

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

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



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

Prepared by: Irene C. Mora, Center Manager

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



*Paradise Fire: November 24 2008 in Buckhorn Canyon.
Approximately 90 acres*

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2008 FTC NARRATIVE/SUMMARY:

Initial Attack/Regional and National Support:

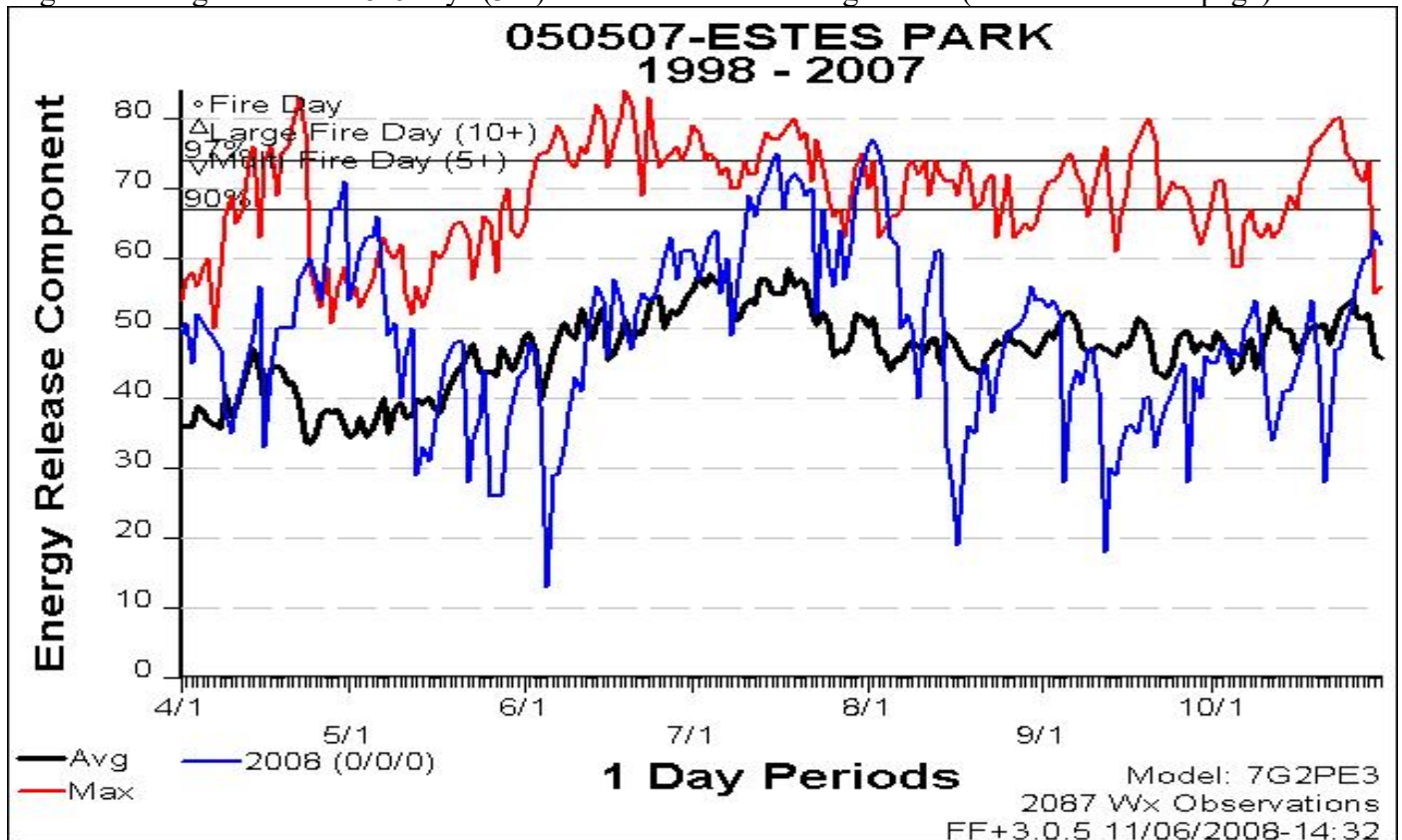
According to the weather summary below 2008 was nothing spectacular. Although the weather was on the warmer side, we did not experience an increase in wildland fires or in fire acres. . It was an average fire year, with our major fire activity occurring later in the season in the later part of November. We assisted with All Risk types of incidents, Search and Rescue operations, Hurricane (FEMA), etc. Our overall workload was and is assisting with Regional and National incidents. The Prescribed Fire activity increased because of favorable burning conditions.

Weather:

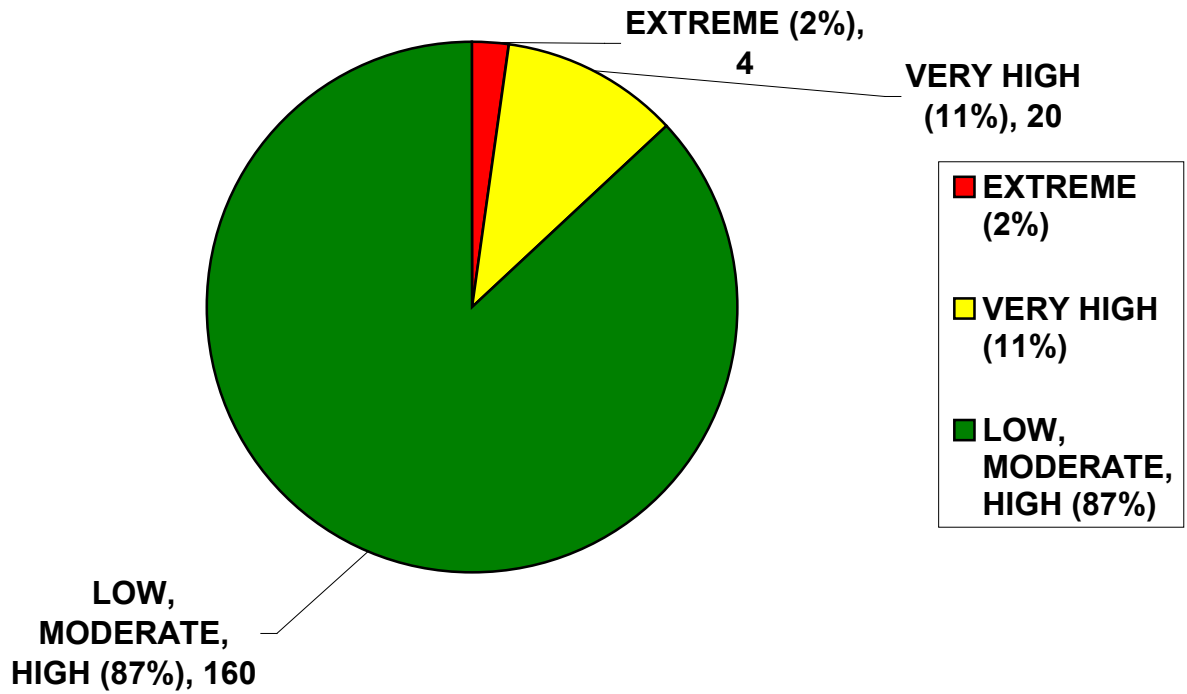
2008 began as any other year. But by October, we had not received any snow fall. The last quarter of the year has turned out drier than previous years and has shown some unusual flux in temperatures. Some days the temperatures were recorded in the 60-70s and the next day they would drop significantly to 30-35 degrees. Although we have not had significant snowfall to date, the temperatures have been averaging in the low side around 17 degrees and sometimes lower. The drought monitor was improved in southwest Colorado into northwest New Mexico, refining improvements made last week (January 1) in response to the very good snowpack in this area.

2008 fire season representative ERC chart for the Estes Park weather station:

Of the established April 15th through October 15th fire season (184 days); there were 44 days (24% of fire season) spent above the Very High fire danger rating and 4 days 5% 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).



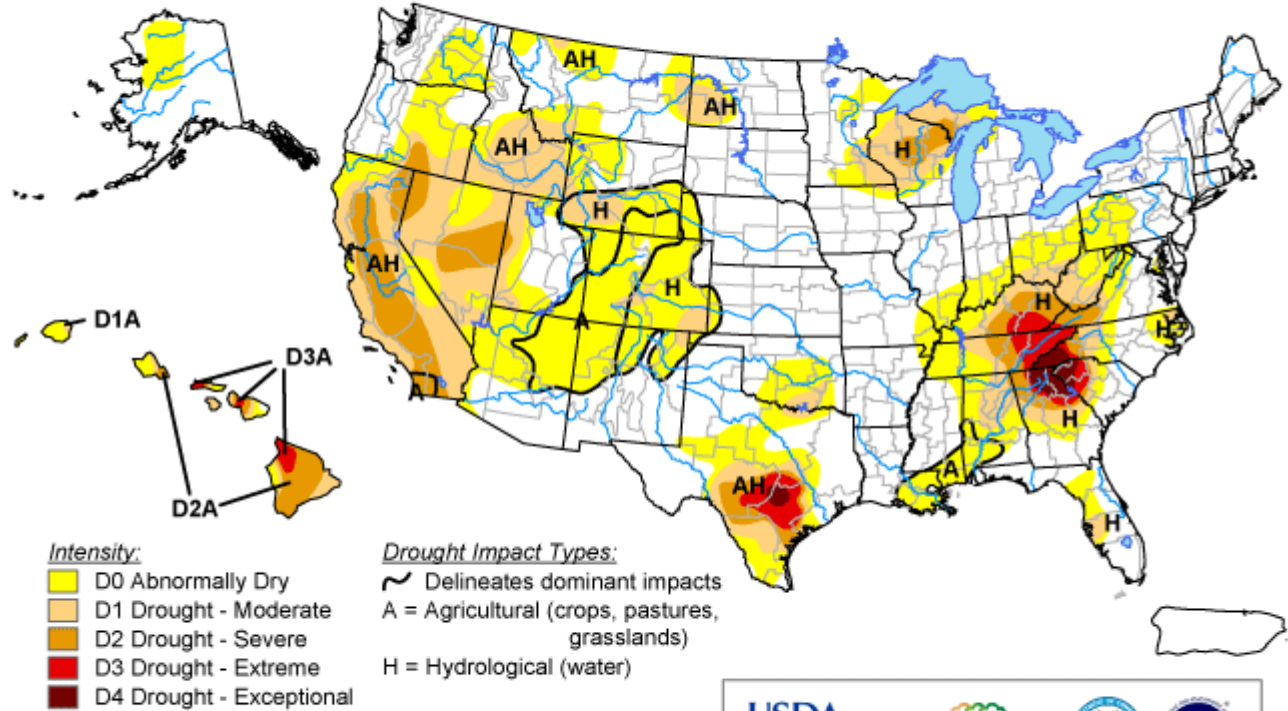
2008 FIRE DANGER DAYS BY CLASS
(Fire Season of April 15th-October 15th = 184 Days)



U.S. Drought Monitor

December 2, 2008

Valid 8 a.m. EST



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)

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



Released Thursday, December 4, 2008

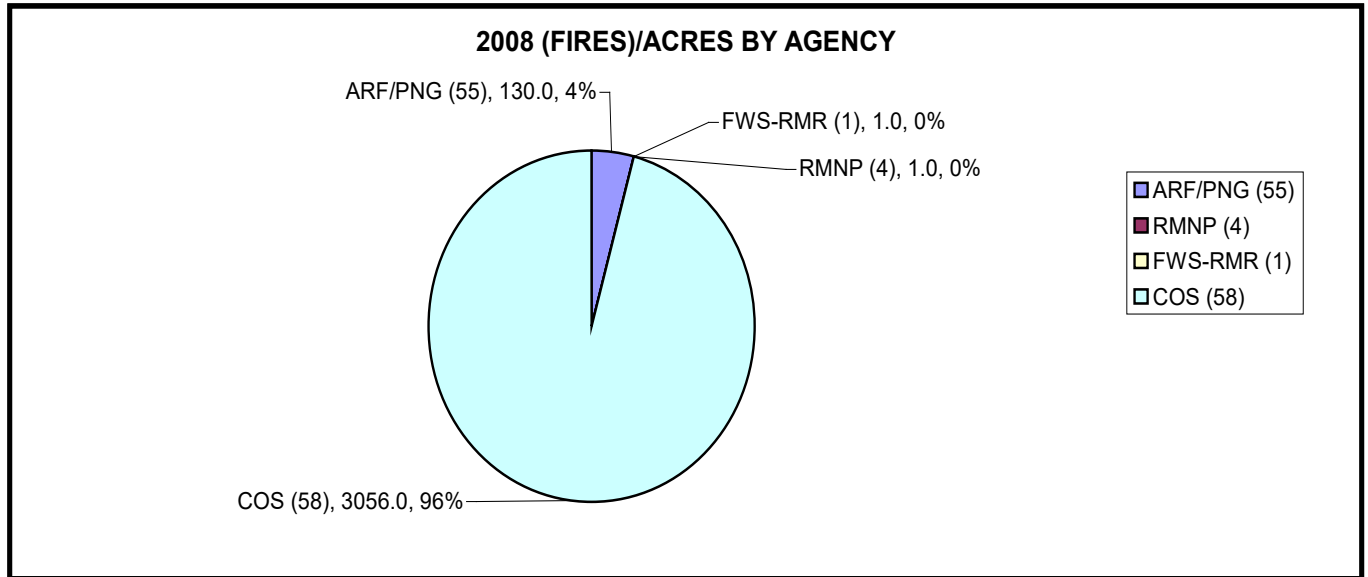
Authors: Michael Brewer/Liz Love-Brotak, NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC

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

The West: A storm swept through the Southwest November 26 – 27 bringing beneficial precipitation to the area. Portions of southern California and Nevada and western Arizona received over 600% of their normal precipitation. This had little impact on the long-term dryness in the area though. Conditions improved slightly in southern Nevada. Conditions worsened in northern Colorado and southern Wyoming with abnormally dry conditions (D0) expanding there. D0 was improved in southwest Colorado into northwest New Mexico, refining improvements made last week (January 1) in response to the very good snowpack in this area.

2008 NORTHERN FRONT RANGE INTERAGENCY FIRE OCCURRENCE/ACRES:

The Northern Front Range Interagency Wildfire Cooperators experienced a total of 118 fires for a total of 3,058 acres burned. 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 counties). The stats reported in this document are only for fires that received an FTC incident number or impacted resource allocation within a county that has a County Annual Operating Plan. State and private statistics are available from the Colorado State Forest Service.



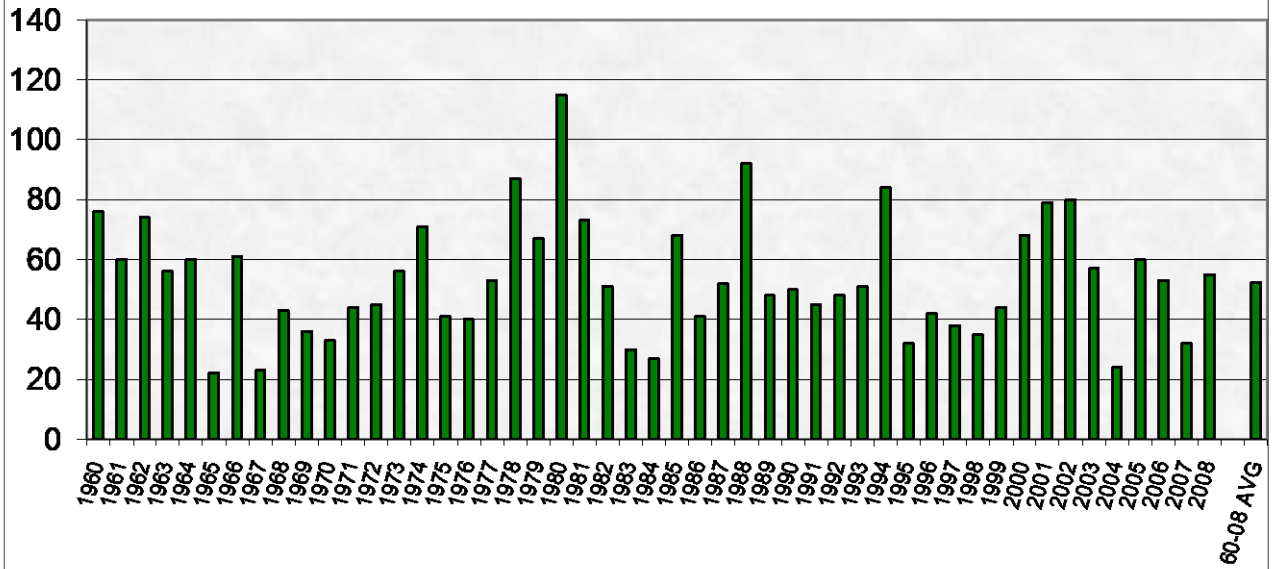
COS Includes: Larimer (LRX), Boulder (BLX), Gilpin (GLX), Clear Creek (CCX), Weld (WEX), Adams (ADX), Washington (WAX) Counties

2008 ARAPAHO-ROOSEVELT N.F./PAWNEE N.G. FIRE OCCURANCE/ACRES:

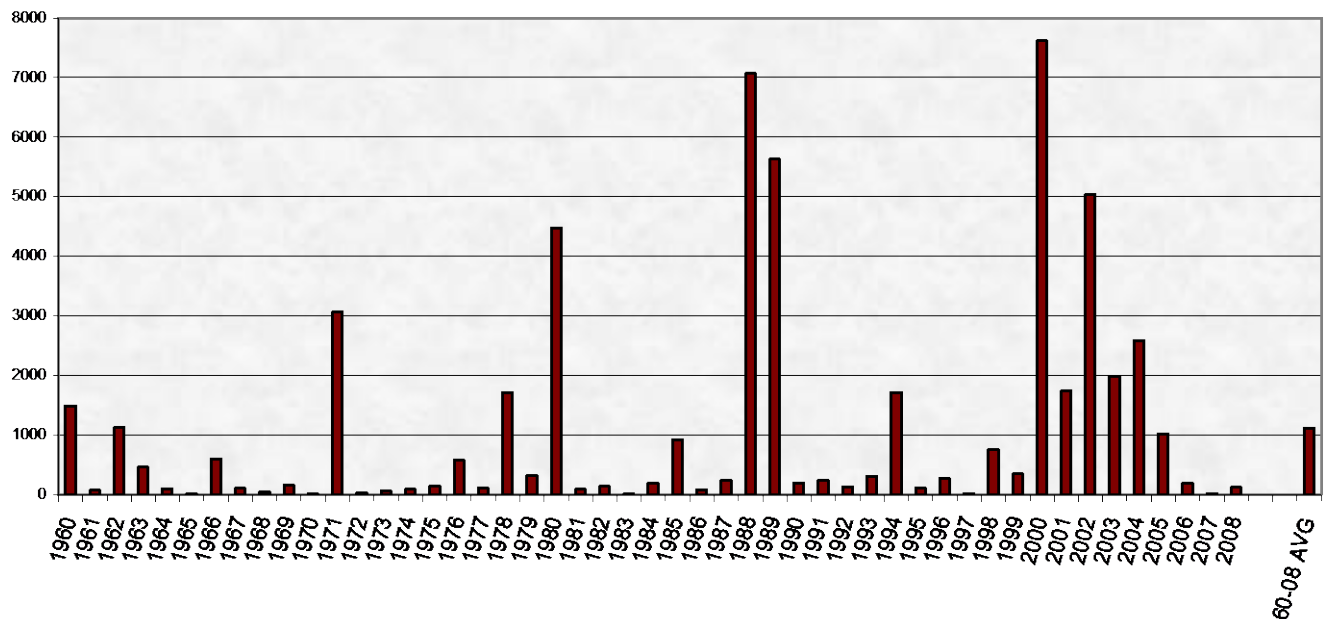
The Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland experienced 55 fires for a total of 130 acres burned (USFS acres only). Of the 55 fires, 31 fires (56%) were human-caused for 108 acres. 24 fires (44%) were lightning-caused for 22 acres. The following bar graphs show the fire occurrence and acres burned from 1960 thru 2008 for the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland. Historical records for the interagency cooperators are not available.

- The 48-year historical average annual fire occurrence and acres burned is: 52 fires for 1,074 acres/year.
- The five-year average annual is: 45 fires for 1,162 acres per year.
- The ten-year average annual is: 55 fires for 2,069 acres per year burned.
- There have been a total of 2,622 fires for 53,715 acres burned from 1960 through 2008 (48 Years).

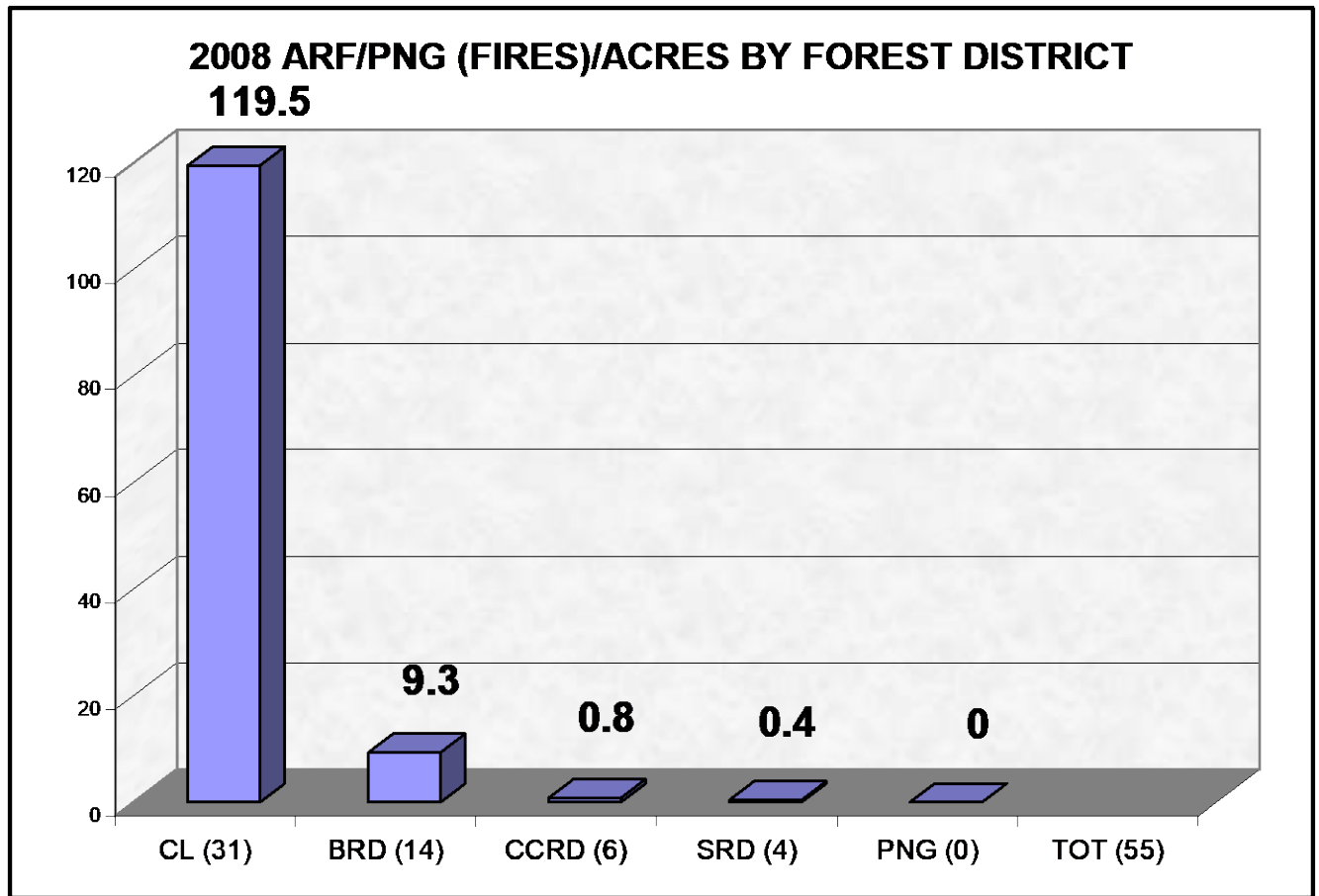
ARF-PNG # FIRES/YEAR 1960-2008



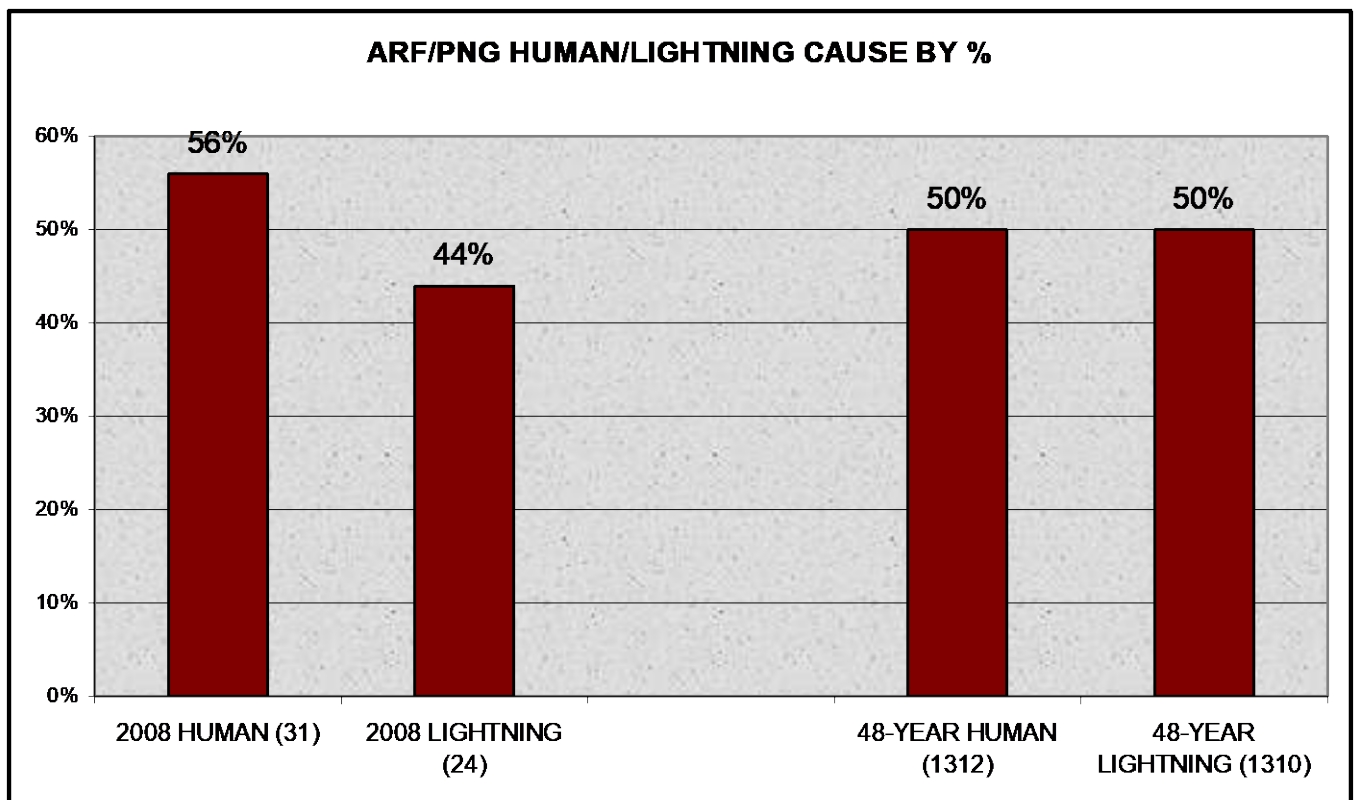
ARF-PNG ACRES BURNED/YEAR 1960-2008



The following chart shows the 2008 distribution of (fires) and acres burned by ARNF/PNG district.



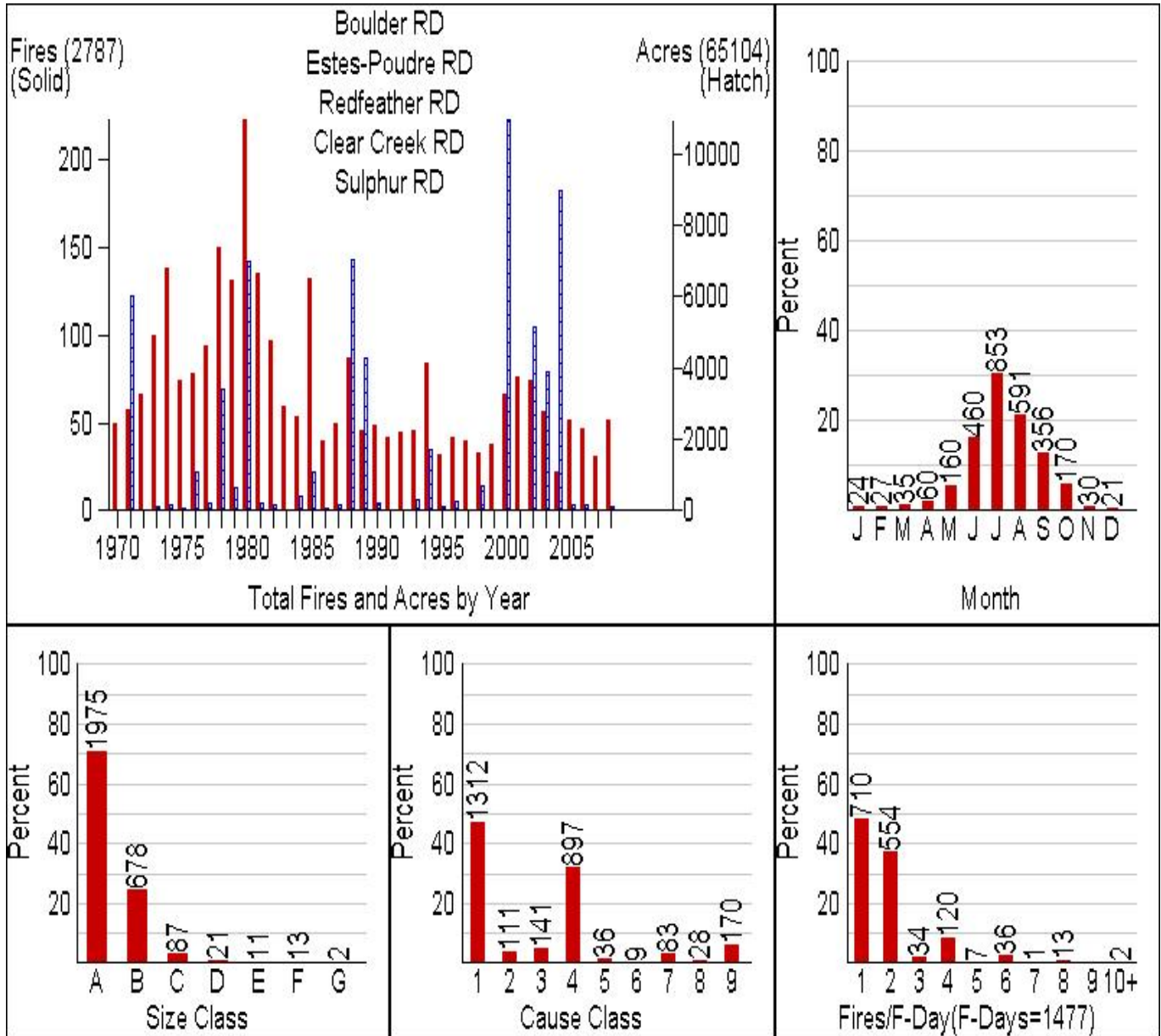
The following chart shows ARNF/PNG fire cause (Human Vs Lightning)
For 2008 compared to 48-year average.



The follow series of charts are a compilation of fire records from 1970 to 2008:

(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.

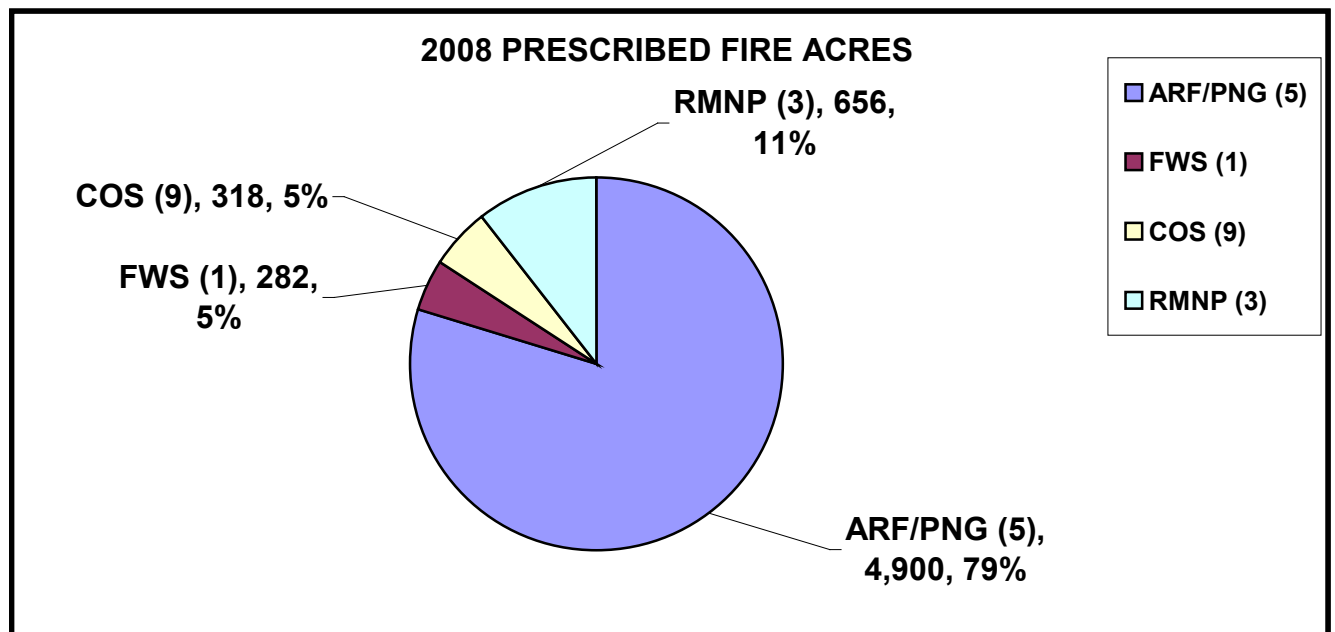


ARF/PNG LARGE FIRE HISTORY 1960-2008 (300+ ACRES GRASS/100+ ACRES TIMBER):

<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	BLACKTIGER	1,804	H
1960	PNG	TOEDTLI	660	L	1989	RFRD	MOBERLY	364	L
1962	CCRD	REST HOUSE	1,007	H	1989	RFRD	LIVERMORE	1,967	L
1962	RFRD	ROACH	748	H	1989	RFRD	EATON RES.	100	H
1962	EPRD	PALISADE	140	H	1989	PNG	HORSETAIL	1,283	H
1966	EPRD	COMANCHE	470	H	1989	RFRD	GOODELL	141	L
1968	CCRD	LINCOLN	740	L	1990	EPRD	SNOWTOP	275	L
1971	RFRD	BULL MTN.	2,635	H	1993	EPRD	HOURLASS	1,221	L
1971	RFRD	LOOKOUT	124	L	1994	EPRD	EGGERS	370	L
1971	RFRD	SKYLINE	210	H	1994	EPRD	CRYSTAL	370	L
1976	BRD	COMFORTER	256	H	1996	RFRD	GREYROCK	130	H
1976	RFRD	ANSEL #2	250	H	1998	CCRD	BEAR TRACK	477	H
1978	CCRD	RESERVOIR	400	H	1998	CLRD	BOBCAT GULCH	10,599	H
1978	RFRD	KILLPECKER	1,200	H	2000	PNG	SPRING	1,268	H
1979	EPRD	PIERSON PARK	312	H	2001	CLRD	PREVENT	190	H
1980	SRD	M.SUPPLY CK.	477	H	2002	CLRD	HEWLETT GULCH	500	H
1980	RFRD	BEARTRAP	2,734	H	2002	CLRD	BIG ELK	4,348	H
1980	EPRD	YOUNG GULCH	180	H	2002	BRD	OVERLAND	3,400	H
1980	PNG	KLINGENSMITH	1,000	L	2003	CLRD	PICNIC ROCK	8,908	H
1985	RFRD	GREYROCK	235	L	2004	PNG	KLINGENSMITH	850	H
1985	PNG	McGREW	310	L	2005		None		
1988	RFRD	GRACE CK.	2,800	H	2006		None		
1988	BRD	BEAVER LK.	757	H	2007		None		
1988	BRD	CANYON	2,471	H	2008		None		
1988	RFRD	SWAN	200	L					

2008 PRESCRIBED FIRE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

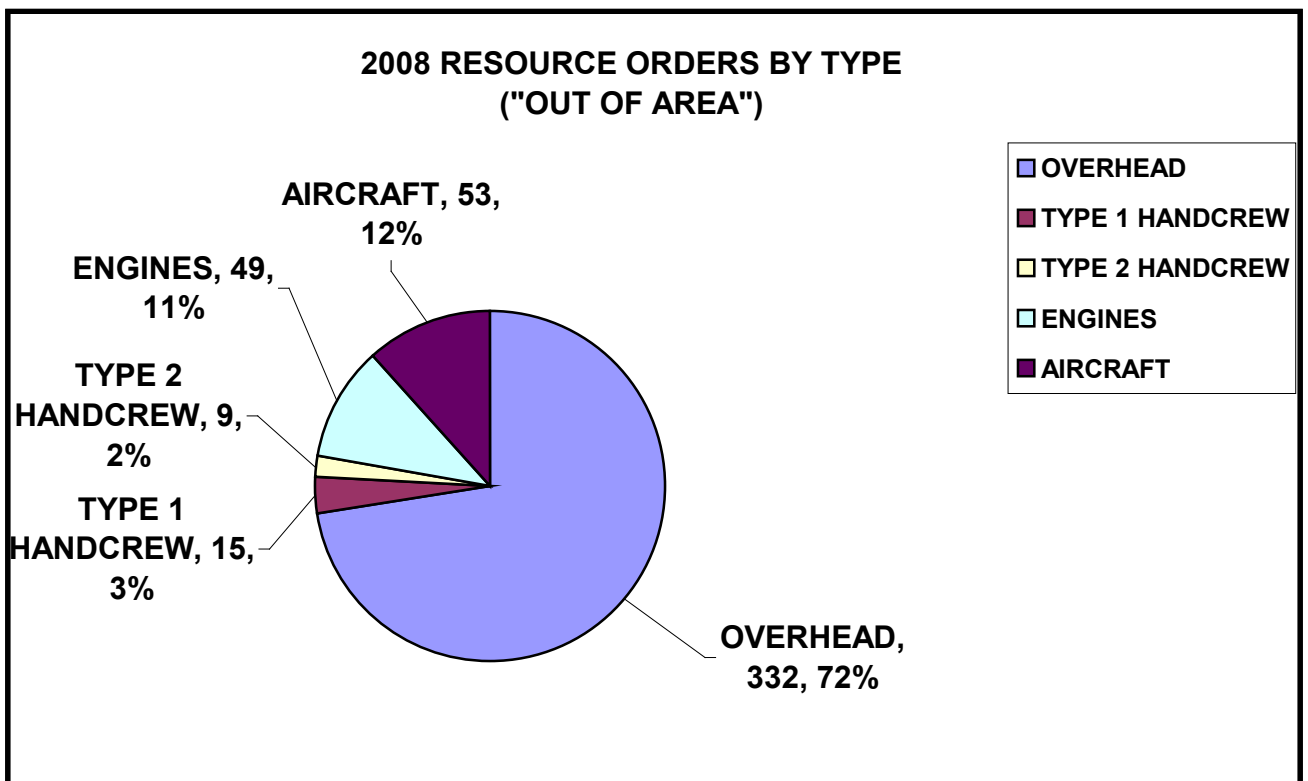
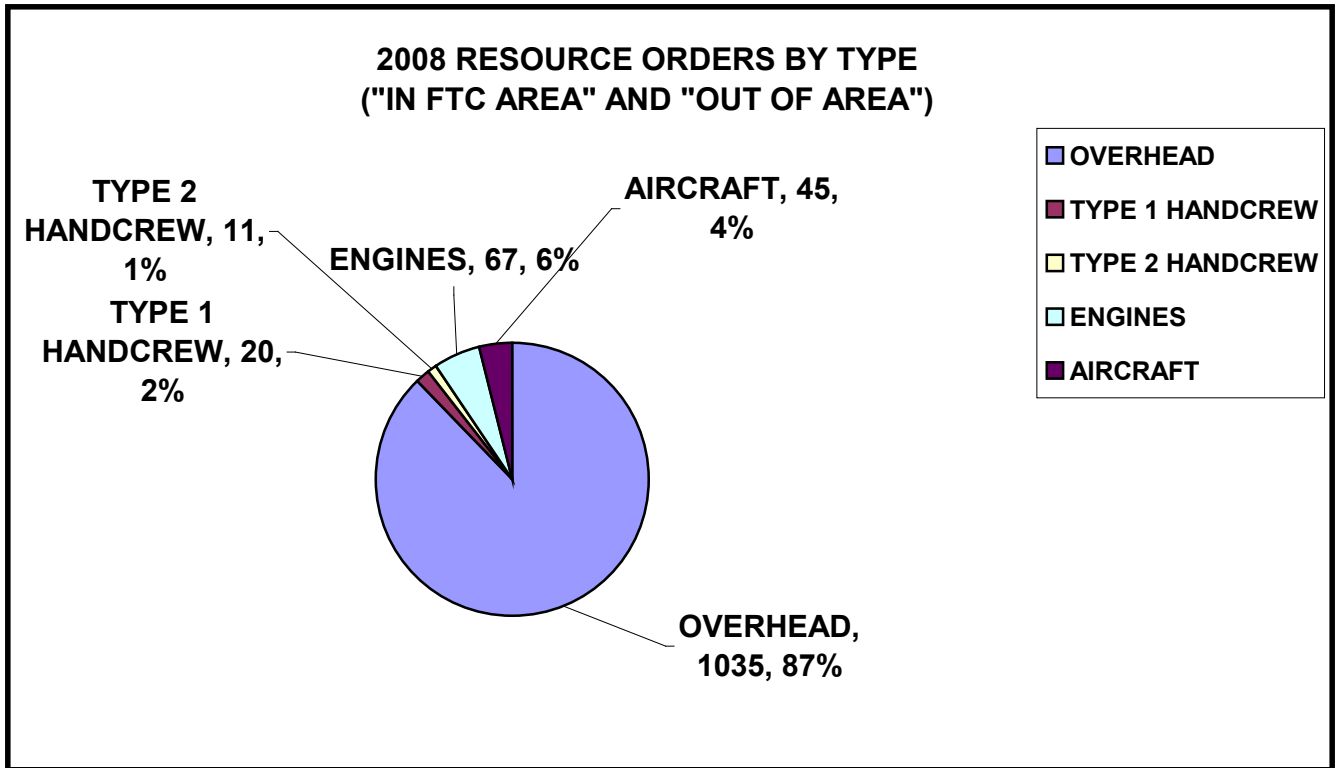
These were the numbers for prescribed burns currently available as of 12/31/08 for all the agencies. .



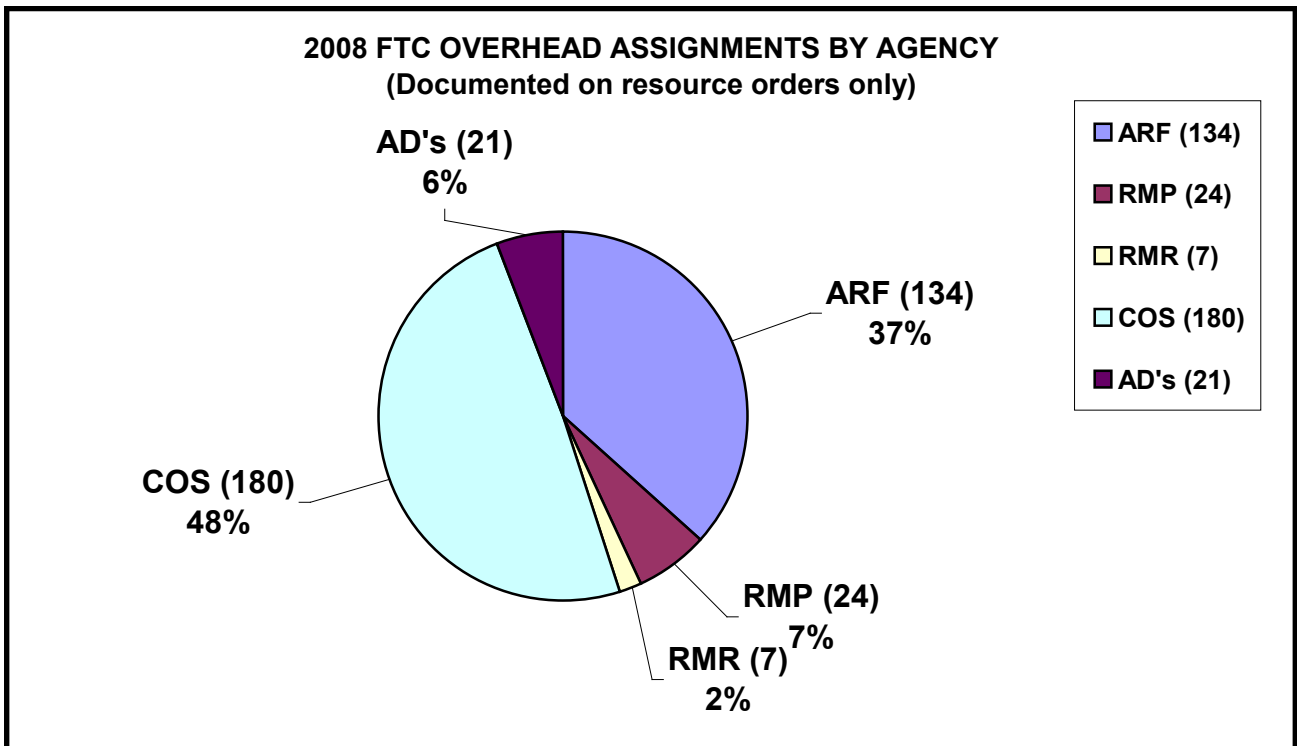
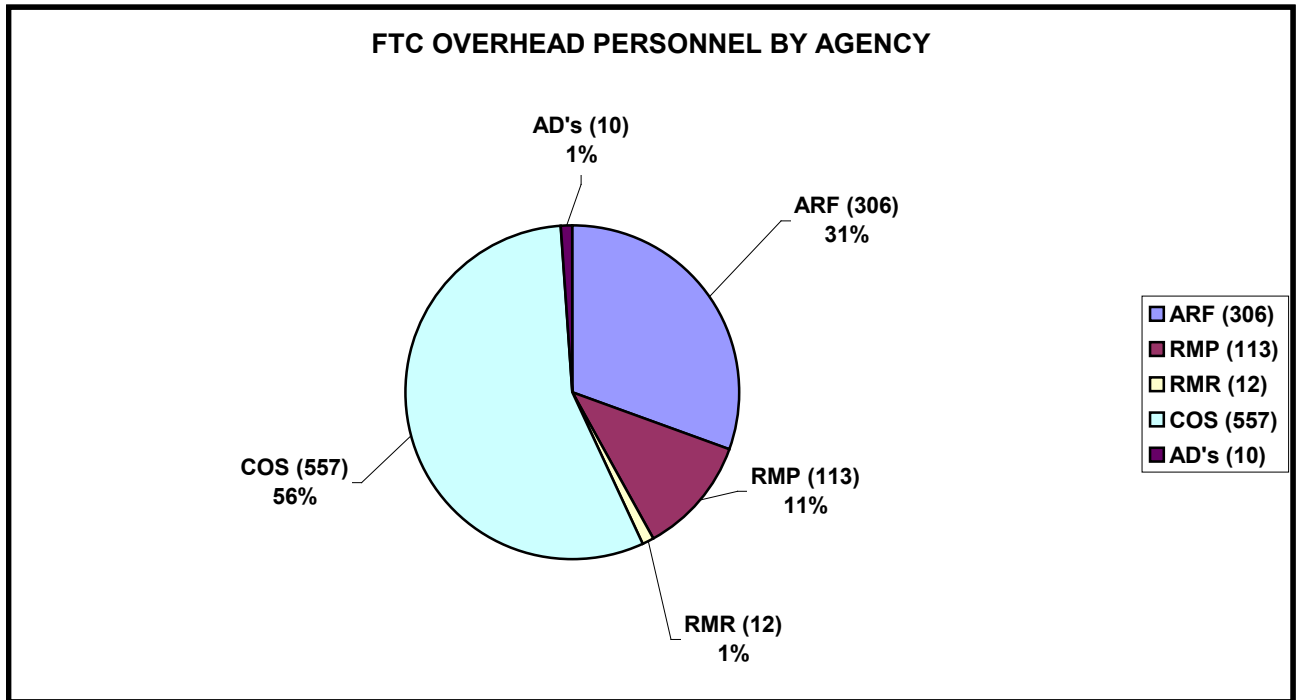
2008 FORT COLLINS INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER AND AVIATION SERVICE CENTER REPORT:

FTC processed a total of **1,178** 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.*

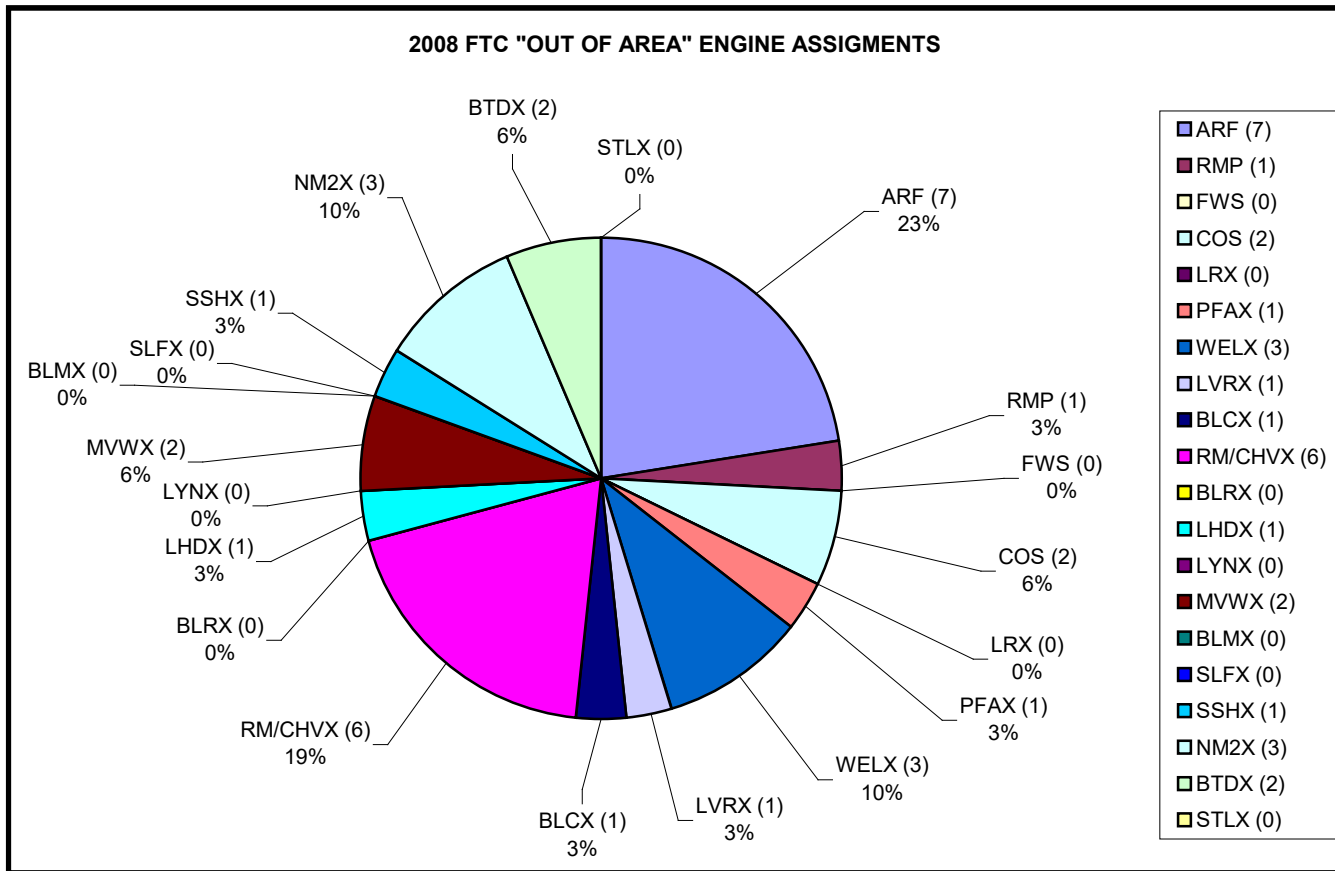
The breakdown of resource assignments by type is shown in the following chart.



The chart below shows the number of personnel assigned to incidents from each agency for 2008. 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 31% of the total number of Overhead personnel (chart #1) and filled 37% 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.



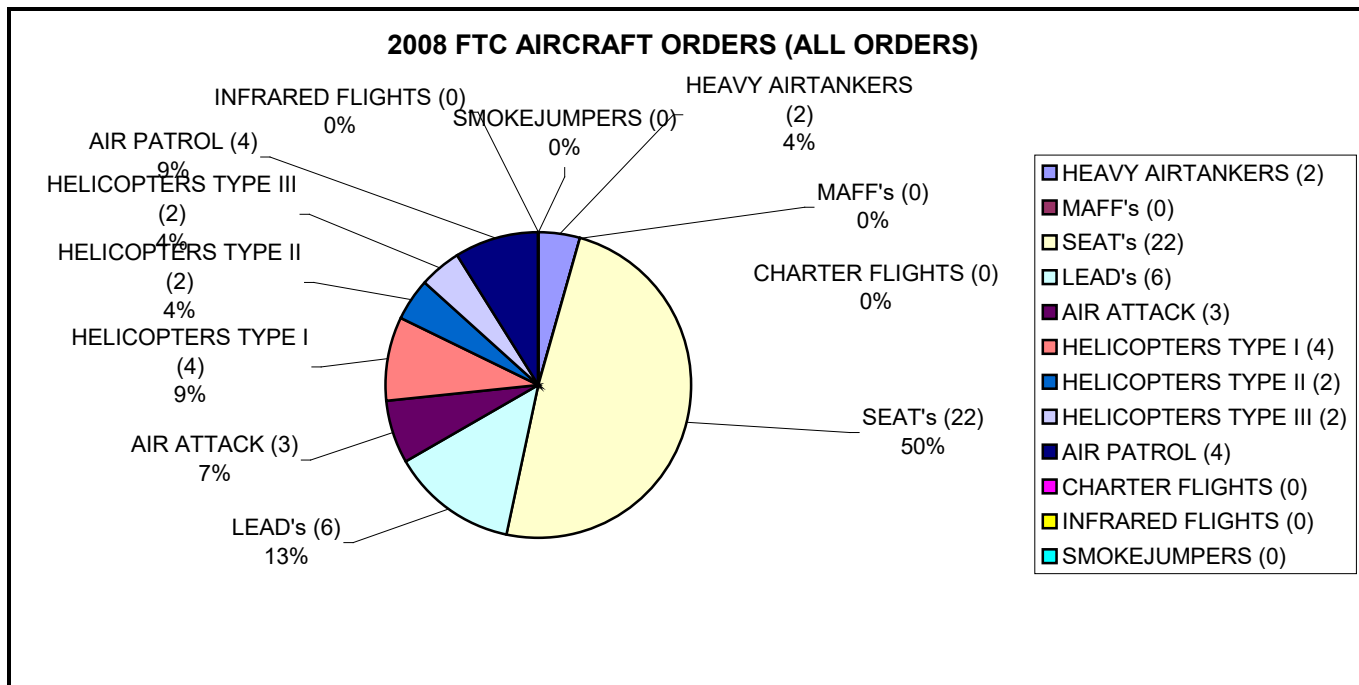
There were a total of 30 out-of-area wildfire incident engine assignments filled. There have been 299 total assignments from 1997 through 2008 (eleven years). This does not include Severity, Pre-Suppression, or agency specific requests. The average annual number of engine assignments is 27 orders per year.



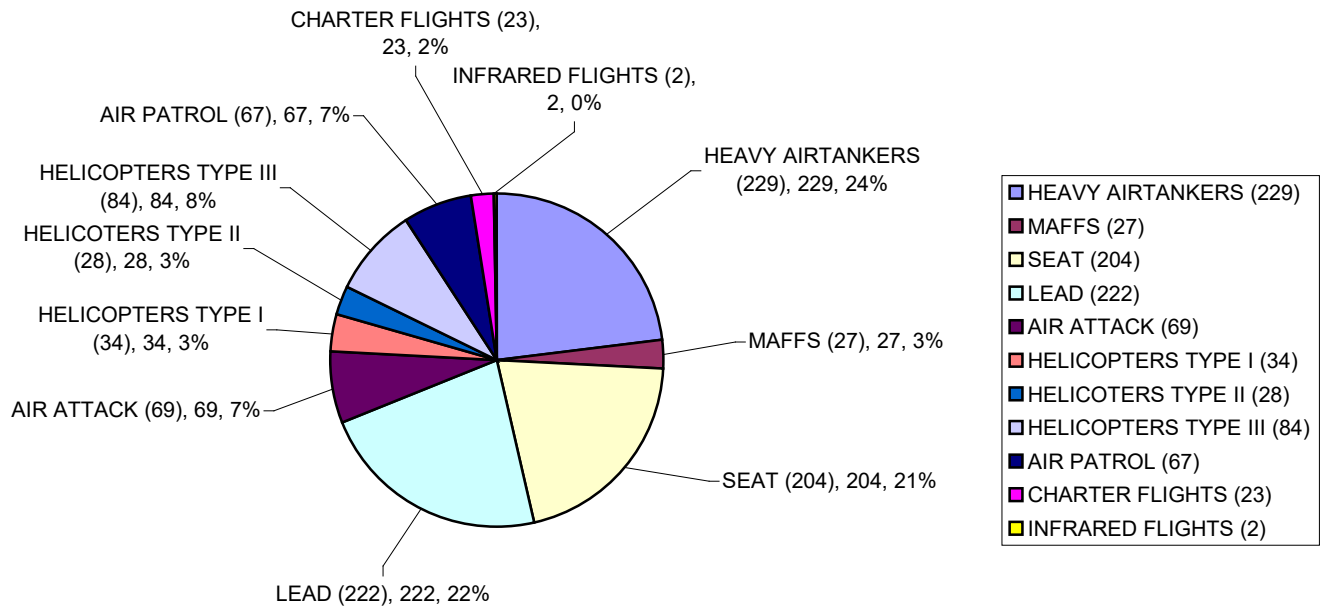
*Units that have not participated in the engine program for all ten years.

AVIATION:

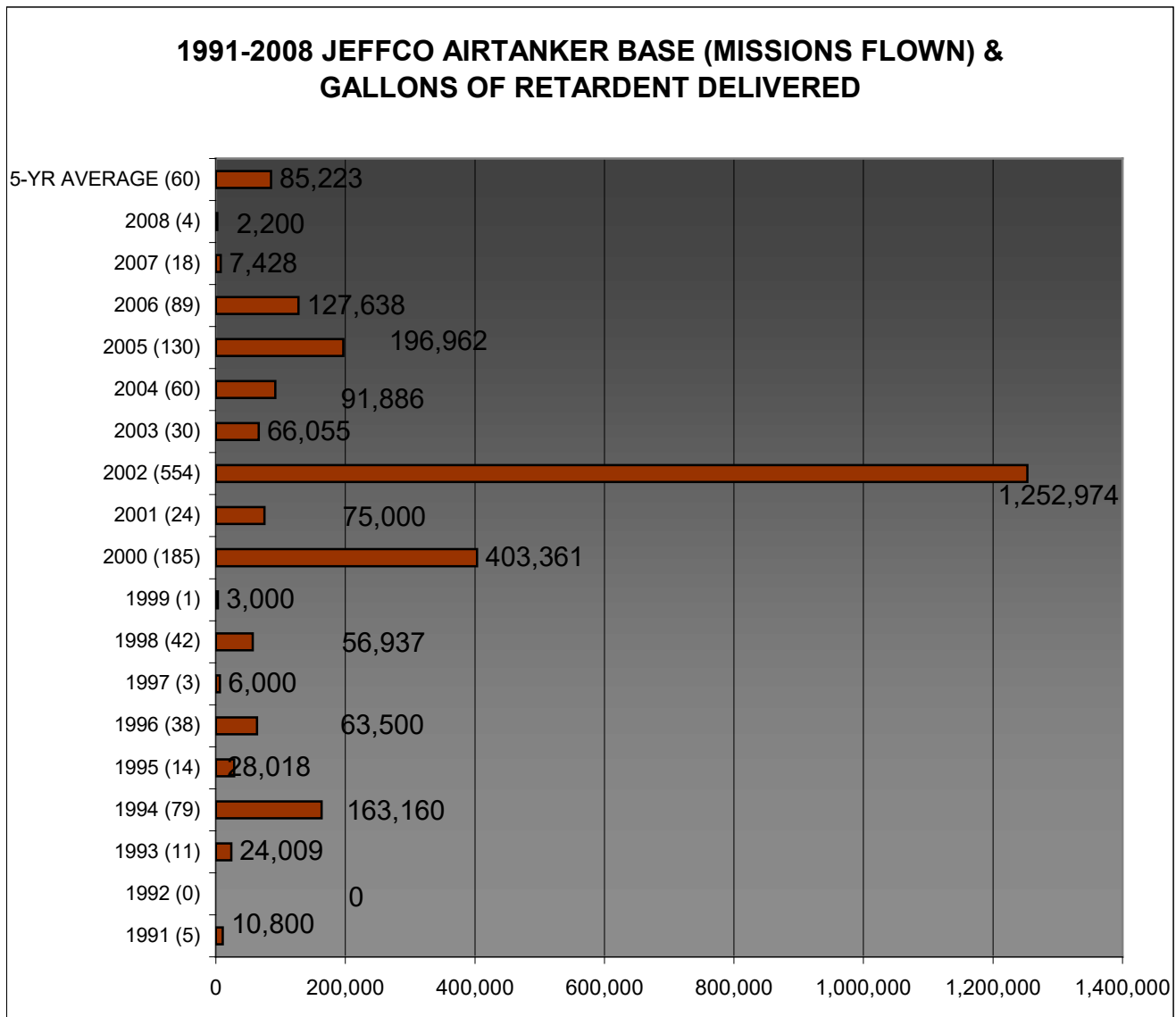
FTC processed 45 aircraft orders during the 2008 fire season. See chart below for breakdown of orders and aviation resource types.



2001-2008 FTC AIRCRAFT ORDERS



There were 4 missions flown, delivering 2,200 gallons of retardant, from the Jeffco Airtanker Base in the 2008 fire season. The 5 five year average annual numbers for the Jeffco Airtanker base are 60 missions flown per year and 85,228 gallons of retardant delivered per year.



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 |
| BLX | Boulder County Sheriff's Department |
| PFAX | Poudre Fire Authority |
| WELX | Wellington Fire Dept. |
| LVRX | Loveland Rural Fire Dept. |
| BLCX | Boulder City Fire Dept. |
| RM/CHVX | RockyMtn/Cherryvale Fire Dept. |
| BLRX | Boulder Rural Fire Dept. |
| LHDX | Lefthand Fire Dept. |
| LYNX | Lyon's Fire Dept. |
| MVWX | MountainView Fire Dept. |
| BLMX | Boulder Mountain Fire Dept. |
| SLFX | Sugarloaf Fire Dept. |
| NM2X | North Metro Fire Dept. |
| STLX | Sterling Fire Dept. |

2009 EMPHASIS AREAS FOR FTC:

- Continue to review and improve dispatch operations.
- Continue integrating with Colorado State Office of Emergency Management Dispatch Operation. Work on switching OEM wildland fire equipment in ROSS to FTC.
- Continue working with all agencies on Radio Issues, frequencies, etc.
- Continue to pursue “Fair Share” funding with state cooperators.
- WILDCAD
- Work on the status of the vice Horner position. Would like to see if we can get that position filled this year as well.
- Continue working with Colorado State on the funding of a position for FTC.