

Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

2012-04 Wildfires SITUATION REPORT 1 1100 11 April 2012

Summary: Combination of dry fuels, winds 10-20 mph with gusts up to 35 mph, relative humidity values ranging from 20%-30%, and temperatures in upper 40s to mid 50s created fourth consecutive day of Red Flag Warnings across Virginia. Since Sunday, 8 April, Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) reports 62 fires have burned approximately 423 acres on private land and approximately 150 residences/structures have been protected. VDOF report does not include fires on National Forest land.

Large wildfires on private property and National Forest land:

- Page County, Shipwreck Fire: acreage burned – 1,853; 30% containment; potential to burn 3,000 acres; mostly on National Forest land; 125 structures protected
- Alleghany/Craig Counties, Barbours Creek Fire: acreage burned – 1,200; 20% contained; potential to burn 3,000 acres; mostly on National Forest land; 10 structures protected
- Shenandoah County, Wolf Gap Fire: acreage burned – 550; 10% contained; potential to burn 6,000 acres; all on National Forest land
- Botetourt County, Cove Mountain Fire: acreage burned – 57; 100% contained; all on National Forest land
- Alleghany/Rockbridge Counties, Rich Hole Fire: acreage burned – 400; 50 acres on private land 100% contained; 0% contained on National Forest land
- Alleghany County, Alleghany Tunnel Fire: three separate fires merged into one; acreage burned – 2,510; 10% contained; all on National Forest land; 10 structures protected
- Patrick County, near Stuart VA: acreage burned – 125; 100% contained; all on private property
- Giles County: acreage burned – 40; 100% contained; all on National Forest land

VEOC Status: Increased Readiness with normal staffing; no unmet needs at this time

Local Status/Actions:

EOC's: None open

Declarations: 2

- Bath County, 10 April
- Page County, 10 April

Shelters: None

Request for Assistance:

- Rockbridge County; request two bulldozers; request on hold

Activity:

- Page County

- Statewide Mutual Aid Request submitted
- Providing resources to assist Virginia Department of Forestry protecting private property
- Shenandoah County
 - Providing resources to keep fire from crossing State Route 675 and Forest Service Road 92
 - Monitoring fire activity with Virginia Department of Forestry and U.S. Forest Service; should fire cross Forest Service Road 92 plans will be initiated for evacuations of Millertown Road area and possible shelter operations
- Bath County
 - Monitoring wildfire activity
 - Prepared to respond and assist U.S. Forest and Virginia Department of Forestry
 - Outdoor burn ban enacted
- Stafford County
 - Providing 1 brush truck (2 personnel) and 1 Chief officer to Page County
- Chesterfield County
 - Providing 1 brush truck, 1 engine, 6 firefighters, 1 Battalion Chief and 2 Logistical support staff to Page County
- City of Harrisonburg
 - Providing 1 brush truck and 1 engine with personnel to Page County
- Greene County
 - Providing 1 engine with personnel to Page County
- Fauquier County
 - Providing 1 tanker engine with personnel to Page County
- Roanoke County
 - Providing 1 fire wagon with 5 personnel and 1 fire officer to Rockbridge County
- Floyd County
 - Providing 1 engine, 1 attack engine, 1 brush truck, 1 tanker and 1 command vehicle with personnel to Rockbridge County

VERT:

ESF 1-Transportation:

- Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
 - Road Closures
 - Interstate 64 eastbound, Exit 29, Alleghany County
 - Interstate 64 westbound, Exit 50, Rockbridge County
 - Route 770 and 850, Alleghany County
 - Route 675, Shenandoah County
 - Filled request from Virginia Department of Forestry for vehicle operator
 - Request from Rockbridge County for two bulldozers on hold
- U.S. Forest Service (USFS)
 - Road Closures
 - Wolf Gap Road (SR#675), Shenandoah County, from intersection of Jerome Road to Perry Store on Trout Run Road in West Virginia
 - Cub Run Road

ESF 4-Firefighting:

- Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP)
 - Coordinating with local fire departments to fill Statewide Mutual Aid requests
- Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF)
 - Page County, Shipwreck Fire: 30 personnel; VDOF and local resources protecting private property

- 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 contained fire on private land that escaped from National Forest land
- Botetourt County, Cove Mountain Fire: VDOF contained fire on National Forest land
- Shenandoah County, Wolf Gap Fire: VDOF and local resources initiated fire suppression operations on 8 April until USFS resources arrive; USFS assumed operations on 10 April releasing VDOF and local resources
- Alleghany County, Alleghany Tunnel Fire: VDOF resources protecting private property
- Patrick County, near Stuart VA: VDOF and local resources contained fire on private land and continue to monitor
- Giles County: VDOF resources responded and contained fire on National Forest land since no USFS resources were available
- Request for Assistance submitted for VDOT vehicle operator trained in Wildland Fire Operations
- Coordinating with USFS Regional Incident Management Team, assumed operational command at 0700 11 April for fires on National Forest land

ESF 5-Emergency Management (VDEM):

Operations Support request for assistance; Incident Management Cadre Conference Call conducted 10 April 20:30 related to request for assistance

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

- SMA Requests
 - Page County (VA-S-2012-04-0001)
 - 5- Type 4& 5 wild land engines (brush trucks)
 - 3 - Type 1 structural engines, for station fill-ins; 3 persons with a minimum training level of Firefighter 1
 - 2 - 1500 gallon or greater water tenders to either backfill stations, or actively participate in water supply/ firefighting activities
 - Rockbridge County (VA-S-2012-04-0002)
 - 5 tankers, 5 engines, 5 brush trucks
 - Rockbridge County (VA-S-2012-04-0003)
 - 10 Level 1 Trained Firefighters

Planning Maintain situational awareness; produce State Situation Reports

Weather:

Watches/Warnings

Red Flag Warning in effect from 1200 until 2000 for portions of Southwest VA, West Central VA and Northwest VA

Current Forecast (Wednesday 11 April 2012)

Partly cloudy with 20% chance of rain; high temperatures low to upper 50s; low temperatures mid 20s to mid 30s; winds 10-20 mph with gusts up to 35 mph

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