



Indiana Department of Homeland Security

District Programs Information Bulletin

Date: July 7, 2012

Bulletin No: 12-006

TO: All District Administrative Coordinators
All District Coordinators
All District Fiscal Agents
All District Planning Council Members
All District Planning Oversight Committee Members
All District Response Task Force Commanders
All Emergency Management Directors

From: Mark Livingston
District Capabilities Director, Field Division
Indiana Department of Homeland Security

Subject: Significant Wildland Fire Threat in Indiana through October; Online Wildland Fire Training through USFA; Assessment of Available Resources

Purpose

This information bulletin is being published in order to inform IDHS's emergency management partners of the present and future wildland fire threat, across the State of Indiana, now through October 2012. In light of all of the wildland fire resources that have been deployed out of state this year, Indiana's in-state wildland fire capability may be diminished. As a result, it is possible that the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and several of its state partners may call upon district response task force resources, in the event of a significant fire in Indiana.

Task force personnel, emergency managers, and other public safety partners are encouraged to take advantage of free training offered by the United State Fire Administration (USFA). Recommended courses include S-190 – Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior, and S-130 – Firefighter Training (see www.NFAonline.dhs.gov). Both courses are self-paced and available online. Additional resources about Indiana fire management are located at the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry's, Fire Management page at: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/2852.htm>. In addition, the IDHS has provided wildland fire safety videos at: <http://www.in.gov/dhs/3642.htm>.

In addition to the training opportunities listed above, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security is encouraging all District Response Task Force Commanders and Fire Suppression Group Supervisors to begin evaluating the available, local resources particular to wildland fire operations (e.g. water tenders, brush trucks, etc.) for the benefit of each task force.

This Informational Bulletin is intended to communicate guidance and clarification of District Programs. The information contained herein supersedes all previous information or guidance pertaining to the subject. This information is intended to help districts plan, prepare, take appropriate actions and collaborate. Any questions pertaining to this bulletin may be directed to the Field Services Division at 317-234-7228. To be added to the District Informational Bulletins distribution list, please send an email to fieldservices@dhs.in.gov.

Background

The Indiana Departments of Natural Resources and Forestry and the State Fire Marshal's Office, a division of IDHS, have been closely monitoring weather and fuel conditions, and the potential for wildland and other types of potentially quick-spreading fire, in the State of Indiana. Indiana is currently experiencing conditions similar to other parts of the county where wildland fire operations are ongoing. With high temperatures, low levels of humidity, steady breezes, and ample fuel for fire, Indiana is at a significant risk for wildland fire. These conditions will likely remain through October.

Questions

Any questions pertaining to DRTF deployment, USFA courses, or Indiana's wildland fire threat in general, please contact Randy Collins, District Services Branch Director, Field Services Division, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, RCollins@dhs.in.gov, 317-238-1762; CC Mark Livingston at MLivingston@dhs.in.gov, 317-601-1310.