



Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center
2022 Annual Report



2022 Year in Review

For the most part, the 2022 fire season was an average fire season when compared to previous fire seasons across the Fort Collins Dispatch (FTC) Zone. We continued to work on the Marshall Fire through the first part of January and then there was a lull in fire activity until the end of March when the fire season started in earnest.

There were 95 wildfires reported within the Fort Collins Dispatch Zone, which is up from the 2021 fire season of 73 wildfires. Out of the 95 reported wildfires, 66 were human caused (69%) and 29 were caused by lightning (31%). The total acres burned across the zone was 13,458.3, however 92% of those acres (12,381.37 acres) were on the Eastern Plains. Human caused fires accounted for the highest number of acres burned with a total of 13,074.1 acres. There were 384.2 acres burned across the zone due to lightning caused fires.

Excluding the Eastern Plains, there were only five wildfires over 100 acres. These included:

- NCAR fire in Boulder County burned 189 acres on March 26th
- 37E fire in Larimer County burned 117 acres on April 15th
- Halligan 1 in Larimer County burned 160 acres on June 27th
- County Road 7 in Larimer County burned 100 acres on July 9th
- CR21 in Larimer County burned 212 acres on September 8th



NCAR Fire

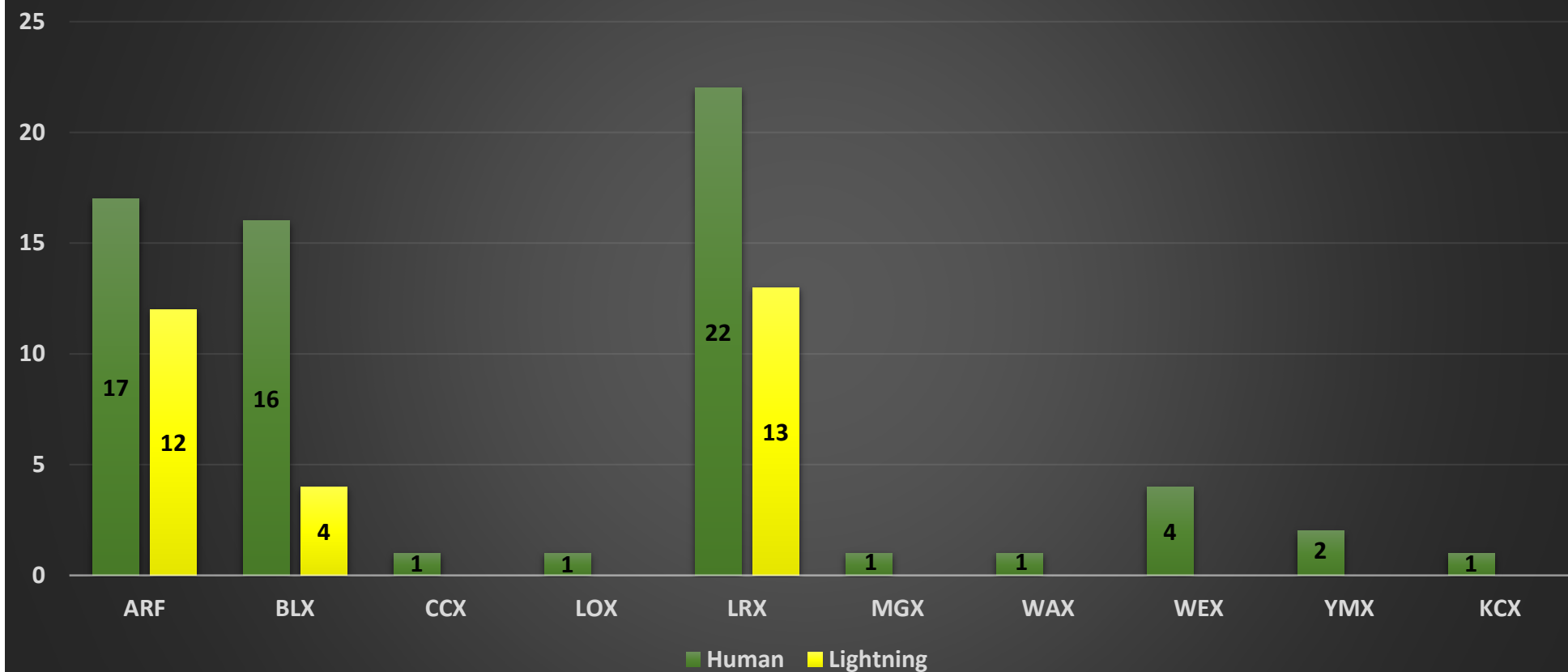


37E Fire as seen from FNL SEAT Base



Halligan 1 Fire

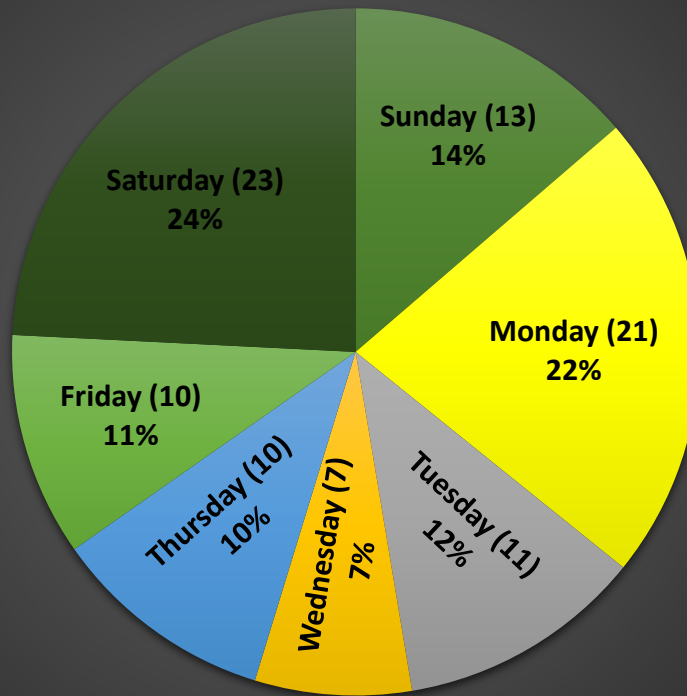
Fires by Agency and Cause



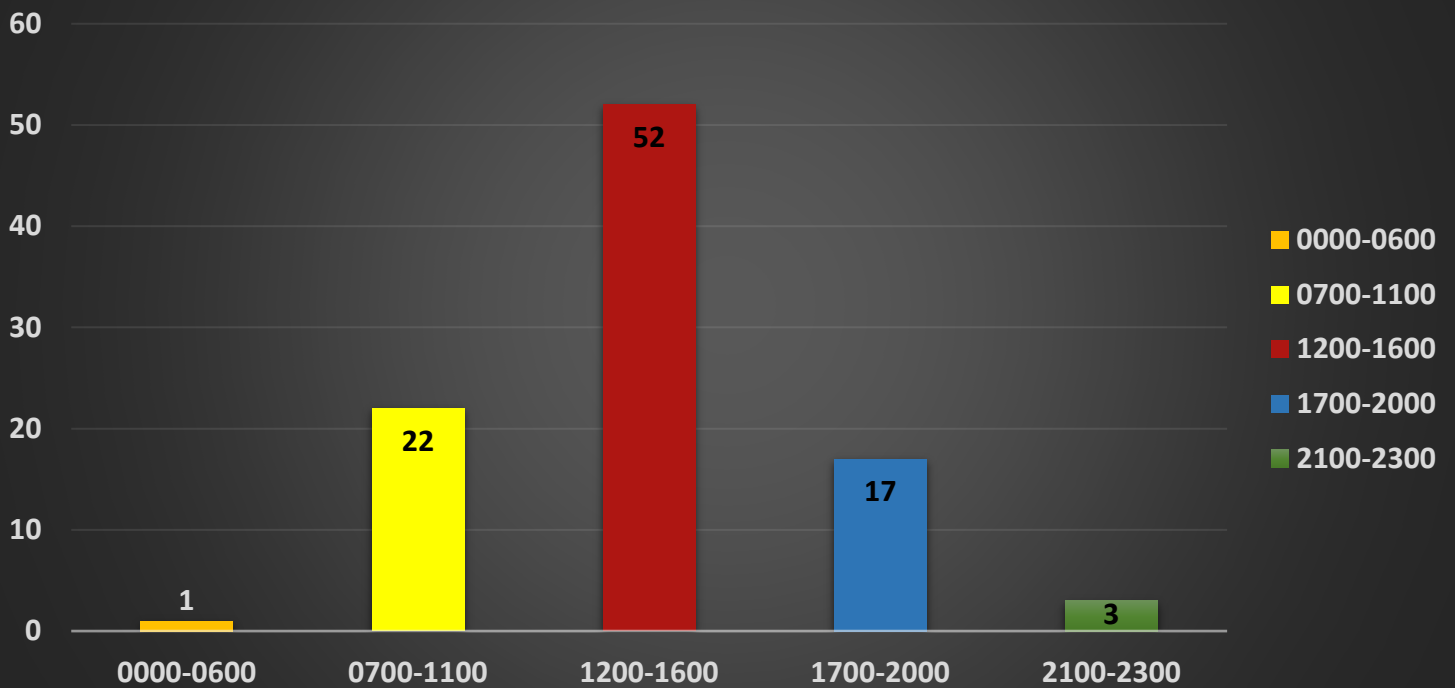
	ARF	BLX	CCX	CSFS	GLX	GRX	KCX	LOX	LRX	MGX	RMP	RMR	WAX	WEX	YMX
Human Acres	109.3	295.87	0.2	0	0	0	4,200	0.1	287.36	3	0	0	460	93.27	7,625
Lightning Acres	3.2	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	380.6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Acres	112.5	296.27	0.2	0	0	0	4,200	0.1	667.96	3	0	0	460	93.27	7,625

¹ ARF: Arapaho-Roosevelt NF & Pawnee NG, BLX: Boulder County, CCX: Clear Creek County, CSFS: Colorado State Forest Service, GLX: Gilpin County, GRX: Grand County, KCX: Kit Carson County, LOX: Logan County, LRX: Larimer County, MGX: Morgan County, RMP: Rocky Mountain National Park, RMR: Rocky Mountain Arsenal (Fish & Wildlife), WAX: Washington County, WEX: Weld County, and YMX: Yuma County

Wildfire Incident Occurrence by Day



Wildfire Incident Occurrence by Hour



Fort Collins Zone WildCAD Incidents

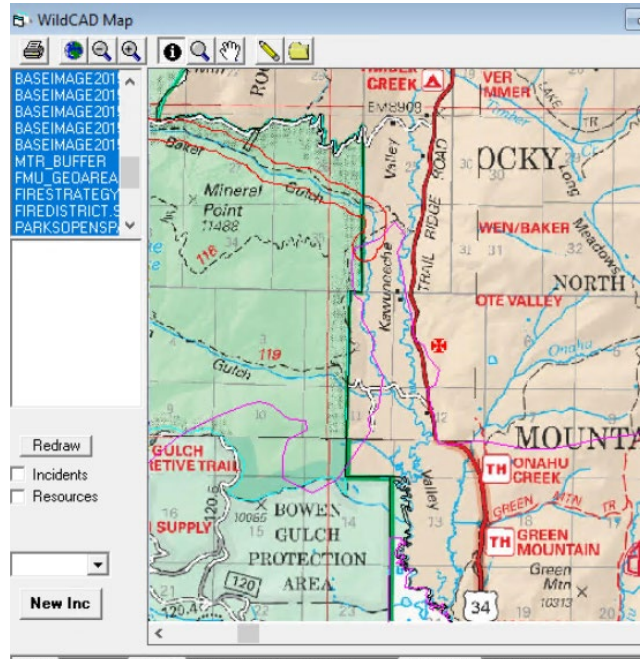
Fort Collins Interagency Dispatch Center processed 858 WildCAD incidents in 2022. Wildfires, aircraft tracking, processing resource orders, and miscellaneous incidents account for 83% of the WildCAD incidents.

Aircraft tracking includes flight following any aircraft flying within or coming into or out of the FTC Zone. Resource order processing takes the most time for our dispatchers. We processed a total of 985 resources orders to move resources into and out of the FTC Zone.

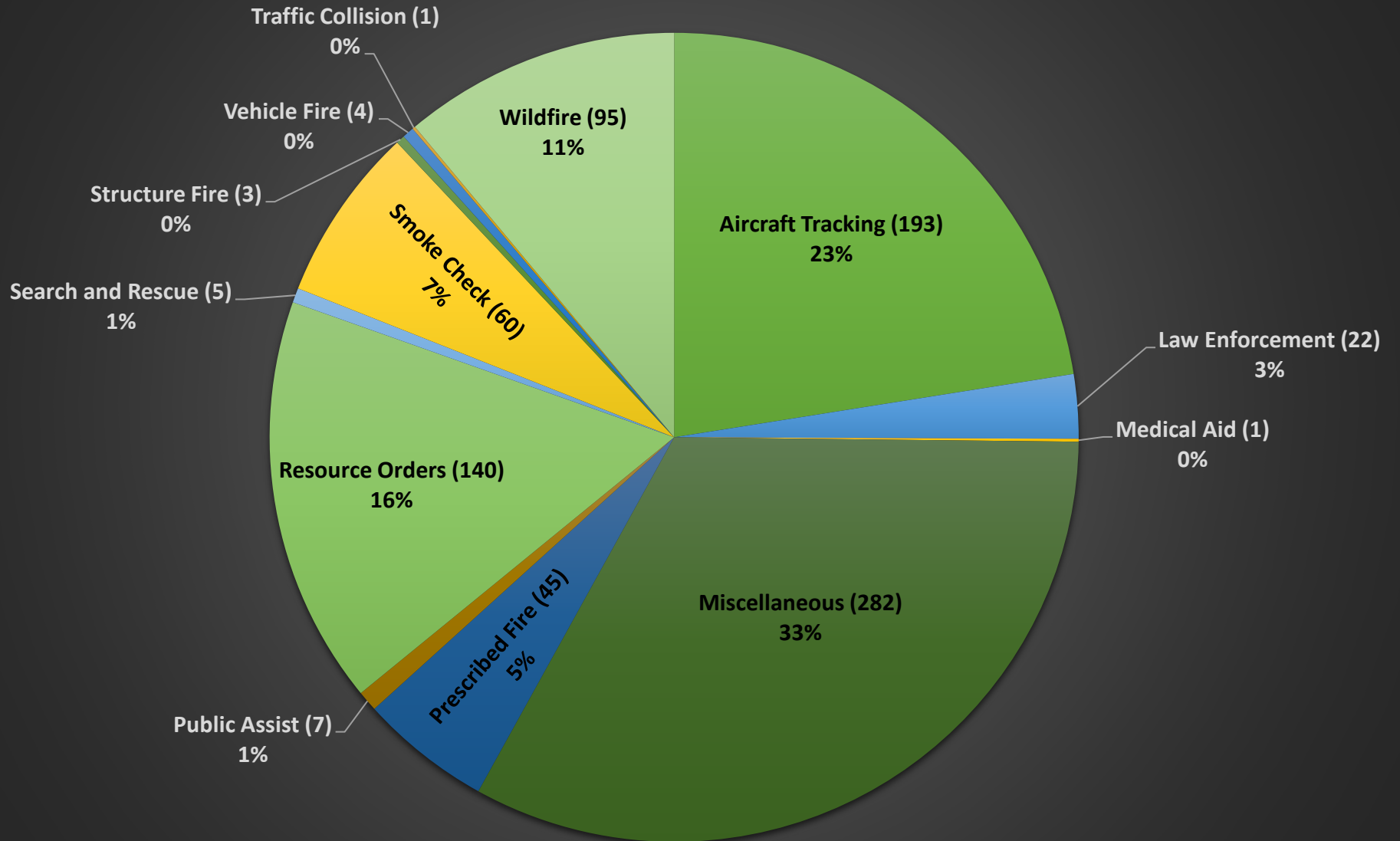
Most of the workload (33%) in WildCAD were classified as miscellaneous incident types (282 incidents). Miscellaneous incidents are further broken down into the following categories: training, campfires, radio/phone/computer issues, weather warnings (red flag, flash flood, high wind, etc.), severity/support, Region 2 In and Out Board (R2IOB), project work, Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center (RMACC) aircraft extensions, RMACC crew extensions, and ARF extensions.

Weather warnings accounted for the largest number of miscellaneous incidents, with 107 (12% of all the incidents and 38% of the miscellaneous incidents). At the beginning of the year, the majority of the weather warnings were for red flag/fire weather or high winds. Once spring came along, the warnings were more for flash flooding. Extensions, campfires, and tracking overdue Forest personnel (R2IOB) made up most (121) of the other miscellaneous incidents FTC worked on.

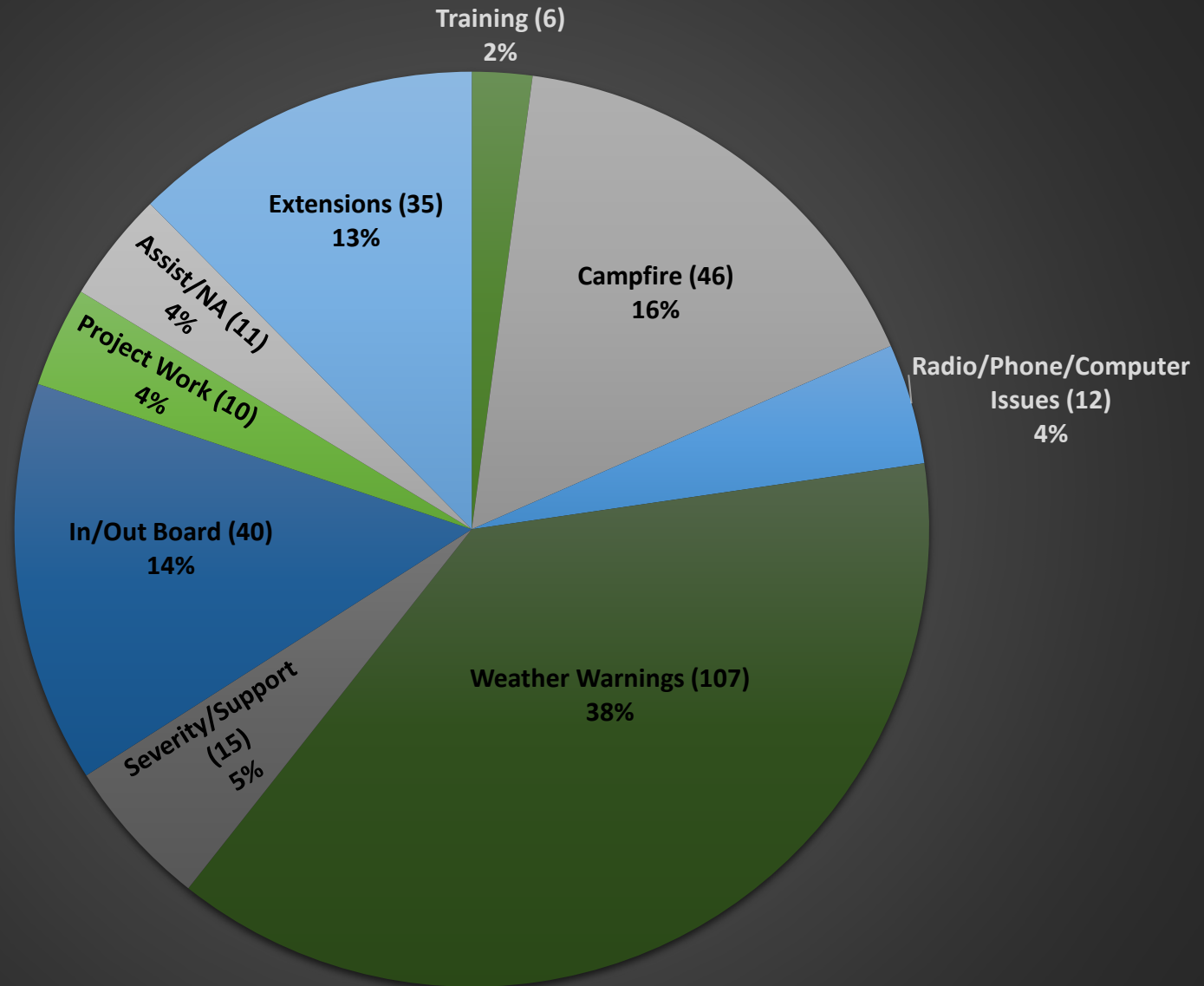
Open Incidents (Last#: 861)		
FTC-2022-860	Thompson River 4 Piles (Presc Fire)	12/28/2022 08:00
ARF-2022-850	Little HO (Presc Fire)	12/09/2022 16:53:23
ARF-2022-849	Snow Mountain (Presc Fire)	12/09/2022 16:14:42
ARF-2022-844	Thompson River 3 (Presc Fire)	12/08/2022 12:23:30
RMP-2022-842	Pontiac Pit (Presc Fire)	12/07/2022 12:03:47
RMP-2022-841	Kawuneeche (Presc Fire)	12/07/2022 11:56:06
ARF-2022-838	Kawland Piles (Presc Fire)	12/02/2022 13:02:41
ARF-2022-832	Panhandle 2 Machine (Presc Fire)	11/29/2022 14:00:00
ARF-2022-831	High Lonesome (Presc Fire)	11/29/2022 13:53:30
FTS-2022-830	Lory State Park Piles (Presc Fire)	11/29/2022 09:20:00
ARF-2022-607	Forsythe RX (Presc Fire)	08/15/2022 12:25:52
ARF-2022-347	Blue Ridge RX (Presc Fire)	06/27/2022 10:17:30
ARF-2022-219	Magic Feather RX (Presc Fire)	05/17/2022 07:51:00
RMR-2022-72	Arsenal Broadcast (Presc Fire)	03/25/2022 13:45:00
BLX-2022-68	Arapaho RX (Presc Fire)	03/23/2022 07:09:05



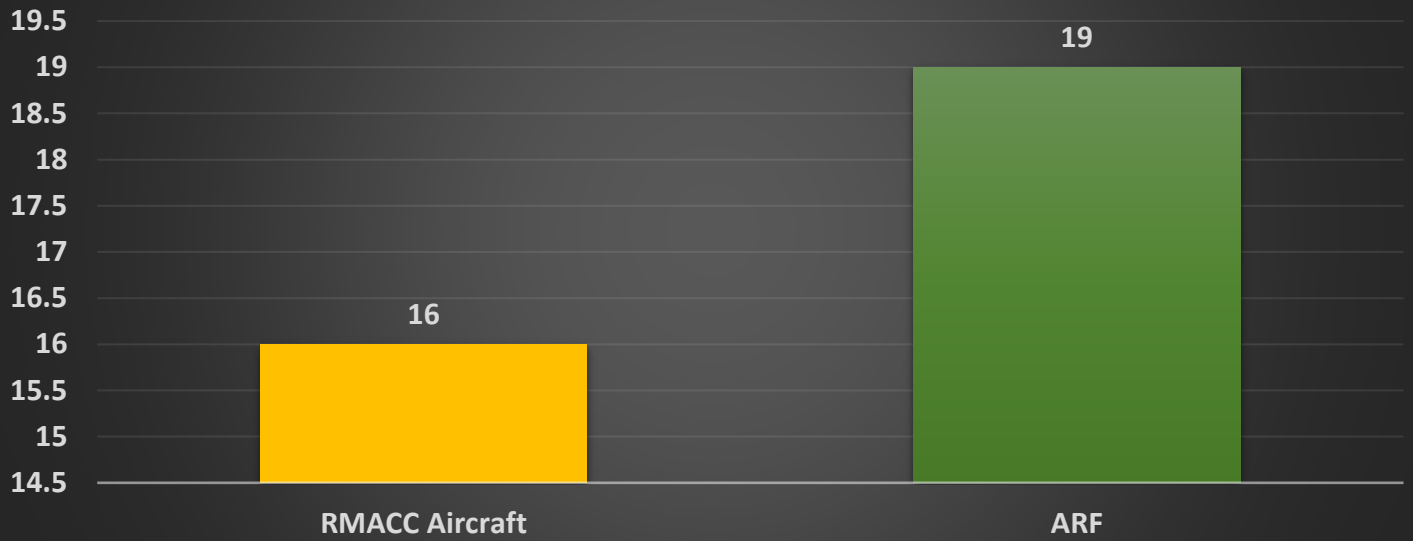
WildCAD Incidents By Type



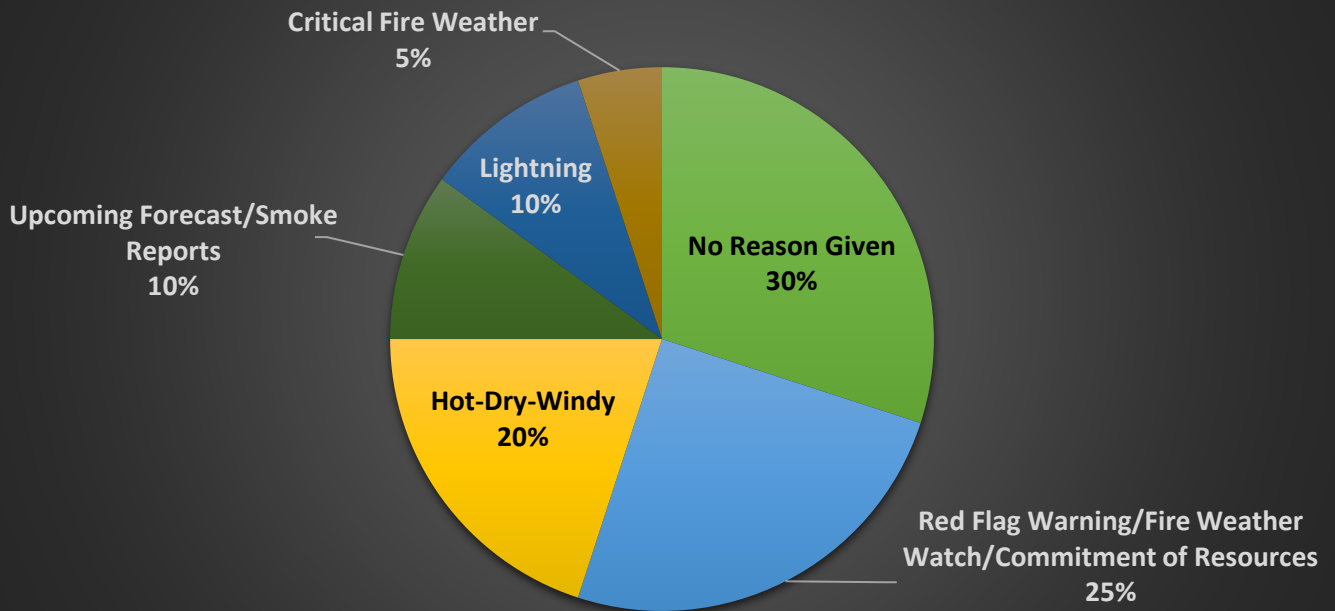
Miscellaneous Sub Incident Type



Extensions by Entity



ARF Extensions by Reason



The ARF extended Forest resources 20 times from April to October. There was a total of seven fires that occurred across the zone after 1800 during this timeframe; only one of those was started on the ARF, the other six were wildfires on county lands.

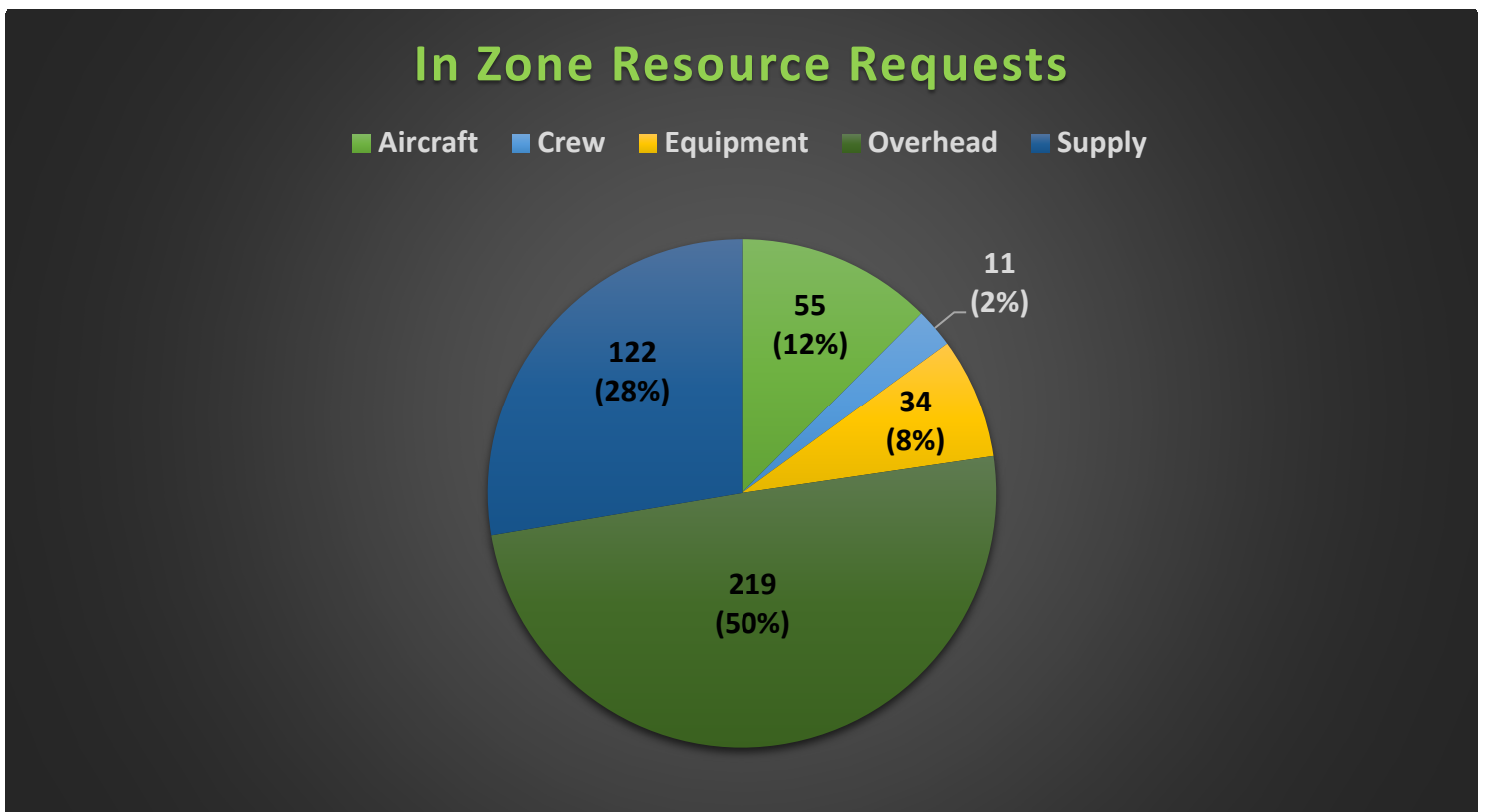
Fort Collins Zone Resource Orders²

Fort Collins Dispatch processed 985 resource orders: 441 for ordering resources into the FTC Zone and 544 for sending resources out of the FTC Zone.

To support the ARF, we ordered in a Community Mitigation Assistance Team (CMAT) in June. The CMAT worked with the ARF and the community of Evergreen to discuss future mitigation efforts that could be done within and adjacent to the community to combat large scale catastrophic wildfires such as the Marshall fire.

Fort Collins Dispatch provided support for the National Rainbow Gathering that occurred on the Med-Bow Routt NF in July. FTC took care of the Type 3 Incident Management Team orders for Craig Dispatch.

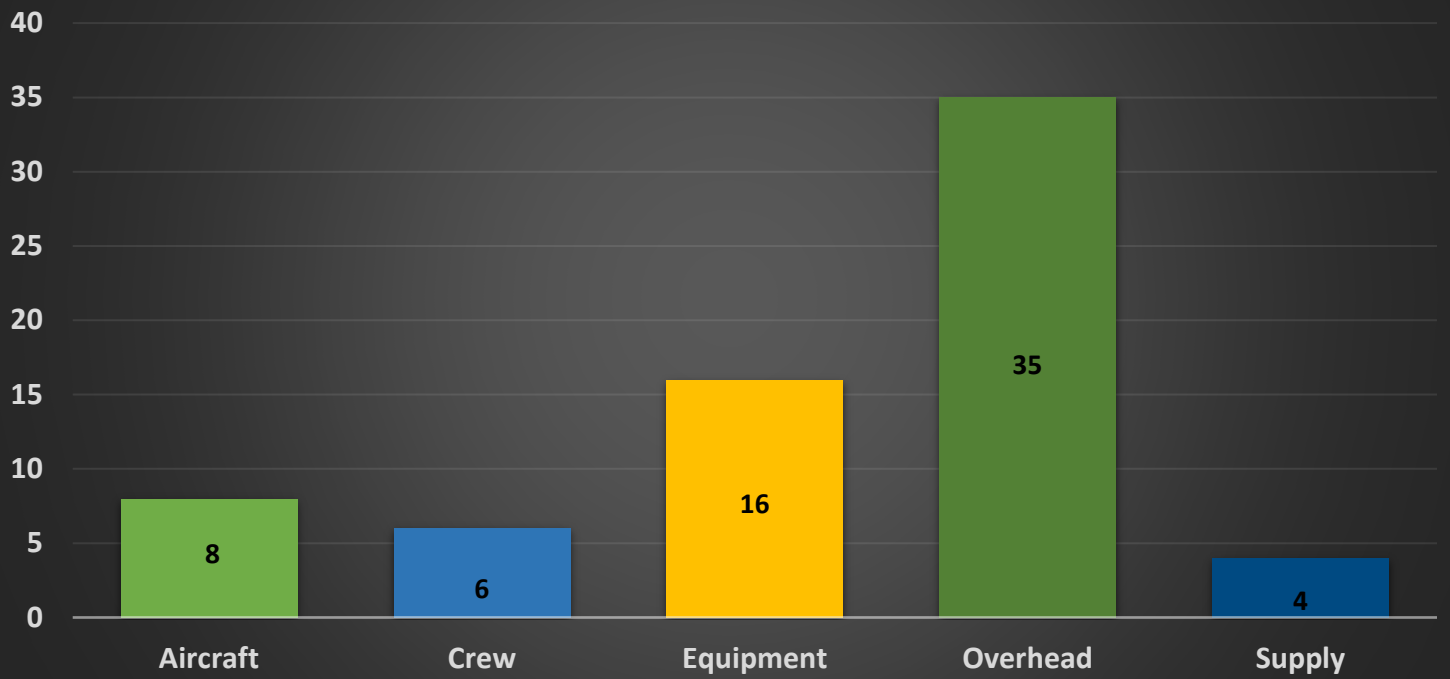
In Zone Resource Requests



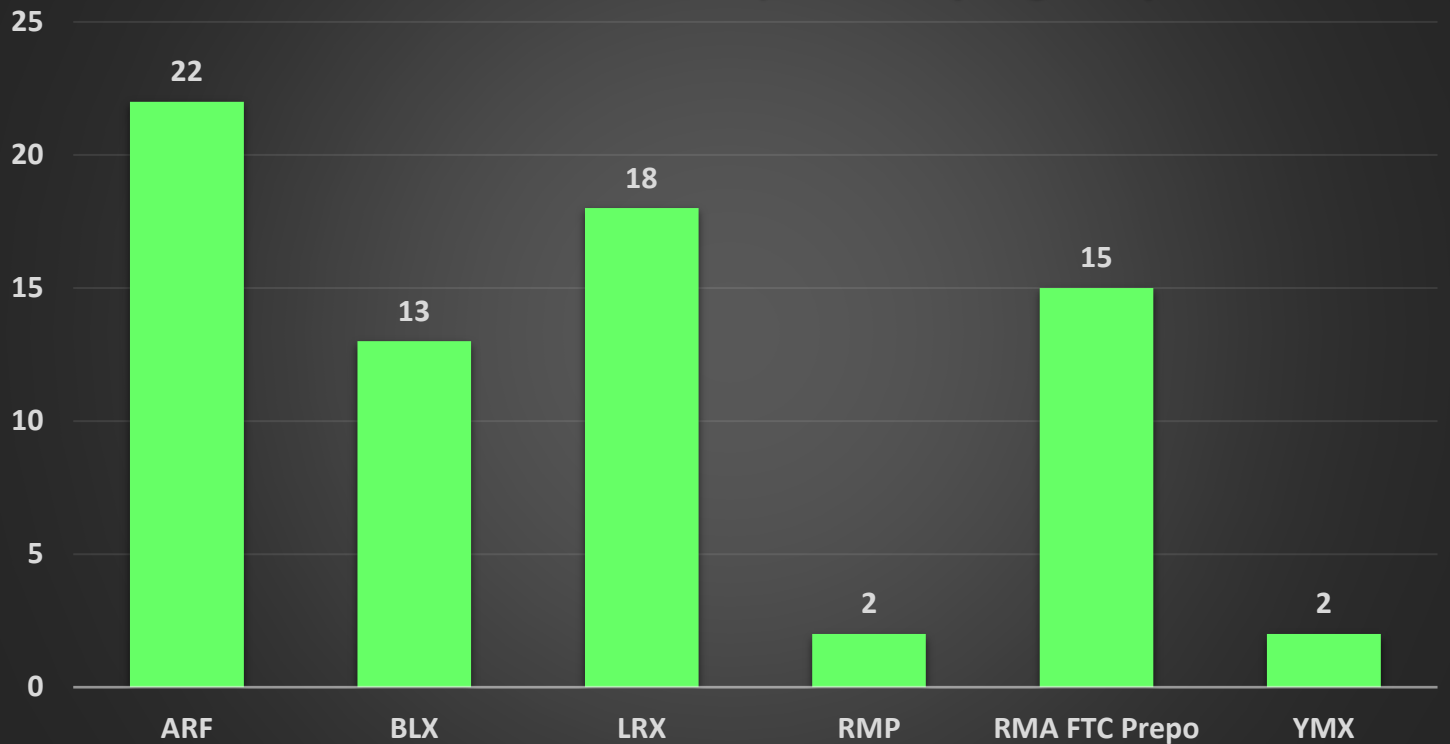
Not all of the resource orders processed for incidents within the FTC Zone were filled. Of the 441 resource orders created, 69 (16%) were canceled or UTF'd (unable to be filled).

² All subordinate requests were tallied in the overhead total count.

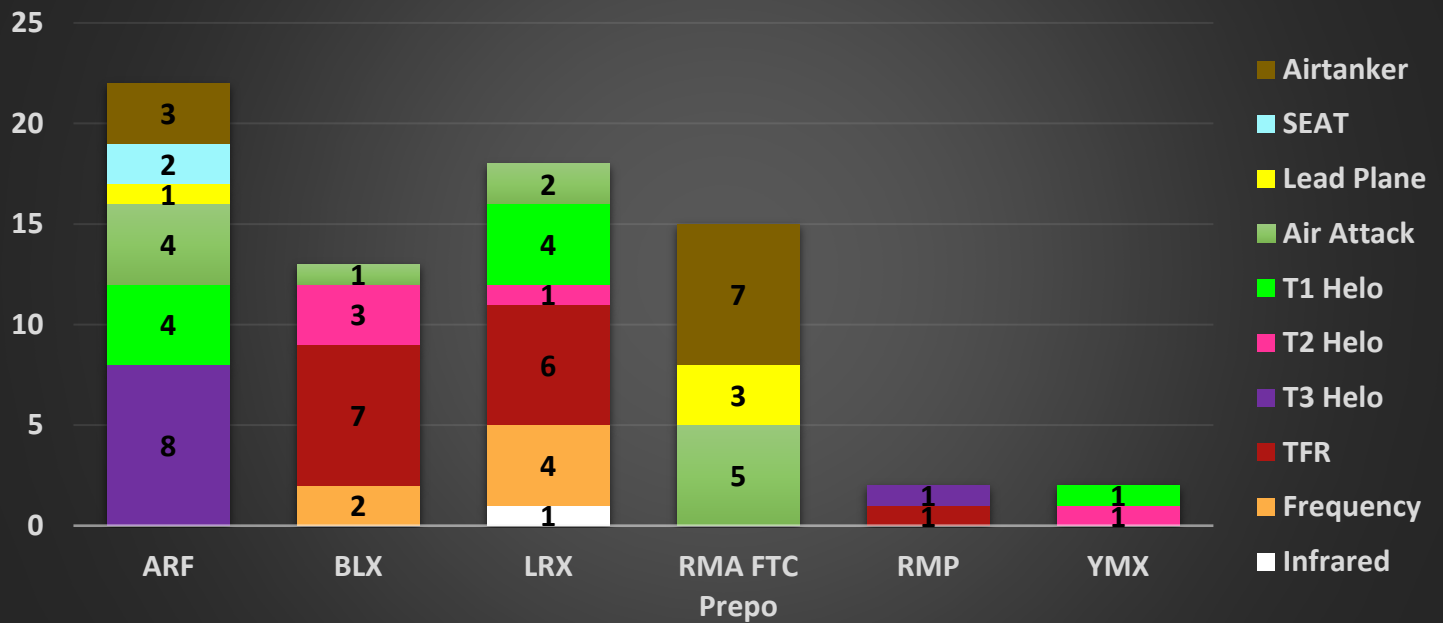
In Zone Resource Orders Canceled/UTF'd



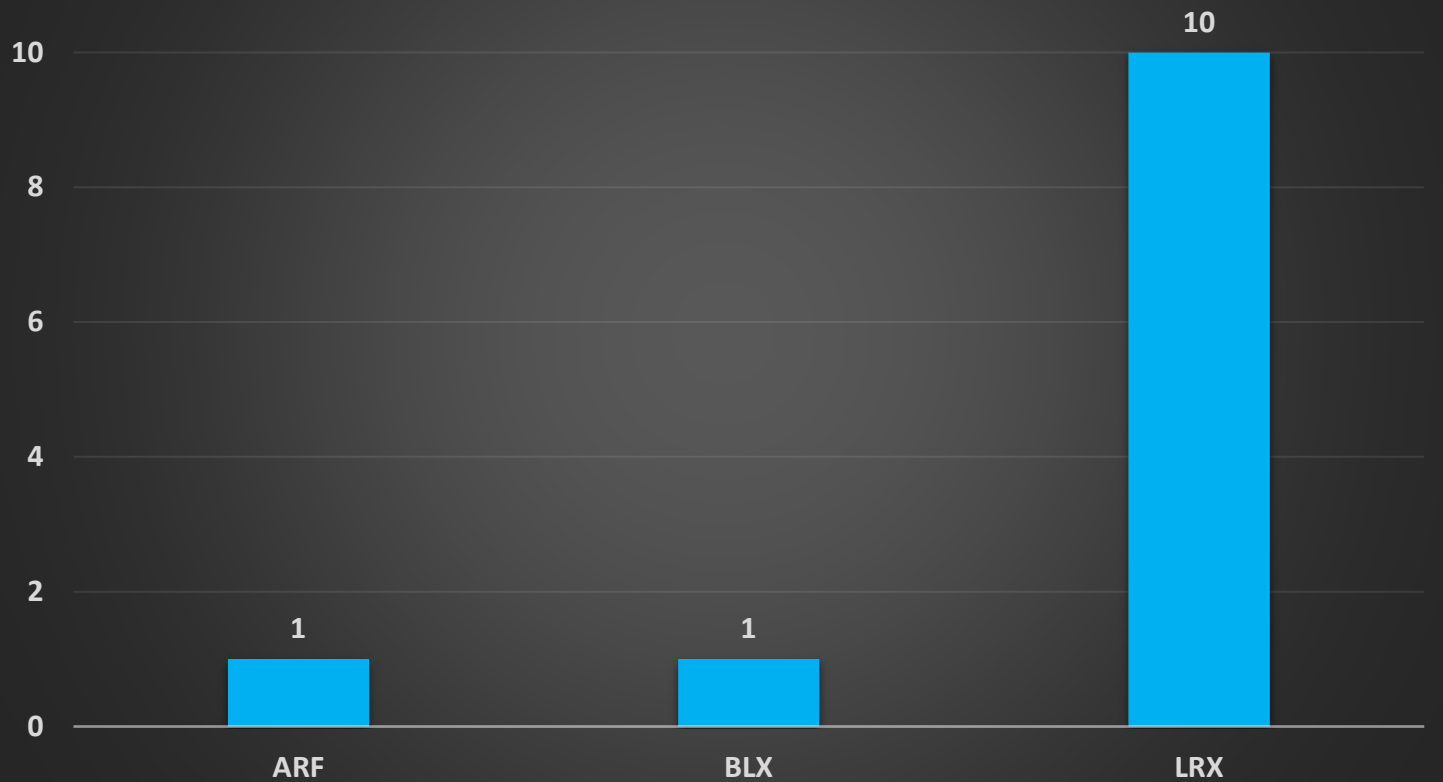
In Zone Aircraft Requests by Agency



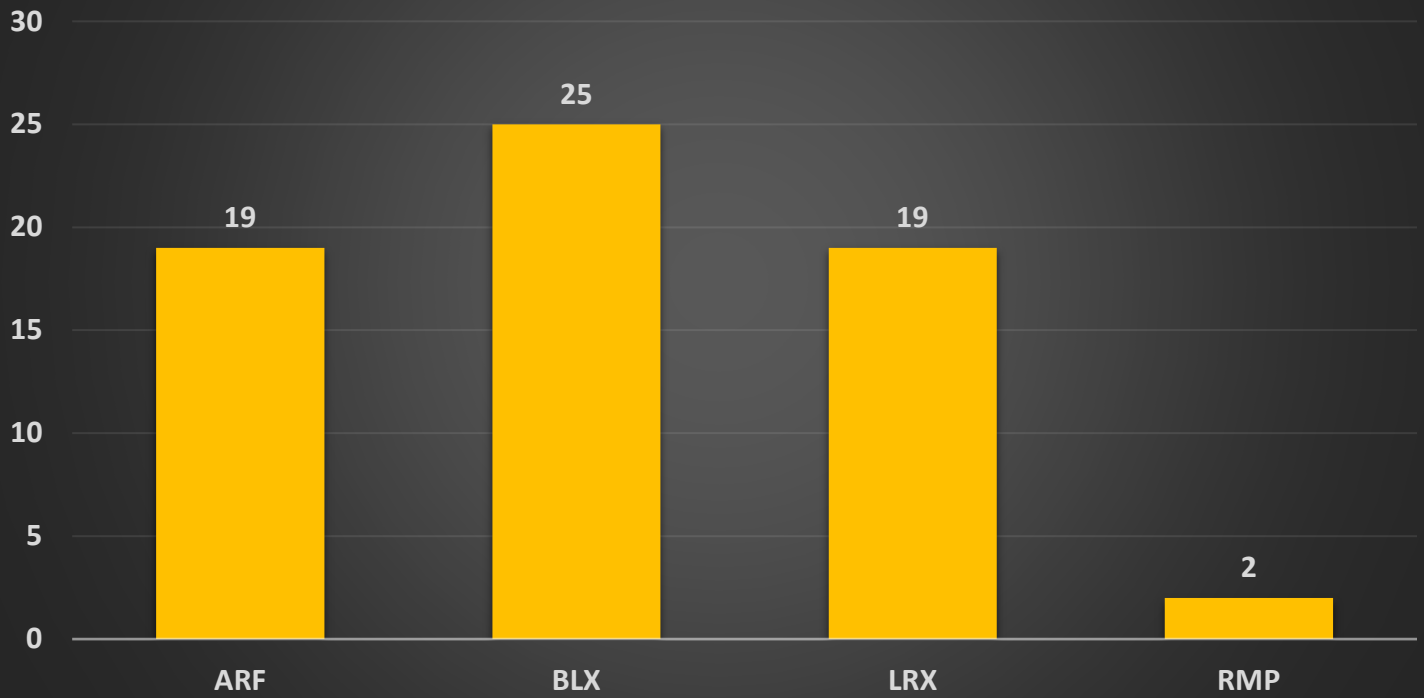
In Zone Aircraft Requests by Agency and Type



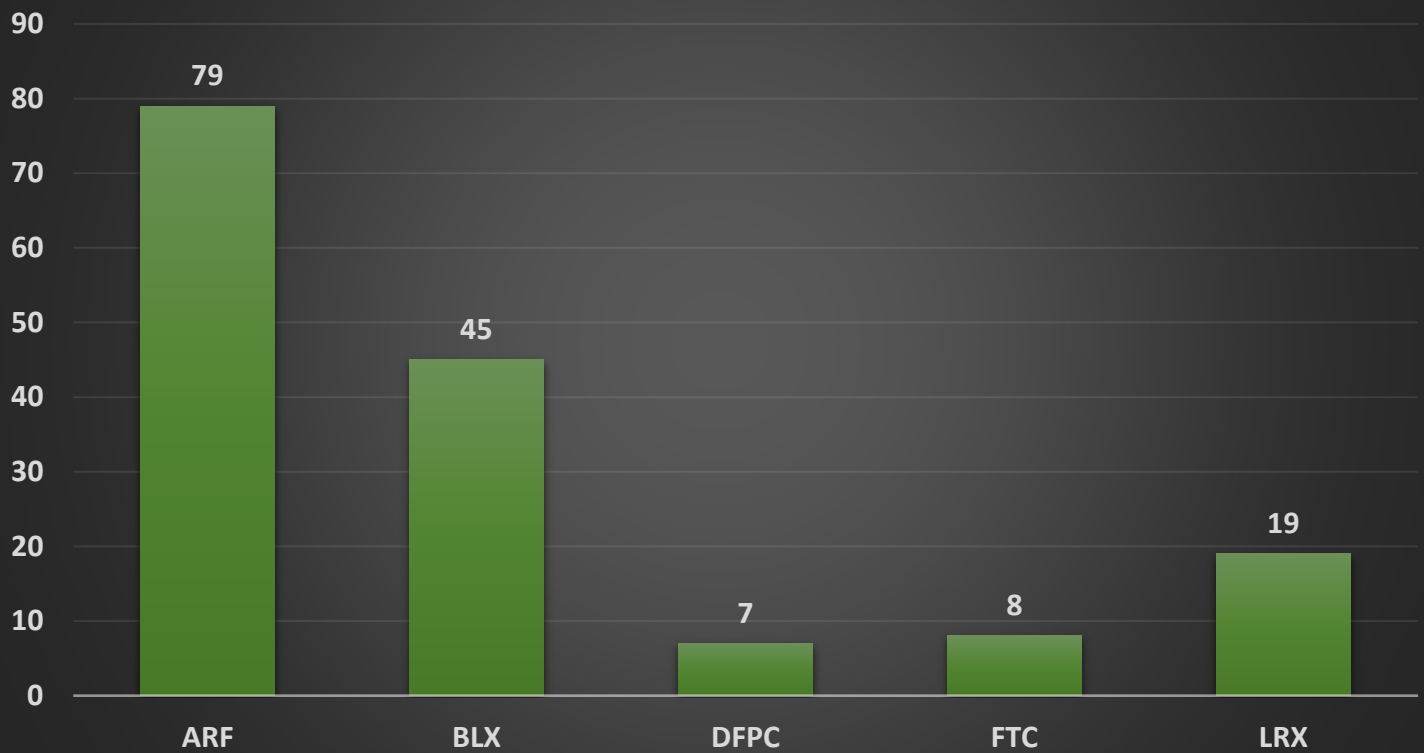
In Zone Crew Requests by Agency



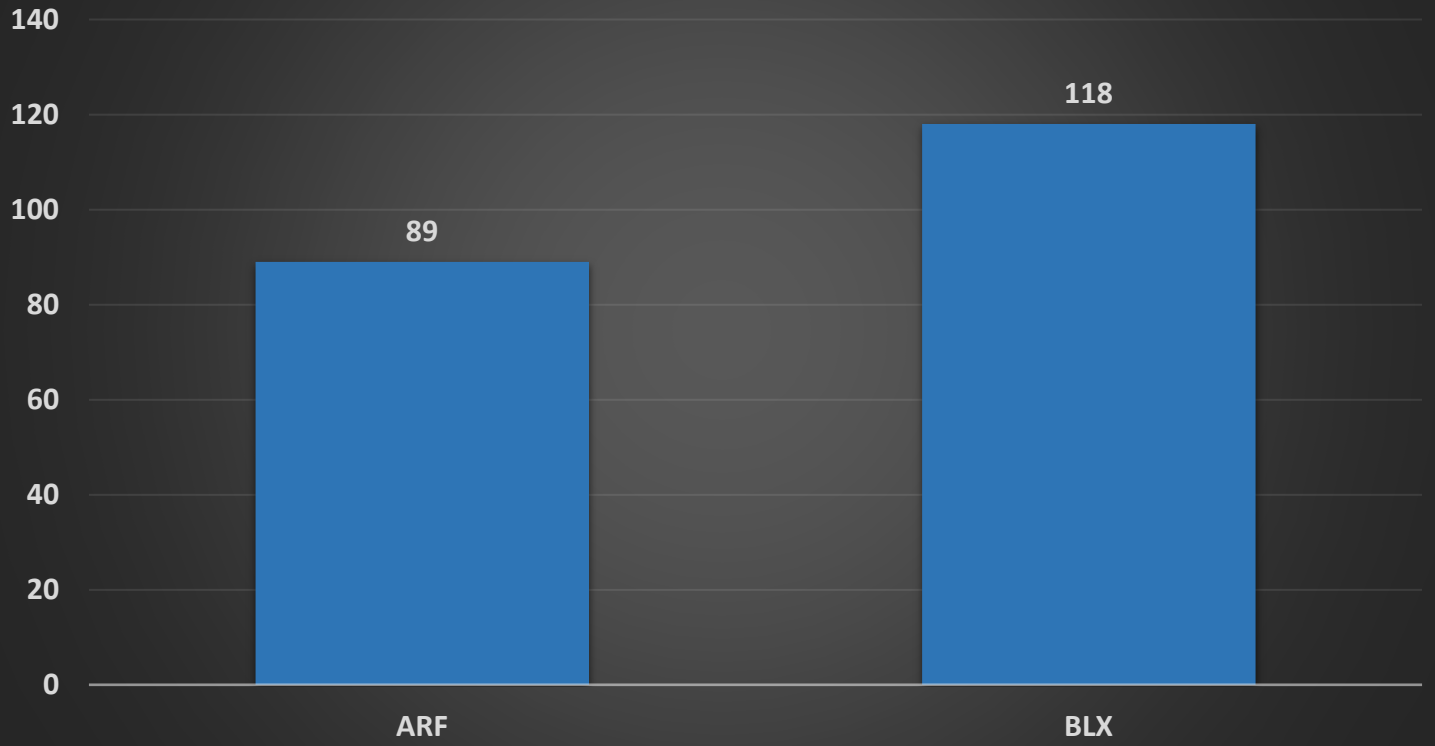
In Zone Equipment Requests by Agency



In Zone Overhead Requests by Agency



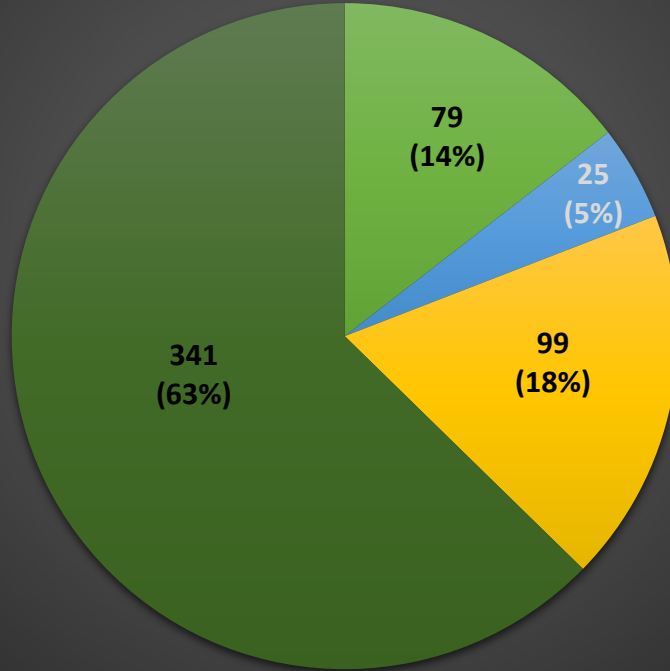
In Zone Supply Requests by Agency



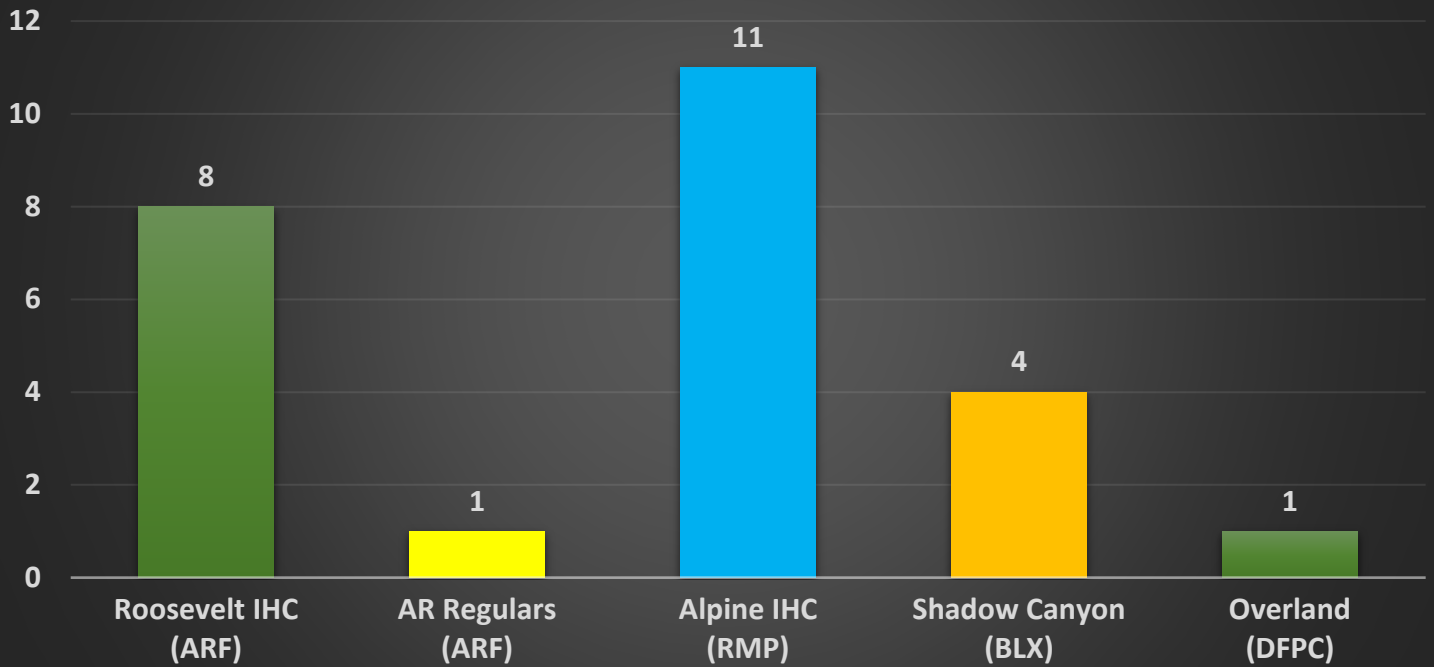
Out of Zone Resource Requests

Out of Zone Resource Requests

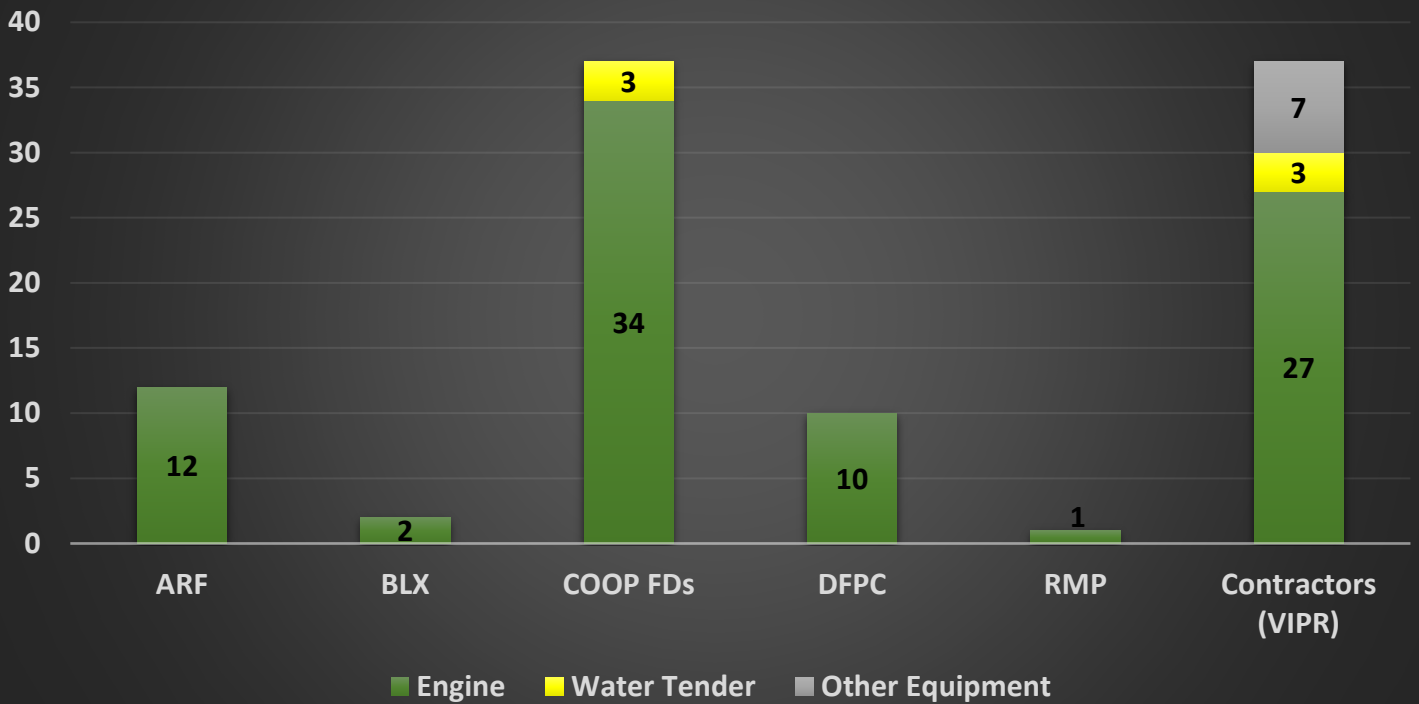
Aircraft Crew Equipment Overhead



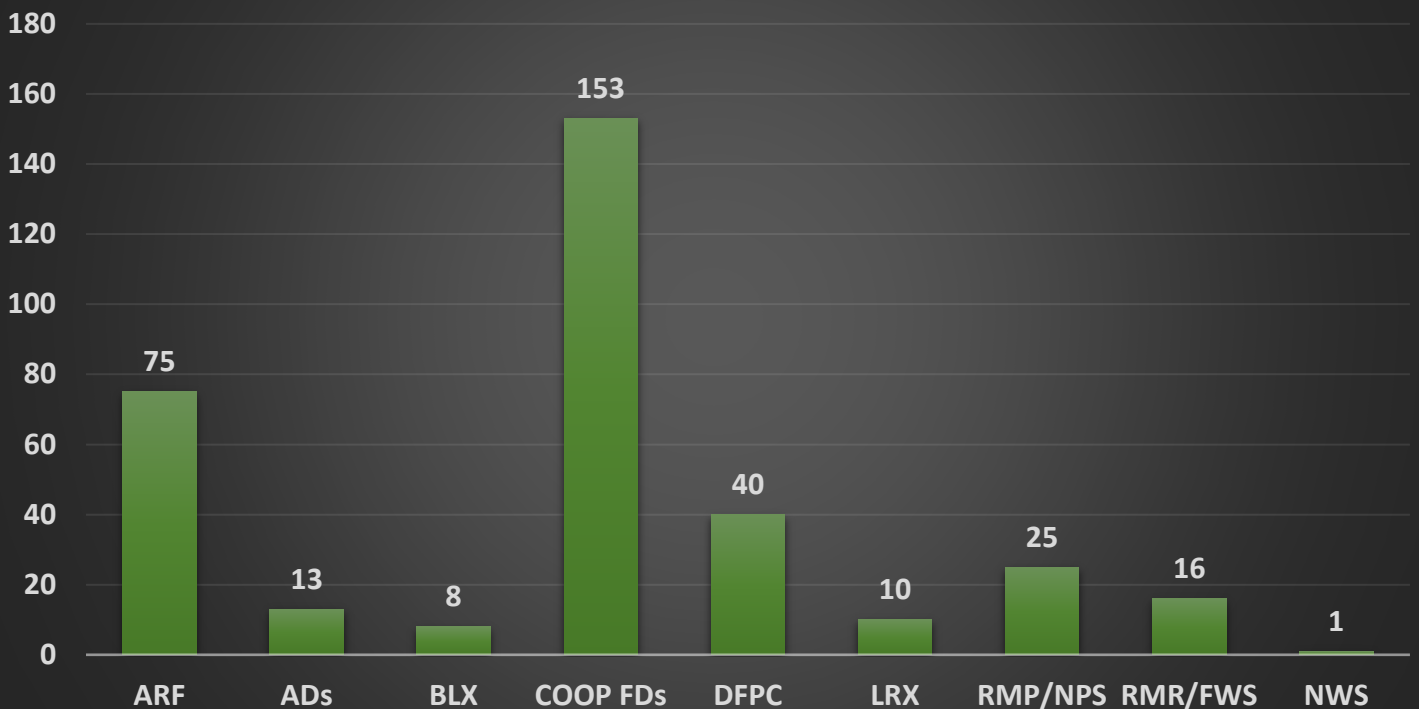
Out of Zone Crew Requests



Out of Zone Equipment Requests



Out of Zone Overhead Requests

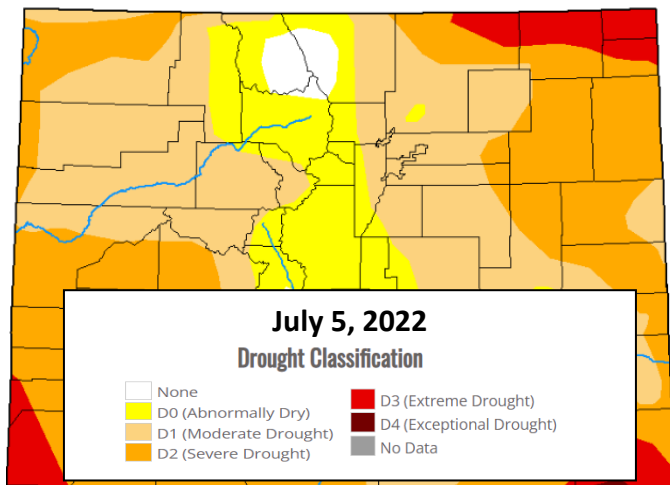
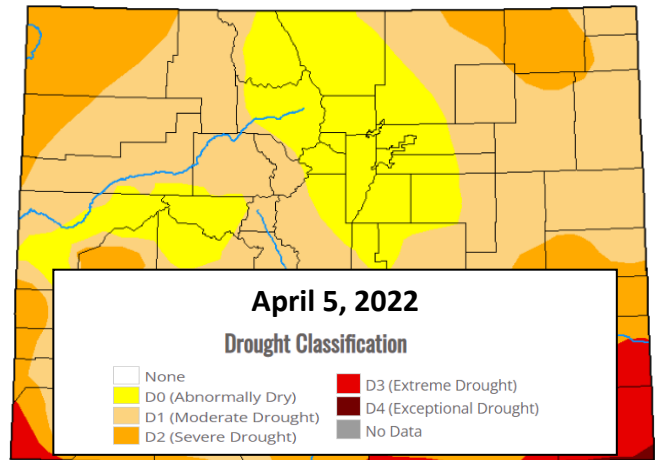
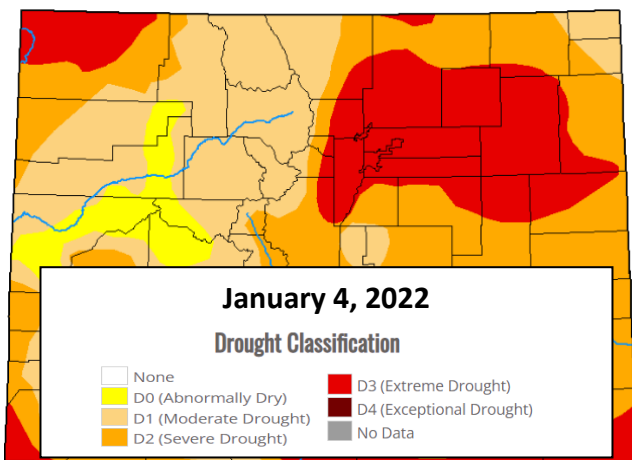


Fort Collins Zone Fire Danger

For the 2022 fire season, National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) fire business thresholds were developed for the ‘fire season’ and ‘shoulder season’ for each of the five fire danger rating areas (FDRA): East Plains, West Plains, Foothills, East Divide, and West Divide. Adjective ratings appeared to be a bit better than they were for the 2021 fire season, but still seemed to be overpredicting. The shoulder season, using Burning Index (BI), seemed to be the most overpredicted.

The 2022 Fire Danger Operating Plan (FDOP) is broken down into a fire season and a shoulder season. The fire season for the Foothills, East Divide, and West Divide FDRAs generally covers the period of June – September; for the East and West Plains FDRAs it’s generally September – April. The shoulder season for the Foothills, East Divide, and West Divide FDRAs generally covers the period of October – May; there is no shoulder season for the East and West Plains FDRAs.

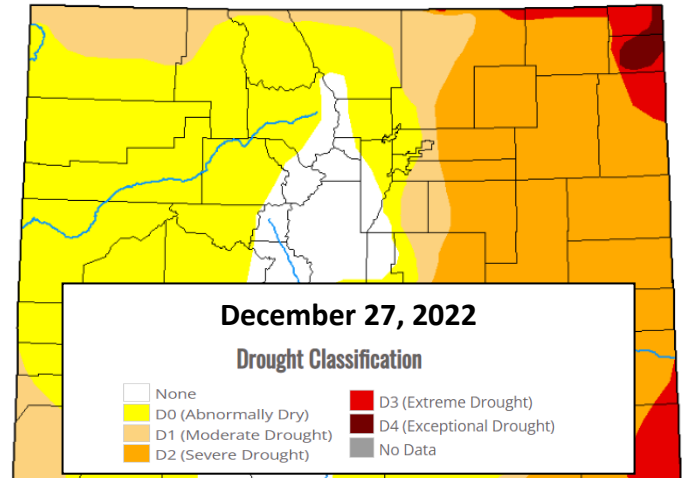
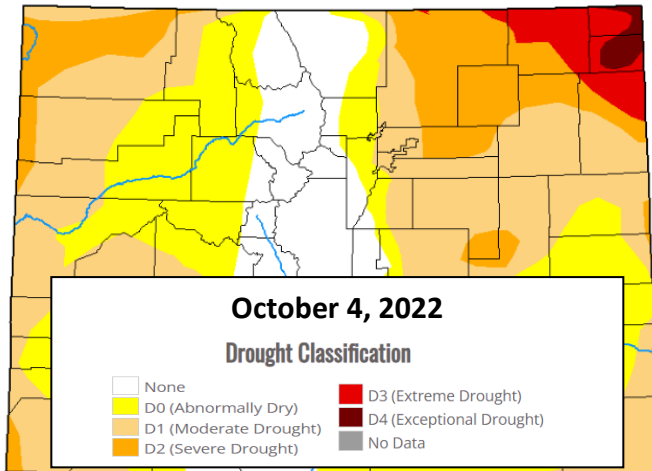
The year began with steady moisture through about mid-March. This moisture helped reduce the drought across the zone. From mid-March thru April, we received very little moisture which is shown with the uptick in wildfires during this time period. were pretty good snowstorm that helped reduce the dry conditions from January to the beginning of March. A good snowstorm in mid-March helped to decrease the drought conditions across the zone.



The mountainous areas of the FTC zone continued to get moisture through mid-October. The Eastern Plains were the exception, those areas saw less moisture causing the drought to worsen during the same time period.

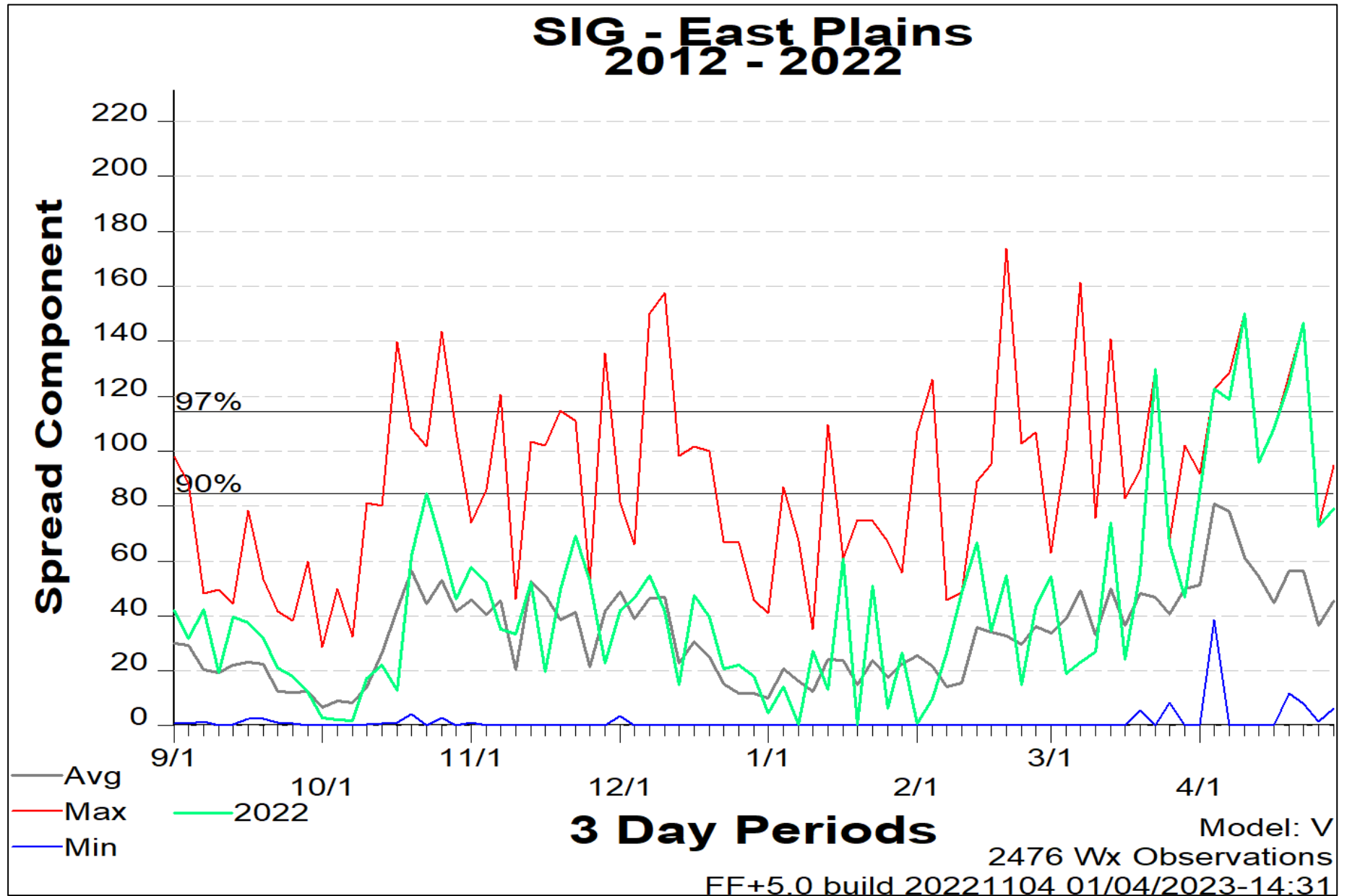
Heavy rains began to again become an issue over the 2020 Cameron Peak burn scar area in mid-July and early August. On July 15th, a thunderstorm set up over the Buckhorn Canyon area west of Fort Collins causing catastrophic flooding and leading to two fatalities. The same area was hit again on August 5th causing major damage to county roads.

By fall, the moisture began to dry up once again creating dry conditions and increasing drought severity going into winter.

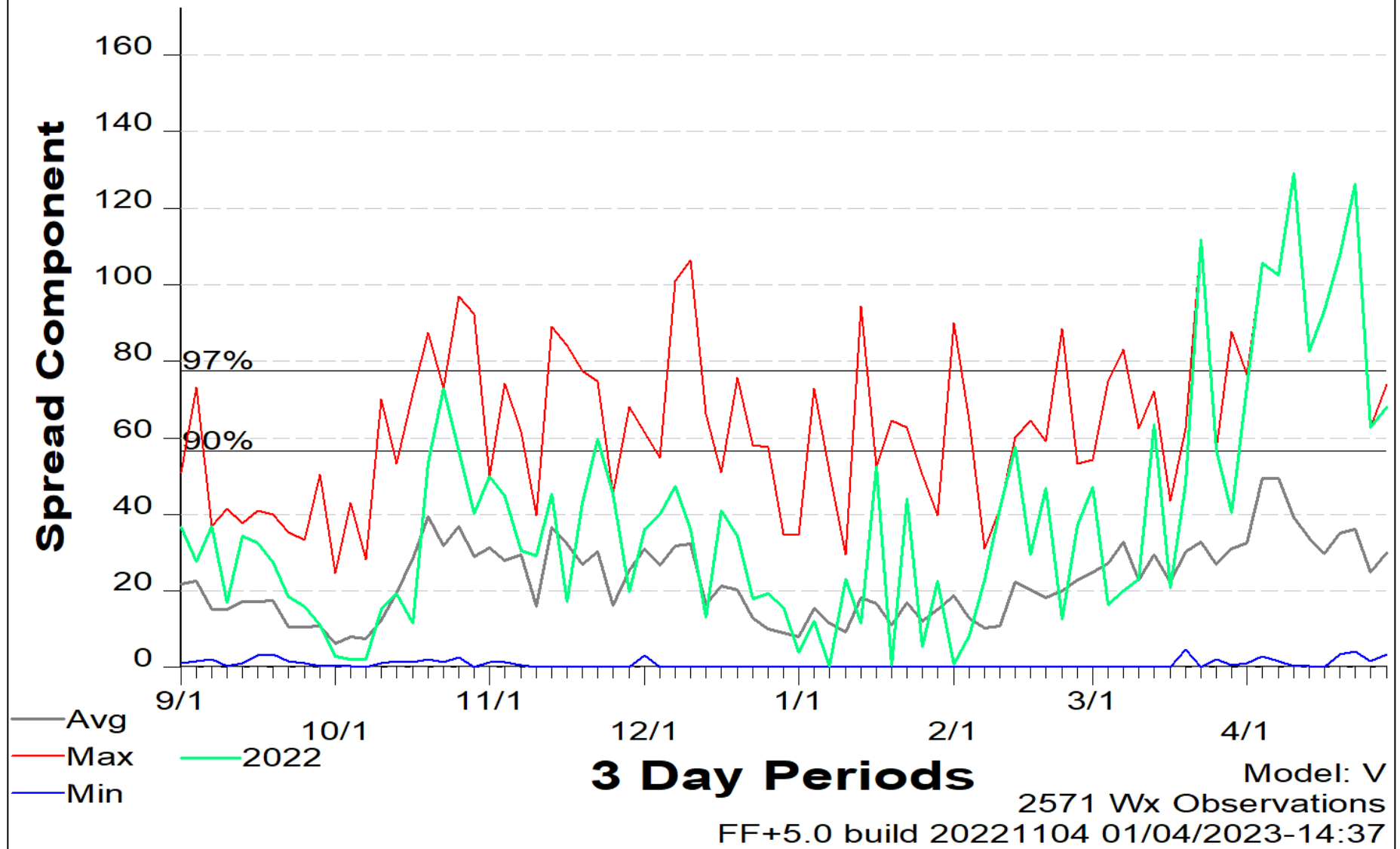


FTC Zone Entity	Fire Restriction Date	Days in Restriction
ARF	4/22/2022 – 5/22/2022 (east of Divide)	31
	6/16/2022 – 8/15/2022 (east of Divide)	61
	9/8/2022 – 9/20/2022 (west of Divide)	13
	Total Days in Restriction	105
Boulder County	1/1/2022 – 1/11/2022	10
	4/21/2022 – 5/23/2022	32
	6/16/2022 – 8/15/2022	60
	Total Days in Restriction	102
Estes Valley FPD	4/22/2022 – 5/20/2022	29
	6/29/2022 – 8/29/2022	62
	Total Days in Restriction	91
Clear Creek County	4/22/2022 – 8/16/2022	118
	Total Days in Restriction	118
Larimer County	4/27/2022 – 5/11/2022	15
	6/29/2022 – 8/29/2022	62
	Total Days in Restriction	77
Gilpin County	1/1/2022 – 1/11/2022	11
	4/4/2022	1
	4/19/2022	1
	4/21/2022 – 5/23/2022	33
	6/15/2022 – 7/16/2022	32
	Total Days in Restriction	78
Grand County	9/8/2022 – 9/23/2022	16
	Total Days in Restriction	16

Indices Charts for Each Fire Danger Rating Area with 2022 Overlayed for Comparison

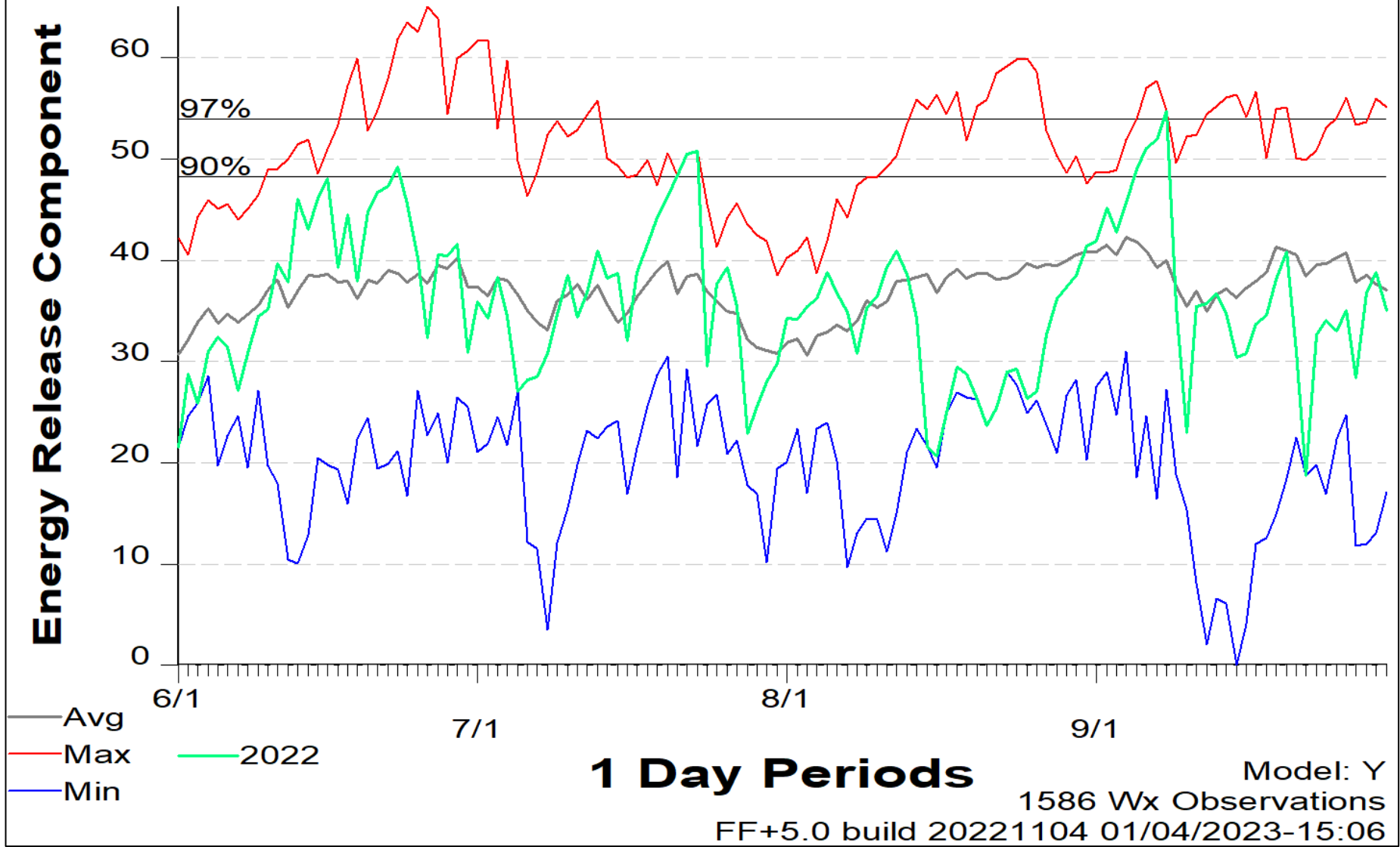


SIG - West Plains 2012 - 2022



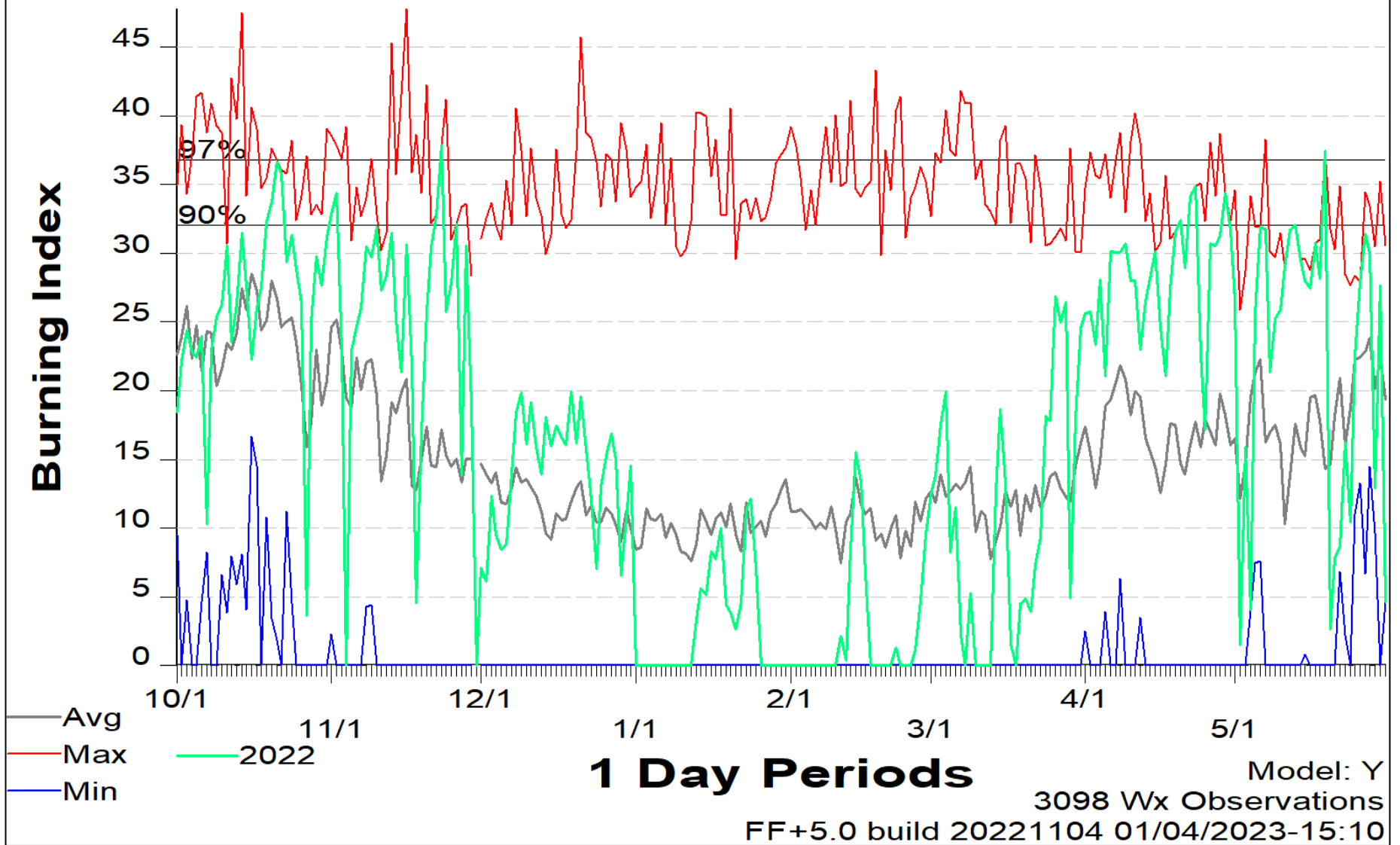
SIG - Foothills 2010 - 2022

Fire Season



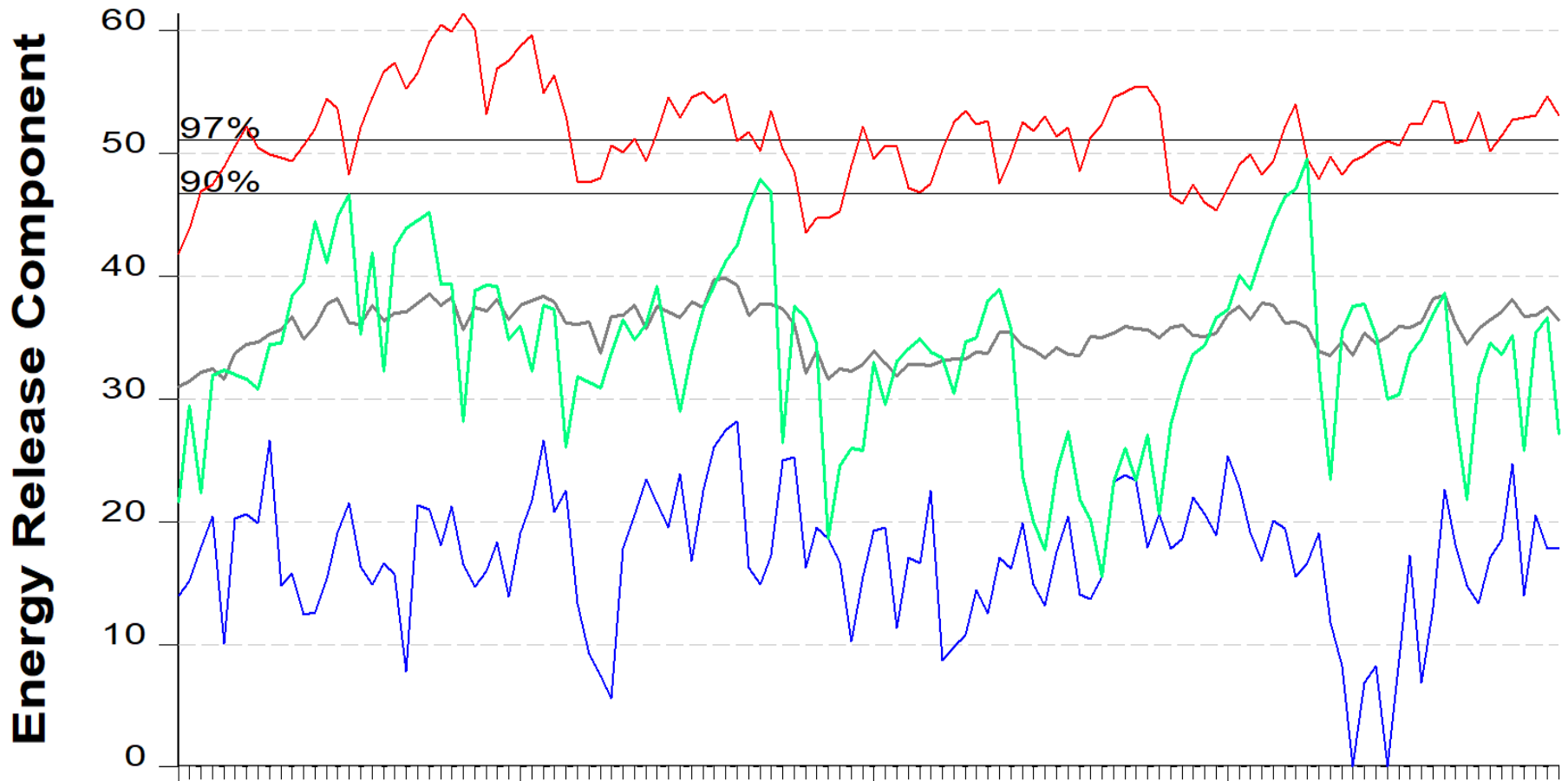
SIG - Foothills 2010 - 2022

Shoulder Season



SIG - East Divide 2000 - 2022

Fire Season



— Avg
— Max
— Min
— 2022

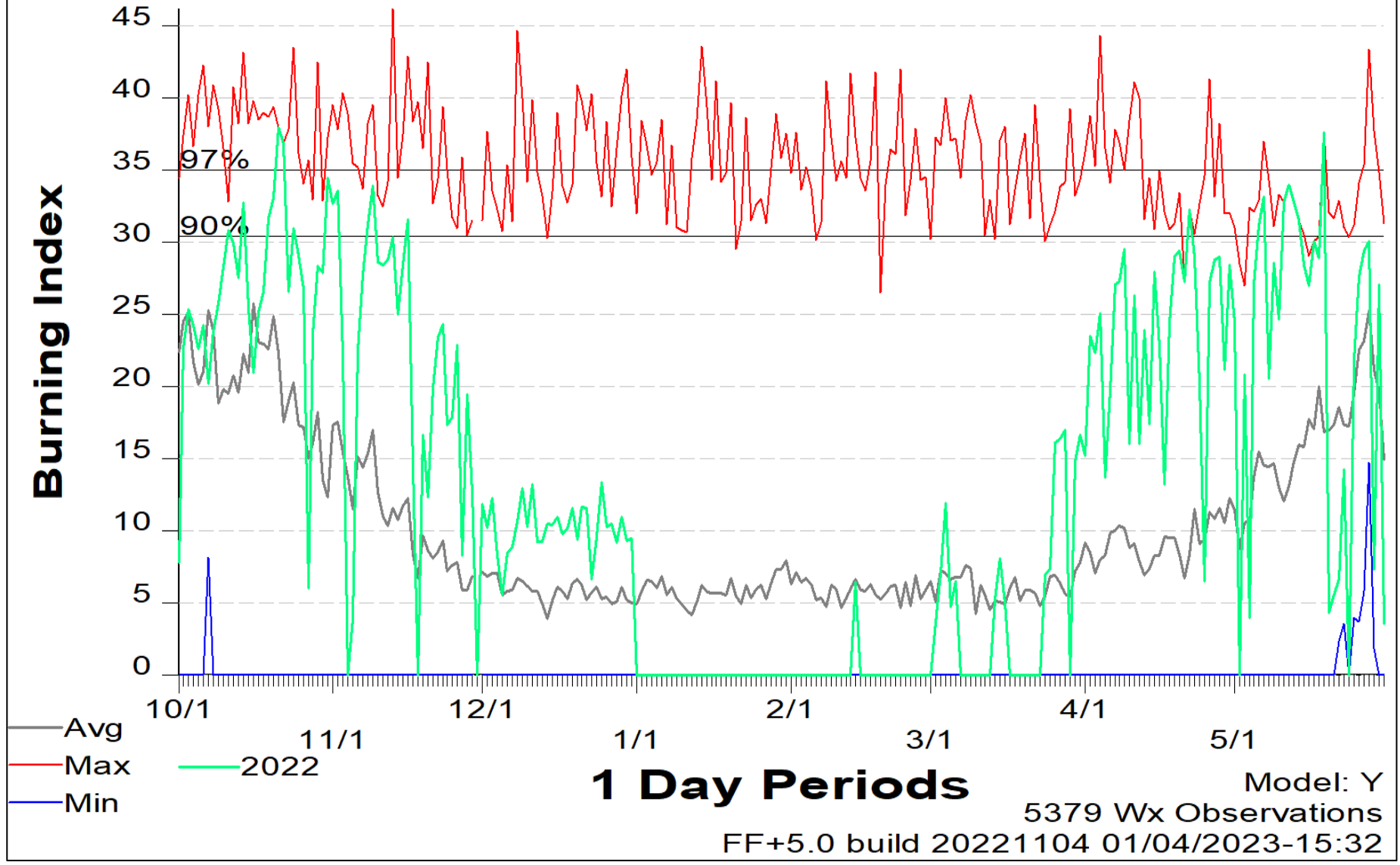
1 Day Periods

Model: Y
2800 Wx Observations

FF+5.0 build 20221104 01/04/2023-15:34

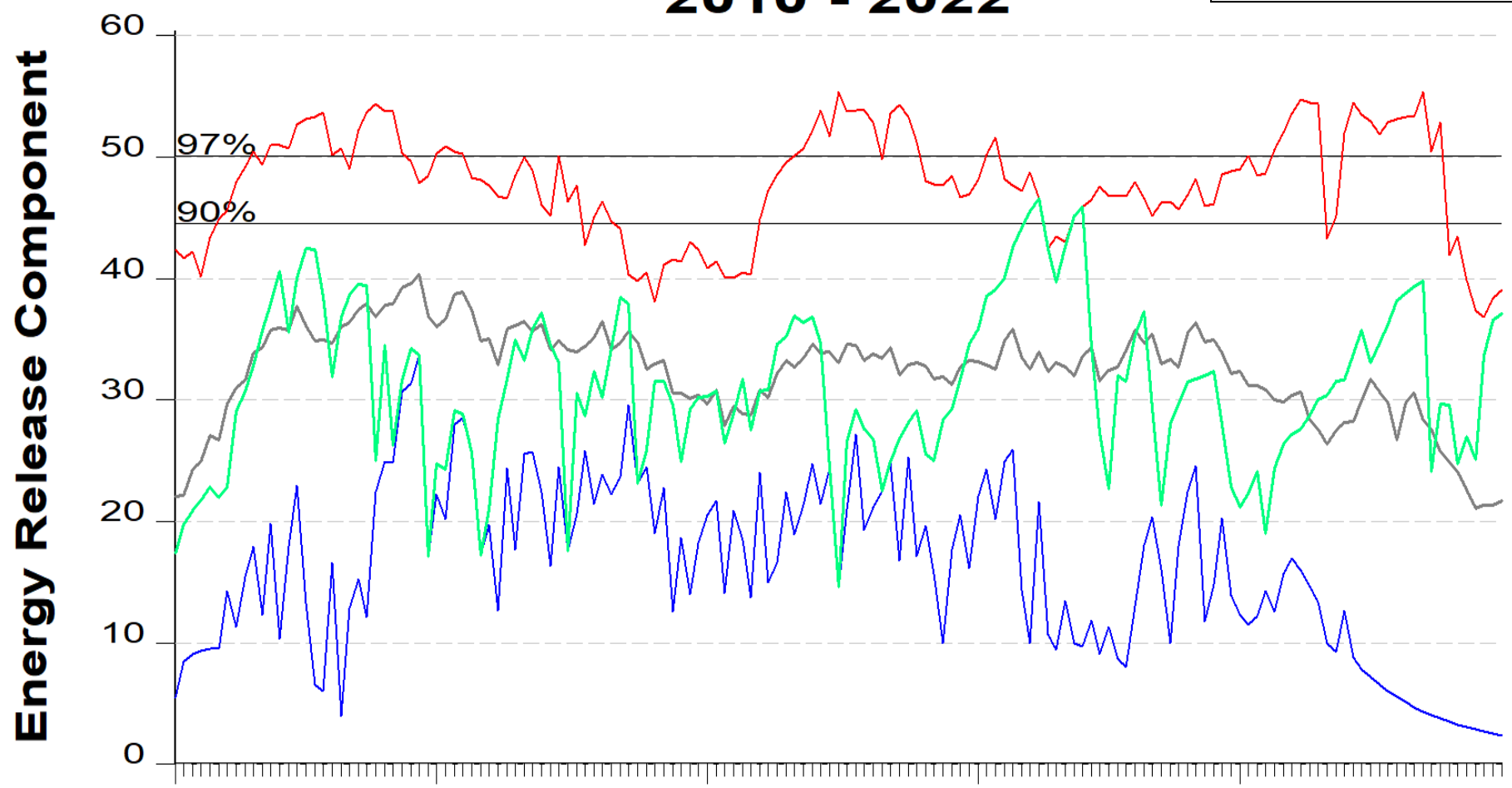
SIG - East Divide 2000 - 2022

Shoulder Season



SIG - West Divide 2010 - 2022

Fire Season



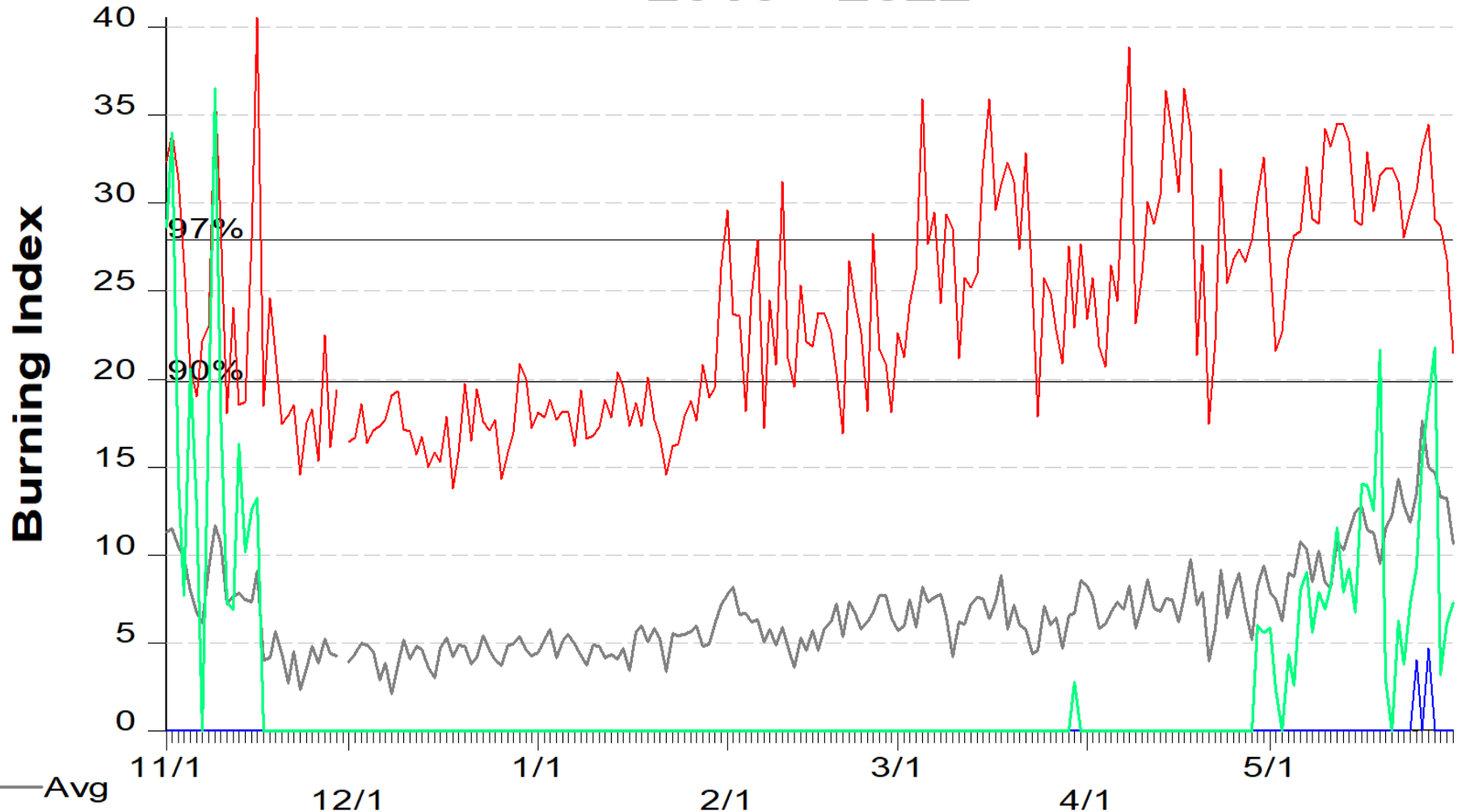
— Avg
— Max
— Min
— 2022

1 Day Periods

Model: Y
1974 Wx Observations
FF+5.0 build 20221104 01/04/2023-15:29

SIG - West Divide 2010 - 2022

Shoulder Season



1 Day Periods

Model: Y

2554 Wx Observations

FF+5.0 build 20221104 01/04/2023-15:25

Fort Collins Zone Aviation Summary

The ARP managed two helicopters over the 2022 fire season, H-126BH (Type 3) and H-405AJ (Type 1). H-6BH was on an exclusive use (EU) contract for the Northern Colorado Helitack crew. H-5AJ was on a call when needed (CWN) legacy 180-day mandatory availability period (MAP) contract. H-6BH started the contract off in R9 and then supported incidents across the RMA GACC before finishing up their contract in R6. H-5AJ spent the majority of the season within the RMA GACC.

ARP Managed Aircraft Summary

Tail Number	Type of Contract	# of IA Fires	# of Extended Attack Fires	Flight Time	Gallons of Water Dropped	Gallons of Retardant Dropped
N126BH	EU*	23	5	152.9	61,602	0
N405AJ	CWN#	12	8	200.8	1,457,920	0
Total		35	13	353.7	1,519,522	0

*EU: Exclusive Use; #CWN: Call When Needed

The Fort Collins Dispatch Zone hosted two DFPC SEATs (T-862 and T-864) at FNL (Fort Collins-Loveland Airport), however for most of the summer they were both prepositioned down in Colorado Springs in the Pueblo Dispatch Zone.

NOCO SEAT Base Summary

Missions Flown: 56	
Gallons of Water Dropped	Gallons of Retardant Dropped
4,713	36,046
Total Gallons Dropped: 40,759	

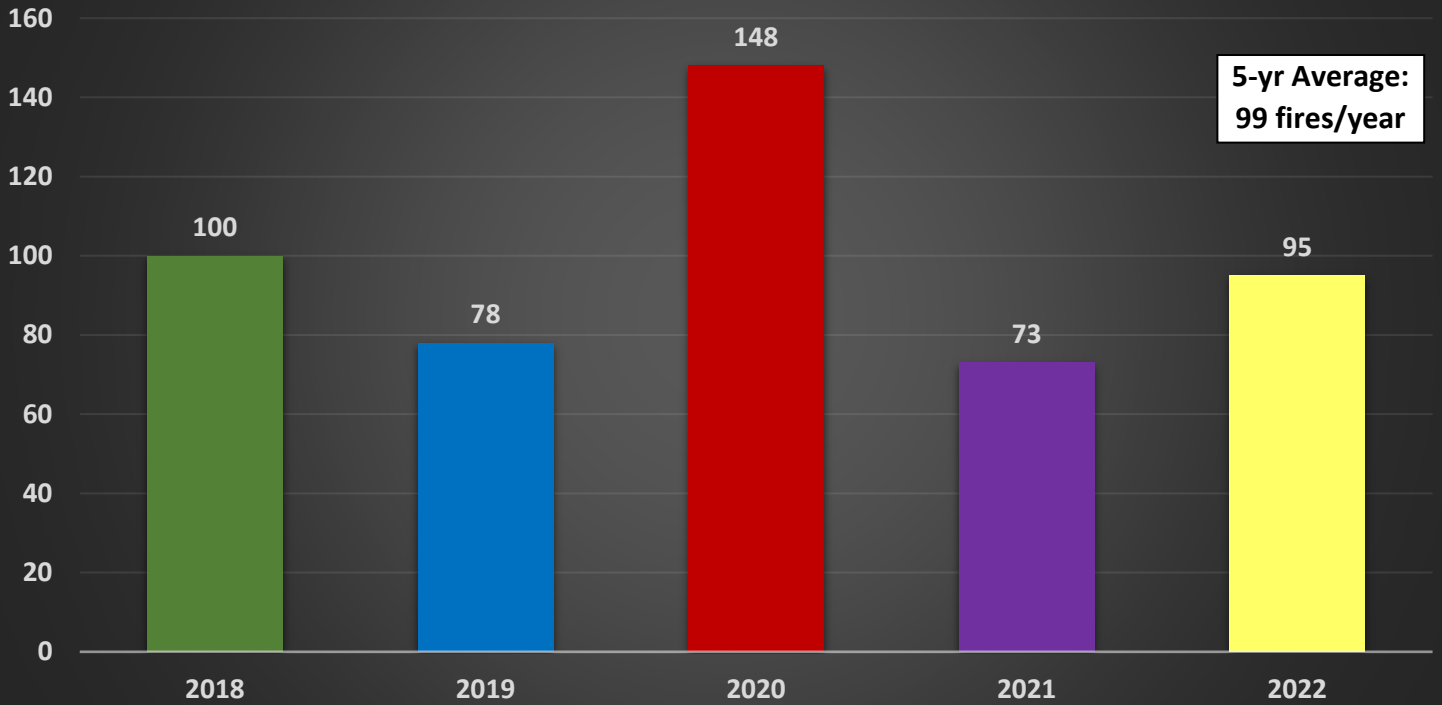
The Jeffco Airtanker Base (BJC) hosted DFPC's T-10 for the 2022 fire season. BJC loaded airtankers for both in zone fires and out of zone fires.

Jeffco Tanker Base Summary

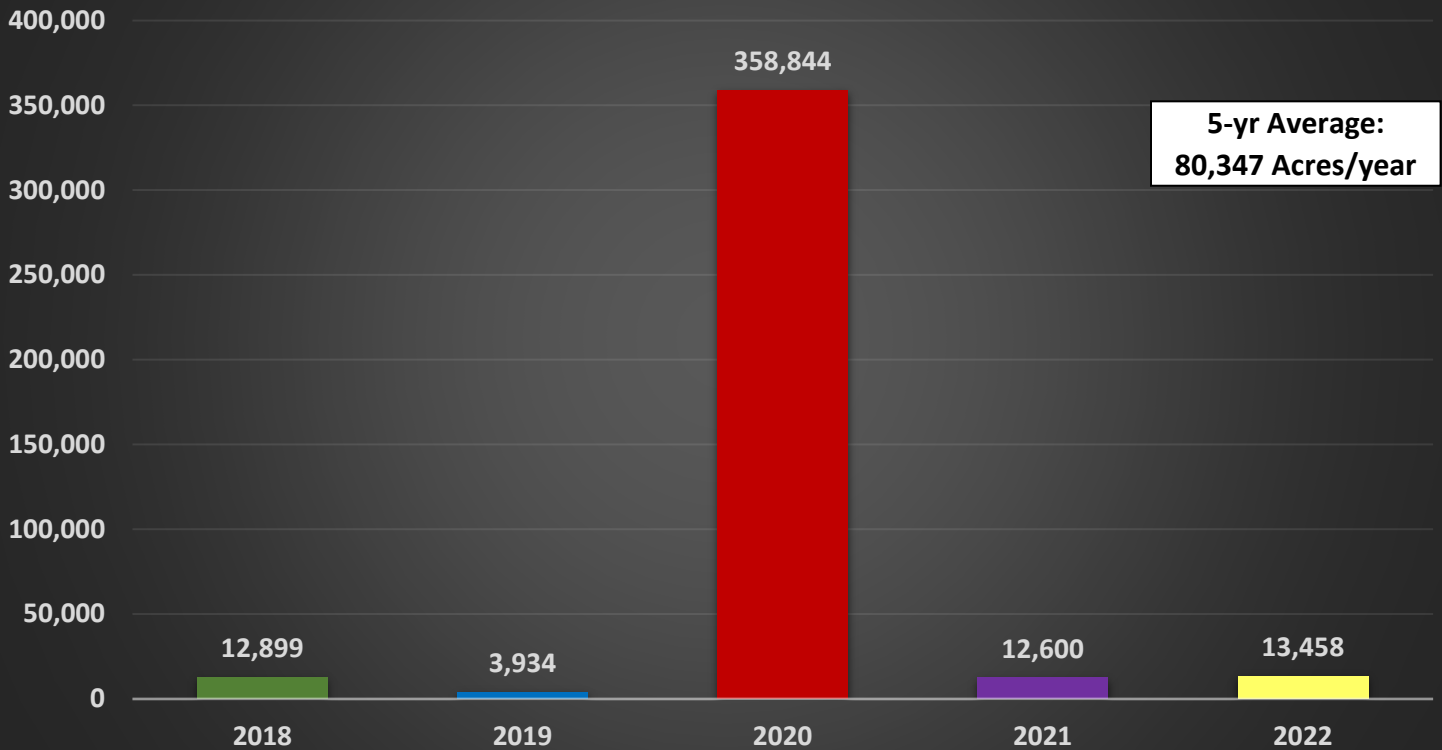
Aircraft	# of Missions	Gallons of Water	Gallons of Retardant
Large Airtanker	59	5,868	169,252
SEATs	4	0	2,910
Total	63	5,868	172,162

Fort Collins Zone 5-yr Averages

Number of Fires Across the FTC Zone



Acres Burned Across FTC Zone



Resource Requests - In Zone and Out of Zone

