

## INFORMATION NEEDED BY FBAN/LTAN

### 1. Fuel type and condition.

- What is carrying the fire and why?
- What fuels (and fuel loadings) are ahead of the fire?
- Are ladder fuels present in the fuel profile?
- What is the horizontal fuel continuity?
- Are fuels live, dead, or both? What is the live-to-dead ratio?
- Has a lethal frost converted live fuels to dead?
- How well do the fuels conform to the 13 or 40 Fire Behavior Fuel Model classifications?
- What are the live and dead fuel moistures? Dynamic or static?
- What are the local live fuel moisture trigger points?
- Has there been any fuel moisture sampling in the area, or are the values derived?
- What are the fuel moisture thresholds in the area that warrant tracking?
- What shading factors are important?
- What size classes are contributing to fire line intensity, vs. residual burnout?
- Are there unique fuel conditions such as bug-kill, ice storm damage, blow-down from hurricanes or tornadoes?
- Is there an unusually high loading in grasses, or has matting occurred?
- Are there volatiles in the foliage (i.e., sage, ceanothus or manzanita)?
- How are fuels different based on aspect?
- What re-burn potential exists in the fire area?
- Have there been any fuel treatments implemented in the area of concern, such as prescribed burns or mechanical treatments?
- How have fuel characteristics changed over time on long duration fires?

### 2. Topography:

- Are there any thermal belt effects in the area?
- What local terrain features (saddles, ridges, etc.) influence fire behavior?
- How do small-scale topographical influences affect diurnal weather patterns (wind, temperature and relative humidity)?
- What are the aspect and elevational influences on fuels and fire behavior?

### 3. Weather

#### *Current and Short-Term*

- What are the larger-scale diurnal trends and patterns (wind, RH, temperature)? What effect do they have on fire behavior?
- What critical fire weather is imminent or forecast (red flag, High Haines, T-storms, cold fronts and other disturbances)?
- Have any weather-related trigger points been identified by locals?
- What are the known trends for inversions, thermal belts, and stability in the area?

#### *Extended*

- What is the 6-10 day outlook?
- How long has it been since the last rain event?
- What are the monthly and seasonal outlooks?
- Is there an extended drought in place?
- What are the criteria for fire-ending and season-ending events? Probability?

- When does the fire area typically receive its season ending event?

#### **4. Fire Behavior:**

- What effect has time of day or night, aspect and elevation had on elements of fire behavior (ROS, FL, fuel consumption, etc.)?
- What are the critical fire behavior thresholds that will affect operations and safety?
- What flame lengths have been observed and why?
- Are observations of fire intensity different from one point on the fireline to another and why?
- Has extreme fire behavior been observed, such as torching and spotting, fire whirls, or crown fire runs?
- Has the fire resulted in unusual burn patterns?
- Is the observed fire behavior leaving scorched and unburned fuel in fuel profile?
- What mechanism(s) is (are) influencing fire spread across the landscape such as wind, slope or both?

#### **5. General Information**

- Who can you contact for general information about weather, fuels, and fire behavior?
- What are the fire weather zone boundaries, and what are the valid/useable RAWS stations for the fire location?
- Are there conference calls or meetings you need to be part of?
- What are the schedules for regular forecast information?
- How do you access regular forecasts, and obtain spot forecasts and special warnings?