



2011 NIROPS Season and a Look at 2012

March 20, 2012
Spring TFRSAC Meeting



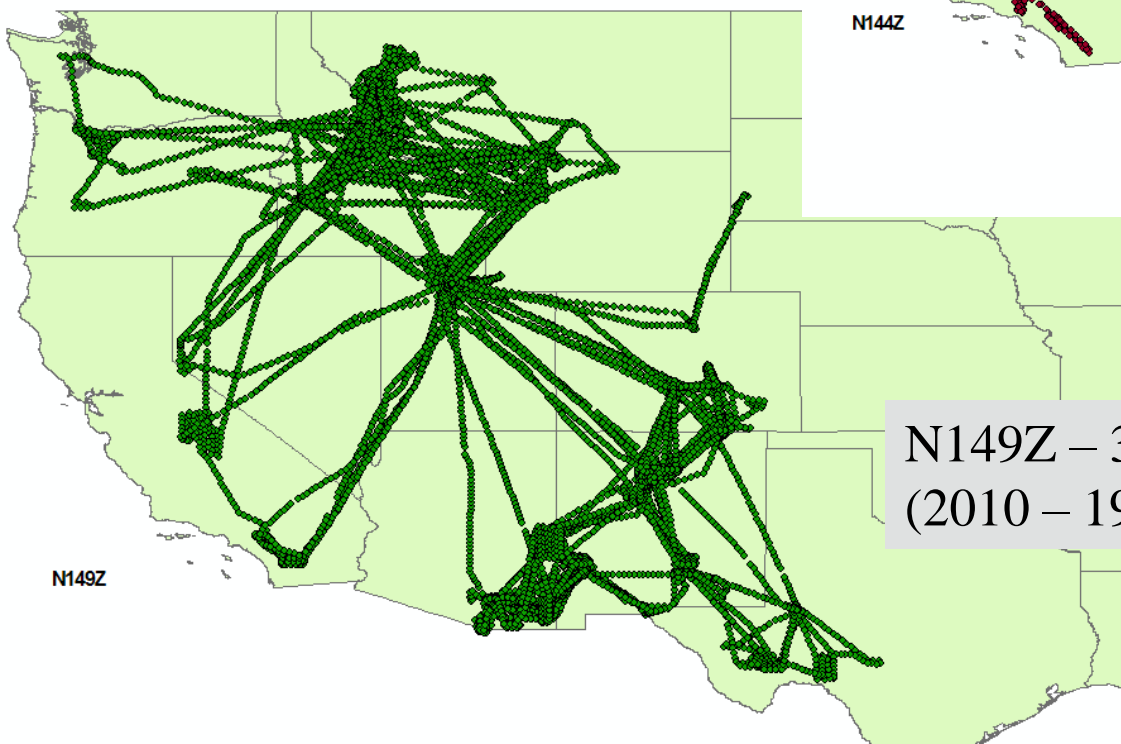
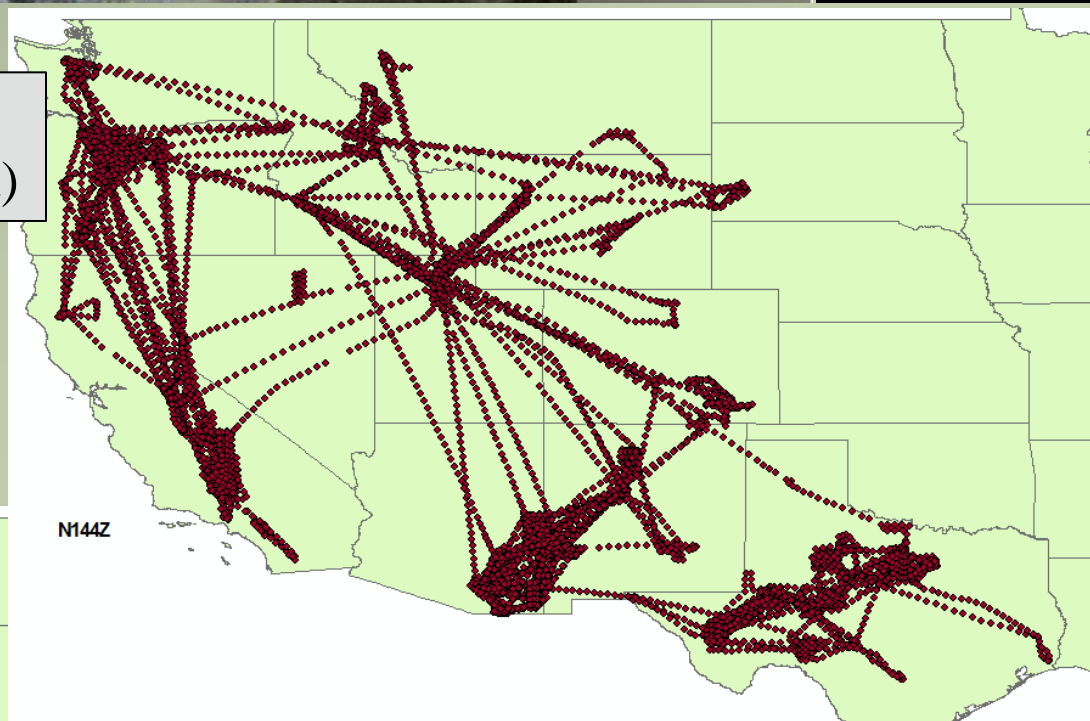
2011

- What does a mild(?) fire season look like for NIROPS?

NATIONAL INFRARED OPERATIONS



N144Z – 306 requests filled in 2011
(2010 – 142 filled, 2007 – 633 filled)



N149Z – 346 requests filled in 2011
(2010 – 197 filled, 2007 – 849 filled)

NATIONAL INFRARED OPERATIONS



People are watching



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Select an Incident
Select a state


Incidents > New Mexico > Santa Fe National Forest > Las Conchas > Maps

Las Conchas Maps


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Google Earth Image 7-21-11




IR Map 7-21-11




Google Earth Image 7-20-11



IR Map 7-20-11




IR Map 07-19-2011



IR Map 07-18-2011

UNIT INFORMATION

Santa Fe National Forest
U.S. Forest Service
11 Forest Lane
Santa Fe, NM 87508



INCIDENT CONTACT

Santa Fe National Forest
Phone: 505-438-5300

RECENT ARTICLES

Santa Fe NF Assessing Las Conchas Fire Area Road Safety
News - 8/2/2011

Las Conchas BAER Implementation Update 08-02-11
Announcement - 8/2/2011

Las Conchas and Pacheco Fire Reaches Full Containment 8-1-11
News - 8/1/2011

Las Conchas BAER Implementation Update 08-01-11
Announcement - 8/1/2011

RELATED INCIDENT LINKS

- [Las Conchas Fire Photos](#)
- [New Mexico Department of Health](#)
- [United States Fish and Wildlife Service](#)
- [Las Conchas Fire Photos Fire Photos 2](#)
- [Smoke Monitoring Report](#)
- [Air Quality Bureau](#)
- [Smoke Advisory](#)
- [Flight Restrictions](#)
- [Atencion Para Espanol](#)
- [New Mexico Fire Closures and Restriction](#)
- [Las Conchas Fire Photos 4](#)
- [Nasa Earth Observations of The Fire](#)
- [Los Alamos National Laboratory Photos](#)
- [United States Forest Service](#)
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NEWSWIRE

Technology, innovation
and cracking the job-

Southwest fire center battles worst blazes in 28 years

BY BOB BREWIN 06/23/2011

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - At the Southwest Coordination Center, nerve center for federal, state and local response to forest fires in Arizona and New Mexico, managers are using a variety of software programs and information technology tools to help juggle resources to battle blazes during the worst fire season in nearly three decades.

The hot spot imagery used by the fire decision support center team is collected by the Forest Service National Infrared Program office, also located here. The program operates two aircraft, a Cessna Citation jet and a Beechcraft turboprop King Air, each equipped with the aptly named [Phoenix airborne infrared fire detection and mapping system](#).

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Aircraft used in bid to map Wallow Fire

by [William Hermann](#) - Jun. 19, 2011 12:00 AM
The Arizona Republic

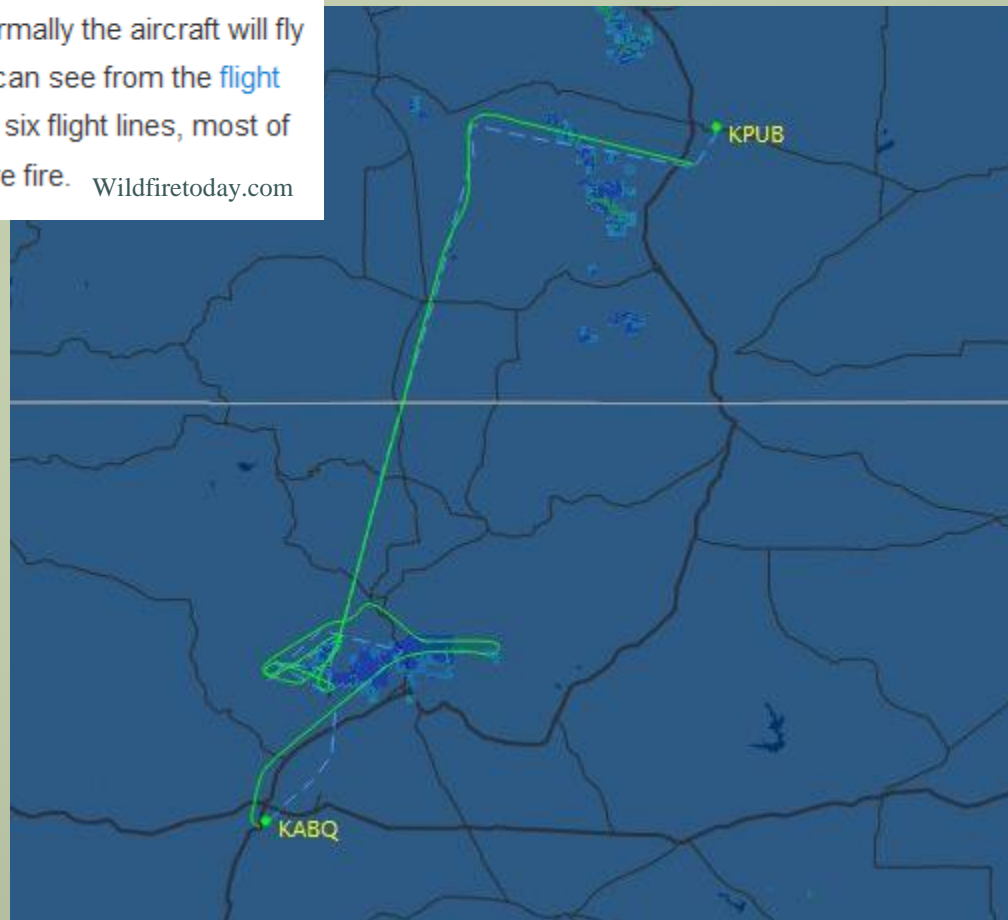
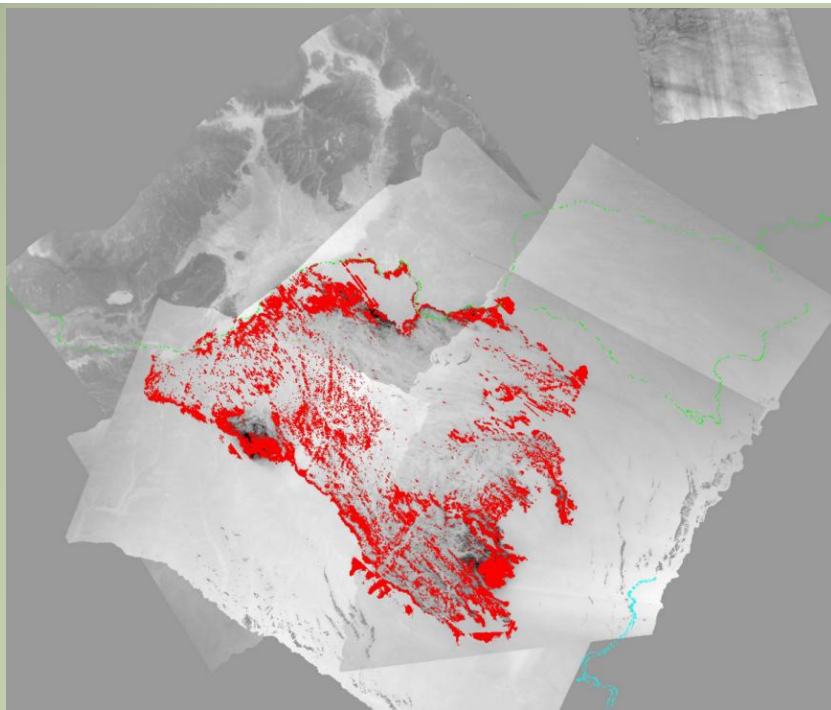
While Kazimir monitors and adjusts his instruments, a Forest Service pilot like Dan Johnson flies the plane. He said an aircraft typically used to fly over big fires like the Wallow and the Horseshoe Two fire in southeastern Arizona is a Beechcraft King Air 200, a twin-turboprop often used as a corporate plane.

NATIONAL INFRARED OPERATIONS

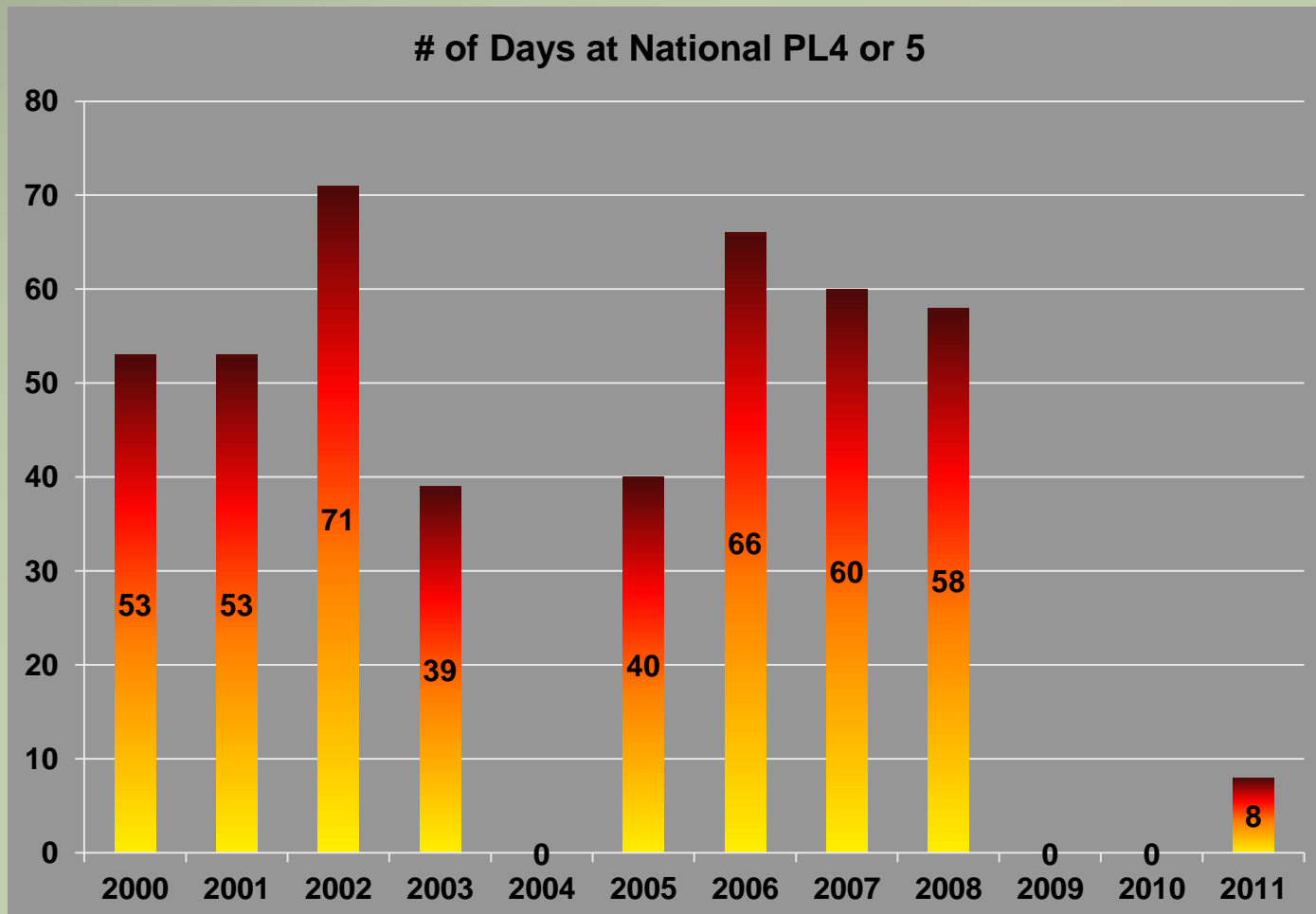


Las Conchas Fire – grew to 43,600 acres in 10 hours

Even at 3:00 a.m., when most self-respecting fires take a break and lay down for the night, the Las Conchas fire was still burning so hot very early Monday morning that the convection column of smoke and hot gasses made it very difficult for the infrared aircraft, N149Z, a King Air 200, to fly over the fire to collect the imagery. Normally the aircraft will fly nice, neat, orderly parallel flight lines spaced equidistantly, as you can see from the [flight tracks of infrared missions we posted in 2008](#). Last night they flew six flight lines, most of them in different directions, but they successfully mapped the entire fire. Wildfiretoday.com

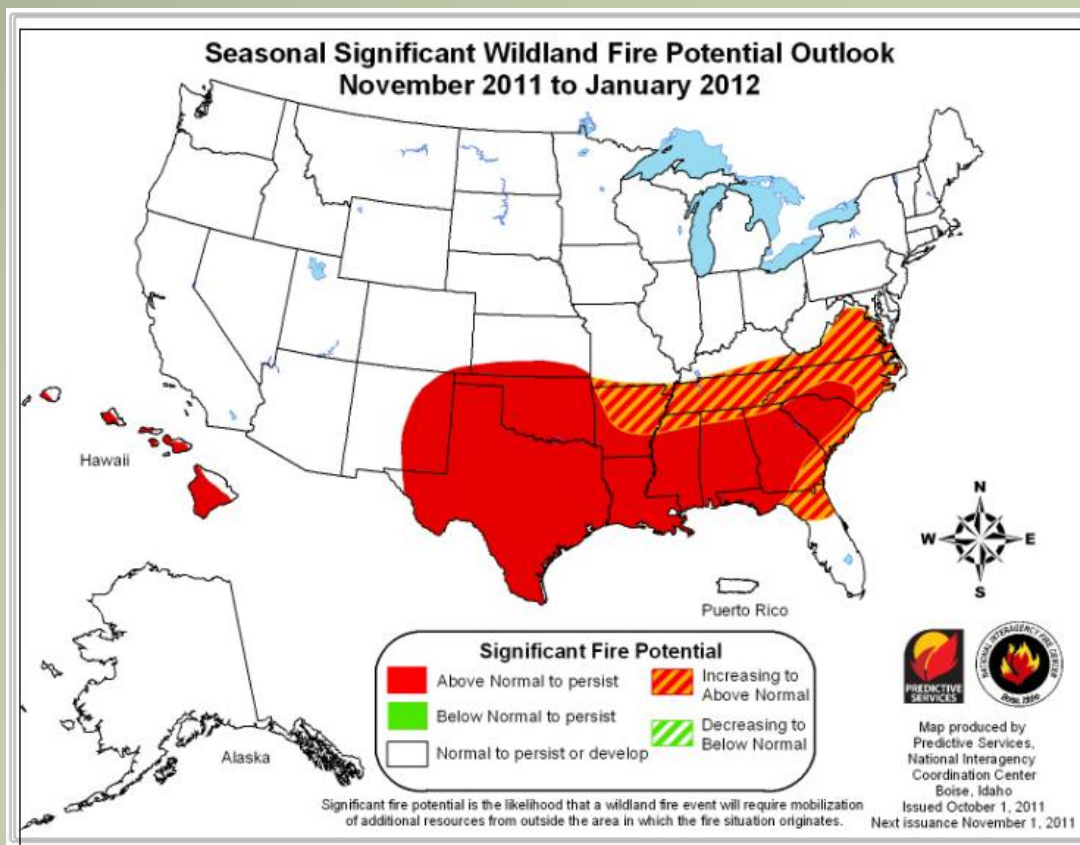


Next Year?.....



Next Year?.....

“**La Niña:** La Niña conditions have redeveloped, as evidenced by a marked cooling of the equatorial Pacific. It is not unusual to have a second La Niña after one of such magnitude as the 2010-11 event. However, the impacts may be greater given the degree of drought across much of the south central and southeastern U.S.”

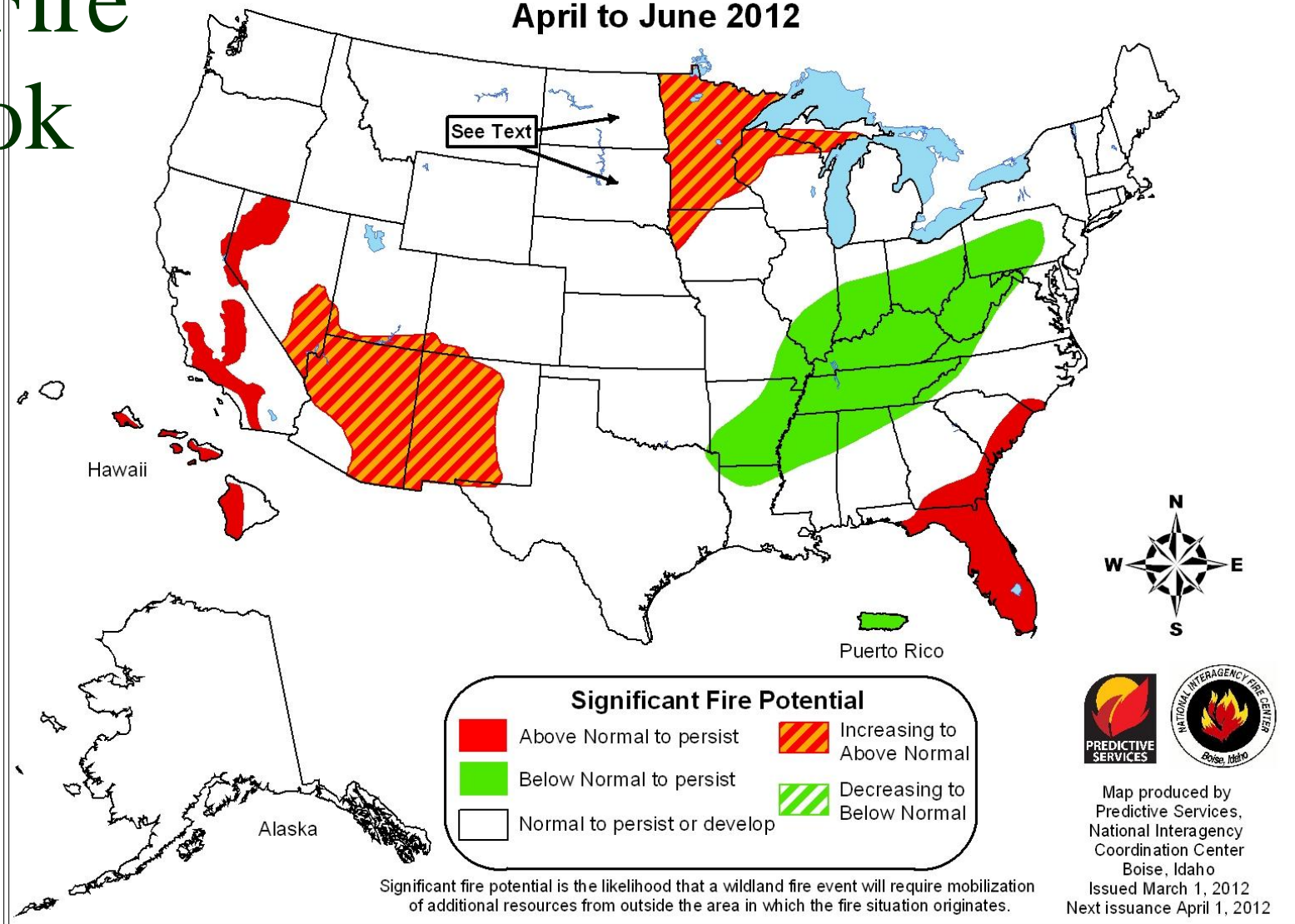


2011 – An early year - first scanner request on April 7 and then every night from April 16–30 and from May 9-31

2012 – Could begin even earlier

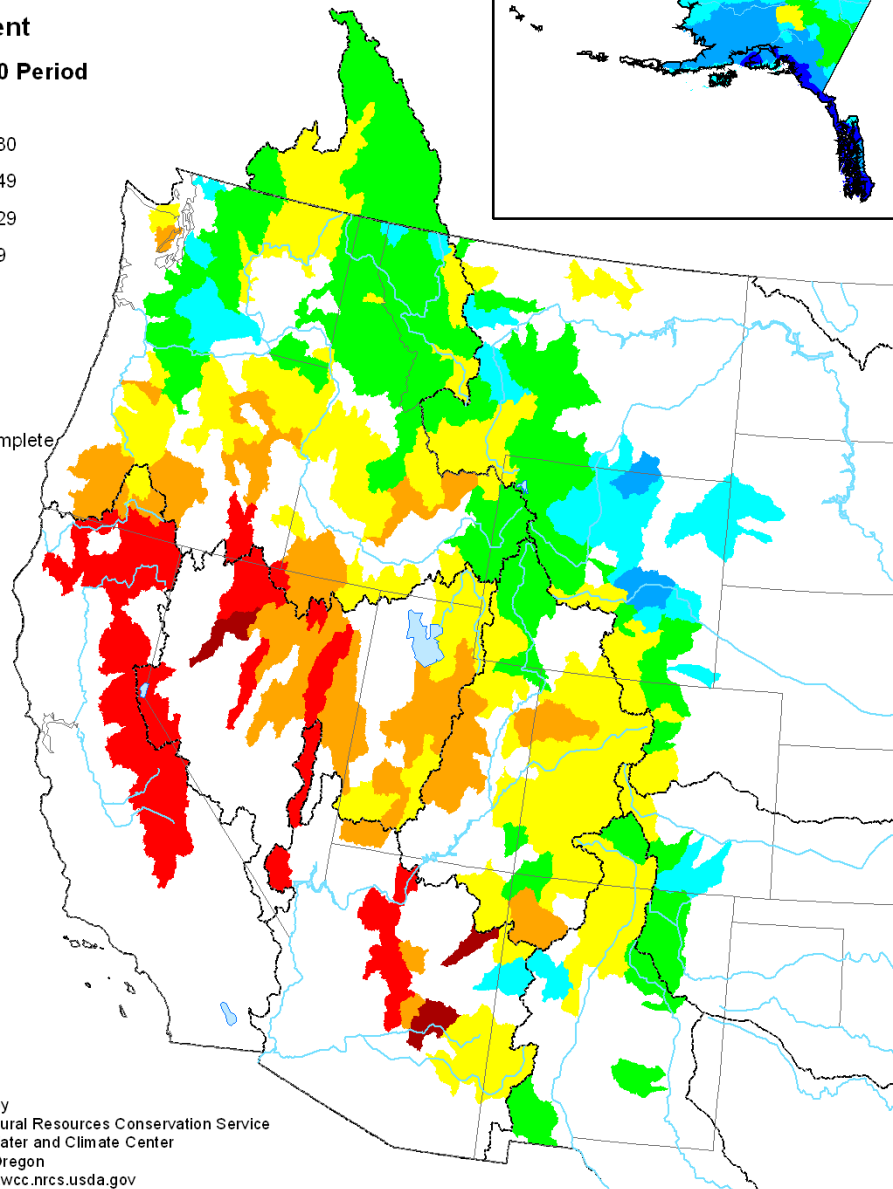
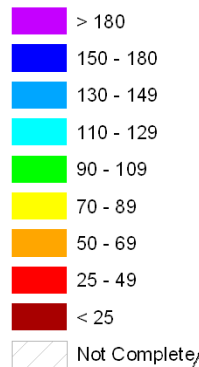
2012 Fire Outlook

Seasonal Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook April to June 2012



Mountain Snowpack as of March 1, 2012

Percent
1971 to 2000 Period



Prepared by
USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
National Water and Climate Center
Portland, Oregon
<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>



Planes

● 144Z Cessna Citation

- Complete engine replacement
- All other phases completed as well (150 hrs)
- Operational by mid-April

● 149Z King Air 200

- Ready to go (126 hrs til phase)
- 1st week in April for installing scanner and flying grid as well as prescribed fires

NATIONAL INFRARED OPERATIONS



Get ready for next year!

