

Medford Interagency Communications Center



2005 Year End Report

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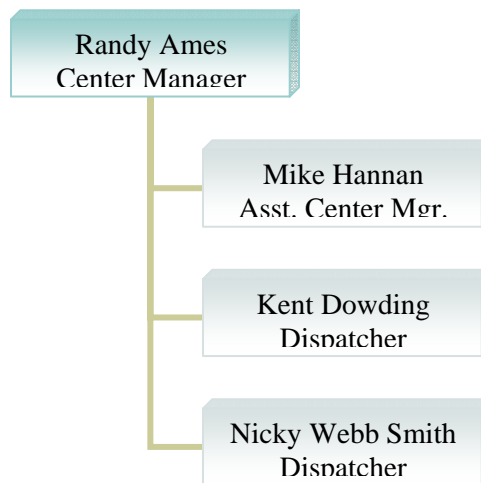
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Medford Interagency Communications Center

Organization



Oversight of the Medford Interagency Communications Center (MICC) is provided by Tom Murphy, Medford District BLM Fire Management Officer, and Charlie Phenix, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest Assistant Fire Management Officer.

During the 2005 Season, Nicky had the opportunity to accept a detail to the Region 6 Training Center in Redmond to assist, due to a staffing shortage. To fill in behind Nicky, Mary Ann Ceglia, a Forest Service Employee from the Cascade Zone, detailed into MICC as a qualified Initial Attack dispatcher. Mary did an outstanding job, and her help was greatly appreciated. BLM employees Mike Alexander and Vicky Whiteaker also worked for MICC during the Fire Season and did a great job performing

support duties for the Center. In July, Randy Ames was hired as the Center Manager. Randy came from the Klamath National Forest, where he was the Assistant Center Manager at the Yreka Interagency Communication Center.

Fire Season

The Official start of Fire Season was June 27th, using data from the Medford Weather Center the 2005 year began with precipitation totals at 104% of normal (18.37 inches) or a total of 19.09 inches. Precipitation from January 1st 2005 till the start of June was 9.48 inches or 98% of normal for the period. The first fire on the Forest was on April 23rd. Caused by lightning, igniting two fires on the Siskiyou Fire Zone, and where contained at .2 acres total. The Siskiyou and Cascade Fire Zones had a total of 15 fires burning 268.3 acres with the largest, the Wasson Fire, which started on Private land and spread onto BLM and Forest Service Lands. The fire consumed 519 acres on Private, 727 acres on the Butte Falls Resource Area and 264 acres of Forest land on the Cascade Fire Zone for a total of 1510 acres. The 10 year average (1995 - 2005) for the Forest is 52 fires/year burning a average of 673.26 acres/year.

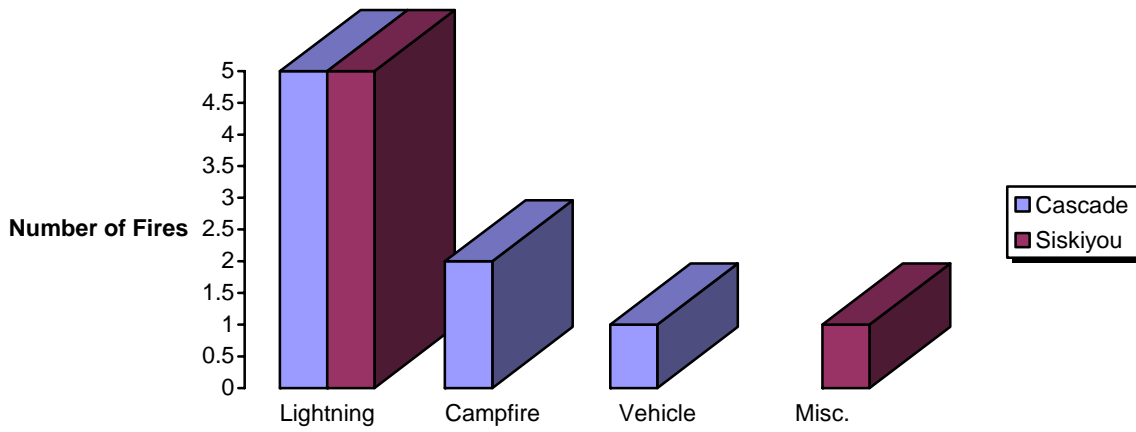
The Medford District BLM lands experienced 28 fires burning 2,678.76 acres. The area had three large fires, the Wasson, as mentioned above, the Deer Fire which started on Private lands and burned onto the BLM Grants Pass Resource Unit. The Deer Fire burned 266 acres of BLM lands. The largest fire of the season, the Blossom fire, started on the Pacific Fire Zone and spread to BLM lands on the Glendale Resource Unit. The Fire burned a total of 13,453.3 acres with 1675 acres of this on BLM.

Fire Statistics – Forest Service

Number of Fires by Cause

<i>Unit</i>	<i>Lightning</i>	<i>Campfire</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Misc.</i>	<i>Totals</i>
<i>Cascade</i>	5	2	1	1	9
<i>Siskiyou</i>	5			1	6
<i>Totals</i>	10	2	1	2	15

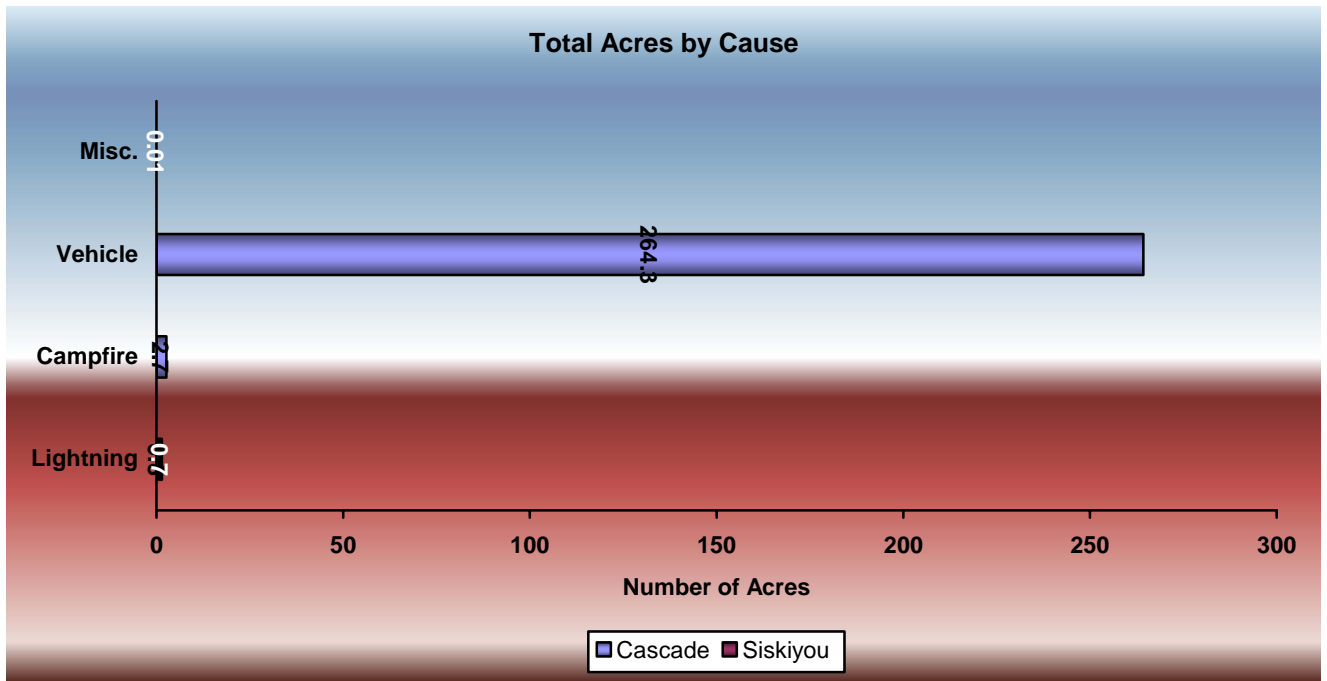
Number of Fires By Cause



Fire Statistics – Forest Service

Total Acres by Cause

<i>Unit</i>	<i>Lightning</i>	<i>Camp Fire</i>	<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Misc.</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Cascade</i>	.8	2.7	264.3		267.8
<i>Siskiyou</i>	.7			.01	.71
<i>Totals</i>	1.5	2.7	264.3	.01	268.5

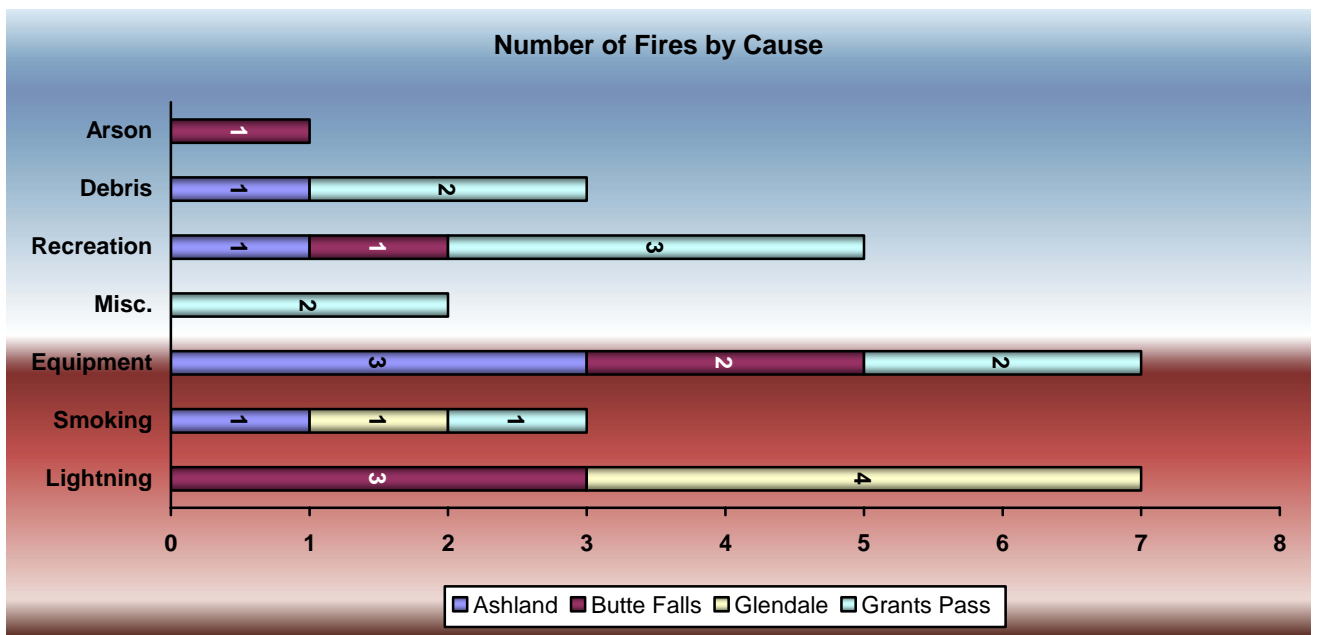


Fire Statistics – Bureau of Land Management

Number of Fires by Cause

Cause	Ashland	Butte Falls	Glendale	Grants Pass	Total
Lightning		3	4		7

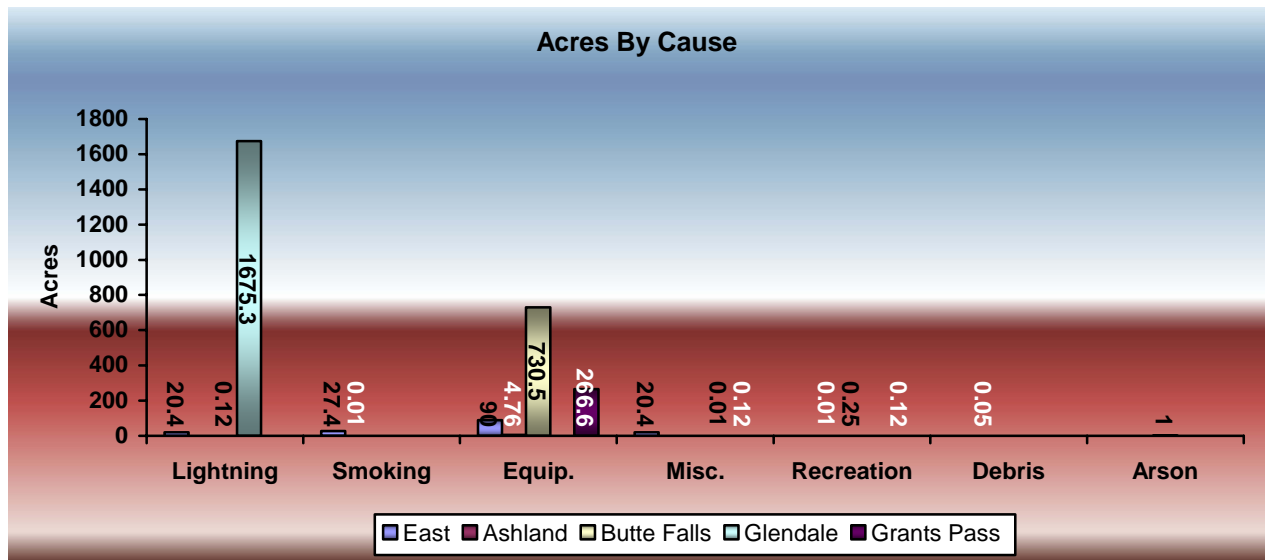
Smoking	1			1	2
Equipment	3	2		2	7
Misc.			1	2	3
Recreation	1	1		3	5
Debris	1			2	3
Arson		1			1
Total	6	7	5	10	28



Fire Statistics – Bureau of Land Management

Total Acres by Cause

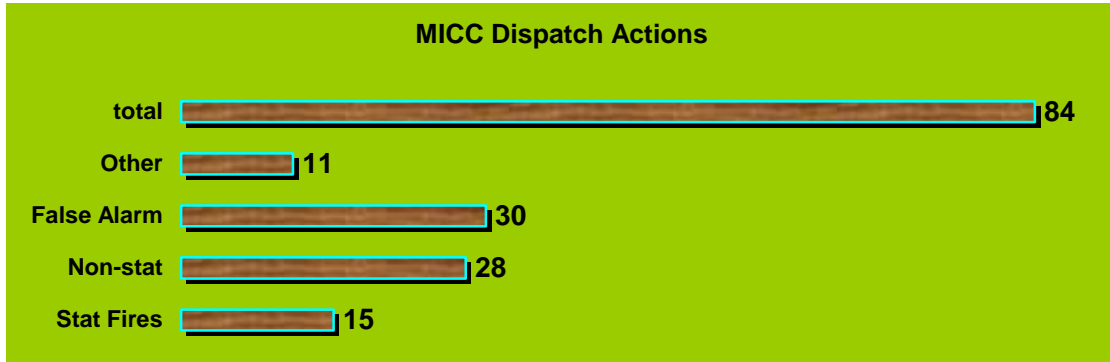
Cause	Ashland	Butte Falls	Glendale	Grants Pass	Total
Lightning		.12	1675.3		1675.42
Smoking	.01				.02
Equip.	4.76	730.5		266.6	1001.86
Misc.			.01	.12	.13
Recreation	.01	.25		.12	.38
Debris	.05				.05
Arson		1.0			1.0
Total	4.83	731.87	1675.31	266.85	2678.86



Dispatch Actions

MICC processed 84 total Dispatch Action Records throughout the year. The total included, fires on the Forest, mutual aid fires with Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) on Private and BLM

lands, non-stat fires and false alarms. Made notifications to appropriate Dispatch Offices of fires reported on neighboring lands. The Center also took action on other types of incidents.



Resources

MICC is the host dispatch center for a number of resources from the Forest service (FS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Weather Service (NWS), and a number of contract companies that provide various resources such as aircraft, crews, engines and water tenders. The following is a list of local resources available.

- 4 Agency Engines (FS)*
- 6 Agency Engines (BLM)*
- 31 Contract Type II Crews*
- 23 Contract Engines*
- 12 Contract Water Tenders*
- 191 Agency Personnel (FS)*
- 187 Agency Personnel (BLM)*
- 16 A.D. Personnel (FS Hired)*
- 4 A.D. Personnel (BLM Hired)*
- 7 Contract Helicopters*
- 4 Contract Fixed-wing Aircraft*
- 1 Contract Air Tanker with Aerial Supervision Module (ODF)*

Number of Requests Filled / Resources Dispatched

- 540 Overhead*
- 24 Type I Agency Crews*
- 1 Type II Agency Crews*
- 66 Type II Contract Crews*
- 19 Type 3,4,5, or 6 Agency Engines*
- 38 Type 3,4,5, or 6 Contract Engines*
- 20 Type 2 or 3 Contract Water Tenders*
- 13 Tactical Aircraft Request*
 - 2 Air Tanker Requests*
 - 11 Helicopter Requests*

Other Logistical Requests Processed

66 *Airline Reservations for Overhead and Crew Personnel*

Agency Firefighter Days on Assignment

Overhead Resources processed through MICC spent a total of 5,820 Firefighter Days on assignments. The following is a breakdown of Firefighter Days by Zone/Resource Area.

2,311 Rogue River N.F. Firefighter Days

1,093 Cascade Zone (Includes IHC)

802 Siskiyou Zone

210 Supervisor's Office

81 J. Herbert Stone Nursery

2,484 Medford District BLM Firefighter Days

675 Ashland Resource Area

548 Grants Pass Resource Area

585 Glendale Resource Area

239 Butte Falls Resource Area

312 Operations

125 District Manager Staff

1025 AD's and National and National Weather Service

Fuels Management

MICC supports the Medford BLM Resource Area Fuels groups and the Cascade and Siskiyou Fire Zones of the Roger River-Siskiyou National Forest Prescribed Fire programs. In 2005 the BLM units treated 7,000 acres and the Forest treated 3,696 acres (110% of total target) . These acres consisted of various methods of prescribed burning for both Hazard Reduction and Activity Fuels. MICC is responsible for gathering information from each unit and compiling a list of planned and accomplished acres that are entered into the Regional SIT Report. The planned burning information is compiled into a document that is sent out daily by MICC to a large group of individuals and agencies notifying them of burning projects for the next day. MICC also supports the burning operations by providing communications, area weather forecast, spot weather forecast, and ordering resources needed to accomplish the burning projects.

Employee Safety

MICC provides for daily tracking of BLM personnel, the Center is required to account for every field-going BLM employee.

The employee checks in with dispatch via phone, radio, or computer (In-Out Board, which is an internet based system).

MICC is responsible to account for all in field personnel prior to the close of business each day. Personnel returning after hours are required to check-in with Jackson County 911 Center. A list is provided to 911 each evening by MICC, of personnel still out after closing, with their planned ETA's. the 911 Center calls the MICC on duty Dispatcher if no contact is made with the employee at their expected return time. Call sown and search procedures are in place for when an employee is more than 15 minutes late. Depending on the time of year, MICC may track from 5 to 100 personnel checked out to the field on a daily basis.