

	BOISE DISTRICT BLM		BOISE NATIONAL FOREST		SW IDAHO DEPT OF LANDS		BDC - SW IDAHO	
	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES
2023	76	13,963	42	3,328	31	1,289	149	18,581
25 YR AVG	98	65,417	108	42,831	23	1,414	229	109,662
% OF 25 YR AVG	78%	21%	39%	8%	135%	91%	65%	17%
10 YR AVG	87	63,156	68	41,394	23	2,340	178	106,891
% OF 10 YR AVG	87%	22%	62%	8%	134%	55%	84%	17%
5 YR AVG	82	19,687	57	8,283	19	1,162	158	29,131
% OF 5 YR AVG	93%	71%	74%	40%	161%	111%	94%	64%

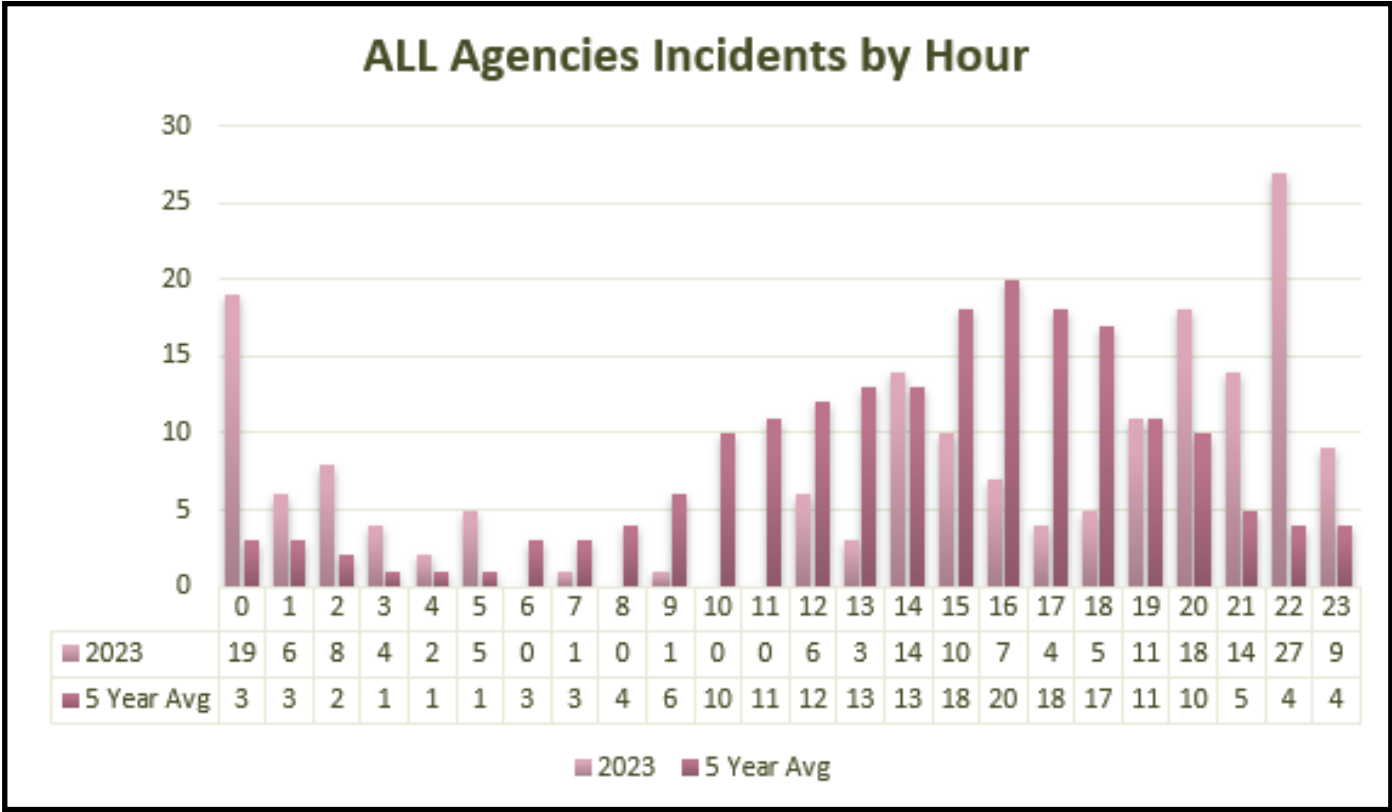
Looking at the individual agencies in the above table compared to the 10-year average: The Boise District BLM was at 86% of ignitions and only burned 23% of the average acres. The Boise National Forest was at 71% of ignitions and only 16% of acres burnt. The Southwest Idaho Department of Lands had 63% of ignitions and only 3% of acres burnt.

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

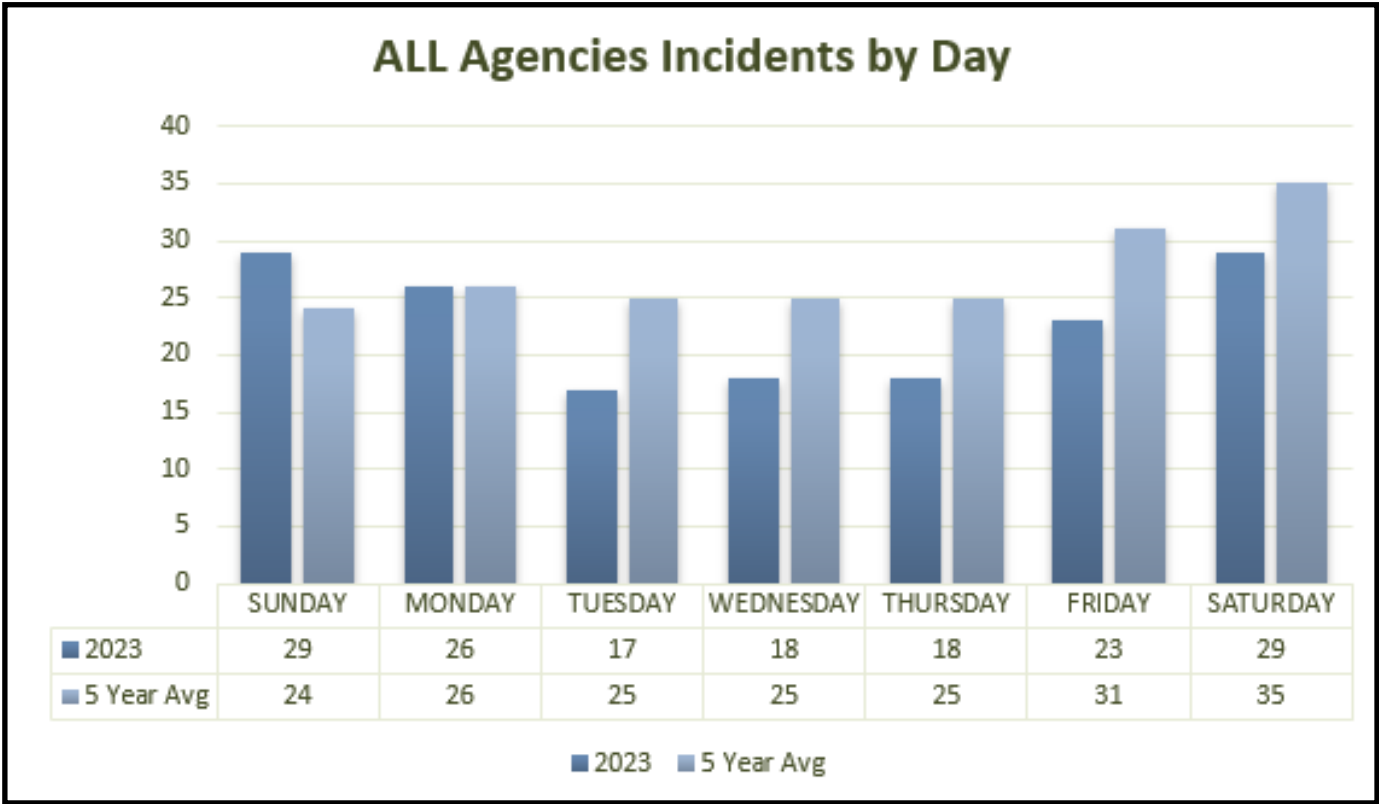
YEAR	BOISE DISTRICT BLM		BOISE NATIONAL FOREST		IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS	
	# OF FIRES	TOTAL ACRES	# OF FIRES	TOTAL ACRES	# OF FIRES	TOTAL ACRES
10 YR AVG	87	63,156	68	41,394	23	2,340
2023	76	13,963	42	3,328	31	1,289
2022	81	18,085	49	9,135.95	15	64.85
2021	71	2,087	69	1,328	23	57
2020	68	7,150	51	23,908	20	497
2019	89	8,109	84	623	22	6
2018	100	63,003	31	6,419	16	5,184
2017	119	31,756	31	28,246	17	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

HISTORICAL COMPARISONS– ALL AGENCIES

The chart below compares occurrences of ignitions in 2023, by time of day, compared to the 5 year average for all agencies.



The chart below compares occurrences of ignitions in 2023, by day, compared to the 5 year average for all agencies.



FIRE ACTIVITY

BY AGENCY– Boise District BLM

BOD TOTAL FIRES & ACRES		
	FIRES	ACRES
HUMAN CAUSED	57	5,449.5
LIGHTNING CAUSED	20	8,513.75
TOTAL	77	13,963.25

BOD ASSIST FIRES & ACRES		
	FIRES	ACRES
FEDERAL AND STATE	6	—
RURAL FIRE COUNTY ASSISTS	9	82.1

BOD FIRES & ACRES BY LAND OWNERSHIP						
LAND OWNERSHIP	HUMAN CAUSED	HUMAN ACRES	LIGHTNING CAUSED	LIGHTNING ACRES	TOTAL FIRES	TOTAL ACRES
BLM-ID-BOD	55	4,502.9	20	2,574.4	75	7,077.3
USFS-ID-BOF	0	0	0	0	0	0
IDL-ID-SWS	1	8.1	0	637.3	1	645.4
PRIVATE	1	876.7	0	5,187.75	1	6,064.45
FWS-ID-DFR	0	1.3	0	0	0	1.3
MILITARY-ID-MHQ	0	0	0	0	0	0
MILITARY-ID-LPE	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOR-ID-SRL	0	60.5	0	114.3	0	174.8
OTHER*	—	0	—	0	—	0
COMBINED TOTALS	57	5,449.5	20	8,513.75	77	13,963.25

*Other includes land that is protected by another dispatch area that a fire that started on BOD responsible acres burned onto.

BY 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.*

FIELD OFFICE STATISTICS - BLM OWNED ACRES				
	# FIRES	HUMAN ACRES	LIGHTNING ACRES	TOTAL ACRES
BIRDS OF PREY	25	2,167.75	55.6	2,223.35
BRUNEAU	1	0.1	0	0.1
FOUR RIVERS	44	3,083.45	8,380.95	11,464.4
OWYHEE	7	198.2	77.2	275.4

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	
AREA OF CONCERN OR STRATEGY USED	TOTAL OCCURANCES
DOZER LINE USED	29
LEPA AREA	10
RETARDANT USED	11
RFD RESPONSE	45
RFPA RESPONSE	14
SAGE-GROUSE	11
WILDERNESS/JMSFMA	1
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 - BOD		
DETECTION METHOD	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE
AGENCY PERSONNEL	15	19.48 %
AIRCRAFT	1	1.30 %
COUNTY DISPATCH	50	64.94 %
LOOKOUTS	0	0.00 %
PRIVATE CITIZEN	11	14.29 %

FIRE SIZE OCCURANCE - BOD	
A (0-.25 acres)	17
B (.26-9 acres)	28
C (10-99 acres)	16
D (100-299 acres)	8
E (300-999 acres)	5
F (1000-4999 acres)	2
G (5000+ acres)	1
TOTAL	77



Dozer operations on the Ant fire. This was one of six lightning fires that occurred within ID-BOD's area of responsibility August 18th and 19th, 2023.

BY AGENCY - Boise District BLM

SIGNIFICANT ACREAGE

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

ID-BOD FIRES OVER 300 ACRES					
DATE	NAME	FIRE CODE	FILED OFFICE	CAUSE	ACRES
05/30	ORCHARD	P82D	BOP	H	380.8
06/21	BLACK	P913	FRFO	H	562.2
07/10	SOUTHTOM	QCV0	BOP	H	1,129.6
07/12	SOUTHCOY	QC42	BOP	H	437.6
07/13	WESTBONN	Q7CT	FRFO	H	701.2
07/28	MM66 I84	QF42	FRFO	H	993.2
08/18	ANT	QKV4	FRFO	L	6,503.9
08/19	RILEY	QK1B	FRFO	L	1,448

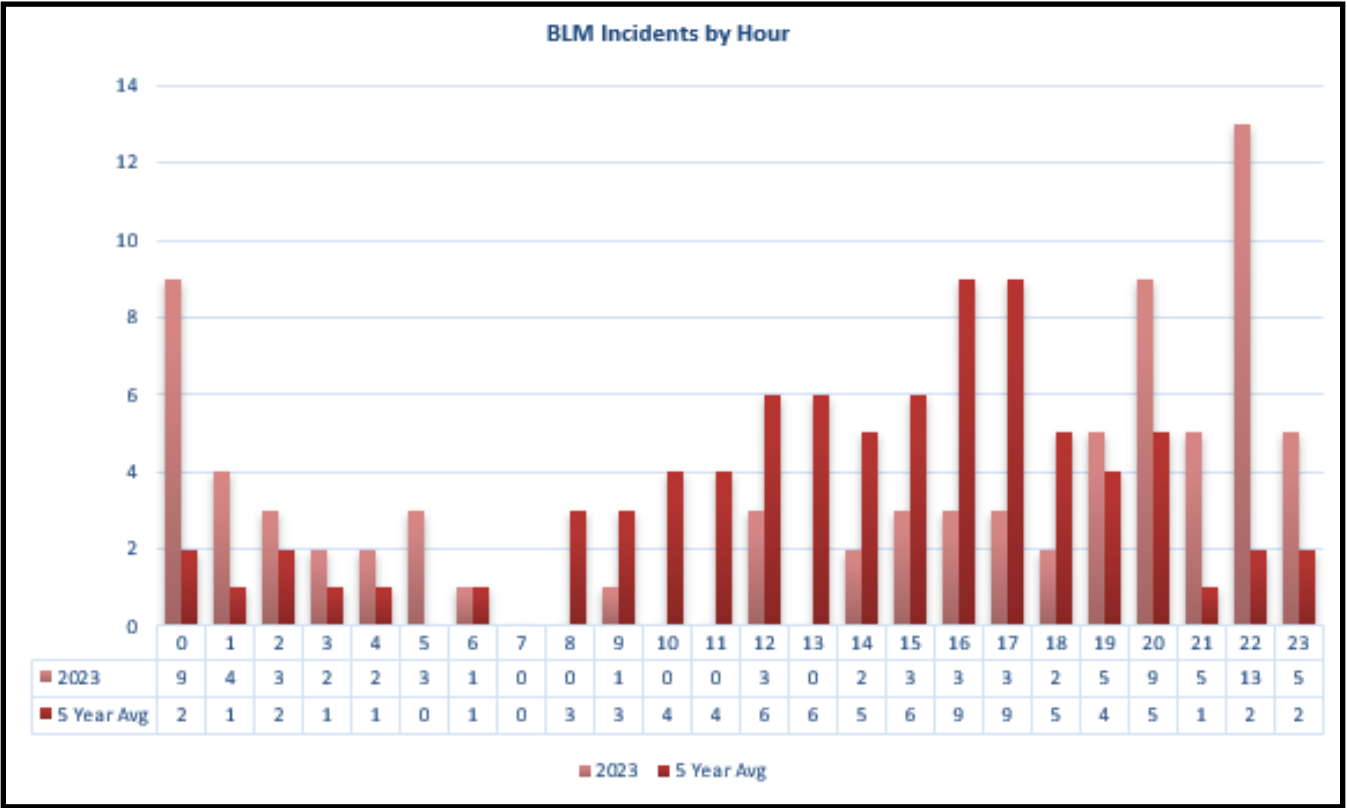


ID-BOD FIRES & ACRES BY MONTH				
	TOTAL # FIRES	HUMAN FIRES	LIGHTNING FIRES	ACRES
JANUARY	0	0	0	0
FEBRUARY	1	1	0	0.25
MARCH	1	1	0	0.1
APRIL	3	3	0	5.6
MAY	7	4	3	392.5
JUNE	19	14	5	1,095.95
JULY	19	16	3	3,637.6
AUGUST	16	7	9	8,603.25
SEPTEMBER	10	10	0	227.9
OCTOBER	0	0	0	0
NOVEMBER	1	1	0	0.1
DECEMBER	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	77	57	20	13,963.25

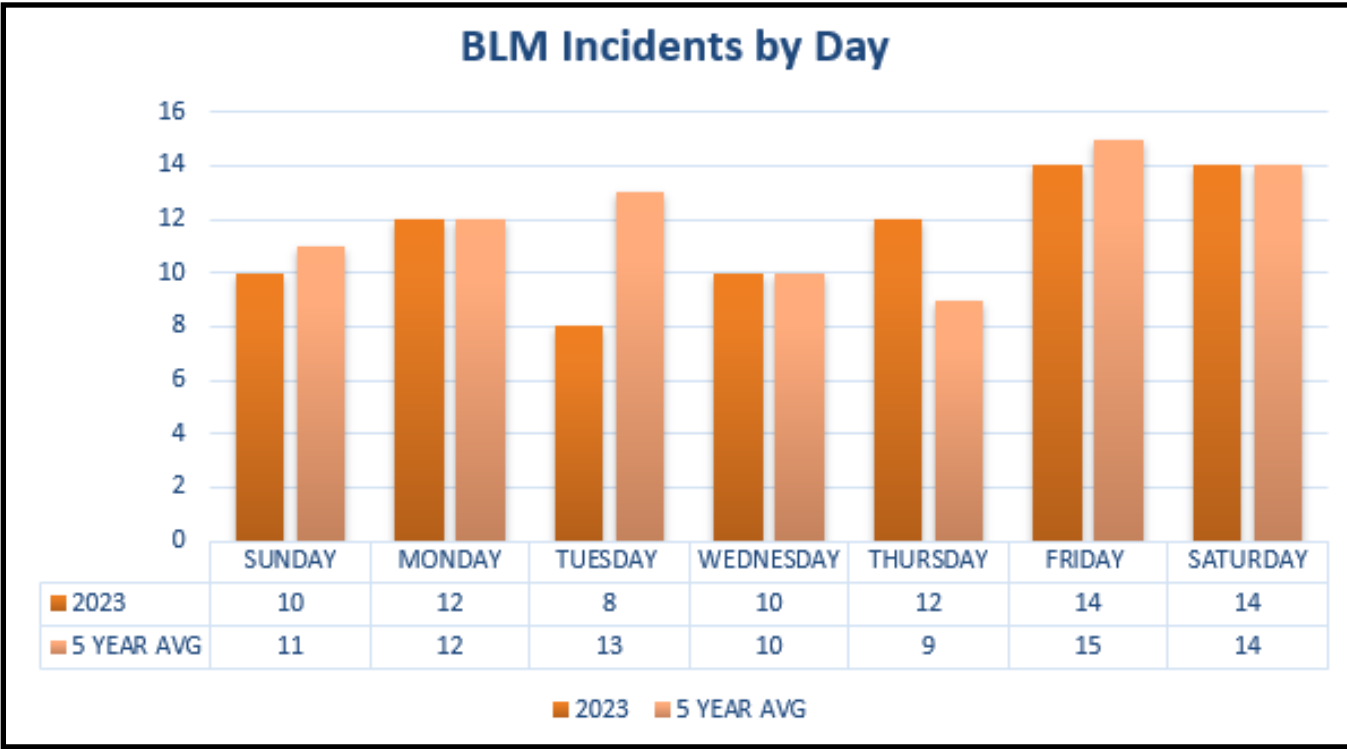
BY AGENCY– Boise District BLM

WildCAD REPORTS

The chart below compares occurrences of ignition in 2023, by time of day, as compared to the 5 year average for the Boise District BLM.



The chart below compares occurrences of ignition in 2023, by day, as compared to the 5 year average for the Boise District BLM.



BY AGENCY - Boise National Forest

BOF TOTAL FIRES & ACRES		
	FIRES	ACRES
HUMAN CAUSED	13	20.5
LIGHTNING CAUSED	29	3,325.66
TOTAL	42	3,346.16

BOF ASSIST FIRES & ACRES		
	FIRES	ACRES
FEDERAL AND STATE ASSISTS	23	---
RURAL FIRE COUNTY ASSISTS	1	10

BOF FIRES & ACRES BY LAND OWNERSHIP						
LAND	HUMAN CAUSED	HUMAN ACRES	LIGHTNING CAUSED	LIGHTNING ACRES	TOTAL FIRES	TOTAL ACRES
USFS-ID-BOF	13	18.3	29	3,307.51	42	3,325.81
BLM-ID-BOD	0	0	0	0	0	0
IDL-ID-SWS	0	0	0	18.02	0	18.02
PRIVATE	0	1.9	0	0.13	0	2.03
MILITARY-ID-LPE	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOR-ID-SRL	0	0.3	0	0	0	0.3
OTHER	---	0	---	0	---	0
COMBINED TOTALS	13	20.5	29	3,325.66	42	3,346.16

*Other includes land that is protected by another dispatch area that a fire that started on BOF responsibility acres burned onto.

BY 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 by other agencies that started on USFS land*

DISTRICT OFFICE STATISTICS - USFS OWNED ACRES				
	# FIRES	HUMAN ACRES	LIGHTNING ACRES	TOTAL ACRES
MOUNTAIN HOME	6	18.1	0.6	18.7
IDAHO CITY	10	1.8	3.85	5.65
CASCADE	10	0.3	3,319.51	3,319.81
LOWMAN	9	0.2	0.7	0.9
EMMETT	7	0	1	1

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 - USFS	
AREA OF CONCERN OR STRATEGY USED	TOTAL OCCURANCES
RETARDANT USED	2
RFD RESPONSE	5
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 - USFS		
DETECTION METHOD	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE
AGENCY PERSONNEL	10	23.81 %
AIRCRAFT	5	11.90 %
COUNTY DISPATCH	7	16.67 %
LOOKOUTS	14	33.33 %
PRIVATE CITIZEN	6	14.29 %

FIRE SIZE OCCURANCE - USFS	
A (0-.25 acres)	34
B (.26-9 acres)	6
C (10-99 acres)	1
D (100-299 acres)	0
E (300-999 acres)	0
F (1000-4999 acres)	1
G (5000+ acres)	0
TOTAL	42

BY AGENCY - Boise National Forest

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

ID-BOF FIRES OVER 10 ACRES					
DATE	NAME	FIRE CODE	DISTRICT	CAUSE	ACRES
08/16	EAST	QJ8E	D4	L	3,313.51
09/17	GULCH	QNL0	D1	H	17.8



The EAST fire was reported on 08/16/2023 at 1621 by AA-402 and Valley County.

ID-BOF 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	3	0	3	0.3
JUNE	4	0	4	0.4
JULY	10	7	3	1.95
AUGUST	21	2	19	3,324.31
SEPTEMBER	4	4	0	19.2
OCTOBER	0	0	0	0
NOVEMBER	0	0	0	0
DECEMBER	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	42	13	29	3,346.16

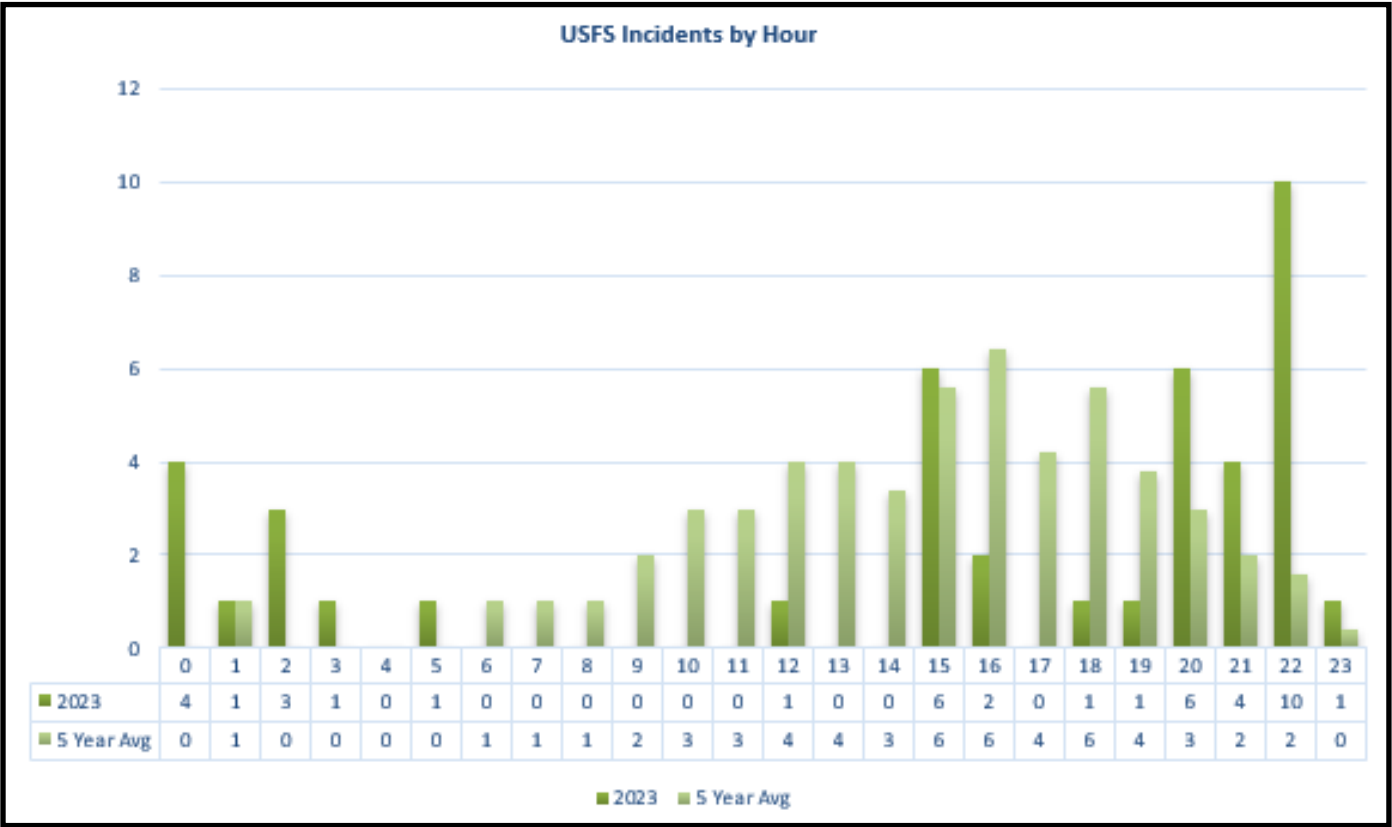


This picture of the EAST fire was taken by the Silver Creek Lookout a little over 24 hours later than the picture above.

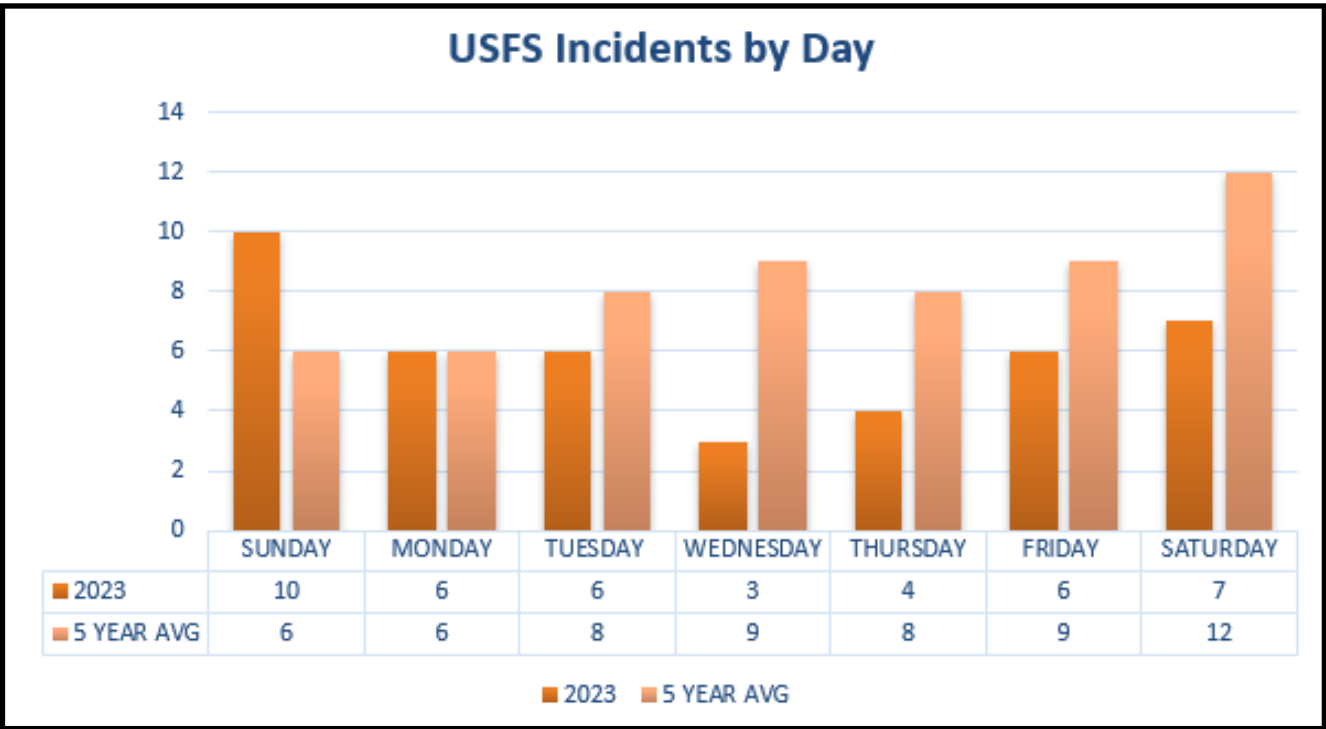
BY AGENCY - Boise National Forest

WildCAD Reports

The chart below compares occurrences of ignition in 2023, by time of day, as compared to the 5 year average for the Boise National Forest.



The chart below compares occurrences of ignition in 2023, by day, as compared to the 5 year average for the Boise National Forest.



BY AGENCY - Southwest Idaho Department of Lands

SWS TOTAL FIRES & ACRES		
	FIRES	ACRES
HUMAN CAUSED	11	929.1
LIGHTNING CAUSED	20	353.45
TOTAL	31	1,282.55

SWS ASSIST FIRES & ACRES		
	FIRES	ACRES
FEDERAL ASSISTS	10	---
RURAL FIRE COUNTY ASSISTS	1	0.1



Night operations on the GOLDRUN fire. This was a vehicle fire that spread to the wildland.

SWS FIRES & ACRES BY LAND OWNERSHIP						
LAND OWNERSHIP	HUMAN CAUSED	HUMAN ACRES	LIGHTNING CAUSED	LIGHTNING ACRES	TOTAL FIRES	TOTAL ACRES
IDL-ID-SWS	10	9.1	20	248.8	30	257.9
USFS-ID-BOF	0	458.6	0	1.7	0	460.3
BLM-ID-BOD	0	13.7	0	41.2	0	54.9
PRIVATE	1	447.7	0	61.75	1	509.45
MILITARY-ID-LPE	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOR-ID-SRL	0	0	0	0	0	0
COMBINED TOTALS	11	929.1	20	353.45	31	1,282.55

BY 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	
AREA OF CONCERN OR STRATEGY USED	TOTAL OCCURANCES
RETARDANT USED	4
RFD RESPONSE	13
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 - IDL		
DETECTION METHOD	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE
AGENCY PERSONNEL	8	25.81 %
AIRCRAFT	1	3.23 %
COUNTY DISPATCH	12	38.71 %
LOOKOUTS	3	9.68 %
PRIVATE CITIZEN	7	22.58 %

IDL Southwest engine on the MM60 HWY55 (ID-BOD) fire.



Type 1 helicopter HB-604CK (UH-60A) on the PLACER (ID-SWS) fire.

FIRE SIZE OCCURANCE - IDL	
A (0-.25 acres)	17
B (.26-9 acres)	8
C (10-99 acres)	3
D (100-299 acres)	2
E (300-999 acres)	1
F (1000-4999 acres)	0
G (5000+ acres)	0
TOTAL	31

BY AGENCY - Southwest Idaho Department of Lands

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

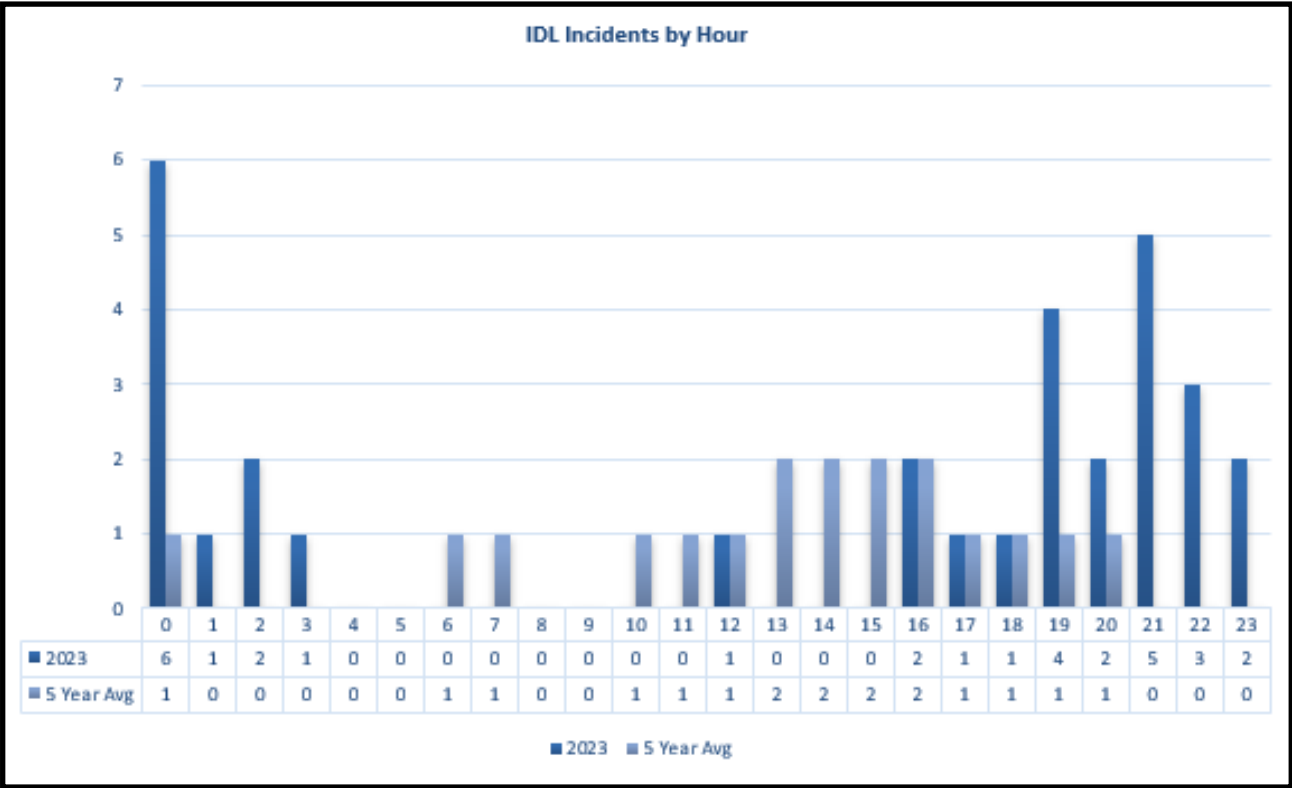
ID-SWS FIRES OVER 10 ACRES				
DATE	NAME	FIRE CODE	CAUSE	ACRES
03/11	HOLBROOK	P5XA	H	17.4
06/25	MM85 HWY51	P99S	L	223
07/18	GOLDRUN	QD4Z	H	799.8
07/22	RRMP 427	QEU0	H	110.5
08/03	SALMON	QG95	L	26.8
08/18	NOBEE	QKS6	L	86

ID-SWS FIRES & ACRES BY MONTH				
	TOTAL # FIRES	HUMAN FIRES	LIGHTNING FIRES	ACRES
JANUARY	0	0	0	0
FEBRUARY	0	0	0	0
MARCH	1	1	0	17.4
APRIL	0	0	0	0
MAY	1	1	0	0.1
JUNE	3	0	3	224.7
JULY	5	4	1	911.3
AUGUST	17	1	16	128.65
SEPTEMBER	1	1	0	0.1
OCTOBER	3	3	0	0.3
NOVEMBER	0	0	0	0
DECEMBER	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	31	11	20	1282.55

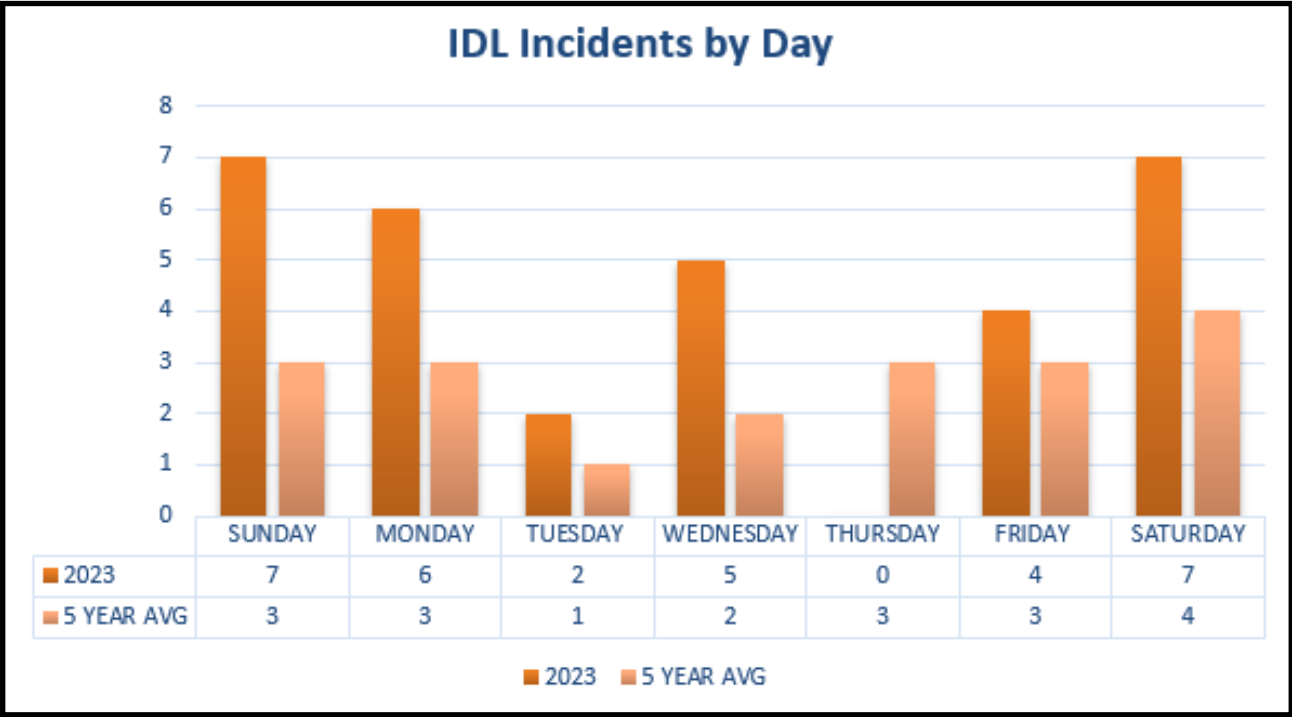
BY AGENCY - Southwest Idaho Department of Lands

WildCAD Reports

The chart below compares occurrences of ignition in 2023, 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 2023, by day, as compared to the 5 year average for the Southwest Area Idaho Department of Lands.



LOGISTICAL ACTIVITY

Boise Dispatch Center mobilizes 1,267 personnel representing the following agencies:

AGENCY	BOD	BOF	SWS	BOS	DFR	ISO	OTHER	NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER					
								FCD	FCA	FCF	FCR	FCP	AMDH
CAREER	55	141	180	14	11	24	32	119	20	73	15	21	11
CAREER SEASONAL	42	86	14	1	0	3	0	15	1	3	0	0	1
CASUAL HIRE	100	40	7	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0
INTERMITTENT	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	60	136	1	0	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	2	0
VOLUNTEER	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

BOD – Boise District BLM, **BOF** – Boise National Forest, **SWS** – Southwest Idaho Department of Lands (includes cooperators), **BOS** – Boise Staff Office Idaho Department of Lands, **DFR** – Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge, **ISO** – Idaho State Office BLM, **OTHER** - (National Operations Center, Eagle Fire Department, Intermountain Regional Office, Office of Aviation Services Western Region, Etc.), **FCD** – National Interagency Fire Center - Bureau of Land Management, **FCA** – National Interagency Fire Center - Bureau of Indian Affairs, **FCF** – 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

MOBILIZATION

The chart below shows how many resources with home dispatch of Boise supported each geographic area (excluding Boise Dispatch incidents).

	ALASKA	EASTERN AREA	GREAT BASIN	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	NORTHERN ROCKIES	NORTHWEST	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	SOUTHERN AREA	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	SOUTHWEST	NICC	Support to Canada
AIRCRAFT	4	0	73	8	25	38	6	15	9	18	3	1
CREW	0	0	15	4	1	8	4	3	1	4	0	4
EQUIPMENT	0	1	102	64	13	28	4	10	8	4	0	0
OVERHEAD	31	22	1133	95	84	196	54	157	36	83	23	37

WORKLOAD

Boise Interagency Dispatch Center processed **7,443** resource orders in 2023. Below is a chart showing the breakdown of the type of work processed. In comparison, last year we processed **6,460** orders. The five year average (2019-2023) is **8,790** orders processed.

	Cancelled UTF	FILL/ CLOSE	CANCELLED	REASSIGNED	COMPLETE
AIRCRAFT	13	0	50	152	368
CREW	15	0	9	35	81
EQUIPMENT	21	0	38	68	699
OVERHEAD	104	0	132	1,187	2,841
SUPPLY	17	1,411	37	0	115
TOTAL	170	1,411	266	1,442	4,154
				OVERALL TOTAL	7,443

LOGISTICAL ACTIVITY

Rental Vehicles

Flex Fleet was used once again in 2023 to supplement the availability of HD truck rentals to support incidents locally and national. Boise Dispatch received 30 Flex Fleet trucks as opposed to the 17 trucks received last year. We continued to use NERV to supplement our pool of rentals as well.

Mob Center

The Boise Mob Center was activated 7 times in 2023. The first activation was to send Prineville and Helena IHC to Quebec on the NICC Jet, with the second activation to receive them after their assignment. The third activation was to receive a Southern Area Team that was diverted before arrival. The fourth was to receive Pioneer Peak, we helped them get 7 NERV trucks and 1 U-Haul. The fifth activation was to receive and support 5 crews from Alaska on the NICC Jet, the sixth was for more crews from AK flying in commercial, and the seventh was to support Chena IHC while they travelled from the Southwest to Boise to winterize their gear and wrap up their fire season.



The Boise Mob Center is located just outside the main entrance to NIFC.

Warehouse Activity

The Boise National Forest fire warehouse plays a large role in logistics for Boise Dispatch . They conducted pre-season inspections for VIPR contracts and throughout the season they performed 107 pre-use inspections on VIPR equipment. They accepted 30 HD Truck rentals, signed 10 over to Boise Dispatch and managed the remaining pool of 20 NERV and Flex Fleet rental vehicles for local & non-local incidents. Both the USFS and BLM Fire Cache supported local incidents with supplies and ordering.

BOF WAREHOUSE STATISTICS		
YEAR	INSPECTIONS	HD TRUCK RENTALS
2023	107	23
2022	292	37
2021	259	73
2020	243	23
2019	25	12
5 YEAR AVERAGE	185	34

LOGISTICAL ACTIVITY

Logistical and Expanded Dispatch Activity

The Boise NF and Boise District BLM assembled Fuels Modules and Boise Dispatch used them to fill resource orders to the Southern and Eastern areas throughout the winter and spring.

Spring was busy logistically for Boise Dispatch assigning resources for the RX burning efforts in the Southwest Idaho Crisis Landscape areas. The Forest built a Type 3 Team located out of Garden Valley and ordered local resources, non-local resources, porta potties, handwash stations, dumpsters, support trailers, daily supply runs, and a caterer. They exceeded their goals for the spring and launched another large effort in the Fall to complete as many acres as they could before the snow fell.

While nationally the fire season was more moderate than we are used to, Canada had a very active season and Boise Dispatch sent quite a few crews and overhead resources to assist our neighbors to the north.

Boise Dispatch has 286 VIPR resources that can be dispatched and we will often deplete our VIPR Dispatch Priority Lists when busy nationally.



Pinney Slope
BOF RX



BOF RX Briefing

FIRE SUPPRESSION RESOURCES

Below is a list of local resources dispatched through BDC.

AGENCY	BLM	USFS	IDL
AIR ATTACK PLATFORM	1	1	0
UNIT IDENTIFICATION	ID-BOD	ID-BOF	ID-SWS
TYPE 1 HELICOPTER	1	1	0
TYPE 2 HELICOPTER	0	1	0
TYPE 3 HELICOPTER	1	1	0
TYPE 1 IHC	0	2	0
TYPE 2 AGENCY IA CREW	0	2	0
WILDLAND FIRE MODULE	0	1	0
SUPPRESSION MODULE	0	1	0
TYPE 3 ENGINE	2	1	0
TYPE 4 ENGINE	13	7	0
TYPE 5/6/7 ENGINE	0	0	2
TYPE 5/6/7 PATROL/PREVENTION	0	12	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

LOCAL RESOURCE ACTIVITY

CREWS - IHC

Even though 2023 acres burned was below the 10-year average, the IHC's on the Boise National Forest still had a relatively busy season. Priority Landscape projects and Canada's unprecedented fire season kept them busy in the early season and fall. In 2023, the organizational structure of the Idaho City IHC remained the same, however expanded up to 25 crew members which adds nice flexibility in hiring more people. Driving 23 people around adds some logistical difficulty but those extra few hands sure make a difference during long days of cutting line. During 2023 the Boise Hotshots modified the overhead structure from a 1-2-2-2; Supt, 2 Captains, 2 Squad Bosses, and 2 Leads, to a 1-2-3-3 structure. This was not adding permanent seasonal positions, just adjusting the current PSE positions to fit the desired organization structure.

Boise Interagency Dispatch Center	DATE OF FIRST FIRE	DATE OF LAST ASSIGNMENT	DAYS CREW ASSEMBLED	DAYS IN TRAVEL STATUS	DAYS PROJECT WORK	DAYS - COMMITTED	DAYS UNPAID	14 DAY TOURS	LARGE FIRE ASSIGNMENTS	IA FIRE ASSIGNMENTS	MILES TRAVELED	TRAINEE ASSIGNMENTS
BOISE IHC	05/15	09/28	165	32	1	104	11	7	7	8	43,192	17
IDAHO CITY IHC	05/6	09/04	170	19	8	118	9	8	11	10	94,250	50



CREWS - Type 2 IA/Wildland Fire Use Module

The Boise National Forest hosts two Type 2 Initial Attack crews and one Wildland Fire Module. With an emphasis on local incidents, Crew 3, Crew 5, and the Cascade WFM (stationed in Idaho City, ID, Lowman, ID, and Cascade, ID respectively) form the backbone of the forest's initial attack capability. Annually, these crews respond to numerous local incidents and to incidents "off-forest," which provides ample opportunity for training assignments and career development. The center also dispatches two of PatRick's nationally contracted Type 2 Initial Attack crews stationed in Boise, ID. In aggregate, these five crews form an essential component of BDC's fire organization and remain crucial to BDC's success in initial attack.

Boise Interagency Dispatch Center	CREW 3	CREW 5	CREW 41
AGENCY	BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	BOISE NATIONAL FOREST
DATE FIRST ASSIGNMENT	May 15, 2023	May 26, 2023	May 03, 2023
OFF-UNIT ASSIGNMENTS	4	0	3

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. Besides providing support to our neighbors, our engine crews were also dispatched to assignments outside of the out of Great Basin to all GACC’s except Alaska and Eastern Area.

	BLM	USFS	IDL	CONTRACT
TYPE 3 ENGINES	2	1	0	6
TYPE 4 ENGINES	13	7	0	9
TYPE 5 ENGINES	0	0	0	4
TYPE 6 ENGINES	0	0	3	12
TOTAL NUMBER OF OFF-UNIT INCIDENT ASSIGNMENTS	22	36	19	44
DATE OF FIRST OFF-UNIT ASSIGNMENT	06/15	06/05	07/17	05/12



The Tiger Island fire in Louisiana was a rare opportunity for resources dispatched out of Boise Interagency Dispatch Center to travel to the Pelican State.

The East Fire near Cascade kept numerous resources busy throughout the fire season.



AIRCRAFT

HELICOPTERS

The Boise District hosted the Miles City Helitack program and supported them with overhead to a very successful season. Boise NF Type 1 and Type 3 helicopters were CWN this year due to contract disputes.

	BLM	BLM	USFS	USFS	USFS
TAIL NUMBER	N17FH	N318MG	N37HX	88HX	617AC
TYPE OF AIRCRAFT	UH-60 A	AS350 B3	Bell 205A-1+	Kaman K1200	Bell 407
CATEGORY TYPE	Type 1	3	2	1	3
MANDATORY AVAILABILITY PERIOD	120	EU	120	CWN	CWN/EU Supp.
DAYS ON EXTENSION	17	17	0	0	25
BASE LOCATION	Boise	Miles City	Lucky Peak Helibase	Garden Valley (U88)	Garden Valley (U88)
CREW SIZE	23	5	13	1 Manager, 1 Trainee	11(9)
TOTAL FLIGHT HOURS	205.8	128.7	140.7	125.5	130.8
FIRE MANAGEMENT HOURS	205.8	123.7	134.4	125.5	122.9
OTHER HOURS	0	5	6.3	0	7.9
INITIAL ATTACK INCIDENTS	11	13	15	5	17
LARGE FIRE INCIDENTS	7	4	3	3	4
PERSON DAYS ON FIRES		N/A	1056	N/A	227
% IA SUPPORTED WITH BUCKET	100%	63%	50%	61%	70%
GALLONS OF WATER	1,329,760	21,622	65,808	589,780	26,520
GALLONS OF RETARDANT	0	0	0	0	0
PERSONNEL TRANSPORTED	281	222	884	0	387
OPERATIONAL RAPPELS	0	0	45	0	0
FIRES STAFFED BY RAPPELLERS	0	0	9	0	0
POUNDS OF INTERNAL CARGO	75,650	45,649	76,185	0	28,960
POUNDS OF EXTERNAL CARGO	13,485	1,200	28,005	0	15,090
AERIAL IGNITION HOURS	0	0	0	0	12.8
HELITACK VEHICLE MILEAGE	53262	17,906	51,000, 5 vehicles	0	6,079
DETAILER TOTAL DAYS	69	339	32	0	91
TOTAL OPERATIONAL COST	\$2,511,516.68	\$562,737.58	\$1,464,745.57	\$1,892,714.44	\$759,026.30



Boise District Type 1 Helicopter.



H-8MG and Miles City helitack crew.

AIRCRAFT

FIXED WING— EXU AIR ATTACK PLATFORMS

	BLM	USFS
TAIL NUMBER	N425DT	N711PB
TYPE OF AIR-CRAFT	AERO COMMANDER 690B	AERO COMMANDER 690B
CONTRACT DAYS	99	120
BASE LOCATION	BOI	BOI
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS	37	25
DAYS USED	99	52
TOTAL FLIGHT TIME	157	174
TOTAL COST	\$ 393,336	\$ 592,772



AA-5DT with retardant work

MT. HOME SEAT BASE — (U76) - BLM

Base Operational Dates	6/15—09/21/2023
Water (Total Gal.)	0
Retardant (Total Gal.)	57,319
# of Loads	82
# of Aircraft Support	9
Total Flight Time	98.65
# Fires Supported	26
Retardant Cost	\$435,740
Aircraft Cost (FT, EP, etc.)	\$ 274,455
Misc. Cost	\$29,150
Gallons by User	
ID-BDC dispatch area	44,713
Outside of ID-BDC dispatch area	44,270
ID-BOD	28,628
ID-BOF	2,725
ID-SWS	13,360
DOD	0
1st Load Out	
June 25th, MM 59 HWY 55 ID-BOD-000401	
Last Load Out	
Sept. 9th, WEDGE ID-TFD-000245	
One Day Record	
July 28th 11 Loads ANT ID-BOD-000755	
Personnel	
# Gov personnel assigned	4
# detailers / temp support	7



T-848 staging at the Mountain Home SEAT base.

AIRCRAFT

BOISE TANKER BASE– USFS

Base Operational Dates	06/01/2023 — 09/30/2023
Water (Total Gal.)	0
Retardant (Total Gal.)	481,537
# of Loads	169
# of Aircraft Support	14
Total Flight Time	180
# Fires Supported	49
Retardant Cost	\$1,858,717
Aircraft Cost (FT)	\$1,727,801
1st Load Out	
06/05/2023	
Last Load Out	
09/22/2023	
One Day Record	
07/19/2023 19 LOADS 63,215 GALLONS	



T-101 — BOI ATB

FUELS MANAGEMENT

BOISE DISTRICT BLM

BOD FUELS ACCOMPLISHMENTS*		
TYPE OF PROJECT	2022 ACRES	2023 ACRES
PRESCRIBED BURNING	4,603	5,010
MECHANICAL TREATMENT	80,199	60,720
OTHER FUEL REDUCTION CONTROL	14,874	25,135
TOTAL	99,676	90,865

**Numbers are reported by fiscal year*



ID-BOD Bosh RX.

BOISE NATIONAL FOREST



Ryan Shannahan (RXB1(T)) briefing a reporter on the Pinney Slope RX (Spring 2023).

BOF FUELS ACCOMPLISHMENTS*		
TYPE OF PROJECT	2022 ACRES	2023 ACRES
PRESCRIBED BURNING	490	3,572
MECHANICAL TREATMENT	5,739	7,900
TOTAL	6,229	11,472

**Numbers are reported by fiscal year*

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS

SWS FUELS ACCOMPLISHMENTS		
TYPE OF PROJECT	2022 ACRES	2023 ACRES
Prescribed Fire	525	0
TOTAL	525	0



ID-SWS Soldier Creek Rx. (2022)

FY 2023

EVENTS

- ♦ Boise High School Career Visit
- ♦ Grand View Smokey Bear Visit
- ♦ Vallivue High School STEM Career Fair
- ♦ White Pine Elementary
- ♦ Idaho Arts Charter School Education Night
- ♦ Stephensen Elementary School
- ♦ Emmett Youth Appreciation Day
- ♦ Idaho Sportsmen Show
- ♦ Future Public School Fire Ecology
- ♦ Capital High Environmental Fair
- ♦ Boy Scout Troop 132 Emergency Preparedness merit badge/ICS
- ♦ Kuna Elementary School
- ♦ 1st Annual Deerflat
- ♦ Youth Appreciation Day
- ♦ Liberty Elementary School
- ♦ McMillan Elementary School
- ♦ One Stone's Project Good and Borah High School
- ♦ The Great Outdoors of Hidden Springs
- ♦ REC FEST
- ♦ Boise Hawks
- ♦ National Night Out
- ♦ Smokey Bear's 79th Birthday Party
- ♦ Caldwell Night Rodeo
- ♦ Gowen Thunder

Fire Prevention and Mitigation Program

FY 2023 Summary

BOISE DISTRICT BLM FIRE & AVIATION

The Boise BLM Fire Prevention and Mitigation Program participated in 24 fire prevention, recruitment and education events during the 2023 fire season. These events included school visits and community events such as Caldwell Night Rodeo and the Gowen Thunder Airshow.

These opportunities for Boise BLM to interact with the public are invaluable for spreading awareness about wildfire prevention and the steps that individuals can take to reduce the risk of wildfire.

As part of mitigation efforts, the Boise District worked with SW Idaho RC&D to utilize CA grant funds in per-



form hazardous fuel reduction work in the Warm Springs Mesa neighborhood. We also worked with Boise City Fire to utilize CA grant funds to purchase a chipper to be used in hazardous fuel reduction efforts.

The most significant fire of the 2023 season was the Ant Fire, which began amidst a series of lightning-caused fires on August 19th and reached 6,509 acres before being successfully suppressed by firefighters.

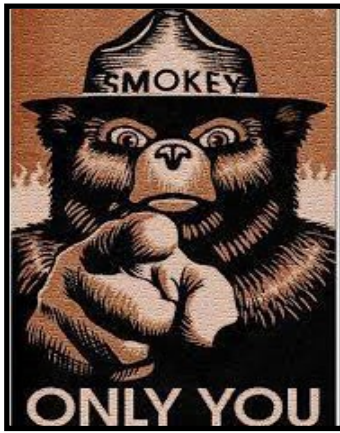
Other notable fires included the Black (6/21), Southtom (7/10), Westbonn (7/13), MM66 I-84 (7/28), and the Riley fires (8/19). These fires all exceeded 500 acres and drew interest from the public and the media due to their proximity to Boise.



Boise District Fire Investigators responded to 49 human-caused fires on BLM managed lands. Investigators also assisted on 17 fires for other agencies.

Overall, the Boise District BLM experienced a decrease in of human-caused fires from 62 to 42 from last year, although the number of shooting-caused fires rose from 8 last year to 21 this year. After 7 early season shooting fires, extra signage, patrols and social media prevention efforts were implemented, but had minimal effect in curbing shooting related ignitions.

Category	2023
Shooting	21
Campfire	3
Vehicle/Equip	6
Fireworks	4
Undetermined/Misc.	2
Powerline	4
Railroad	1
Smoking	1



Forest Prevention Organization 2023

The mission of the Boise National Forest Fire Prevention, Education and Mitigation Committee (BOF-FPEMC) is to reduce the frequency, size, and cost associated with unwanted wildfires through education, engineering, and enforcement by adhering to our natural resource management principles.

Mountain Home Ranger District (D1)

The Mountain Home Ranger District Fire Prevention and Patrol organization consists of four positions, staffing three Fire Stations. Patrols are stationed at Lucky Peak, Lester Creek, and Mountain Home. With direct proximity to a large metropolitan area and a response zone of 650,000 acres, unique challenges are faced on the district. A wide variety of fuel types are present ranging from high desert grasslands to alpine timber stands. The district is a gateway to the mountains and is in close proximity to a growing metropolitan area with a population already over 680,000 which further increases the threat of human caused wildfires. Because of this, there are multiple areas of wildland urban interface throughout the district that pose additional risk. Due to the Districts size, the district is broken into three patrol zones to reasonably cover an area in one day



Idaho City Ranger District (D3)

The FY 2023 Idaho City Ranger District Fire Prevention organization consisted of two 18/8 prevention employee's. Both Patrols covered the Idaho City Ranger District (ICRD) assisting with Initial Attack, public events and festivities, prescribed fire implementation, signage maintenance and installation, lookout support and resupply, coordinated training with ICRD fire modules, and conducted routine forest patrols throughout the district. Cooperation and coordination with locale and axillary fire and rec department resources was strong (and continues to grow) and often came up with plans to patrol, conduct project work, and suppress fires on the districts and maintain a strong presence on the forest.



Cascade Ranger District (D4)

The Cascade Ranger District Fire Prevention organization consisted primarily of one Prevention Technician until early August when a detailer filled the second patrol position. The district was also supported by recreation staff that included one Forest Protection Officer Recreation Technician. Also assisting with campfire detection were campground volunteer hosts at French Creek, Rainbow Point, Warm Lake, Shoreline Campground, Picnic Point and Landmark Guard Station who reported abandoned campfires bi-weekly and kept eyes on some of the dispersed camping areas.

Over the winter the prevention program assisted the fuels program and participated in several Community Meetings & Open House events to educate the public on the Priority Landscape Burning in the South Idaho Landscape. The spring season started out with a concentrated effort of all fire personnel supporting prescribed fire operations and roughly 100 acres were completed in D4. The summer months were wetter than usual, but the popular and heavily used area by campers, atvs, wood cutters, and un-housed residents kept patrollers busy. Numerous incident reports were entered, abandoned campfires extinguished, fires investigated, and many members of the public were educated on the rules and regulations throughout the district.

Lowman Ranger District (D5)

The Lowman Fire Prevention Program consists of two permanent seasonal Prevention Technicians, however only one position was filled this year. Since both positions (Patrol 51 & Patrol 52) had not been filled since 2020, a new sign plan was created and a new patrol plan was also developed. Other prevention activities centered around educating the public about fire prevention both during field contacts and during school programs and events, while also assisting with public information for prescribed fire operations and providing initial attack wildfire response along with completing FPO duties



Emmett Ranger District (D6)

The Emmett Ranger District Fire Prevention organization consists of 3 permanent seasonal positions, one GS 7 one GS 6 and one GS5. Patrols 62 and 63 are stationed out of Garden Valley, and 61 is out of Emmett. Patrol 61 covered the west side of the district primarily, while Patrol 63 and 62 patrolled the middle and south forks of the Payette with occasional assistance of Engine 361. The Emmett prevention program increased participation in leading or assisting with programs and events and also continued to increase public awareness in their communities through their structure wildfire risk assessments and interviews with local media for prescribed fires. An increase of abandoned campfires and human-caused fires was observed over the 2022 season



Boise National Forest Supervisors Office

Recognizing the need to raise community wildfire awareness and increase public engagement throughout the Treasure Valley, the forest added a new GS 8/9 Forest Fire Prevention Officer at the Supervisors Office. The main responsibilities of the position include prevention program development and management at the forest level including standardizing the program and increasing communication and cooperation across the districts. This includes the implementation of promotional campaigns to targeted audiences with particular emphasis on wildland urban interface and high use high risk and high value areas. In addition, a key element of the position is to provide technical assistance to the districts in fire prevention program and serving as a key fire information contact for the forest.

Accomplishments in this first year include participating in 23 fire prevention, mitigation and education events ranging from school programs to various community events. While at these events over 4,580 contacts were made. Event highlights include hiring outreach at Syringa Middle School Career Day in Caldwell and Outdoor Career Day at the Idaho City High School. Other notable events included spreading fire prevention and responsible recreation messaging at the Treasure Valley Roller Derby, Boise RecFest and the Great Outdoors at Hidden Springs events.

Another focus this season has been increasing interagency relationships and collaboration which has been particularly successful with BLM Idaho and the BLM Boise District Fire Prevention, Mitigation and Information group as well as Idaho Department of Lands and various Fire Departments through the Treasure Valley Fire Co-op. These partnerships have resulted in collaboration at multiple events, team teaching and presenting at school programs and conferences, as well as the ongoing development of an interagency campaign aimed at reducing roadside ignitions through a trailer safety chain cover free giveaway program.

2023 BOF Fire Prevention Accomplishments

24,506

Total contacts

Special Events
and Programs

56

Days Instructing
NWCG Courses

67

36 School
Presentations



46

Public
Information
Posts

251

Abandoned
Campfires

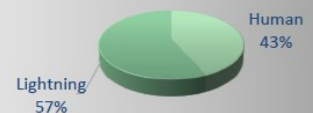
39

Smokey
appearances

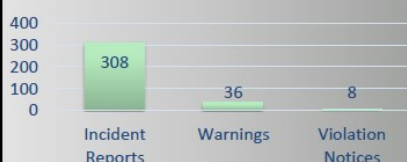
15

Fire
Investigations

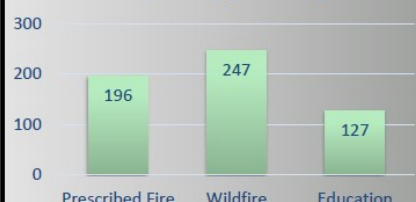
**BOF Total Fires Oct
2022 – Sept 2023**



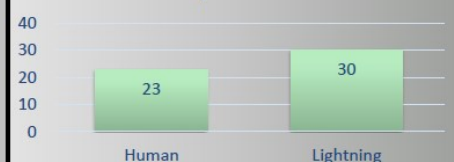
**352 FPO Incidents
Entered Into LEIRS**



Days Supporting



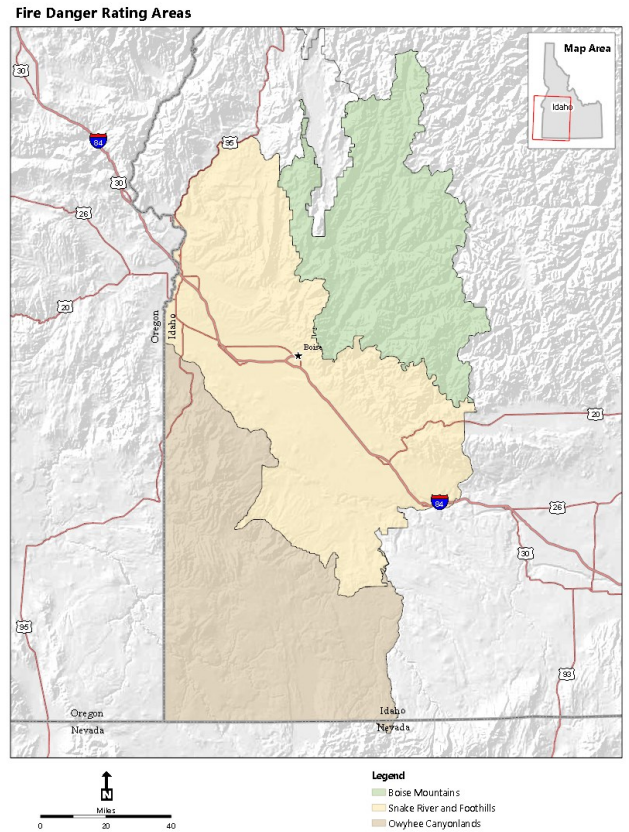
**BOF Total Fires Oct 2022 -
Sept 2023**



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. After these environmental factors were considered, the draft FDRAs for Boise Dispatch were edge-matched to existing administrative boundaries using Response Areas.

Each FDRA uses RAWS (remote automatic weather stations) combined into a SIG (special interest group) 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 SIG used. Some of the stations are not managed by BDC but are used due to completeness of data and overall topographic representation.



*2023:

This was our 3rd fire season utilizing the NFDRS16 fuel models; X (Shrub) for Snake River & Foothills along with Owyhee Canyonlands, Y (Timber) for Boise Mountains. Adjective level and response level breakpoints were adjusted for all FDRAs per our updated Fire Danger Operating Plan. Adjective levels were calculated by ERC breakpoints only and no longer used in conjunction with Ignition Component. We continued to run the adjective level daily, but only posted to the website on Sunday.

RAWS STATIONS USED FOR EACH FDRA					
STATION NAME	STATION ID	LOCATION	ELEV.	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
WAGONTOWN	102712	3 MI SW OF FEATHERVILLE	6200	FTS	BOISE NF
TEAPOT	101220	18 MI E OF MCCALL	5152	FTS	PAYETTE NF
SNAKE RIVER FOOTHILLS FDRA RAWS					
CATFISH	101402	10 MI NW OF WEISER	3570	FTS	BOISE BLM
MOUNTAIN HOME	102709	MOUNTAIN HOME AFB	3350	FTS	BOISE BLM
HORSE BUTTE	103205	37 MI SE OF GLENNS FERRY	5000	FTS	TWIN FALLS BLM
OWYHEE CANYONLANDS 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

PREPAREDNESS LEVELS - FIRE DANGER LEVELS - DISPATCH LEVELS

Southwest Idaho

PREPAREDNESS LEVEL	2023	5 YR AVG
	DAYS	DAYS
1	108	70
2	8	45
3	14	22
4	0	5
5	0	0

Boise Mountains FDRA

BOISE MOUNTAINS FDRA	2023	5 YR AVG
FIRE DANGER RATING	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	27	25
MODERATE	32	46
HIGH	57	47
VERY HIGH	15	17
EXTREME	0	7

BOISE MOUNTAINS FDRA	2023	5 YR AVG
DISPATCH LEVEL	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	106	41
MODERATE	51	70
HIGH	0	35

Snake River Foothills FDRA

SNAKE RIVER FOOTHILLS FDRA	2023	5 YR AVG
FIRE DANGER RATING	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	14	15
MODERATE	35	43
HIGH	47	49
VERY HIGH	33	27
EXTREME	2	8

SNAKE RIVER FOOTHILLS FDRA	2023	5 YR AVG
DISPATCH LEVEL	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	72	30
MODERATE	79	87
HIGH	6	29

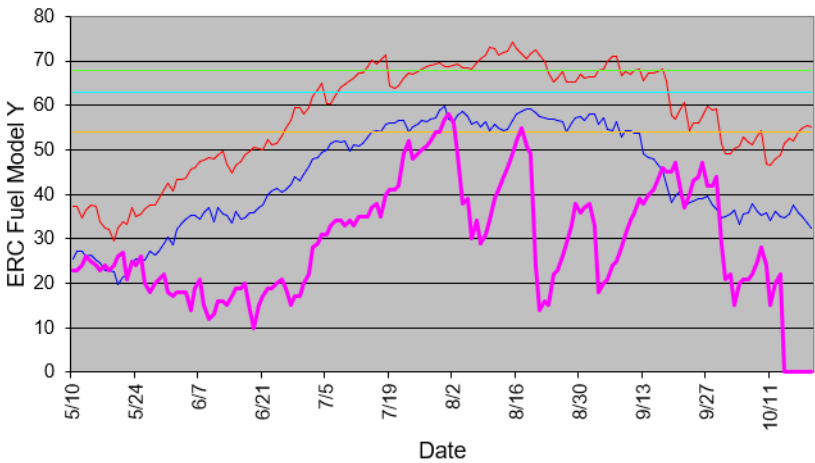
Owyhee Canyonlands FDRA

OWHYEE CANYONLANDS FDRA	2023	5 YR AVG
FIRE DANGER RATING	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	16	18
MODERATE	53	53
HIGH	46	37
VERY HIGH	16	26
EXTREME	0	6

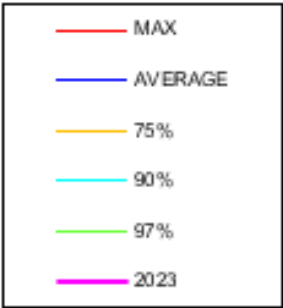
OWHYEE CANYONLANDS FDRA	2023	5 YR AVG
DISPATCH LEVEL	DAYS	DAYS
LOW	46	29
MODERATE	107	68
HIGH	4	48

OUTPUTS

Boise Mountains FDRA

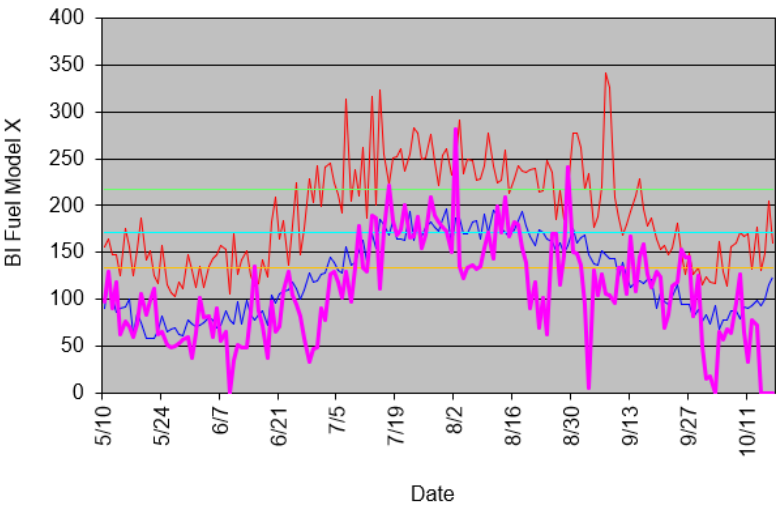


The chart to the left shows 2023’s ERC levels for the Boise Mountains FDRA compared to certain various percentages and also the average and max ERC levels determined from the Fire Danger Operating Plan.

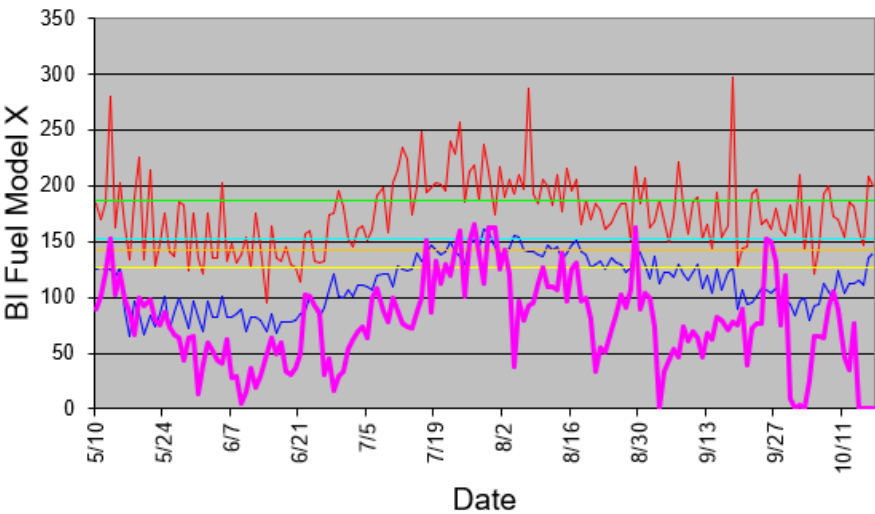


Snake River & Foothills FDRA

The chart to the right shows 2023’s 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 2023’s BI levels for the Owyhee Canyonlands FDRA compared to various threshold percentages. It also shows the average and max BI levels determined from the Fire Danger Operating Plan.

WEATHER

Boise National Weather Service

Information taken directly from the Boise Weather Service 2023 Fire Weather Annual Report

Prior to the beginning of 2023, the state of the ocean had weak La Niña conditions with ocean temperature anomalies of around -0.7°C . Values between -0.5°C and $+0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ indicate near neutral conditions. Typically, during La Niña conditions we see a jet stream pattern indicated in Fig 1 which shows wet and cooler conditions across the forecast region. For the months of December through February, the general weather pattern was such that an upper high was located just south of the Aleutian Islands and lower heights were found west of the Rocky Mountains. Some similarities to what a “typical La Niña” pattern would resemble. Fig 2.



Fig 1

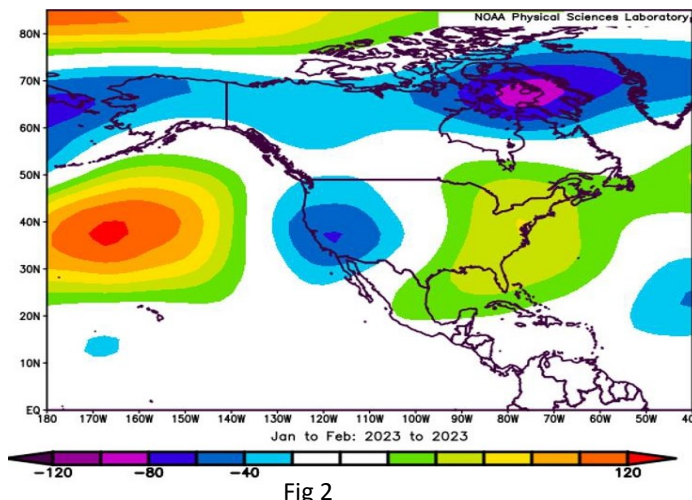


Fig 2

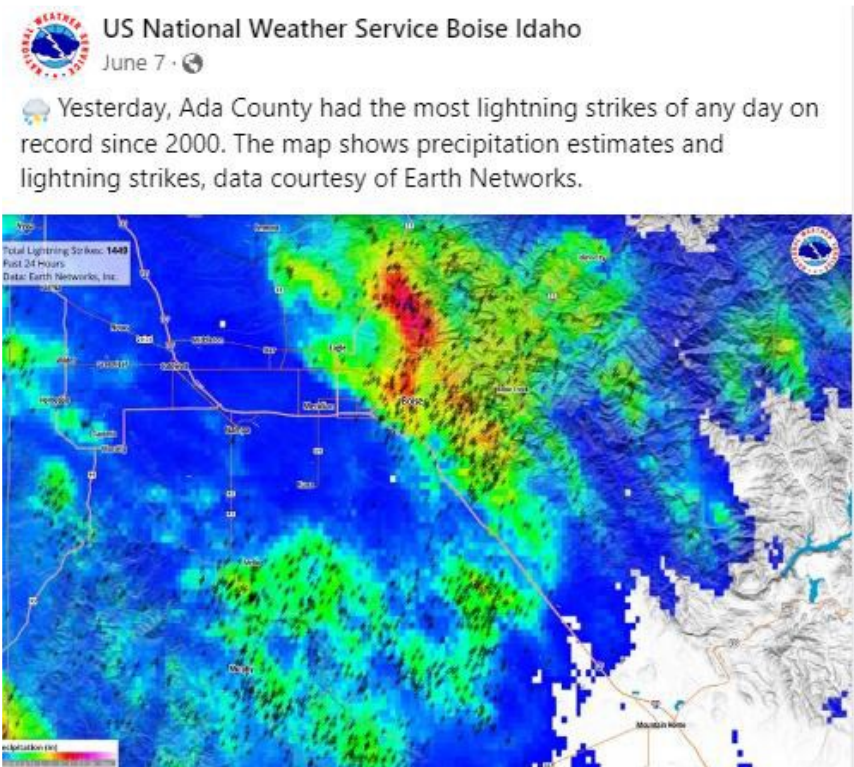
As expected, the region observed above normal precipitation and temperatures about 1 to 5 degrees below normal across the region. For the Boise region, a little over 9 inches of snow was recorded, and average is only 5.5 inches. McCall Ranger Station reported 51.5 inches of snow, with normal only 31.5 inches.

The month of March brought a return to more La Niña-like conditions as systems moved along the Aleutian Islands and over a mid Pacific upper ridge. These systems dove into the West Coast bringing cold and wet conditions. For the Boise area, the average temperature was 39.1°F , making it the 10th coldest March in the 84 years of records being taken at the Boise Airport. It also ties 1965 as the 22nd coldest ever in 146 years of Boise records, regardless of the temperature location over the years. Precipitation totaled 2.47 inches in Boise which was the 5th wettest in the last 84 years and a total of 9.1 inches was the 3rd snowiest on record. McCall measured 49 total inches, enough for 3rd place but far from its record of 59 inches set back in 1964. Burns, Oregon recorded 3.34 inches of rain which is the 2nd most ever recorded behind 3.66 inches observed in 1983.

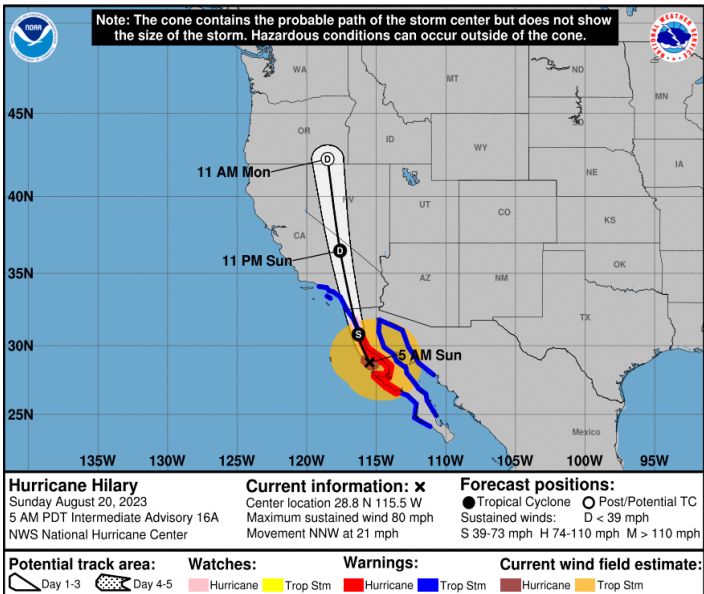
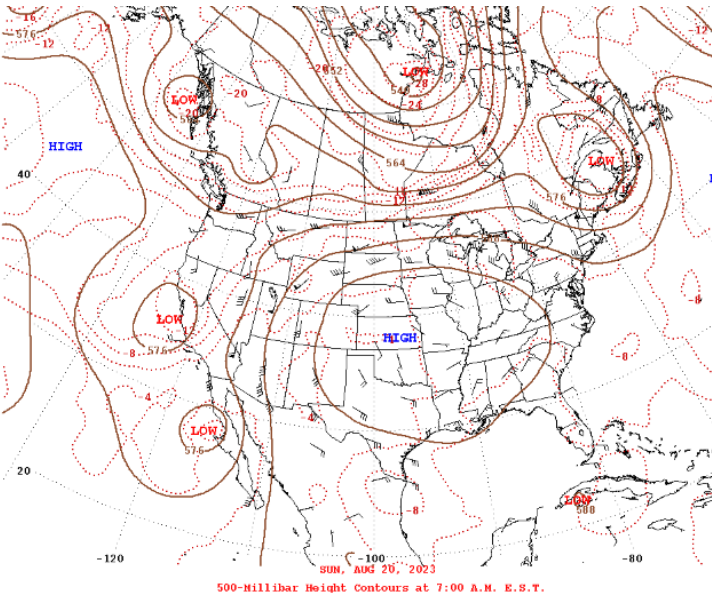
April was a transition month from a wet and cool March to wet and warm May and June. Several upper troughs slid through the region through May bringing periods of precipitation along with scattered thunderstorms. Finally, by the middle third of the month, an upper ridge built over the area allowing spring/summer time temperatures to the Boise forecast area. Boise surpassed the 90°F mark from the 19th-21st before a cold front moved through allowing temperatures only to warm to 74°F on the 22nd.

The jet stream lowered and tended to push more storms into southern California during the month of June. This allowed above normal precipitation to fall generally south of a Burns to Twin Falls line along with below normal temperatures. Areas further north and west, including NE Oregon, tended to be above normal temperatures along with below normal precipitation. Strong daytime heating combined with a moist air mass and an upper low from June 6th-13th, brought scattered thunderstorms to the region.

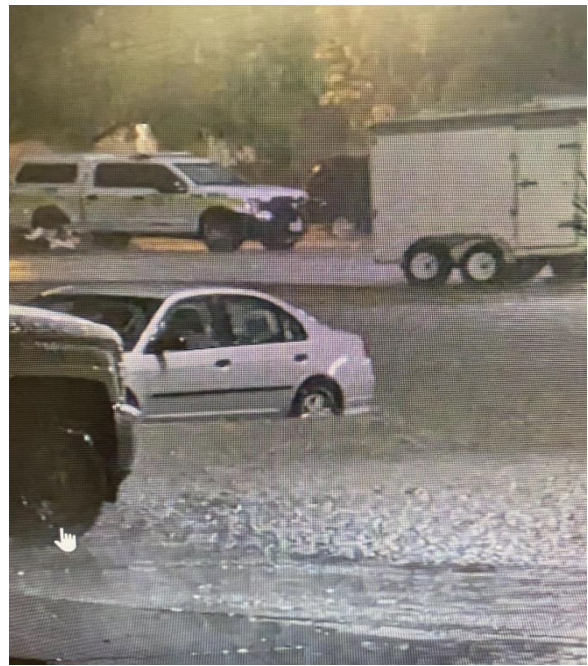
In one particular case, strong thunderstorms moved through the Treasure Valley and hit the NWS Office in Boise. After the storms moved away, the Boise Weather Office measured 0.75 inches of rain. The airport totally missed the main core and only received 0.06 inches of rain. Downtown Boise got slammed by the event with flooded roads and overwhelming storm drains causing widespread impacts. Reports of up to 2 feet of water covered some roads and the I-84 connector leading into downtown was closed due to flooding. Figure 13 shows the amount of lightning that occurred on June 6th. Nearly 1500 strikes were recorded, breaking the record for the most strikes in the last 23 years!



The warm and dry conditions during the month of July was all that was needed in some places for fires to get started, across the Boise NF and northern portions of the Payette NF. The East Fire and Elkhorn fire both ramped up in late July through mid-August. A strong upper ridge built over the Pacific Northwest through British Columbia on the 12th and 13th of August. The influence of this ridge brought widespread upper 90s and triple digit heat to the region. Temperatures recorded over the Elkhorn Fire (Main Stem of the Salmon River) were as warm as 107. A week later, Hurricane Hilary was developing and lifting north due to the low off the coast and ridge over Texas. The remnants of Hilary sliced through the Great Basin bringing widespread wet thunderstorms dropping between 1 and 3 inches of rain over the forecast area from the 20th-30th, including 2.5 inches in McCall.



Late August, an upper low parked itself off the West Coast for several days, bringing periods of unsettled weather to the region. During the evening of August 27th, several thunderstorms initiated over the Owyhee Mountains, southwest of Boise. The air mass was already unstable from the hot, and moist conditions from the day. PWAT values of over an inch. As the storms moved NE, the rapidly (within minutes) developed over the city of Boise. The NWS office was in its bullseye and ended up recording 1.46 inches of rain in about an hour. So much rain fell that “Lake NIFC” made its return after several years of being absent. The evening shift had water up to the bottom of the car doors (Fig 19). The picture above is from the next day and the high-water marks went well past the curbing on the left of the picture and approached the office doors. Later reports of over an inch also fell in the town of Emmett.



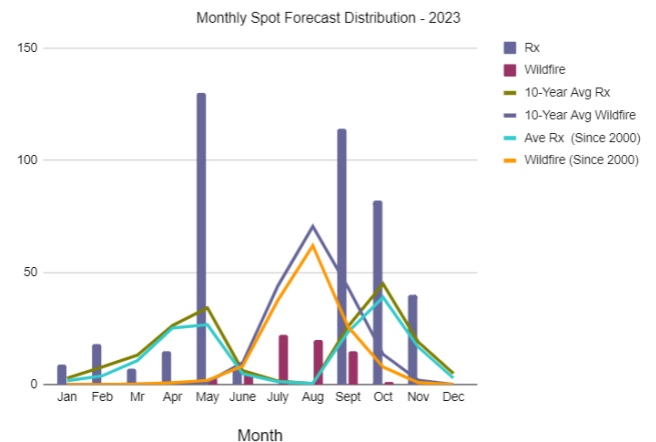
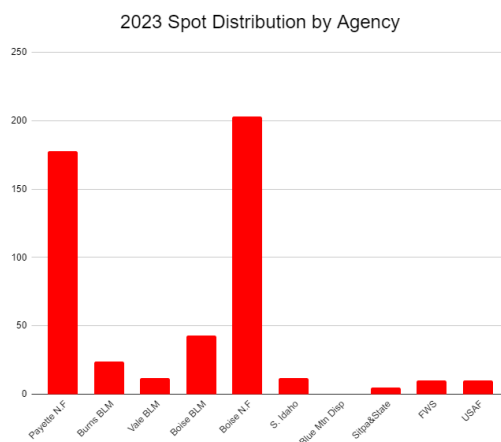
September continued to have an active weather pattern allowing a series of fronts to move through the region bringing nearly a normal months’ worth of precipitation. This precipitation didn’t stop the fire agencies from conducting numerous prescribed burns across the landscape. For Sept 2023, NWS Boise fulfilled 114 spot forecasts, the second highest number of spots filled going back to 1984 (118 in 1999). The office during September normally sees about 30 requests!

The active weather pattern continued into the month of October as well as most areas continued to record above normal precipitation and temperatures. This didn’t stop the F.S form continuing to conduct their Fall burning plans. Therefore, the office continued to remain busy filling spot requests. By the end of the month, 82 spots were requested/filled which is nearly twice the average amount of 43 (going back to 1984).

Red Flag Warnings and Spot Forecasts:

NWS Boise issued 31 Red Flag Warnings for the 2023 Fire Season. Of these warnings, 20 verified and 11 had no verification. With these numbers in mind, the office had a 0.65 probability of Detection and a 0.35 False Alarm Rate. The average lead time for the warnings was 18 hours.

The office also issued 494 spot forecasts with monthly records being broken for September, October and November. Spot counts for each month were 114, 82, and 40. For the fire season months of July through September, 57 spots were requested for wildfires. This ranks as the 6th for lowest amount of wildfire going back to the mid 1980s. A total of 236 spots were completed for Sept-Nov but the average number for those same months going back to 1984 is only 83!



LIGHTNING SUMMARY

Boise District BLM

The Boise District BLM had 20 fires caused by lightning this year. Those fires burned 13,963 acres. Which is an increase of 2,048 acres from 2022 lightning caused fires. The first lightning fire for the BLM started May 31st. The last lightning fires of the year for the BLM occurred on August 25th. The largest BLM Lightning fire in 2023 was Ant, burning 6,504 acres.

Boise National Forest

The Boise National Forest had 29 lightning ignitions in 2023, down from 31 in 2022. The first day with multiple lightning ignitions was August 3rd. The forest had only 3 days with multiple ignitions on FS land. In the month of August alone, there were 19 fires! The largest lightning fire was the East fire that started on August 16th and burned 3,313 acres.

Southwest Idaho Department of Lands

Southwest Idaho Department of Lands had 20 lightning fires this year, up 13 from 2022. The first occurred on June 4th. The last ignition was the Placer fire on August 24th. There were 3 multiple start days. The MM85 HWY 51 fire was the largest IDL lightning ignition, it burned 223 acres.



The East Fire. Started on August 16th, burned 3,313 acres.