



FEMA

National Situation Report

As of 5:30 a.m. Wednesday, September 7, 2005

This information is provided as a public service. Information presented is considered public information and may be distributed or copied. Use of appropriate byline/photo/image credits is requested. Published daily by the FEMA National Response Coordination Center (NRCC). Available on the internet at: <http://www.fema.com/emanagers/natsitup.shtm>. For questions or comments, call the NRCC at (202) 646-2828 or 4541 (staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week).

Homeland Security Threat Level:

ELEVATED

Efforts To Aid The Victims Of Hurricane Katrina Continue

- Over 200,000 hurricane victims evacuated from the disaster area are in shelters in 17 States across the country.
- Search and rescue of victims in the stricken area continues.
- Federal medical teams are working to coordinate care for the victims.
- Government and private sector representatives are working together to restore power, telephone service, waterway access, and other infrastructure that was damaged or destroyed by the storm.
- Federal law enforcement officers and National Guard troops are helping State and local authorities to maintain order.
- Military assets and personnel are supporting all aspects of the operation.
- Long-term recovery and mitigation plans are getting under way. (FEMA NRCC)



Tropical Depression Sixteen Slightly Stronger As It Drifts North-Northwestward - New Tropical Storm Watch Issued

A tropical storm warning remains in effect for the east coast of Florida from north of Jupiter northward to Titusville including Merritt Island and for Grand Bahama, the Abacos, and Bimini.

At 11 pm EDT (0300Z) a tropical storm watch is on effect for the Florida east coast north of Titusville to Flagler Beach. A tropical storm watch means that tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch area within the next 36 hours. Interests elsewhere in northern and central Florida and the southeastern United States coast should monitor the progress of this system.

At 11 pm EDT (0300Z) the center of Tropical Depression sixteen was located near latitude 27.4 north longitude 78.5 west or about 65 miles (105 km) north-northeast of Freeport Grand Bahama Island and about 145 miles (235 km) east-southeast of Cape Canaveral Florida. The depression is moving toward the north-northwest near 3 mph (6 km/hr). A generally northwestward drift is expected during the next 24 hours.

Maximum sustained winds are near 35 mph (55 km/hr) with higher gusts. Some strengthening is forecast during the next 24 hours and the depression could become a tropical storm on wednesday. It should be noted that strong winds along portions of the southeastern United States coast are currently due more to strong high pressure over the eastern United States than to Tropical Depression sixteen. Estimated minimum central pressure is 1008 mb (29.77 inches). Rainfall accumulations of 5 to 10 inches with isolated higher amounts of 15 inches can be expected in portions of Florida and the northwestern Bahamas. *(National Hurricane Center)*

National Forecast

South: Newly formed Tropical Depression 16 (see Tropical Update) may be Tropical Storm Ophelia, creeping north-northwestward off the east coast of Florida. But whatever the disturbance is tomorrow, the Sunshine State will be anything but. Squally weather accompanied by gusty winds and rip currents (along the east coast) will lash the peninsula, not only today but through tomorrow as well. Elsewhere in the South, generally fair weather will prevail with the exception of isolated showers and storms along the Southeast coast and far south Texas. Gusty winds, high surf and rip currents will continue along the beaches of the Carolinas and Georgia. Temperatures will be near seasonal means.

Midwest: Scattered or widely scattered storms and showers will string out from Michigan to the central Plains in the vicinity of a slow-moving front. Late in the day, a few severe storms may erupt over the northern High Plains north of the front in an upslope flow regime. Temperatures south of the front from southern Michigan to Missouri will run 5 to 10 degrees of above average with highs generally in the 80s (the 90s in southwest Missouri).

West: Dry weather will again grace much of the West with scattered showers and thunderstorms expected to focus over eastern Arizona, New Mexico and the mountains of Colorado. A few showers or storms may also dot southern Montana. Temperatures will be above seasonal expectations in the Northwest, Great Basin, Montana and Wyoming. Highs in the 70s and 80s will be widespread. Maxima in the 90s, however, will dot the Intermountain West and Central Valley of California. Readings will top 100 in the normally hotter deserts of the Southwest.

Northeast: One more day of pleasant weather is in store for the Northeast before a cold front delivers a scattering of showers to northern portions of the region tomorrow. High temperatures will be above early September norms with afternoon readings mostly in the 80s, the 70s in higher elevations. *(NWS, Media Sources)*

Wildfire Update

CURRENT SITUATION:

Initial attack activity was light nationally with 138 fires reported. Six new large fires were reported, two each in the Eastern Great Basin and Southern Areas, and one each in the Northern California and Northern Rockies Areas. Four large fires were contained, two in the Southern California Area, and one each in the Eastern Great Basin and Southern Areas. Very high to

extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

A Presidential Disaster Declaration was issued on 8/29 for Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana. Two Area Command Teams are assigned (Williams-Rhodes and Ribar). Williams-Rhodes' Team is providing Incident Management Team coordination for FEMA Region IV at the Regional Response Coordination Center in Atlanta, GA for Hurricane Katrina Support.

Ribar's team is assigned to the Louisiana Emergency Operations Center in Baton Rouge, LA. The Team is coordinating activities of the Incident Management Teams in FEMA Region VI. Numerous resources are being mobilized as part of the relief effort.

OUTLOOK:

Weather Discussion: High pressure will build over the West for mostly dry weather and warmer temperatures. However, some moisture will continue over the four corner states. Along the Gulf Coast, it will be partly cloudy with a slight chance of thundershowers. Highs will be 85 to 90.

California

NEW Geary (Six Rivers National Forest): 100 acres at zero percent contained. This fire is one mile east of Somes Bar and is burning in timber. Structure protection is in place. Steep, inaccessible terrain is hampering containment efforts. One lane of the Salmon River Road has opened. Higher humidity has moderated fire behavior.

Idaho

Gregory (Boise National Forest): 1,122 acres at 30 percent contained. This fire is two miles southwest of Idaho City. Residences, commercial property, historic sites and the town of Idaho City remain threatened. Structure protection remains in place. Highway 21 has one lane open with a pilot car to lead traffic. Moderate fire activity with torching and minor runs was observed.

Juniper (Idaho Falls District, Bureau of Land Management): 2,100 acres at 90 percent contained. This fire is 16 miles west of Holbrook. Grazing allotments and a sage grouse habitat are currently threatened. Lack of access and dry fuels are hampering containment efforts. Isolated torching and running were observed. Reduction in acreage is due to more accurate mapping.

Long Black Complex (Clearwater National Forest): 1,510 acres at 25 percent contained. This complex, comprised of the Long Creek and Black Canyon fires, is 38 miles northeast of Pierce. Steep terrain and limited access continue to hamper containment efforts. Fire remained active with creeping, torching and uphill runs.

NEW South Fork (Payette National Forest): This fire is 16 miles east of Donnelly in grass and timber. No further information was received.

Rattlesnake (Fort Hall Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs): 10,200 acres at 30 percent contained. This fire is 16 miles southwest of Pocatello. Watershed and wildlife habitat are threatened. Rapid rates of spread, rugged terrain, and drought stressed fuels continue to hamper containment efforts. Running and short range spotting were reported. Reduction in acreage is due to more accurate mapping.

Sawmill (Fort Hall Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs): 7,000 acres at 10 percent contained. This fire is 11 miles east of Fort Hall. A cultural site, watershed resources, and a wildlife habitat are threatened. Extreme fire behavior was reported.

Valley Road (Sawtooth National Forest): 12,841 acres at five percent contained. This fire is located 15 miles south of Stanley. Residences, commercial property, structures, a work center, wildlife habitat, campgrounds and recreation areas remain threatened. Evacuations are

in effect for residents and campers. Fire behavior continues to be extreme with wind and terrain driven runs, crowning and spotting.

Wildhorse (Salmon-Challis National Forest): 500 acres at 40 percent contained. This fire is 22 miles west of Mackay. Steep rocky terrain, windy conditions and heavy fuel loading continue to hamper containment efforts. Historic mine and structures are threatened. Torching, creeping and smoldering were observed.

Frank Church (Payette National Forest): 39,235 acres. This lightning caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) incident, comprised of the Bear Creek, Root Creek, West Fork/Joe, Missouri Ridge and several other fires is 50 miles northeast of McCall, ID in timber. The fire is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. Historic structures, mines and cabins remain potentially threatened. Structure protection remains in place. Remote location and difficult access are impeding operations. Backing fire and isolated torching were observed.

Montana

NEW Mysee (Southern Land Office, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation): 1,200 acres at 60 percent contained. This fire is three miles southwest of Reed Point, MT in grass and timber understory. A ranch is threatened. Smoldering and creeping fire behavior with occasional torching were observed.

Signal Rock (Beaverhead/Deerlodge National Forest): 11,200 acres at five percent contained. The fire is 17 miles southwest of Philipsburg and is burning on both the Bitterroot and Beaverhead/Deerlodge National Forests. Active fire behavior with backing and torching was reported.

Seepay #2 (Flathead Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs): 8,000 acres at 90 percent contained. The fire is two miles southwest of Perma. Cultural sites and structures remain threatened. Torching and creeping surface fire were observed.

Selway-Salmon Complex (Bitterroot National Forest): 28,995 acres. This lightning caused Wildland Fire Use (WFU) complex, comprised of the El Capitan, Wapiti, Beaverjack, Reynolds and numerous other fires, is 26 miles southwest of Hamilton, MT in timber. This complex, burning on both the Salmon-Challis and Bitterroot National Forests, is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. A historic ranger station, a work center and a lookout remain threatened. Structure protection remains in place. Trail closures are in effect. Fire behavior is moderating with cooler temperatures and higher relative humidity. Creeping with torching was observed.

Oregon

Granite Complex (Wallowa-Whitman National Forest): 34,045 acres. This lightning-caused WFU incident is 30 miles east of Enterprise. This complex is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. Historic structures are threatened. Fire behavior is limited to smoldering and burning of heavy fuels.

Utah

NEW Hatch (Northwest State, Utah Division of Forestry Fire and State Lands): 1,175 acres at 20 percent contained. This fire is eight miles south of Terra, UT in pinyon pine, juniper and grass. High rates of spread and spotting are hampering containment efforts. Isolated torching was observed. (*National Interagency Fire Center, National Information Coordination Center*)

Other Tropical Cyclone Activity

Tropical Storm Maria is located about 635 miles east-northeast of Bermuda, moving toward the northeast at about 8 mph. This motion is expected to continue with some increase in forward speed during the next 24 hours.

Tropical Storm Nate is located about 260 miles south-southwest of Bermuda, and is stationary. A slow northwestward drift is possible over the next 24 hours.

In the Western Pacific, neither Typhoon 14W (Nabi), which made landfall in southwestern Japan, nor Tropical Storm 15W (Khanun) pose any threat to any U.S. interests.

Formation of a significant tropical cyclone is possible within 200 nm either side of a line from 6.9S 84.6E to 12.1S 83.8E within the next 12 to 24 hours. Available data does not justify issuance of numbered tropical cyclone warnings at this time. (*National Hurricane Center, Joint Typhoon Warning Center*)

Earthquake Activity

No significant activity to report. (*USGS National Earthquake Information Center*)

Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs)

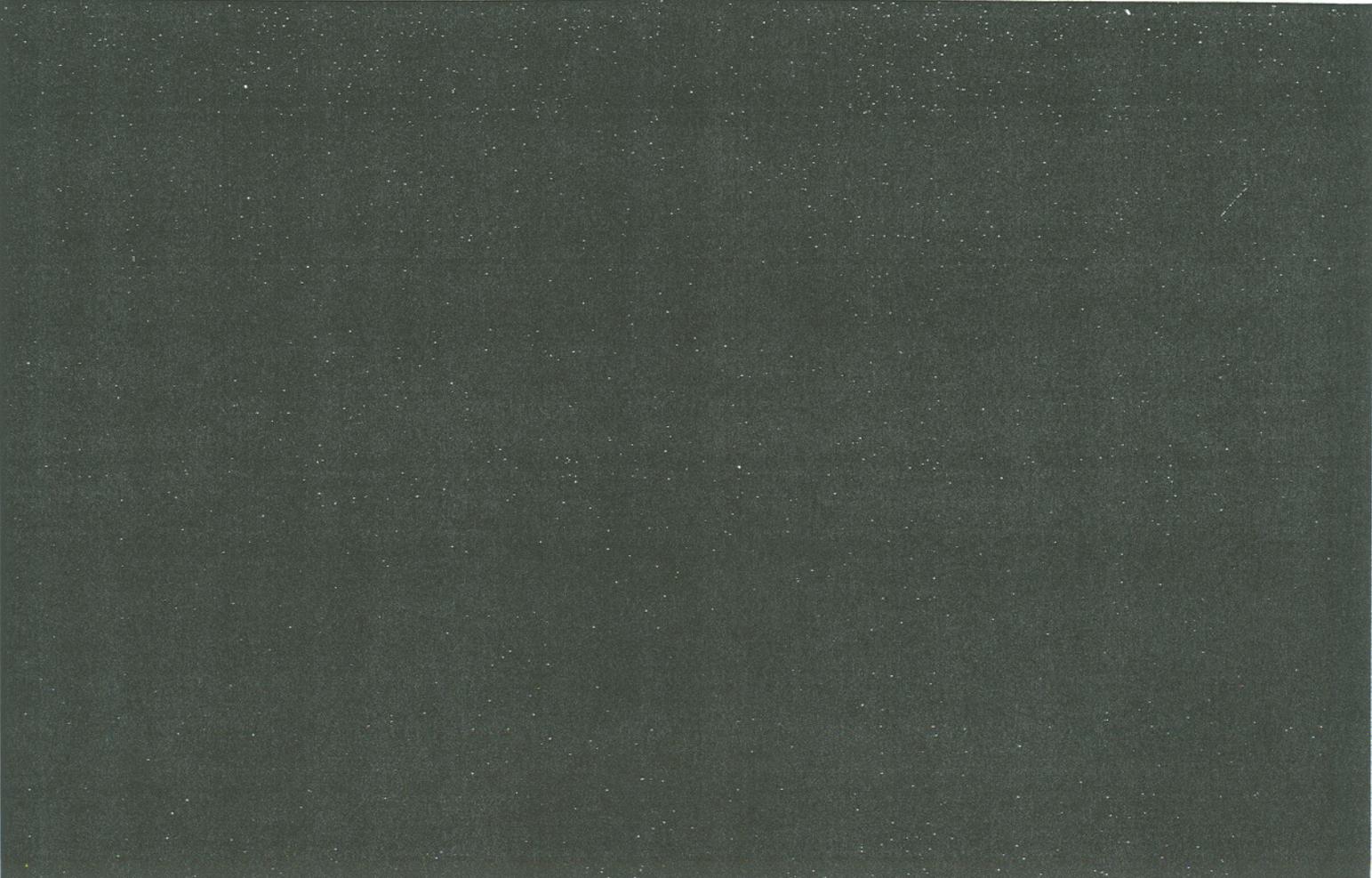
No new activity to report. (*FEMA HQ*)

Disaster Declaration Activity

Amendment #3 FEMA-1602-DR-FL 4 counties added for Public Assistance.

Amendment #2 FEMA-1604-DR-MS 1 county added for Individual Assistance and debris removal and emergency protective measures (Cat A & B) under the public assistance program, 29 counties added for debris removal and emergency protective measures (Cat A & B) under the public assistance program. 31 Counties for Individual Assistance (already designated for debris removal and emergency protective measures (Cat A & B) under the public assistance program, including direct Federal assistance). (*FEMA HQ*)

FEMA Readiness Alert Status:



Disaster Teleregistration Activity Chart

DR	Incident Type	09/05/05	Cumulative
1605-AL	Hurricane Katrina	3,268	23,957
1604-MS	Hurricane Katrina	15,398	56,765
1603-LA	Hurricane Katrina	38,166	238,056
1599-WY	Tornado	2	219
1595-FL	Hurricane Dennis	53	39,693
1593-AL	Hurricane Dennis	16	13,826
Total		56,903	372,516

Joint Field Operations as of September 5, 2005

1589-NY
FCO: Marianne C. Jackson
Phone: 518-457-0530
Closing September 15, 2005

1591-ME
FCO: James N. Russo
Phone: 207-771-2100
Closing September 30, 2005

1593-AL
FCO: Michael Bolch
Phone: 334-270-7700

3217-TN
FCO: Paul Fay
Phone: TBD

3218-GA
FCO: Paul Fay
Phone: TBD

3219-OK
FCO: Carlos Mitchell
Phone: TBD

3221-WV
FCO: Patricia G. Arcuri
Phone: TBD

3222-NC
FCO: Paul Fay
Phone: TBD

3223-UT
FCO: Douglas A. Gore
Phone: TBD

3224-CO
FCO: Douglas A. Gore
Phone: TBD

1601-LA
FCO: Sandra Coachman
Phone: 504-613-3391

1602/1595/3220 -FL
FCO: Justin DeMello
Phone: 407-858-2000

1597-ND
FCO: Anthony Russell
Phone: 701-250-4140

1600-KS
FCO: Thomas J. Costello
Phone: 816-283-7600

1603/3212-LA
FCO: William Lokey
Phone: 940-898-5433

1604/3213-MS
FCO: William Carwile
Phone: 770-220-5600

1605/3214-AL
FCO: Ron Sherman
Phone: 334-270-7700

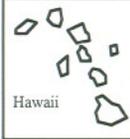
3216-TX
FCO: Gary Jones
Phone: TBD

3215-AR
FCO: Gary Jones
Phone: TBD

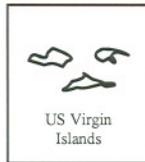
1585/1577-CA
FCO: David Fukutomi
Phone: 626-431-3000

1598-UT
FCO: Carlos Mitchell
Phone: 801-578-4000

1599-WY
FCO: Michael Karl
Phone: 307-685-8600



- Open Joint Field Office
- Emergency Declaration
- Governor's request received
- PDAs



FEMA NRCC Graphic

The FEMA National Situation Report is prepared by the FEMA National Response Coordination Center (NRCC). Questions can be addressed to NRCC watch officers via phone at 202-646-2828/4541 (staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week), via fax at 202-646-4617, or via e-mail at FEMA-NRCC@dhs.gov.