

SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

U.S Department of Agriculture

U.S. Forest Service

Sawtooth National Forest



U.S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

Twin Falls District including:
Burley, Jarbidge, and Shoshone Field Offices



Bureau of Reclamation

Snake River Area Office—East



National Park Service

Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve
City of Rocks National Reserve
Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument
Minidoka Internment National Monument



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Hagerman National Fish Hatchery
Minidoka National Wildlife Refuge



State of Idaho

Department of Lands

(South Central Area Office)



Department of Parks and Recreation

Billingsly Creek State Park
Box Canyon State Park
Castle Rocks State Park
Crystal Springs State Park
Malad Gorge State Park
Niagra Springs State Park
Three Island Crossing State Park



United States Air Force

Mountain Home Air Force Base



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Introduction

The dispatch ended the season with 103 fires 46 false alarms and 4 off district responses totaling 153 responses and 8,784.54 acres burned. This table lists the average number fires and acres by agency for the years 1999 through 2009.

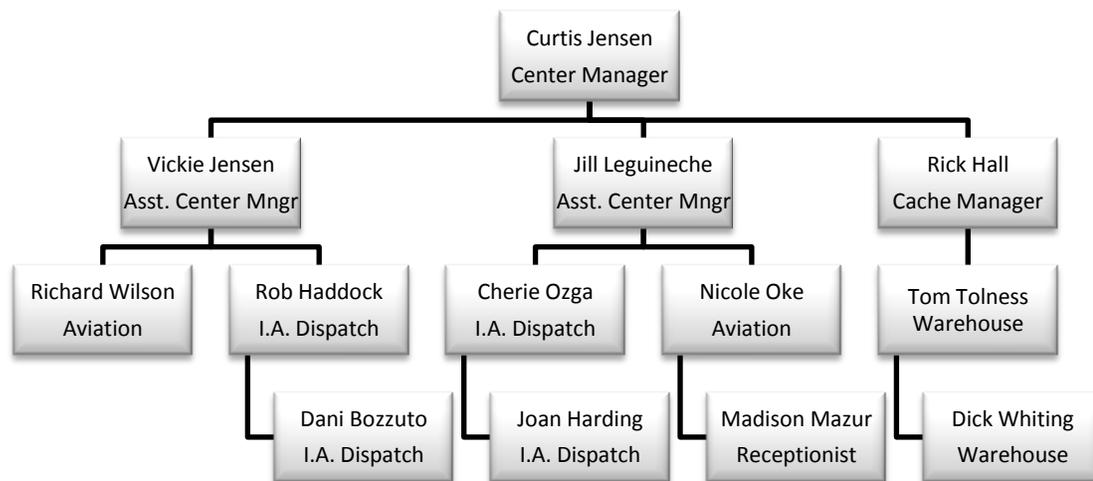
Agency	Fires	Acres
TFD	84.63636	100,905.15
STF	39.64	28,404.99
SCS	7.8182	804.26
ISP	0.1818	1.86
SQR	0.3636	465.33
SCCI	36.1	13,349.70
BRL	1.1818	178.02
FWS	0.1818	0.27
NPS	3.2857	176.35
Total	173.3893	144,285.94

The first fire of the season started on March 20th (the Little Wood fire) and the last fire of the year started on October 11th. (the West End fire). South Central Idaho Interagency Dispatch Center's preparedness level was a

1 for the entire season. Dispatch was staffed 24 hours a day for a total of twenty one days this year.

An expanded organization was not activated for the 2009 season. The center continues to cross train and build our employees' depth of experience. Vickie Jensen and Jill Leguineche, Assistant Center Managers, supervised the daily operations of the floor. Richard Wilson filled the lead aircraft position. Nicole Oke was hired in 2009 and held the position of the assistant aircraft dispatcher. One temporary and two STEP employee returned for the 2009 season, Joan Harding and Dani Bozzuto as IA dispatchers and Madison Mazur as the Receptionist. Detailers included Kris Ohlensehlen, Nicole Sauer. South Central Idaho Dispatch supported the Moab Fire Center with a Dispatcher for a two month timeframe during the 2009 season.

South Central Idaho Interagency Dispatch Center Organization Chart



2009 Fuels and Weather

Fuel Moisture Summary:

The northern part of the Sawtooth Forest, including the Ketchum and Fairfield Ranger Districts, stayed wet most of the summer. June broke records as far as precipitation only halfway through the month. The fuels did not cure sufficiently enough to warrant critical status until the end of August. The southern part of the Forest, Minidoka Ranger District, also experienced a very wet summer. The fuels did not reach critical status until August 20.

Fuels did not reach a critical threshold in the southwest part of the Twin Falls District BLM until July 23rd when cheatgrass was cured at all locations, perennial vegetation was cured at elevations below 4000 feet and live fuel moisture in sagebrush was below 100% below 4000 feet. This was the first location on the district that reached critical status and stayed that way until the end of the summer. The rest of the district didn't reach critical status until August 20th due to the relatively wet June and July.

Lightning Summary:

The first lightning-caused fire started on May 30, 2009 within the Ketchum Ranger District and burned a tenth of an acre. On July 23rd hikers found the Alpine fire that was monitored within the SNRA that grew to 49 acres and declared out on September 30th. On August 2nd, a storm passed through the south end of the Burley Field Office, igniting 7 lightning fires. Around the same timeframe a lightning storm passed across the Fairfield Ranger District igniting a handful of fires during the last week of August. Between August 2nd and August 6th we had a total of 27 lightning responses. The last lightning-caused fire for the 2009 fires season was on Sept 8th, by Redfish Lake.

Breakdown of Lightning Fires by Agency

	TFD	STF	SCS	SCCI	Total
Starts	22	21	1	1	45
Acres	614.5	54.95	146.8	.6	816.85

TFD=Twin Falls District, STF=Sawtooth National Forest, SCS=Idaho Department of Lands, SCCI=Counties, Private Lands.

Initial Attack Resources

South Central Idaho Interagency Dispatch hosts an array of resources. The Sawtooth Hotshot Crew started their season June 30th on the Sockeye fire here on the Sawtooth. They had 11 incidents including the Minto Flats fire in Alaska. The South Idaho Interagency Type II Crew was able to take two assignments this year, both rotations in Oregon. Aviation resources had a reasonable year of flight operations. For the 2009 fire season, the BLM staffed a total of 17 engines and 6 water tenders, including a tactical water tender. The Sawtooth Forest staffed 10 engines this season, four of which were contracted by DB Jet. The BLM Dozer started the year by taking a 60 day assignment to Texas beginning in February again this year.

Initial Attack Resources dispatched by SCIIDC

Unit Identification	ID-TFD	ID-STF
Air Attack	1	
SEAT	2	
Type 2 Helicopter	1	
Type 3 Helicopter		1
Type 1 IHC		1
Type II Crew		1
5 Person Hand Crew		2
Type 4 Engine	17	4
Type 6 Engine		5
Water Tender	6	
Mobile Support Trailer/Camp	1	1
Dozer	1	
Fuel Truck	1	

ID-TFD= Twin Falls District, ID-STF=Sawtooth National Forest

<u>2009 Stations</u>	
Burley/Minidoka	Big Smokey
Bellevue	Shoshone
Malta	Ketchum
Carey	Twin Falls
Rock Creek	Juniper Butte
Shake Creek	Kimama
Stanley	Rogerson
Fairfield	Hailey
Almo	

Employment Summary:

Twin Falls District BLM Fire and Aviation Employment Statistics for 2009

Fire Suppression	Fuels Program	Prevention Program and Mitigation	Shop Mechanic	Warehouse and Cache	Dispatch	Tanker Base and Aviation	Fire Support	Comms
92	14	8	2	3	9	20	5	2

Twin Falls Fire and Aviation employed 155 total personnel:

- 25 Permanent Full Time
- 40 Career Seasonal
- 90 Temporary Employees

Sawtooth National Forest Employment Statistics for 2009

Permanent Full Time

- Full-time fire management – 15(*five vacancies*)
- PFT 1039, 18/8 & 13/13 –26 (*three vacancies*)

Seasonal or short-term personnel:

- Regular fire control (*crews, firefighters, patrol, lookouts, etc.*) – 42 (*three vacancies*)
- Contract Crews– 4
- Total number of casuals employed on fire suppression – 10 for 38 shifts
- Volunteers 6 for 102 shifts

Aviation:

The Twin Falls District and Sawtooth National Forest aviation resources all performed a safe and efficient operational environment this fire seasons. The SEAT Contractor, Aerial Timber Applicators, fulfilled its second year of a three year contract with two of their Air Tractor 802-A's. The Twin Falls Airbase started the year with the construction of two new helipads. The Twin Falls Helicopter Contract was awarded to Rogers Helicopter. This was the first year of a three year contract for the Bell 212 HP. The Twin Falls Helitack Crew had several assignments in Utah, Nevada, and California. Although the Sawtooth Helicopter did not go off district this year they did have a total of 10 Rappels on two fires this season on district. The Sawtooth Helicopter flew a total of 25 fires this year.

2009 Aviation Statistics breakdown by aircraft

Helicopter 352SC	
Number of Fires:	25
Contract:	100 days
Total Flight Hours:	108.0

Helicopter 911VR	
Number of Fires:	25
Contract:	100 days
Total Flight Hours:	127.3

Air Attack 533SA	
Number of Fires:	6
Contract/CWN:	26 days
Total Flight Hours:	13.4

SEAT Operations	
Variable Term	
Contract Days:	180 days
Retardant dropped:	73,466 gal
On Call	
Contract Days :	6 days
Retardant dropped:	12,454 gal
Fires	
T-845: 29	T-846: 24
T-847: 5	T-848: 1

Retardant	
Total Retardant flown from the Twin Falls Airbase and Remote bases:	
	69,758 gal
Off district fires retardant loaded:	
	25,954 gal

Heavy Air Tankers	
Air Tankers that utilized Twin Falls Air Base:	2
Retardant dropped:	9,792 gal

Local Fire Departments:

In 2009, the Twin Falls District put 14 Departments into pay status on 19 different incidents.

Fire Departments assist(s) for the year

Fire Departments	Departments Assist the Gov	Assists Departments	Totals
ACE	0	0	0
Albion	0	0	0
Bellevue	0	1	1
Bliss	4	1	5
Buhl	0	0	0
Burley	0	0	0
Carey – Picabo	3	1	4
Castleford	0	0	0
Dietrich	1	0	1
East End	4	0	4
Fairfield	3	0	3
First Segregation	4	1	5
Glenns Ferry/King Hill	3	0	3
Gooding	3	0	3
Hagerman	1	0	1
Hailey	0	0	0
Jerome City	1	0	1
Jerome Rural	5	0	5
Ketchum City	0	0	0
Ketchum Rural	4	0	4
Minidoka	1	0	1
North Cassia	5	0	5
Oakley	0	0	0
Power County	0	0	0
Raft River	9	0	9
Richfield	4	0	4
Rock Creek	2	0	2
Rupert	0	0	0
Salmon Tract	2	1	3
Sawtooth Valley	1	0	1
Shoshone	5	1	6
Sun Valley	0	0	0
Twin Falls City	0	0	0
Twin Falls Rural	0	1	0
Wendell	4	1	5
West End	10	0	10
West Magic	0	0	0
Wood River	1	1	2
Totals	80	9	89

Safety

The Sawtooth Forest is slightly below average for 2009 with 7 safety related incidents. The Twin Falls District had 21 safety related incident reports this year. This total compares to 16 in 2008. Overall, the 2009 fire season was safe and efficient for both agencies.

Sawtooth National Forest Injury Breakdown by Cause 2009 Fire Season	
Injury	Number
Lifting - Back	1
Chainsaw - Finger	1
Physical Training	5
Total	7

Twin Falls District Injury Breakout by Cause 2009 Fire Season	
Injury	Number
Physical training	5
Slip, twist, trip not falling	3
Weather Exposure	2
Animal, Insects	1
Vehicle driver	1
Fall on road, highway or street	2
Other falls	1
Illness – Noro Virus	3
Packaged Mat. Handling ; wt. not stated	1
Other manual handling and equipment	1
Other falling objects	1
Total	21

Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation

The Twin Falls District ESR program accomplished the following in the calendar year 2009. The District contracted approximately 136 miles of fence, which were repaired within five different BAR plans. This included replacing burned wooden structures with pipe structures, adjusting wire spacing to the correct wildlife standards, and changing the bottom wire to barbless. No temporary fences were constructed this year, but approximately 36 miles of temporary fence was removed by a Contractor and the Twin Falls District Fire Crews. Three fires were aerial seeded, with a variety of sagebrush seed types, covering 18,407 acres. The Twin Falls District ESR program performs weed control on many of the rehabilitated fire areas. This year approximately 688,000 acres were inventoried and treated. On most fire areas, ESR crews gridded and treated any noxious weeds found. On the Murphy Complex, an inventory and treatment of roadside noxious weeds was completed. The ESR staff supports the District's Fuels Program in the implementation of aerial and ground chemical applications. A total of 16,781 acres were aerially treated by a local Contractor on three separate projects. The ESR staff ground treated approximately 100 acres on one project.

Training and Qualifications

(Combined USFS, BLM, and RFD training courses)

D110 – 5 Students all TFD
S131 – 10 Students all TFD
S130/190/I100/L180 – 41 Student 21 TFD, 20 USFS
S200 – 12 Students all TFD
I200 – 12 Students all TFD
S211 – 11 Students all TFD
S212 – 20 Students 20 TFD
S215 – 22 Students 14 TFD, 8 USFS
S234 – 23 Students 11 TFD, 2 USFS, 10 RFD
S260 – 34 Students 26 TFD, 8 USFS
S270 – 34 Students 32 TFD, 1 USFS, 1 RFD
L280 – 29 Students 19 TFD, 10 USFS
BL300 – 33 Students all TFD
Basic Crosswalk- 38 Students all RFD
Advanced Crosswalk – 53 Students all RFD
Company Officer – 10 Students all RFD
Wildland Urban Interface – 25 Students all RFD
G-330 Strike Team Leader – 16 Students all RFD
Fire Refresher – 249 Students all RFD
W.U.I. Drills – 4 for a total of 86

Firefighters Enrolled in Wildland Fire Training Programs

Wildland Fire Apprenticeship Program (WFAP):

Participants: **BLM** Adam Hardy – candidate selected for the 2009-2010 session
BLM Preston Shobe – candidate selected for 2010-2011 session

Technical Fire Management (TFM):

Participants: **BLM** Rich Wilson final project to be due December 2009
BLM Casey Bryant candidate selected for 2009-2010
FS Mike Krupski candidate selected for 2009-2010

University of Nevada at Las Vegas (UNLV) 401 Series Certification Program:

Graduates **BLM** Terry Sonner successfully completed October 2009

Participants: **BLM** Chris Anthony – candidate selected for 2009-2010 session.
BLM Richard Wilson, Zach Aslett, and Tony Davis (2 sessions)

Education/Prevention

Prevention Activities and Accomplishments

Presentations:

Fairfield Halloween Festival
4-H Wildlife Camp Day
Gooding Elementary School
Lighthouse Christian School
Blaine County Wildlife Festival
CSI Sports and Leisure Show
South Central Head Start Smokey Programs
Career on Wheels Day
Shoshone Elementary Engine Presentation
Day for Kids at Pioneer Federal Credit Union
Hummer Scavenger Hunt
Orchard Valley Head Start
Minidoka Head Start
Mini Cassia Head Start
Gooding Fireman's Picnic
Shoshone Farmer's Market
Craters of the Moon Campfire
S.U.W.S.
Lil' Tikes 2009
Three Island Crossing
Paul Palooza
Con Paulos Safety Day
Kids Count Too
Lowe's Safety Day

Parades:

Twin Falls Western Days
Dairy Days
Hazleton
Fourth of July parades attended: Albion, Buhl, Rupert, Hailey
Oakley, Cassia County (Burley Parade)
Declo Days
Lincoln County Fair
Jerome County Fair
Cassia County Fair
Gooding County Fair
Minidoka County Fair
Kimberly Good Neighbor Days
C.A.S.T for Kids
Ketchum Wagon Days

Distribution of information to public and events:

- FireWise booth maintained at Lincoln, Minidoka, Jerome and Twin Falls County Fairs.
- FireWise Fireworks –booths in Gooding, Twin Falls, Jerome, Lincoln, Blaine, Cassia, and Minidoka Counties
- Provided fire prevention and education at the Home and Garden show.
- Completed Kanaka Rapids Home Assessment
- Completed Hidden Lakes Home Assessment

Public Service Announcements for newspapers, radio, and television:

- Fire prevention radio spots with Fire Chiefs, FMO's.
- Published two articles in the National FireWise Program newsletter
- Created a two series educational spot on KMVT
- Weekly fire education in the Idaho Mountain Express

Posted and maintained signs for 'Fire Danger' and 'Report Wildfire: Cell #FIRE.'

Fire Restrictions

South Central Zone did not enter into fire restrictions in 2009.

Mitigation/Fuels

- Provided \$10,000 to Goose Creek Co-Op Weed Management Area to treat an area that has been included in their at risk area in their Community At risk assessment.
- Seeded 80 acres in Lincoln County that was affected by the Red Bridge Fire.
- Cassia County fuels reduction project treated 100 acres of Juniper.

REDZONE Mapping Crew:

The mapping crew provided mapping assistance to Ace Fire District, West End Fire District and Shoshone Fire Department for 2009. This includes the use of REDZONE equipment and Software which was purchased by the Mid-Snake and given to the Fire Departments. Approximately 220 home assessments have been completed.

Prescribed Burning

The Twin Falls District had another busy year as far as acres treated. The Fuels Program accomplished 50,000 acres of mechanical, chemical and RX burning. This also includes (HLI). Specifically, the district burned 800 acres across two projects.

Sawtooth National Forest	
RX Burns	Acres
Diamond Field Jacks	100
NE Cassia	40
Phillips	325
Sawmill	67
NE Cassia Jackpots	250
North Zone Piles	250
South Zone Piles	50
Fairfield Piles	150
Forest Total	1232

Trespass/Cause Determination

The Twin Falls District Fire Investigators had 42 human caused fires this year that they investigated. Of those 42 one of those cases is expected to proceed with a trespass. One case is still being investigated with Law Enforcement for follow up.

Total Acreage and Ownership Protection Responsibility of SCIIDC

Owner Type	Acres	Owner Type	Acres	Owner Type	Acres
Bureau of Land Management	4,949,158	National Park Service	303,223	Idaho Parks	5,299
Bureau of Reclamation	33,108	Fish and Wildlife Service	18,467	State of Idaho	291,058
Bankhead-Jones Land Use	45,984	Private	3,563,476	Nevada State	6,750
National Grasslands	4,536	U.S. Forest Service	2,086,223	Utah State	50,129
Military; Department of Defense	115,050	Idaho Fish and Game	16,560	Total: 11,489,022 acres	

2009 Activity Breakdown

Ownership	Human Fire	Human Acres	Lightning Fires	Lightning Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
TFD	23	5461.7	22	614.5	45	6076.2
STF	7	49.3	21	54.95	27	104.25
SCS	3	606.3	1	146.8	4	753.1
IPS	0	0	0	0	0	0
SQR	0	0	0	0	0	0
SCCI	19	404.5	2	.6	21	405.1
CMP	1	.6	0	0	1	.6
CRP	0	0	0	0	0	0
HFR	1	.1	0	0	1	.1
HFP	0	0	0	0	0	0
BRL	4	1445.2	0	0	4	1445.2
MNR	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	57	7967.7	46	816.85	103	8784.54

TFD =Twin Falls District, STF=Sawtooth National Forest, SCS=Idaho Department of Lands, IPS=Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, SQR=Department of Defense, SCCI=Private Lands, CMP=Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve, CRP=City or Rocks National Reserve, HFR=Hagerman National Fish Hatchery, HFP=Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument, BRL=Bureau of Reclamation, MNR=Minidoka National Wildlife Refuge

Fire and Acres by Ranger District

Ranger District	Human Fires	Human Acres	Lightning Fires	Lightning Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
Fairfield	1	.3	6	2.3	7	2.6
Ketchum	5	34.5	9	51.35	14	85.85
Minidoka	1	14.5	5	1.3	6	15.8
Totals	7	49.3	20	54.95	27	104.25

Fire and Acres by Field Office

Field Office	Human Fires	Human Acres	Lightning Fires	Lightning Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
Burley	8	636.3	15	55.7	23	692
Jarbidge	1	41.1	3	408	4	449.1
Shoshone	14	4784.3	4	150.8	18	4935.1
Totals	23	5461.7	22	614.5	45	6076.2

*Information included in this table accounts for acreage and ignitions which BLM has protection jurisdiction.

Largest Incidents of the Year

- Sawtooth National Forest:** Alpine at 49 acres
- Twin Falls District:** Power Station at 3026 acres
- Bureau of Reclamation:** West End at 1252 acres
- Idaho Department of Lands:** Highway 46 at 1104 acres

2009 Large Fires			
Date	Unit Identifier	Name	Acres
8/5	ID-TFD	Dove Springs	436
8/12	ID-TFD	Horse Butte	340
9/19	ID-SCS	Highway 46	1104
9/25	ID-TFD	K-3	890
9/27	ID-TFD	Power Station	3026
10/11	ID-BRL	West End	1252

ID-TFD=Twin Falls District, ID-SCS=Idaho Department of Lands,
ID-BRL=Bureau of Reclamation

2009 Annual Report

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