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Western Great Basin Wildfire Summary 1994

35
27/19/16
8/8



STATISTICAL FIRE SUMMARY FOR NEVADA 1994

*This is Western Great Basin Area's 1994 Wildfire Summary.
The book is divided into the following sections:*

**NEVADA STATEWIDE FIRE TOTALS
RESOURCE ORDERING SUMMARY
AVIATION SUMMARY
GREAT BASIN FUEL MOISTURE ANALYSIS**

The Western Great Basin Coordination Center provides direction and assistance in the mobilization and demobilization of resources between Nevada Dispatch Centers, Boise Smokejumper Base, the Eastern Great Basin Coordination Center, North and South Zones and the National Coordination Center.

The WGBCC represents the BIA, BLM, FWS, NDF, NPS and the USFS Wildfire Agencies within the Nevada Geographic Area.

Western Great Basin Coordination Center 1994 Fire Season Overview

Weather and Fuels

After the 1993 fire season's wet, cold winter and mild summer, the 1994 season presented us with the reverse -- a return to drought conditions and an unrelentingly hot, dry summer. Annual grasses and shrubs cured early on and became tinder dry, along with 1,000 hr. fuels already impacted by seven years of severe drought.

The majority of large fires in Nevada usually occur as a result of lightning during late July and August. Although we did get our share of lightning caused fires during July and August, the abnormally hot, dry weather conditions in the early part of the season led to earlier than normal large fire (300+ acres) activity.

The high temperatures and low humidities prevalent throughout the summer combined with dry vegetation to create fire behavior in the extreme to advanced category. This created special safety concerns for firefighting resources and often called for changes in tactics. The hot, dry conditions also took their toll on the stamina of personnel. In September, however, cooler and more humid conditions finally combined with shorter days to signal the end of the 1994 season.

Large Fire Activity

Las Vegas District had the distinction of beginning and ending the season's large fire activity. The first 100+ acre fire was reported on March 21, and the last large fire of the season was controlled on September 21.

From late June through August, large fire activity was nearly continuous. A total of 36 large fires (300+ acres) occurred, resulting in 181,566 acres burned. This represents only 4 percent of the total number of fires, but 89 percent of the total acres burned. Another 863 smaller fires brought the total acres burned in the Western Great Basin to 204,483. Five of the large fires had Type 2 Overhead Teams assigned, while Type 1 Overhead Teams were assigned to three other large fires (this does not include assignments where fires transitioned from a Type 2 to a Type 1 team).

30 of the large fires were on lands administered by BLM. These fires accounted for 174,329 acres (or 94 percent) of the acreage burned on large fires this season. Three large fires burned a total of 6,037 acres on U.S. Forest Service lands, while two large fires burned 3,700 acres of state land. Large fires occurring in the northern half of the state accounted for both 63 percent of the large fires and 63 percent of the total acres burned statewide.

Note: Large fire acreage figures taken from final ICS-209s.

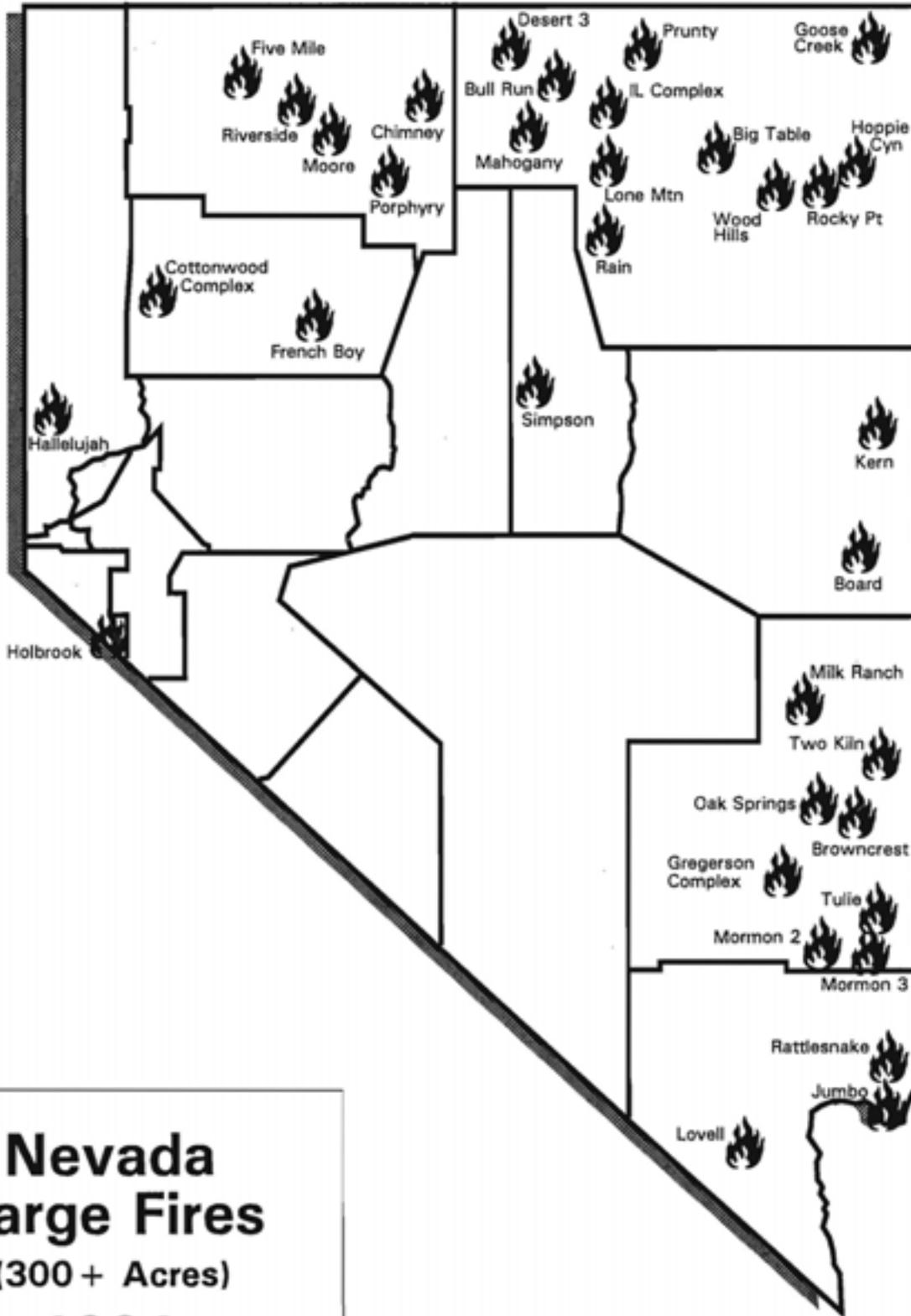
Large fire activity workload was distributed among dispatch centers as follows: 12 for Elko Interagency Dispatch Center, 7 for Winnemucca Interagency Dispatch Center, 3 for Sierra Front Interagency Dispatch Center, 3 for Ely Interagency Communication Center, 9 for Las Vegas Interagency Communication Center, and 1 for Battle Mountain Dispatch Center.

Historical Comparison

This was the most severe fire season in Nevada since 1985. Acreage burned was twice that of even the busier seasons in the last eight years. The number of fires was 116 percent of the 5-yr. average, while the acreage burned was 379 percent of the 5-yr. average.

Only one year out of the last five has topped the 100,000 acre mark: in 1992, large fires in northern Nevada raised the yearly total to 101,783 acres burned. From 1989 to 1991, the yearly acreage burned ran from roughly 35,000 to 40,000 acres. Nevada also topped the 100,000 acre mark in 1988 (at 103,864 acres). In 1986, the BLM alone burned a total of 101,404 acres. But the most devastating fire season in Nevada's recent history was 1985, when 960,010 acres burned statewide.

WESTERN GREAT BASIN COORDINATION CENTER



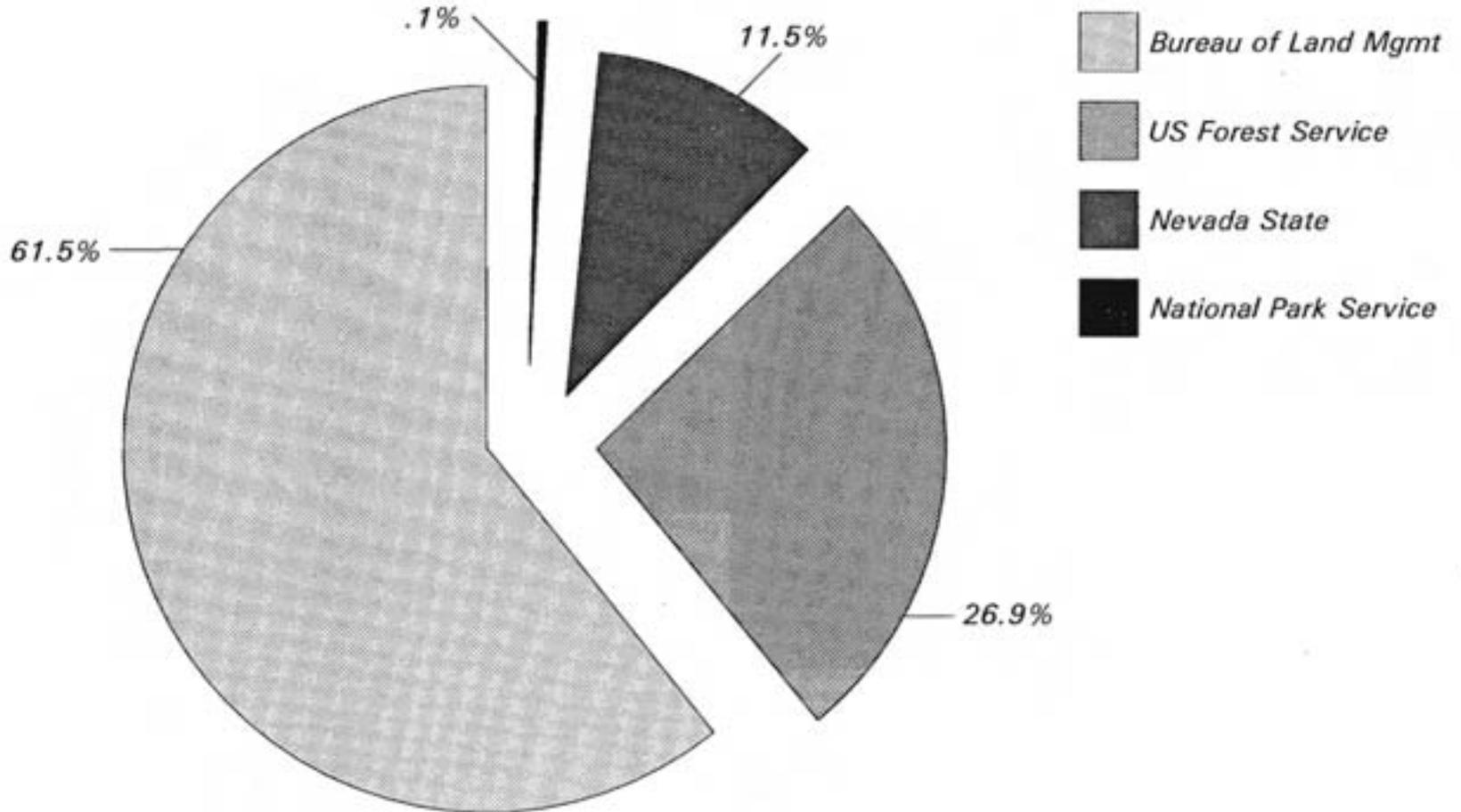
**Nevada
Large Fires
(300 + Acres)
1994**

**Western Great Basin
Fire Statistical Summary**

<i>Unit/Agency</i>	<i>Human Fires</i>	<i>Lightning Fires</i>	<i>Human Acres</i>	<i>Lightning Acres</i>	<i>Total Fires</i>	<i>Total Acres</i>
<i>Bureau of Land Management:</i>						
<i>Elko</i>	11	77	12,167	44,591	88	56,758
<i>Winnemucca</i>	32	28	6,344	28,046	60	34,390
<i>Carson City</i>	26	40	19,222	321	66	19,543
<i>Ely</i>	9	114	700	4,838	123	5,538
<i>Las Vegas</i>	52	125	5,009	58,322	177	63,331
<i>Battle Mountain</i>	1	37	0	1,590	38	1,590
<i>Agency Total</i>	131	421	43,442	137,708	552	181,150
<i>U.S. Forest Service:</i>						
<i>Humboldt NF</i>	5	41	5	6,006	46	6,011
<i>Toiyabe NF</i>	67	129	11,710	811	196	12,521
<i>Agency Total</i>	72	170	11,715	6,817	242	18,532
<i>Nevada Division of Forestry:</i>						
<i>Northern</i>	49	27	169	4,565	76	4,734
<i>Western</i>	11	16	61	6	27	67
<i>Southern</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Agency Total</i>	60	43	230	4,571	103	4,801
<i>National Park Service:</i>						
<i>Great Basin NP</i>	0	1	0	0	1	0
<i>Geographic Area Totals</i>	263	635	55,387	149,096	898	204,483

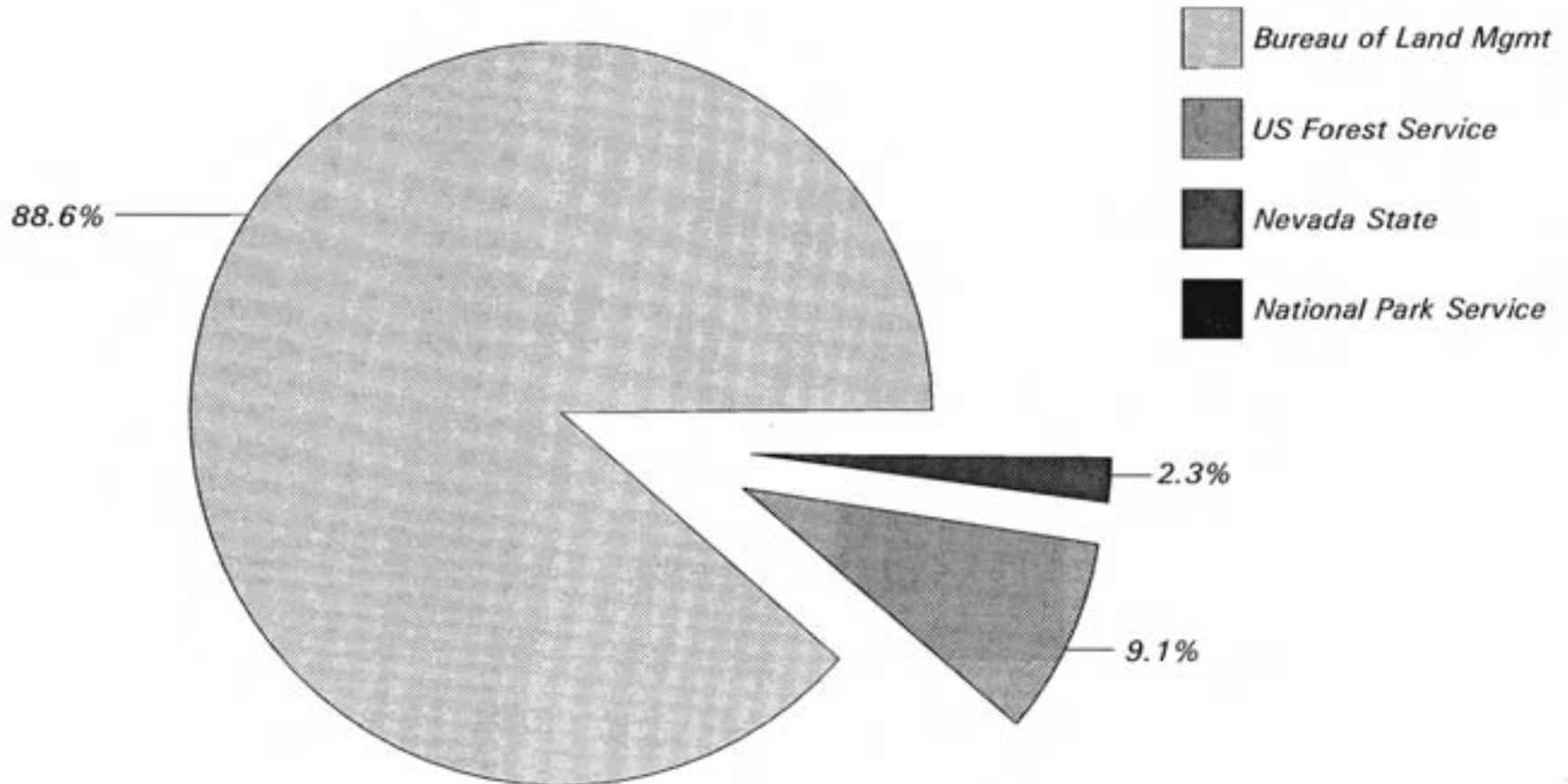
Note: Numbers current as of 11/9/94.

Fire Occurrence 1994



*Interagency Statistics
(Lightning & Human Fires Combined)*

Acres Burned 1994



*Interagency Statistics
(Lightning & Human Acres Combined)*

Note: No National Park Service Acres Reported

WESTERN GREAT BASIN COORDINATION CENTER

1994 INCIDENT SUPPORT SUMMARY

1994

The 1994 season was extremely busy in Nevada and throughout the Western U.S. The Western Great Basin Coordination Center (WGBCC) supported incident operations on a continual basis from June through October; the Center was open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from approximately June 24 through September 17. The resource order-related workload increased sixfold from that experienced in 1993. Even with this heavy workload, WGBCC remained committed to the direct support of suppression operations, filling 12 Overhead requests with Center personnel during the season.

WGBCC mobilized 18 Incident Management Teams in 1994, which included 3 Type I Teams and 15 Type II teams. Of the 18 team mobilizations, 10 were for Nevada incidents and 8 were for incidents in other Geographic Areas (Utah, Idaho, and New Mexico).

The information presented in the following charts and tables is self-explanatory. The reader must bear in mind when looking at this information that the figures presented here do not reflect local initial attack action on individual Districts, Regions, or Forests. Only local unit dispatch centers can provide that information.

This report is similar to the 1993 WGBCC Summary, in that the two sides of the resource order coin are examined: what agency initiated the request, and what agency filled the request. Requests for resources are separated by the basic types (Aircraft, Crew, Equipment, and Overhead), and further separated by type (e.g. type of aircraft such as Airtanker, Helicopter, etc.). In some cases, this is further broken down to illustrate which agencies within Nevada initiated and/or filled requests, and how much of the resource order workload was generated outside Nevada.

Readers are cautioned against over-interpreting the data presented in this Summary. During the 1994 season, many orders for all types of resources were never placed at all, because it was well established that no resources were available either locally or nationally (especially Type I crews, helicopters, airtankers, and certain overhead positions). Overall, this information is useful in showing, in a general way, where the workload of WGBCC is generated, and in what relative amounts resources are requested and mobilized by which agencies. Readers are encouraged to compare 1994 information with that presented in the 1993 Summary. Comparisons between a "slow" season (1993) and a "very busy" season (1994) are useful, since if percentages are the same in two different kinds of seasons, we may be looking at a trend.

WESTERN GREAT BASIN COORDINATION CENTER

1994 INCIDENT SUPPORT SUMMARY

TOTAL REQUESTS PROCESSED

SEPARATED BY RESOURCE TYPE AND DISPATCH CENTER PLACING ORDER

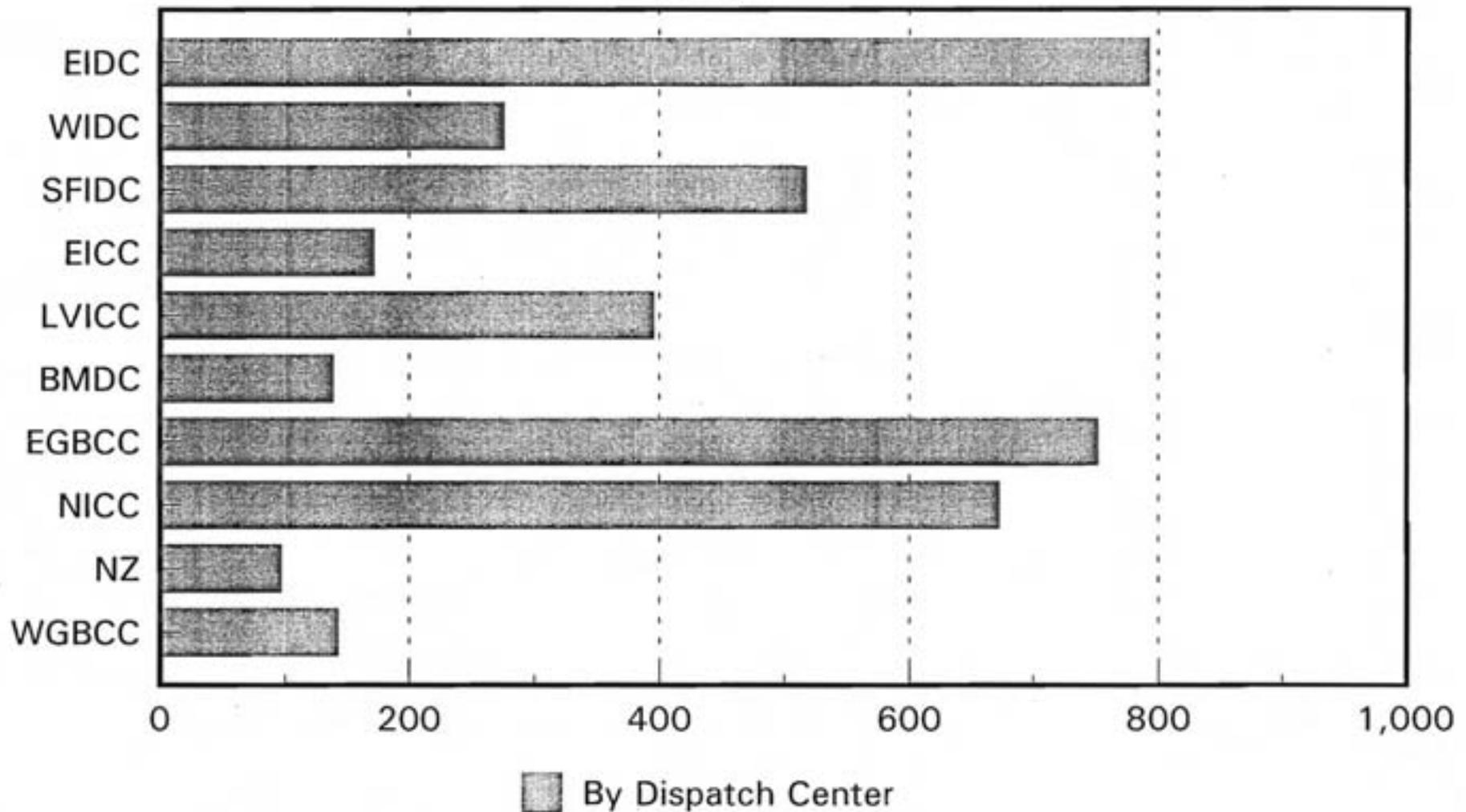
All statistics are for orders processed through the Western Great Basin Coordination Center only. They do not include dispatches on home units or to neighboring units under initial attack agreements (if less than 24 hours in duration). Supply orders are not included.

Dispatch Center	Aircraft	Crews	Overhead	Equipment	Total
EIDC	91	75	390	237	793
WIDC	56	34	104	82	276
SFIDC	89	80	271	78	518
EICC	41	33	58	40	172
LVICC	82	47	182	85	396
BMDC	19	26	71	23	139
EGBCC	44	86	520	102	752
NICC	41	16	562	54	673
NZCC	71	8	13	5	97
WGBCC	13	15	85	30	143
Totals	547	420	2256	736	3959

TOTAL REQUESTS PROCESSED

WESTERN GREAT BASIN COORDINATION CENTER

1994



Does not include Supply requests

TOTAL NUMBER OF REQUESTS INITIATED

SEPARATED BY TYPE AND AGENCY GENERATING REQUEST

WGBCC, 1994

AGENCY	AIRCRAFT	CREWS	EQUIPMENT	OVERHEAD	TOTAL
BLM	345	283	516	1345	2489
USFS	153	124	184	841	1302
NDF	15	11	23	7	56
BIA			1	37	38
NPS	1			3	4
OTHER AGENCY*	33	2	12	23	70
TOTALS	547	420	736	2256	3959

* Includes other State agencies such as California, Arizona, Washington, Utah, and other Federal agencies such as FAA, NBS, FWS, U.S. Army

TOTAL REQUESTS FILLED

SEPARATED BY AGENCY PROVIDING THE RESOURCE

WGBCC, 1994

AGENCY	AIRCRAFT	OVERHEAD	CREWS	EQUIPMENT	TOTALS
BLM*	222	707	58	248	1235
USFS	105	701	118	133	1057
NDF	16	124	60	51	251
BIA		24	82	8	114
NPS		27	2	3	32
FWS		3		1	4
OTHER AGENCY**	32	63	17	37	149
PRIVATE	34			148	182
CANCELLED ***	138	607	83	107	935
TOTALS	547	2256	420	736	3959

* BLM totals include resources furnished by NIFC (primarily radio kits, cache vans, add-on airtankers, frequencies, and overhead) in addition to Equipment furnished by BLM Districts (primarily engines, contract airtankers, lead planes, and overhead).

** "Other Agency" category includes other State agencies such as California, Utah, Arizona, Minnesota, New Jersey, Nevada and California National Guard, and other Federal agencies such as National Weather Service, Office of Aircraft Services, Federal Aviation Administration, U.S. Navy and Air Force

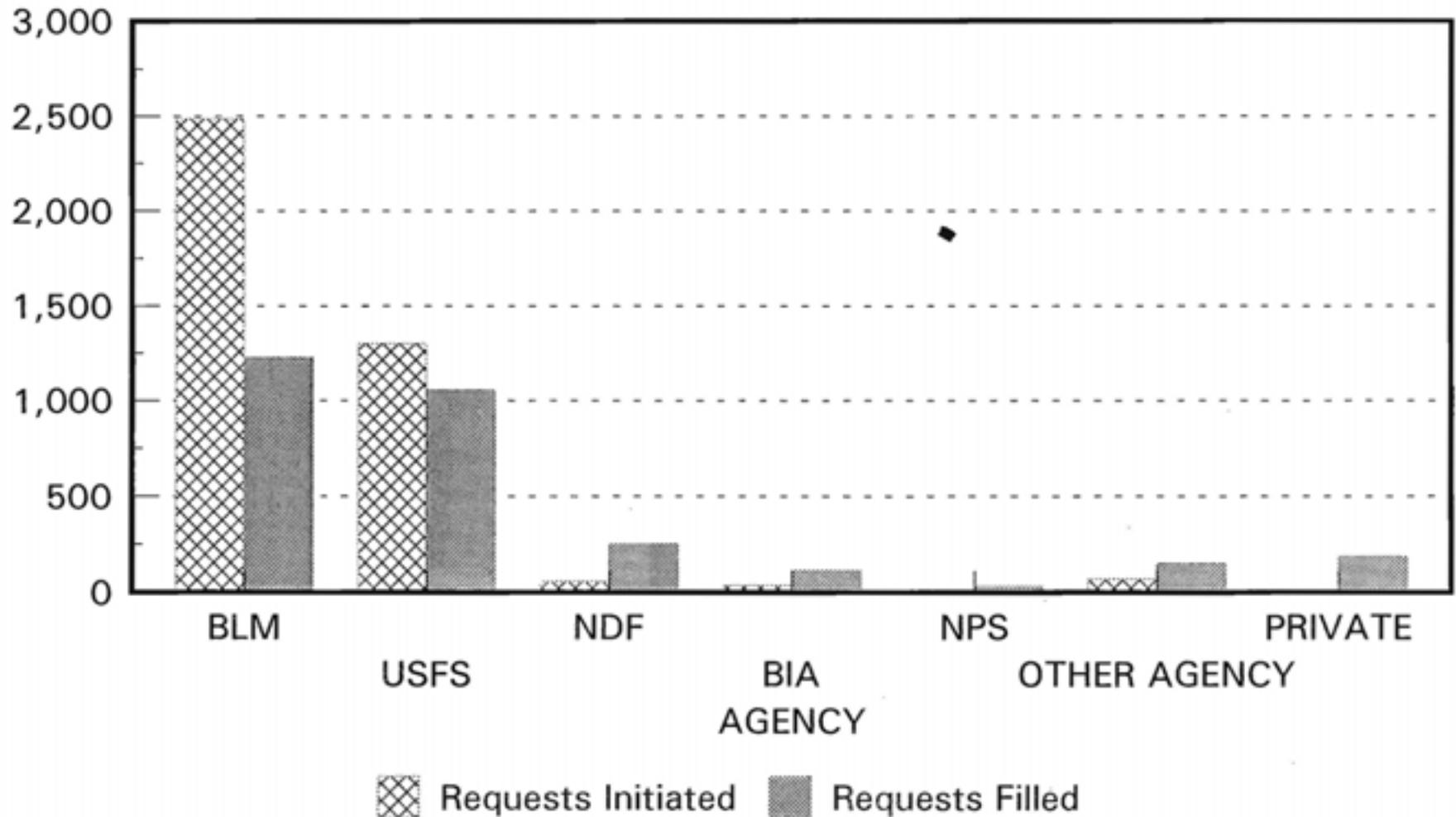
*** "Cancelled" category includes requests that were placed but could not be filled, in addition to requests cancelled by the ordering unit

TOTAL REQUESTS PROCESSED

Separated by Agency

1994

OF REQUESTS

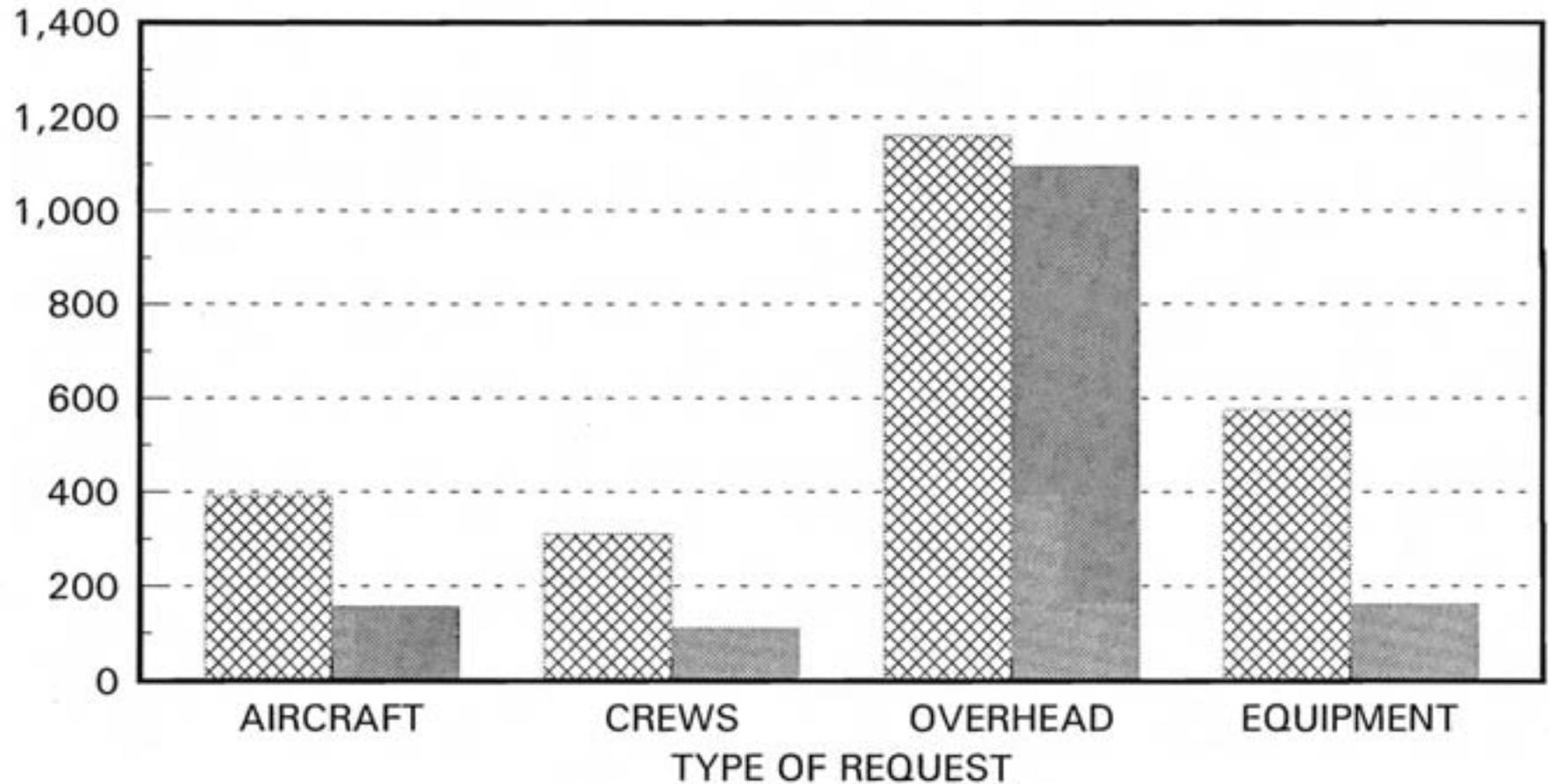


TOTAL REQUESTS PROCESSED, BY TYPE

Initiated by Nevada units or initiated elsewhere

1994

OF REQUESTS



⊠ NV UNITS ■ ELSEWHERE

AIRCRAFT REQUESTS

TOTAL REQUESTS PROCESSED

SEPARATED BY TYPE, AND AGENCY INITIATING REQUEST

1994

Aircraft Type	BLM	USFS	NDF	BIA	Other Agency*	Total
Ag Air Tanker	5	1				6
Air Attack	21	10	3		5	39
Airtanker	150	81	7		23	261
FAA Control Tower		3				3
Frequency	11	5				16
Helicopter	74	32	2		2	110
IR Flight	17					17
Lead Plane	47	17	3		3	70
Recon	4					4
Smokejumper or Large Transport A/C	1	1			1	3
TFR	15	3				18
Total	345	153	15		34	547

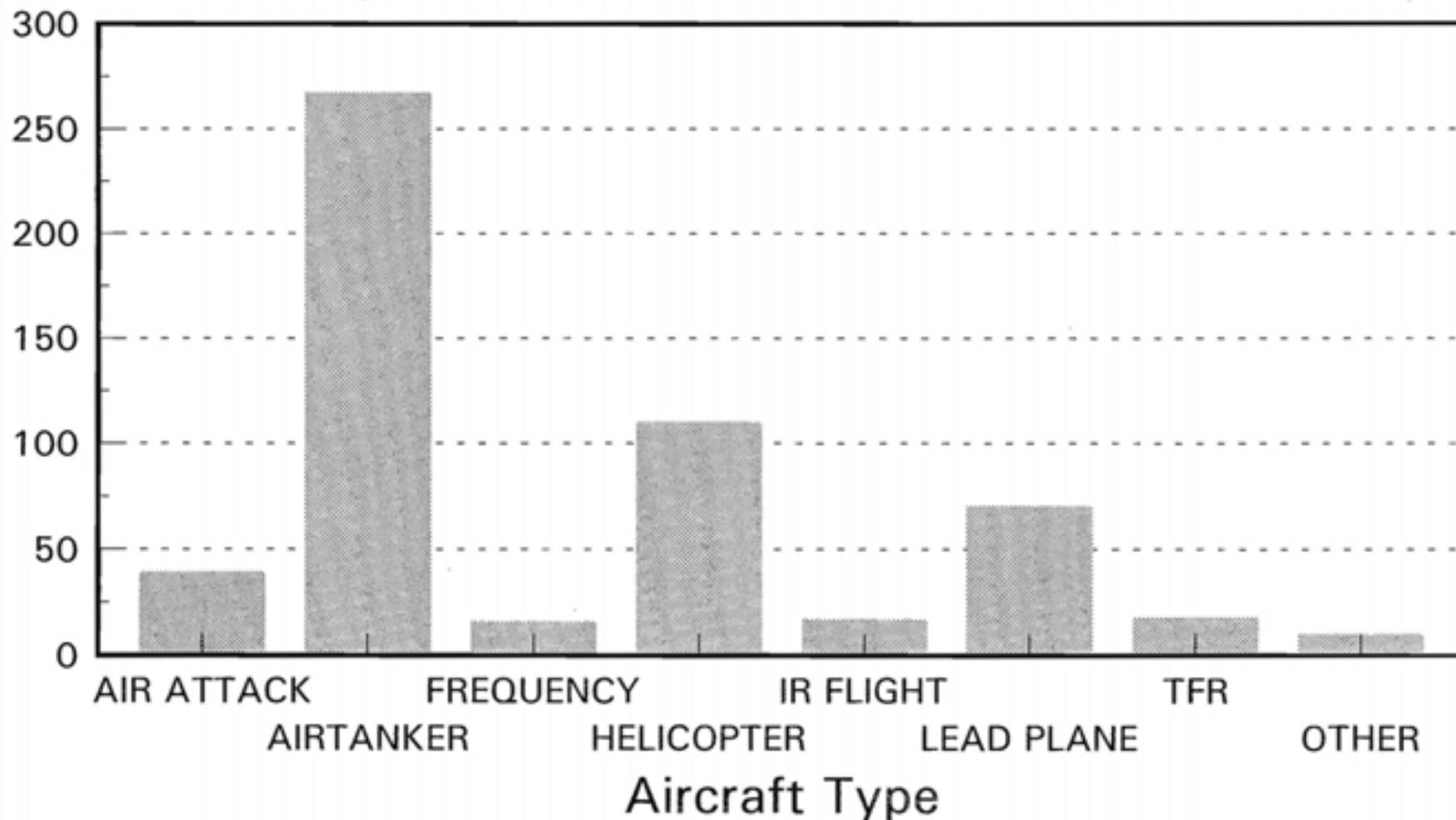
* "Other Agency" category includes States of California, Utah, Washington, and Oregon, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Army

AIRCRAFT REQUESTS PROCESSED

Separated by Type

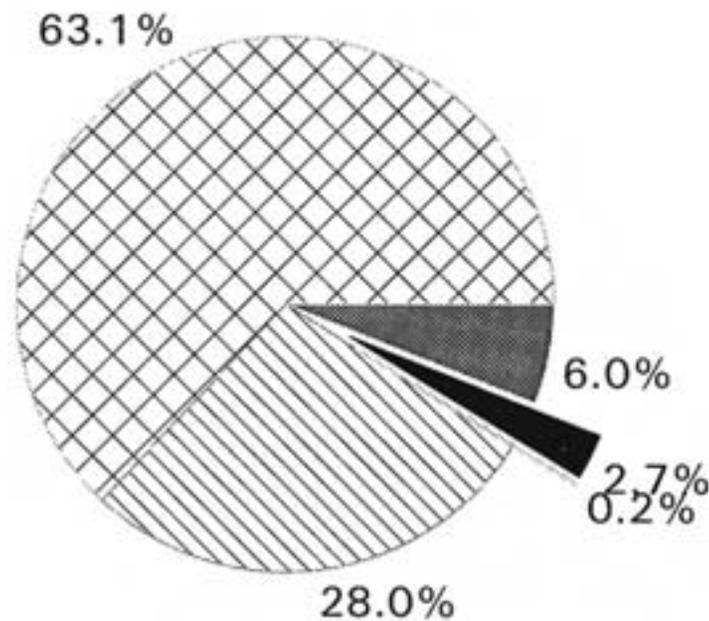
1994

Number of Requests



AIRCRAFT REQUESTS INITIATED

Separated by Agency generating request
1994



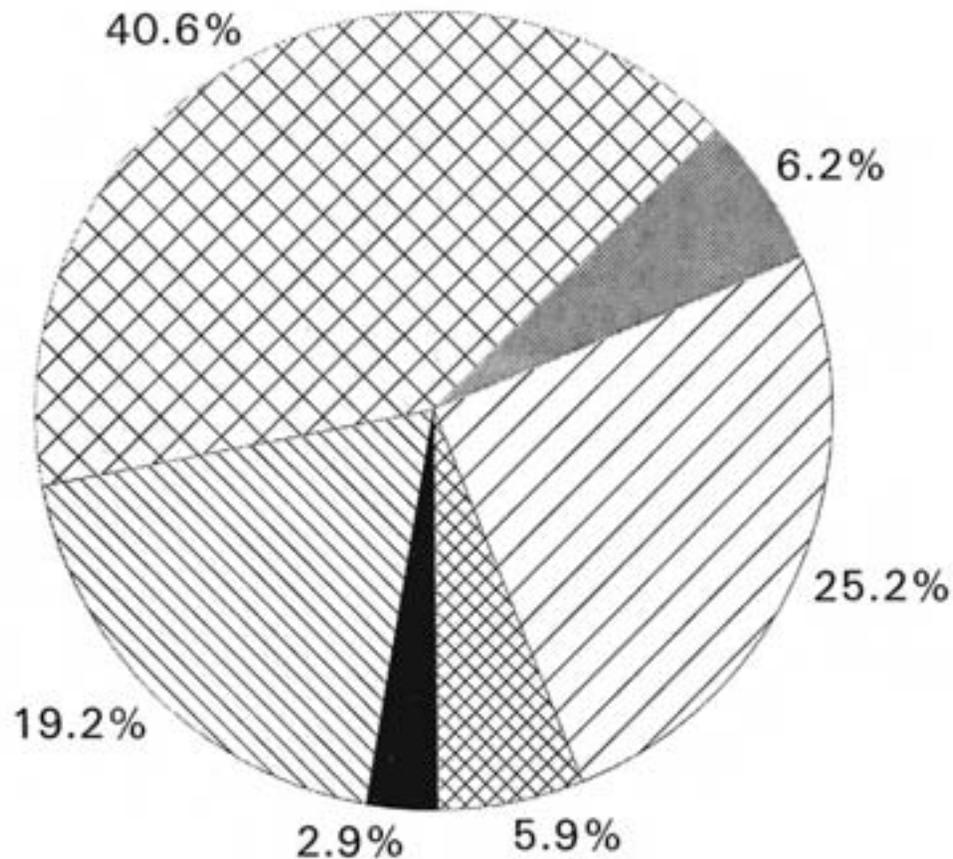
 BLM  USFS  NPS  NDF  OTHER AGENCY

NOTE: "Other Agency" signifies State agencies such as California, Arizona, Washington, Utah, and other Federal agencies (NPS, U.S. Army)

AIRCRAFT REQUESTS FILLED

Separated by Agency providing the resource

1994

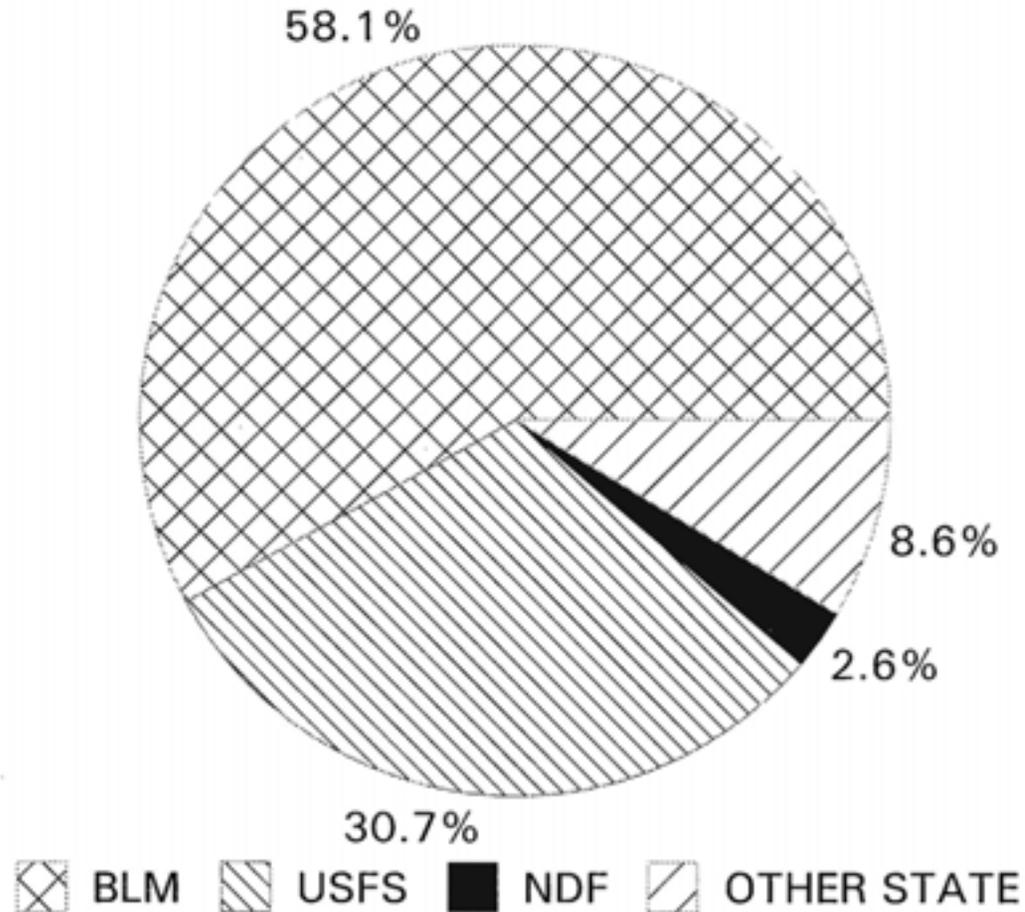


BLM USFS NDF OTHER AGENCY CANCELLED PRIVATE

PRIVATE = CWN Helicopters, Ag Air Tankers, and CWN fixed-wing air attack/recon aircraft

AIR TANKER REQUESTS INITIATED

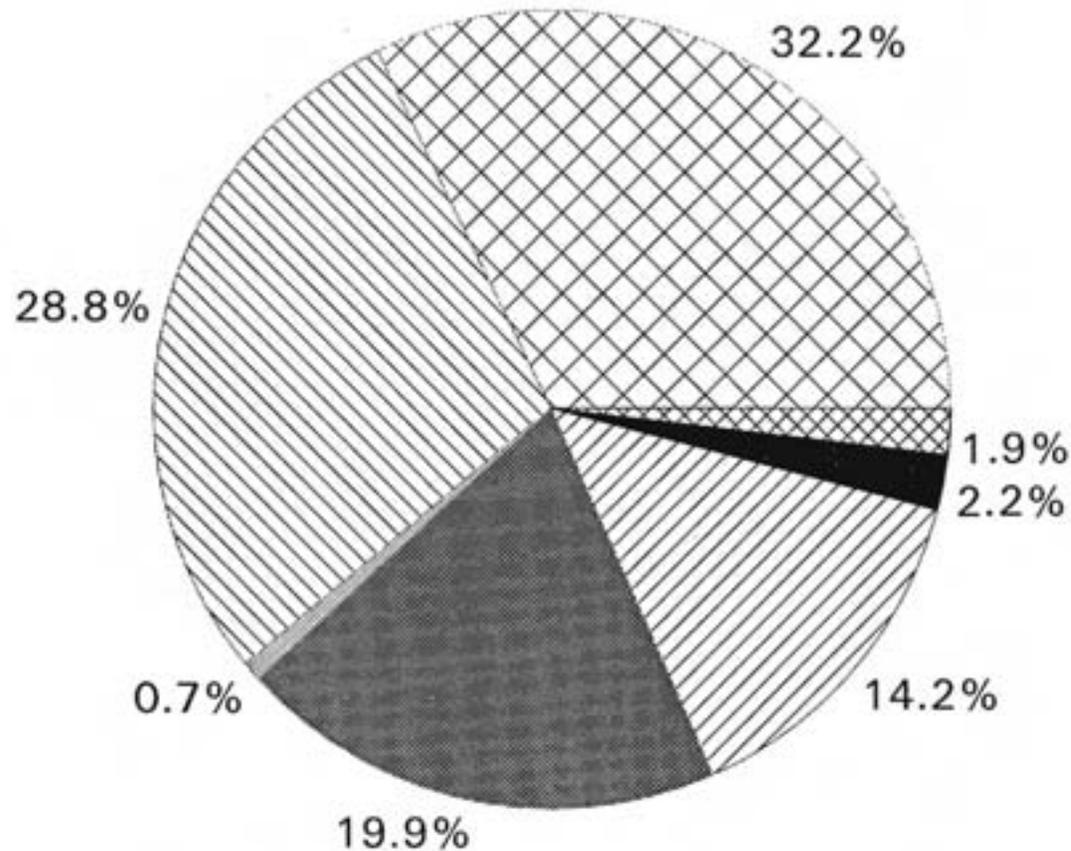
Separated by Agency generating request
1994



NOTE: "Other State" category was primarily CDF orders (83%), plus Utah, Washington, and Oregon States.

AIR TANKER REQUESTS FILLED

Separated by Agency providing the resource
1994



BLM USFS CDF CANCELLED NIFC PRIVATE MAFFS

NOTE: "PRIVATE" = Ag Airtankers

"NIFC" = Add-on Airtankers

CREW REQUESTS

TOTAL REQUESTS PROCESSED

SEPARATED BY TYPE, AND AGENCY INITIATING REQUEST

1994

Crew Type	BLM	USFS	NDF	State	Total
Type I	53	31		1*	85
Type II**	217	84	11		312
Camp Crew	13	9		1*	23
Total	283	124	11	2	420

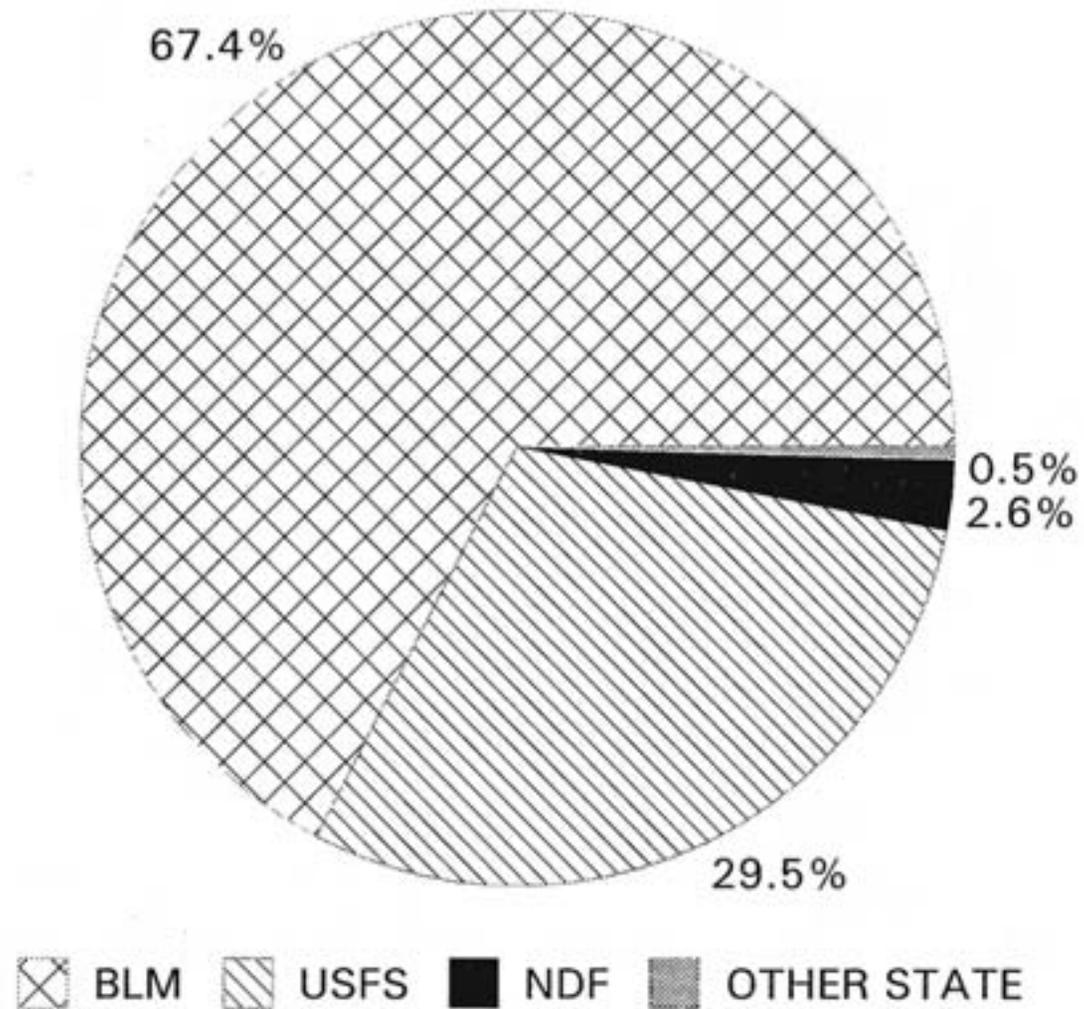
* Orders initiated by Utah State

** The "Type II" crew category includes both individual NDF Conservation Camp crews and strike teams, and Falcon crews; strike teams count as "1"

*** All NDF orders for their own crews

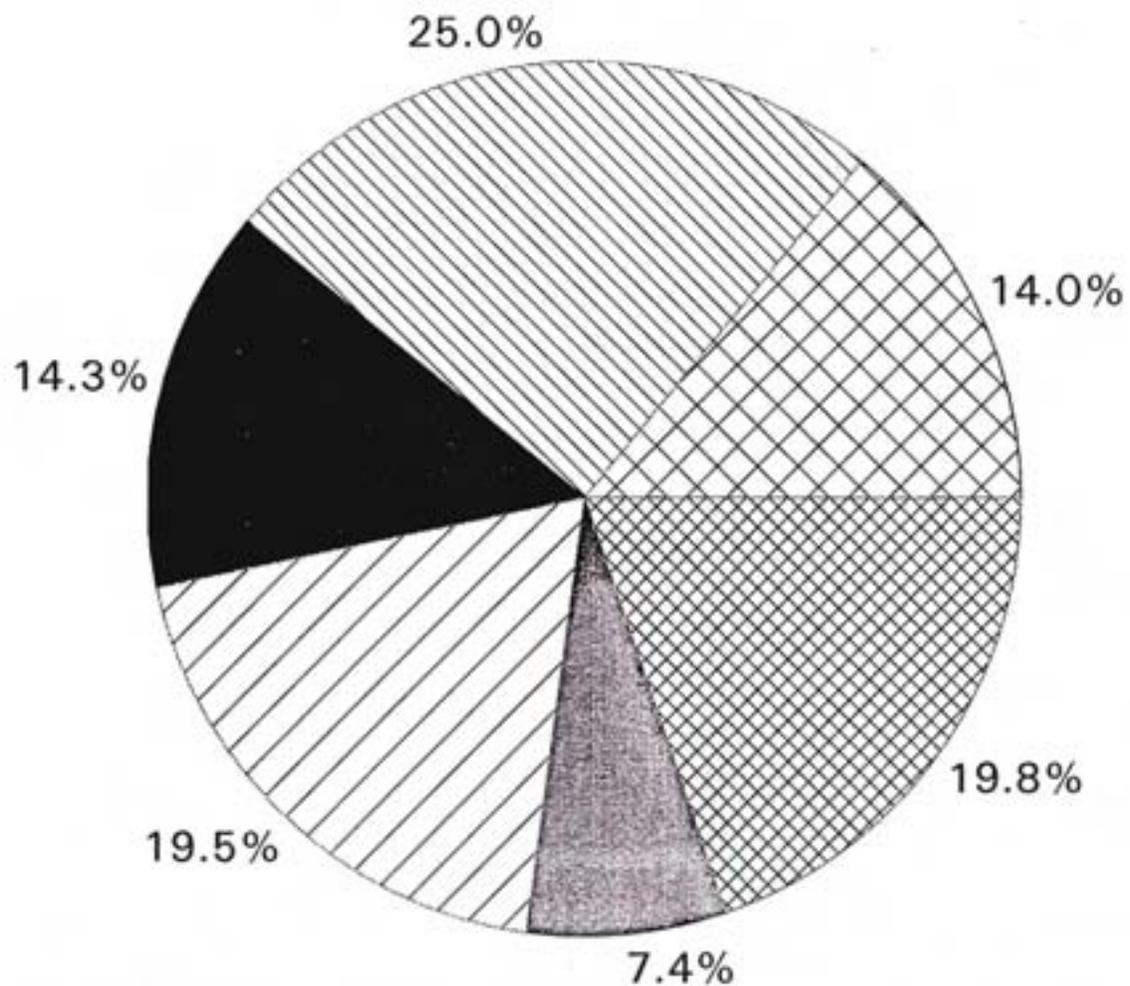
CREW REQUESTS INITIATED

Separated by agency generating the request
WGBCC, 1994



CREW REQUESTS FILLED

Separated by Agency providing the resource
1994

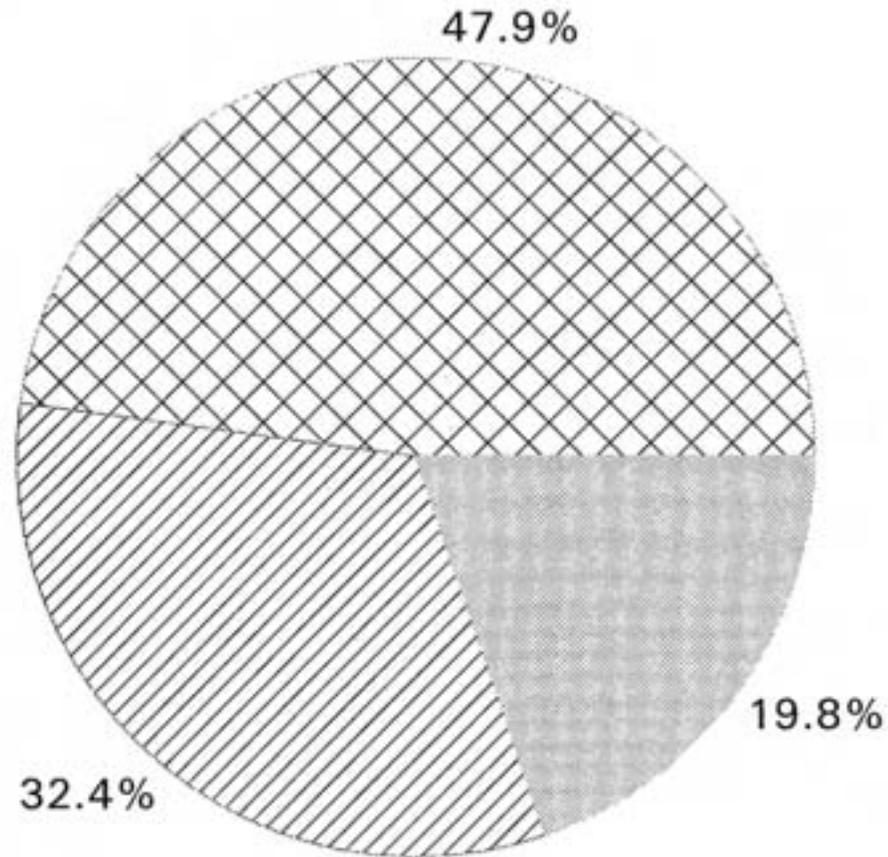


Legend: BLM USFS NDF BIA OTHER AGENCY CANCELLED

CREW REQUESTS PROCESSED

Filled by NV units or filled elsewhere

1994



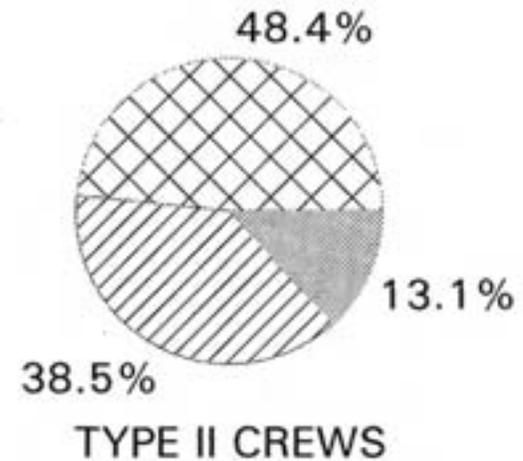
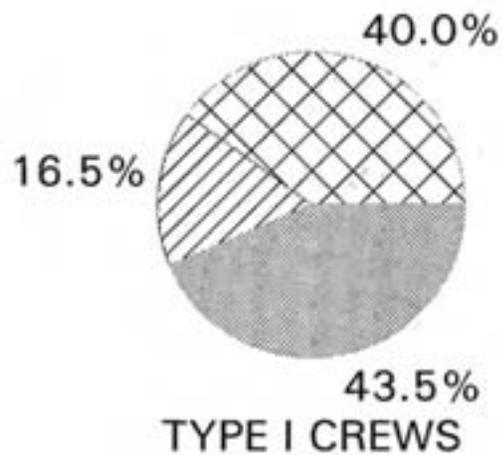
 NV UNITS  ELSEWHERE  CANCEL OR CAN'T FILL

"NV Units" includes crew reassignments from one area to another

CREW REQUESTS SEPARATED BY TYPE

Filled by NV units or filled elsewhere

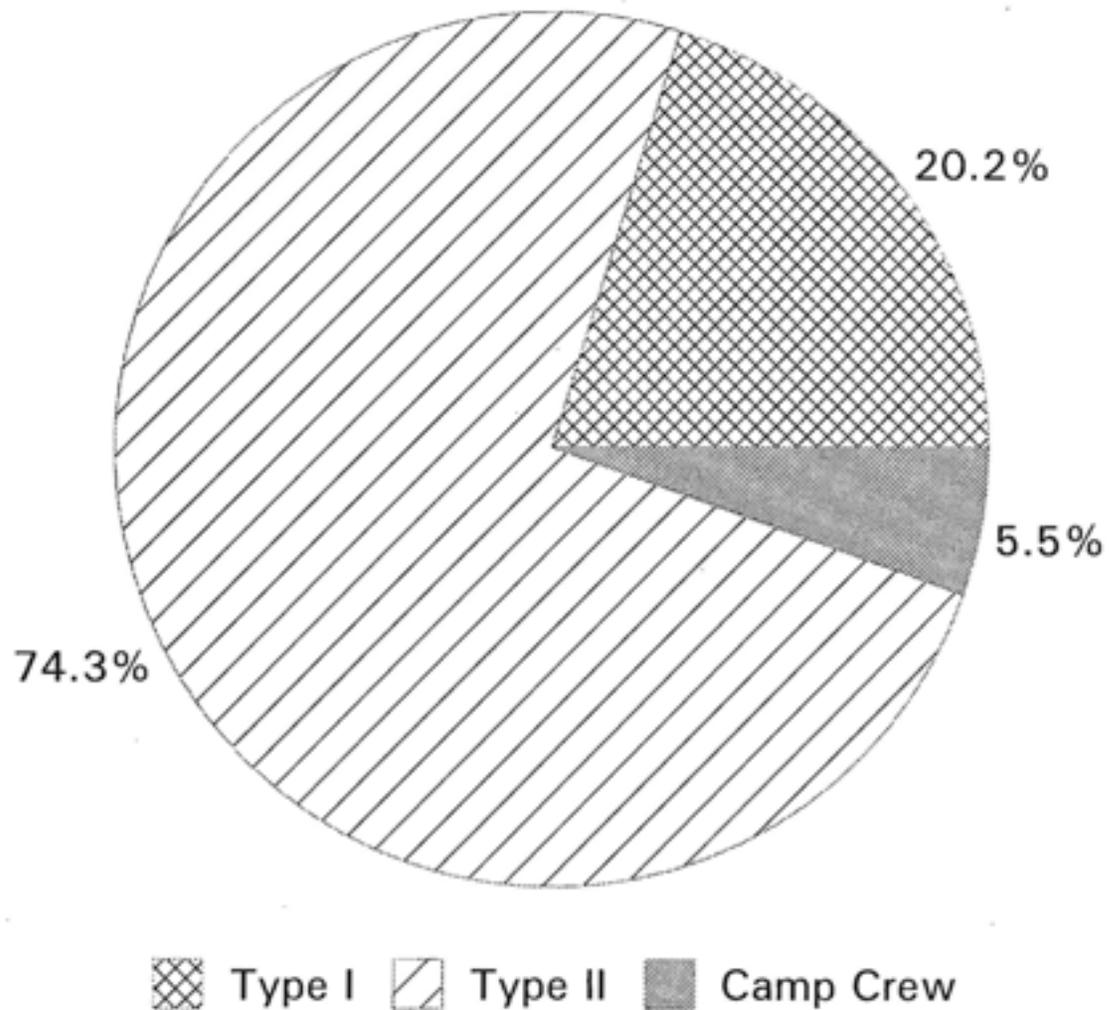
1994



☒ NV UNITS ☒ ELSEWHERE ■ CANCEL OR CAN'T FILL

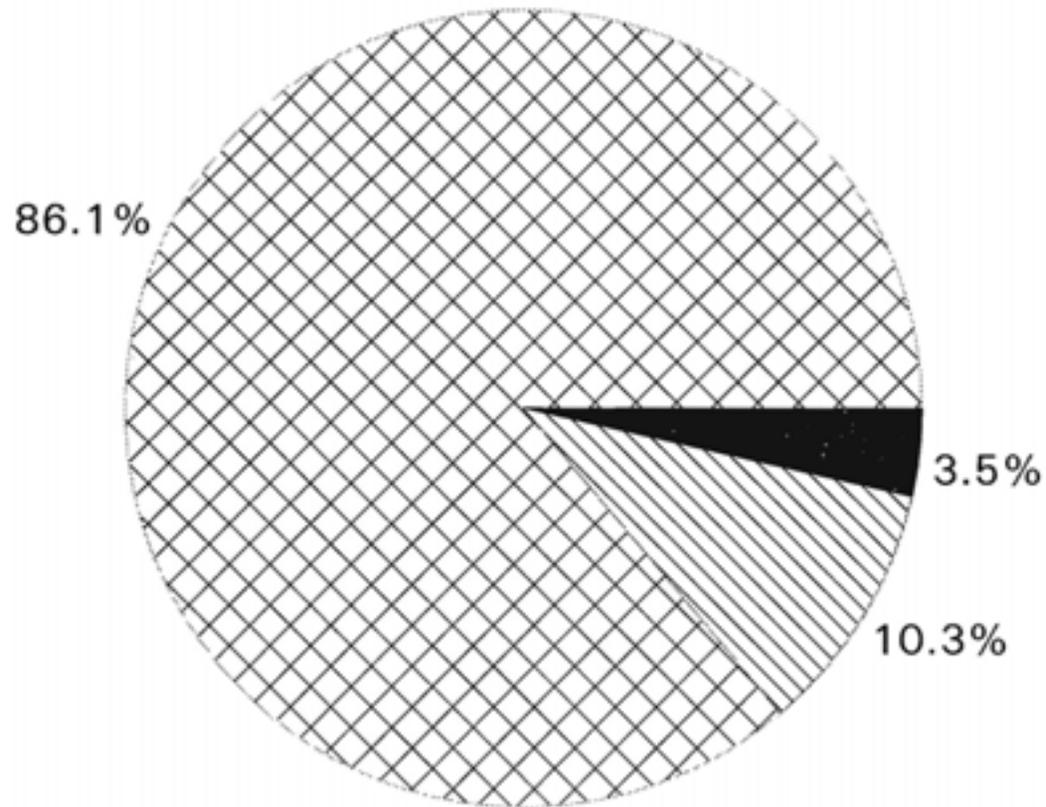
CREW REQUESTS PROCESSED

Separated by Type
WGBCC, 1994



CREW REQUESTS INITIATED BY NV UNITS

Separated by Agency requesting the resource
1994

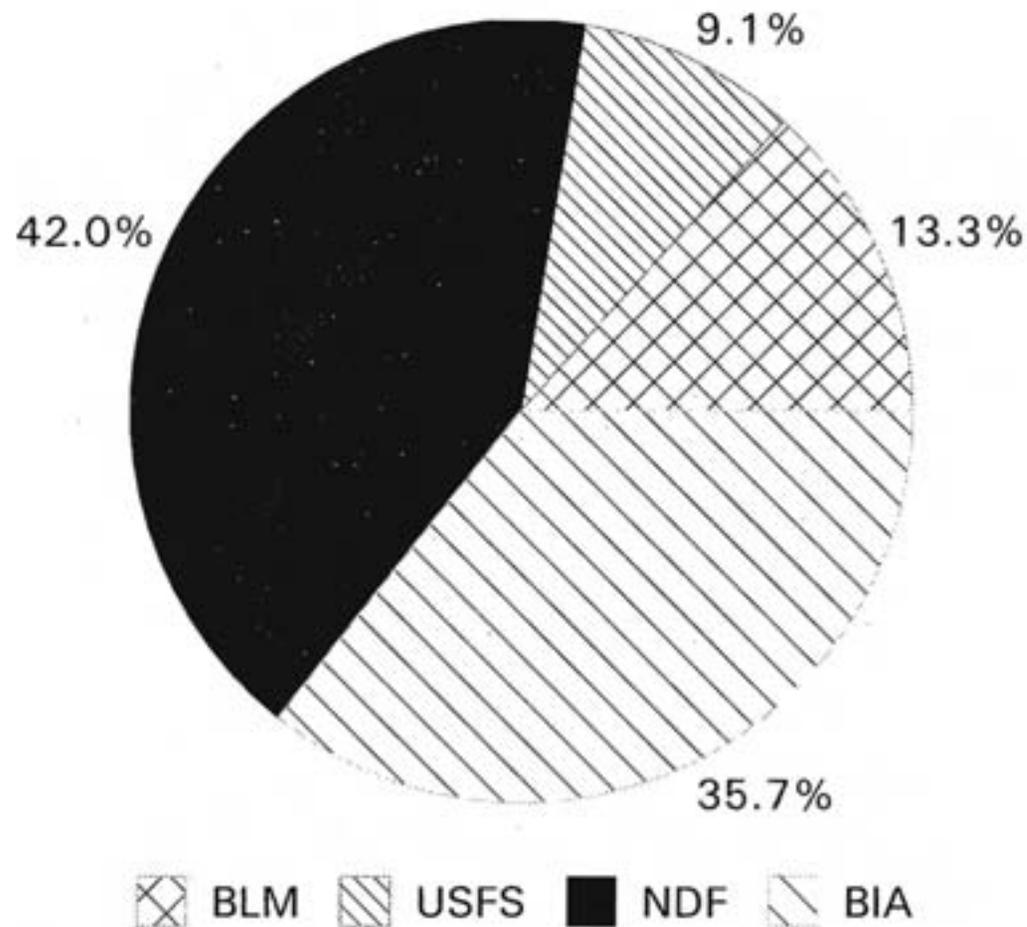


 BLM  USFS  NDF

NOTE: NDF crew orders were all for their own crews; BIA placed no crew orders in 1994

CREW REQUESTS FILLED BY NEVADA AGENCIES

Separated by Agency providing the resource
1994



NOTE: "NDF" crews include inmate crews and strike teams, and Falcon crews; BLM and USFS crews include Type 1 and "Regular" crews

EQUIPMENT REQUESTS

TOTAL REQUESTS PROCESSED

SEPARATED BY TYPE, AND AGENCY INITIATING REQUEST

1994

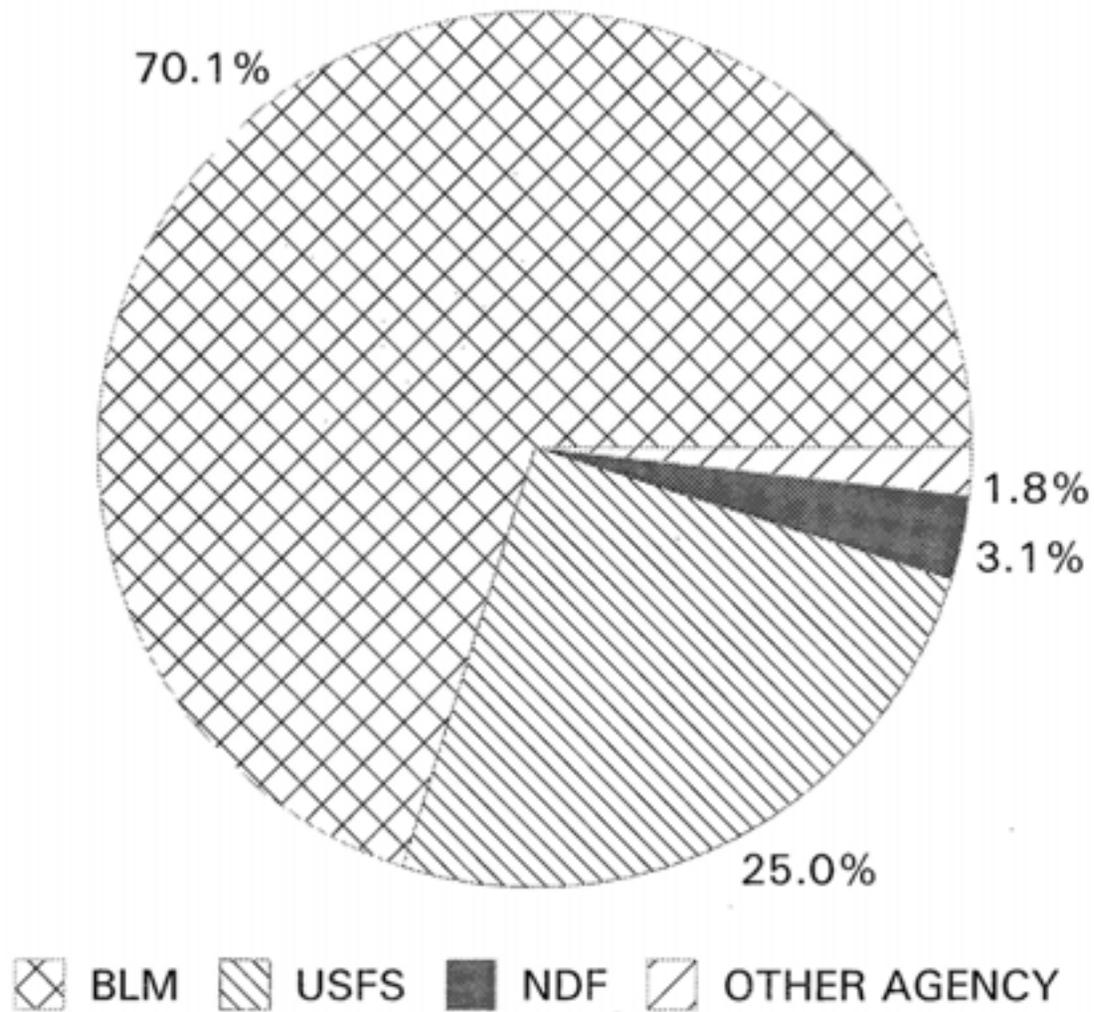
Equipment Type	BLM	USFS	NDF	BIA	Other Agency*	Total
Engines	319	136	16	1	5	477
Water Tenders	14	6	2			22
Potable Trucks	7	1				8
Cache Vans	15	4				19
Radios	36	7			6	49
Contract Caterers	10	1				11
NDF Field Kitchens	5	1				6
Shower Units	10	2				12
Misc. Other**	100	26	5		1	132
Total	516	184	23	1	12	736

* "Other Agency" category includes State of Arizona, State of Washington, and the National Biological Survey

** "Miscellaneous Other" category includes items such as ATMU's, Dozers, Tractors, Buses, Incinet Systems, Terra Torches, Helitorch Kits, Helicopter Buckets, Porta-Potties, etc. etc.

EQUIPMENT REQUESTS INITIATED

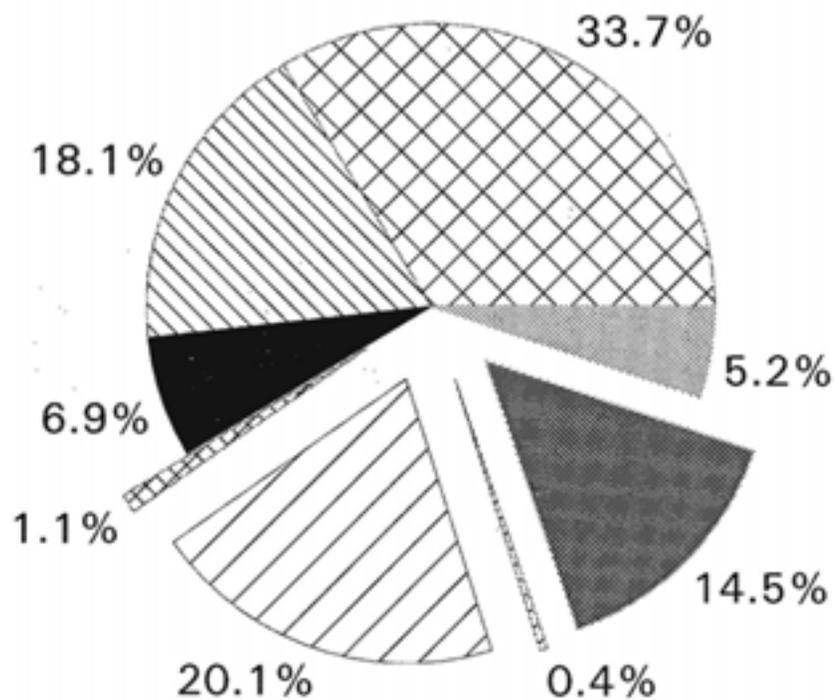
Separated by Agency generating request
1994



EQUIPMENT REQUESTS FILLED

Separated by Agency providing the resource

1994



BLM

USFS

NDF

BIA

PRIVATE

NPS

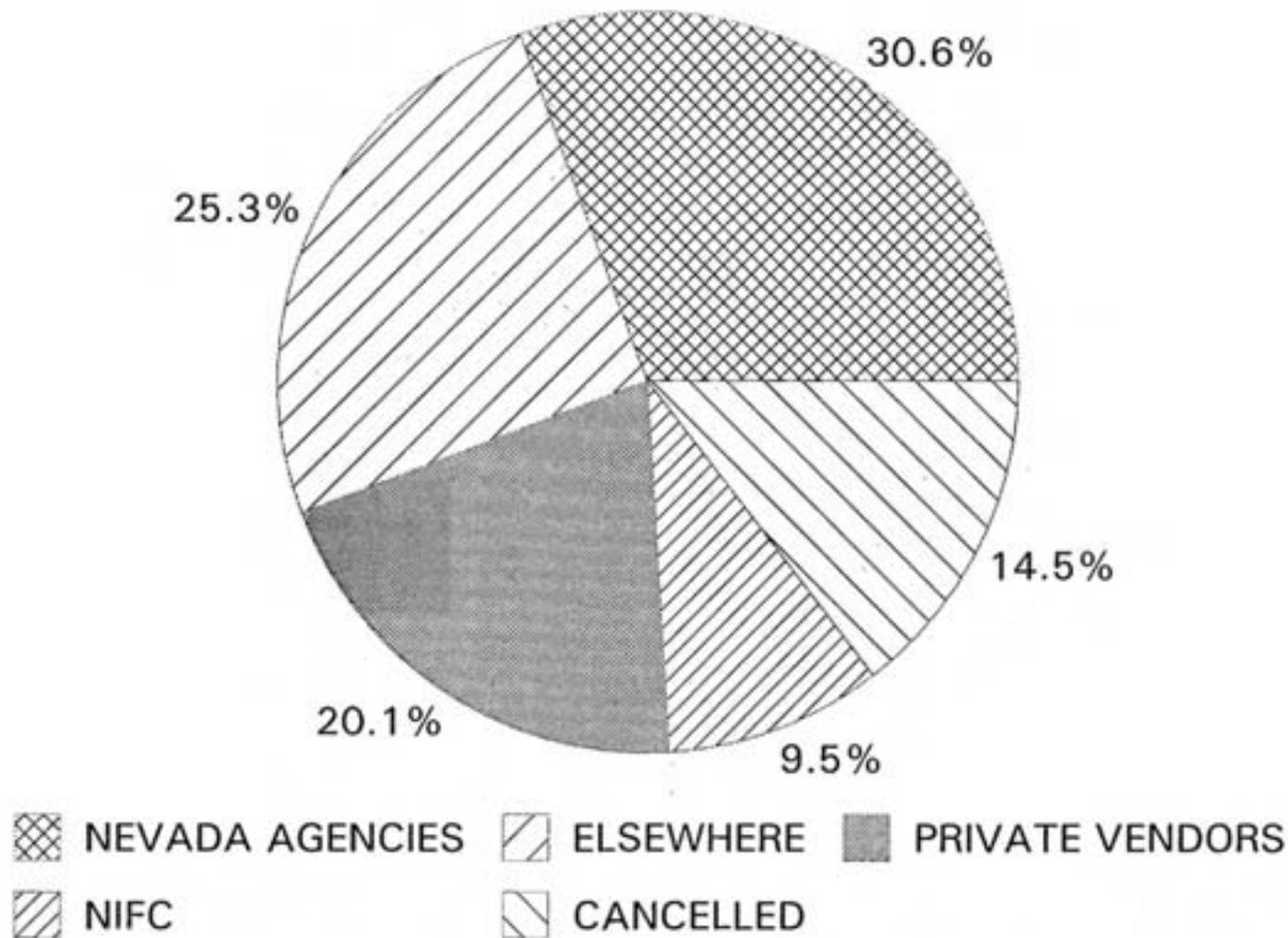
CANCELLED

OTHER AGENCY

EQUIPMENT REQUESTS PROCESSED

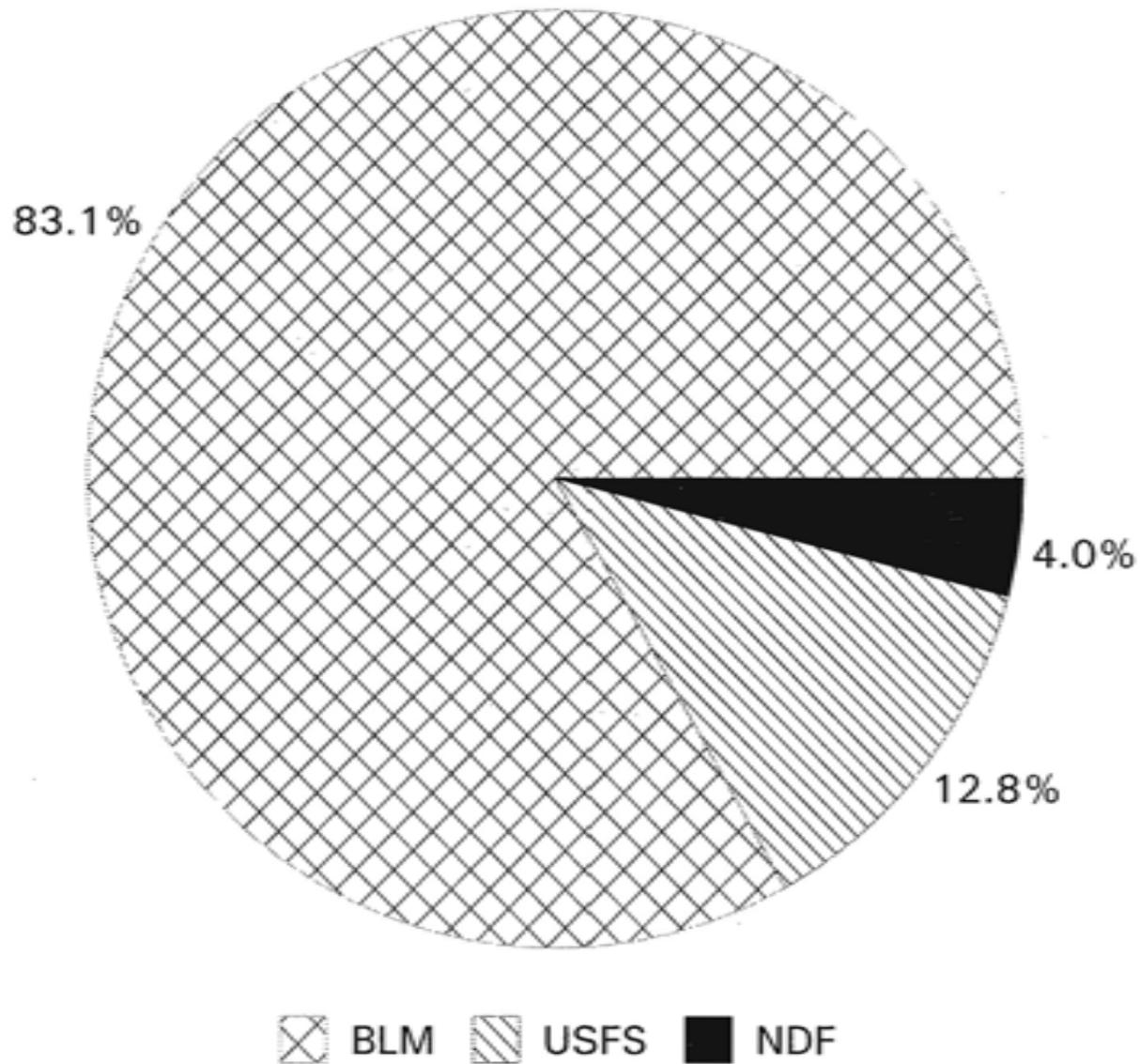
Filled by Nevada units or filled elsewhere

WGBCC, 1994



EQUIPMENT REQUESTS INITIATED BY NEVADA AGENCIES

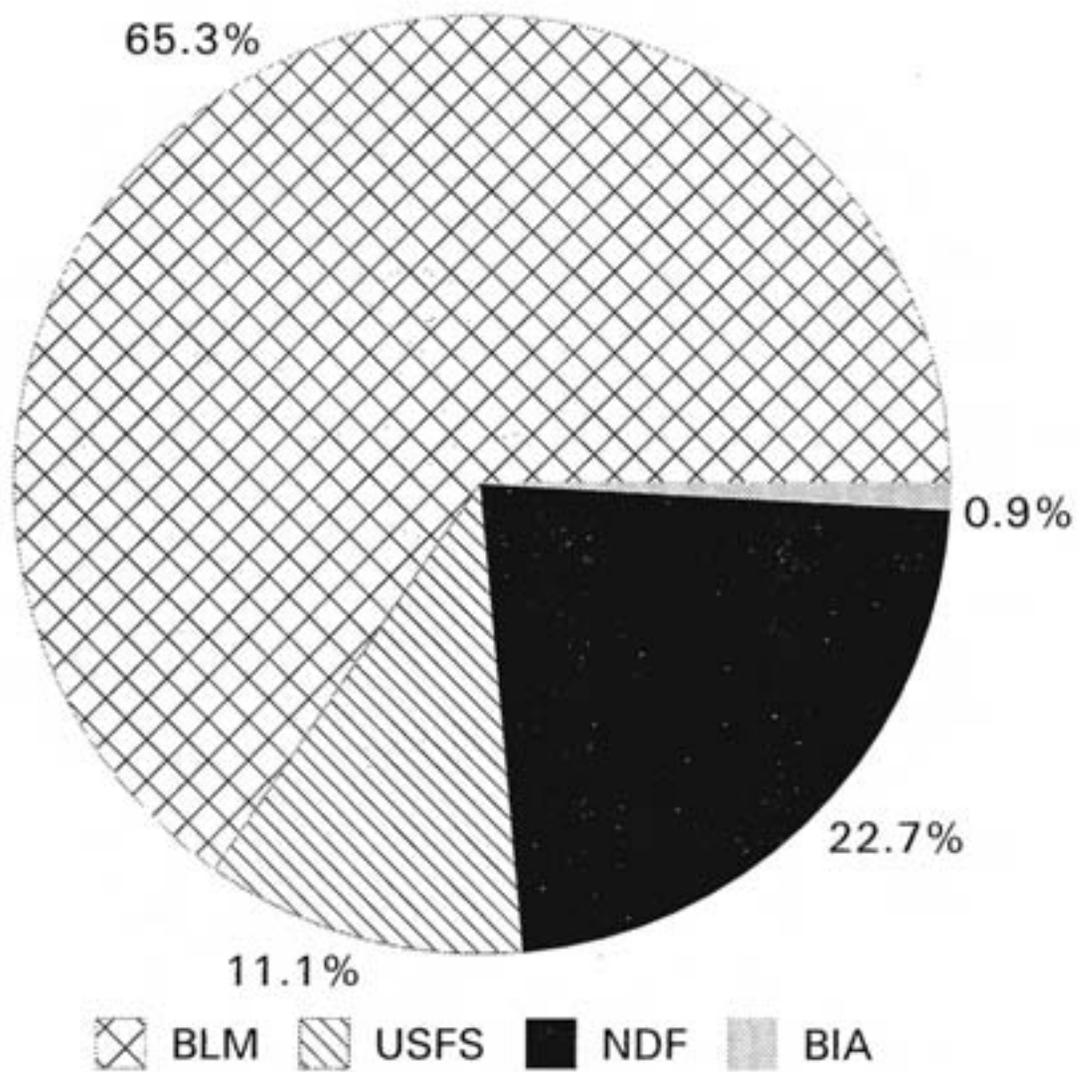
1994



EQUIPMENT REQUESTS FILLED BY NEVADA AGENCIES

(35.7% of Equipment requests filled thru WGBCC)

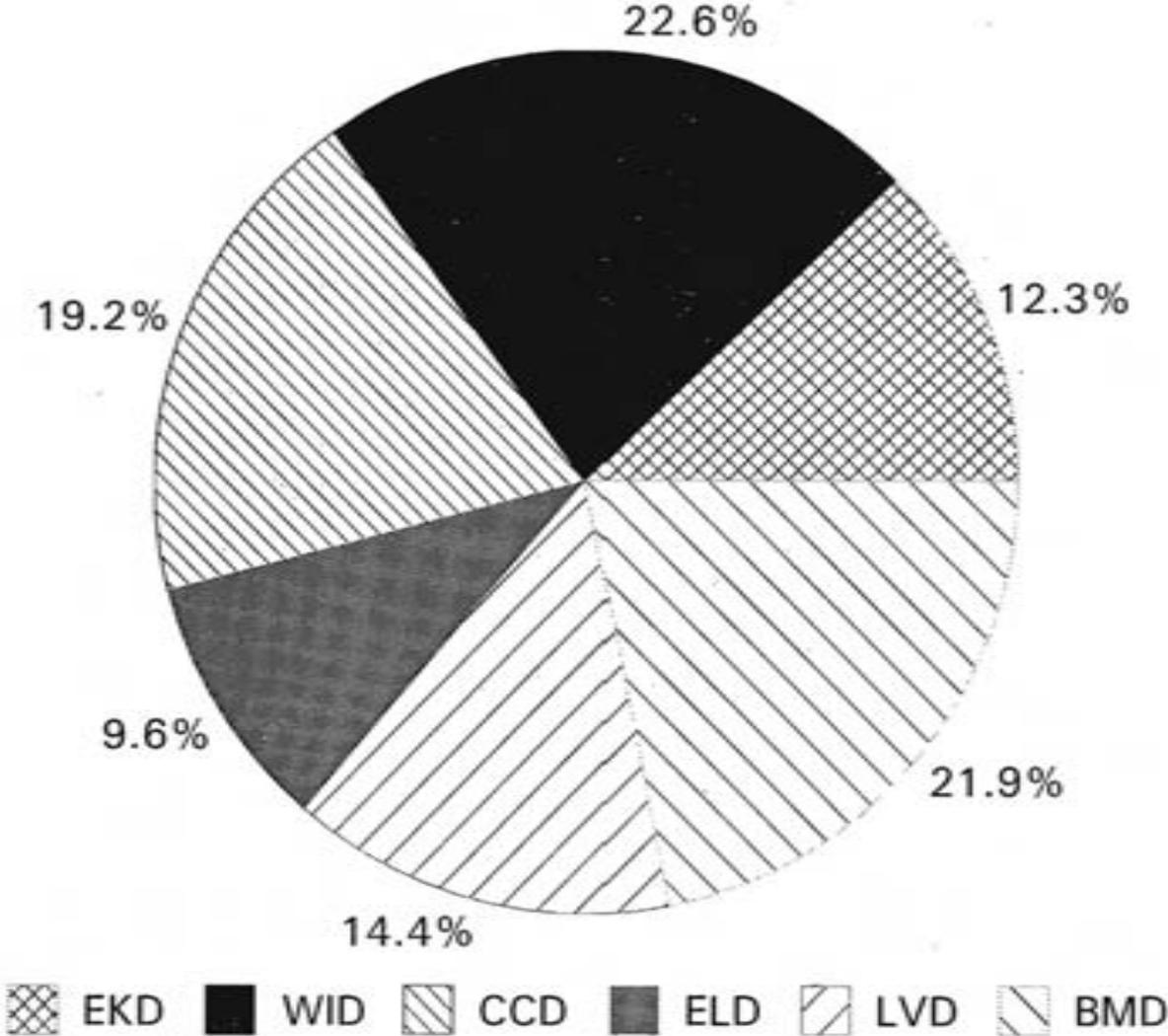
1994



EQUIPMENT REQUESTS FILLED

By Nevada BLM Districts

1994



OVERHEAD REQUESTS CLASSIFIED AS
"CANCEL OR CAN'T FILL"

1994

Separated by Function

FUNCTION	CAN'T FILL	CANCELLED	TOTAL
Command	26	29	55
Coord./Support	21	39	60
Finance	25	28	53
Logistics	55	68	123
Operations	115	135	250
Planning	22	30	52
Tech. Spec.	4	10	14
Total	268	339	607

SMOKEJUMPER REQUESTS PROCESSED

1994

Type of Request	Number of requests
Initial Attack	44
Booster	170
Miscellaneous Overhead	29

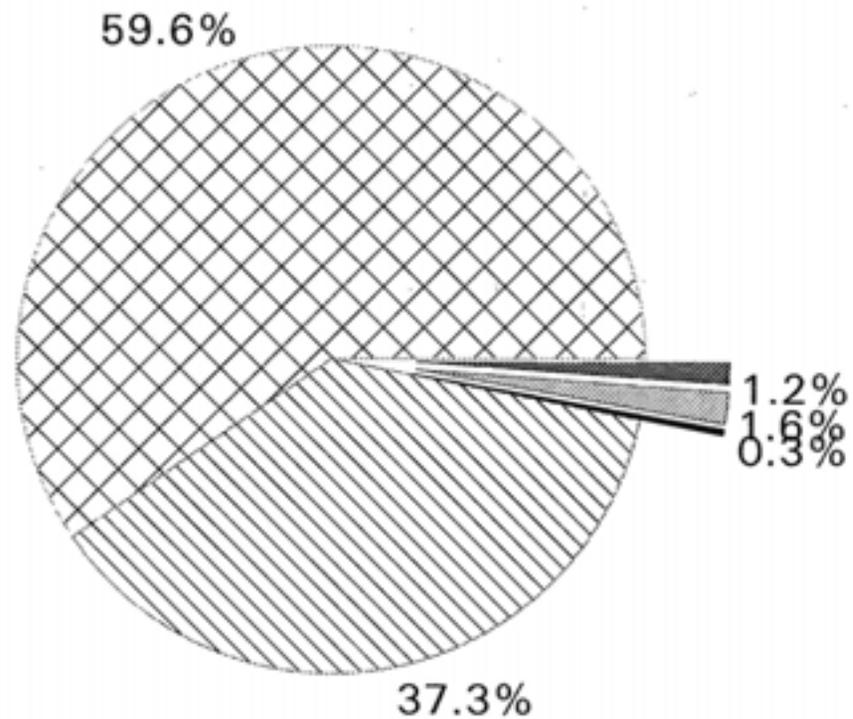
SMOKEJUMPER REQUESTS Separated by Requesting Agency

Type of Request	BLM	USFS	FWS	TOTAL
Initial Attack	40	3	1	44
Booster	94	76		170
Total	134	79	1	214

OVERHEAD REQUESTS INITIATED

Separated by Agency generating request

1994

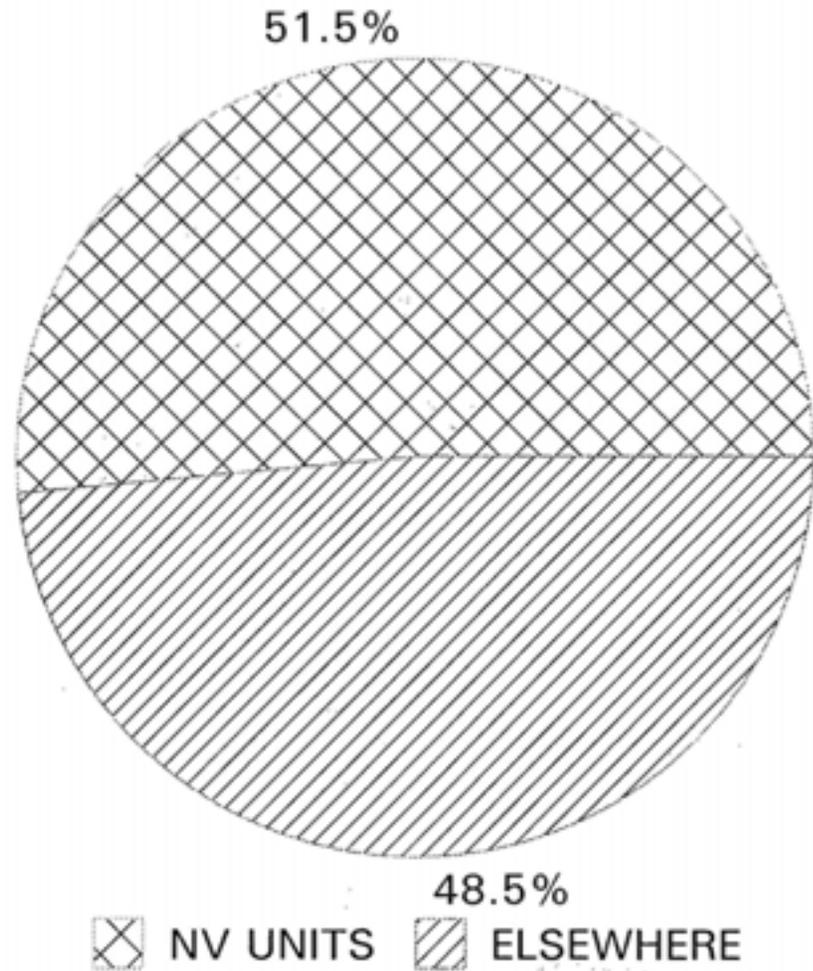


 BLM  USFS  NDF  BIA  OTHER AGENCY

OVERHEAD REQUESTS INITIATED

By Nevada units or elsewhere

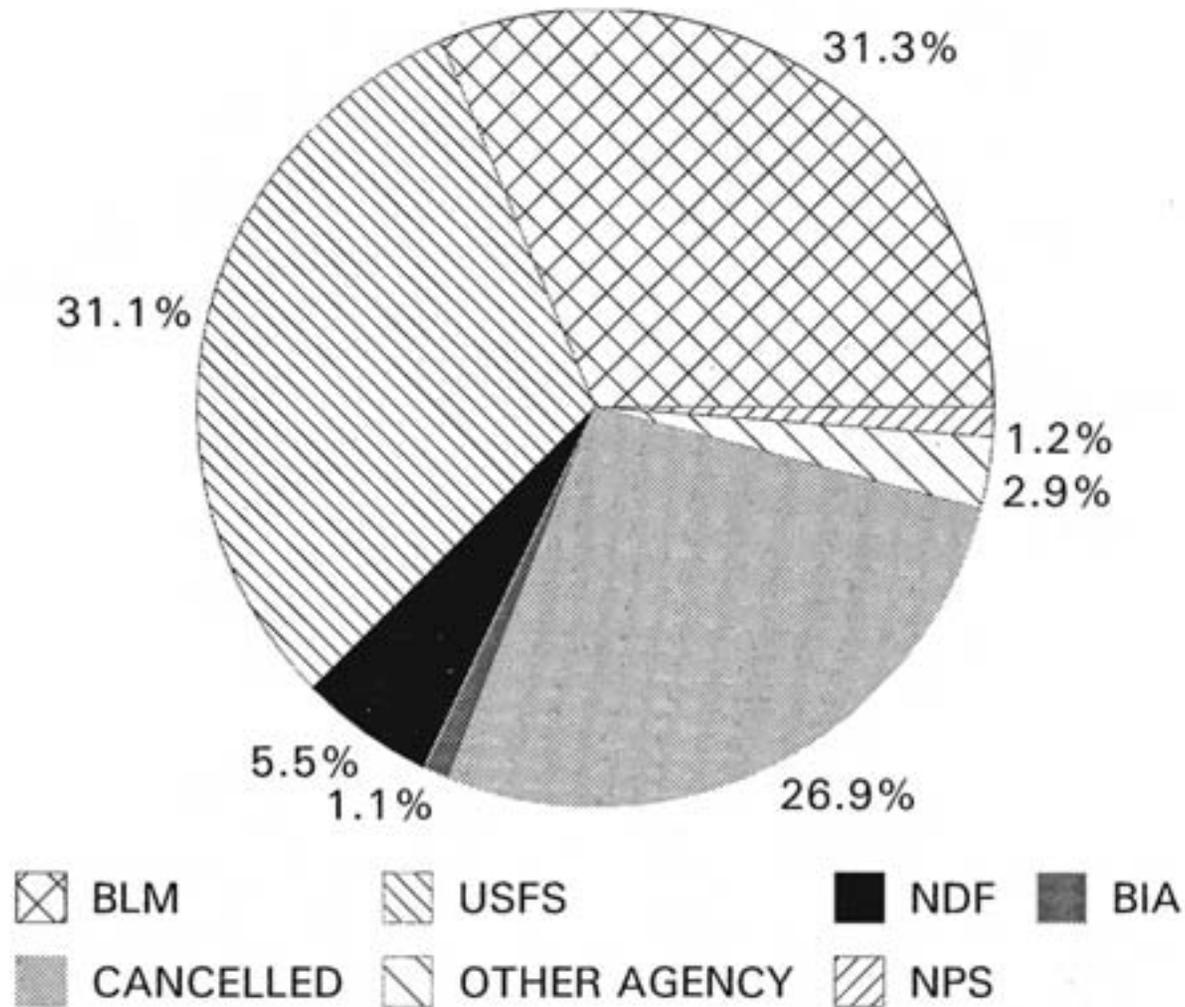
1994



"Elsewhere" includes orders from NICC, EGBCC, and North Zone Coordination Center

OVERHEAD REQUESTS FILLED

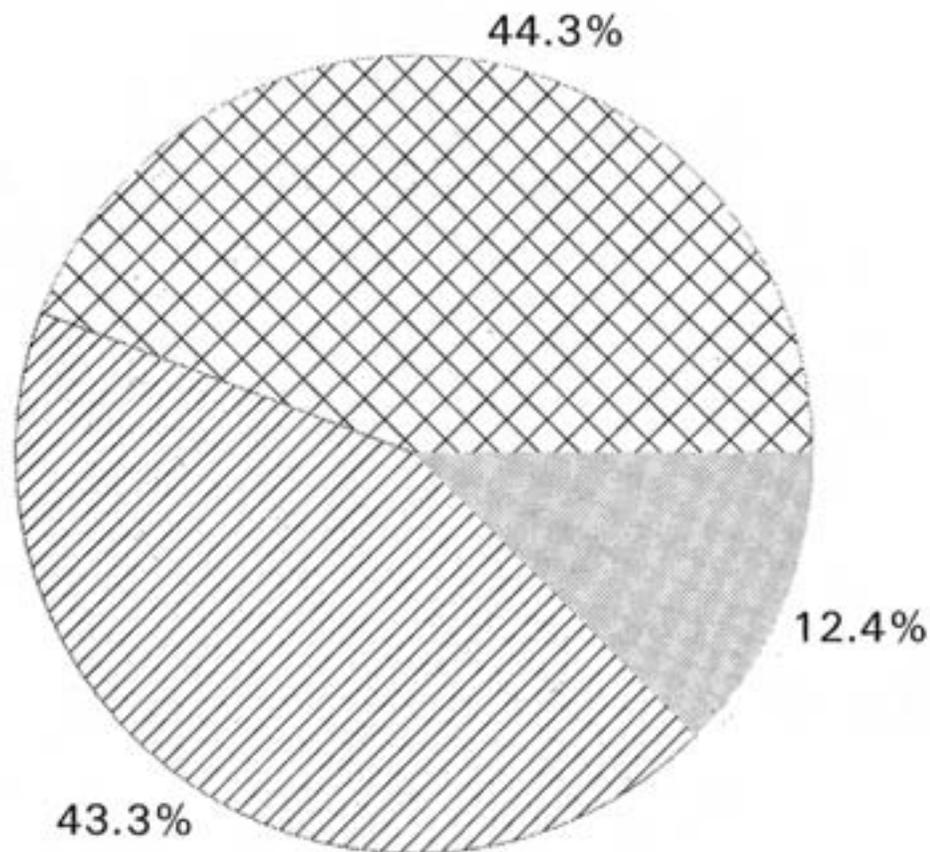
Separated by Agency providing the resource
1994



OVERHEAD REQUESTS PROCESSED

Filled by Nevada resources or from elsewhere

1994



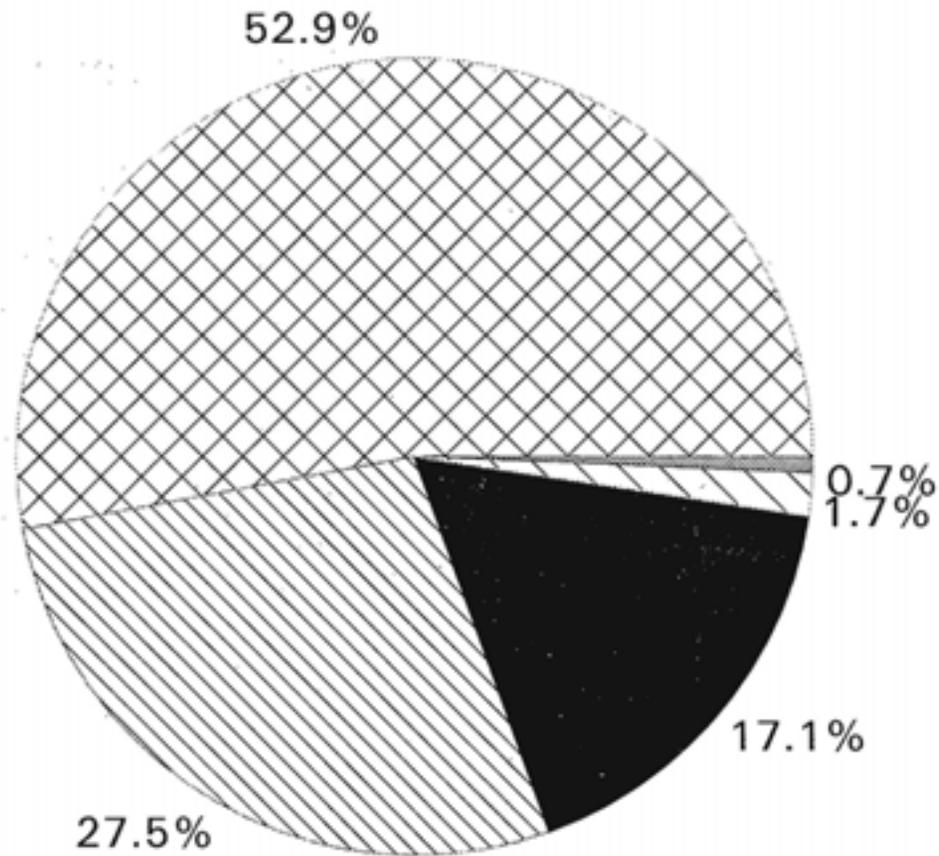
☒ NV RESOURCES ☒ ELSEWHERE ■ SMOKEJUMPERS

NOTE: The figures used in this chart DO include resources reassigned from one area to another

OVERHEAD REQUESTS FILLED BY NEVADA AGENCIES

(28.8% of Overhead requests filled thru WGBCC)

1994



BLM USFS NDF BIA OTHER

NOTE: The figures used in this chart do NOT include reassignments of resources from other areas