

Durango Interagency Dispatch Center

2016 Incoming Resource Briefing Guide

15 Burnett Court, Durango, CO, 81301, 970-385-1324 (ph.)

970-385-1386 (fax) durangodispatch@yahoo.com



San Juan National Forest, USFS
Tres Rios Field Office, BLM
Southern Ute Agency, BIA
Ute Mountain Ute Agency, BIA
Mesa Verde National Park
Southwest Colorado Counties

Geographic Standards: WGS84, dd° mm.mmm'
UTM Zone 13, Magnetic Declination 10°E

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BLM Map (West Zone)



San Juan National Forest Map

Introduction

Welcome to Southwest Colorado! This briefing packet will provide you with most of the information you will need during your stay on the DRC unit. If you need more information, please ask.

The CO-DRC unit covers about four and a half million acres of land in Southwestern Colorado, extending from the Utah state line on the west, the continental divide to the east, the New Mexico State line to the south, and the boundary with the Montrose Dispatch Center to the north. Elevation ranges from 5,000 feet to over 14,000 feet. Our unit is covered by Grand Junction National Weather Service fire weather zones 207, 294 and 298.

All fire assignments during your stay will come through the Durango Interagency Dispatch Center (CO-DRC) until you are released to the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center or your home unit. Dispatch may be contacted via the unit repeater systems or by phone at 970-385-1324. If dispatch is closed, an answering service will forward your call as appropriate. If you still need to get in contact with someone, use the attached phone list.

Not all fires within the Unit are managed with a control/full suppression objective. If you are assigned as an Initial Attack IC, good legal descriptions and fire size-ups are essential. Relay this information through dispatch ASAP upon arriving to our incident; they will in turn give you further instructions regarding management direction for the fire.

During your stay here, you are expected to be self-sufficient. If this is a problem, please see your Zone Duty Officer immediately to resolve the situation. If you need supply numbers, check with your DO on the local procedures. If you are a field going resource, be prepared to be self-sufficient on an initial attack incident for a minimum of 24 hours with no resupply.

Upon checking in and briefing, you will be provided maps of the area. Please return them when you are released. Be respectful and courteous in and around the communities you are staying in. Your behavior is a reflection of this organization while working here.

It is your responsibility to keep track of your time on a Crew Time Report and have the Zone Duty Officer sign each day prior to your release.

If you need your radio programmed, please see the Zone Duty Officer that you are assigned to. Dispatch has a Bendix King DPH handheld radio and a cloning cable. If you are able to clone your radio, please do so, but do not expect a dispatcher to be available to help you.

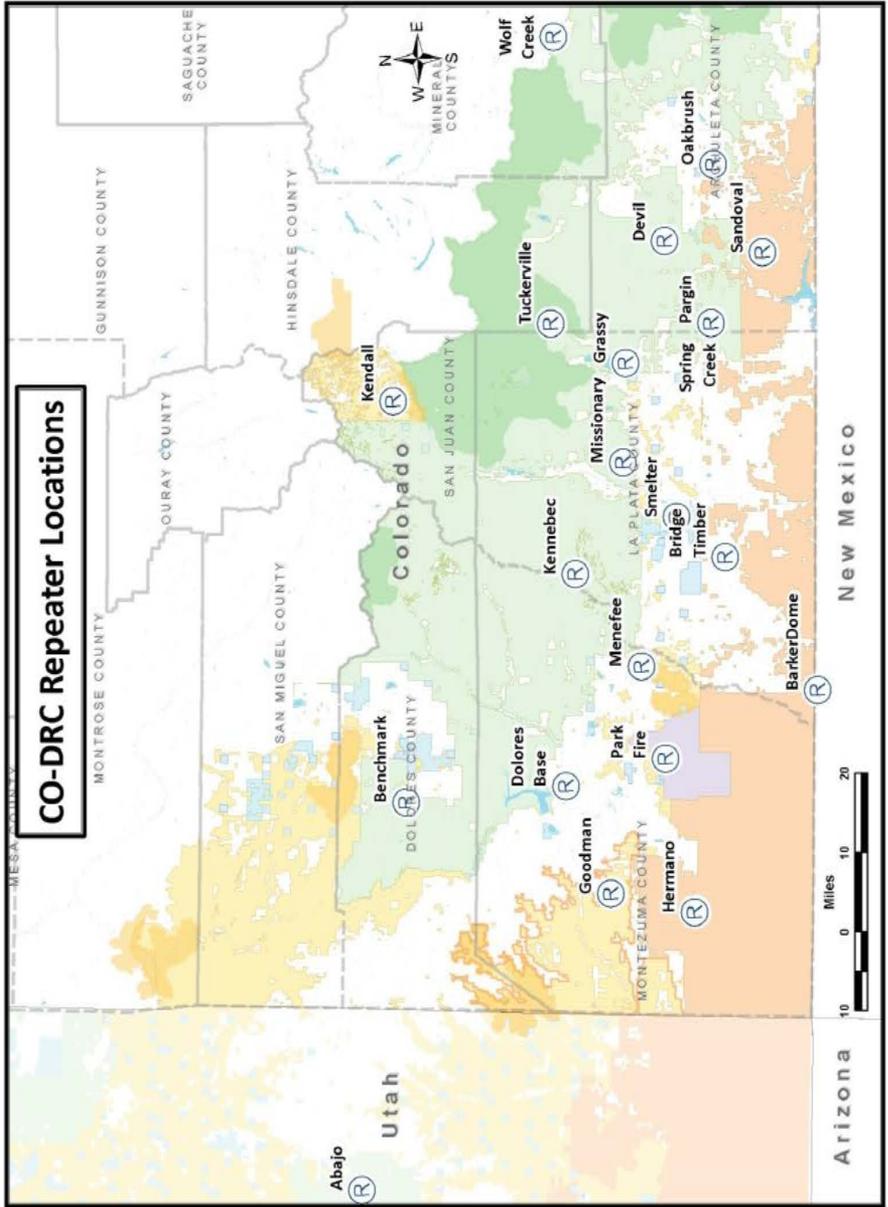
While on standby you may be asked to assist with fire cache or other project work. If no work is needed, you are expected to participate in physical fitness training. Some duty stations have a Physical Fitness/Training Room. If so, the facilities are available for your use. Check with the staff for routes and distances used for running. A Fire Crew Ready Room may also be available to you during standby. We do ask that you not loiter either in dispatch or in any of the office areas.

Upon checking in, your Zone FMO will ask for and document your last days off to ensure that work/rest guidelines are being met. Your red card will also be checked and photocopied and provided to the Zone Duty Officer.

We hope you have an enjoyable assignment here!

NAME/TITLE	OFFICE	CELL	CALL SIGN
RICHARD BUSTAMANTE SAN JUAN PUBLIC LANDS UNIT FMO	(970) 385-1346	(970) 749-8127	CH 1
JERRAN FLINDERS UNIT AVIATION OFFICER/UNIT AFMO	(970) 375-3334	(435) 640-0508	CH 2
KATHY HODNETT CENTER MANAGER	(970) 385-1335	(707) 499-3598	BRANCH 1
COLUMBINE DISTRICT USFS/BLM			
CHRIS TIPTON FIRE MANAGEMENT OFFICER	(970) 884-1427	(303) 898-7128	DV 8
HON SCHLAPFER ASST. FIRE MANAGEMENT OFFICER	(970) 884-1425	(970) 799-1163	BC 81
DOLORES DISTRICT USFS/BLM			
PATRICK SEEKINS FIRE MANAGEMENT OFFICER	(970) 882-6836	(970) 317-3107	DV 5
DAVE GRETTENBERG PRESCRIBED FIRE SPECIALIST/AFMO	(970) 882-6839	(970) 799-1182	BC 51
BRAD PIETRUSZKA TRES RIOS FO FUELS SPECIALIST	(970) 882-6820	(970) 394-0812	FUELS 5
PAGOSA DISTRICT USFS/BLM			
STEVE HENTSCHEL FIRE MANAGEMENT OFFICER	(970) 264-1536	(970) 799-1196	DV 6
FRED ELLIS FUELS AFMO	(970) 264-1541	(970) 799-4438	BC 62
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK			
STEVE UNDERWOOD FIRE MANAGEMENT OFFICER	(970) 529-5049	(970) 749-4890	CH 9
KEITH KRAUSE ACTING FUELS SPECIALIST/AFMO	(970) 529-5066	(970) 749-6994	BC 91
SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY			
RICH GUSTAFSON FIRE MANAGEMENT OFFICER	(970) 563-4571	(970) 749-3558	DV 4
HOWARD RICHARDS SUPERVISORY FORESTRY TECHNICIAN	(970) 563-4571	(970) 769-0882	BC 41
UTE MOUNTAIN UTE AGENCY			
JOE MORRIS FIRE MANGEMENT OFFICER	(970) 565-7441	(970) 739-6340	DV 7
JASON PETRUSKA SUPERVISORY FORESTRY TECHNICIAN	(970) 565-4789	(970) 739-9584	BC 71

Durango Dispatch Radio Repeater Site Map





Repeater Map

Terrain, Weather, Fuels, and Fire Behavior

Terrain

Terrain varies greatly over southwest Colorado. From the desert of the Four Corners area, to the three alpine wilderness areas located within the unit, most western fuel types can be found within the area. The western end of the unit is characterized as a semi-arid mesa with deep canyon bisected topography. The primary fuel type in this area is grass, sagebrush, and pinõn/juniper woodland. Higher elevations (upwards of 7,500') on the west zone feature mountain shrub (Gambel oak, mountain mahogany, Utah serviceberry), and Ponderosa pine forest with Gambel oak understory. Aspen forests dominate large areas of upper elevation west zone land.

As you move to the east, the land rises dramatically through several climate zones, including alpine and tundra zones. The central and eastern zones have large mountains, as well as large areas of remote, difficult to access wilderness. While the southern half of these zones have the fuels identified above, the remainder has more mixed-conifer and spruce/fir.

Soils in the pinõn/juniper fuel type are a shale and clay mix, and with limited moisture become impassible. Pay attention to incoming rain in this area, and ensure that you can safely drive out the road you drove in on.

Weather

Our unit is covered by Grand Junction National Weather Service fire weather zones 207, 294 and 298. Typical summer temperatures can exceed 95 degrees in low elevation areas, and over 85 degrees in higher elevations. Minimum nighttime temperatures can be between 45 and 60 degrees, again largely dependent on elevation. It is not uncommon for relative humidities to drop between 5% and 20% during active burning periods, and have nighttime recoveries from 25-40%. During extremely dry periods such as mid to late June, relative humidities may not recover and you can expect active fire behavior throughout the night.

Winds across the unit are influenced by topography or large scale atmospheric circulations. Throughout many days of the summer, and under subsidence inversions, typical daytime winds are upslope and upvalley, between 4-8 miles per hour. Nocturnal winds typically become downslope, downvalley 3-6 miles per hour by sunset.

Routinely throughout the spring, and occasionally through the summer and fall, our unit is subject to dry cold fronts. Winds ahead of these fronts can exceed 75 mph from the southwest at mountain top level, switching abruptly to the northwest after frontal passage. While normally occurring in spring and fall, these frontal winds have contributed to rapid fire growth, as well as tragedy fires in western Colorado in the peak of fire season (South Canyon Fire, 1994).

Our area is heavily influenced by the southwest monsoon, and as such sees most of our wildland fire ignitions from lightning. The monsoon typically begins in early or mid-June, and continues in pulses through September. Storms can develop, intensify, and move quickly, as well as produce gusty outflow winds that may drastically increase fire behavior. As the monsoon season progresses the thunderstorms become increasingly wet. However, many large fires are from undetected lightning strikes, or “holdovers,” that may not be discovered until up to two weeks after the passage of a wet storm.

Our area is unique in that it can experience a bimodal fire season. After the primary season from May through August, a second season can occur in late September and continuing through early November or until the occurrence of a season ending event. During this time period, fuels are fully cured, and will carry fire readily. It is not uncommon to have resources mobilized from other geographic areas late in the fall to support incidents. Multiple type 3 incidents have occurred on the unit during this timeframe.

Fuels and Fire Behavior

Area: Desert, southwest part of unit

Fuels: Cheat Grass, Sagebrush, Greasewood

Fire Behavior: Expect rapid rates of spread in light fuels.

Tactical Considerations: Mobile attack, keep engines in the black. Gullies and drainages exist throughout this area, use spotters in advance of engines.

Area: Canyons and Mesas, west and south parts of unit

Fuels: Pinñon/Juniper Woodland, Gambel oak, serviceberry, mountain mahogany

Fire Behavior: Fire behavior can rapidly transition from a single tree fire to crown fire with sufficient wind.

Tactical Considerations: Access in this zone may be difficult. The use of lookouts and human repeaters is necessary in most canyons. Spotting is common in Pinñon/Juniper, as is nearly complete canopy closure.

Area: Foothills and Mountain Shrublands, west and south parts of unit.

Fuels: Mountain Shrub alliance; Gambel Oak, Utah Serviceberry, Cliff Fendlerbush, Mountain Mahogany

Fire Behavior: With Gambel oak live foliar moistures below 100%, fire behavior can become extreme

Tactical Considerations: Mountain shrub fires usually smolder, and the main difficulty is in mop-up. However, several large fires on the unit have occurred in this fuel model (2009 Narraguinnep Fire; 7,300 acres; 2000 Bircher Fire; 23,220 acres).

Area: Ponderosa pine forest, mainly across lower elevations of the San Juan National Forest.

Fuels: Ponderosa pine, understory of Gambel oak

Fire Behavior: Fire behavior in pine can range from low intensity surface fire, with flame lengths of less than one foot, to high intensity crown fire. Expect active fire behavior when 1000 hour fuel moistures to drop to less than 7%, and foliar moisture to less than 90%.

Tactical Considerations: Numerous roads go through the pine zone, and can provide good options for burnouts. This zone has high potential for fires managed for resource benefit. Large areas of ponderosa pine have been treated on the unit; these can act as effective fuel breaks to slow fire spread and reduce intensity.

Area: Mixed conifer forest, lower to middle elevations of the San Juan National Forest, primarily the central and east zones.

Fuels: Ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, White fir, Engelmann spruce

Fire Behavior: Plume dominated fires in mixed conifer can occur readily when dry conditions exist. Spotting distances can be in excess of one mile. The largest fires on the unit have occurred in this fuel model. Recently, areas that have experienced large fires in the past decade have begun to reburn.

Tactical Considerations: While numerous aspen stands exist throughout this area, extreme caution should be taken when working around this shallow rooted species, especially if it has burned. Line production can slow dramatically in heavy fuel loadings. In areas of old large fires, deadfall has created an enormous surface fuel loading.

Area: High elevations across the San Juan National Forest

Fuels: Spruce and Fir

Fire Behavior: During times of extreme drought, the spruce/fir fuel model becomes available to burn, and when it does it can do so with extreme behavior. Crown fires are common in this fuel model, as is long distance spotting.

Tactical Considerations: Heavy down and dead fuel loading makes suppression actions in this fuel model difficult. This fuel model occurs at upper elevation areas, usually on steep slopes.

Remember, fuel models transition depending on elevation and aspect throughout the zone. Most often, they occur in some mixture of the fuel types indicated above.

Safety Considerations

During your stay here, please be aware of several factors which could compromise your health. Due to our high elevation, high temperatures, and low humidity, dehydration is a serious concern throughout the year. Remember to keep hydrated.

Another concern is heat stress. When dehydration is combined with strenuous exercise, these dangerous conditions can occur. Watch for rapid, shallow breathing, cool and clammy skin, fatigue, and dizziness. Staying hydrated is the best way to fight this. Immediately get medical attention if you or your co-worker stops perspiring.

Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS, or altitude sickness) can be experienced by people ascending too quickly, typically to over 8,000 feet. Almost all of our duty stations throughout the zone are above 7,000 feet, and most of the San Juan National Forest is above 8,000 feet. Symptoms include shortness of breath, coughing, weakness, easy fatigue, and a rapid heart rate. The only treatment is to descend to a lower elevation and administer oxygen.

Animals to watch out for in our zone include black widow spiders, brown recluse spiders, scorpions, wasps, bees, hornets, and rattlesnakes. Be aware of your surroundings, especially in the pinõn/juniper zone during the summer near rocks and brush. If you are allergic to bees, please let your supervisor know, and please carry an auto-inject epinephrine pen.

Poison ivy exists in riparian areas throughout the zone.

Oil and Gas Field Fire Operations Guide

Gas and Oil Operations are located throughout the western United States, including the western slope of Colorado, and in particular the Durango Fire Management Zone. Of particular concern to wildland firefighters in the zone is Hydrogen Sulfide gas (H_2S). Hydrogen Sulfide is a toxic gas which is heavier than air. In low concentrations, it has a rotten egg smell. At higher concentrations it inhibits the sense of smell. Symptoms of H_2S exposure include: eye irritation, nose and throat irritation, headache, dizziness, nausea, coughing, difficulty breathing, and vomiting.

To insure the safety of fire personnel, specific geographic locations of concern have been identified within our area that firefighters are required to abide by specific requirements and restrictions. These locations are the Barker Dome area on Ute Mountain Ute tribal lands and the Hazardous Gas Zone located on Southern Ute tribal lands. To mitigate H_2S concerns in the Durango Zone:

Local units shall provide a copy of a Job Hazard Analysis/Risk Assessments for wildland fire suppression operations in oil and gas areas, along with a briefing, to all local and incoming resources.

Ensure that at least one member of each squad or engine crew is provided a monitor for use when working within the identified potential hazard areas and is knowledgeable about Hydrogen Sulfide gas monitor operation, proper use, battery charging and data interpretation.

Firefighters need to immediately report to their supervisor any exposure or potential exposure to Hydrogen Sulfide gas and leave the area until they have received further instructions. Immediate medical care will be sought for any person exhibiting any ill effects.

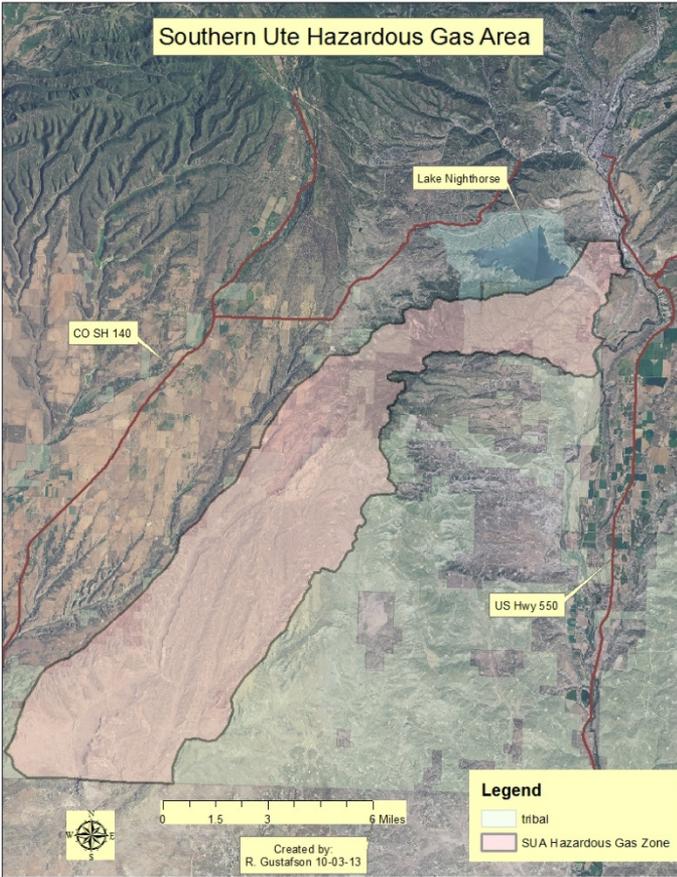
Incident commanders shall ensure that all incoming wildfire personnel are adequately briefed on oil and gas safety hazards and proper gas monitor use.

No Incident Command Posts or Staging areas will be located on or within well pad infrastructure, pipeline right-of-ways, or the two identified hazard areas located on the Ute Mountain Ute and Southern Ute Tribal Lands.

Incident Commanders will implement safety measures deemed appropriate by the zone duty officer while working in oil and gas well fields in order to mitigate potential hazards and risks to fire personnel.

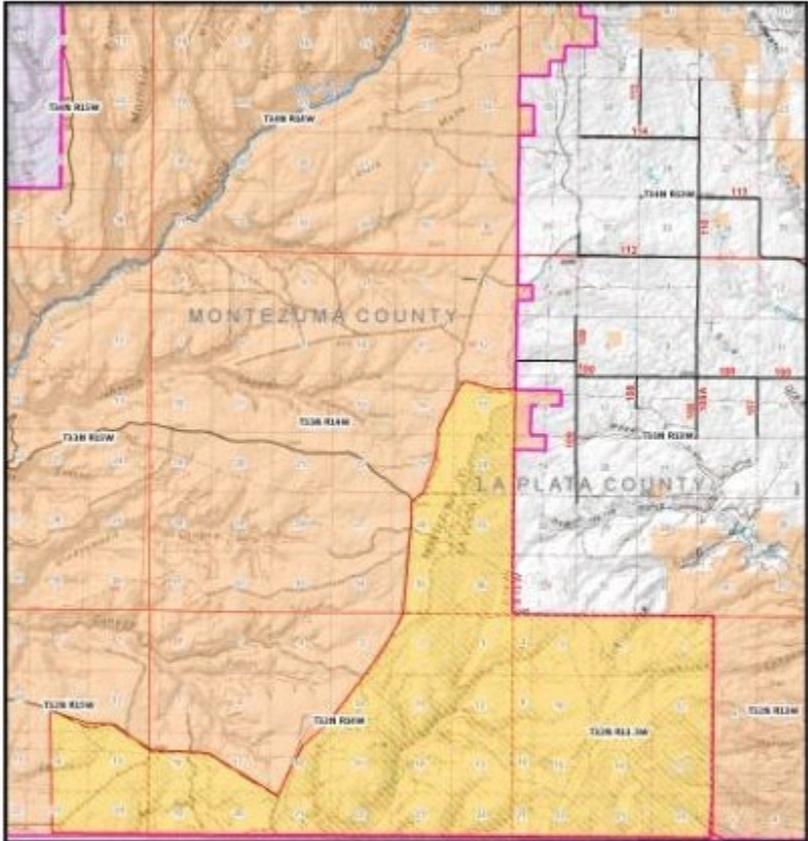
If you are concerned that you may have been exposed to H₂S, immediately move out of the area; either crosswind or uphill. H₂S is heavier than air and can settle in drainages. Promptly notify your supervisor and dispatch, and request medical assistance.

HAZARDOUS GAS ZONE – SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY



Fires within the Southern Ute Hazardous Gas Zone will generally be suppressed while limiting the exposure time of suppression personnel and with safety roles, procedures and equipment (H2S Gas monitors) identified and implemented. Operations in this area will require a detailed safety briefing by a Southern Ute Agency fire official.

Ute Mountain Ute Barker Dome Area



Ute Mountain Ute Agency
Barker Dome Area

Legend
Barker Dome Area

Highways

Type

US

State



The Barker Dome area is known to have gas wells with H₂S present. The area covers the Southeast corner of the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation. Concentrations of H₂S are normally well within OSHA limits, but the presence of this gas must be considered for all operations. These wells are identified by signs and the presence of windsocks. Fires within the Barker Dome area will be suppressed while limiting the exposure time of suppression personnel. All suppression efforts will be coordinated through UMA Fire Management and Durango Dispatch.

Zone Medevac Information

Medical Emergency Procedures; *Item 8 of ICS-206*

In the event of a medical emergency provide the following information to Durango Interagency Dispatch:

1. Declare the nature of the emergency.
 - a. Medical Injury/Illness?
 - b. If injury/illness, is it life threatening?
 - c. *Use attached Trauma Assessment Categories*
2. If life threatening, request the designated frequency be cleared for emergency traffic.
3. Identify the on-scene Point of Contact (POC) by resource and last name (ie. POC is CRWB Smith). Insure continuity of operations on initial incident.
4. Identify nature of incident, number injured, patient assessment(s), and location (geographic and GPS coordinates).
 - a. *Use attached Patient Assessment Note*
5. Identify on-scene medical personnel by position and name (i.e. EMT Jones).
6. Identify preferred method of patient transport.
 - a. *Use attached Patient Transport Flowchart*
 - b. *Use attached ICS-206*
7. Request any additional resources and/or equipment needed (ie. ALS, hoist, 4x4 ambulance, etc.)
8. Develop contingency plans.
9. Document all information received and transmitted on the radio or phone.
10. Identify any changes in the on-scene Point of Contact or medical personnel as they occur.
11. Make notification of incident status, termination of medical incident, communicate emergency has been mitigated and resume unrestricted radio communications.

Trauma Assessment Categories

Level One	
Immediate lifesaving intervention required	Examples- Unstable airway, severe facial trauma with compromised airway, facial burns, suspected head injury with LOC > 5 min, positive MOI for spinal cord injury, cardiac injury, open chest wound, flail chest, pelvic trauma, multiple long bone fractures, penetrating trauma to the head/neck/ face, electrical injury, greater than 20% surface area burn combined with any other injury, multi system trauma, arterial bleeding, massive crush injury. Vitals -Systolic BP<100 (No peripheral pulse) or cardiac arrest, GCS< 8



Level Two	
Significant Injury with high risk of needing lifesaving intervention	Examples-Facial trauma with NO airway compromise, pelvic fractures with no shock, suspected pelvic fracture, multiple long bone fractures with no shock, known solid organ injury, amputation of distal extremities, open fractures, penetrating trauma with no arterial bleeding and stable vital signs, falls less than body height, GCS 9-13 with LOC< 5min



Level Three	
Patient with moderate risk of needing lifesaving intervention	Examples- Dehydration, possible bone fractures, heat related illnesses , abdominal pain, immobilized with no significant injury, LOC < 5 min, GCS 14-15, superficial soft tissue trauma

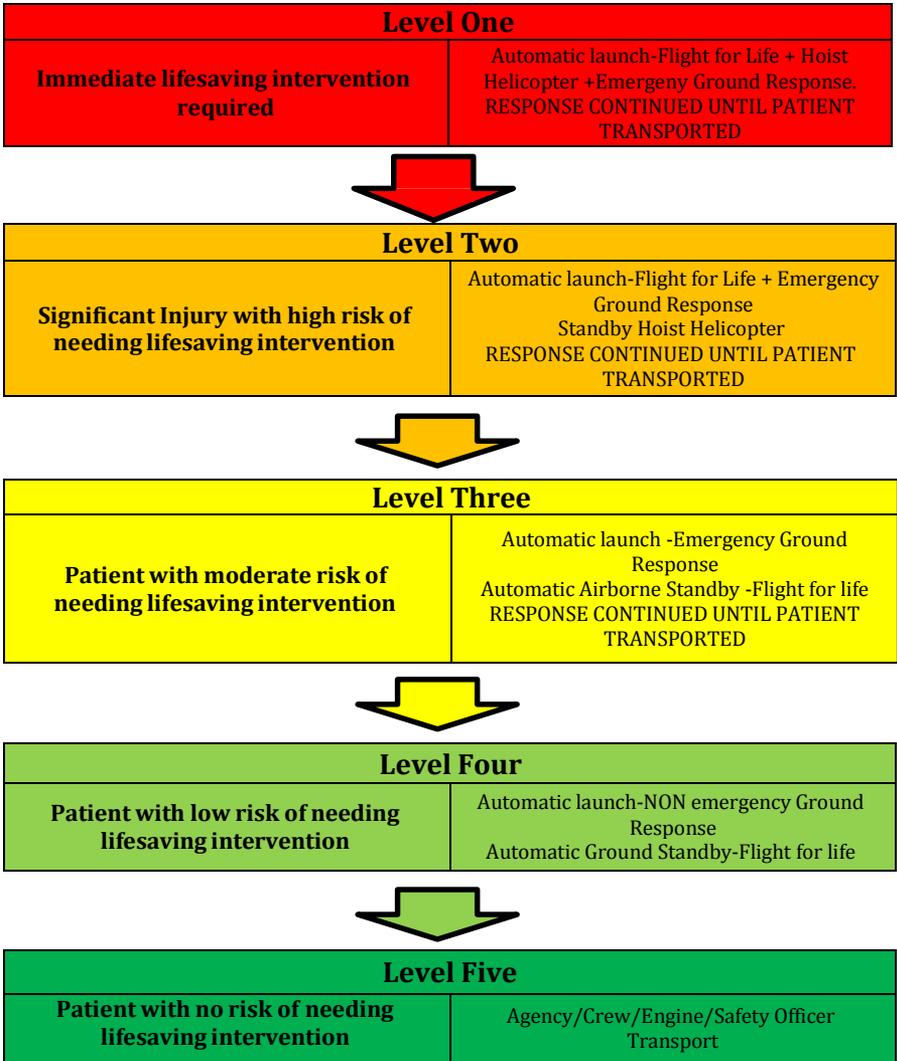


Level Four	
Patient with low risk of needing lifesaving intervention	Examples -General cold, minor lacerations, sprains, strains, flu like symptoms, severe blisters, poison ivy reaction, rash.



Level Five	
Patient with no risk of needing lifesaving intervention	Examples -Nuisance aches and pains, minor blisters, minor sunburns.

Patient Transport Categories



Medical Incident Report

Use items one through nine to communicate situation to communications/dispatch.

1. CONTACT COMMUNICATIONS/DISPATCH

Ex: "Communications, Div. Alpha. Stand-by for Priority Medical Incident Report." (If life threatening request designated frequency be cleared for emergency traffic.)

2. INCIDENT STATUS: Provide incident summary and command structure

Nature of Injury/Illness		Describe the injury (Ex: Broken leg with bleeding)
Incident Name:		Geographic Name + "Medical" (Ex: Trout Meadow Medical)
Incident Commander:		Name of IC
Patient Care:		Name of Care Provider (Ex: EMT Smith)

3. INITIAL PATIENT ASSESSMENT: Complete this section for each patient. This is only a brief, initial assessment. Provide additional patient info after completing this 9 Line Report. See page 100 for detailed Patient Assessment.

Number of Patients:	Male/Female	Age:	Weight:
Conscious?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO = MEDEVAC!		
Breathing?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO = MEDEVAC!		
Mechanism of Injury:			
Lat./Long. (Datum WGS84) Ex. N40° 42.5' x W 123° 03.24'			

4. SEVERITY OF EMERGENCY, TRANSPORT PRIORITY

SEVERITY	TRANSPORT PRIORITY
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT-RED Life threatening injury or illness. Ex: Unconscious, difficulty breathing, bleeding severely, 2°-3° burns more than 4 palm sizes, heat stroke, disoriented.	Ambulance or MEDEVAC helicopter. Evacuation need is IMMEDIATE .
<input type="checkbox"/> PRIORITY-YELLOW Serious injury or illness. Ex: Significant trauma, not able to walk, 2°-3° burns not more than 1-2 palm sizes	Ambulance or consider air transport if at remote location. Evacuation may be DELAYED .
<input type="checkbox"/> ROUTINE-GREEN Not a life threatening injury or illness. Ex: Sprains, strains, minor heat-related illness	Non-Emergency. Evacuation considered Routine of Convenience .

ICS-206

Medical Plan	1. Incident Name	2. Date Prepared	3. Time Prepared	4. Operational Period			
	CO-DRC Wide	4/12/2014	900	2014 Fire Season			
5. Incident Medical Aid Station							
Medical Aid Stations		Location		Paramedics			
Duty Stations		Throughout Zone		Yes		No	
						X	
6. Transportation							
A. Ambulance Services							
Name	Address		Phone	Paramedics			
				Yes		No	
Local Fire Departments	Throughout the CO-DRC Unit. Dispatch can contact closest.		911	X			
Upper San Juan Ambulance	189 N. Pagosa Blvd, Pagosa Springs, CO		911 OR 970-731-5812	X			
Southwest Memorial Ambulance	1311 NMildred Rd, Cortez, CO		911 OR 970-564-2020	X			
B. Air Ambulance or Flight for Life							
Name	Location		Phone	Paramedics			
				Yes		No	
Flight for Life	1010 ThreeSprings Blvd		1-800-332-3123	X			
Tri-State Care Flight	1934 E. 2nd Ave, Durango CO		1-800-800-0900	X			
Air Care 1	801 W. Maple, Farmington, NM		1-800-452-9990	X			
St. Mary's Care Flight	2635 North 7th Street, Grand Junction, CO		1-800-332-4923	X			
7. Hospitals							
<i>* Travel Times not shown due to geographic extent of this plan</i>							
Name	Address	GPS Location	Phone	Helipad		Burn Center	
				Y	N	Y	N
Mercy Regional Medical Center	1010 ThreeSprings Blvd, Durango, CO	37° 14.163'x 107° 49.654'	970-247-4311	X			X
Pagosa Springs Medical Center	95 S. Pagosa Blvd, Pagosa Springs, CO	37° 15.148'x 107° 4.697'	970-731-3700	X			X
Southwest Memorial Hospital	1311 NMildred Rd, Cortez, CO	37° 21.779'x 108° 34.478'	970-565-6666	X			X
San Juan Regional Medical Center	801 W Maple St, Farmington, NM	36° 43.459'x 108° 13.082'	505-609-2000	X			X
7. Hospitals Continued							
<i>* Travel Times not shown due to geographic extent of this plan</i>							
Name	Address	GPS Location	Phone	Helipad		Burn Center	
				Y	N	Y	N
University of New Mexico Hospital	2211 Lomas Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM	36° 5.274'x 106° 37.126'	505-272-2111	X		X	
University of Colorado Hospital	12605 E 16 th Ave, Aurora, CO	39° 44.528'x 104° 50.573'	720-848-0000	X		X	
8. Medical Emergency Procedures							
<i>See page 24 of CO-DRC Incoming Resource Briefing Guide for this information.</i>							
Prepared by (Engine Captain)				Reviewed by (Unit FMO)			
/s/ Brad Pietruszka				/s/ Richard Bustamante			

Air Ambulance Information Supplement to ICS-206

Company	Flight for Life	St. Mary's Care Flight	Tri State Care Flight	Air Care One
Location	Durango, CO	Grand Junction, CO	Durango, CO	Farmington, NM
Phone #	1-800-332-3123	800-422-2254 or 911	970-375-7989 or 911	800-452-9990 or 911
Aircraft Make	A Star B-3	A Star B-3	A Star 350 B-3 or A-109	Bell 429
Day Operations Landing Zone	100'x100' Unimproved	100'x100' Flat, no debris	100'x100' Unimproved	100'x100' Unimproved
Night Operations?	Yes, Night vision equipped			
Night Operations Landing Zone Specifications	100'x100', Glow sticks on LZ corners, Wind indicator	100'x100', Glow sticks on LZ corners, Wind indicator	100'x100', Glow sticks on	100'x100', Glowsticks on
			LZ corners, Wind indicator	LZ corners, Wind indicator
Elevation Limit	14,000' MSL	12,000' MSL		
Communications	VFIRE21 154.280 Tx & Rx, Tx Tone 156.7			

Burn Injury Protocol

The following standards will be used when any firefighter sustains burn injuries, regardless of agency jurisdiction.

After on-site medical response, initial medical stabilization, and evaluation are completed, the Agency Administrator or designee having jurisdiction for the incident and/or firefighter representative (e.g. Crew Boss, Medical Unit Leader, Compensations for Injury Specialist, etc.) should coordinate with the attending physician to ensure that a firefighter whose injuries meet any of the following burn injury criteria is immediately referred to the nearest regional burn center.

It is imperative that action is expeditious, as burn injuries are often difficult to evaluate and may take 72 hours to manifest themselves. These criteria are based upon American Burn Association criteria as warranting immediate referral to an accredited burn center.

The decision to refer the firefighter to a regional burn center is made directly by the attending physician or may be requested of the physician by the agency administrator or designee having jurisdiction and/or firefighter representative.

The Agency Administrator or designee for the incident will coordinate with the employee's home unit to identify a Workers Compensation liaison to assist the injured employee with workers compensation claims and procedures.

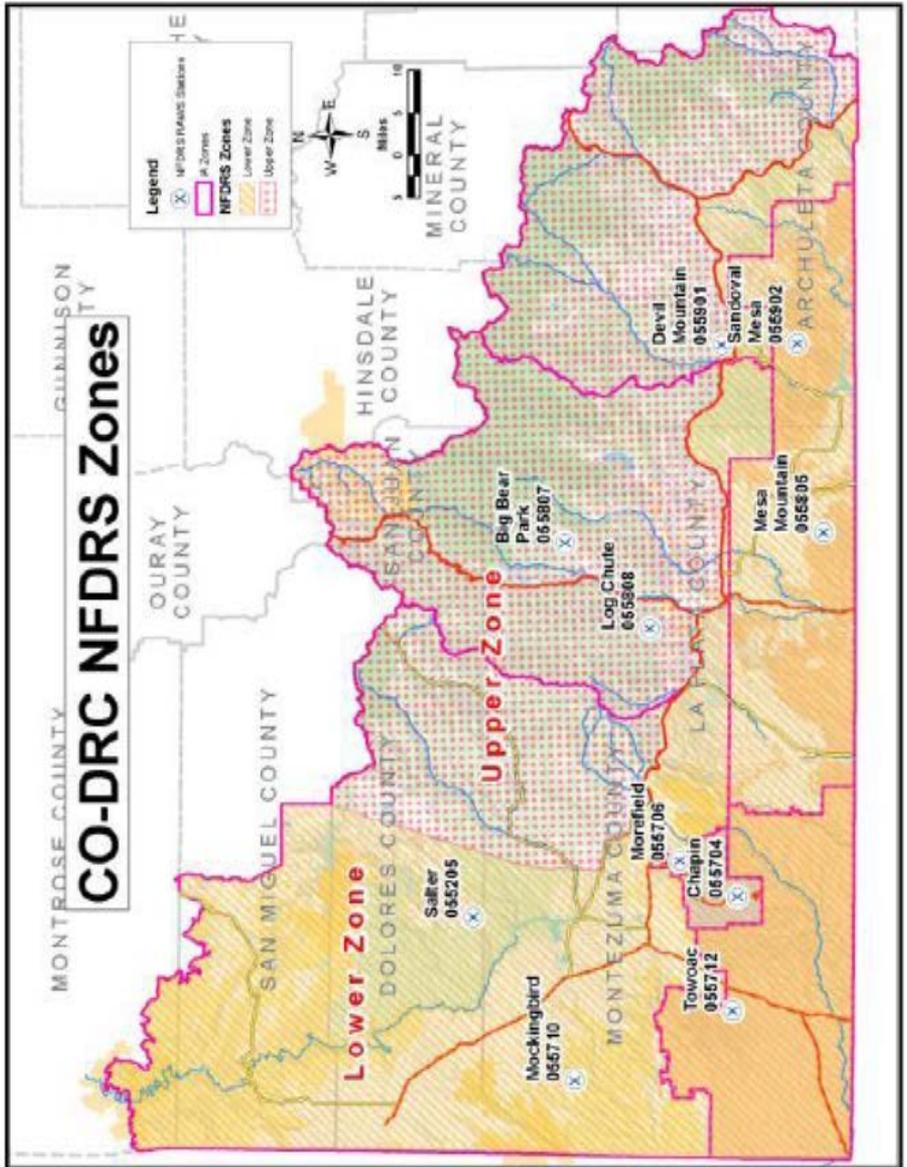
Workers Compensation benefits may be denied in the event that the attending physician does not agree to refer the firefighter to a regional burn center.

During these rare events, close consultation must occur between the attending physician, the firefighter, the Agency Administrator or designee and/or firefighter representative, and the firefighter's physician to assure that the best possible care for the burn injuries is provided.

Burn Injury Criteria

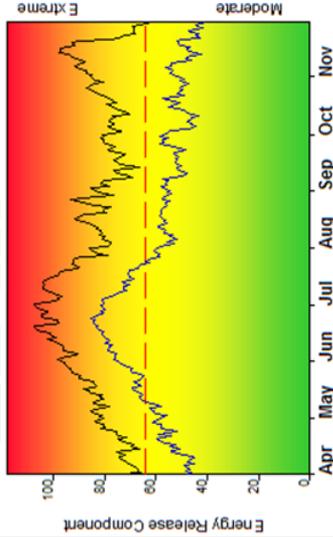
- Partial thickness burns (second degree) involving greater than 5% Total Body Surface Area (TBSA).
- Burns (second degree) involving the face, hands, feet, genitalia, perineum, or major joints.
- Third-degree burns of any size are present.
- Electrical burns, including lightning injury are present.
- Inhalation injury is suspected.
- Burns are accompanied by traumatic injury (such as fractures).
- Individuals are unable to immediately return to full duty.
- When there is any doubt as to the severity of the burn injury, the recommended action should be to facilitate the immediate referral and transport of the firefighter to the nearest burn center.

CO-DRC Firefighter Pocket Cards



FIRE DANGER -- CO-DRC Upper Zone

Maximum, Average, and 58th Percentile, based on 15 years data



Fire Danger Area:

- CO-DRC Upper Zone
- KGJT Fire Wx Zone 207
- Salter, DevilMt, Sandoval
- Meets NWCG Wx Station Standards

Fire Danger Interpretation:



EXTREME -- Use extreme caution
(Caution) -- Watch for change
Moderate -- Lower Potential, but always be aware

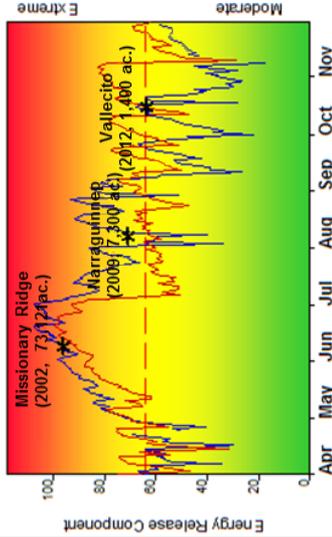
Maximum -- Highest Energy Release Component by day for 1989 - 2013

Average -- shows peak fire season over 15 years (3555 observations)
58th Percentile -- Only 42% of the 3555 days from 1989 - 2013 had an Energy Release Component above 64

Local Thresholds - Watch out:

any of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior:
20' Wind Speed over 9 mph, RH less than 12%,
Temperature over 82, Energy Release Component over 81

Years to Remember: 2002 2012



Fuel Model: G - Short-Needle (Heavy Dead)

Remember what Fire Danger tells you:

- Energy Release Component gives seasonal trends calculated from 2 pm temperature, humidity, daily temperature & rh ranges, and precip duration.
- Wind is NOT part of ERC calculation.
- Watch local conditions and variations across the landscape -- Fuel, Weather, Topography.
- Listen to weather forecasts -- especially WIND.

Past Experience:

Problem fires (over 25 acres) can occur when ERC is 65 or greater in combination with other local threshold values.

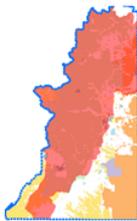
Local Threshold ERC of 81 or greater in combination with other local threshold values has potential for fires to spread beyond 500 acres.

Live fuel moistures in Gambel oak under 120% can lead to extreme fire behavior in combination with other local threshold values.

Responsible Agency: USFS, BLM, BIA, NPS

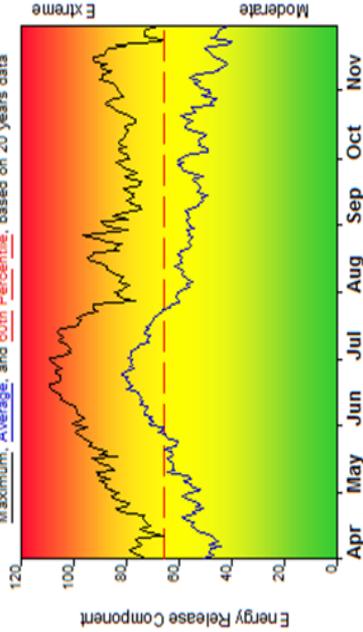
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Design by NWCG Fire Danger Working Team



FIRE DANGER -- CO-DRC Lower Zone

Maximum, Average, and 60th Percentile, based on 20 years data



Fire Danger Area:

- ◆ CO-DRC Lower Zone
- ◆ KGJT Fire Wx Zone 207
- ◆ Chapin, Morefield, MesaMt
- ◆ Meets NWCG Wx Station Standards

Fire Danger Interpretation:



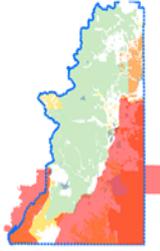
EXTREME — Use extreme caution
(Caution) — Watch for change
Moderate — Lower Potential, but always be aware

Maximum — Highest Energy Release Component by day for 1994 - 2013

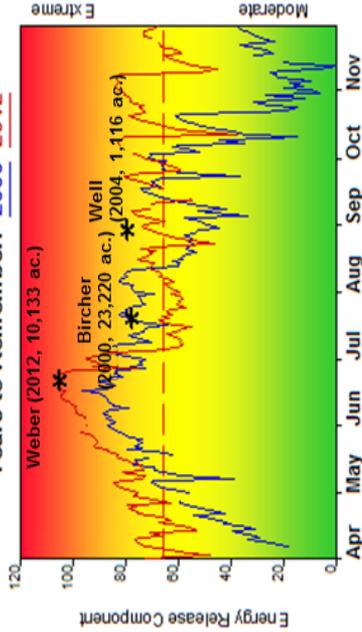
Average — shows peak fire season over 20 years (4415 observations)

60th Percentile — Only 40% of the 4415 days from 1994 - 2013 had an Energy Release Component above 60

Local Thresholds - Watch out: Combinations of any of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior:
 20+ Wind Speed over 9 mph, RH less than 15%,
 Temperature over 83, Energy Release Component over 74



Years to Remember: 2000 2012



Fuel Model: G - Short-Needle (Heavy Dead)

Remember what Fire Danger tells you:

- ✓ Energy Release Component gives seasonal trends calculated from 2 pm temperature, humidity, daily temperature, & rh ranges, and precip duration.
- ✓ Wind is NOT part of ERC calculation.
- ✓ Watch local conditions and variations across the landscape — Fuel, Weather, Topography.
- ✓ Listen to weather forecasts — especially WIND.

Past Experience:

Problem fires (over 60 acres) can occur when ERC is 67 or greater in combination with other local threshold values.

Local Threshold ERC of 74 or greater in combination with other local threshold values has potential for fires to spread beyond 500 acres.

20 foot winds of 10 miles per hour or greater in combination with RH below 9% and ERC's over 82 have led to the largest fires on the unit.

Responsible Agency: USFS, BLM, BIA, NPS
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