

**FORT COLLINS INTERAGENCY WILDFIRE DISPATCH  
CENTER AND AVIATION SERVICE CENTER**

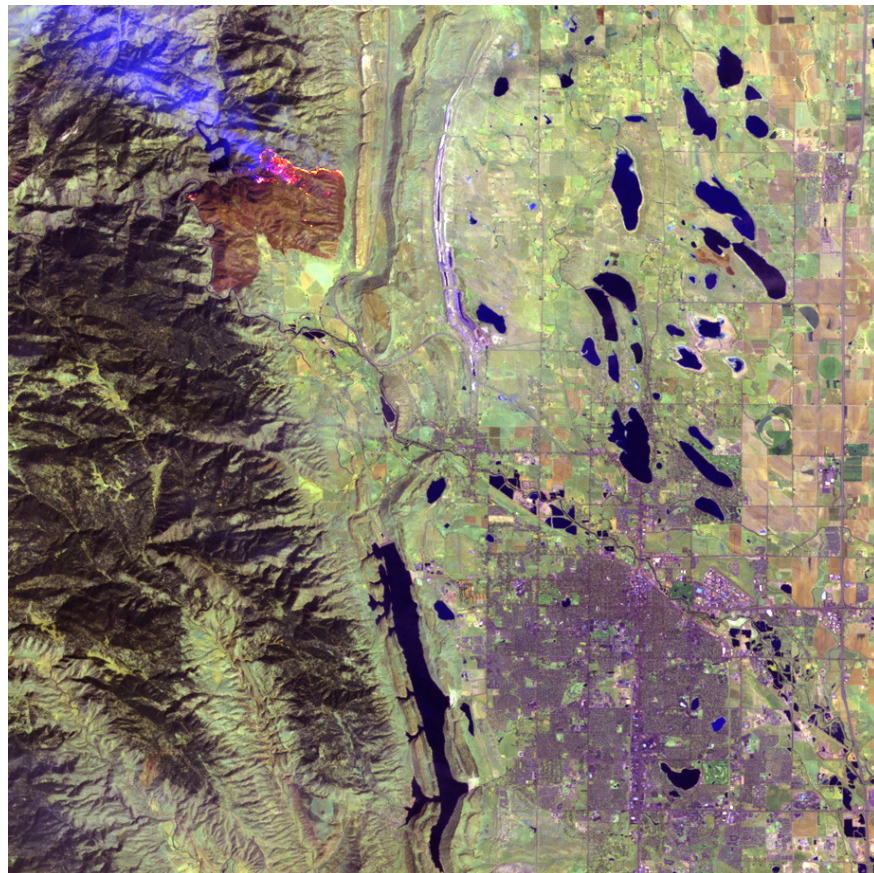
***2004 ANNUAL REPORT***



***ARAPAHO-ROOSEVELT NATIONAL FORESTS  
AND PAWNEE NATIONAL GRASSLAND***

*Prepared by: Mark S. Nelson*

*COMBINED REPORT: Agency specific information may need to be extrapolated.*



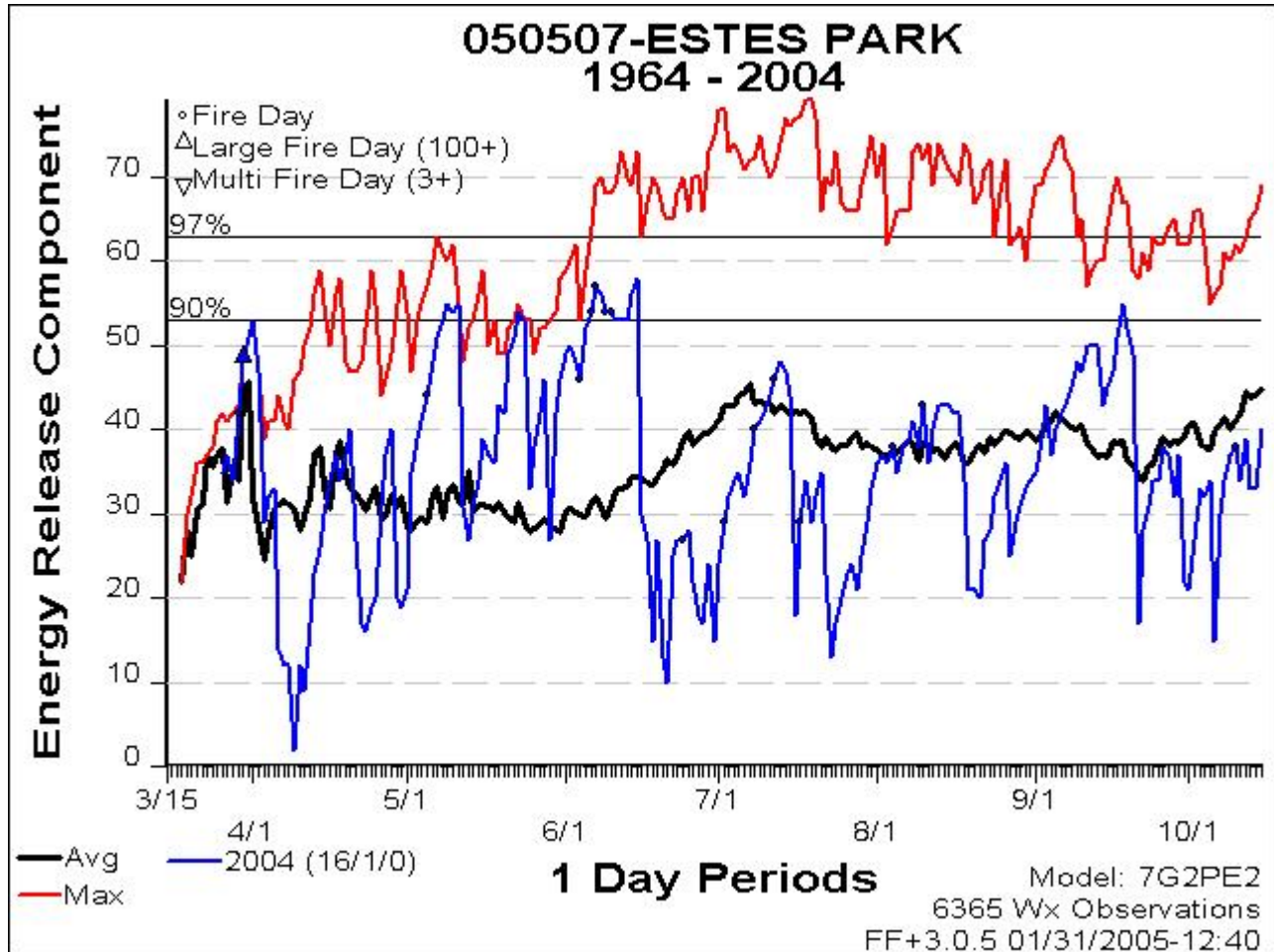
*Satellite Image of the Picnic Rock Fire 2004*

**FTC WEBSITE:** <http://www.fs.fed.us/arnf/fire/fire.html>

**2004 FTC NARRATIVE/SUMMARY:**

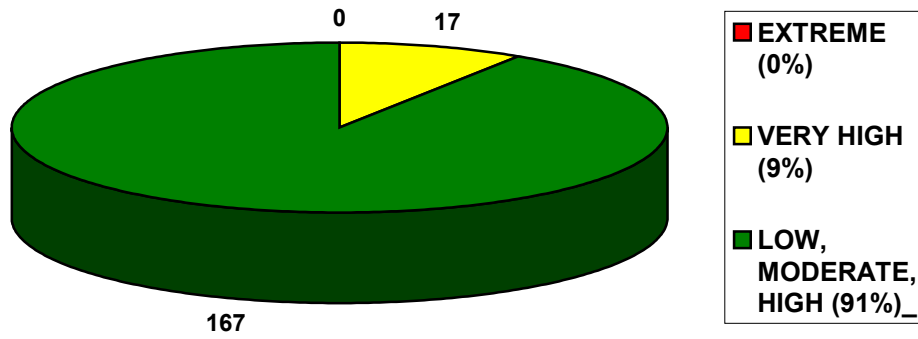
**Weather/Seasonal Severity:** The 2004 fire season was dominated by a continuing drought situation through the early spring. (See chart below). Spring moisture started in early April and facilitated a flush green-up. The

**2004 fire season representative ERC chart for the Estes Park weather station**



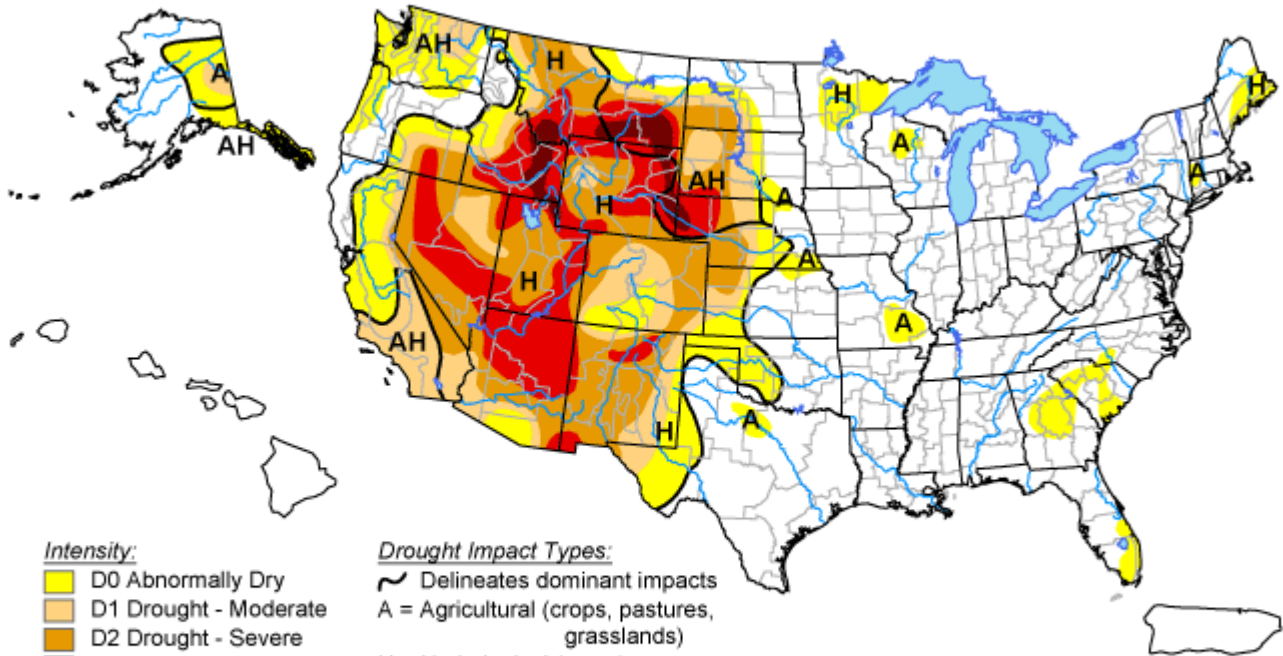
Of the established April 15<sup>th</sup> through October 15<sup>th</sup> fire season (184 days); there were 17 days (9% of fire season) spent above the Very High fire danger rating and 0 days (0% of fire season) spent above the Extreme fire danger level. An average annual fire season would have 18 days (10%) at or above the Very High Fire Danger level and 5-6 days (3%) in the extreme fire danger level (See chart on next page).

2004 FIRE DANGER DAYS BY CLASS  
(Fire Season of April 15th-October 15th = 184 Days)



# U.S. Drought Monitor

July 20, 2004  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



- Intensity:**
- D0 Abnormally Dry
  - D1 Drought - Moderate
  - D2 Drought - Severe
  - D3 Drought - Extreme
  - D4 Drought - Exceptional

- Drought Impact Types:**
- Delineates dominant impacts
  - A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
  - H = Hydrological (water)
  - (No type = Both impacts)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, July 22, 2004

Authors: Candace Tankersley/Richard Heim, NOAA/NCDC

**All Risk:**

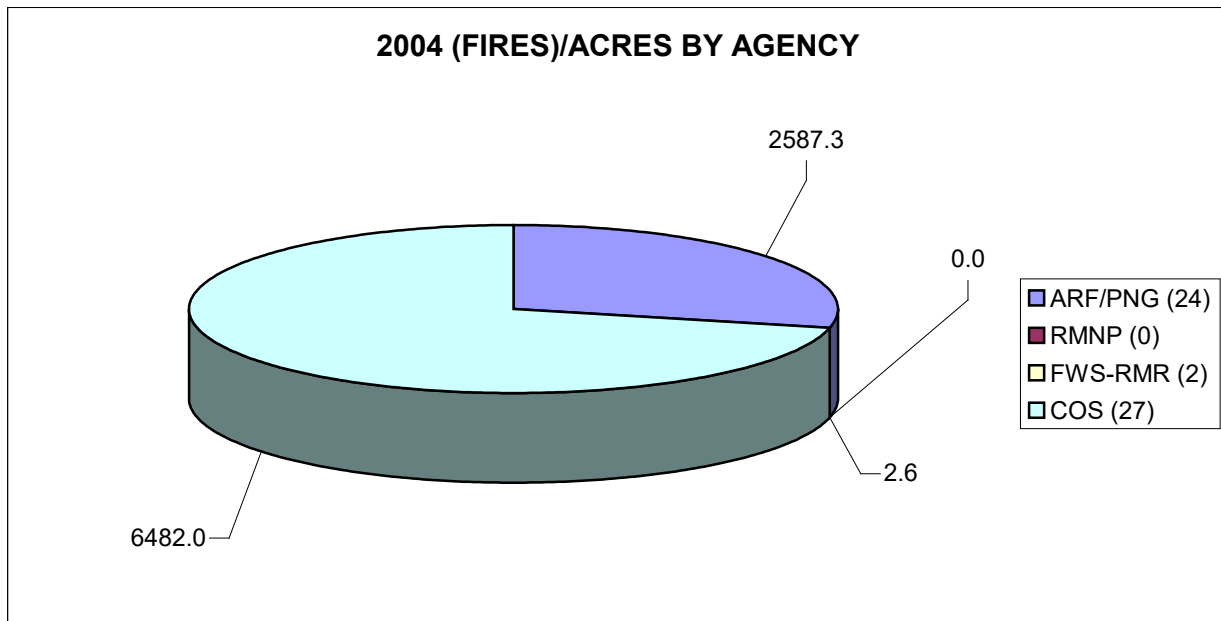
**Initial Attack:** Initial attack activity along the Northern Front Range was below average in occurrence. Acres burned were above average due to the Picnic Rock fire in late March (8,908 Acres). See 2004 Fire Occurrence/Acres compared to five, ten, and forty-five year USFS averages below.

**Regional Support:** Regional support was also below average. The same weather patterns that affected the Northern Front Range also influenced most of the Rocky Mountain Region. Fire activity moderated considerably from the 2003 fire season.

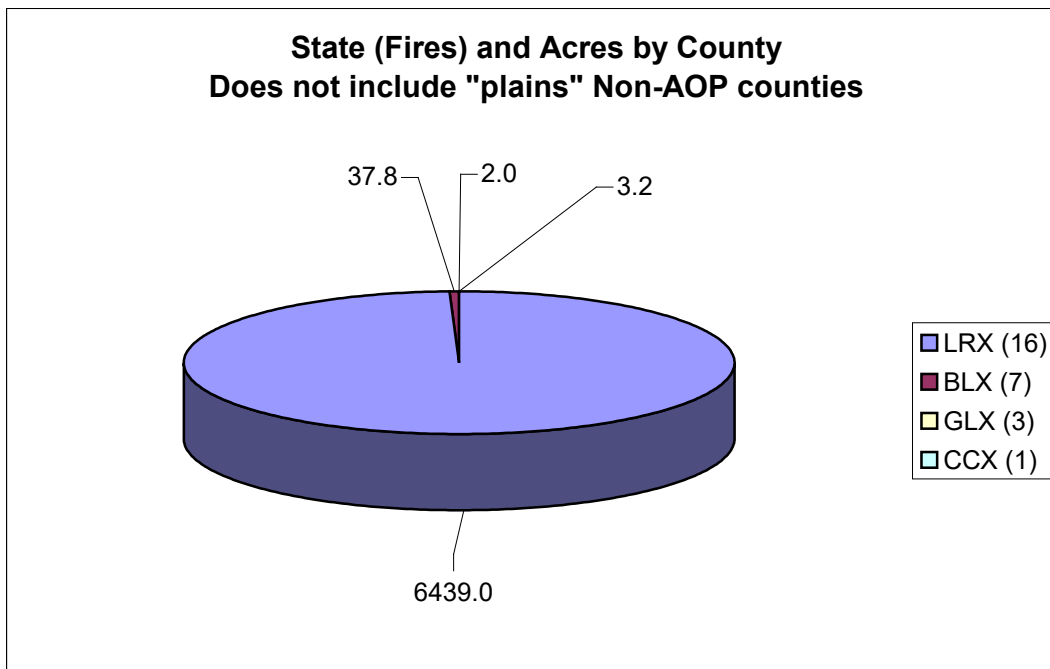
**National Support:** Resources were sent to the following states in 2004: Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, Florida, Alaska, Arizona, . Please see the next page for FTC resource statistics. The largest mobilization was in support of the hurricanes that affected much of the southwest region.

**2004 NORTHERN FRONT RANGE INTERAGENCY FIRE OCCURRENCE/ACRES:**

The Northern Front Range Interagency Cooperators experienced a total of 53 wildfires for a total of 9,071.9 acres. The Interagency breakdown of number of fires (in parentheses) and acres burned are shown in the following chart (does not include the state stats for agricultural/grass fires in Northeast Colorado). These stats are for Fires that received an FTC incident number. State and private statistics are available from the Colorado State Forest Service. Only those incidents that were assigned an FTC incident number or impacted Resource allocation within a county that has a County Annual Operating Plan are reported in this document.



COS Includes: Larimer (LRX), Boulder (BLX), Gilpin (GPX) and Clear Creek (CCX) Counties

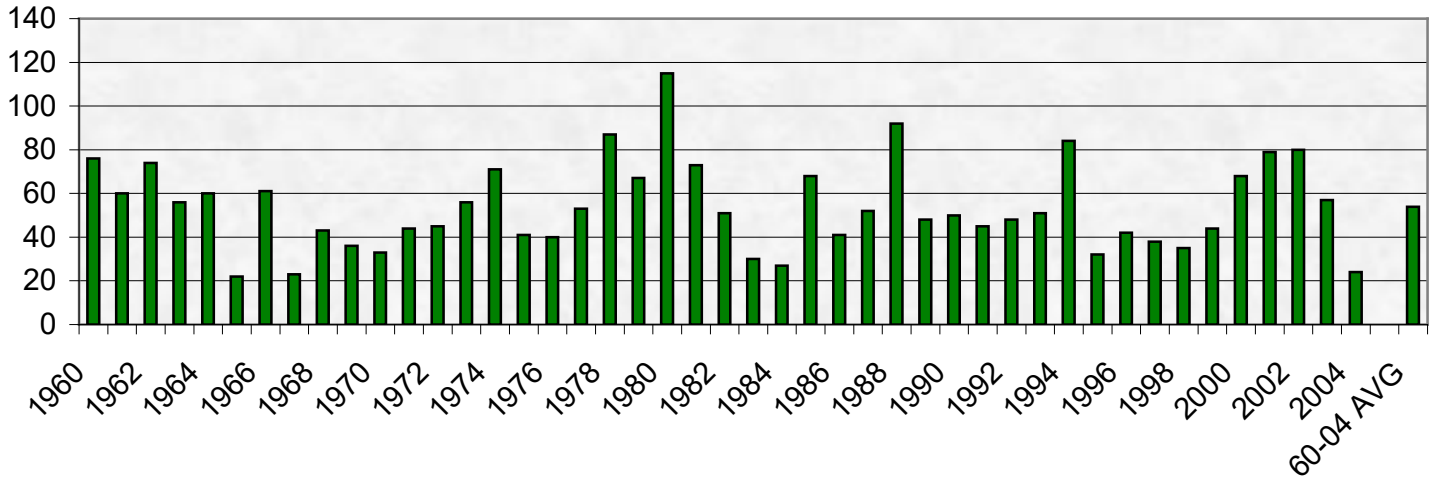


**2004 ARAPAHO-ROOSEVELT N.F./PAWNEE N.G. FIRE OCCURANCE/ACRES:**

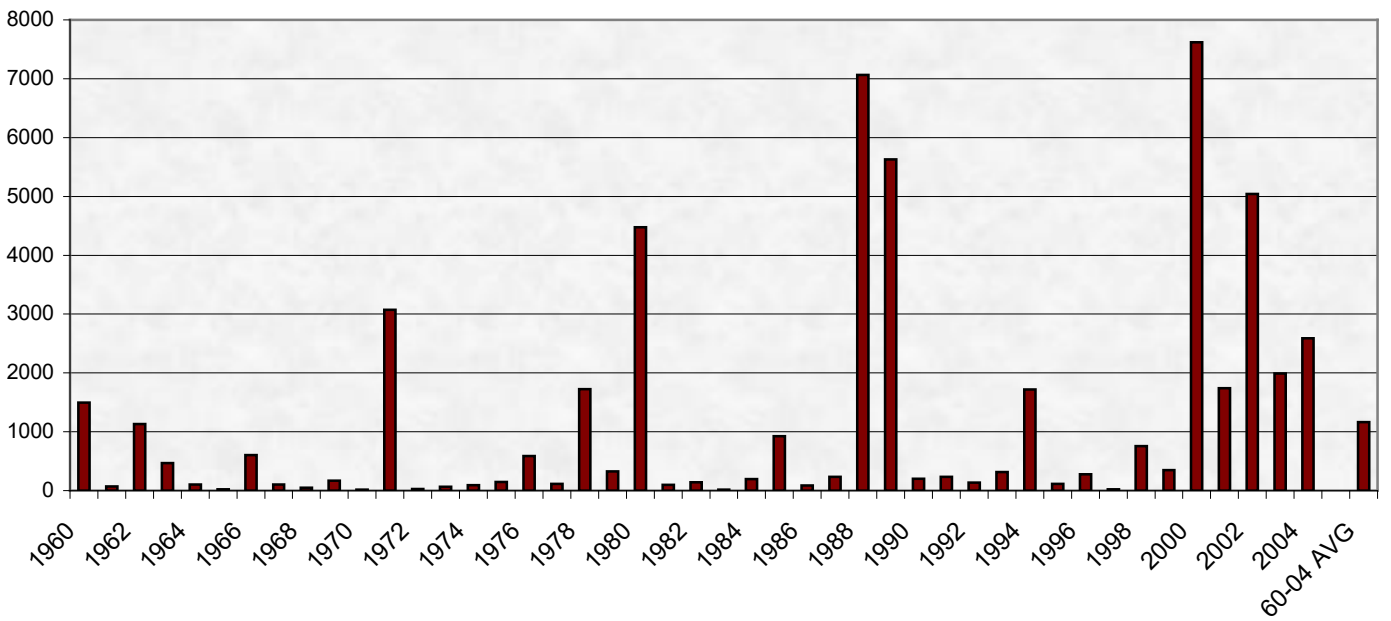
The Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland experienced 24 fires for a total of 2,587.25 acres burned (USFS acres only) in 2004. Of the 24 fires 11 fires (46%) were human caused for 2,566.2 acres. 13 fires (54%) were lightning caused for 12.25 acres. The following bar graphs show the fire occurrence and acres burned from 1960 thru 2004 for the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland. Historical records for the interagency cooperators are not available.

- The 45-year historical average annual fire occurrence and acres burned is: 54 fires for 1,163 acres/year.
- The five-year average annual is: 62 fires for 3,796 acres per year.
- The ten-year average annual is: 50 fires for 2,050 acres per year burned.
- There have been a total of 2,422 fires for 52,350 acres burned from 1960 through 2004 (45 Years).

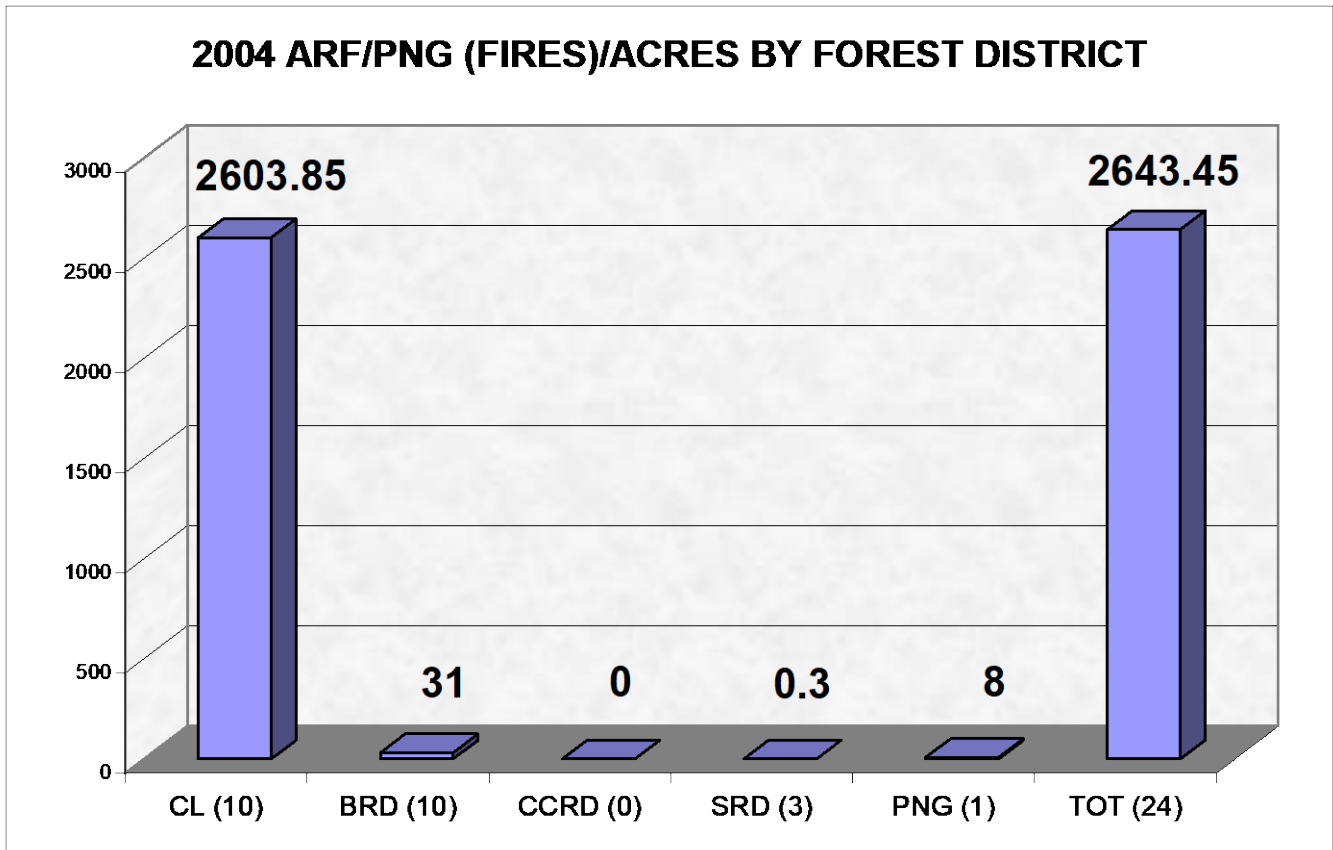
**ARF-PNG # FIRES/YEAR 1960-2004**



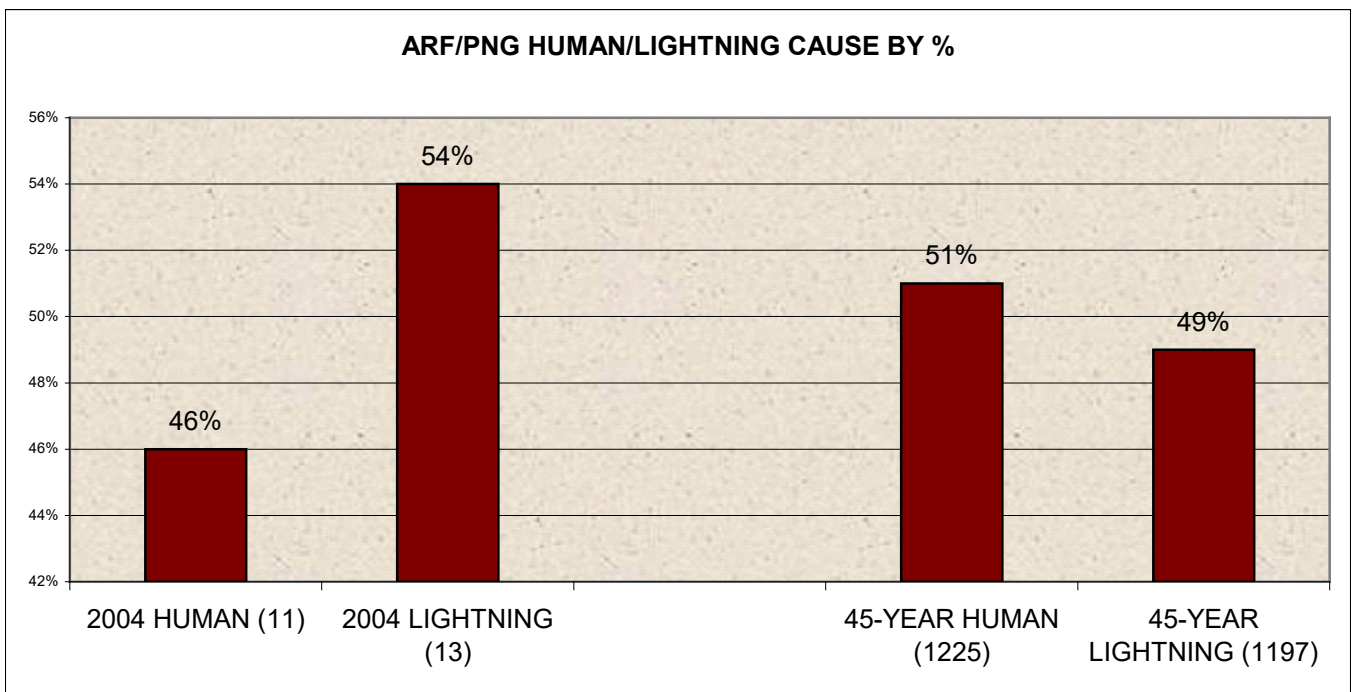
**ARF-PNG ACRES BURNED/YEAR 1960-2004**



The following chart shows the 2004 distribution of (fires) and acres burned by ARNF/PNG district.



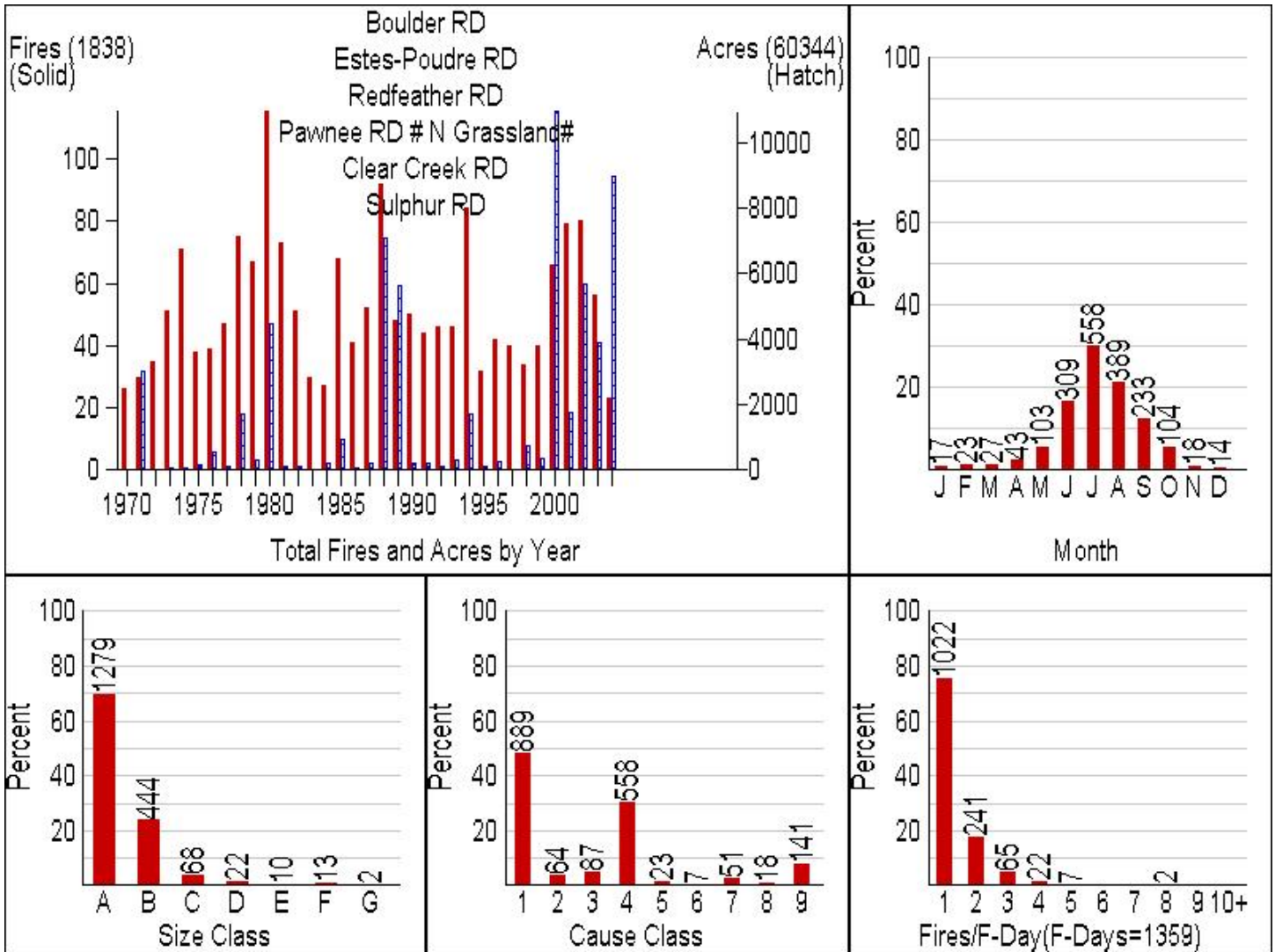
The following chart shows ARNF/PNG fire cause (Human Vs Lightning)  
For 2004 compared to 45-year average.



**The follow series of charts are a compilation of fire records from 1970 to 2004:**

(Does not include Pawnee National Grassland fires)

- The first chart shows fires and acres burned each year (*Includes Non-forest Service acres*).
- Fire occurrence by month (Fire Season).
- Fires by size class: (A: 0-.25) (B: .25-10) (C: 10-100) (D: 100-300) (E: 300-1,000) (F: 1,000-5,000) (G: 5,000+)
- Fires by cause: (1=Lightning) (2=Equipment) (3=Smoking) (4=Campfire) (5=Debris) (6=Railroad) (7=Arson) (8=Children) (9=Miscellaneous)
- Fires per day.





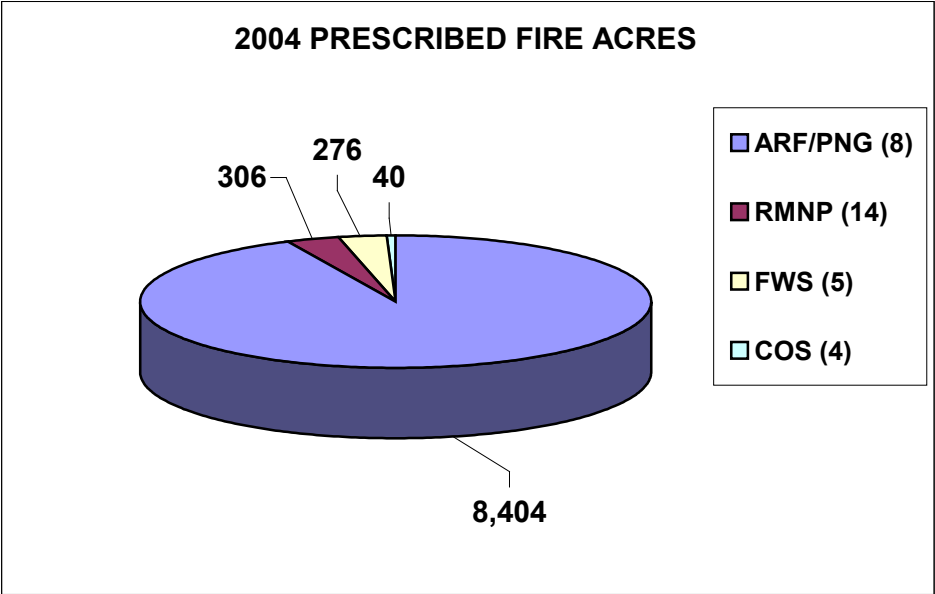
**ARF/PNG LARGE FIRE HISTORY 1960-2004 (300+ ACRES GRASS/100+ ACRES TIMBER):**

<i>YEAR</i>	<i>UNIT</i>	<i>FIRE NAME</i>	<i>ACRES</i>	<i>H/L</i>	<i>YEAR</i>	<i>UNIT</i>	<i>FIRE NAME</i>	<i>ACRES</i>	<i>H/L</i>
1960	PNG	RENO	606	H	1988	BRD	BEAVER LK.	757	H
1960	PNG	TOEDTLI	660	L	1988	BRD	CANYON	2,471	H
1962	CCRD	REST HOUSE	1,007	H	1988	RFRD	SWAN	200	L
1962	RFRD	ROACH	748	H	1989	BRD	BLACKTIGER	1,804	H
1962	EPRD	PALISADE	140	H	1989	RFRD	MOBERLY	364	L
1966	EPRD	COMANCHE	470	H	1989	RFRD	LIVERMORE	1,967	L
1968	CCRD	LINCOLN	740	L	1989	RFRD	EATON RES.	100	H
1971	RFRD	BULL MTN.	2,635	H	1989	PNG	HORSETAIL	1,283	H
1971	RFRD	LOOKOUT	124	L	1990	RFRD	GOODELL	141	L
1971	RFRD	SKYLINE	210	H	1993	EPRD	SNOWTOP	275	L
1976	BRD	COMFORTER	256	H	1994	EPRD	HOURLASS	1,221	L
1976	RFRD	ANSEL #2	250	H	1994	EPRD	EGGERS	370	L
1978	CCRD	RESERVOIR	400	H	1996	EPRD	CRYSTAL	370	L
1978	RFRD	KILLPECKER	1,200	H	1998	RFRD	GREYROCK	130	H
1979	EPRD	PIERSON PARK	312	H	1998	CCRD	BEAR TRACK	477	H
1980	SRD	M.SUPPLY CK.	477	H	2000	CLRD	BOBCAT GULCH	10,599	H
1980	RFRD	BEARTRAP	2,734	H	2001	PNG	SPRING	1,268	H
1980	EPRD	YOUNG GULCH	180	H	2002	CLRD	PREVENT	190	H
1980	PNG	KLINGENSMITH	1,000	L	2002	CLRD	HEWLETT GULCH	500	H
1985	RFRD	GREYROCK	235	L	2002	CLRD	BIG ELK	4,348	H
1985	PNG	McGREW	310	L	2003	BRD	OVERLAND	3,400	H
1988	RFRD	GRACE CK.	2,800	H	2004	CLRD	PICNIC ROCK	8,908	H

**2004 PRESCRIBED FIRE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

The Interagency Cooperators worked on ?? prescribed fire projects for a total of ????? acres treated. Of this total, the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland worked on 8 projects for a total acreage of 8,404 acres. The USFS projects consisted of: Gross Peninsula (402 acres) on the Boulder Ranger District, Dadd Bennett (1,158 Acres) and Sheep Creek #1 (600 Acres) on the Canyon Lakes Ranger District. The Pawnee National Grasslands Plover habitat project accounted for 5,000 Acres. The rest of the acres were for slash pile acres.

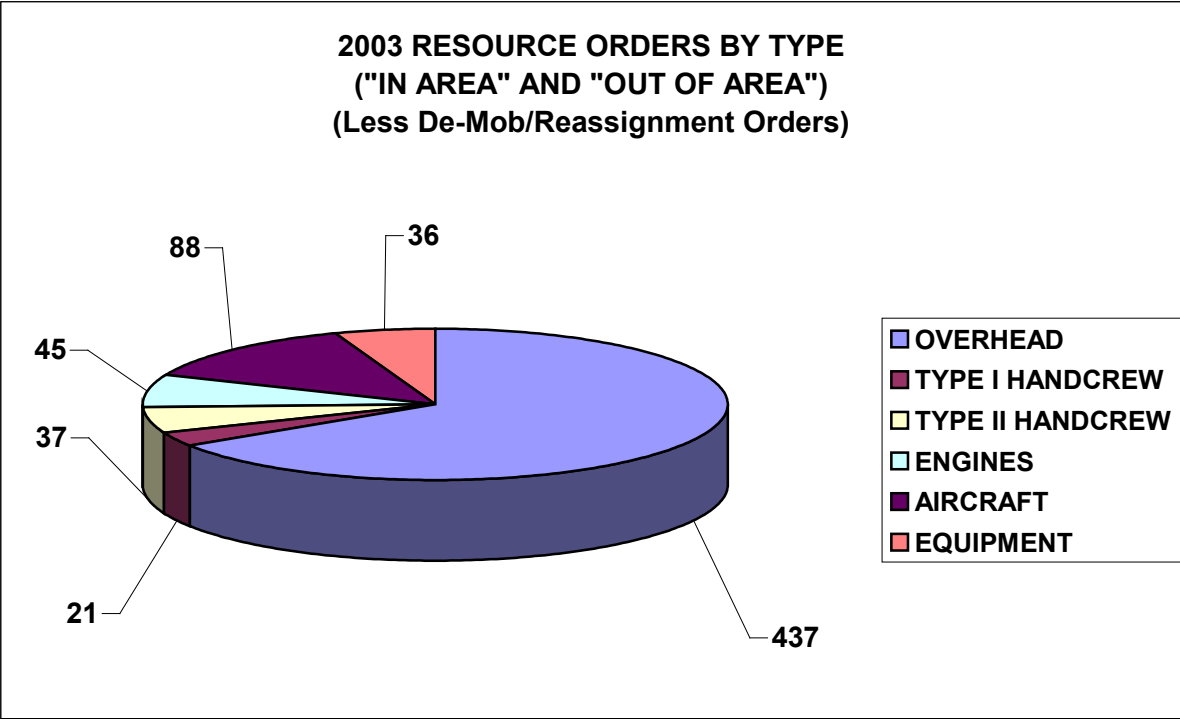
**AWAITING RMNP NUMBERS.**



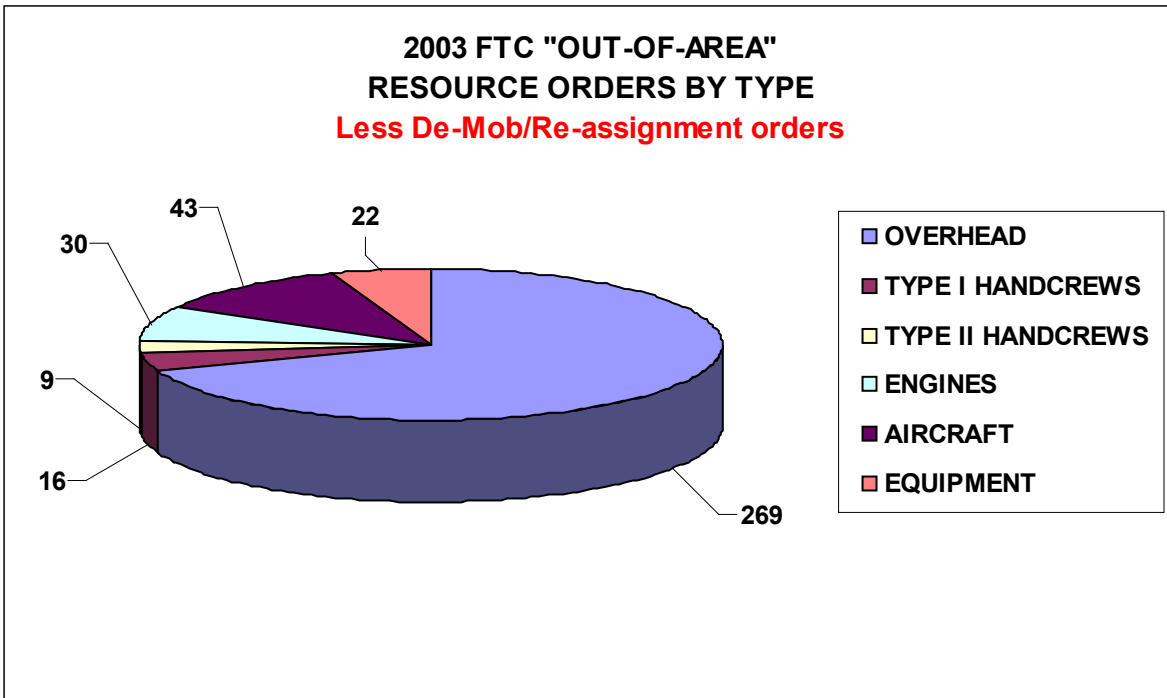
**2004 FORT COLLINS INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER AND AVIATION SERVICE CENTER REPORT:**

FTC filled a total of **670** resource orders. This includes all resource orders for “in-area” and “out-of-area” assignments. *This does not include many resources that were not ordered through official channels (Local I.A.), nor does it include de-mob and reassignment orders for out-of-area resources brought into the area for project fire support.*

The breakdown of resource assignments by type is shown in the following chart.

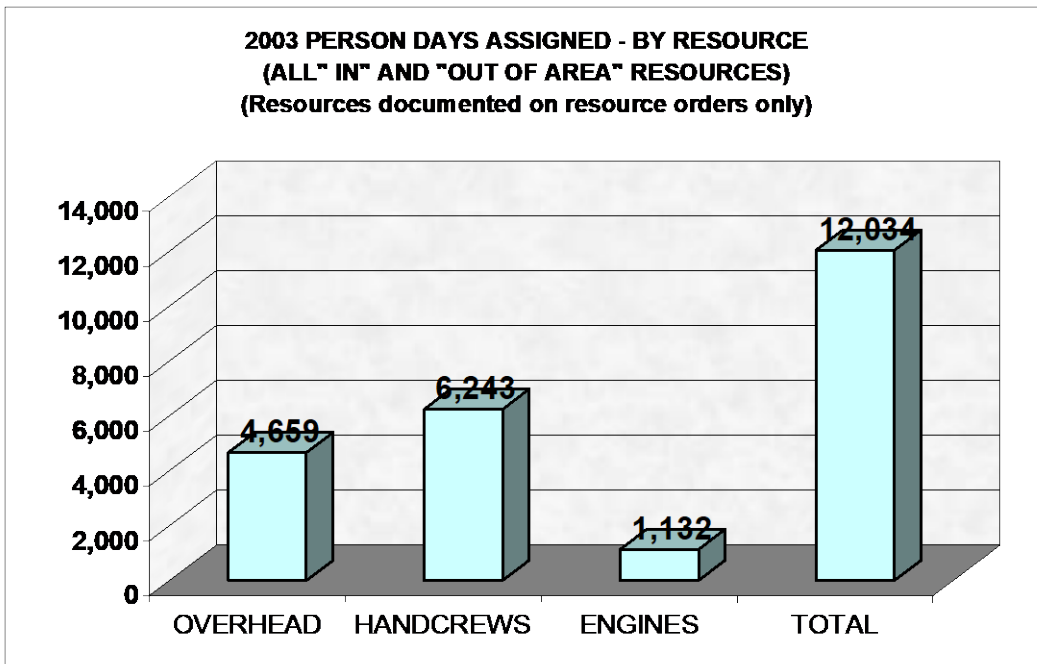


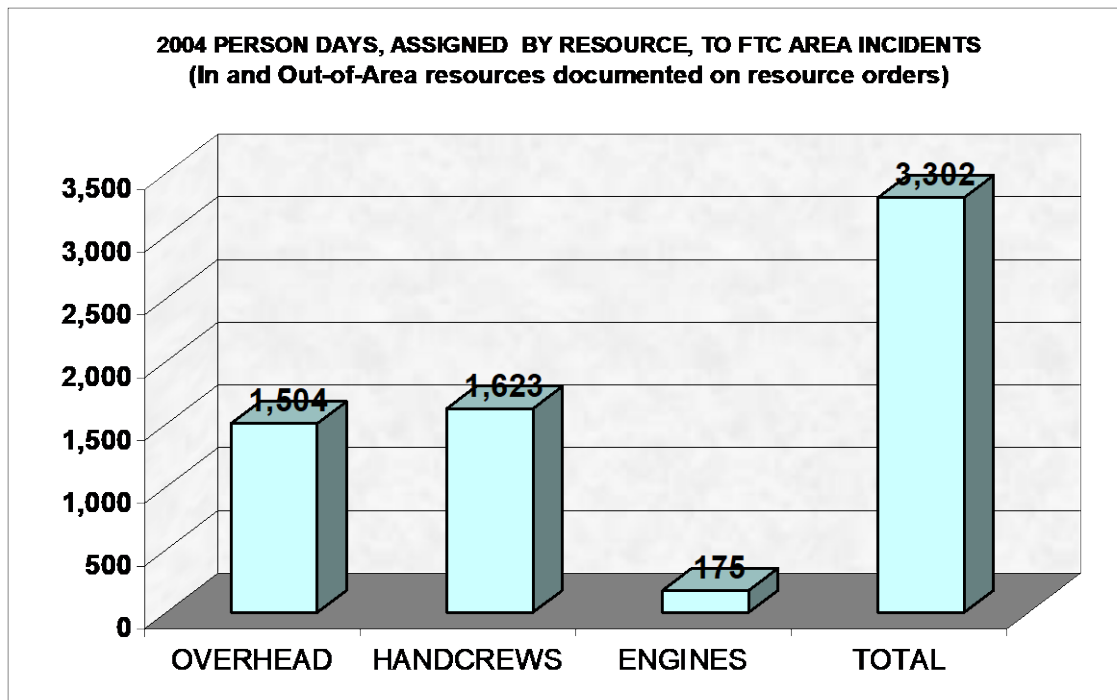
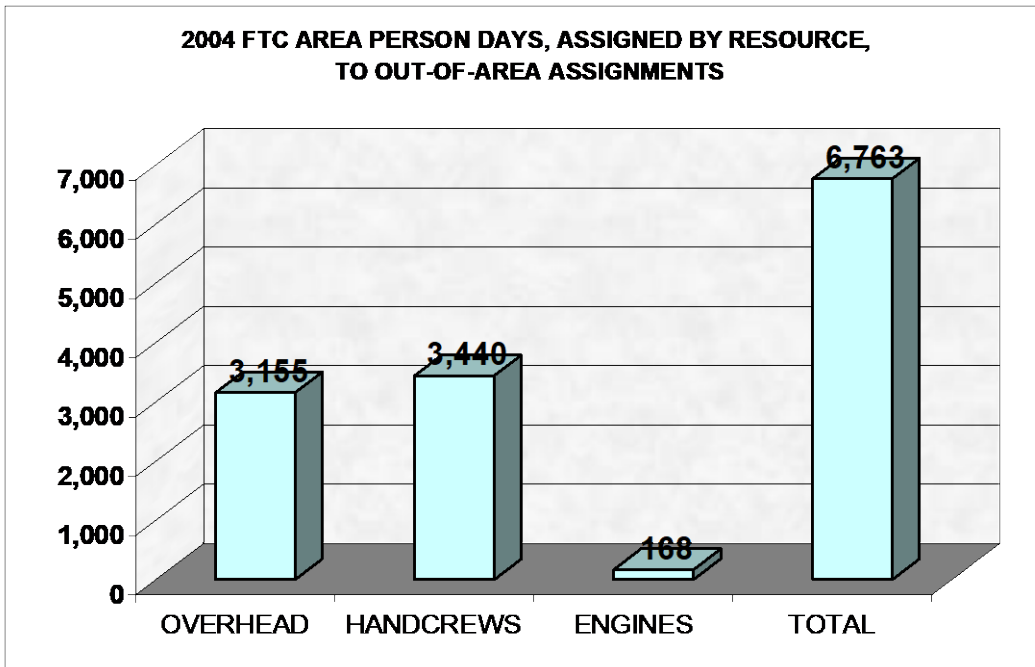
The following chart is FTC resources dispatched in support of regional and national assignments.



There was a total of 12,034 person days *on all assignments documented on resource orders* for the Fort Collins Dispatch Center for the 2003 Fire Season. The following bar graph shows a break down of days by resource type for all in-area and out-of-area resources. (Does not include equipment orders and miscellaneous positions)

Of the total 12,034 person days; 3,302 person days were in support of FTC area fires and 8,732 person days were in support of regional and national incidents.

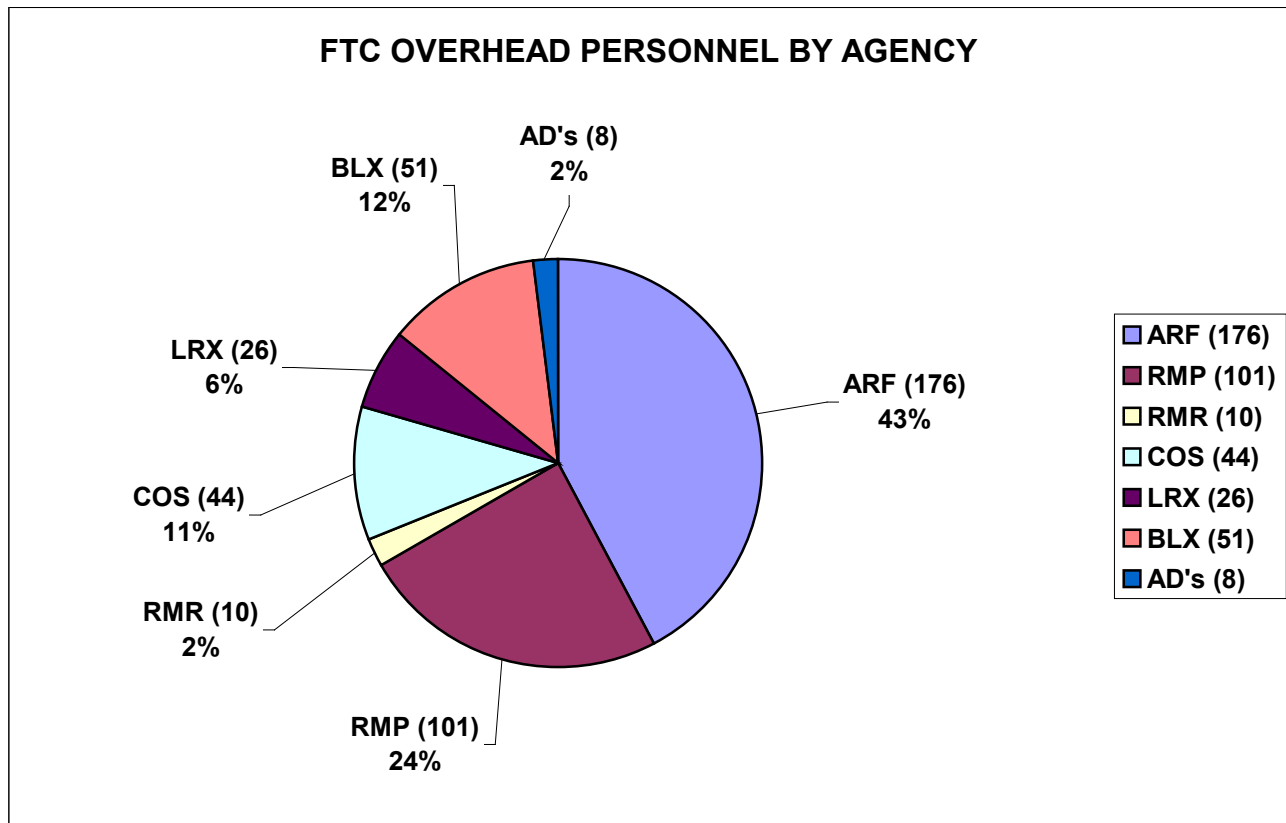




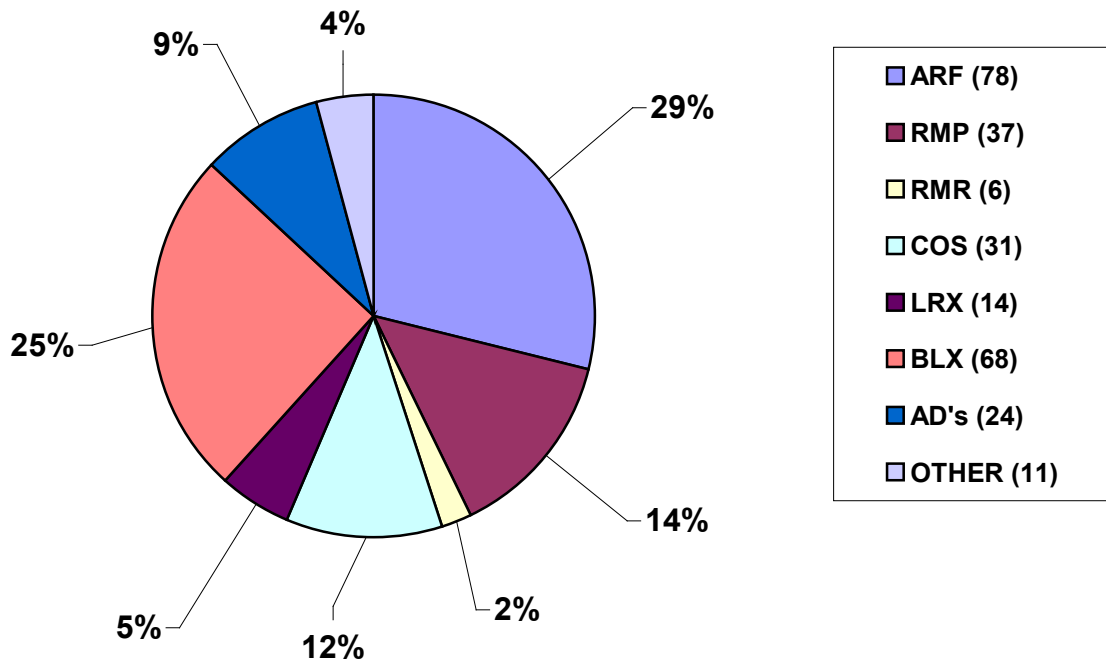
The following two charts show the distribution of incident qualified overhead by agency (Single Resource quals and above only). The number in ( ) shows the number of personnel with an Incident Qualification card by agency. The other number is the percentage of the total Incident Qualified personnel by agency in the FTC Incident Qualified Overhead listing.

The second chart shows the number of personnel assigned to incidents from each agency for 2003. The number in ( ) is the number of Overhead assignments the agency filled. The percentage of the total number of filled Overhead assignments is also denoted. Example: The Arapaho-Roosevelt N.F./Pawnee N.G. have 43% of the total number of Overhead personnel (chart #1) and filled 29% of the Overhead resource orders (chart #2). These numbers are influenced by the amount of commitment required on the home unit due to fire severity.

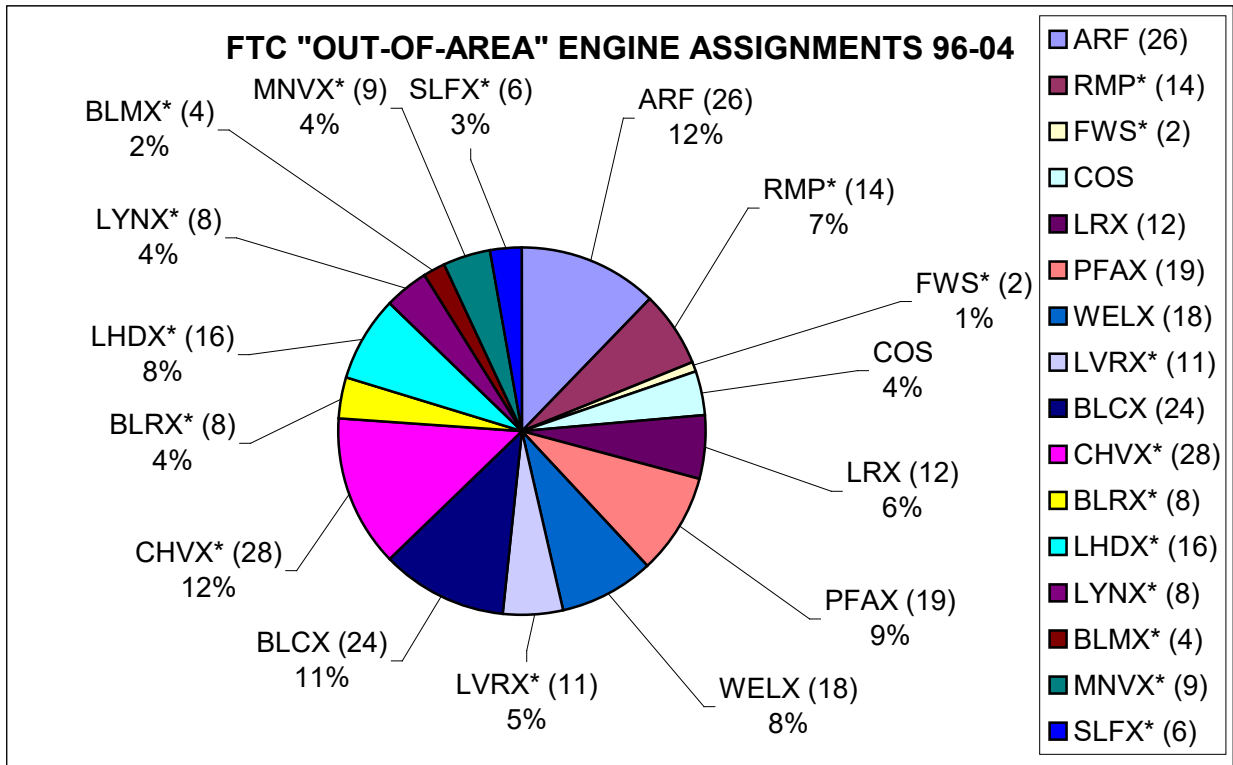
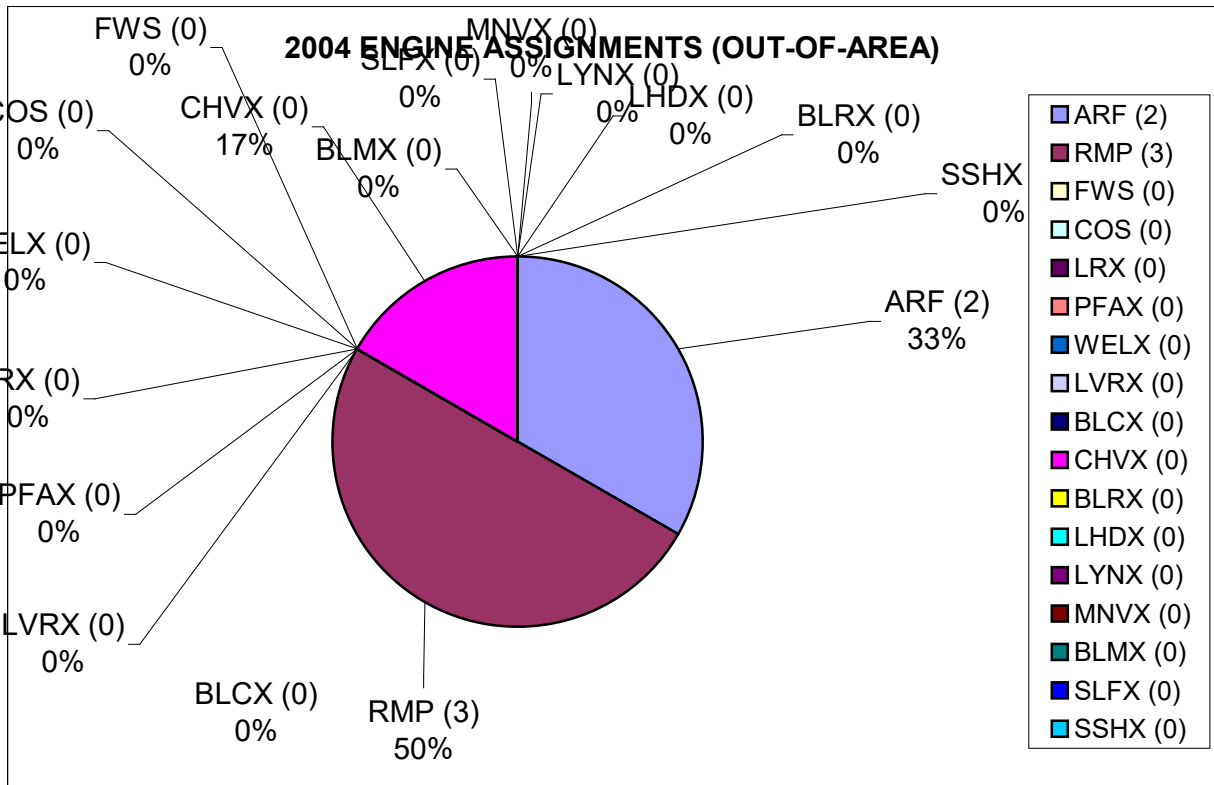
Key to Legend Mnemonics:	ARF	Arapaho-Roosevelt/Pawnee
	RMP	Rocky Mountain National Park
	RMR	Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge
	COS	Colorado State Forest Service
	LRX	Larimer County Sheriff's Department
	PFAX	Poudre Fire Authority
	WELX	Wellington Fire Protection District
	LVRX	Loveland Fire Department
	BLX	Boulder County Sheriff's Department
	BLCX	Boulder Fire Department
	MNVX	Mountain View Fire Department
	CHVX	Cherryvale Fire Protection District
	BLRX	Boulder Rural Fire Protection District
	LHDX	Lefthand Fire Protection District
	LYNX	Lyons Fire Department
	BLMX	Boulder Mountain Fire Department
	SLFX	Sugarloaf Fire Department
	SSHX	Sunshine Fire Protection District



**2003 FTC OVERHEAD ASSIGNMENTS BY AGENCY**  
(Documented on resource orders only)



There were a total of 7 out-of-area engine assignments filled. There were 219 total assignments from 1996 through 2004 (nine years). The average annual number of engine assignments is 24 orders per year.



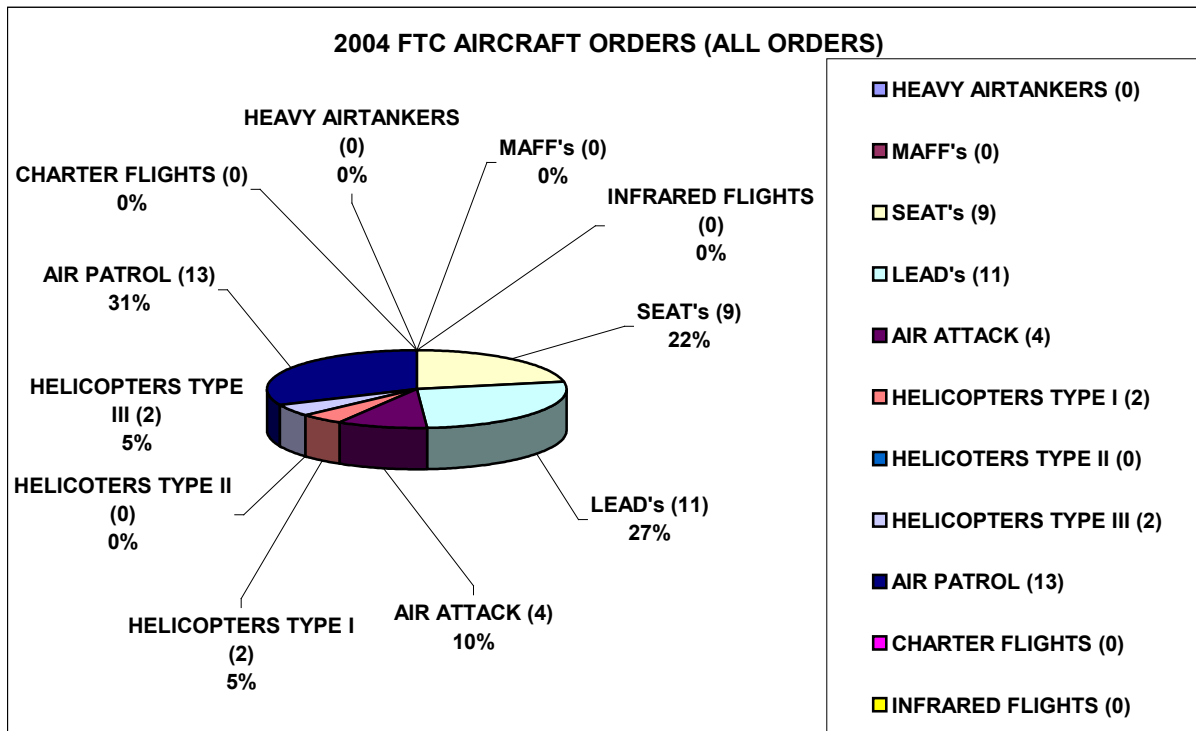
\* Units that have not participated in the engine program for all nine years.

## AVIATION:

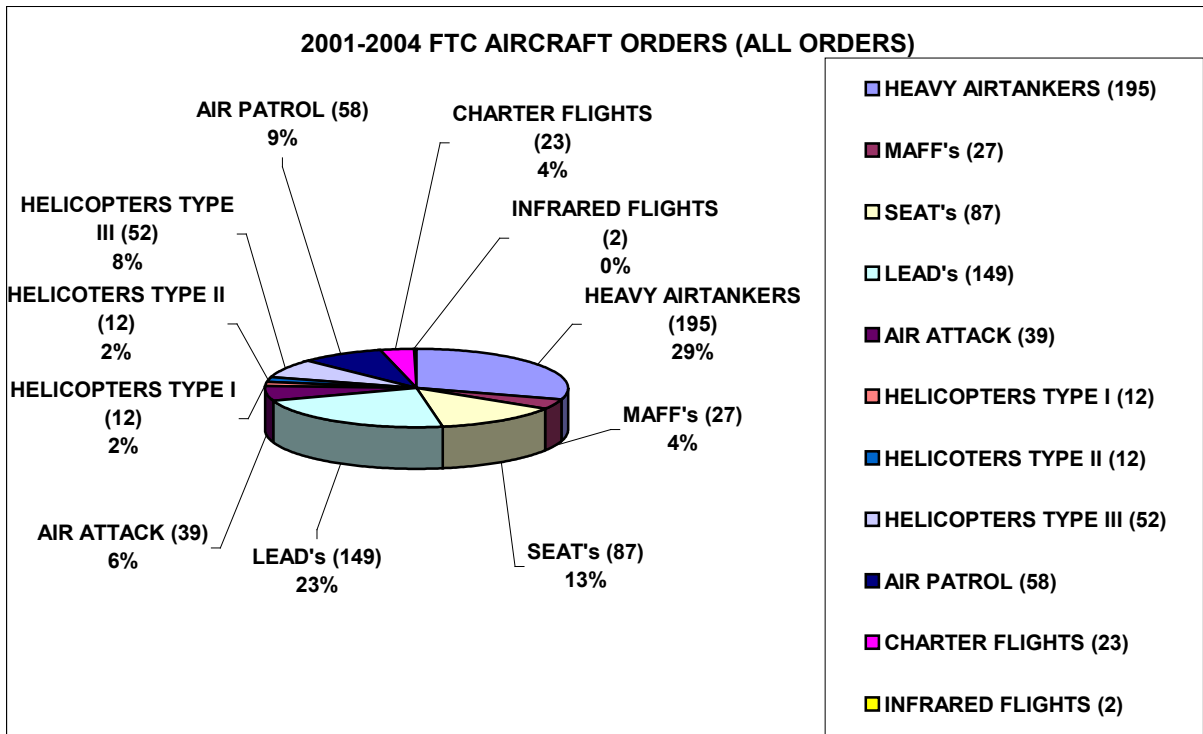
The Redfeather Helicopter was assigned at the Redfeather Work Center from June 17 through July 16. It spent the first two weeks of its assignment on a severity assignment out of the Durango Dispatch Center. It only flew for 2.1 flight hours in support of FTC area fires.

FTC processed 38 aircraft orders during the 2004 fire season. See chart below for breakdown of orders and aviation resource types.

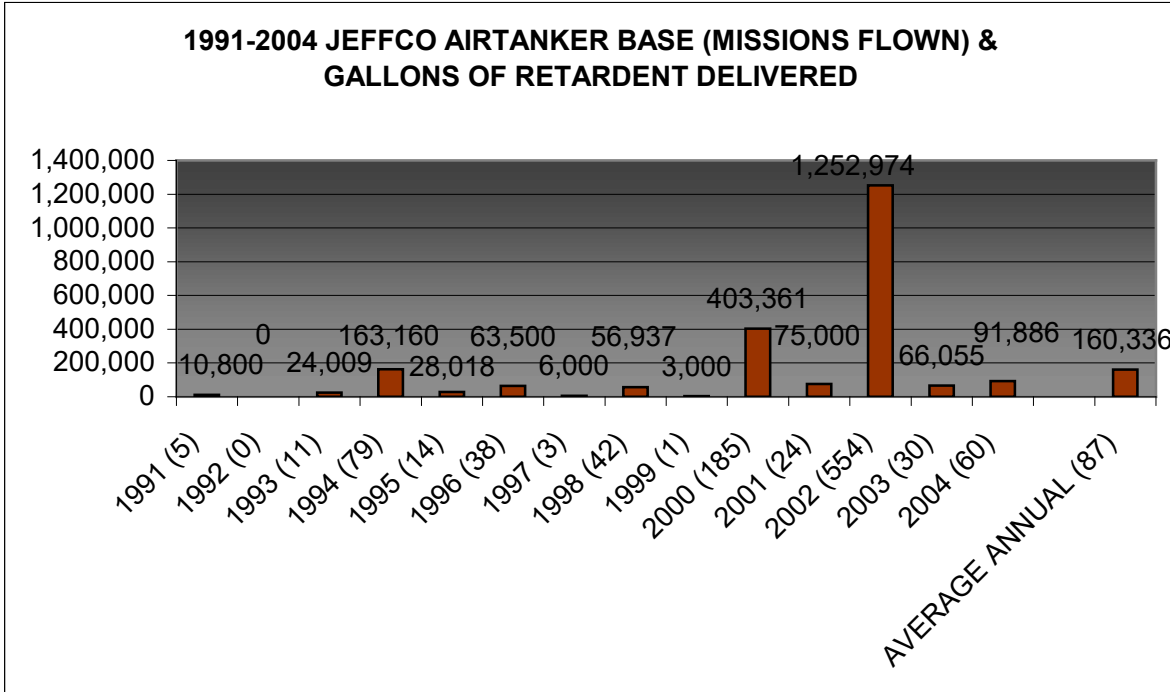
AWAITING BLACKHILL HELICOPTER AND CSFS SEAT NUMBERS.  
HELITANKER/SEAT PHOTOS  
AIRTANKERS GROUNDED







There were 60 missions flown, delivering a 91,886 gallons of retardant, from the Jeffco Airtanker Base in the 2004 fire season. The 5 five year average annual numbers for the Jeffco Airtanker base are 171 missions flown per year and 377,855 gallons of retardant delivered per year.

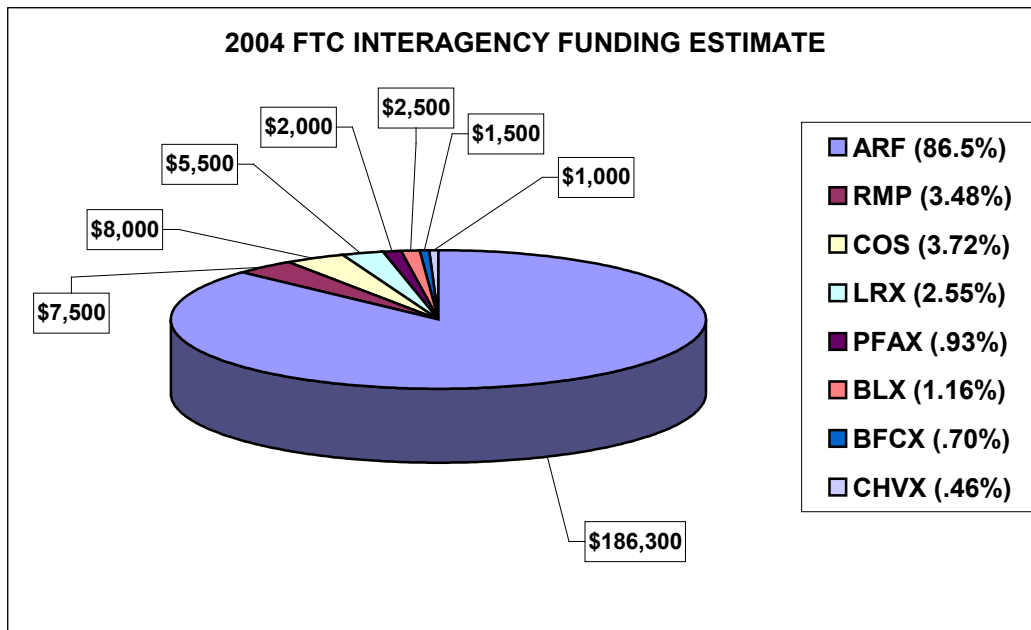


**2004 FORT COLLINS INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER FUNDING:**

In 2004, contributions from state entities accounted for about 10% of FTC's operating funds. The CSFS contribution accounted for less than 4%. The Colorado State Forest Service increased its contribution to

\$8,000 in 2003 but this is grossly inadequate for the amount of workload required to support state entities and resources.

The following chart is the estimated 2004 funding breakdown.



### **FUNDING SUMMARY:**

**Based on this general analysis a fair share funding level from the Colorado State Forest Service (in conjunction with other local agencies) is \$125,100.**

- Data and information is generic and is open to interpretation by individuals. A common federal/state analysis will need to be done if all six Colorado Dispatch Centers request fair share funding.
- Fair share funding should be addressed as a statewide issue.
- The proposed funding levels will probably require Colorado funding legislation.
- Support could be in the form of monetary or staff position(s).
- State should look at designating or creating a Fire Management Officer position within each Dispatch Center area to coordinate state, local, VFD resources, Agreements, payments, qualifications, Emergency Fire Fund, MAC Group Representative, etc... This would help standardize procedures and facilitate a single point of contact for administrative and operational functions related to dispatch center operations.
- State should consider being the "Collection Point" for other agencies (Counties, VFD's, etc...) that currently provide funding to the Dispatch Center(s).

### **2005 EMPHASIS AREAS FOR FTC:**

- Move Dispatch Center to new Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest Supervisor's Office (Fall of 2004).
- Obtain "Fair Share" funding for FTC from state entities.
- FMO/Personnel changes
- Implement new IQCS Qualifications system / Revise CSFS qualifications process.
- Replacement/upgrade of FTS weather stations to new Handar satellite telemetry, radio alert warning system stations at Sulphur and Larimer due to telephone HUB system removal. Preventative maintenance and sensor swaps on existing stations.
- Integrating with proposed Colorado State Office of Emergency Management Dispatch Operation.
- Radio Frequency Authorizations (RFA's) and interagency licensing.

NEW OFFICE-PHOTOS  
FPA/PRE-DSP/FORST WIDE DSP  
IQCS/ROSS  
NFRWFC MOU  
PERSONNEL: FOLEY/ALLUISI  
WX STATIONS-PHOTO  
HURRICANES-PHOTO  
IFPM  
WILDCAD  
WX STATIONS  
NFRWFC MOU UPDATES  
PERSONNEL: FOLEY, ALLUISI, BABLER, FARMER