

Northern Great Plains Interagency Dispatch Center



Tornado near Dupree, South Dakota

Flooding in Nebraska



Bessey Nursery Flooding

2010 Annual Report

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NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER 2010 YEAR END REPORT

Once again, for most of the Great Plains zone, the story for the year was the weather. Year 2009 ended with several records being broken as far as snow fall totals for northeastern Wyoming and northwestern South Dakota, seeing 112% of normal in precipitation for that year. The storms continued into 2010, although not as severe the area still saw significant snow fall each month well into May, especially in the northwestern portion of the zone. The latest National Drought Monitor, posted December 28th, shows that most of the area is no longer in a drought, with only the very SW corner of South Dakota, the panhandle of Nebraska and portions of central and south central Nebraska still ranging in the abnormally to moderately dry category. Surprisingly, because Nebraska seemed to have the most active weather patterns this season with rains starting in early April and continuing well into September. Although, the fall was a little quieter in Nebraska, they still had surpassed their annual precipitation by more the six inches within the first seven months of the year.

In addition, spring and summer storms brought many tornados to the area, as tornados were tracked across Wyoming, South Dakota and Nebraska, ranging up to EF-2 on the Enhanced Fujita damage scale, boasting winds up to 135mph. Unfortunately for South Dakota, one of the records set was for the number of Presidential disasters declared, all due to blizzards, flooding, ice storms and a combination of severe storms and flooding. These declaration covered 56 of 66 counties in the state and eight out of the nine reservations were affected by at least one of the declarations.

As for fire season, with the active weather patterns across the zone we again had an average to below average season as far as number of incidents and acres burned. Only in mid to late August did we begin seeing a little more activity in the grasslands and prairies, with a few of the BIA agencies having some significant fire dangers posted for late September and early October. On October 7th a lightning storm passed through the Black Hills, causing several fires ranging from .1 acre to 24 acres in size.

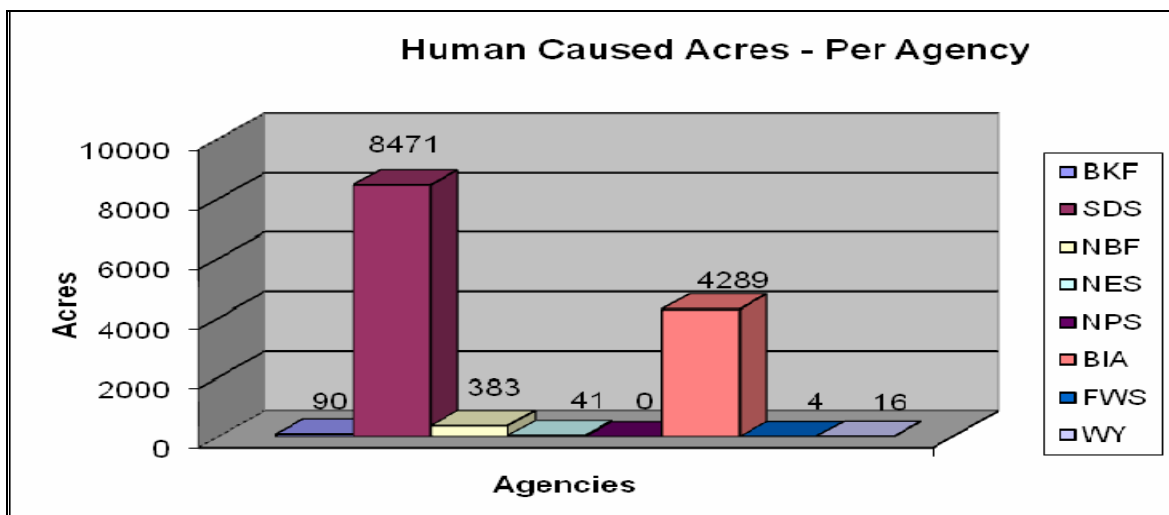
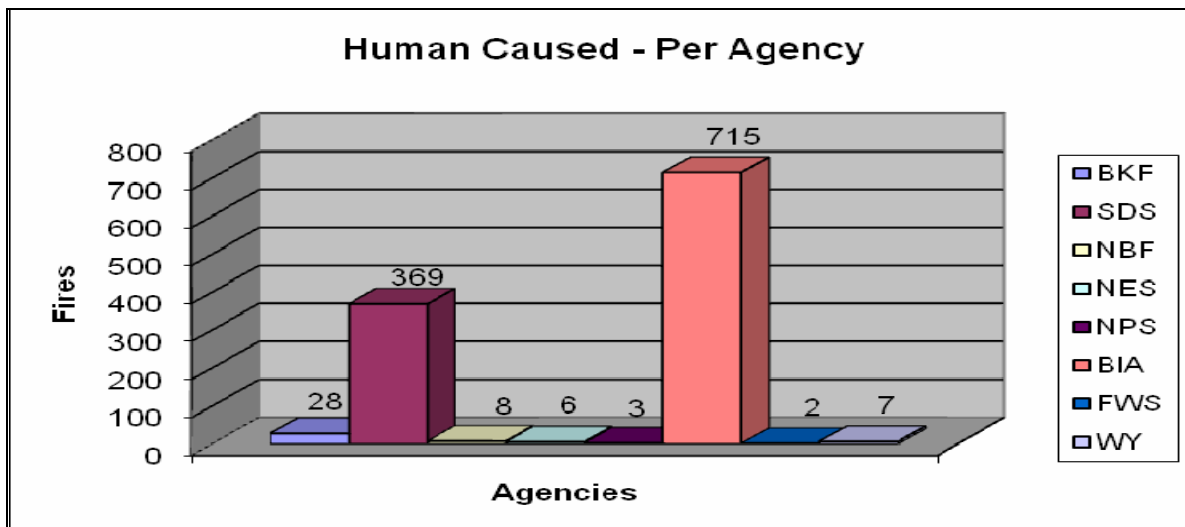
Crews took advantage of the great fall burning conditions, with the season starting in early September. Although not confirmed, I would guess many agencies were able to hit or surpass projected targets. The season ended with fairly good snowfall throughout the zone, allowing for crews to begin the 2011 season with several thousand piles being ignited across the zone.

***Fire and Acres by Cause per Agency as Reported on the National
Situation Report***

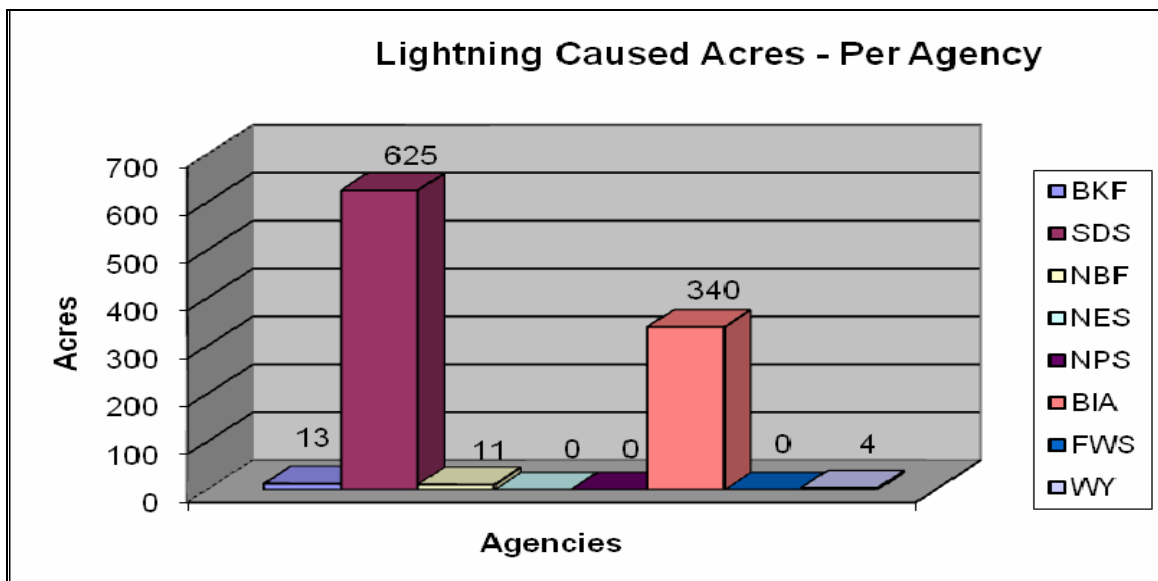
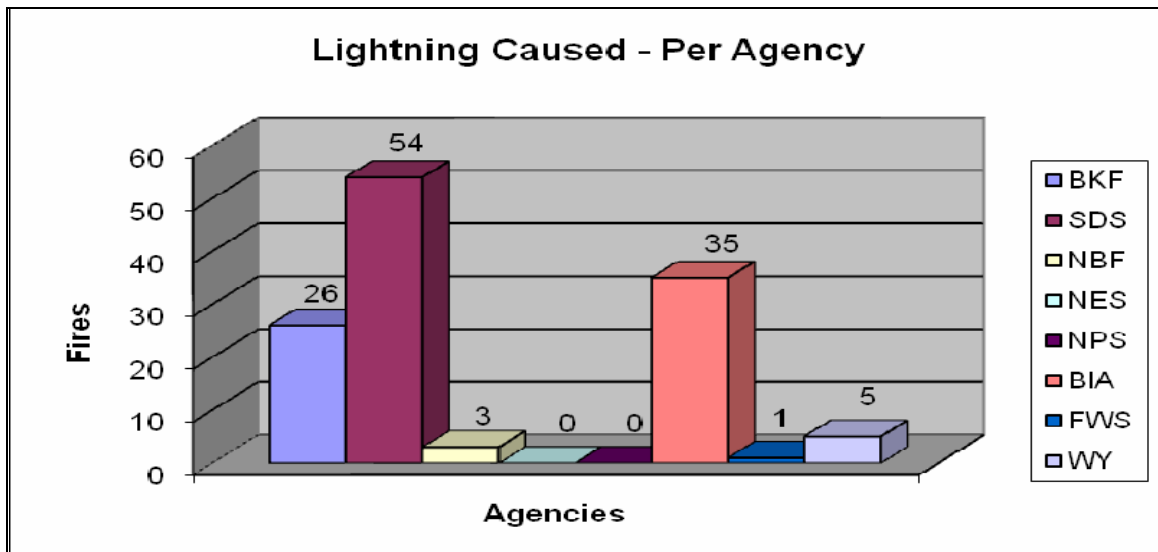
UNIT	AGENCY/STATE	HUMAN		LIGHTNING		TOTAL		PRESCRIBED FIRE	
		FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES
SD-SDS	SD-SDS	369	8471	54	625	423	9096	32	743
SD-TNC	SD-PCI	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	248
SD-BKF	SD-BKF	28	90	26	13	54	103	63	19887
NE-NBF	NE-NBF	8	383	3	111	11	494	6	3688
NE-NES	NE-NES	6	41	0	0	6	41	3	6313
SD-BLM	SD-SOD	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	347
NE-MWP	NE-AFP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	12
NE-MWP	NE-HOP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	28
NE-MWP	SD-BDP	3	0	0	0	3	0	1	2200
NE-MWP	WY-DTP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	210
NE-MWP	SD-JCP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	145
NE-MWP	SD-MRP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	30
NE-MWP	SD-WCP	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3408
NE-MWP	NE-SBP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NE-MWP	SD-MOP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	3				3	0	7	6033
SD-GPA	SD-CCA	45	83	0	0	45	83	10	164
SD-GPA	ND-SRA	139	740	7	25	146	765	1	60
SD-GPA	SD-LBA	24	8	0	0	24	8	4	536
SD-GPA	SD-SIA	3	84	0	0	3	84	1	25
SD-GPA	SD-RBA	114	1249	2	81	116	1330	8	60
SD-GPA	SD-CRA	88	746	7	19	95	765	3	121
SD-GPA	SD-PRA	289	750	19	215	308	965	10	896
SD-GPA	SD-FSA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SD-GPA	SD-YAA	5	25	0	0	5	25	0	0
SD-GPA	NE-WIA	8	604	0	0	8	604	19	6072
	TOTAL	715	4289	35	340	750	4629	56	7934
CO-R6R	SD-HUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1251
CO-R6R	SD-LCR	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2435
CO-R6R	SD-LAR	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	196
CO-R6R	SD-MDR	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	1524
CO-R6R	SD-SLR	1	1	0	0	1	1	9	2885
CO-R6R	SD-WAR	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	3231
CO-R6R	NE-CLR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CO-R6R	NE-FNR	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	547
CO-R6R	NE-NPR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CO-R6R	NE-RBR	1	3	0	0	1	3	19	4116
CO-R6R	NE-VAR	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1605
CO-R6R	ND-KUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	892
CO-R6R	ND-TWR	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	793
	TOTAL	2	4	1	0	3	4	89	19475
WY-CTY	WY-CRX	4	2	3	4	7	6	0	0
WY-CTY	WY-WEX	3	14	2	0	5	14	0	0
	TOTAL	7	16	5	4	12	20	0	0

**2010
FIRES AND ACRES WITHIN THE NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS
ZONE**

AGENCY	HUMAN		LIGHTNING		TOTAL	
	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES
SDS	369	8471	54	625	423	9096
BKF	28	90	26	13	54	103
NBF	8	383	3	111	11	494
NES	6	41	0	0	6	41
NPS	3	0	0	0	3	0
BIA	715	4289	35	340	750	4629
FWS	2	4	1	0	3	4
WYS CO	7	16	5	4	12	20
TOTAL	1138	13294	124	1093	1262	14387
False Alarms					121	
TOTAL INCIDENTS					1383	



2010
FIRES PER AGENCY SUPPORTED AND TRACKED BY
GREAT PLAINS DISPATCH



These numbers are taken from what is reported to Great Plains from the field and submitted on the National Situation report. Although Great Plains does not have the responsibility for initial attack for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, US Fish and Wildlife, the State of Nebraska and portions of South Dakota outside the Black Hills Fire Protection area, we have listed all fires equally as they still are a portion of the workload at the Center via tracking and Intelligence duties.

2010 LARGE FIRE ACTIVITY

Incident Name	State-Unit	Start Date	Cause	Acres	Team Type	Incident Commander
Waterway	SD-SDS	04/13/2010	H	2100	4	Goehring/Milliken
Chadron Road	SD-SDS	08/10/2010	H	362	4	O. Motherly
Aristocrat	NE-NBF	08/29/2010	H	407	4	W. Burch
Valandra Bridge	SD-RBA	09/28/2010	UI	130	3	B. Shields
Bonneville	SD-RBA	10/03/2010	H	537	3	B. Shields

2010 TEAM B ASSIGNMENTS

YEAR	INCIDENT NAME	LOCATION	AGENCY (S)	DURATION	SIZE	INCIDENT COMMANDER
2010	Beaver Fire	Norwood, CO	USFS/BLM	May 23rd - 30th	3,000	Todd Pechota
2010	Parkdale	Cañon City, CO	BLM/Private	June 21st -26th	750	Todd Pechota
2010	Cow Creek	Estes Park, CO	NPS	June 26th - 3rd	911	Todd Pechota
2010	Round Mountain	Estes Park, CO	USFS	June 27th - 1st	76	Todd Pechota

2010 TEAM C ASSIGNMENTS

YEAR	INCIDENT NAME	LOCATION	AGENCY (S)	DURATION	SIZE	INCIDENT COMMANDER
2010	Medano	Mosca, CO	USFS/NPS	June 6th	6,208	Joe Lowe



BEAVER FIRE
NORWOOD, COLORADO

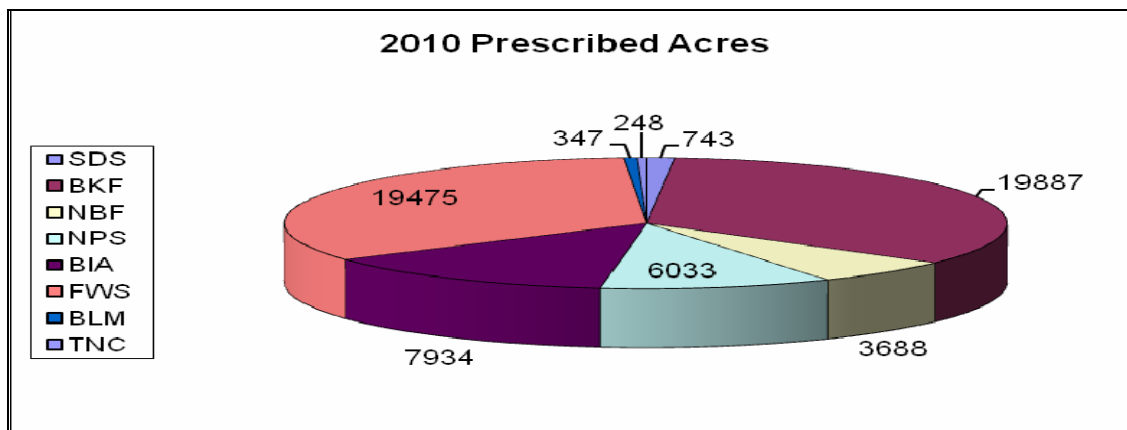
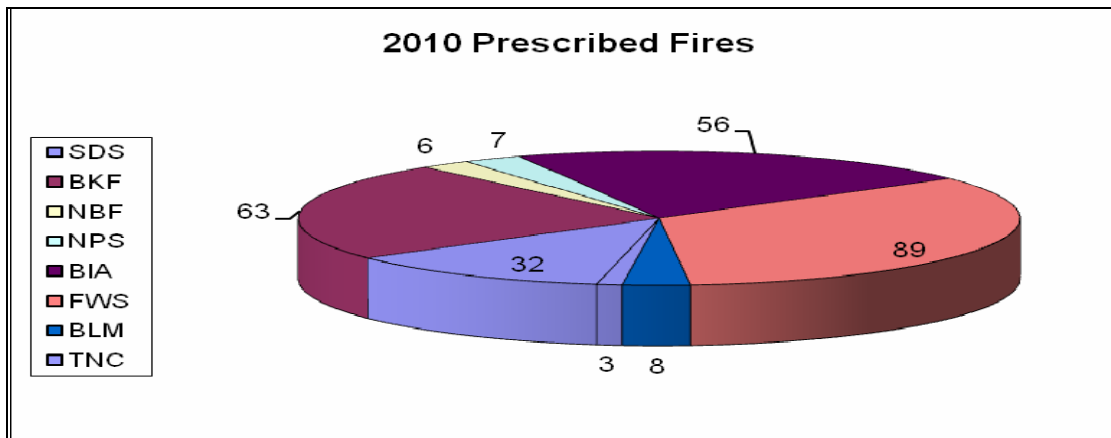


MEDANO FIRE
MOSCA, COLORADO

2010 PRESCRIBED/PILE BURNING ACTIVITY

Agencies have become more diligent in correctly reporting actual incident numbers and acres. Statistical numbers should be close if not right on to each agency's program reporting.

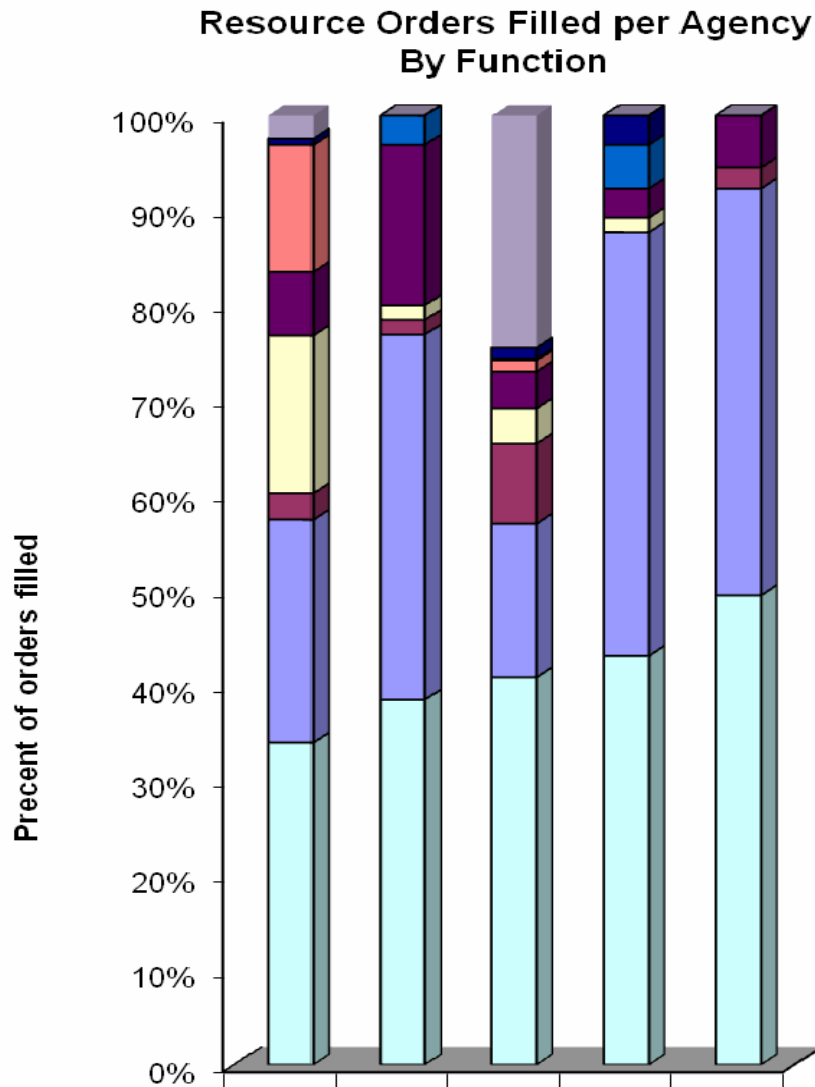
Agency	Number of Fires	Acres
SDS	32	743
BKF	63	19887
NBF	6	3688
NPS	7	6033
BIA	56	7934
FWS	89	19475
BLM	8	347
TNC	3	248
Total	267	64668



2010 Bureau of Land Management Information

As part of the annual operating plan between South Dakota Bureau of Land Management (SD-SOD) and the State of South Dakota Division of Wildland Fire (SD-SDS), all fire suppression activities are the responsibility of SD-SDS, therefore suppression information and numbers are lumped into the SD-SDS statistics. However, prescribed fire is not part of the agreement; therefore information given to Northern Great Plains Dispatch for RX within the zone is posted on the GPC Situation Report.

RESOURCE ORDERS BY FUNCTION – FILLED PER AGENCY

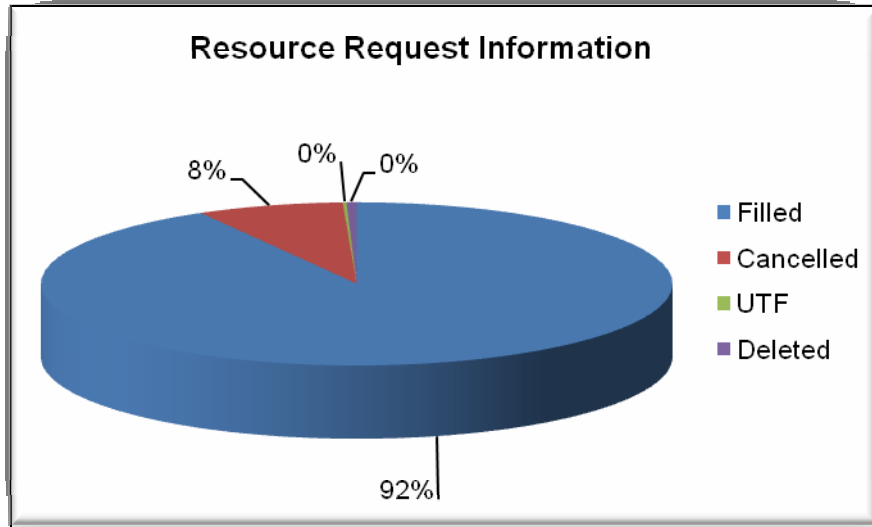


	OH	CR	EQ	AC	SU
VFD	15	0	145	0	0
GPC/PVT	4	0	7	2	0
BLM	0	0	0	0	0
WY	0	2	1	3	0
FWS	82	0	7	0	0
BIA	41	11	23	2	5
NPS	102	1	22	1	0
NBF	17	1	50	0	2
SDS	144	25	96	29	39
BKF	208	25	242	28	45

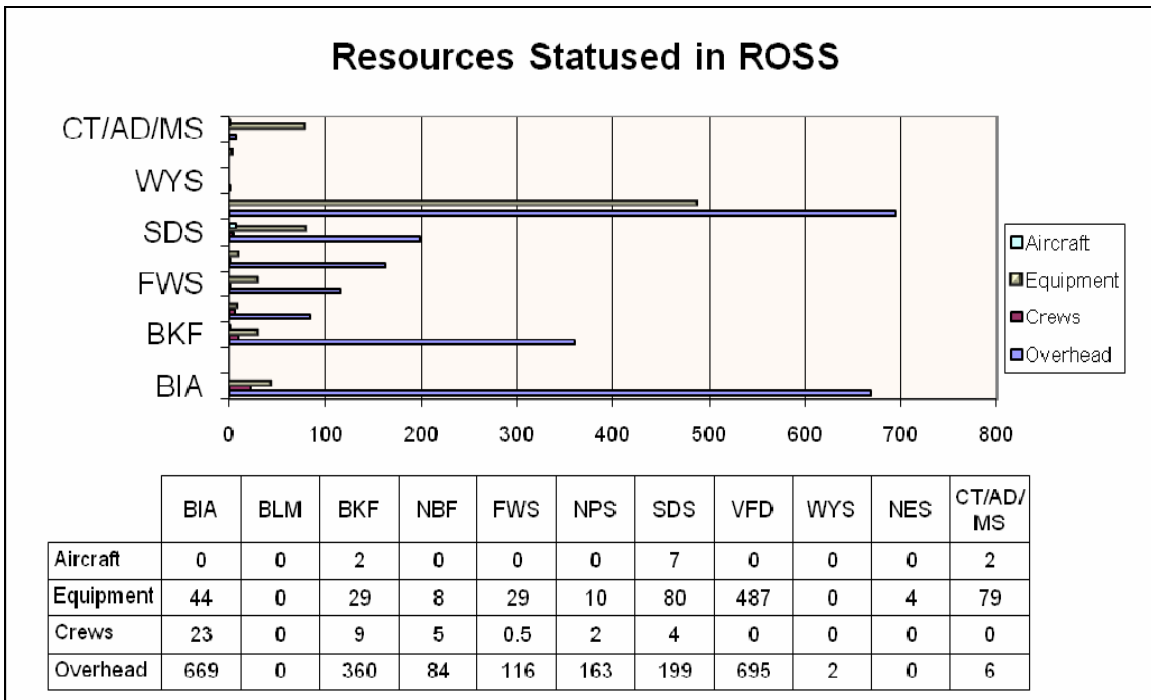
Function

RESOURCES ORDERED THROUGH GPC

RESOURCE TYPE	FILLED	CANCELLED	UTF	DELETED
AIRCRAFT	65	10	1	4
CREWS	65	6	0	3
OVERHEAD	613	38	1	2
EQUIPMENT	593	58	2	1
SUPPLIES	91	101	0	4
TOTAL	2197	213	4	14



RESOURCES STATUSED IN ROSS PER AGENCY PER FUNCTIONAL AREA



CT/AD/MS = Contracts, AD's and Misc such as NWS, NES, etc..

2010 Northern Great Plains Air Operations

Statistics for Rapid City, Air Tanker Base

The Rapid City Air Tanker Base (RAP ATB) was in full operation from June 1st through October 15th for the 2010 fire season. 2010 was the 4th year for a full service retardant contract with ICL Performance Products LP. RAP ATB supported wildland fire operations in South Dakota and Wyoming. This was accomplished with a clean safety record with no reportable injuries or accidents.

Once again the RAP ATB saw a fairly quiet season, with four missions flown, for a total 4.05 flight hours. The Rocky Mountain Coordination Center did preposition T-45 early in September at RAP ATB and the air tanker flew on the Cooley Draw fire in Wyoming. T-473 also flew three missions from the RAP ATB, for fires in South Dakota.

Number of air tankers (Type I and Type II) flown out of RAP ATB	= 1
Number of Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs) flown out of RAP ATB	= 1
Total number of air tankers flown out of RAP ATB	= 2
Number of air tanker (Type I & Type II) flight missions (loads)	= 1
Number of Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs) flight missions (loads)	= 3
Total number of air tanker flight missions (loads)	= 4
Gallons of LC-95A retardant delivered by Type I & Type II air tankers	= 2058
Gallons of LC-95A retardant delivered by Type III & Type IV air tankers	= 1822
Gallons of water delivered by Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs)	= 0
Total gallons of LC-95A retardant delivered to wildland fires	= 3880
Flight hours for Type I & Type II air tankers out of RAP ATB	= 2.94
Flight hours for Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs) out of RAP ATB	= 1.11
Total flight hours for Type I & 2 air tankers & SEATs out of RAP ATB	= 4.05
Number of wildland fires RAP ATB supported	= 2

** All statistics are taken from the Rapid City Air Tanker Base report.*

Expanded SEAT program for South Dakota Wildland Fire Suppression

In addition to the SEAT's that are normally located at the Rapid City Tanker Base, the state of South Dakota in conjunction with the USDA Forest Service, maintained three additional SEAT bases, located in Lemmon, Pierre, and Hot Springs South Dakota. The Lemmon SEAT base was intended to support incidents in the northwest portions of the state and to assist the Grand River and Dakota Prairie Grassland along with the BIA on lands in north-central South Dakota and south-central North Dakota. The SEAT located in Hot Springs was intended to be utilized for southwestern counties of South Dakota, since they were identified as still having drought conditions. For 2010, the Lemmon SEAT base was not utilized as there was no activity in that portion of the zone. T-473 was on contract from August 11th thru October 18th and it flew primarily out to the Hot Springs SEAT base, but was stationed at the Pierre Seat Base in for a short while in August due to high fire danger in the central portions of South Dakota. The SEAT flew the Valandra Bridge fire on the Rosebud Agency late September for a total of 7 loads and 5 flight hours. T-407 was put on contract by the BIA from August 28th thru September 9th.

South Dakota State Air Attack

Year 2010 was the first year the Great Plains Zone was able to utilize the Governors King Air for a zone air attack. Kudos to SD Wildland Fire Suppression for ensuring the pilot was properly trained and carded, as well as the plane allowing it to become a fully functional air attack platform, complete with an ATGS. This proved to be a great asset to the zone as this platform was utilized not only as air attack, but also detection, recon and bug flights.

Flight hours for AT-3SD:

South Dakota State = 6.2

Black Hills National Forest = 8.3

Bureau of Indian Affairs = 13.3

Wyoming State Forestry = 5.8

South Dakota National Guard Support

The SDNG assisted the interagency wildland fire operations with two incidents for the season, the Lakota Point fire and the Antelope fire. Below are the statistics for those incidents:

Total flight hours:	2.8
Total bucket drops:	12
Total gallons of water delivered:	7200

Interagency Helicopter Program H-N6HE

The exclusive use contract on the Black Hills National Forest began late this year, with the ship coming on contract shortly after the 4th of July. This allowed the contract to go well into October, including an 18 day extension. This late start was a blessing in disguise as the short fire season we did have began later than normal for us this year.

Total number initial attacks for the season	= 36
Total number of large fires for the season	= 3
Total gallons of water/retardant dropped	= 32,260
Total Fire Flight hours	= 83.1
Total non-fire Flight hours	= 28.5
Total Flight hours for the season	= 111.6
Number of personnel transported	= 200
Number of person days on fires	= 198
Total pounds of cargo internal/external	= 12,964
Total Contract cost	= \$377,078.93

National Type I Exclusive Use Contract H-N192CH

The Boeing Vertol 107-2 arrived in Custer, South Dakota mid June and was to be managed by Black Hills National Forest employee Mike Klick. The helicopters first assignment was June 17th to the Red Creek fire in southern Colorado. For the 90 day MAP, the helicopter was primarily used for large fire support, and initial attack incidents.

Total number initial attacks for the season	= 5
Total number of large fires for the season	= 7
Total gallons of water/retardant dropped	= 305,792
Total Fire Flight hours	= 88.2
Total non-fire Flight hours	= 26.5
Total Flight hours for the season	= 114.7
Availability Period cost was	\$885,017.02
Total Cost for the 2010 contract was	\$1,429,680.02

Helicopter 192CH successfully performed structure protection during the initial attack stage of the Parkdale Canyon fire in Colorado in areas unsafe for engine based structure protection firefighters.

While assigned to the Oak Flat fire near Cave Junction, OR in August, 192CH was dispatched to a newly reported fire, the Cedar Creek fire. The quick response of the crew resulted in the helicopter being the first resource on scene. Once on scene, one pilot was able to call in the initial size up to dispatch and direct ground resources in to the fire. At the same time the other pilot was able to locate a dip site and wet line the 10+ acre fire by the end of the fuel cycle just as ground resources arrived on scene. As a result, the fire was contained by the end of shift

Forest Health Flights Black Hills National Forest

Due to the outbreak of the Mountain Pine Beetle across the Black Hills National forest, there were several recon, VIP and photo shoot flights that the aircraft desk at Great Plains dispatch staffed early and later in to the day for. Thanks to the staff for being so flexible and accommodating the field with their needs.

Total number of rotor wing flights with H-6HE	= 10
Total number of fixed wing flights with Recon 3-SD	= 3
Total number of flight following hours	= 26:44

Regional Health Flights Great Plains Zone

Each year the regional office completes forest health and aerial photography mapping. This is usually outside of the aircraft dispatch hours and once again requires early and late staffing of the desk, plus it is usually occurs during the high point of our fire season.

Total number of Regional health and mapping flights	= 6
Total number of flight following hours	= 30:03

Great Plains to the Rescue

A funny story to share and to prove there is never a dull moment at Great Plains Dispatch. In late April a Sierra Pacific (NICC Jet) carrying two Hot Shot Crews and three contract crews out of Region 6 stopped at Rapid City Regional airport for fuel. The crews were en-route to Tennessee on a support order. While doing their maintenance checks apparently they discovered mechanical problems with the plane...pretty obvious when you only see feet dangling from the engine of a big jet. We called the coordinator on duty at NICC and asked them if they knew their crews were stranded in Rapid City, they had not been notified as of yet. After a few phone calls we were able to get a new jet ordered and on its way, but of course this would take several hours. We off loaded the crews brought them into the training room showed them where the facilities were and proceeded to feed them. They were all very well mannered, only disrupted half the building and I believe grateful for the opportunity to get off the plane. Thanks to Landra for her quick response in getting the crews food and drinks.