



2018 NIROPS National Summary

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National Infrared Program Manager
October 23, 2018
NIROPS Closeout, NIFC, Boise

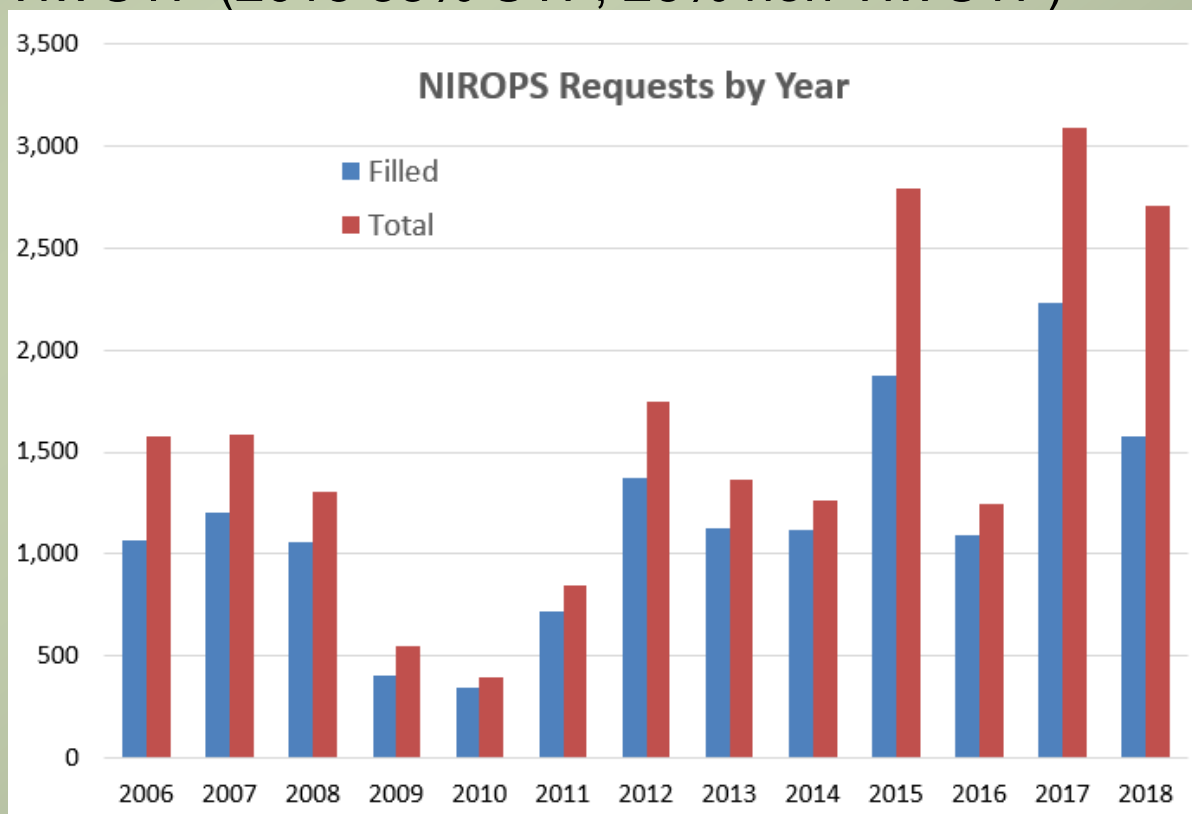
2018 –

- 7.74 million acres burned as of Oct 5th, 129% of the ten year average (2008-2017)
- Went to PL4 on July 22, dropped to PL3 on September 8
- Included 35 days at PL5
- Early start – April 13 in AZ & NM
- End – ?

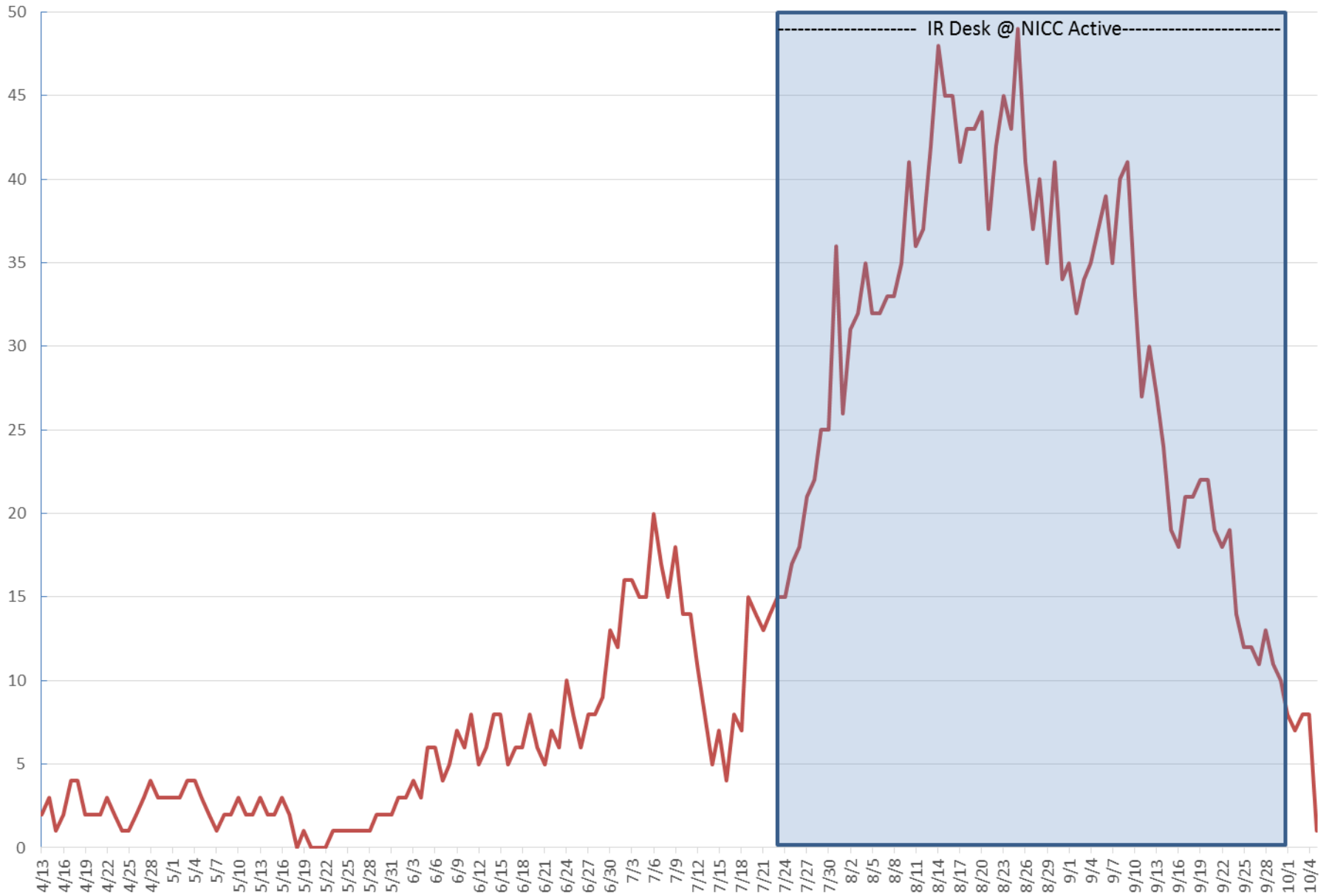


2018 NIROPS Requests

- 2,705 total requests with 1,574 filled
 - 10 yr avg (2008-2017) 1,461 requests and 1,136 filled
 - 5 yr avg (2013-2017) 1,952 requests and 1,490 filled
 - 42% UTF rate, 33% non-Wx UTF (2015 33% UTF, 26% non-Wx UTF)
 - Aircraft 3 filled
- 15% of missions
(13% in 2017)



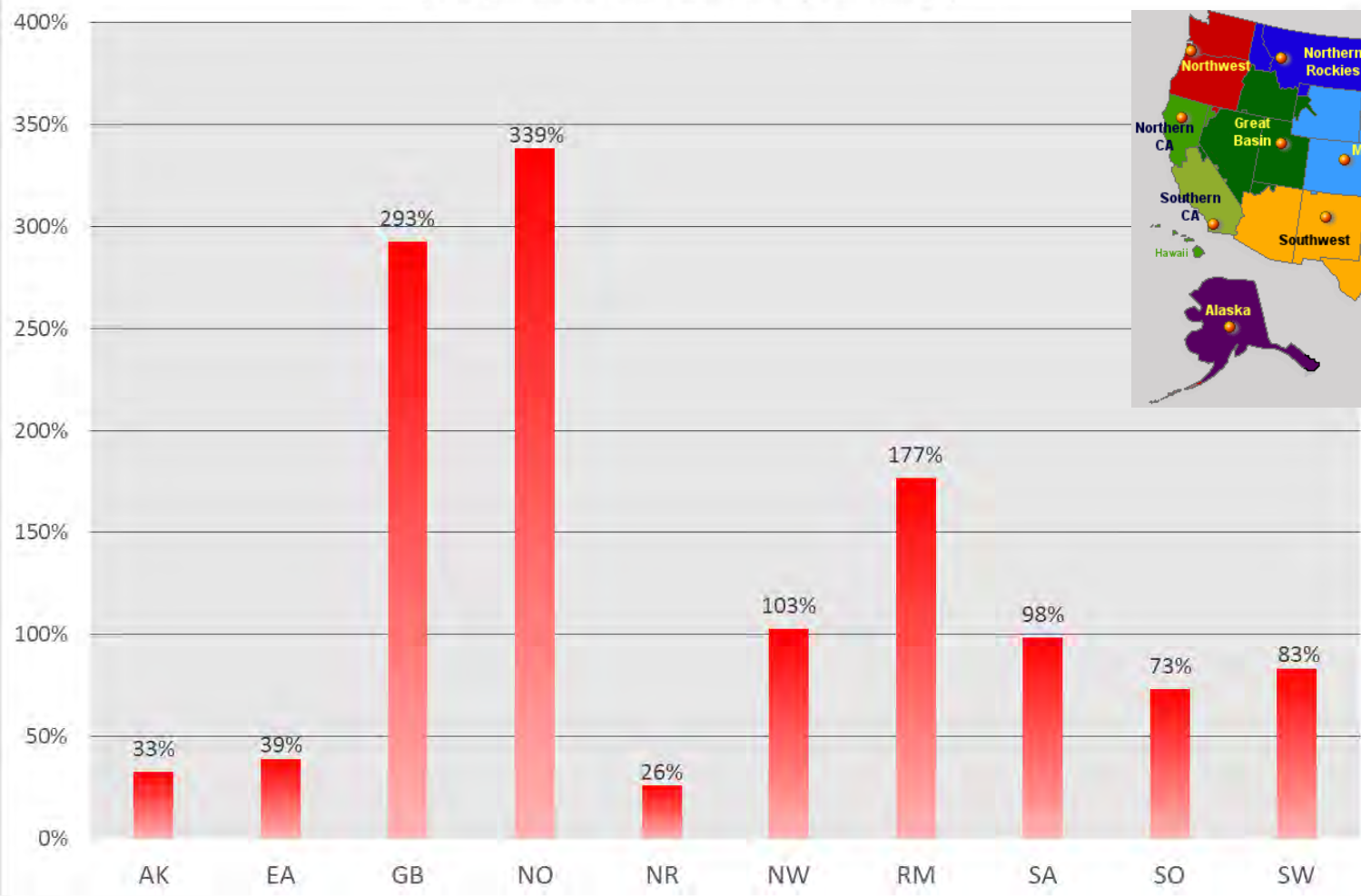
NIROPS requests, 4/13 - 10/5, 2018





Fire Activity by GACC

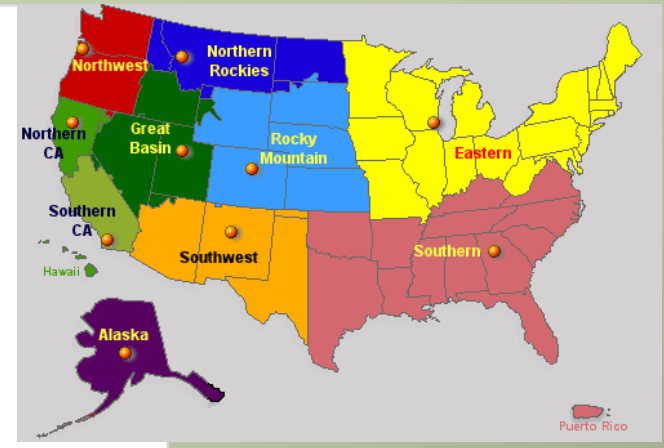
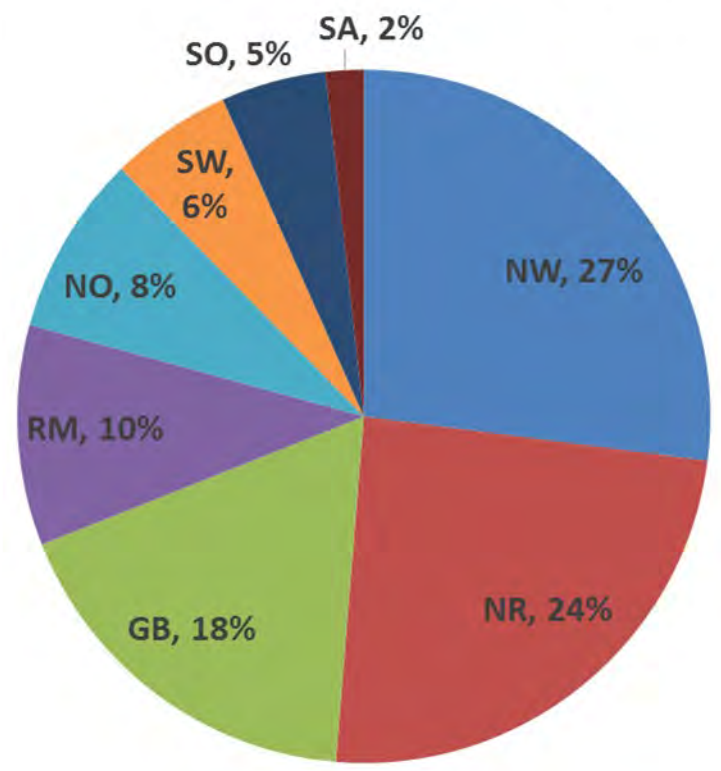
Acres Burned by GACC - 2018 (as of Oct 5)
(as a percent of each GACC's 10-year average)





2018 – Orders by GACC

Percent of NIROPS orders by GACC



Busiest Night – 8/23/18, 40 Fires

● N144Z (30 fires)

- Monument, Brownstone, Davis, Goldstone, Whale Butte, Howe Ridge, Paola Ridge, Coal Ridge, Wigwam, Sterling Cx, Beaver Creek, Gold Hill (MT)
- Cougar, Surprise Creek, Rabbit Foot, Copper Mtn, Smith Creek, Rampike, Bible Back, Stewart Creek, Kiwah (ID)
- Bannock Lakes, Cougar Creek, Horns Mtn, Crescent Mtn, McLeod, Holman, Boyds, Wrong Creek, Miriam (WA)

● N149Z (9 fires)

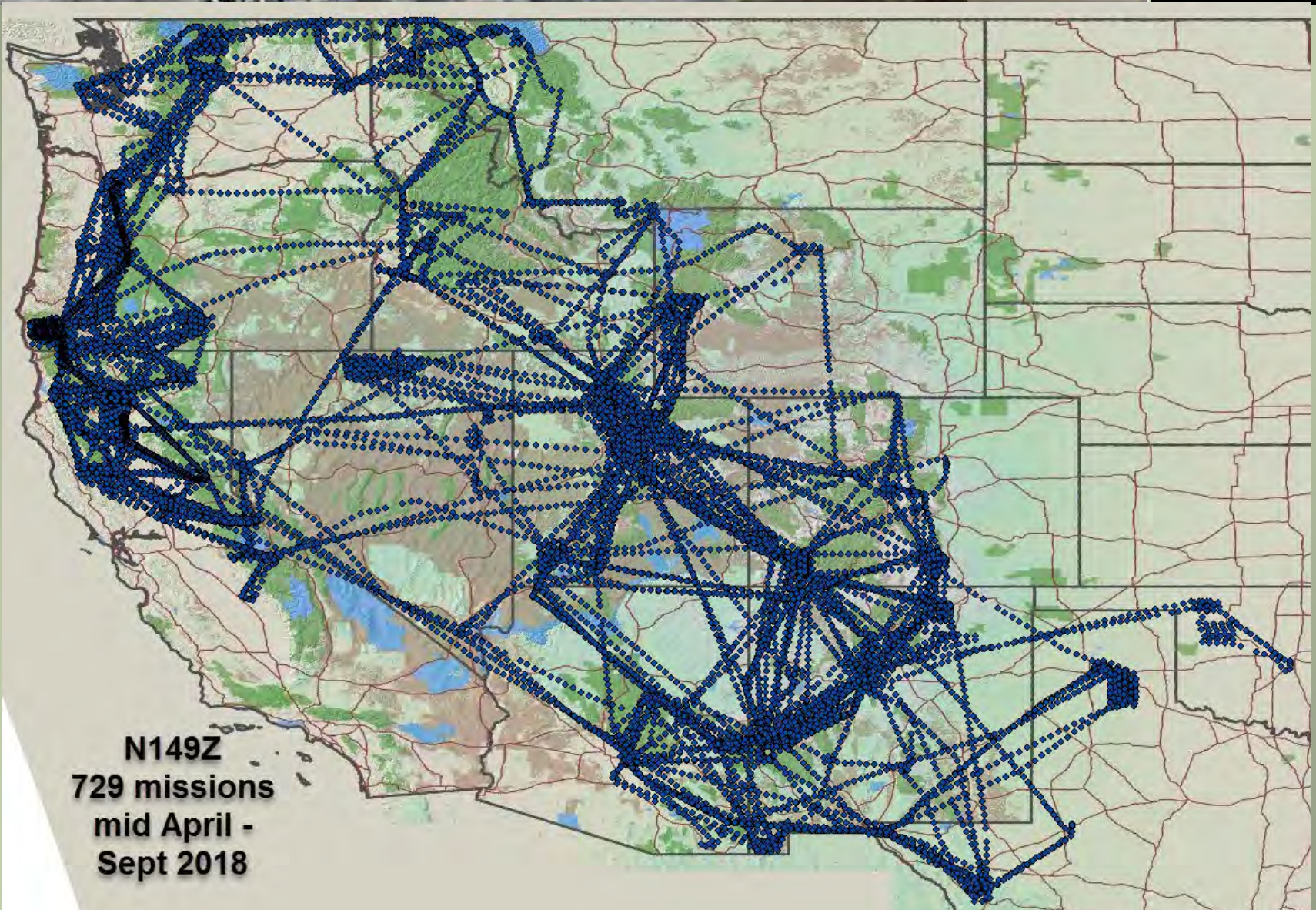
- Taylor Creek (OR)
- Ramsey Canyon (OR)
- Natchez (OR)
- Terwilliger (OR)
- Miles (OR)
- Stone (CA)
- Mendocino Cx (CA)
- Hirz (CA)
- Mill Creek 1 (CA)

● Aircraft 3 (1 fire)

- Watson Creek (OR)

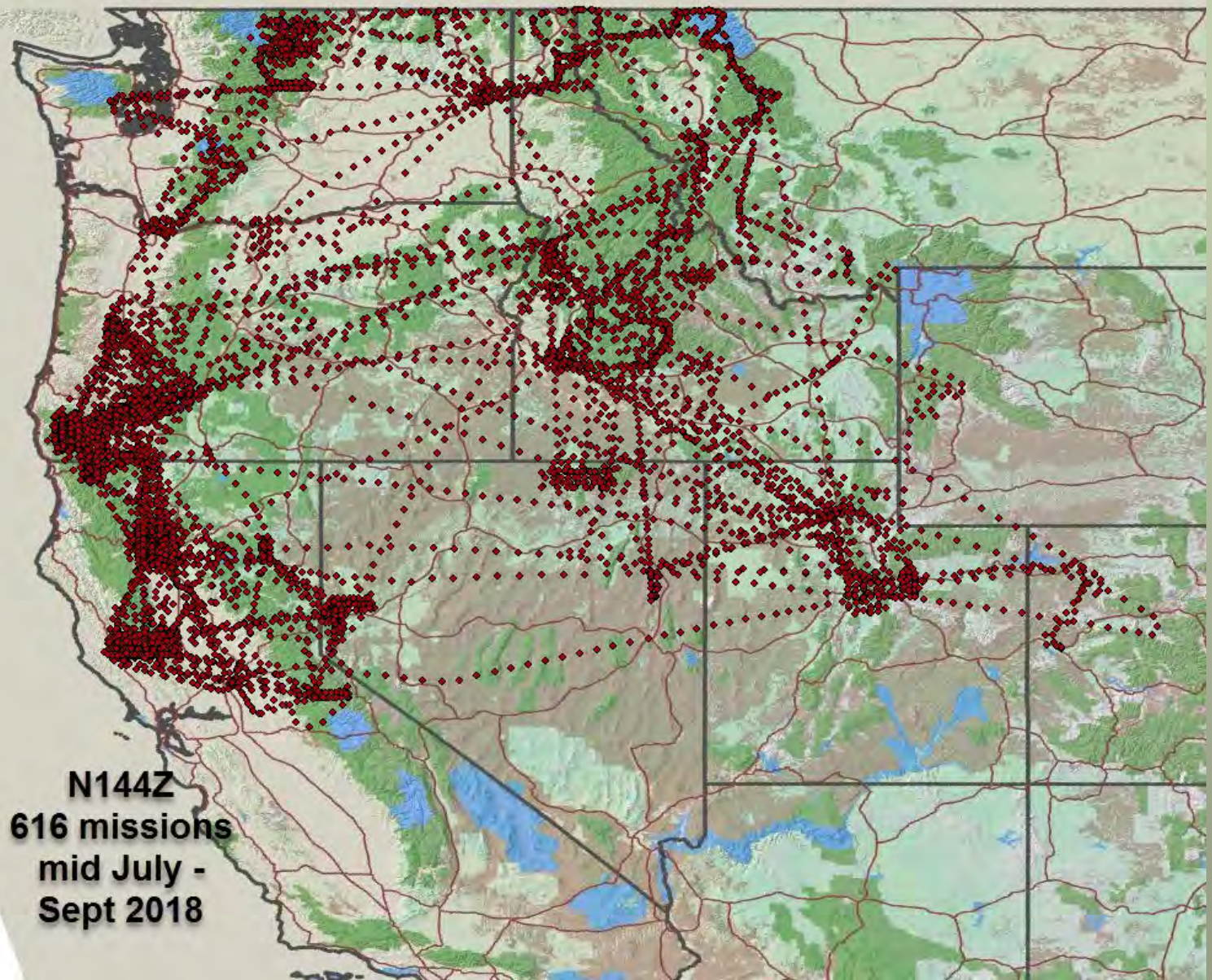
2017 Busiest night was 9/1 with 48 fires flown,
29 by 144Z, 13 by 149Z, 6 by AC3

NATIONAL INFRARED OPERATIONS



N149Z
729 missions
mid April -
Sept 2018

NATIONAL INFRARED OPERATIONS



N144Z
616 missions
mid July -
Sept 2018



UTFs (Unable to Fill)

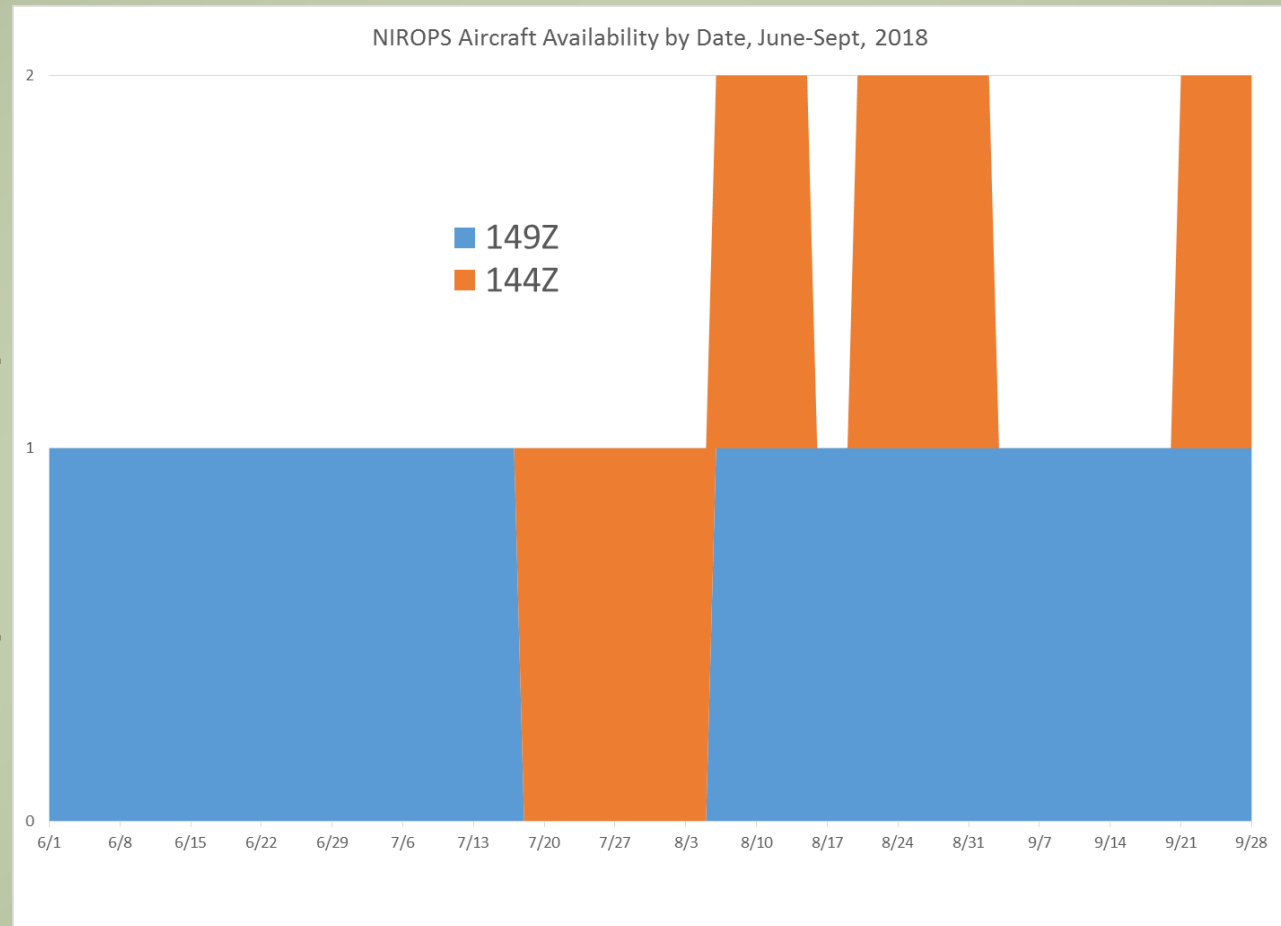
- 1,061 total UTFs (NIROPS only)
- UTF rate drops from 42% to 33% when weather UTFs are not counted
- UTF for Aircraft 3 - 23% (18% non-weather)





1 vs 2 Planes

- 31 nights with both planes flying from June thru Sept
- 1 plane
 - 47% UTF
 - 39% non-Wx UTF
- 2 planes
 - 31% UTF
 - 18% non-Wx UTF

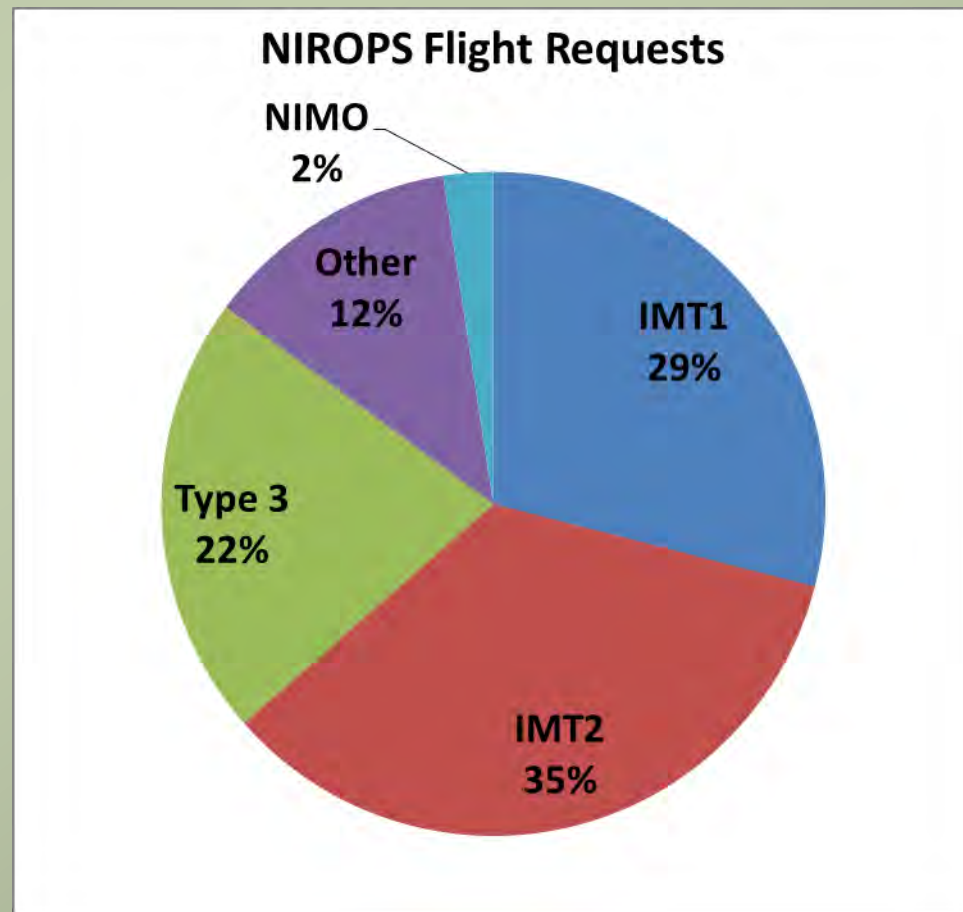




Who is Requesting?

- 87 orders did not fill out (out of 2,724)
- Prioritization is key

Team Type	non-weather UTF rate
Other	44%
Type 3	46%
Type 2	28%
Type 1	21%
NIMO	22%



Prioritization of fires for IR

- Type of team assigned – Type 1, 2, 3, etc.
- Values at risk, WUI, evacuations
- Priority listings in National IMSR
- GACC priority listings
- ★ Geographic location and grouping of fires ★
- Activity during the day
 - Satellite fire detections – MODIS, VIIRS
 - Plume activity – visible satellite
- Consultation with NICC
- Heat detected from previous NIROPS flights
- Expected weather over incident
- Feedback from IRINs

Extended Support to numerous incidents

- Natchez (OR) – 63 flights
- Mendocino Complex (CA) – 38 flights
- Hendrix (OR) – 33 flights
- 416 (CO) – 32 flights
- Klondike (OR) – 31 flights
- Garner Complex (OR) – 29 flights
- Hirz (CA) – 28 flights
- Ferguson (CA) – 28 flights
- Crescent Mountain (WA) – 28 flights
- Cougar Creek – 27 (WA)



It Takes a Team!

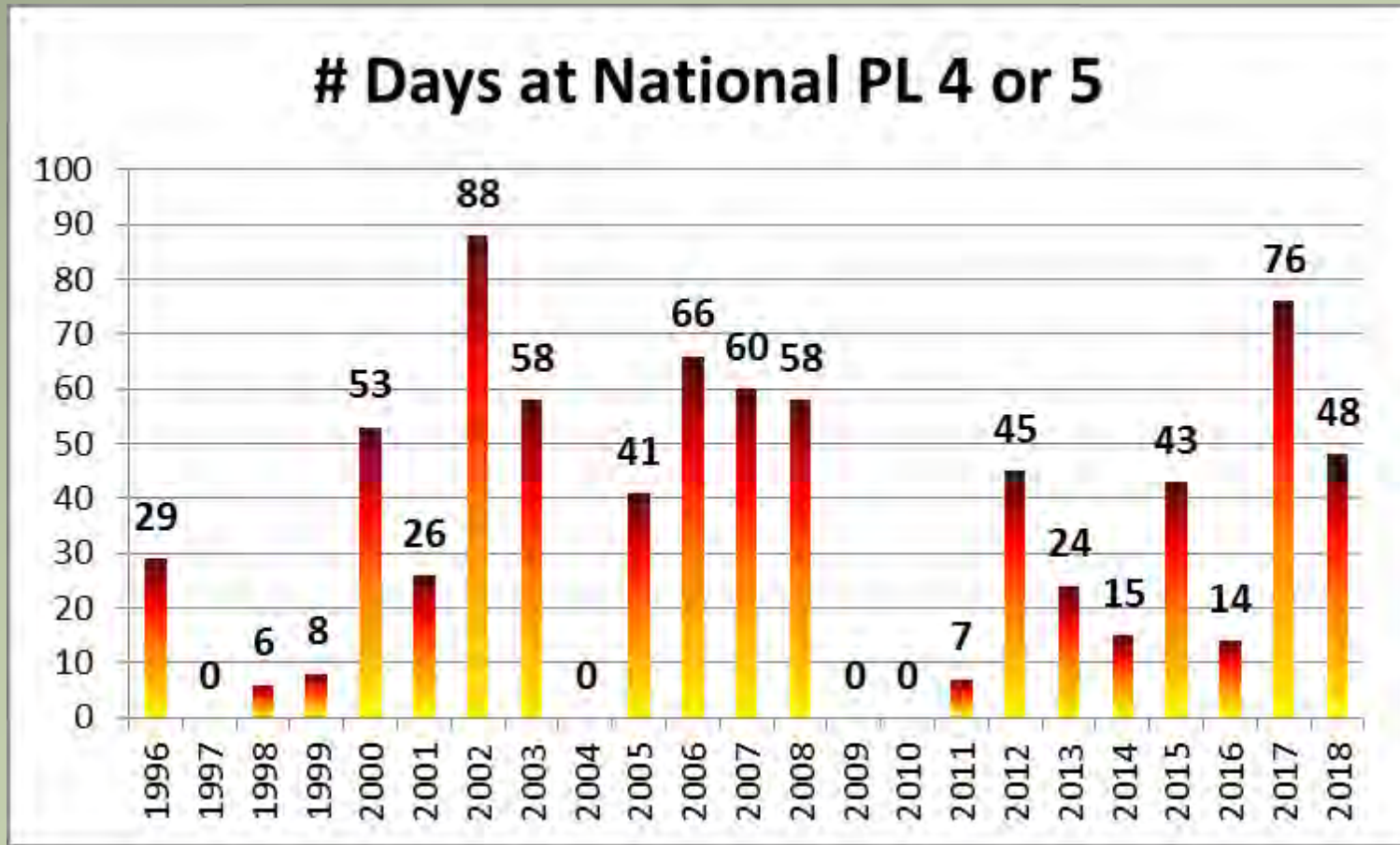
- IR Techs - 9 person rotation
- Pilots – 3 FS fulltime
- 42 different IRINs, 2 trainees got assignments
- National IR desk staffed from 7/22 to 10/1 by 3 different IRCNs
- Aircraft 3 (Firehawk) coverage key during maintenance on NIROPS aircraft- AC3 liaison at GTAC and NGA/USGS/FS analysts
- R4 Aviation maintenance crew

Takeaways from 2018

- Aircraft 3 support has been substantially reduced
- Planes are getting older every year!
 - 149Z – 34 years old (1985)
 - 144Z – 18 years old (2001)
- Coordination with other IR resources is key
 - DRTI, MMA, Owyhee Air, AA51
 - Doesn't usually reduce NIROPS requests
- Other IR resources are complementary to NIROPS but don't replace our capacity and products



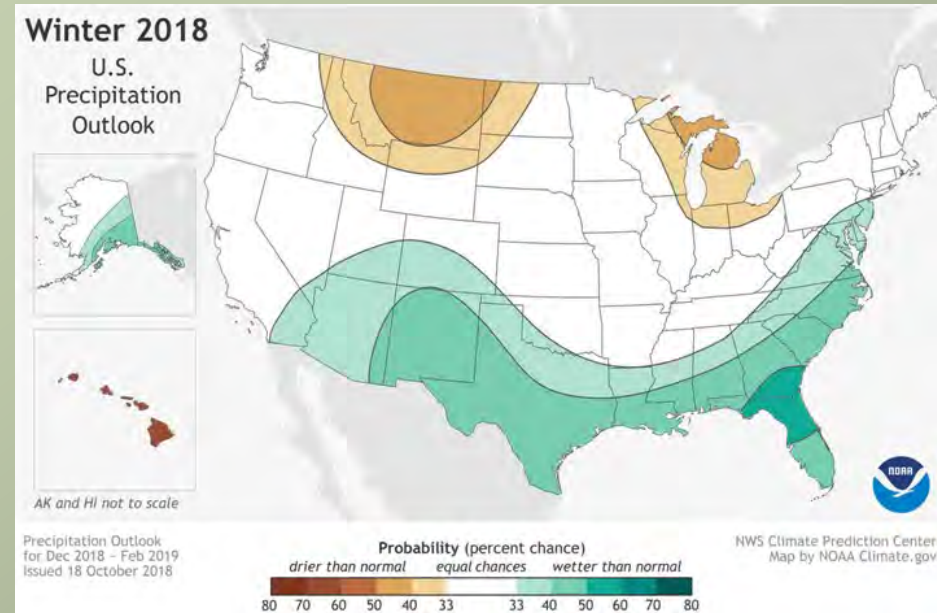
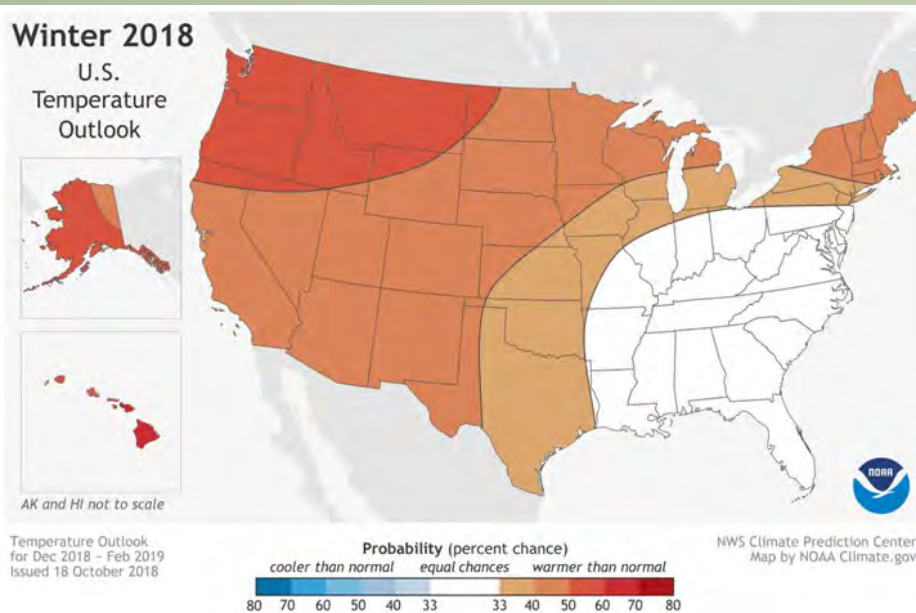
Next Year?.....





Looking ahead to 2019

- Most forecasts call for weak El Niño
- Monitor fire activity and try to maintain one system in ready status



Get ready for next year!

Whiskeytown
Lake

Downtown
Redding

Carr Fire, 0034 MDT, July 27 2018

