

Understanding the IMSR - 2024

The National Incident Management Situation Report (IMSR) provides a national synopsis of wildland fire activity that occurred the previous day (or week during weekly reporting). The IMSR is created by Predictive Services staff at the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) and is produced at the following frequencies:

- National Preparedness Level 1 – Weekly on Fridays
- National Preparedness Level 2 – Monday through Friday
- National Preparedness Level 3 and Above – Daily

Disclaimer: The NICC reserves the right to publish the IMSR seven days a week at any time, regardless of preparedness level.

The main content is derived from the SIT/209 Application and depicts large wildland fires by Geographic Area and associated wildland fire statistics. Large wildland fires are defined as 100 acres in timber fuel models or 300 acres in grass fuel models. Wildland fires that do not meet large fire criteria, but have a nationally recognized Incident Management Team assigned, are also included on the IMSR.

The IMSR is comprised of the following sections:

- A brief synopsis of national fire activity from the previous day, weekend or week.
- Special statements regarding firefighter fatalities or military/international resource mobilizations.
 - Note: Special statements only appear as needed.
- The Active Incident Resource Summary Table displays the number of active 209 incidents in the SIT/209 Application and associated statistics.
 - Note: Statistics found in the Active Incident Resource Summary Table will rarely match the number of large fires and associated statistics in the IMSR because ICS-209s can be filled out for incidents that do not meet large fire criteria.
- Large fires by Geographic Area receive an incident narrative and associated statistics displayed in a summary table.
- A Predictive Services Discussion provided by NICC Meteorologists.
- A link to NWCG's [6 Minutes for Safety](#).

Suppression Strategies Explained

The IMSR captures the following suppression strategies:

- **Full Suppression** implies an overall strategy to "put the fire out" as efficiently and effectively as possible while providing for firefighter and public safety.
- **Confine** is wildfire response strategy of restricting a wildfire to a defined area, primarily using natural barriers that are expected to restrict the spread of the wildfire under the prevailing and forecasted weather conditions. Some response action may be required to augment or connect natural barriers (e.g., line construction, burn-out, bucket drops, etc.).
- **Point or Zone Protection** is wildfire response strategy which protects specific assets or highly valued resources from the wildfire without directly halting the continued spread of the wildfire.

- **Monitoring** is the orderly collection, analysis, and interpretation of environmental data to evaluate management's progress toward meeting objectives and to identify changes in natural systems particularly with regards to fuels, topography, weather, fire behavior, fire effects, smoke, and fire location. This may be done onsite, from a nearby or distant vantage point in person, for example, the work done by Fire Effects Monitor (FEMO) or Field Observer (FOBS) positions or by using a sensor, or through remote sensing (aircraft or satellite).

How to Interpret the IMSR from Start to Finish

“National Fire Activity” numbers represent:

- **Initial Attack Activity:** Total number of confirmed fires from the previous day, weekend or week.
 - Light = 1 – 100 fires
 - Moderate = 101 – 299 fires
 - Heavy = 300+ fires
 - The Initial activity may differ from the above counts under certain circumstances. Example: If the number of initial attack fires over a week or weekend was 300, activity would be considered light.
- **New Large Incidents:** Total number of new large fires.
 - New large fires are identified with an asterisk.
 - Includes fires managed under a full suppression strategy OR fires being managed under multiple suppression strategies.
- **Large Fires Contained:** Total number of large fires contained.
 - Includes fires managed under a full suppression strategy OR fires being managed under multiple suppression strategies.
- **Uncontained Large Fires:** Total number of large fires being managed by a full suppression strategy.
 - Large fires being managed under multiple suppression strategies ARE NOT counted here.
- **NIMO committed:** Total number of NIMO Teams committed nationwide.
- **Complex IMTs committed:** Total number of Complex IMTs committed nationwide.

The Active Incident Resource Summary Table:

Depicts the following by Geographic Area:

- **Incidents:** Depicts the number of active incidents within the SIT/209 application, regardless of incident type or size.
- **Cumulative Acres:** Portrays acres burned on all active incidents within the SIT/209 application. Active incidents may or may not meet large fire criteria.
- **Crews/Engines/Helicopters:** Shows resources assigned to all active incidents within the SIT/209 application, regardless of incident type or size.
- **Total Personnel:** Displays the total number of personnel assigned to all active incidents within the SIT/209 application, regardless of incident type or size.
- **Change in Personnel:** Shows the change in personnel from the previously published IMSR.

Geographic Area Sections:

“Fire Activity and Teams assigned” numbers represent:

- **New Fires:** Total number of confirmed fires from the previous day or week.
- **New Large Incidents:** Total number of new large fires.
- **Uncontained Large Fires:** Total number of large fires being managed by a full suppression strategy.
- **Incident Management Teams:** The total number of Incident Management Teams assigned by type.

As large fires occur in different Geographic Areas, narratives are created to provide a quick snapshot of the following:

- Incident jurisdiction
- Where the fire is located
- Affected fuel models
- Observed fire behavior
- Any threats to residences/structures, critical infrastructure, and evacuations

Full suppression incidents will receive a narrative until they are contained, fall off due to insufficient reporting, or deemed no longer of national significance by NICC management.

Multiple suppression strategy incidents, commonly referred to as **COMP** fires, will receive an initial narrative and additional narratives as the incident grows by 1,000-acre increments.

Contained fires do not receive a narrative but are displayed in the Geographic Area Summary Table.

The Geographic Area Summary Table contains statistical information from the SIT/209 Application for each large fire.

Incident Name	Unit	Total Acres	Chge in Acres	%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Total PPL	Chge in PPL	Crw	Eng	Heli	Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
Valley	CA-MDF	536	0	70	Ctn	5/29	75	47	3	2	0	0	30K	FS

- Incident Name = Incident Name
- Unit = Jurisdictional Agency
- Total Acres = Total Acres for that reporting period
- Chge in Acres = Change in acres from the previous reporting period
- % = Completion of suppression objectives
- Ctn = Identifies full suppression incidents
- Comp = Identifies incidents being managed under multiple suppression strategies
- Est = Estimated date of completion
- Total PPL = Total personnel assigned
- Chge in PPL = Change in personnel from the previous reporting period
- Crw = Identifies the number of crews assigned to the incident
- Eng = Identifies the number of engines assigned to the incident
- Heli = Identifies the number of helicopters assigned to the incident
- Strc Lost = Identifies the estimated number of structures lost
 - Structures can include residences, commercial property, and miscellaneous structures.
 - These statistics should not be used as final statistics. Local government will have the best available data.
- \$\$ CTD = Estimated cost to date
 - These statistics should not be used as final statistics.
 - Additional costs are often associated with incidents long after objectives are met on incidents.
- Origin Own = Incident ownership by agency

Fires and Acres (Yesterday or Weekly) Table:

These statistics are derived from Situation Reports submitted by local dispatch centers throughout the country and show the number of fires and acres burned by protecting agency, not by ownership. These statistics are considered authoritative and WILL NOT match statistics found in INFORM or IRWIN.

Fires and Acres Year to Date Table:

These statistics are derived from Situation Reports submitted by local dispatch centers throughout the country and show the number of fires and acres burned by protecting agency, not by ownership. These statistics are considered authoritative and WILL NOT match statistics found in INFORM or IRWIN.

Ten Year Averages:

Statistics are derived from a spreadsheet maintained by the NICC Intelligence Desk.

Predictive Services Discussion:

Provides a brief snapshot of the national weather forecast. Emphasis may be placed on Geographic Areas experiencing a higher level of activity.

6 Minutes for Safety:

A link is provided to the daily 6 Minutes for Safety topic.