

Northern Great Plains Interagency Dispatch Center



Trampus Haskvitz



Never Forgotten

2011 Annual Report

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Permission to use photo was granted by the Haskvitz family

NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER 2011 YEAR END REPORT

The National Weather Service predicted that a La Niña event would occur during the later portion of 2010, carrying through into 2011 for the winter and spring seasons. As most know, a La Niña event will produce cooler than normal temperatures with wetter than normal precipitation in the Northern sections of the country. This was surely true for the majority of Northern Great Plains Zone as many of the monthly weather summaries indicate predicted La Niña conditions. Far northeastern Wyoming, northern South Dakota and northeastern South Dakota appeared to take the brunt of the precipitation; however isolated strong storms did occur over many areas, producing copious amounts of rain, accompanied by large hail.

The record snowfall in Montana and North Dakota, coupled with the nearly daily deluges from June storms, Central and Eastern South Dakota became the hot spot in the Nation with the Missouri, James and Red Rivers Flooding towns such as Pierre, SD, Dakota Dunes, SD, and Sioux City, IA. Rocky Mountain Team C was mobilized to assist some of these communities.

Despite having La Niña conditions across much the zone for the 2011 season, the fire activity was still just slightly below normal especially compared to the last three years. With the last three years being fairly wet, several areas in south western and south central portions of South Dakota had three years worth of compacted fine flashy fuels. These fuels created extreme fire behavior, causing conditions, which early on took many of us by surprise.

Our first Type II fire of the season, the Whoopup fire began on July 18th, this lightning caused fire had burned into a previous fire with a lot of dead and down fuel which contributed to control efforts. Rocky Mountain Team C took command of the fire on July 19th and the fire was declared out at 10,675 acres. The second Type II fire was the Coal Canyon fire which began on August 11th, this lightning caused fire was also in grass mixed with timber fuel with heavy dead and down from a tornado which has passed through the canyon in the early 1990's. This fire turned deadly in the early stages of initial attack, when E-561 became trapped and we lost one of our own... Trampus Haskvitz, a 23 year old seasonal firefighter with South Dakota Wildland Fire gave his life to serve and protect the land and citizens of South Dakota. We will always remember Trampus' and his family's sacrifice and in our hearts he will always be our hero!! Rest in Peace Trampus, we will never forget.

Late in the season, several of the zones Bureau of Indian Affairs agencies and counties in central and eastern South Dakota produced high indices with Red Flag warnings, causing them concern for large grass fires. Hence, our third Type II fire for the zone, the Okreek fire started on October 5th, and this human caused fire was primarily a grass fuel model and totally wind driven. Rocky Mountain Team C took command of the fire on October 5th and the fire was declared out at 17,500 acres. On October 5th there were multiple large incidents within the GPC zone in both South Dakota and Nebraska, these incidents were primarily handled by local state or BIA resources, with one being a Type III and the rest being Type IV in complexity and size.

Resource mobilization to assist the RMA region and the South, kept Great Plains busy throughout the year with orders primarily to; MS Canyon Oil Spill, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Arkansas and Denver. Resource mobilization totals are displayed further into this report. Nearly all the GPC dispatchers were able to get out on assignment this season.

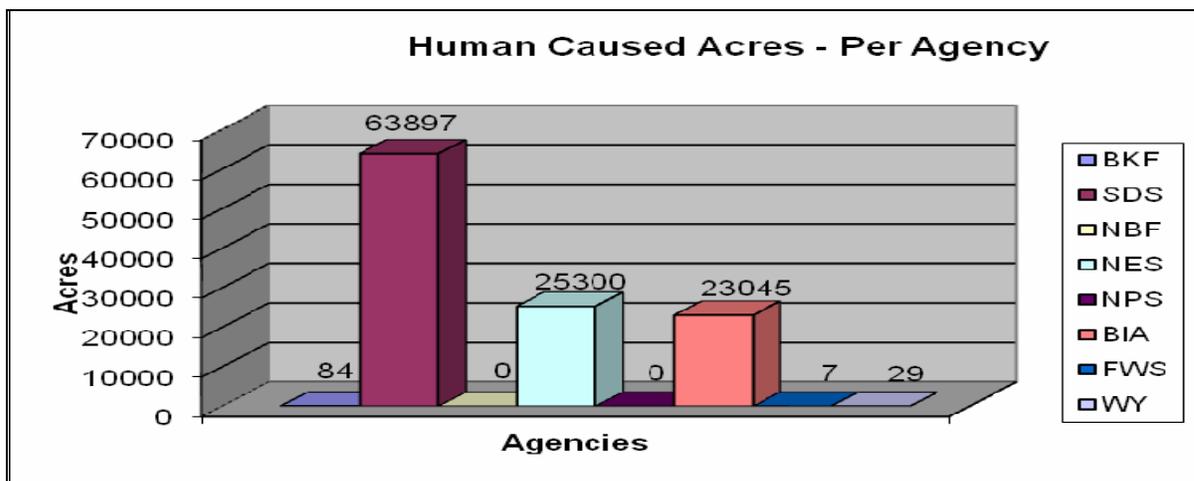
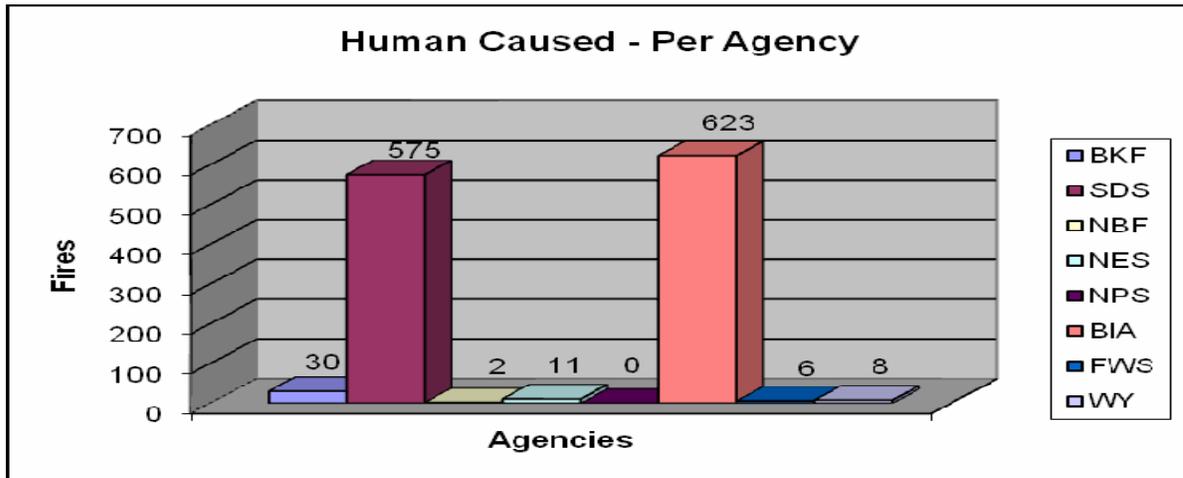
Again the spring and fall burning seasons appeared to successful for all agencies within the zone, at least according to burn requests and acres accomplished reported to GPC. Thanks to all for being diligent in getting us your information in a timely manner. It is appreciated!!

UNIT	AGENCY/STATE	HUMAN		LIGHTNING		TOTAL		PRESCRIBED FIRE	
		FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES
SD-SDS	SD-SDS	575	63897	56	1637	631	65534	26	1378
SD-TNC	SD-PCI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SD-BKF	SD-BKF	30	84	56	9519	86	9603	76	29340
NE-NBF	NE-NBF	2	0	15	636	17	636	6	2602
NE-NES	NE-NES	11	25300	6	2509	17	27809	5	6375
SD-BLM	SD-SDD	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	130
NE-MWP	NE-AFP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	464
NE-MWP	NE-HOP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NE-MWP	SD-BDP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2237
NE-MWP	WY-DTP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
NE-MWP	SD-JCP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NE-MWP	SD-MRP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	160
NE-MWP	SD-WCP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	130
NE-MWP	NE-SBP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1180
NE-MWP	SD-MOP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	0				0	0	6	4176
SD-GPA	SD-CCA	37	95	0	0	37	95	3	121
SD-GPA	ND-SRA	98	509	5	2	103	511	6	569
SD-GPA	SD-LBA	19	1800	1	0	20	1800	1	160
SD-GPA	SD-SIA	17	135	0	0	17	135	4	579
SD-GPA	SD-RBA	84	15384	6	106	90	15490	4	171
SD-GPA	SD-CRA	61	547	17	69	78	616	5	231
SD-GPA	SD-PRA	241	3209	27	584	268	3793	10	1095
SD-GPA	SD-FSA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SD-GPA	SD-YAA	23	172	0	0	23	172	48	2003
SD-GPA	NE-WIA	43	1194	0	0	43	1194	11	5526
	TOTAL	623	23045	56	761	679	23806	92	10455
CO-R6R	SD-HUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1033
CO-R6R	SD-LCR	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	543
CO-R6R	SD-LAR	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	186
CO-R6R	SD-MDR	3	3	0	0	3	3	17	1708
CO-R6R	SD-SLR	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	3233
CO-R6R	SD-WAR	0	0	1	7	1	7	11	1247
CO-R6R	NE-CLR	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	672
CO-R6R	NE-FNR	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	637
CO-R6R	NE-NPR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CO-R6R	NE-RBR	3	4	0	0	3	4	16	1899
CO-R6R	NE-VAR	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1157
CO-R6R	ND-KUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	1001
CO-R6R	ND-TWR	0	0	1	4	1	4	6	722
	TOTAL	6	7	2	11	8	18	91	14038
WY-CTY	WY-CRX	2	3	18	40	20	43	0	0
WY-CTY	WY-WEX	6	26	5	3341	11	3367	0	0
	TOTAL	8	29	23	3381	31	3410	0	0

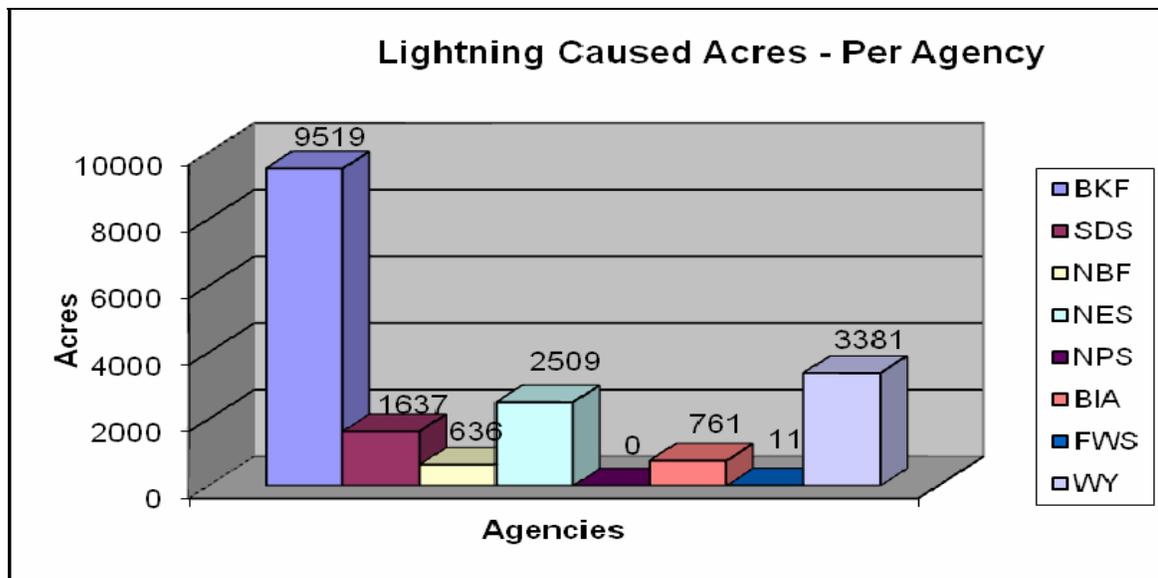
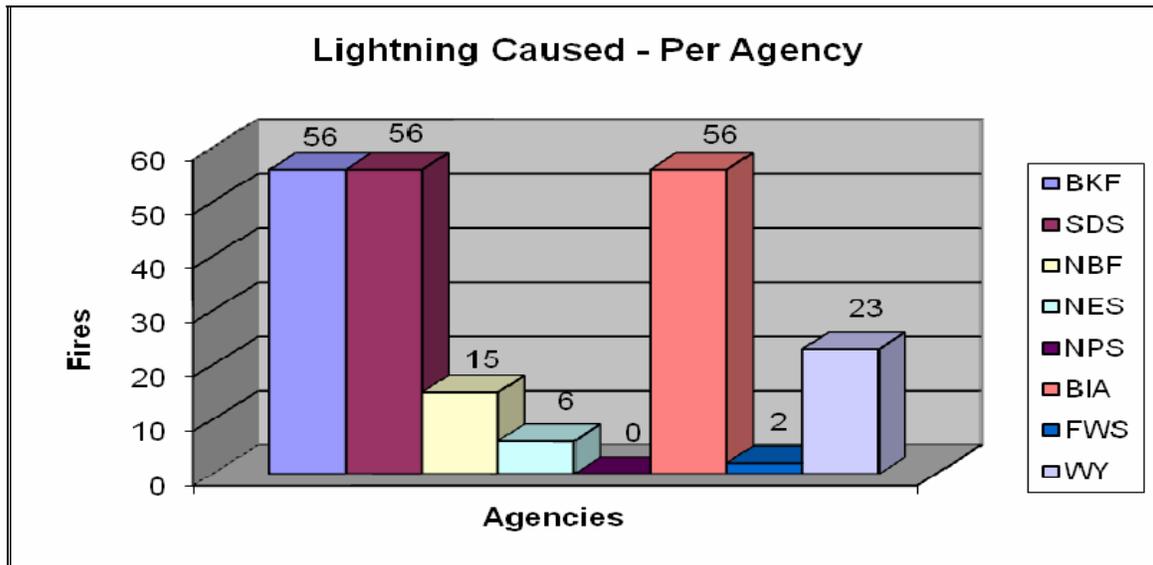
Fire and Acres by Cause per Agency as Reported on the National Situation Report

**2011
FIRES AND ACRES WITHIN THE NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS
ZONE**

AGENCY	HUMAN		LIGHTNING		TOTAL	
	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES
SDS	575	63897	56	1637	631	65534
BKF	30	84	56	9519	86	9603
NBF	2	0	15	636	17	636
NES	11	25300	6	2509	17	27809
NPS	0	0	0	0	0	0
BIA	623	23045	56	761	679	23806
FWS	6	7	2	11	8	18
WYS CO	8	29	23	3381	31	3410
TOTAL	1255	112362	214	18454	1469	130816
False Alarms					108	
TOTAL INCIDENTS					1577	



**2011
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.

2011 LARGE FIRE ACTIVITY

Incident Name	State-Unit	Start Date	Cause	Acres	Team Type	Incident Commander
Thedford II	NE-NES	04/22/2011	H	11,000	T-4	J. Thomas
Graduation	NE-NES	05/06/2011	H	1,100	T-5	R. Giles
Mothers Day	NE-NES	05/08/2011	L	2,500	T-5	J. Thomas
Whoopup	WY-WEX	07/17/2011	L	10,675	T-2	J. Lowe
Coal Creek	SD-SDS	07/20/2011	H	406	T-4	A.Stevens
Coal Canyon	SD-BKF	08/11/2011	L	5,214	T-2	J. Esperance
Sheep Wagon	SD-BKF	08/20/2011	L	127	T-4	S. Manahan
Wild Stallion	SD-PRA	08/23/2011	UI	2,510	T-3	M. Twist
Thompson	SD-SDS	08/25/2011	H	365	T-4	D. Warren
North Fork	NE-NBF	08/26/2011	L	486	T-4	M. Tschacher
Naw Dog	SD-PRA	08/26/2011	UI	475	T-3	A. Thompson
Buck	SD-BKF	08/30/2011	L	206	T-4	A. Baker
Harvest CA	NE-NES	10/04/2011	H	7,000		F. Cramer
Mound City	SD-SDS	10/05/2011	H	11,000	T-4	L. Goering
Highway 47	SD-LBA	10/05/2011	H	1,790	T-3	A. Lien
Okreek	SD-RBA	10/05/2011	H	17,500	T-2	J. Lowe
Lone Tree	SD-CRA	10/06/2011	H	336	T-4	T. Kennedy
Post	ND-SRA	10/22/2011	H	165	T-3	D. Luger
Line Creek	SD-SDS	10/31/2011	H	645	T-4	L. Madsen
Horseshoe	SD-SDS	11/03/2011	H	890	T-4	D. Gorton

2011 TEAM B ASSIGNMENTS

INCIDENT NAME	LOCATION	AGENCY (S)	DURATION	SIZE	INCIDENT COMMANDER
None					

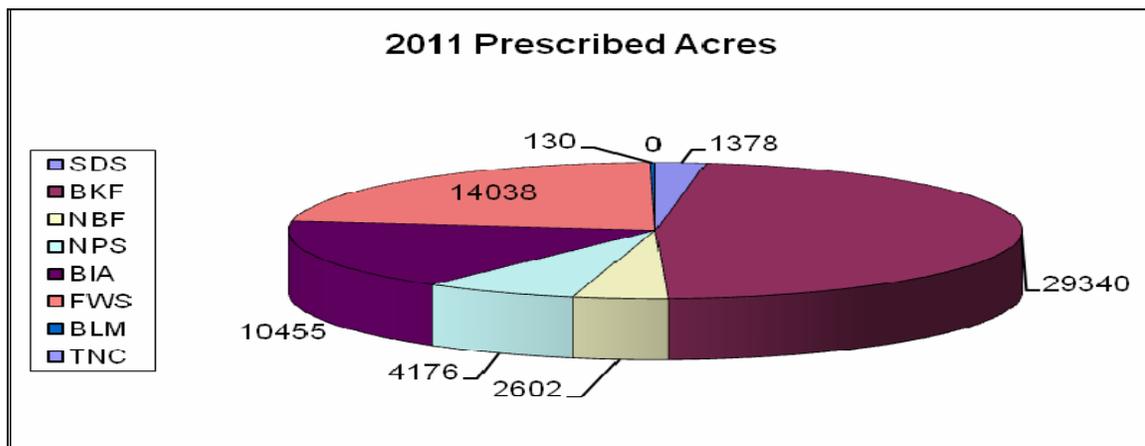
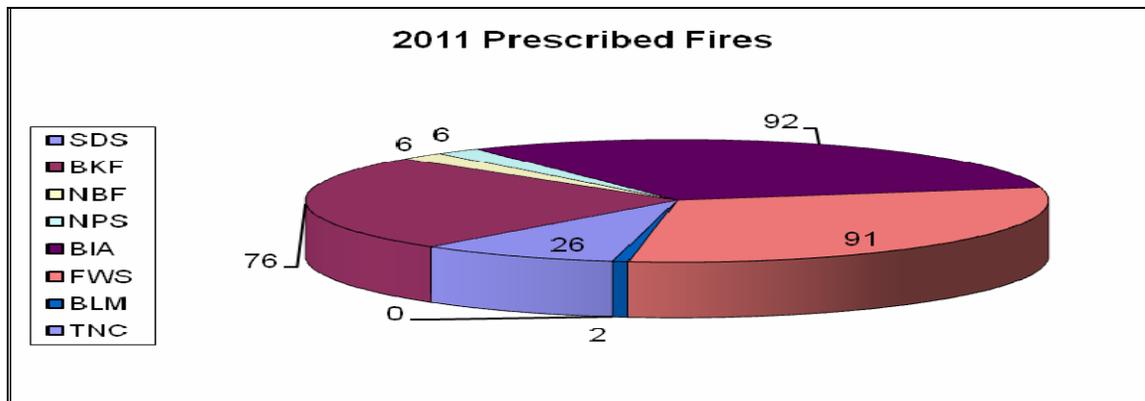
2011 TEAM C ASSIGNMENTS

INCIDENT NAME	LOCATION	AGENCY (S)	DURATION	SIZE	INCIDENT COMMANDER
Dakota Dunes	South Dakota	SD-SDS	05/29/2011-06/14/2011	Flooding	J. Lowe
Whoopup	Weston County	WY-WEX	07/18/2011-07/26/2011	10, 675	J. Lowe
Coal Canyon	Black Hills NF	SD-BKF	08/12/2011-08/19/2011	5.214	J. Esperance
Hole in the Wall	Shoshone NF	WY-SHF	08/23/2011-09/02/2011	6,334	J. Lowe
Okreek	Rosebud Agency	SD-RBA	10/05/2011-10/08/2011	17,500	J. Lowe

2011 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.

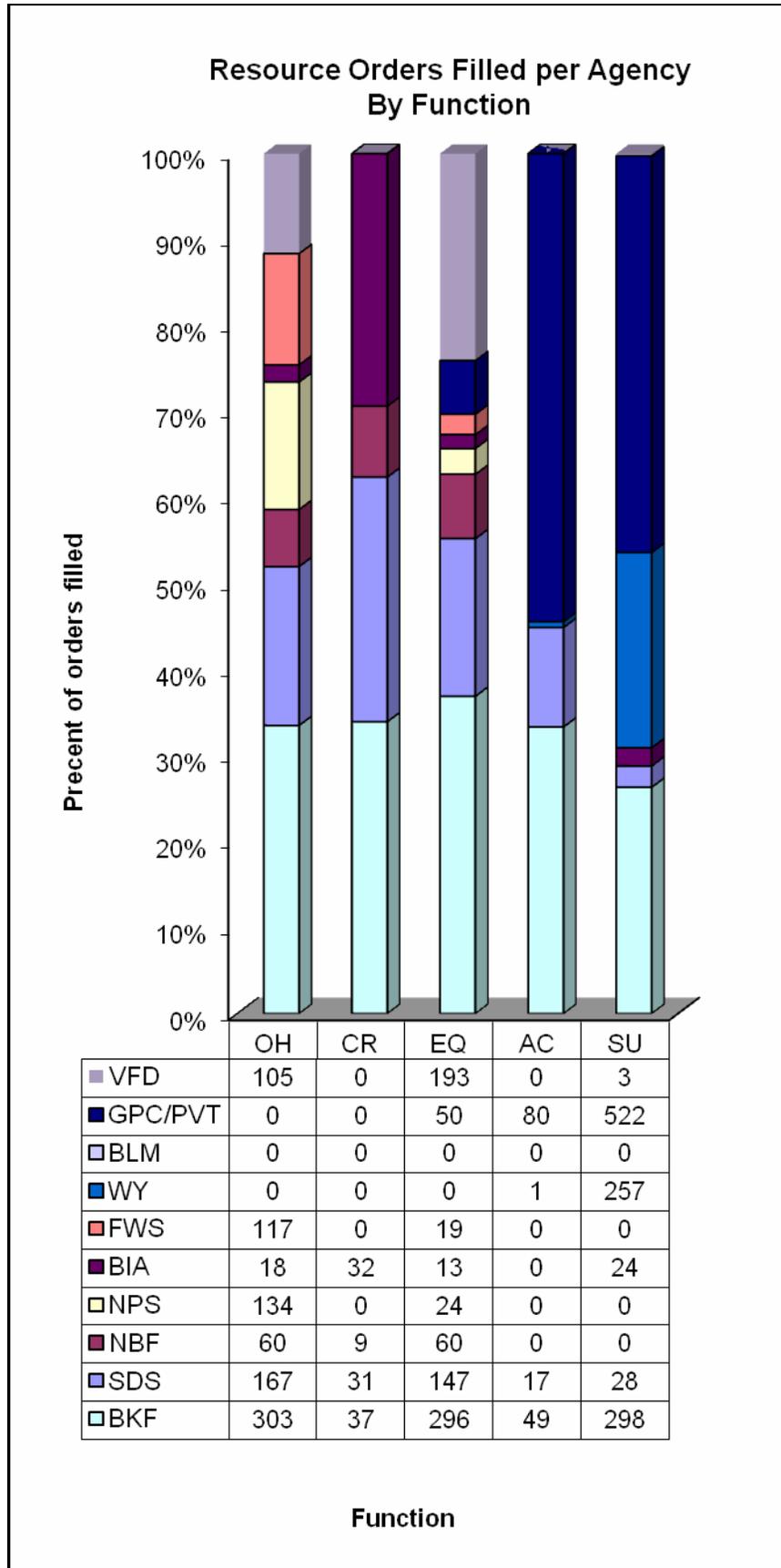
Agency	Number of Fires	Acres
SDS	26	1378
BKF	76	29340
NBF	6	2602
NPS	6	4176
BIA	92	10455
FWS	91	14038
BLM	2	130
TNC	0	0
Total	299	62119



2011 Bureau of Land Management Information

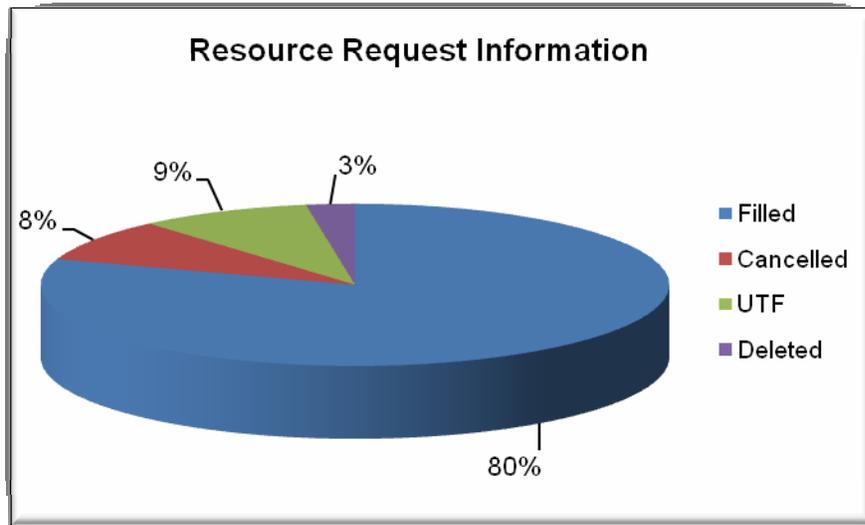
As part of the annual operating plan between South Dakota Bureau of Land Management (SD-SDD) and the State of South Dakota Division of Wildland Fire (SD-SDS), all fire suppression activities are the responsibility of SD-SDS, therefore suppression information and numbers are lumped into the SD-SDS statistics. 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

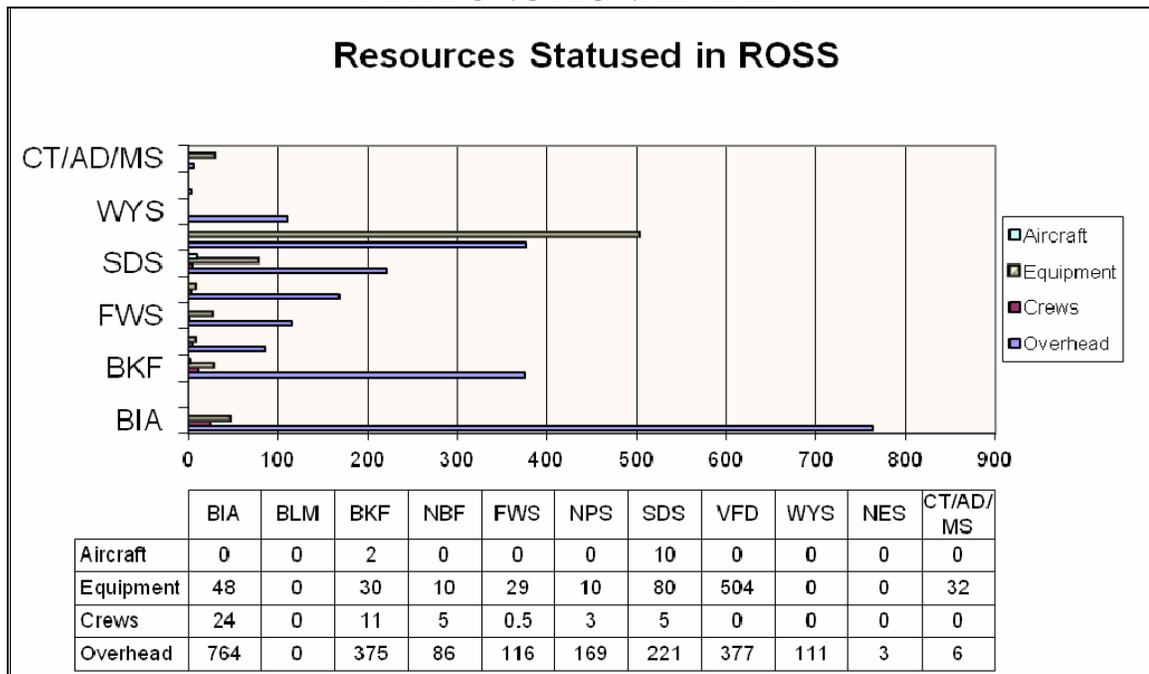


RESOURCES ORDERED THROUGH GPC

RESOURCE TYPE	FILLED	CANCELED	UTF	DELETED
AIRCRAFT	147	14	5	1
CREWS	109	11	8	1
OVERHEAD	904	122	310	18
EQUIPMENT	802	106	20	1
SUPPLIES	1132	74	0	28
TOTAL	3094	327	343	49



RESOURCES STATED IN ROSS PER AGENCY PER FUNCTIONAL AREA



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

2011 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. 2011 was the 5th 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.

July and August proved to be fairly active months, the ICL crew performed their contract duties well and the tanker base received good support from Fire Management on the forest. Additional support included personnel from our local partners along with personnel ordered in from out of the area for assignments.

Number of air tankers (Type I and Type II) flown out of RAP ATB	= 98
Number of Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs) flown out of RAP ATB	= 1
Total number of air tankers flown out of RAP ATB	= 99
Number of air tanker (Type I & Type II) flight missions (loads)	= 94
Number of Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs) flight missions (loads)	= 1
Total number of air tanker flight missions (loads)	= 95
Gallons of LC-95A retardant delivered by Type I & Type II air tankers	= 199,235
Gallons of LC-95A retardant delivered by Type III & Type IV air tankers	= 513
Gallons of water delivered by Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs)	= 0
Total gallons of LC-95A retardant delivered to wildland fires	= 199,748
Flight hours for Type I & Type II air tankers out of RAP ATB	= 110.23
Flight hours for Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs) out of RAP ATB	= 0
Total flight hours for Type I & 2 air tankers & SEATs out of RAP ATB	= 110.23
Number of wildland fires RAP ATB supported	= 16

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

Expanded SEAT program for South Dakota Wildland Fire Suppression

Tanker 466 was based out to Hot Springs, South Dakota for 103 day this season, flying on multiple incidents throughout the Black Hills and western South Dakota.

Sorties Flown: 15
Total Retardant delivered: 7613 gal
Total Water delivered: 2200

Tanker 875 was assigned the Standing Rock Agency and was based out of Mobridge, SD.

Number of fires supported = 20
Number of Drops = 29
Gallons of water delivered = 5250

South Dakota State Air Attack

For the second season, South Dakota Wildland Fire Suppression through the Governor's office made it possible to utilize a King Air for the zone Air Attack platform. This resource has become a great asset to the cooperators in the zone, with quick mobilization and qualified pilots.

Flight hours for AT-3SD = 124
Number of fires Supported = 5

South Dakota National Guard Support

The SDNG has become a great partner and cooperator to fire and resource management within this zone; we work well together to accomplish training for both guard personnel and firefighters. In May of this year and in conjunction with **Black Hill Life Flight**, the National Guard assisted in a field training to train personnel on packaging patients, communications and hoist maneuvers. We hope to make this an annual training.

Two additional NG training days took place in Custer State Park, which included working on communication skills.

The SDNG also assisted the interagency wildland fire operations with one incident for the season, the Okreek fire on Rosebud BIA.

Sorties Flown: 1
Recon Flight: 1

Interagency Helicopter Program H-N98TE

The exclusive use contract on the Black Hills National Forest began on June 21st and ended on September 19th. The second day of the contract we traveled to the Kaibab NF for severity and reassigned to The Las Conchas Fire on the Santa Fe NF, where we remained for 23 days. The helitack crew and helicopter remained on the home unit the remainder of the season and assisted on 33 initial attacks in the Black Hills area. The 2011 Black Hills Interagency Helitack crew was comprised of seven firefighters who staffed the helicopter seven days a week. The crew continues to be successful with the cooperation of the Black Hills National Forest, National Park Service, Nebraska National Forest, South Dakota Wildland Fire, and Crook County in Wyoming.

Total number initial attacks for the season	= 33
Total number of large fires for the season	= 5
Total gallons of water/retardant dropped	= 31,480
Total Fire Flight hours	= 130.9
Total non-fire Flight hours	= 10.9
Total Flight hours for the season	= 141.8
Number of personnel transported	= 214
Number of person days on fires	= 391
Total pounds of cargo internal/external	= 23,021
Total Contract cost	= \$503,121.86

National Type I Exclusive Use Contract H-N192CH

The 2011 Exclusive Use Type 1 contract mandatory availability period (MAP) ran 90 days from June 12th to September 9th. The aircraft was also extended from September 10th to September 26th. The aircraft spent 14 days at the host base (Custer Airport) from July 23rd to August 6th. The remaining 92 days were spent at alternate bases in Colorado, Wyoming, Texas, Idaho, Oregon and California. During those 92 days the aircraft was assigned to 6 large fires, assisted with 12 initial attacks.

Total number initial attacks for the season	= 12
Total number of large fires for the season	= 6
Total gallons of water/retardant dropped	= 305,792
Total Fire Flight hours	= 346.1
Total non-fire Flight hours	= 8.1
Total Flight hours for the season	= 354.2
Availability Period cost was	\$1,070,789.30
Total Cost for the 2010 contract was	\$2,570,076.70

The helicopter was used mostly for water dropping missions this summer. The aircraft was equipped with a 150 foot long line and 1300 gallon Bambi bucket outfitted with a Torrentula valve and four pumps. This setup allowed the aircraft to find water in small ponds as shallow as 18 inches, many times much closer to the fire than larger water sources required by some other aircraft.

Forest and Regional Health Flights

With the Mountain Beetle epidemic Forest and Regional health flights have become a substantial workload for the aircraft desk at Great Plains. These flights are not restricted to the Black Hills region, nor are they strictly fixed wing. We receive requests locally and regionally to flight follow health flights in Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Total Forest rotor wing flights with H-8TE	= 10.4
Total Regional fixed wing flights with Recon 962	= 25.7
Total number of fixed wing flights with WY CAP	= 2.3
Total number of flight following hours	= 38.40

Reconnaissance and Detection Flights

July and August it is not uncommon to get thousands of lightning strikes across the zone in one afternoon. Due the great amount of private in holdings across the Black Hills, we have tried to become proactive and launch reconnaissance flights for early detection of an incident. This has proved to be very effective in keeping over 98% of our new starts small.

Total reconnaissance/detection flight hours GPC flight followed	= 34.9
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