

Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

2012-04 Wildfires

SITUATION REPORT 5

1500 13 April 2012

New information in *bold italic type*

Summary: *Enhanced fire weather threat continues across Western and Northern Virginia through early evening hours of Friday, 13 April. Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) reports 9 fires burned approximately 29 acres on private land on 12 April.* Large wildfires on private property and National Forest land:

- Easter Complex (5 fires managed by U.S. Forest Service Regional Incident Management Team)
 - Page County, Shipwreck Fire: ***acreage burned – 4,000; 80% contained***
 - Alleghany/Craig Counties, Barbours Creek Fire: ***acreage burned – 3,020; 40% contained***
 - Shenandoah County, Wolf Gap Fire: ***acreage burned – 600; 50% contained***
 - Alleghany/Rockbridge Counties, Rich Hole Fire: ***acreage burned – 3,681; 15% containment***
 - Alleghany County, Alleghany Tunnel Fire: ***acreage burned – 7,842; 20% contained***

VEOC Status: Increased Readiness; ***Incident Management Cadre monitoring over weekend;*** no unmet needs

Local Status/Actions:

Declarations: 4

- Bath County, 10 April
- Page County, 10 April
- Highland County, 12 April
- Rockbridge County, 10 April

Activity:

- Page County
 - Providing resources to assist VDOF protecting private property
- Shenandoah County
 - Monitoring and providing resources to keep fire from crossing State Route 675 and Forest Service Road 92; should fire cross Forest Service Road 92 plans will be initiated for evacuations of Millertown Road area and possible shelter operations
- Roanoke County
 - Providing 1 fire wagon with 6 personnel and 1 fire officer to Rockbridge County
- Floyd County
 - Providing 1 engine, 1 attack engine, 1 brush truck, 1 tanker, 1 command vehicle and 11 personnel to Rockbridge County
- Wise County

- Providing 1 engine and 1 brush truck with personnel to Rockbridge County
- Augusta County
 - Providing 1 brush truck, 1 ATV and 3 personnel to Rockbridge County
- Halifax County
 - Providing 4 personnel to Rockbridge County
- Bedford County
 - Providing 1 engine and 4 personnel to Rockbridge County
- Hampton Roads Area Task Force on scene Rockbridge County
 - City of Virginia Beach
 - 2 brush trucks, 1 tanker and 6 personnel
 - City of Suffolk
 - 4 personnel
 - City of Portsmouth
 - 1 personnel
 - City of Chesapeake
 - 1 truck, 1 bus, 1 rehab unit and 7 personnel
 - City of Newport News
 - 5 personnel
 - City of Hampton
 - 4 personnel
 - City of Williamsburg
 - 2 personnel
 - York County
 - 3 personnel

VERT:

ESF 1-Transportation:

- Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
 - Road Closures
 - Route 770, Alleghany County
 - ***Filled request from Virginia Department of Forestry for two vehicle operators***

ESF 4-Firefighting:

- Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFFP)
 - ***3 person VDFFP Mobile Incident Support Team (MIST) in Rockbridge County demobilizing***
- Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF)
 - Coordinating with USFS Regional Incident Management Team
 - Page County, Shipwreck Fire: VDOF and local resources protecting private property; ***VDOF completed burn-out operation on northern and southern portions overnight on 12 April***
 - Alleghany/Craig Counties, Barbours Creek Fire: VDOF and local resources protecting six plus miles of fire line on private property
 - Alleghany/Rockbridge Counties, Rich Hole Fire: VDOF and local resources monitoring fire line protecting private property
 - Shenandoah County, Wolf Gap Fire: VDOF and local resources protecting private property
 - Alleghany County, Alleghany Tunnel Fire: VDOF resources protecting private property

- **Request for Assistance submitted for two VDOT vehicle operators trained in Wildland Fire Operations (filled)**

ESF 5-Emergency Management (VDEM):

Local Support Services

- **Region 2 Coordinator demobilized from Page County**
- **Region 4 Coordinator and VDEM Technical Support Unit (TSU) demobilized from Rockbridge County**
- Region 6 Coordinator in Rockbridge County with Emergency Manager

Operations Support request for assistance

- Strategic Reserve assisting with wildfires
 - Harrisonburg Radio Cache
 - 25 radios supporting Page County; still available for deployment
 - Chesapeake Radio Cache
 - VHF radios provided to Hampton Roads Area Task Force

Logistics Support request for assistance and coordinate Statewide Mutual Aid (SMA) request

- SMA Requests
 - Rockbridge County (VA-S-2012-04-0002 and VA-S-2012-04-0003)
Filled and in use
 - 5 tankers, 5 engines, 5 brush trucks, 10 Level 1 Trained Firefighters

Planning Maintain situational awareness; **next State Situation Report to be issued around 1500 16 April**

ESF 15-External Affairs (VDEM):

- Conducting outreach through social media
- Coordinating activities with VDOF, VDOT, VDFP, VA National Guard, and Governor's Office

U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

- Regional Incident Management Team assumed management of fires on National Forest land on 11 April
 - **Improvements in weather conditions aiding suppression and containment efforts; fire activity still visible on all fires and smoke will be present in local areas for foreseeable future**
- USFS Resources (NICC Incident Management Situation Report 13 April)
 - **503 (+132)**
 - 13 hand crews
 - **29 engines (+5)**
 - **5 helicopters (+1)**
 - **8 dozers**
 - **12 water tenders**

Weather:

Enhanced fire danger threat across Western and Northern areas of Virginia likely to continue through weekend due to dry fuels, summer like temperatures, gusty winds, and 20-30% relative humidity values and no rain forecast

Saturday 14 April 2012 Forecast

- **Partly sunny; high temperatures low to mid 70s; low temperatures upper 40s to mid 50s; winds 5-10 mph with gusts up to 20 mph; relative humidity 20-30%**

Sunday 15 April 2012 Forecast

- ***Mostly sunny; high temperatures upper 70s to low 80s; low temperatures upper 50s to low 60s; winds 5-10 mph with gusts up to 25 mph; relative humidity 30-40%***

Monday 16 April 2012 Forecast

- ***Mostly sunny; high temperatures low to upper 80s; low temperatures mid 50s to low 60s; winds 5-10 mph with gusts up to 20 mph; relative humidity 30-40%***

Prepared by: Mike Gray, VERT Plans Chief
Authority: Jack King, Deputy State Coordinator
Approved: Michael Nelson, VERT Coordinator