

# 2014 Montrose Dispatch Year End Report

**Representing the following Cooperating Agencies**

**Bureau of Land Management**

**United States Forest Service**

**National Park Service**

**Colorado Department of Prevention and Control**

**Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, Saguache & San Miguel County**



Montrose Interagency Dispatch Center began the fire season with change once again. The Forest Service Forest Fire Management Officer took a new position in Region 5, leaving the position vacant. The Forest Service brought in a detailer to fill in until a new person could be hired. Clay Fowler from the Upper Colorado River Fire program was selected, he reported to work May 5<sup>th</sup> 2014. In the meantime, the Dispatch Assistant Center Manager, Amy Stephens Cook, left government employment to become a stay at home mom. Kareen Hollenbeck the lead IA dispatcher took a 120 day detail to fill in the assistant position. We selected another local candidate to fill behind Kareen as the IA Dispatcher which was Cindy Sperling. We were able to advertise and fill the Assistant position in September. The first candidate pool was too small so we re-opened the position for 12 more days and received a solid candidate pool October 15<sup>th</sup>. Jason Ferguson was selected for the position and will report to work January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015. BLM Southwest District FMO Mike Davis is retiring effective January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015. His replacement was selected and is Brandon Lewis, from the Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge Complex in Oregon, he will report February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015.

Colorado Department of Prevention and Control (DFPC) was the next big change that came to our center. They hired an engine module to staff their Type 6 engine that will be permanently stationed in Montrose. The Type 3 State helicopter came on in July and was also stationed in Montrose. This looks to be a permanent home base for the Helicopter as well.

The Southwest District BLM moved the Montrose Dispatch Boundary which will be effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2015. This gives Durango Dispatch responsibility to most of the Tres Rios Field office.

The office was staffed with four individuals for the second year in a row. This gave us the ability to help out other dispatch offices with their coverage needs.

Montrose Dispatch area experienced a below average fire season with only a total of 44 action fires in the area. We did not order any Type 1 or 2 Teams or Crews. We had no orders for seats or air tankers of any kind. We did have a high number of out of area Resource orders.

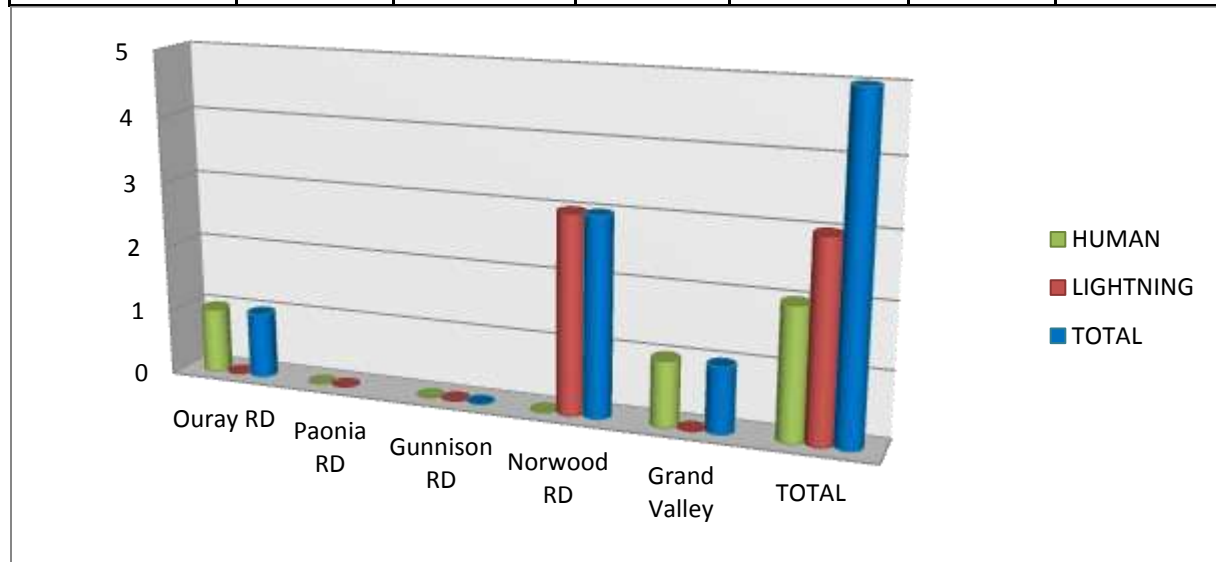
# Statistical Summary of Incidents

## Montrose Dispatch

RESOURCE ORDERS NON LOCAL INCIDENTS		
	ORDERS	Incidents
OVERHEAD	225	114
EQUIPMENT	49	27
Crew	3	3

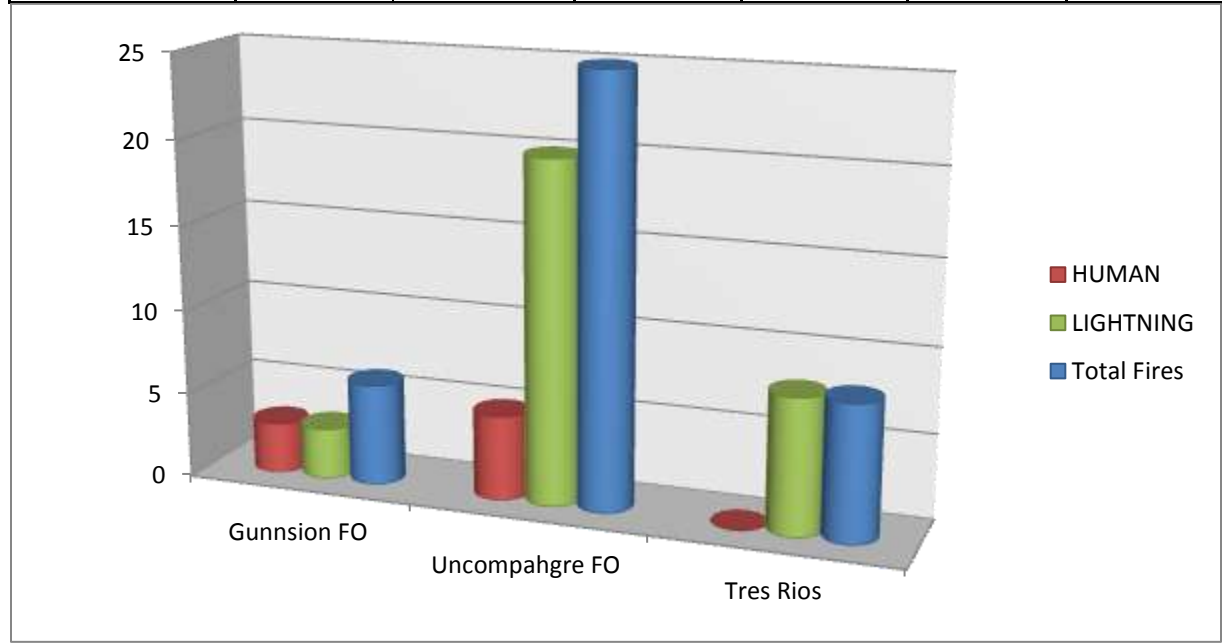
## Grand Mesa Uncompahgre National Forest

Agency	HUMAN		LIGHTNING		TOTAL	
	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres
Ouray RD	1	0.1	0	0	1	0.1
Paonia RD	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gunnison RD	0	0	0	0	0	0
Norwood RD	0	0	3	1.3	3	1.3
Grand Valley	1	0.1	0	0	1	0.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1.5</b>
False Alarms					14	
Prescribed Fires	0	0				



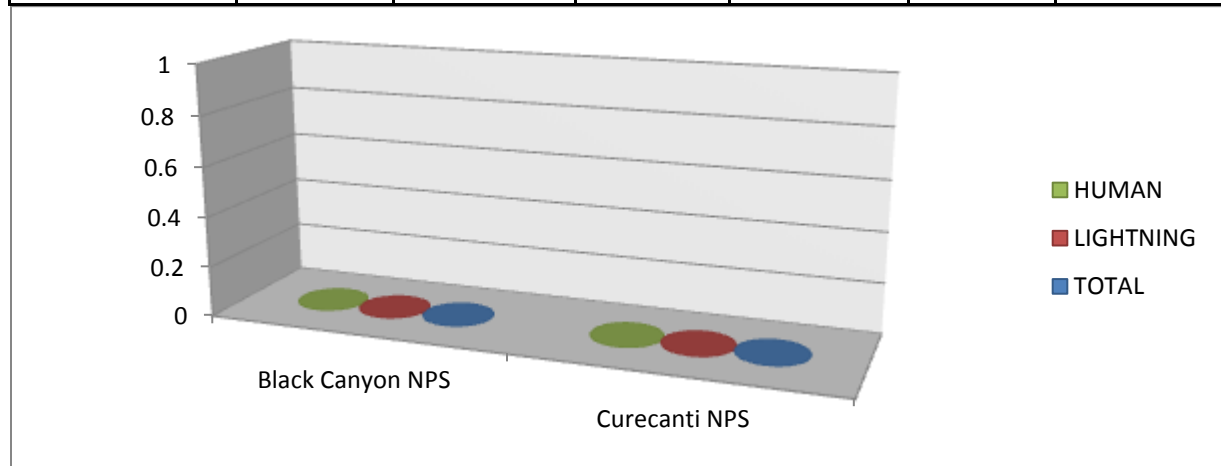
# Southwest District BLM

Agency	HUMAN		LIGHTNING		TOTAL	
	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres
Gunnison FO	3	0.10	3	22.00	6	22.10
Uncompahgre FO	5	48.50	20	24.15	25	72.65
Tres Rios	0	0.00	8	1.10	8	1.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>48.60</b>	<b>31.00</b>	<b>47.25</b>	<b>39.00</b>	<b>95.85</b>
False Alarms					11.00	
Prescribed Fires	4.00	0.00				



## Black Canyon National Park and Curecanti National Recreation Area

Agency	HUMAN		LIGHTNING		TOTAL	
	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres
Black Canyon NPS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Curecanti NPS	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>False Alarms</b>					0	
<b>Prescribed Fires</b>	0	0				0



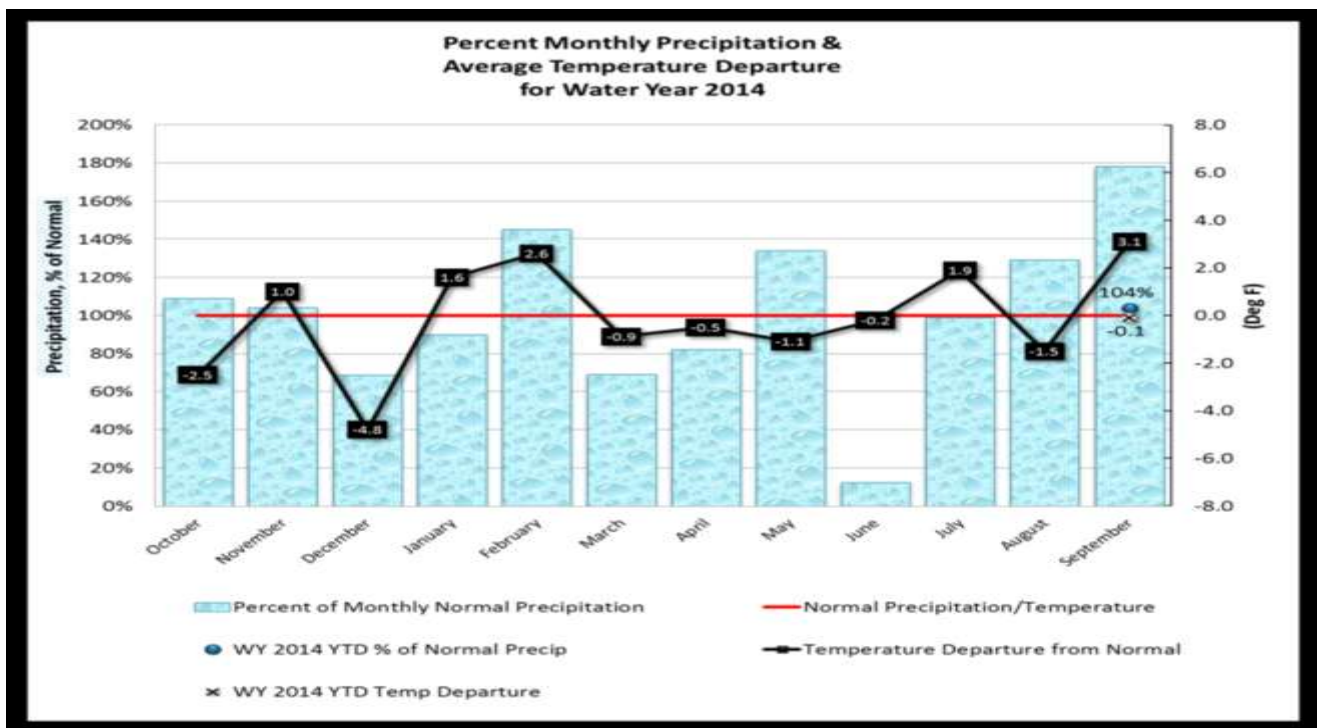
County Fires Federal response	Fires	Acres	False Alarm
Delta	2	4.1	
Gunnison	2	0.2	1
Montrose	2	0.2	2
San Miguel	2	1.25	0
Ouray	0		0
Hinsdale	0		0
Saguache	0		0

## Montrose Dispatch 5 Year Average

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Average	+/- AVG
# Fires	66	73	135	78	44	79.2	-11.2
# Acres	3775.00	1832.90	475.03	475.03	97.35	1331.06	-856.032

### Weather Summary:

Chart below shows the water year, we were overall slightly above average precipitation and slightly below average temperature, for the winter months and continuing throughout the summer. March thru June showed some signs of drying, but our typical early fire load month of May was wet enough to stave off any significant early fire season. It also limited prescribed burning windows to a few select days.



The charts below showed that briefly from mid-June thru the first week of July, indices, were later than normal, but temporarily rose to significant levels. Dead fuel moisture collections during this period validated these levels. Natural ignition sources were scarce during this period, leading to a much less than average fire season. Once the monsoonal flow set up in mid-July it continued throughout the remaining summer. Fall prescribed burn windows followed a similar pattern to spring and opportunities were limited.

