



National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3838 S. Development Avenue

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August 31, 2005

To: Geographic Area Coordinating Groups, Geographic Area Coordination Centers

From: National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

Subject: Estimated Fire Resources Available for Hurricane Katrina Support

Interagency wildland fire organizations are currently being requested to support Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts. NMAC anticipates that these requests will be significant and long-term. We have looked at the number of firefighting resources of all categories available nationally, the potential severity of the remaining wildland fire season, and made a preliminary estimate of resources that can be assigned to hurricane support. We anticipate these numbers being subject to change as we conduct a daily evaluate of the relative risks of the fire season versus our capability to support the Hurricane Katrina recovery effort.

The table below gives our best estimates of resources we can make available to Hurricane Katrina Support and the minimum we should hold for fire suppression.

	Total Available	Assigned to Katrina 8/31	Available to Katrina	Fire Drawdown
Area Command	4	1	2	1
Type 1 IMTs	17	4	8	5
Type 2 IMTs	40	0	20	20
Type 1 Crews	100	0	30	70
Type 2 IA Crews	50	8	25	17
Type 2 Crews	350	22	100	228
Showers	29	0	21	8
Caterers	20	0	12	8

Aviation Assets

Additionally, we have access to over 500 fixed and rotor wing assets available for hurricane and fire response, both exclusive use and call-when-needed. The capabilities range from light fixed wing aircraft for reconnaissance missions or personnel transport to large transport aircraft capable of hauling up to 100 persons. We also have 15 heavy air tankers currently committed to fire support.

The helicopter fleet includes light to heavy helicopters from Type 3s for reconnaissance to heavy lift helicopters which can be used for transport as well as cargo. Medium and heavy helicopters are in highest demand, and are most likely to be in short supply.

National Interagency Support Caches(NISC)

The eleven Geographic Area Caches contain equipment and supplies to support more than 25,000 firefighters. We anticipate some demand for a wide range of supplies and equipment.

Communication Systems

The National Interagency Incident Communication Division has over 5000 radios available in kit configuration for use on fire and hurricane response. There is a Communications Duty Officer available 24/7 to assign frequencies as requested.

Additional Contracted Services

Additional assets like potable water trucks, laundry services, and commissaries are available under contract. We also can acquire additional caterers and shower units under short-term contracts.

In the coming weeks, we will be balancing the requirements of the ongoing fire season with the needs of communities and our fellow citizens devastated by Hurricane Katrina. We ask your help in doing our best to safely and professionally respond to both fire and hurricane.

Don Artley, Chair
National MAC