

Nevada BLM Fire Briefing/Update 9/12/2017

Currently

- Above average fire potential remains
- Very wet winter left well-above average grass crop fuels across the majority of Nevada
- September storms have increased humidity and some scattered rain
- Fires are generally staying smaller and less resistant to control
- Sharing resources between many states (Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, California, Oregon, Washington)
- Stead Airtanker Base has pumped over 2 million gallons of retardant....all-time record
- Battle Mountain Airtanker Base has pumped over 1.2 millions gallons #2 to the all time-record

Responses

- Completed three prevention/education/awareness campaign focusing on social media platforms and news outlets
- Winnemucca Mobilization Center during the month of July and August. Very successful in mobilizing many resources rapidly to new fire starts.
- Currently have 47 Emergency Stabilization/Burned Area Rehab plans in various stages of completion/approval
- Challenges to implementing rehabilitation due to closing of fiscal year
- Years following big grass years also tend to show high numbers of acres burned due to carry over fuels, very dependent on winter snowpack and compacting of fuels

Links/Products

Nevada Fire Map <http://arcg.is/2qpYkG>

- Maintained by NV BLM
- Perimeters, current fires, weather, lightning, red flag warnings, plus much more
- Can provide a more detailed briefing/demonstration on map if interested at a later date

University of Nevada-Reno/BLM Fire Cameras <http://alerttahoe.seismo.unr.edu:8080/>

Great Basin Fire Outlooks <https://gacc.nifc.gov/gbcc/outlooks.php>

- Daily https://youtu.be/NgigOVXa5IY?list=PLUkLB5GygSgLCvIZXeYx_7CEZyfCUTtvo
- August to October https://youtu.be/X8ACxGIXC8?list=PLUkLB5GygSgLDxVowenifTXFizd7w4_63
- 7-Day Fire Potential Outlook (updated daily)
<http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/forecast/#/outlooks?forecastDay=2015-05-04&forecastInView=2015-05-04&state=forecast&gacclid=12>
- Great Basin Monthly/Seasonal Outlook <https://gacc.nifc.gov/gbcc/predictive/docs/monthly.pdf>

Great Basin Extreme Fire Behavior Flyer

https://gacc.nifc.gov/gbcc/predictive/GB_Fire_Behavior_Flyer_2017.pdf

Great Basin Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory

https://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/fuels_fire-danger/GB_Fuels_and_Fire_Behavior_Advisory.pdf

Nevada Fires and Acres Burned (all agencies) (9/13/17)

		Human Caused Fires	Human Caused Acres	Lightning Caused Fires	Lightning Caused Acres	WILDFIRE TOTALS	
						FIRES	ACRES
Bureau of Land Management	BLM	173	195,468	259	637,960	432	833,428
Department of Defense	DOD	0	0	2	10,007	2	10,007
NV Counties	C&L	40	54,071	16	730	56	54,801
U.S. Forest Service	FS	25	2,025	46	3,838	71	5,863
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	FWS	2	0	0	0	2	0
National Park Service	NPS	12	3	6	1	18	4
Nevada Division of Forestry	ST	44	121,733	35	178,747	79	300,480
Tribal	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
		296	373,300	364	831,283	660	1,204,583

Nevada Fires and Acres Comparison														
DATE	1999		2000		2001		2006		2007		2012		2017 *	
IA Success**	89%		92%		95%		90%		92%		93%		89%	
	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres
July 12	277	127,459	420	88,213	416	72,487	470	227,685	321	134,142	309	88,380	257	544,551
August 10	557	1,403,472	817	469,292	664	160,996	886	710,054	629	867,681	621	306,189	503	1,044,852
September 12	962	1,578,267	1,013	644,968	1,020	584,333	1,066	1,468,038	752	885,895	950	777,126	660	1,204,583
* 2017 Numbers are still being compiled and validated														
**IA Success= Fires controlled in less than 48hrs or less than 300 acers														

BLM Nevada Fuels Program 2017

Table 1-BLM Nevada Fuels Treatment Summary

District	Fuels Treatment Acres	Maintenance Acres	Fires That impacted Fuel Breaks	Fuel Break Use
Elko	13249	470	Snowstorm	To burn from fuel break to cut off the head of the fire
			Oil Well	Portions of the fuel break stopped fire progression without suppression action
			Rabbit	Lower fire behavior allowed containment
Winnemucca	22800	2665	Poleline	Arrested fire spread
			MM61	Fuel break held until resources arrived
			MM18	Fuel break held until resources arrived
Carson City	7295	0	Coldsprings	Reduced flame lengths from 8 feet to 2 feet
Battle Mountain	10581	4700	None	
Ely	7315	0	None	
Southern Nevada	250	0	None	
Totals	61490	7835		

Table 2-BLM Nevada Treatment Acres Statewide 2013 to Present

Year	WUI	NON-WUI	TOTAL
2013	11,576	11,753	23,329
2014	16,941	17,573	34,694
2015	18,280	24,908	43,188
2016	10,267	43,765	54,032
*2017	18,233	39,037	57,270

*Acres for 2017 not complete, final numbers will be available after September 30 and fiscal year end.

Table 3- BLM Nevada Statewide Out Year Capacity Identified in NFPORS

Fiscal Year	Conifer Removal (acres)	Invasive Species Reduction (acres)	Fuel Breaks (acres)	Total Acres
FY 2018	39,964	25,110	11,725	76,799
FY 2019	43,193	24,348	12,538	80,079
FY 2020	35,456	13,959	8,534	57,949
FY 2021	10,331	7,671	5,851	23,853

Fuels Treatments Lessons Learned

Attributes of effective fuel breaks include:

- Straight or slowly curved fuel breaks without irregular doglegs or sharp angles
- Healthy sagebrush communities with perennial grasses occupying the interspaces between sagebrush shrubs
- Minimal cheatgrass in the herbaceous community

Attributes where fuel treatments were not effective:

- Abrupt changes in the configuration of fuel breaks (e.g., right angles following ownership boundaries)
- Abundant annual grass fuel loadings
- Treatment areas subject to wind-driven head fire (extreme fire behavior conditions)
- Fuel breaks which were not located adjacent to the road, where a wider fuel break could be created if combined with the width of the road.
- Fuels treatments need to be placed on both sides of roads.