BOISE DISPATCH CENTER

2007

ANNUAL REPORT

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Boise Dispatch Center
ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

TONGUE COMPLEX, BOISE DISTRICT BLM

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Introduction

Highlights of the Year 2007

PERSONNEL

The Boise Dispatch Center (BDC) had a busy 2007 season starting with filling a multitude of resource orders for the eastern fires and ending with multiple large complexes in our area. The dispatch personnel were up to the challenges.

There were limited personnel changes this year. We had three vacancies one for the Boise National Forest, one for Boise District BLM, and the IDL funded seasonal dispatcher. We filled the BLM position with Dani Mendiola, who comes from the engine ranks within the Boise District. One vacancy remains for the Forest Service. The IDL funded position was unfilled due to a delay in funding availability. However, we were able to use the money to hire Chelsea Powlishen as our receptionist for approximately 60 days. For the last several years we have had the fortune of having great consistency of personnel especially with the seasonal workforce which remains vital to our daily fire operations.

Duties within our dispatch office vary from position to position. The center manager is the main supervisor and the core to our operations. The two assistant center managers work together as shift supervisors and act as the main liaison between duty officers and dispatchers and coordinating the day to day operation of the IA dispatch floor. There are six primary initial attack dispatchers with one dedicated intelligence dispatcher and one dedicated aircraft dispatcher for a total of eight dispatchers. The dispatchers not only handle the daily operations and wildland fire incidents but they also work the logistics side of dispatch. This season, a second aircraft dispatcher was assigned as the aircraft workload has exponentially increased over the last few years. Personnel work together to make this system work efficiently and effectively. This worked out well until we became very busy with multiple large fires for multiple agencies and an expanded dispatch was necessary for logistics support. Expanded dispatch opened for business on July 7th and remained open until September 29th supporting large fires for all three agencies as well as mobilizing team members and miscellaneous crews, equipment, and overhead to fires throughout the United States. In addition, Karin Frost returned to assist with aircraft during the first part of August. The operational side of Boise Dispatch went smoothly as personnel were mainly assigned to one desk/agency for the season. This provided some continuity and consistency for the dispatchers as well as the field personnel throughout the season.

The first 24-hour coverage was needed on May 29th for the Rough Gamble Fire on the Boise District BLM. The regular night shift started on June 10th and was maintained through September 28th primarily due to the Cascade Complex on the Boise National Forest. This was the earliest and longest we have kept a regular night dispatcher on duty. Chris Miller became the night shift dispatcher this season after the departure of Peat Mason to the private sector to work in his field of study. Peat was able to assist with the night shift to help cover days off. Phil Hill (IDL) and Donna Kreiensieck (NIFC-NPS) assisted with the night shift as well.

Miscellaneous Office Activities

RADIO ACTIVITY

The Boise Dispatch Center received new Moducom radios this past winter and this was the first fire season in full production. There were of course a few bugs the radio technicians had to work out but overall have worked out well. Some of the best features include: crisp, color-coded screen, user friendly, magnitude of timers, easy use-ability for simultaneous select, and ability to set up numerous select buttons as needed.

We utilize 11 different frequencies and 33 separate tones for the Boise District BLM, Boise National Forest, and Idaho Department of Lands Southwest Office. In the future, the Forest will add two more scene-of-action repeaters which will assist with have multiple incidents. In addition to fire traffic, dispatcher's spend a portion of their time monitoring miscellaneous radio traffic including: the tracking of personnel in the field, medical and other emergencies, and aircraft tracking. Flight following with aircraft has taken a primary role in our office due to its importance and tremendous amount of time that is required. Radio traffic at Boise Dispatch continues to increase with continuing additional demands placed on the Center especially from non-primary offices and agencies. This includes adjoining agency/office resources, the National Interagency Fire Center, local fire departments, contractors, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, BLM Idaho State Office, Great Basin Smokejumpers, and agency aircraft.

INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITY

The primary duties entail accumulating, managing, and disseminating fire information, weather activity, and statistical fire reports. Among the data and reports generated by the Intelligence Dispatcher are: monthly potential assessment reports, daily fire weather reports, Weather Information Management System (WIMS) data, RAWS and manual weather stations, daily situation reports to Eastern Great Basin Coordination Center, fire statistical data, prescribed fire data, and other information. Other duties include account management of forest personnel in the Incident Qualification and Certification System (IQCS).

The Boise Dispatch Center internet site is updated daily by the Intelligence Dispatcher during the fire season. The site provides information to the public, media and fire organizations on wildfire and prescribed fire activity, fire danger ratings, burn indices, press releases, fire restrictions and closures, photo gallery, GIS fire maps, and information about dispatch. The website www.fs.fed.us/r4/bilc switched to a Forest Service server in 2006 due to the availability of updating on an as needed basis.

The Intelligence Dispatcher is the primary intermediary between local burners and the Montana-Idaho States Airshed Coordinating Group, and assists burners with questions and problems associated with smoke management. The Intelligence Dispatcher is the primary subject matter expert for solving website problems and instructing burners in reporting procedures. She is also the primary contact between Idaho Department of Environmental Quality DEQ air quality office and local burners for issuances of burning restrictions issued by the DEQ.

AVIATION DISPATCHER

The Aircraft Dispatcher is responsible for coordinating all flights for Boise District BLM, Boise National Forest, and State Dept Lands, under the guidance of the Unit/Forest Aviation Officer, for both fire and special use projects. Boise is a busy place for flights of all kinds ranging from fire to fish surveys. Boise Dispatch regularly provides courtesy flight following for Bureau of Reclamation Bull Trout surveys on the Boise River and it's subsidiaries throughout the year. We also regularly provide flight following to the BLM smokejumpers for their training in the spring as well as throughout the season as they move from one area to another. Other regular users are the Forest Health Survey personnel tracking insect infestations and status of overall tree health in the region and the BLM seeding projects. Numerous other surveys such as eagle surveys, sage grouse, powerline, and snow surveys are common. In addition, National Business Center Aviation Management pilots routinely check in with us when doing training and proficiency flights. The aircraft desk has provided a single contact point for flight following and information concerning aviation users in the area.

The Aircraft desk used AFF (Automated Flight Following) extensively again this year. The use of this program enhances radio flight following protocol and is a welcome addition to our tools for coordinating airspace both with cooperators and agency resources. Boise has good rapport with the neighboring agencies and continually strives for prompt and efficient communications in the area of aviation to promote safe and successful mission. This season, a second dispatcher was assigned to aviation dispatching for the season in response to the increased workload associated with so many large fires on the local unit and the ongoing workload associated with ROSS, AFF and NES.

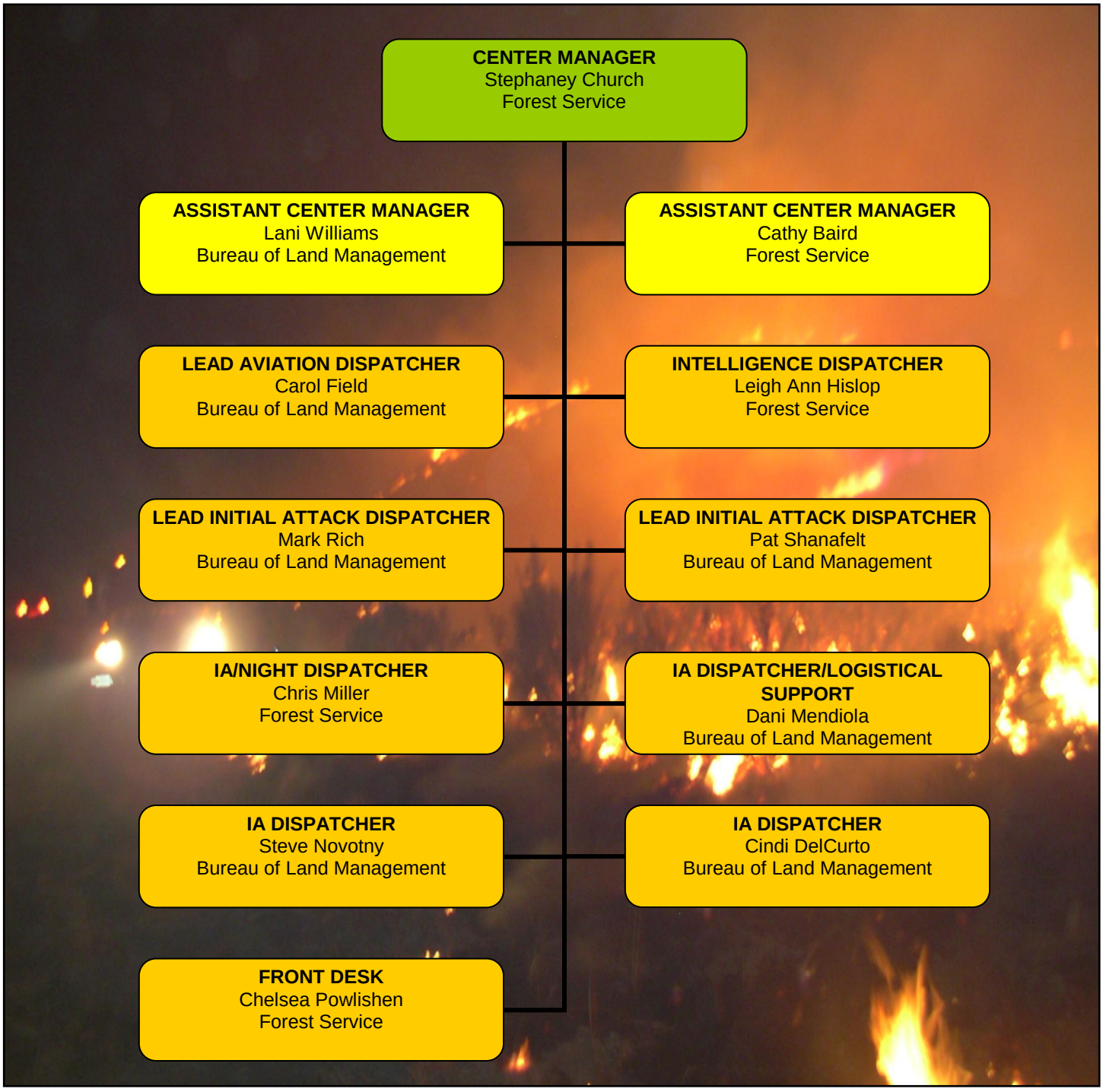
OTHER STAFF ACTIVITIES

This spring, Leigh Ann Hislop and Stephaney Church worked with district fire and fuels personnel to complete annual maintenance on the Boise National Forest RAWS units. This allowed them to become familiar enough with the RAWS to diagnose problems earlier and keep this vital component of fire danger and fire behavior prediction running smoothly.

Boise Dispatch was extremely busy this season but still managed to support the national effort by sending Lani Williams to Eastern Area Coordination Center for 60 days to detail as the Assistant Center Manager, and Cathy Baird to Teton Interagency Dispatch Center for an assignment as Supervisory Dispatcher trainee. Dani Mendiola was assigned to expanded dispatch for most of the season and was a great help with her abundance of local knowledge.

The staff continued to support training and fire program efforts both in the Great Basin and for the National Office. Carol Field participated in the BLM National Review of Dispatch Operations in Montana. Lani participated as the Chair of the ROSS Change Board, served as notetaker for National Predictive Service Meetings, National Coordinator Meetings, and as Executive Secretary for the Fire Environment Working Team. Cathy attended UNLV and Stephaney spent a great deal of the season in expanded dispatch after multiple orders for a Supervisory Dispatcher went unfilled due to a national shortage of resources available to fill that role.

BOISE DISPATCH CENTER ORGANIZATION



INTERAGENCY SUCCESS

The Boise Interagency Logistics Center continues to provide safe, cost effective utilization of the closest interagency resources on wildfires in our jurisdictional area. Boise National Forest, Boise District BLM, and Southwest Idaho State Department of Lands commonly exchange resources to meet wildland suppression goals. For example, the Forest Service and BLM crews freely exchange personnel for better coverage and utilization. Additionally, all helitack crews provide cross-training opportunities for personnel on other crews and our cooperators. The Forest and BLM continued to share an Interagency Aviation Officer who provides aviation management expertise for both agencies. Also, the Forest Service hot shot crews regularly detail the local BLM firefighters during the season to assist in their development and provide them Type 1 crew experience.

Local fire training through the Southwest Idaho Interagency Fire Training (SWIFT) partnership provided fire training to over 600 federal, state and local firefighters during 2007. Numerous other agencies took part in the training including Idaho Department of Lands, National Park Service, National Interagency Fire Center, Fish and Wildlife, Eagle Fire, and other local rural and city fire departments. The Boise National Forest and Boise District BLM participated in cooperative educational projects with rural and city fire departments and local schools, including the Boise State University Fire Academy, which filled 400 fire training slots. The three agencies worked together with Boise State University to provide the Southwest Idaho Fire Training classes for agency and non-agency personnel with the opportunity for college credits.

The Fire Prevention and Mitigation efforts for the Boise Dispatch Center response area is an interagency effort. The Boise District BLM, Boise National Forest, and Idaho Department of Lands coordinated on community education activities throughout 2007. Partners to the agencies include national cooperators such as the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC), state partners such as the Idaho Department of Homeland Security, and local partners such as the Meridian Fire Department.

2007 marked the official expansion of the Treasure Valley Fire Prevention and Safety Cooperative through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Boise National Forest, Boise District BLM, IDL, NIFC, the State Fire Marshal, and the city fire departments of Boise, Meridian, Nampa, and Caldwell. The intent of the Co-op is to provide consistent fire prevention and safety messages to the communities of the Treasure Valley.

One of the highlights of 2007 for the Co-op was the spring clown and puppet show. Members of the Co-op attended a characterization camp to hone skills in puppetry and clowning with the specific goal of creating skits to both entertain and teach important lessons in fire prevention and safety. The skits kicked off in May and were a hit in the community.

Prevention and mitigation forces personnel were busy beginning the middle of the summer implementing and enforcing fire restrictions. The area entered into Stage 1 Fire Restrictions on July 12. Restrictions were quickly elevated due to extreme fire conditions and a flurry of fire activity. Stage 2 Fire Restrictions went into effect on July 26. Fire restrictions remained in effect through September 20, 2007. This may be the longest continuous period of time the area has remained in restrictions in several years.

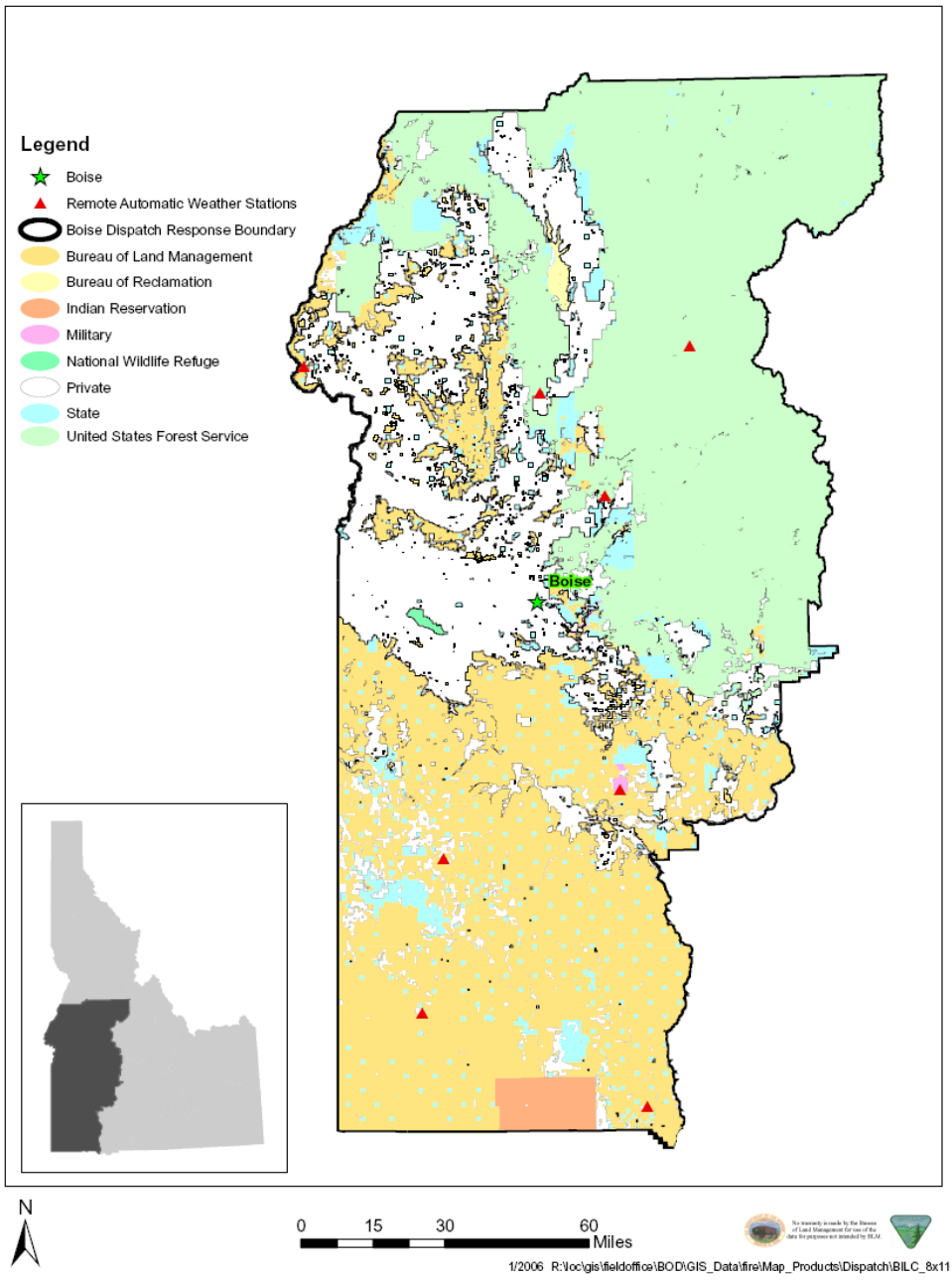
The implementation and enforcement of fire restrictions required intense interagency cooperation and collaboration. As part of the effort, two National Fire Prevention and Education Teams were brought into Boise to help southwest Idaho bolster fire prevention efforts. Prevention Teams assist areas in ongoing prevention activities and create new ideas and activities. The Prevention Teams were housed at the Comfort Suites in Boise from July 26 – August 21, 2007.

During the busy summer fire prevention and mitigation personnel from the area managed multiple events that ranged from Cascade to Weiser to Grandview to Pine and beyond. Activities included community events, support to fuels projects, participation in updating national fire prevention and mitigation training, fire investigation, fire information, among others activities.

Media relations became a major focus of the 2007 fire season. Fire prevention and mitigation personnel in the area conducted multiple television, radio, and newspaper interviews. Specific advertisements were placed in the Idaho Statesman and fire prevention personnel developed public service announcements which ran during peak viewing hours on all local television stations. The stars of the public service announcements were BSU football coach Chris Petersen, BSU basketball coaches Greg Graham and Gordie Presnell, Boise Mayor Dave Beiter, and Smokey Bear.

There are two local Interagency Type 3 Incident Management Organizations which are comprised of individuals representing the Boise National Forest, Idaho Department of Lands, Boise District BLM, and local fire departments. An interagency board of directors provides support and oversight for the organizations. This mix of interagency personnel has been instrumental in managing incidents that exceed the capabilities of local initial attack resources. Albert Linch served as IC for one assignment as the Type 3 organization for the Zimmer fire on the Boise National Forest. Also Andy Delmas' team was assigned to the Chief Parrish incident, Idaho Department of Lands, and served until the Type 2 Team was mobilized. A local state team also assisted with the Mountain Chief fire which burned in state protection and 24 acres of forest land.

The map on the right of southwest Idaho depicts the ownership by agency and response area for BILC which includes the Boise District BLM, Boise National Forest, and Southwest Idaho Department of Lands.



SEASONAL WEATHER & SEVERITY

The water year started off near to above average in most areas of southwest Idaho but by January the start of a drying trend was evident (using the Natural Resources Conservation Service snow water equivalent data (SWE)). The peak of snow season occurred in December of 2006 and by January 2007, snowpack was below normal. Snow Water Equivalent for our areas are listed below:

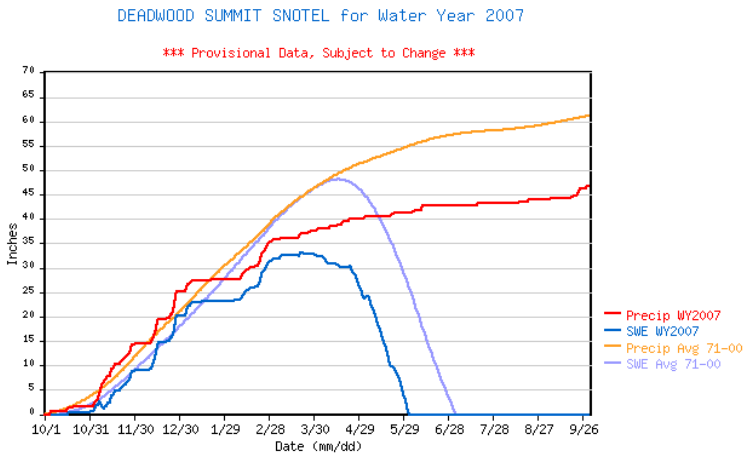
Boise Basin 98%
Bruneau Basin 85%
Owyhee Basin 66%
Weiser Basin 105%
Payette Basin 104%

For the Boise National Forest the water year started off slow in October of 2006 but November and December snowfall and precipitation numbers were near to above average. January through June was very dry for the west central mountains. At the end of April the SWE for the west central mountains of Idaho was averaging about 50% of normal. Precipitation totals were not as devastating as the SWE numbers but were still below average with the highest precipitation totals being in the Payette Basin at 80% of normal. Not only were the mountain snowpacks below normal, they also melted off early. The following table lists the forest sites with the percent of average snow water equivalent and percentage of average total precipitation:

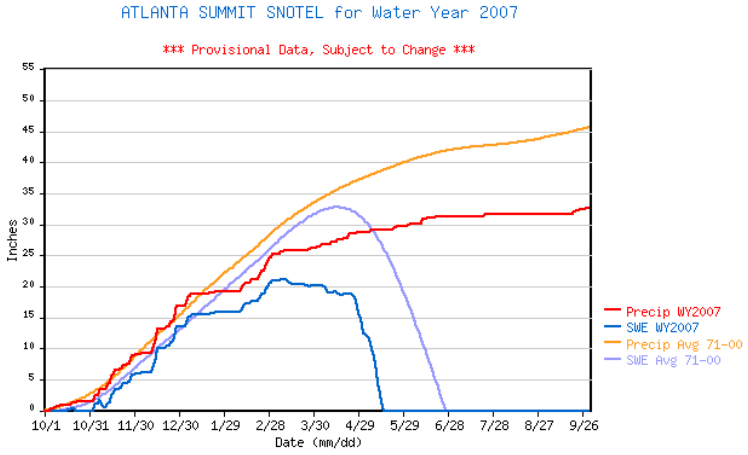
END OF THE MONTH	PCT OF AVG	DEADWOOD SUMMIT	ATLANTA SUMMIT	JACKSON PEAK	MORES CREEK SUMMIT	TRINITY MTN
NOVEMBER	SWE	97%	85%	81%	92%	82%
	PRECIP	121%	103%	133%	115%	112%
DECEMBER	SWE	112%	102%	96%	101%	96%
	PRECIP	118%	108%	123%	111%	108%
JANUARY	SWE	82%	79%	71%	77%	74%
	PRECIP	90%	86%	96%	89%	83%
FEBRUARY	SWE	82%	79%	78%	81%	77%
	PRECIP	90%	87%	99%	93%	85%
MARCH	SWE	70%	63%	64%	70%	68%
	PRECIP	81%	78%	90%	87%	75%
APRIL	SWE	56%	50%	50%	46%	65%
	PRECIP	78%	77%	88%	84%	73%
MAY	SWE	6%	0%	0%	0%	16%
	PRECIP	76%	74%	84%	80%	89%
JUNE	SWE	0%	NR	NR	NR	0%
	PRECIP	75%	74%	85%	82%	70%

The graphs depict the snow water equivalent and precipitation for the 2007 water year.

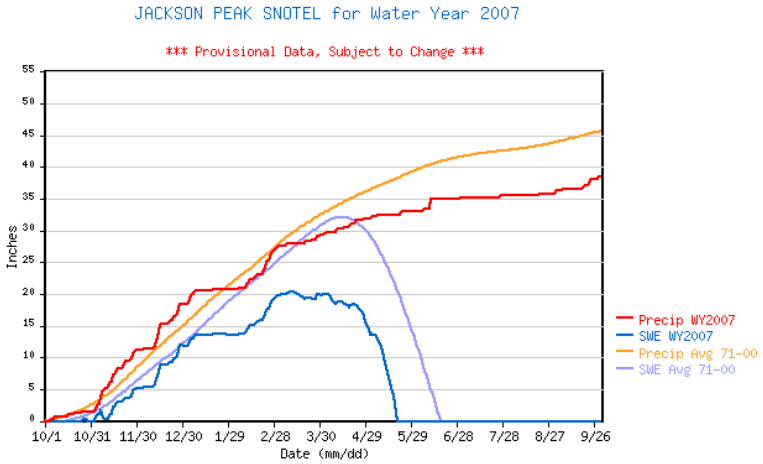
Deadwood Summit
Located: Lowman RD
Elevation: 6860 ft
Latitude: 44 32’
Longitude: 115 33’



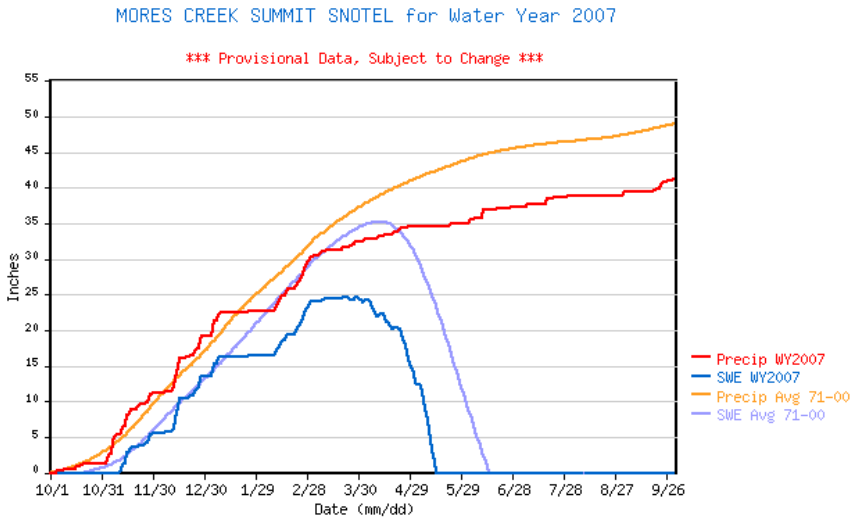
Atlanta Summit
Located: Mountain Home RD
Elevation: 7580 ft
Latitude: 43 45’
Longitude: 115 14’



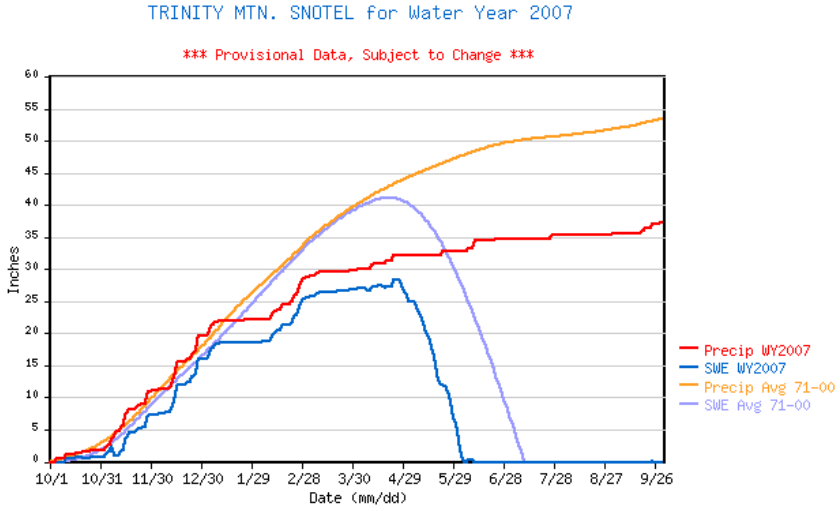
Jackson Peak
Located: Lowman RD
Elevation: 7070 ft
Latitude: 44 03’
Longitude: 115 26’



Mores Creek Summit
Located: Idaho City RD
Elevation: 6100 ft
Latitude: 43 55’
Longitude: 115 39’



Trinity Summit
Located: Mountain Home RD
Elevation: 7770 ft
Latitude: 43 37’
Longitude: 115 26’



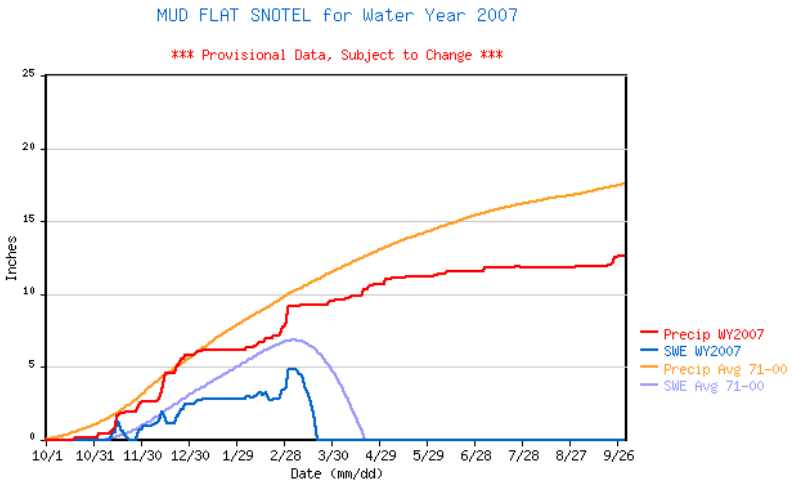
The Boise District BLM started the water year near average in many areas and then had a very dry new year. The snow pack this year in the Owyhee Mountains never reached average. The worst area was Mud Flat with their highest average of SWE at 78% in November. By February, most areas already showed the precipitation levels on the downward slide. As of the end of May 2007, the US Drought Monitor showed BLM lands abnormally dry with drought development likely. By August drought indexes showed most of the range lands in severe drought conditions with drought ongoing and expected to persist.

Listed below are the snow water equivalent levels and total precipitation percentages for the Boise District BLM:

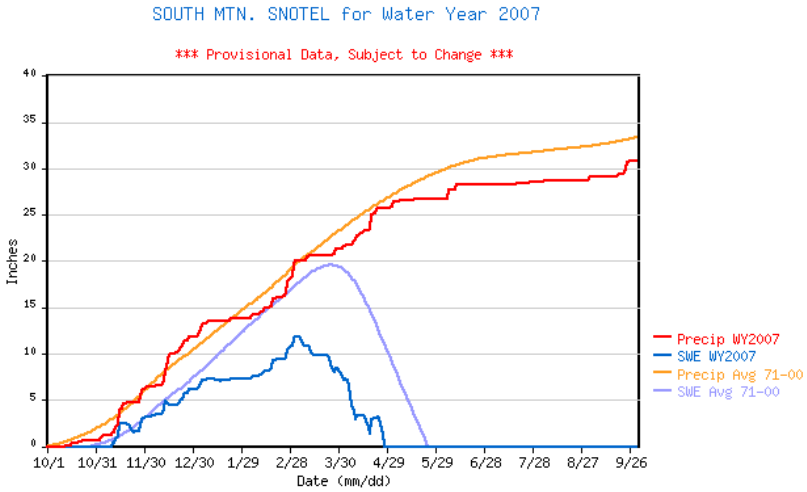
END OF THE MONTH	PCT OF AVG	MUD FLAT	SOUTH MTN	WILSON CREEK
NOVEMBER	SWE	78%	97%	62%
	PRECIP	81%	103%	115%
DECEMBER	SWE	77%	83%	93%
	PRECIP	102%	113%	118%
JANUARY	SWE	55%	58%	77%
	PRECIP	78%	93%	104%
FEBRUARY	SWE	51%	64%	81%
	PRECIP	80%	95%	102%
MARCH	SWE	0%	41%	59%
	PRECIP	82%	91%	105%
APRIL	SWE	NR	0%	0%
	PRECIP	82%	96%	108%
MAY	SWE	NR	NR	NR
	PRECIP	78%	90%	101%
JUNE	SWE	NR	NR	NR
	PRECIP	75%	91%	102%

The graphs depict the snow water equivalent and precipitation for the 2007 water year.

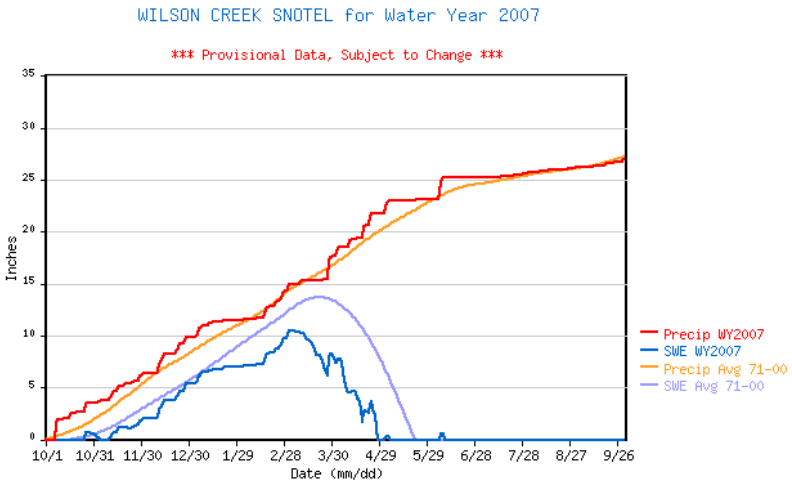
Mud Flat
Located: Bruneau FO
Elevation: 5730 ft
Latitude: 42 36’
Longitude: 116 33’



South Mountain
Located: Owyhee FO
Elevation: 6500 ft
Latitude: 42 45’
Longitude: 116 54’



Wilson Creek
Located: Jarbidge FO
Elevation: 7120 ft
Latitude: 42 00’
Longitude: 115 00’



PRECIPITATION SUMMARY

The water year runs from October 1 to September 30. Precipitation data totals for 2007 are compared to the historic annual average (1971-2000).

SNOTEL SITE	ELEVATION	2007 WATER YEAR TOTAL INCHES	ANNUAL AVERAGE TOTAL INCHES	% OF AVERAGE
ATLANTA SUMMIT	7580	32.7	45.7	72%
DEADWOOD SUMMIT	6860	46.7	61.2	76%
JACKSON PEAK	7070	38.7	45.7	85%
MORES CREEK SUMMIT	6100	41.3	49.0	84%
TRINITY MTN	7770	37.3	53.6	70%
MUD FLAT	5730	12.7	17.6	72%
SOUTH MTN	6500	30.9	33.4	93%
WILSON CREEK	7120	27.2	27.2	100%

TEMPERATURE SUMMARY

Temperatures were highly variable through the spring months with new record high temperatures set periodically through the spring, along with some well below average maximum temperatures also being recorded. Boise District and Boise National Forest RAWS stations recorded the highest temperatures from June 3 – September 7 with the majority of the ranges above the 90th percentile. National Weather Service records show that the summer of 2007 was the third warmest summer in 142 years of record keeping in Boise Idaho and July was the warmest July on record for Boise. The highest temperature recorded for a BLM RAWS in 2007 was 110 degrees on July 15th, registered at the Mountain Home RAWS. Mountain Home also had 10 consecutive days of above 100 degrees from July 10-19th which was almost 2 weeks earlier than in 2006. The highest temperature recorded by a BLM RAWS this season was 103 degrees on July 14th. The Forest recorded its highest temperature, 101 degrees on July 6th. Bearskin which is the highest elevation station at 6700 feet recorded its highest temperature of 89 degrees on July 6th, 14th and 22nd.

LIGHTNING SUMMARY

The first lightning caused fire was on May 19th in the Boise National Forest, Cascade Ranger District. Throughout May and June we received several lightning storms with multiple, small fires just in the forest areas but July was the hot month for lightning for all of southwest Idaho. The first lightning caused fire for Boise District BLM occurred on July 6th. These dry thunderstorms produced several fires in the drought ridden Owyhee Mountains and Bruneau Basin Area. The largest fires became the Tongue Complex totaling 46,634 acres. These severe storms hit with 30-50 mph and fuels primed for fire. The state and forest lands received their first impressive lightning on July 17th which produced 48 fires with seven becoming large fires and one a wildland fire use. These fires consisted of the Middle Fork Complex, Landmark Complex, Cascade Complex and Trapper Ridge WFU. The last lightning caused fire occurred on September 23rd.

FUEL MOISTURE SUMMARY

For southwest Idaho the low winter snowpacks, below normal spring rains, and a hot, dry month of June produced extremely dry fuels.

The RAWS information below on the forest lands depicts the dry winter season. Bearskin, the most northern RAWS and highest in elevation of 6,700 feet, hit the highest level for 1000-hour fuel moistures on March 8th with 25% and then steadily dropped to 15% on May 16th. The lowest reading was on August 18th with 6% and finally returned to average on September 22nd with a 13%. Pine Creek RAWS began the season at with a 1000-hour fuel moisture level of 27% in early March and gradually dropped to below the 90th percentile of 5% on August 15th. The moistures stayed below average until the end of September. Town Creek RAWS, the most southerly and lowest in elevation of 4,500 feet on the forest began the season near maximum high levels of 27% on March 7th. The 1000-hour moisture levels dropped below 90th percentile of 7% on July 7th and then remained below average of 11 % through September 22. The moisture stayed below average from 18th of March through end of September.

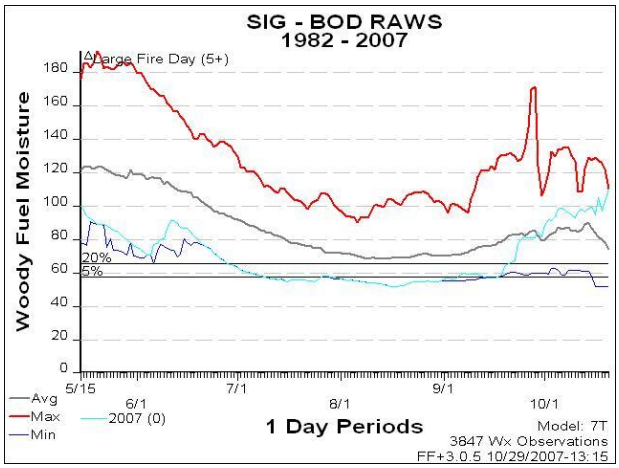
For the range lands the following RAWS information shows the area slipped into drought conditions. Mountain Home RAWS station is located in the Treasure Valley and its woody fuel moisture hit its peak on April 23rd with a reading of 131%. This dropped to below average on May 6th with 117% and then dropped below the 80th percentile on July 2nd with 62%. Finally the moisture reached average numbers again on September 22nd with 82%. The highest RAWS on the Boise District is at 5660 feet in the Owyhee Mountains. It reached its highest woody fuel moisture on May 13th with 110% which was below average by 20%. It reached the lowest point of 50% on July 15th and stayed there or close to it until the middle of September when finally the numbers started to climb. They were back to average on September 24 with 76%.

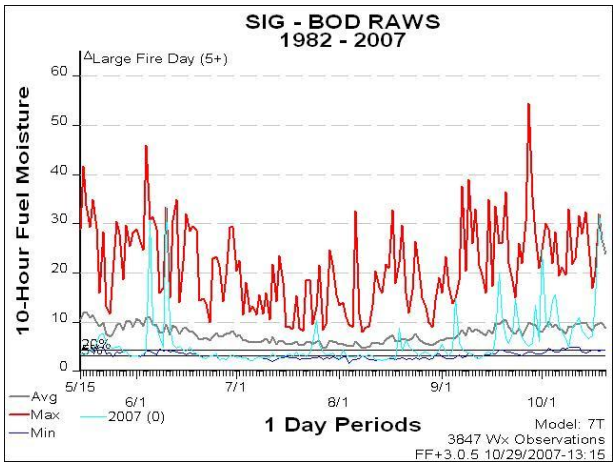
Continued on next page is a chart of the recorded fuel moistures from field personnel for this past season.

LIVE FUEL MOISTURE

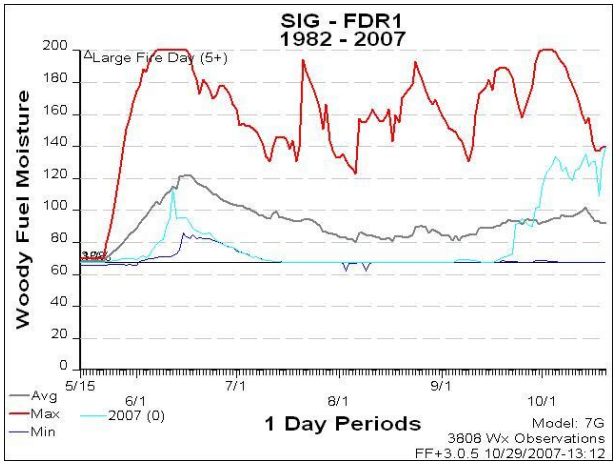
Below are the live fuel moisture readings taken by each agency throughout the season.

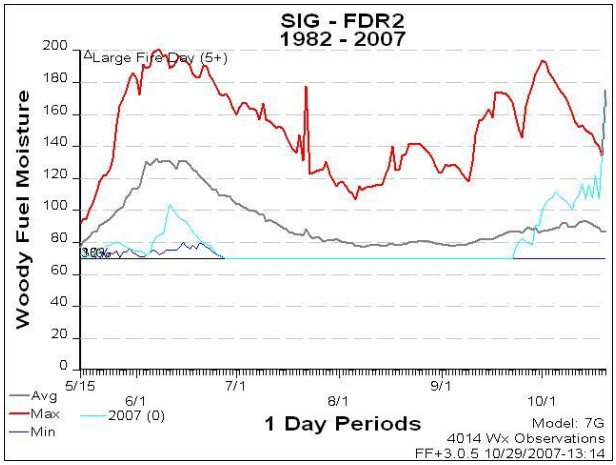
AGENCY	SAMPLE AREA	TYPE	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	IDAHO CITY	10 HR DEAD FM	NR	NR	7-10	4-5	3-4	NR	12
		100 HR DEAD FM	NR	NR	7-9	5-8	4-6	NR	9
		1000 HR DEAD FM	NR	NR	10-85	11-24	5-7	NR	14
		CONIFER	NR	NR	92-122	88-126	110-120	NR	104-107
		CEANOTHUS	NR	NR	183	136	95	NR	97
		SHRUB	NR	NR	148-157	102-133	80-97	NR	87
	CASCADE	10 HR DEAD FM	NR	NR	6-9	6-9	6	6-8	NR
		100 HR DEAD FM	NR	NR	20-25	6	NR	6-8	NR
		1000 HR DEAD FM	NR	NR	NR	9-13	9	6	NR
		CONIFER	NR	NR	300	117-161	113-160	127-190	NR
		SHRUB	NR	NR	300	202-222	108-238	60-104	NR
	LOWMAN	10 HR DEAD FM	NR	7	6	NR	NR	NR	NR
		100 HR DEAD FM	NR	11	9	NR	NR	NR	NR
		1000 HR DEAD FM	NR	28	16	NR	NR	NR	NR
		CONIFER	NR	113	128	NR	NR	NR	NR
		SHRUB	NR	NR	195	NR	NR	NR	NR
	EMMETT	10 HR DEAD FM	16	6-9	7	4	3	NR	17
		100 HR DEAD FM	22	16	13	11	5	NR	12
		1000 HR DEAD FM	30	20-22	19-23	13	7	NR	11
		CONIFER	150	88-247	253-279	180-190	121-131	NR	112-114
		SHRUB	300	235-267	187-262	180-215	89-140	NR	103-135
BOD-BLM	WILD WEST	SAGEBRUSH	NR	NR	85-109	78-83	44	86	92
	KUNA	SAGEBRUSH	NR	NR	95	76-77	37	68-74	105
	HAMMETT	SAGEBRUSH	NR	NR	105	85-107	45	85-90	79
IDAHO DEPT OF LANDS	SOUTHWEST IDAHO FOREST PROTECTIVE DISTRICT	10 HR DEAD FM	NR	NR	NR	0-4	0-1	NR	NR
		100 HR DEAD FM	NR	NR	NR	0-7	0-3	NR	NR
		1000 HR DEAD FM	NR	NR	NR	4-24	1-6	NR	NR
		CONIFER	NR	NR	NR	96-111	99-123	NR	NR
		SHRUB	NR	NR	NR	118-178	89-138	NR	NR
		GRASS	NR	NR	NR	95-155	63-74	NR	NR

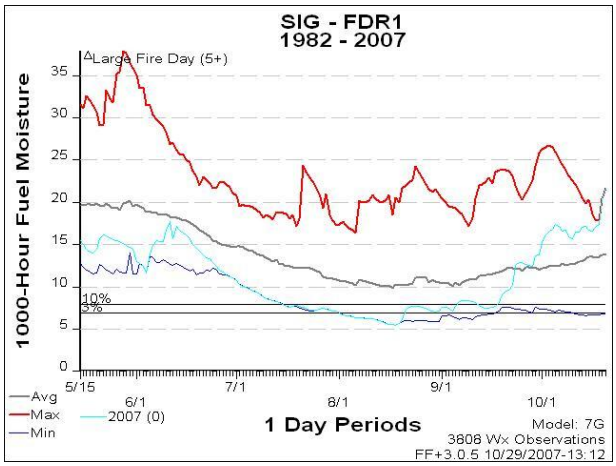


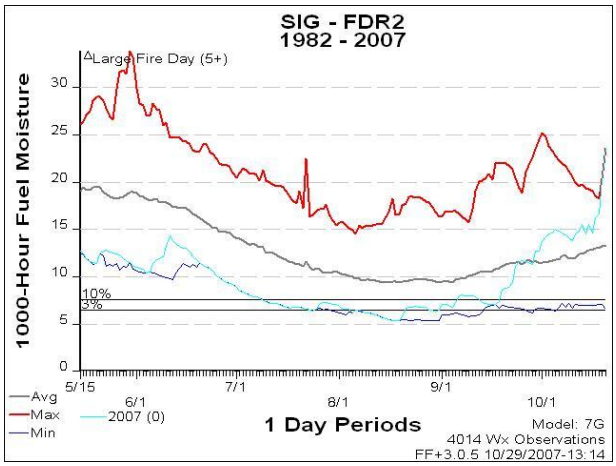


Shown above are charts produced from the BLM weather station data on the rangeland for the live woody and dead 10-hour fuel moistures from May 15 to October 20. It includes the historical data, the current previous year highlighted, and the 5th & 20th percentile.









Shown above are charts produced from RAWS weather data on the forest lands for the live woody and dead 1000-hour fuel moistures from May 15 to October 20. It includes the historical data, the current previous year highlighted, and the 3rd & 10th percentile.

WIMS INDICIES

The National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) is a system used by wildland fire managers to predict the potential for significant (large) fire activity. It is based on a comparison of current fuel and weather conditions to historic conditions and their associated fire activity. NFDRS outputs consist of a variety of indices that can be used to support daily decisions such as; how many resources to send to a reported smoke (staffing level), and whether or not to restrict campfires. The Boise District BLM uses the Burning Index (BI) where wind speed is a large component of the calculation. Wind speed is a primary factor in the spread of fire in lighter fuels (grass and brush). BOD has five Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) and one manual weather station which are used to obtain fire danger outputs. The Boise manual station is operated by the Boise National Weather Service Office. Weather Service personnel relay the daily observations to BDC for input into the WIMS processor.

NAME	STATION ID	LOCATION	ELEVATION
BOISE	102601	NWS - NIFC	2838
DEAD INDIAN RIDGE	101402	10 MI NW OF WEISER	3570
MTN HOME	102709	MTN HOME AFB	3350
BRACE FLAT	103207	29 MI WNW OF RIDDLE	4900
TRIANGLE	103208	13 MI SE OF SILVER CITY	5330
POLE CREEK	103210	DUCK VALLEY INDIAN RES	5660

The Boise National Forest uses the Energy Release Component (ERC), Burning Index (BI), and Ignition Component (IC) to measure critical burning conditions and set staffing levels. ERC provides is a good seasonal trend indicator and is less variable than BI because wind speed is not a factor in the calculation. The Boise Forest has several RAWS stations utilized as Special Interest Groups (SIG) in the Weather Information Management System (WIMS) to provide broader scale averages of NFDRS indices on the Boise National Forest. The National Fire Danger Rating System utilizes the WIMS processor to analyze weather data stored in the NIFMID database to produce the fire danger ratings for the corresponding weather stations (RAWS) on the forest.

FDR1 & SL1 SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The Northern Zone of the Boise National Forest is represented by two Special Interest Groups (SIGs), (FDR1 and SL1), one is for the fire danger rating level and the other is for staffing level. They are both comprised of three RAWS stations located on the Boise and Payette National Forests and best represent the overall conditions on the North Zone of the Boise National Forest. The FDR1 SIG uses the energy release component and ignition component to develop the fire danger rating. The SL1 SIG uses the burning index to derive the Staffing Level.

FDR2 & SL2 SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The Southern Zone of the Boise National Forest is represented by two Special Interest Groups (SIGs), (FDR2 and SL2), one is for the fire danger rating level and the other for staffing level. They are both comprised of five RAWS stations located on the Boise and Sawtooth National Forests. They best represent the overall conditions on the South Zone of the Boise National Forest. The FDR2 SIG uses the energy release component and ignition component to develop the fire danger rating. The SL2 SIG uses the burning index to derive the Staffing Level.

NAME	STATION ID	LOCATION	ELEVATION
BOF SIG: FDR1 & SL1			
BEARSKIN	101221	5 MI NE OF DEADWOOD RESERVOIR	6700
PINE CREEK	101222	6 MI SW OF SMITH'S FERRY	5600
SKI HILL	101223	PAYETTE NF	5600
BOF SIG: FDR2 & SL2			
PINE CREEK	101222	6 MI SW OF SMITH'S FERRY	5600
TOWN CREEK	101708	2 MI E OF PLACERVILLE	4500
WAGONTOWN	102712	3 MI SSW OF FEATHERVILLE	6200
FLECK SUMMIT	102802	SAWTOOTH NF 11 MI E OF ATLANTA	7100
NORTH FORK RS	102903	SAWTOOTH NF NORTH FORK RS	6290

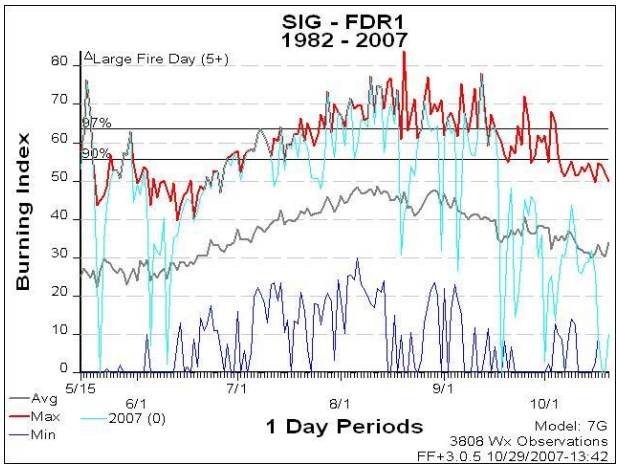
The table below indicates the number of days at each fire danger level for each zone on the Boise National Forest in 2007 from May 15 to October 20:

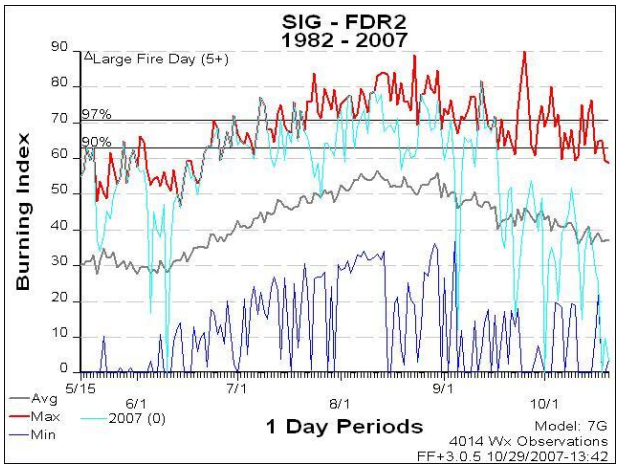
NORTH ZONE – BOISE NF		**SOUTH ZONE – BOISE NF**	
FIRE DANGER RATING LEVEL	**DAYS**	**FIRE DANGER RATING LEVEL**	**DAYS**
LOW	39	LOW	21
MODERATE	60	MODERATE	56
HIGH	31	HIGH	29
VERY HIGH	29	VERY HIGH	50
EXTREME	0	EXTREME	3

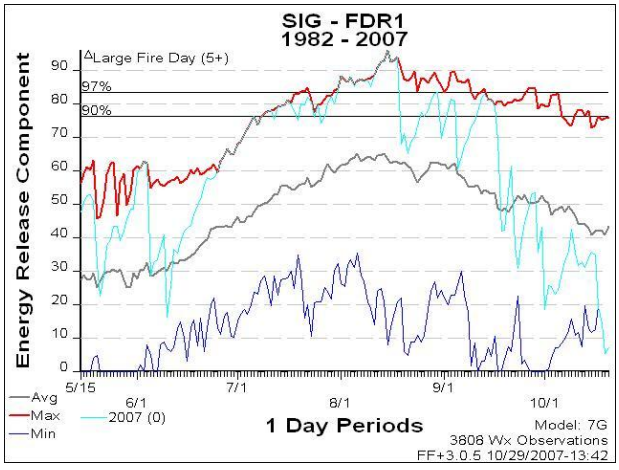
The table below indicates the total number of days the Energy Release Component ERC and Burn Index BI indices exceeded critical breakpoints of 90 & 97th percentiles for each zone of the Boise National Forest in 2007:

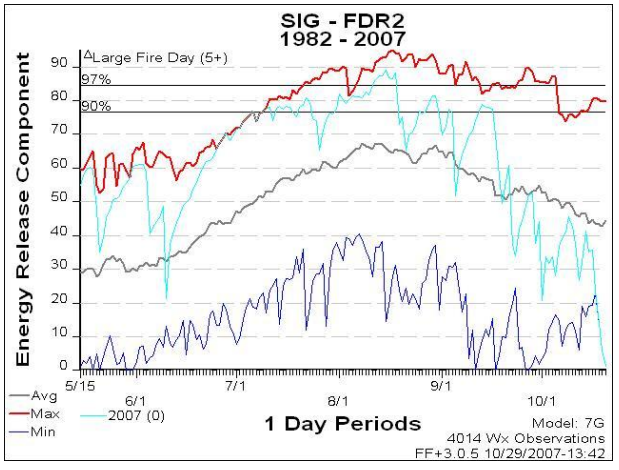
NORTH ZONE – BOISE NF		SOUTH ZONE – BOISE NF	
BURNING INDEX		**BURNING INDEX**	
# OF DAYS ABOVE 90TH PERCENTILE	76	**# OF DAYS ABOVE 90TH PERCENTILE**	86
# OF DAYS ABOVE 97TH PERCENTILE	51	**# OF DAYS ABOVE 97TH PERCENTILE**	24
ENERGY RELEASE COMPONENT		**ENERGY RELEASE COMPONENT**	
# OF DAYS ABOVE 90TH PERCENTILE	69	**# OF DAYS ABOVE 90TH PERCENTILE**	81
# OF DAYS ABOVE 97TH PERCENTILE	34	**# OF DAYS ABOVE 97TH PERCENTILE**	53

Below are outputs produced from the weather stations on the forest for BI and ERC from May 15th to October 20th. These charts include the historical data, the current previous year highlighted, and the 90 & 97th percentile labeled.



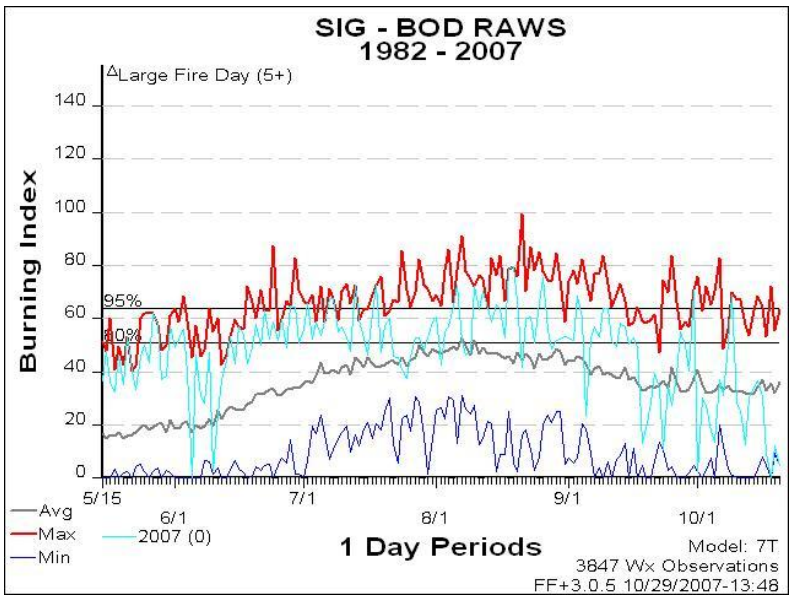






The table below shows the number of days each RAWS station on the Boise District Burn Index exceeded the critical breakpoints of 80 & 95th percentiles in 2007 from May 15 to October 20:

BOISE DISTRICT BLM			
FIRE DANGER RATING LEVEL	DAYS	BURNING INDEX	
LOW	15		
MODERATE	37	# OF DAYS ABOVE 80TH PERCENTILE	115
HIGH	88		
VERY HIGH	18	# OF DAYS ABOVE 95TH PERCENTILE	84
EXTREME	0		



This chart is produced from the BLM weather stations on the rangeland for the BI from May 15 to October 20. It includes the historical data, the current previous year highlighted, and the 80 & 95th percentile labeled. As shown, the BI was primarily above average from mid-June through mid-September with numerous days in early summer reaching maximum heights. It is interesting that in late July and early August we did hit a time frame of about average and some below average levels.

Fire Activity

OVERVIEW

Overall southwest Idaho experienced an average number of fire starts but a record number of acres burned in 2007. Boise Dispatch Center dispatched a total of 317 incidents including wildland fires, assists to local cooperators, and false alarms.

AGENCY	FIRES	% OF 10 AVG	ACRES	% OF 10 AVG
BOISE DISTRICT BLM	139	126%	96,050	102%
BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	113	72%	346,513	2045%
SOUTHWEST IDAHO DEPT OF LANDS	24	104%	3,784	688%

Breakdown of first and last fires in 2007 for each agency:

AGENCY	FIRST FIRE	ACRES	LAST FIRE	ACRES
BOISE DISTRICT BLM	03/30/2006	133	10/21/2006	0.10
BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	05/01/2006	4.50	10/11/2006	0.10
SOUTHWEST IDAHO DEPT OF LANDS	07/07/2006	0.10	10/11/2006	0.20

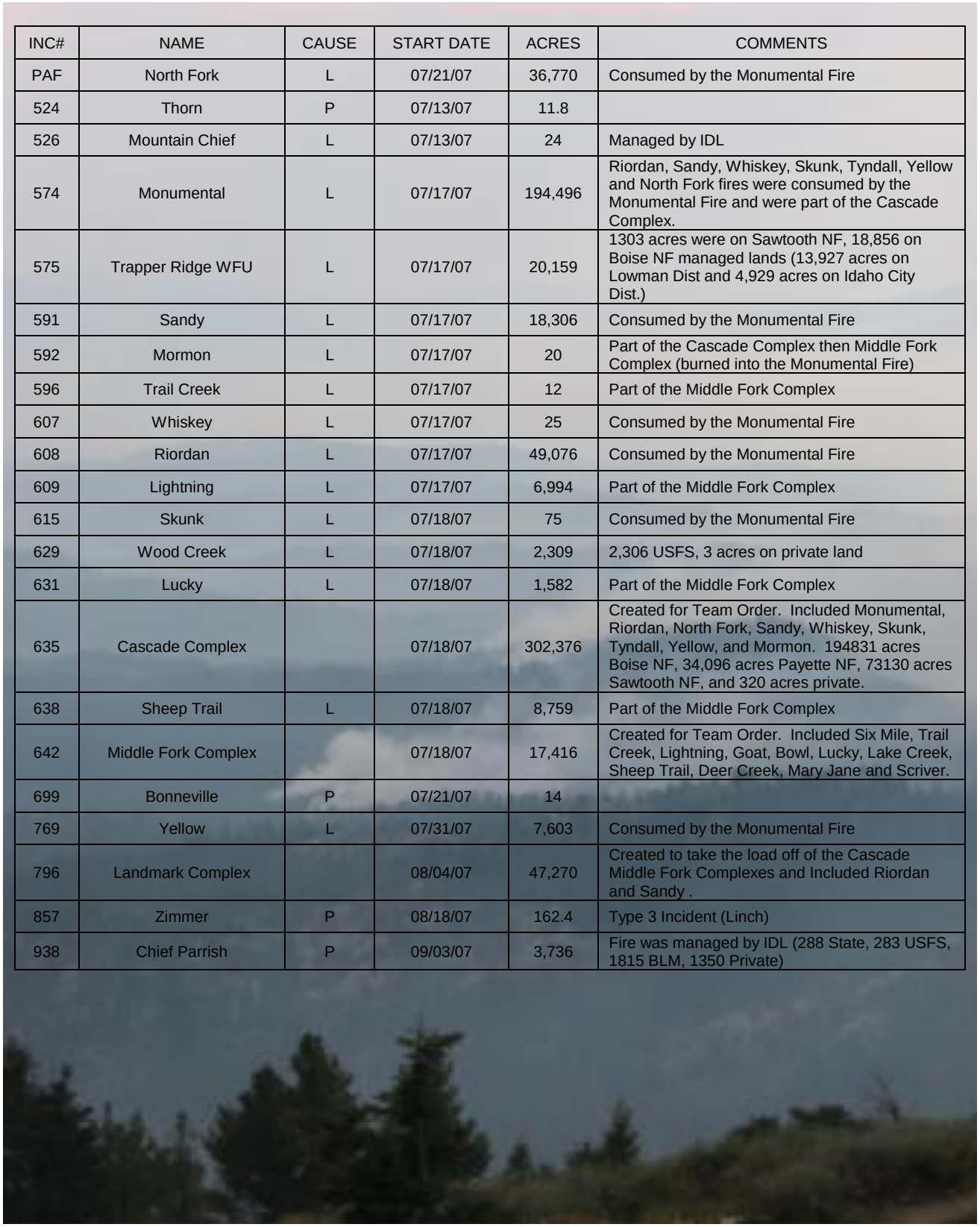
BOISE NATIONAL FOREST


Cascade Complex, BOISE NATIONAL FOREST

The Boise National Forest had a below average number of fires but set a new record for acres burned with 113 incidents charring 346,513 acres (108,849 of these acres spread onto our neighbors the Payette and Sawtooth National Forests). The first fire was May 2nd and the last occurred on November 3rd. A lightning event on July 17th resulted in 48 fires with seven becoming large fires and one a wildland fire use. These fires eventually became the Cascade, Middle Fork and Landmark Complexes. The Trapper Ridge incident was managed as a Wildland Fire Use and eventually grew to over 20,000 acres. The last lightning caused fire occurred on September 23rd.
To manage these fires and the multiple starts that continued to occur, the Forest hosted three Area Command Teams, three Type 1 Teams, twelve Type 2 Teams, one Type 3 Team, and one Fire Use Team. In contrast to the 2006 season when WFU accounted for less than 100 acres, the forest was able to support the Trapper Ridge WFU which grew to 20,159 acres (1,303 acres on Sawtooth NF managed lands).

The chart below includes all fires on the forest over ten acres.

INC#	NAME	CAUSE	START DATE	ACRES	COMMENTS
PAF	North Fork	L	07/21/07	36,770	Consumed by the Monumental Fire
524	Thorn	P	07/13/07	11.8	
526	Mountain Chief	L	07/13/07	24	Managed by IDL
574	Monumental	L	07/17/07	194,496	Riordan, Sandy, Whiskey, Skunk, Tyndall, Yellow and North Fork fires were consumed by the Monumental Fire and were part of the Cascade Complex.
575	Trapper Ridge WFU	L	07/17/07	20,159	1303 acres were on Sawtooth NF, 18,856 on Boise NF managed lands (13,927 acres on Lowman Dist and 4,929 acres on Idaho City Dist.)
591	Sandy	L	07/17/07	18,306	Consumed by the Monumental Fire
592	Mormon	L	07/17/07	20	Part of the Cascade Complex then Middle Fork Complex (burned into the Monumental Fire)
596	Trail Creek	L	07/17/07	12	Part of the Middle Fork Complex
607	Whiskey	L	07/17/07	25	Consumed by the Monumental Fire
608	Riordan	L	07/17/07	49,076	Consumed by the Monumental Fire
609	Lightning	L	07/17/07	6,994	Part of the Middle Fork Complex
615	Skunk	L	07/18/07	75	Consumed by the Monumental Fire
629	Wood Creek	L	07/18/07	2,309	2,306 USFS, 3 acres on private land
631	Lucky	L	07/18/07	1,582	Part of the Middle Fork Complex
635	Cascade Complex		07/18/07	302,376	Created for Team Order. Included Monumental, Riordan, North Fork, Sandy, Whiskey, Skunk, Tyndall, Yellow, and Mormon. 194831 acres Boise NF, 34,096 acres Payette NF, 73130 acres Sawtooth NF, and 320 acres private.
638	Sheep Trail	L	07/18/07	8,759	Part of the Middle Fork Complex
642	Middle Fork Complex		07/18/07	17,416	Created for Team Order. Included Six Mile, Trail Creek, Lightning, Goat, Bowl, Lucky, Lake Creek, Sheep Trail, Deer Creek, Mary Jane and Scriver.
699	Bonneville	P	07/21/07	14	
769	Yellow	L	07/31/07	7,603	Consumed by the Monumental Fire
796	Landmark Complex		08/04/07	47,270	Created to take the load off of the Cascade Middle Fork Complexes and Included Riordan and Sandy .
857	Zimmer	P	08/18/07	162.4	Type 3 Incident (Linch)
938	Chief Parrish	P	09/03/07	3,736	Fire was managed by IDL (288 State, 283 USFS, 1815 BLM, 1350 Private)



2007 Boise National Forest Cumulative Wildfire Suppression Totals

TOTAL INCIDENTS Suppressed by BOF				
	FIRES	ACRES		
Person Caused Fires:	26	483.6	Assists to Other Agencies:	1
Lightning Caused Fires:	87	346,029.4	False Alarms:	5
COMBINED TOTAL:	113	346,513	UTL:	20

The total number of fires suppressed by BOF, regardless of land status or ownership.

ACRES Suppressed by BOF						
	PERSON	LIGHTNING	#FIRES BY OWNERSHIP @ORIGIN			TOTAL ACRES BY OWNERSHIP
			TOTAL	PERSON	LIGHTNING	
USFS Land:	305.25	237,168.1	102	18	84	237,473.35
BLM Land:	0.00	0.00	1	1	0	0.00
Idaho Dept of Land:	174.20	0.40	3	2	1	174.60
Privately Owned Land:	4.10	11.90	7	5	2	16.00
SITPA Land:	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
Other Federally Managed Land (includes STF, PAF):	0.00	108,849	0	0	0	108,849
All Other Acres (BIA, etc.):	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
COMBINED TOTAL BURNED ACRES:	483.55	346,029.4	113	26	87	346,512.95

Total acres suppressed and burned by ownership.

BOF Wildland Fire Use		
	Incidents	Acres
D-1 Mountain Home	0	0
D-3 Idaho City	1	4,929 (Trapper Ridge)
D-4 Cascade	0	0
D-5 Lowman	0	13,927 (Trapper Ridge)
D-6 Emmett	0	0
Other	0	1,303 (Trapper Ridge burned on SCF)
COMBINED TOTAL:	1	20,159

BOF Fires & Acres Burned by District BY ORIGIN ONLY		
	FIRES	ACRES
D-1 Mountain Home:	16	2,328
D-3 Idaho City:	27	20,210
D-4 Cascade:	25	304,224
D-5 Lowman:	15	8,788
D-6 Emmett:	30	10,963
COMBINED TOTAL:	113	346,513

Chief Parrish Fire, IDL , Southwest Area

IDAHO DEPT OF LANDS

IDL experienced an average number of starts and above average acreage burned in 2007. One fire became a Type 2 incident and another was managed as a Type 3 incident. The largest fires occurred on 07/13/07 and 09/03/07.

The chart below includes all fires over one acre.

INC#	NAME	CAUSE	START DATE	ACRES	COMMENTS
526	Mountain Chief	L	07/13/07	24	Type 3 Team Assigned
527	California	L	07/13/07	1	
622	Meadow Creek	L	07/18/07	1	
624	Robie	L	07/18/07	3	
730	Grimes Creek	P	07/25/07	15	
884	MM72 HWY 55	P	08/24/07	1	
938	Chief Parrish	P	09/03/07	3,736	Type 2 Team (Saleen) Assigned. (288 State, 283 USFS, 1815 BLM, 1350 Private)

Chief Parrish Fire, IDL Southwest Area

2007 Idaho Department of Lands Cumulative Wildfire Suppression Totals

No. of Fires Suppressed by IDL		Total Acres Suppressed by IDL	
Assists to Other Local Agencies:	15		ACRES
Person Caused Fires:	8	Person Caused Fires:	3,752.65
Lightning Caused Fires:	16	Lightning Caused Fires:	31.15
COMBINED TOTAL:	**24**	**COMBINED TOTAL:**	**3,783.80**

ACRES Suppressed by IDL						
	PERSON	LIGHTNING	#FIRES BY OWNERSHIP @ORIGIN			TOTAL ACRES BY OWNERSHIP
			TOTAL	LIGHTNING	PERSON	
Idaho Dept of Lands:	288.00	4.00	2	2	0	292.00
BLM Land:	1,815.00	0.00	0	0	0	1,815.00
USFS Land:	283.20	26.60	0	10	1	309.80
Privately Owned Land:	1,366.55	0.55	0	4	5	1,367.10
SITPA Land:	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
Other Federally Managed Lands:	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
All Other Acres (BIA, etc.):	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
CONBINED TOTAL:	**3,752.75**	**31.15**	**2**	**16**	**6**	**3,783.90**

IDL Assists to Cooperators	
	FIRES
BLM LSRD:	0
USFS BOF:	8
SITPA:	0
Rural Fire Departments:	0
COMBINED TOTAL:	8

IDL False Alarms	
No. of False Alarms:	**4**
Non-IDL Acres Person:	**3,752.65**
Non-IDL Acres Lightning:	**31.15**

BOISE DISTRICT BLM

The BLM experienced its first fire on March 30th and last fire on October 21st. Overall, 2007 was slightly above average for number of fires and average for acres burned. It was unusual however due to the activity in the Owyhee Mountains. Incidents in the Owyhee Mountains typically burn in the grass and sage fuels but in 2007, it was noted that the juniper, which typically does not burn, was burning just as actively as the grass and brush. Two incidents, the Boulder Creek Fire and Tongue Complex, required the mobilization of a Type 2 Incident Management Team from California. Additionally, the Warm Springs and Rowland fires (managed by neighboring units) burned significant acres on BOD owned lands.

Tongue Complex, Boise District BLM

Bruneau Arm Complex, Boise District BLM

Tongue Complex, Boise District BLM

The chart below includes all BLM fires over 300 acres.

NAME	CAUSE	START DATE	ACRES	COMMENTS
Indian Creek	P	06/02/07	2695	(2439 BLM, 256 Private)
Rimstep	P	06/15/07	639	(571 BLM, 68 Private)
Birch	P	07/03/07	878	(833 BLM, 45 Private)
Bald Mountain	L	07/06/07	7,010	
Crutcher Crossing	L	07/06/07	39,473	Part of the Tongue Complex
Stuck	L	07/06/07	441	(419 BLM, 22 Private)
Boulder Creek	L	07/06/07	4,333	(663 BLM, 351 State, 3,319 Private)
Gate	L	07/06/07	368	(367 BLM, 1 Military)
Liberator	L	07/06/07	436	(24 BLM, 412 Military)
North Flat	L	07/06/07	2,595	(2,497 BLM, 98 Private)
Bruneau Arm Complex	L	07/06/07	3,495	(2,809 BLM, 153 State, 533 Private)
Nichol	L	07/06/07	5,316	(4,737 BLM, 488 State, 91 Private)
Warm Springs		07/07/07	5,294	Managed by the Payette National Forest
Rock	L	07/13/07	958	(614 BLM, 344 Private)
Well	P	07/16/07	313	(222 BLM, 91 Private)
Yatahoney	L	07/17/07	1,101	
Lamberton	L	07/17/07	355	(355 State)
Wood Creek	L	07/18/07	2,309	(2,306 USFS, 3 Private)
Gem County	P	07/18/07	3,962	(1,352 BLM, 2,610 Private)
Rowland		07/19/07	10,673	11,704 total acres (10,673 BLM, 190 State, 841 Private) Managed by Twin Falls District
Indian Valley	P	07/19/07	563	(177 BLM, 386 Private)
Pearlie	P	07/23/07	512	
Cold	P	08/01/07	3,567	(2,778 BLM, 576 State, 213 Private)
Hidden	P	08/30/07	415	(62 BLM, 353 Private)
Grays Creek	O	08/30/07	1,386	Managed by Payette NF
Sandy	L	08/31/07	10,238	(1,514 BLM, 445 State, 8,279 Private)
Rose Creek	L	09/03/07	363	(179 BLM, 184 Private)

2007 BOD Cumulative Wildfire Suppression TOTALS

No. of Fires Suppressed by BOD		Total Acres Suppressed by BOD (All Owners)		
Assists to Other Local Agencies:	17	Assists to Other Local Agencies:	548	Acres
Person Caused Fires:	87	Person Caused Acres:	15,794	Acres
Lightning Caused Fires:	35	Lightning Caused Acres:	79,708	Acres
Combined Total:	**139**	**Combined Total:**	**96,050**	**Acres**

The total number of fires suppressed by BOD, and acres burned, regardless of land status or ownership.

Incidents Suppressed by BOD

	PERSON	LIGHTNING	#FIRES BY OWNERSHIP @ORIGIN			TOTAL ACRES BY OWNERSHIP
			TOTAL	PERSON	LIGHTNING	
BLM:	10,712	62,114	82	26	56	72,826
US Forest Service:	0	2,307	2	2	0	2,307
Idaho Dept of Lands (SWS):	658	1,793	6	2	4	2,451
Privately Owned:	4,419	13,081	28	4	24	17,500
Military:	5	413	2	1	1	418
Fish & Wildlife Service:	1	0	2	0	2	1
Assist Acres (Non-Federal):	548		7	---		548
Combined Total:	**16,342**	**79,708**	**129**	**35**	**87**	**96,050**
Other BOD-BLM Owned Acres Suppressed by Other Jurisdictions:		6	---	---		17,414

BOD Area Stats	# OF FIRES	ACRES
Four Rivers FO:	71	17229
Owyhee FO:	15	47345
Bruneau FO:	8	12205
Birds of Prey NCA:	34	13461

Detection Method	TOTAL	%
Lookouts:	15	12
Aircraft:	8	6
Private Citizen:	85	68
Agency Personnel:	18	14

False Alarms:	17

BOISE DISTRICT BLM FIRE MITIGATION

The Boise District BLM Fire Mitigation Program worked on many projects in 2007.

In January a meeting was held at Celebration Park in Canyon County to begin planning for firewise landscaping and interpretive signs. The Park is going to be building a new museum, since wildland fire has been a major factor in creating the surrounding landscape the park staff and the Mitigation staff saw the installation of the new museum as an opportunity to develop means to interpret wildland fire. The BLM has established an assistance agreement with the Southwest Idaho Rural Conservation and Development Council (SWIRC&D) to develop aspects of this program. The Council hired an intern from June through August. The intern developed some of the signs that will eventually be installed around the new library.

The SWIRC&D also worked with the Boise BLM Fire Mitigation Program on other projects. The SWIRC&D through an assistance agreement purchased books about wildland fire prevention, ecology, and suppression to be donated to willing local libraries in the counties they serve. The SWIRC&D also worked with the 2007 Field Inquiry Research Experience (FIRE-Up 2007). The FIRE-Up project once again used Redzone, home hazard assessment software, and Firemon to assess houses of willing homeowners and vegetation. In 2007 the project was done in the Pine/Featherville area in conjunction with a Boise National Forest, Boise BLM cooperative project to reduce hazardous fuels.

The West Central Highlands Resource Conservation and Development Council (WCHRC&D) also worked with the Boise BLM on fire mitigation projects through an assistance agreement. The WCHRC&D continued the library project for libraries in the counties they serve. They placed wildland fire books in libraries in Weiser, McCall, and Cascade.

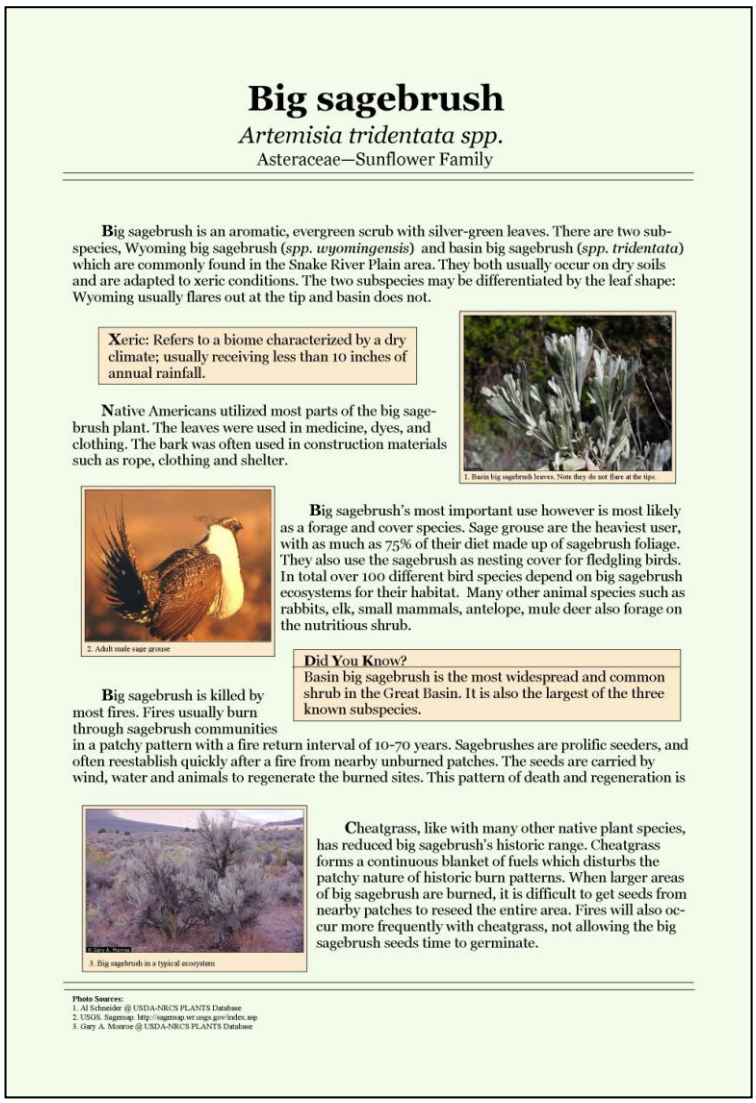
The WCHRC&D also placed an interpretive panel at the 45th Parallel Kiosk outside of Donnelley, Idaho. The panel informs people what they can do to make their home more resistant to damage form wildland fire.

The WCHRC&D also partnered with the Weiser Rural Fire Department to survey homes in their District with Redzone to develop response plans and update the rural addressing system in the District.

The WCHRC&D also partnered with the Weiser School District to place two wildland fire education trunks in the District for use by any interested teachers.

The Boise Fire Mitigation Program also continued its annual Silver City Clean-Up Day in Silver City. On June 23 employees of the District teamed up with homeowners in Silver City to remove brush near homes.

2007 was a busy and successful year for the Boise District Fire Mitigation Program.



Big sagebrush

Artemisia tridentata spp.

Asteraceae—Sunflower Family

Big sagebrush is an aromatic, evergreen scrub with silver-green leaves. There are two subspecies, Wyoming big sagebrush (*spp. wyomingensis*) and basin big sagebrush (*spp. tridentata*) which are commonly found in the Snake River Plain area. They both usually occur on dry soils and are adapted to xeric conditions. The two subspecies may be differentiated by the leaf shape: Wyoming usually flares out at the tip and basin does not.

Xeric: Refers to a biome characterized by a dry climate; usually receiving less than 10 inches of annual rainfall.

1. Basin big sagebrush leaves. Note they do not flare at the tips.

Native Americans utilized most parts of the big sagebrush plant. The leaves were used in medicine, dyes, and clothing. The bark was often used in construction materials such as rope, clothing and shelter.

2. Adult male sage grouse

Big sagebrush's most important use however is most likely as a forage and cover species. Sage grouse are the heaviest user, with as much as 75% of their diet made up of sagebrush foliage. They also use the sagebrush as nesting cover for fledgling birds. In total over 100 different bird species depend on big sagebrush ecosystems for their habitat. Many other animal species such as rabbits, elk, small mammals, antelope, mule deer also forage on the nutritious shrub.

Did **Y**ou **K**now?

Basin big sagebrush is the most widespread and common shrub in the Great Basin. It is also the largest of the three known subspecies.

Big sagebrush is killed by most fires. Fires usually burn through sagebrush communities in a patchy pattern with a fire return interval of 10-70 years. Sagebrushes are prolific seeders, and often reestablish quickly after a fire from nearby unburned patches. The seeds are carried by wind, water and animals to regenerate the burned sites. This pattern of death and regeneration is

3. Big sagebrush in a typical ecosystem

Cheatgrass, like with many other native plant species, has reduced big sagebrush's historic range. Cheatgrass forms a continuous blanket of fuels which disturbs the patchy nature of historic burn patterns. When larger areas of big sagebrush are burned, it is difficult to get seeds from nearby patches to reseed the entire area. Fires will also occur more frequently with cheatgrass, not allowing the big sagebrush seeds time to germinate.

Photo Sources:
1. Al Schneider @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database
2. USGS. Sagemap. http://sagemap.wr.usgs.gov/index.asp
3. Gary A. Monroe @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

Above is a Boise District BLM Wildland Interpretive Sign

Below is a display about Wildland Fire and the Community which is located at the Weiser Library.

45th Parallel Interpretive Sign

BILC FIRE CAUSE STATISTICS

AGENCY		# OF FIRES		TOTAL ACREAGE		AGENCY OWNED ACRES	FALSE ALARM - UNABLE TO LOCATE	ABANDONED CAMPFIRES
		PERSON	LIGHTNING	PERSON	LIGHTNING			
BLM	FOUR RIVERS FIELD OFFICE	58	8	8,223.8	2,263.75			
	OWYHEE FIELD OFFICE	1	14	11.0	47,334.1			
	BRUNEAU FIELD OFFICE	3	4	186.0	1346.2			
	BIRDS OF PREY AREA	25	9	2290.9	11,170.0			
	BOISE DISTRICT	**87**	**35**	**10,711.7**	**62,114.05**	**80,559.15**	**17**	
FS	MTN HOME RANGER DISTRICT	9	7	14.3	2,313.3			77
	IDAHO CITY RANGER DISTRICT	7	20	13.7	20,196.3 (includes Trapper Ridge WFU)			25
	CASCADE RANGER DISTRICT	3	22	0.50	304,223.9			12
	LOWMAN RANGER DISTRICT	1	14	14.0	8773.7			116
	EMMETT RANGER DISTRICT	7	23	3900.8	7062.5			24
	BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	**27**	**86**	**3,943.3**	**342,569.7**	**346,513.0**	**28**	**254**
IDL	**SOUTHWEST IDAHO**	**8**	**16**	**3,752.75**	**31.15**	**292.0**	**1**	
TOTAL BILC		**121**	**138**	**423,122.65**		**427,364.15**	**46**	**254**

*Agency owned acres includes acres protected by another agency and acres from large fires managed by neighboring dispatch centers.

HISTORICAL FIRE DATA

The following table provides a comparison of this year's fires and acres by agency with data from the previous ten years. Acres shown are total acres, not solely agency acres.

YEAR	BOD FIRES	BOD ACRES	BOF FIRES	BOF ACRES	IDL FIRES	IDL ACRES
1997	116	24,380	134	164	12	75
1998	85	11,642	160	1,726	11	3
1999	145	92,102	120	171	17	48
2000	117	142,058	93	35,848	15	4
2001	138	71,768	196	115	36	443
2002	101	42,875	260	1,756	45	57
2003	79	10,594	145	39,956	28	111
2004	66	4734	138	844	17	8
2005	106	32,670	114	1,350	15	5
2006	146	115,926	202	87,493	30	4,748
2007	**139**	**96,050**	**113**	**346,513**	**24**	**3,784**
10 YR AVG 1997-2006	**110**	**93,357**	**156**	**16,942**	**23**	**550**

*note 10-year average does not include the current year. Previous reports included the current year in the calculation of 10-yr average.

FIRE ASSIST INFORMATION

BDC dispatched the following resources to provide initial attack and support assistance to the following adjacent areas:

DISPATCH	AIRTANKERS	SEATS	HELICOPTERS	AIR ATTACK	EQUIPMENT	TYPE 1 CREW	TYPE 2 CREW
CENTRAL & EASTERN IDAHO	14	0	3	3	58	7	12
PAYETTE & SITPA	15	2	12	3	220	7	18
SOUTHERN IDAHO	26	34	16	13	158	9	15
EASTERN OREGON	5	7	0	3	5	0	2
NEVADA	2	0	8	4	119	9	6
UTAH	9	5	9	3	72	11	23

Fuels

SMOKE MANAGEMENT

Once again this year the three primary land management agencies in SW Idaho have complied with prescribed fire smoke/airshed management policies established by the Montana-Idaho States Airshed Coordinating Group. The procedures adopted provide burn information to the Montana Monitoring Unit in compliance with DEQ Smoke Management Guidelines. Boise Dispatch, through the Intelligence desk, continues to provide technical support and regulatory guidance, as well as reporting assistance for burners as needed. Boise Dispatch remains the primary liaison between the burning community and the Airshed Coordinating Group for any disputes.

West Antelope RX, Boise District BLM

Lime Creek RX, Boise National Forest

FUELS REDUCTION STATISTICS


Castlehead RX, Boise District BLM

Federal agencies use Appropriate Management Response (AMR) to meet fire management objectives. Options available under AMR may range from full suppression to confine/contain strategies and management as Wildland Fire Use. The Tongue Complex was initially managed under a confine/contain strategy, however after a few days it became apparent that drought conditions in the area had created unusually volatile conditions, and the incident was assigned to a Type 2 Team. In 2006, the Boise National Forest Wildland Fire Use incidents accounted for less than 100 acres. In 2007 the Forest was able to support the Trapper Ridge WFU which eventually grew to 20,159 acres (1,303 acres on Sawtooth NF managed lands).

The table below represents prescribed fire accomplishments as reported to the Idaho Montana Airshed Group (SMOKE) or in agency reports.

AGENCY	# OF PROJECTS	ACRES ACCOMPLISHED	TYPE OF PROJECT
BOISE DISTRICT	9	1,983	PRESCRIBED FIRE
	1		AMR
BOISE NATIONAL FOREST	35	4,951.3	PRESCRIBED FIRE
	1	20,159	WILDLAND FIRE USE
IDAHO DEPT OF LANDS SOUTHWEST	14	2,324	PRESCRIBED FIRE
	0	0	WILDLAND FIRE USE


Tollgate RX, Boise National Forest


IDL RX

Logistical Activity Statistics

BOISE DISPATCH CENTER RESOURCES

BDC represents the Boise National Forest, Boise District BLM and the Southwest Area of the Idaho Department of Lands for initial attack and aviation dispatching, administrative and disaster services. The three agencies include about 10.8 million acres of land with fire suppression responsibilities for eight million acres. Our ten year average is 290 fires annually and burn an average of 103,287 acres. In 2007, we dispatched 259 fires for 310,585 acres. In addition to initial attack, BDC mobilizes overhead resources of the National Interagency Fire Center, Idaho State Office BLM, and nearly 200 Administratively Determined employees.

BDC mobilizes 1,115 personnel representing the following agencies:

AGENCY	BOD	BOF	SWS	ISO	NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER						
					FCD	FCA	FCF	FCR	FCP	WXW	OAZ
# OF PERSONNEL	275	431	36	38	155	29	68	16	38	6	22

BDC mobilizes and additional 20 overhead resources residing in Boise but working off site for other agencies outside the area.

FIRE SUPPRESSION RESOURCES

Listed below is the breakdown of Initial Attack resources dispatched by BDC:

AGENCY	**BLM**	**FS**	**IDL**
UNIT IDENTIFICATION	**ID-BOD**	**ID-BOF**	**ID-SWS**
AIR ATTACK	1	1	
SEAT	1		
TYPE 1 HELICOPTER		1	
TYPE 2 HELICOPTER			
TYPE 3 HELICOPTER	1	1	
HELITACK PERSONNEL			
TYPE 1 IHC		2	
TYPE 2 REGULAR IA CREW		3	
TYPE 2 CONTRACT IA CREW		2	
TYPE 2 INMATE CREW			2
TYPE 4 ENGINE	21	7	1
TYPE 6 OR 7 ENGINE	1	3	3
WATER TENDER	2		
DOZERS	3		1
FUEL TRUCK	1		
MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER	1		
MOBILE COMMAND TRAILER	1		
MOBILE CACHE		1	
REGIONAL CONTRACT EQUIPMENT	**TOTAL**		
REGIONAL EERA ENGINES	40		
REGIONAL EERA BUSSES	43		
REGIONAL EERA WATER TENDERS	11 Tactical and 24 Support		

MOBILIZATIONS

OVERHEAD

SMOKEJUMPERS

At the request of Operations, McCall Smokejumpers were used to jump the Skunk fire on the Middle Fork Complex this season. This sparked some debate over the use of initial attack resources for large fire support. The jumpers worked the fire until we were able to get a crew on it and were returned to their base by the next morning. Although the Boise BLM Smokejumpers were not used to jump any local fires, they were used as overhead resources for several incidents including team assignments. These included 10 DIVS, FBAN, FOBS, GSUL, HEB2, 6 OSC2, 2 RXCM, SCKN, SITL, and one booster SMKJ order.

FILL STATISTICS

Type 1 Incident Management Teams with overhead in our area were mobilized a total of 10 times with Type 2 IMT mobilized 27 times. Locally we hosted three Area Command Teams, three Type 1 IMTs, thirteen Type 2 IMTs, 2 local Type 3 Teams, one Administrative Payment Team, one Buying Team, two Fire Prevention Teams, and a Critical Incident Stress Team. And for the first time the Boise National Forest hosted a Fire Use Team. Additionally, Boise Dispatch Center dispatched 193 AD personnel who filled 225 overhead requests this season, 94 assignments were out of the state.

Below are the filled overhead orders broken down by agency:

AGENCY	BOD	BOF	SWS	ISO	NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER							AD
					FCD	FCA	FCF	FCR	FCP	WXW	OAZ	
# REQUESTS FILLED	161	306	42	48	213	50	95	21	46	12	15	225

Listed is the total number of orders processed by Boise Dispatch Center in 2007:

TYPE OF RESOURCE	FILLED	UTF	CXL	TOTAL
OVERHEAD	3649	916	400	4965
CREWS	444	202	91	737
OTHER EQUIPMENT	1697	58	280	2035
ENGINES	671	27	65	763
FIXED WING AIRCRAFT	231	12	18	261
TYPE 1 HELICOPTERS	76	7	12	95
TYPE 2 HELICOPTERS	47	14	9	70
TYPE 3 HELICOPTERS	53	13	7	73
HEAVY AIR TANKERS	143	27	18	188
SEATS	106	24	6	136
TOTAL	7117	1300	906	**9323**

Listed below is the Unable to Fill (UTF) list shown by position which was UTF'd more than twice for all requests that came through Boise Dispatch Center.

Qualification	# of UTF's	Qualification	# of UTF's	Qualification	# of UTF's
ABRO	8	ENGB	5	PTRC	5
ACAC	3	EQPM	14	RADO	20
AOBD	4	FALC	3	RCDM	4
ASGS	16	FELB	14	RESL	7
ATGS	33	FFT2	14	RXCM	3
BCMG	22	FOBS	31	SCKN	6
COMP	5	GISS	5	SEC1	13
COMT	10	GSUL	5	SEC2	63
COST	5	HEB1	18	SECM	6
COTR	5	HEB2	3	SOF1	4
DECK	7	HECM	71	SOF2	31
DIVS	72	HELM	58	SOFR	30
DMOB	7	HLCO	6	STCR	35
DOCL	3	HRSP	7	STEN	6
DOZB	20	IADP	4	STPS	5
DPRO	3	INCM	11	TFLD	37
DRIV	5	IRIN	6	THSP	9
EDSD	7	LOFR	3	TIME	3
EDSP	3	OPBD	14	TNSP	4
EMTB	4	ORDM	10	TOLC	7
EMTI	15	PIO2	6	FALLER MODULE	3
EMTP	6	PROC	4	FIRE USE MODULE	5

CREWS

TYPE 1 CREW MOBILIZATIONS

The Boise National Forest Interagency Hot Shot Crews had a busy year. They started off making big trips to Minnesota and Florida and then managed to spend a good amount of time at or close to home. They also traveled to South Dakota, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Idaho, and Colorado.

	BOISE IHC	IDAHO CITY IHC
DAYS AVAILABLE	126	135
DAYS IN TRAVEL STATUS	22	23
DAYS UNPAID	14	6
LARGE FIRE ASSIGNMENTS	10	20
IA FIRE ASSIGNMENTS	1	13
MILES TRAVELED	35,736	78,200
CONSECUTIVE 14 DAY ASSIGNMENTS	5	2
DETAILERS	16	13
TRAINING ASSIGNMENTS	12	19
OVERTIME	988	1,075

OTHER CREW MOBILIZATIONS

Crew 5 and Crew 3 are Boise National Forest Type 2 IA Crews. They are instrumental on initial attack fires within our dispatch area for the forest as well as Boise District BLM and Idaho Department of Lands. Large fire mobilizations included 22 assignments this season: seven for Boise District BLM, eight for Utah, two for Idaho Department of Lands, three on the Boise National Forest, and one each for the Sawtooth and Payette National Forests.

The Boise Regular Type 2 IA Crew was mobilized for a total of three large incidents. Those assignments were in Utah, Idaho, and California.

The two Southern Idaho Correctional Institute Crews had a total of 12 assignments this season: four on the Boise National Forest, two for the Boise District BLM, two for Idaho Department of Lands and one each for the Payette National Forest, Sawtooth National Forest, South Central Idaho and Richfield District BLM in Utah.

The two PatRick National Contract Type 2 Crews were mobilized for a total of 18 assignments in Florida, Utah, and Idaho.

EQUIPMENT

ENGINES

The BLM throughout Idaho continued its joint effort in making a strike team of engines available the entire season. A rotation of engines and strike team leaders were maintained by a Fire Operations Supervisor and this information was relayed to BDC, who was the designated dispatch center for the strike team. The strike team was dispatched to the Cascade Complex and Confluence Complex in Idaho this season.

IDL Engines were dispatched off unit eight times this season, all to local fires in Idaho.

BLM Engines were dispatched off unit 37 times to large fires in Idaho.

The Boise National Forest engines were dispatched off-forest 26 times including dispatches to fires in Idaho, Wyoming, and California.

The regional contract engines in our area filled 171 orders for Type 4-6 engines this season. They traveled all over Idaho and were dispatched to Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Georgia and Florida. Many of these engines completed multiple back to back assignments on local large fires.

DOZERS

The Boise District BLM has three dedicated fire dozers that are a vital part of their firefighting force. This year they were also used to assist their neighbors on the Boise National Forest, Idaho Department of Lands, and Twin Falls District BLM for a total of four off-unit assignments.

Created by LHISLOP

FUEL TRUCK

The Boise BLM has a fuel truck that can be a vital piece of equipment for large fires and those fires that are a good distance from town.

WATER TENDERS

Regional Contract Tactical Water Tenders only filled a couple of orders this season as 2007 was the first time that the Nevada State Office BLM contracted for support water tenders for the Great Basin. The agreements were not completed until the middle of July making it difficult to sort out the best value dispatching of these resources, causing some unhappiness with the contractors. Forty three orders for support tenders were filled this year with only one assignment out of state.

OTHER EQUIPMENT

The Boise National Forest cache van out of Idaho City was used on the Zimmer fire and the Boise District BLM communications trailer was used on five local Type 3 incidents for the BLM and IDL. Additionally, the Boise District command trailer was used all season for equipment inspections. This reduced expanded dispatches dependence on the BLM heavy equipment shop, allowing the heavy equipment personnel to support local initial attack, and complete routine duties without interruption. The Boise Transportation group had a very busy season and provided 558 rental vehicles to 33 fires (for comparison, in 2006 they provided 321 rental vehicles to 39 fires).

BOISE BLM HELICOPTER

AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY

HELICOPTER USE

The Boise District BLM and Boise National Forest had three exclusive use helicopters at their disposal, one Type 3 contracted by BOD, and a Type 3 and Type 2 contracted by BOF. Also we were fortunate to host a National Type 1 Helicopter. Due to the extremely active season, the Type 1 Helicopter was used frequently.

AGENCY	BLM	FS	FS	FS	FS
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	N863H	N864H	N214KA	N716HT	N719HT
TYPE OF AIRCRAFT	BELL 206 L4	BELL 407	BELL 212 HP	SIKORSKY CH 54B	SIKORSKY CH 54B
DAYS UNDER CONTRACT	115	143	115	66	136
BASE LOCATION	BOISE AIRPORT	GARDEN VALLEY	LUCKY PEAK	LUCKY PEAK	LUCKY PEAK
TOTAL FLIGHT HOURS	221	307	294	315	306
FIRE MGT HOURS	215	283	293	107	306
OTHER HOURS	6	24	1	9	0
# OF IA FIRES	52	59	31	7	13
# OF EXTENDED ATTACK/ LARGE FIRES	17	5	17	5	11
GALLONS OF WATER/RETARDANT	244,960	88,800	607,345	422,055	1,880,300
PERSONNEL TRANSPORTED	752	1176	1457	0	0
OPERATIONAL RAPPELS	0	31	10	0	0
# OF FIRES STAFFED BY RAPPELLERS	0	15	3	0	0
LBS. OF CARGO	51,730	162,715	180,290	0	0
OPERATIONAL COST	$449,162	$489,119	$838,369	$1,829,268	$4,407,418

BOISE HELITACK, BOISE NATIONAL FOREST

CALL-WHEN-NEEDED HELICOPTERS

Call when needed (CWN) helicopters are routinely used for fire and resource use. Resource work includes wildlife surveys, wild horse and burro census and capture operations, tree planting, aerial seeding, and radio work.

CWN helicopters are also used for straw bale bombing and aerial seeding for Burned Area Rehabilitation work. Four CWN ships were utilized for various projects including radio work, prescribed fire in 2007. Another 19 were used for large fire support.

FIXED WING USE

Boise Dispatch Center uses fixed-winged aircraft for air attack, lead planes, air tankers and overhead transportation missions. Aerial reconnaissance is another major use of fixed wing aircraft hired by this office. Fire is the main use in this category, but there are also flights for wildlife and vegetation reconnaissance as part of resource management. There were 17 different Lead Planes/ASM used on local incidents this season.

AIR ATTACK PLATFORMS

Spur Aviation was the BLM contract and Eagle Cap Aviation for the Forest Service again this year. Both air attacks were busy flying a total of 109 initial attack and 22 extended attack missions. Between them they spent 47 days supporting extended attack incidents. Additionally, four trainees flew with the aircraft this summer resulting in two completed taskbooks.

AGENCY	BLM	FS
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	N532SA	N39RR
TYPE OF AIRCRAFT	AERO COMMANDER AC50/S	CESSNA 337G
DAYS UNDER CONTRACT	109	93
BASE LOCATION	BOISE AIRPORT	BOISE AIRPORT
TOTAL FLIGHT HOURS	257.92	245.94
OFF-UNIT ASSIGNMENTS	20	1
TOTAL COST	$224,191.11	193,450.37

SINGLE ENGINE AIRTANKERS

SEATS (single engine airtankers) have become a crucial firefighting force since the large airtanker fleet was reduced a few years ago. This season the base tested the Thermo Gel product by dropping 9,000 gallons on the Cold Fire (Boise Dist BLM). Air attack commented that the lack of color in the product made it difficult to see where the next drop should begin if the next plane was not watching the previous drop. Boise BLM again had one exclusive use SEAT which was shared with BIA New Mexico so it did not start here until July 11th. Although the designated base for the contract is Boise, the SEAT was moved to Mountain Home on August 1st due to the extreme ramp congestion at the Boise Airport and the limited pilot standby facilities at the Boise when there are so many other Airtankers using the base. Three SEATS were added with severity dollars.

The following table shows SEAT use for 2007:

IDENTIFICATION #	T-484	T-405	T-481	T-487
TYPE OF AIRCRAFT	AT-802	AT-802A	AT-802	AT-802
BASE LOCATION	BOISE/MTN HOME	Mountain Home	Mountain Home	Mountain Home
TOTAL FLIGHT HOURS	193.11	161.43	147.4	97.52
OFF-UNIT HOURS	108.89	90.64	77.83	74.10
GALLONS OF RETARDANT	173,720	141,480	131,542	88,344
GALLONS OF WATER	0	0	0	0
GALLONS OF FOAM	2,250	3,000	2250	2250
TOTAL GALLONS	175,970	143,730	133,792	90,594
# OF IA FIRES	37	32	28	19
# OF EXTENDED ATTACK FIRES	11	8	10	4
OPERATIONAL COST	$465,822.34	$545,285.35	$536,655.72	$381,941.62

HEAVY AIRTANKER RETARDANT USE

The Boise Airtanker Base provided support to a total of 82 incidents in Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Oregon, Nevada and Montana. The base distributed a total of 641 loads and 1,045,797 gallons of retardant. This was 54 more loads but almost 146,000 gallons less than in 2006. This difference can be attributed to the increased use by SEATs who were able to re-load out of the base because the MAFFS were not utilizing the base this year.

The following table lists use statistics of all Heavy Airtankers loaded at the Boise Tanker Base.

AIRTANKERS	LOADS	RETARDANT GALLONS	**AIRTANKERS**	LOADS	RETARDANT GALLONS
T-00	59	146,229	T-20	20	50,910
T-44	56	116,076	T-11	21	43,649
T-10	43	89,085	T-23	11	28,047
T-05	40	81,333	T-43	3	6,251
T-21	31	79,101	T-45	3	6,228
T-25	31	76,597	T-06	1	2,082
T-48	32	65,403	T-12	1	2,079
T-22	23	58,562	TOTAL	375	851,632

MOBILIZATION CENTER

The Boise Mobilization Center (Mobe Center) located at NIFC was extremely busy this past season. The Mobe Center was open daily starting July 7, 2007 and closed September, 24 2007. This was the longest continuous open period for the Mobe Center. During this period they operated 2 shifts and generally were open 16-18 often 24 hours a day.

This year 4,637 personnel were processed through the Mobe Center. These consisted of Type 1 and Type 2 fire crews, camp crews, a Mitigation team, miscellaneous overhead personnel, contract crews and a few lost fire fighters looking for their crew.

The Mobe Center supported crews from Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and most states in-between.

The cost of supporting these personnel was:

- $93,128.61 for lodging
- $52,475.89 for meals and water
- $9,029.24 for toilets, wash stands and miscellaneous supplies.

For a total of $154,633.74

For comparison here is an overview of the last seven years:

Year 2000	3145 people, which included Australian, New Zealand and Military Battalions.
Year 2001	Minimal fire activity very few people.
Year 2002	3460 people, which included Australian, New Zealand and Military Battalions and 8 plane loads (100 ea) of Canadians.
Year 2003	3457 people, which included Shuttle Recovery support personnel, Australian, New Zealand and Military MCADs.
Year 2004	Minimal fire activity, a few hundred people.
Year 2005	About 500 people, mainly for hurricane support.
Year 2006	3915 people, which included Australian, New Zealand and Military MCADs and Canadians.
Year 2007	4637 people, no International or Military personnel.

TRANSPORTATION AND EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS

Initially, a small transportation and supply unit was set up at the BLM Warehouse to supply the Boulder Creek and Tongue Complex incidents. This operation utilized 13 drivers to make twice daily deliveries to ICP and various spike camp locations. It quickly became apparent that a full scale operation was needed to allow the BLM warehouse to get back to the business of supporting new initial attack incidents. At this point (roughly the first week of July), the transportation unit at the Forest warehouse was scaled up to accommodate the increasing workload.

After a lightning bust caused multiple large fires in the Cascade area, the transportation/supply unit was split into two organizations to manage the enormous workload and deal with conflicting priorities. One organization was responsible for obtaining and signing out rental vehicles as well as providing transportation for personnel arriving via commercial airlines. The second organization was responsible for transporting all of the supplies purchased by the Boise Buying Team. Daily runs also included delivery of bottled water, juice, sports drink, ice and fresh fruit. Combined, these organizations required eight full time drivers, 12 part time drivers and one full time CDL driver. Although the supply delivery unit was able to close at the end of September, the rental vehicle organization was open through the first week of October processing payment packages, dealing with damage claims and putting the warehouse back in order. The transportation unit supplied 558 rental vehicles in support of 33 different incidents in 2007.

In early spring, the regional solicitation for support water tenders was advertised. The process of awarding agreements requires a passing pre-season inspection so our local heavy equipment operators were used to complete these inspections. Nearly 100 pieces of equipment vying for agreements in Idaho and Nevada were inspected out of Boise. Richard Hobson from the Boise National Forest set up shop in the dispatch center for a few weeks to make appointments for the many vendors calling in. Unfortunately, more inspections were needed after the solicitation closed and Richard was gone. The local Incident Business Specialist volunteered to coordinate the additional inspections for us. Thanks Lisa!

By the second week in July, it was apparent that the local BLM Heavy Equipment shop was being overrun by the volume of contract equipment coming through for pre-use inspections. A decision was made to open up a separate inspection unit to handle the heavy workload. A local BLM command trailer was set up next to the USFS warehouse and wired for electricity and telephone. A finance person, Leanne Salo, was called in to maintain consistency, interpret contracts and manage the paperwork aspect of the equipment inspection unit while non-local equipment managers were rotated through to complete the physical inspections. For most of the fire season this operation required two full time inspectors working 12-15 hours per day. They provided support to large fires all over the Great Basin. Local Heavy Equipment personnel provided valuable assistance on really busy days when they observed a backup of equipment waiting for inspection.

Leanne also processed payment packages for equipment that "fell through the cracks". These were most often buses that were hired in Boise to transport crews from Boise to fires in other areas, drop them and return home. Because they never really spent time on a particular incident, they were not able to get their shift tickets to a finance unit for processing. In 2007 Leanne processed 41 payment packages. By the end of the season, the Inspection Unit had inspected 105 buses, 104 engines, 41 support water tenders, 6 tactical water tenders, and 60 miscellaneous items (includes pickup with driver, fuel tender, potable water, grey water, refrigerated trucks, office trailers, yurts etc.). There were also 12 failed inspections documented. An estimated 50 to 75 inspections were completed by the BLM heavy equipment shop prior to the setup of the inspection unit.

END