

Front (Desert & Wasatch FDRA)

Fire Danger PocketCard

Northern Utah Interagency Fire Center

<http://fam.nwgc.gov/fam-web/pocketcards/>

Fire Danger Interpretation

Dispatch Levels	Burning Index - Model G	
	SL Desert	Wasatch Mtns
High: Potential for high to extreme intensity. Expect high rates of spread, flame length, and control difficulty.	82 +	69 +
Moderate: Anticipate moderate fire behavior. The BI can change rapidly with variable weather conditions.	55 - 81	42 - 68
Low: Fire behavior is not expected to present containment problems. However, always be cautious.	0 - 54	0 - 41

Local Thresholds: any of these factors significantly increase the potential for extreme fire behavior. The more factors present, the greater the risk.

	SL Desert FDRA	Wasatch FDRA
20-ft Wind (mph)	> 13	> 8
Relative Humidity (%)	< 10	< 14
Temperature (°F)	> 93	> 87

- ♦ **Wind Gusts** exceeding 30 mph will increase the probability of erratic fire behavior and large fire growth.
- ♦ **Microbursts** are powerful downdrafts associated with thunderstorms which can seriously affect the spread rate, intensity, and direction several miles away.
- ♦ **Lake Effect Winds** will enhance down-slope winds and erratic fire behavior after sunset adjacent to the Great Salt Lake and Utah Lake.



Burning Index (BI) Facts:

- BI is an index representing the potential difficulty containing a fire due to flame length (intensity) at the head of the fire
- Wind has a major influence on BI
- BI will be different for each NFDRS Fuel Model
- In Northern Utah, BI with Fuel Model G has a very good statistical correlation to large fire occurrence

Recent Fire Experience

Salt Lake Desert FDRA

Date	Fire Name	Size (ac)	BI	RH (%)	Temp (°F)	Wind (mph)
08/24/08	Lonesome Pine	560	98	7	95	10
08/25/08	Gate Narrows	775	100	8	94	10
08/30/08	Highway	323	121	7	92	14
09/20/08	Scooby	380	88	21	78	12

Wasatch Mountains FDRA

Date	Fire Name	Size (ac)	BI	RH (%)	Temp (°F)	Wind (mph)
07/24/08	Bridal Falls 2	246	77	15	90	6
07/29/08	City Creek	127	77	11	87	6
08/01/08	Spring Lake	762	91	14	91	9
08/25/08	Corner Canyon	808	85	14	90	8

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