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The U.S. Fire Administration maintains the **Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC)**.

For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov.

The InfoGram

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Release of 2013 National Preparedness Report

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) released the [National Preparedness Report](#) (NPR), the annual status report detailing the Nation's progress toward reaching the [National Preparedness Goal](#) of a secure and resilient nation. Key findings include:

- Federal interagency partners made progress finalizing the National Planning Frameworks;
- Adoption of National Incident Management System (NIMS) increased in 2012;
- Hurricane Sandy response and recovery demonstrated strengths and areas for improvement;
- Federal partners developed and improved national-level cyber plans and frameworks in 2012 and held the first cyber security National Level Exercise.

The report was developed to meet the requirements of [Presidential Policy Directive 8/PPD-8: National Preparedness](#). FEMA updated the NPR in coordination with leaders of federal departments and reflects input from state, local, tribal, and territorial governments; private and nonprofit sector partners; and the general public.

(Source: [FEMA](#))

Wildfire Season Above Average, Forecast Says

The National Interagency Fire Center ([NIFC](#)) Predictive Services projects an above normal fire season this year. The [outlook document published May 1](#) (PDF, 1.4 Mb) shows significant fire potential in the west, southwest, and northern Virginia.

Weather conditions contributed to the forecast. Half the country continues to see [drought conditions](#), which unfortunately overlaps with areas already prone to wildfires. Lower precipitation amounts across these areas decrease fuel moisture levels. The forecast states fire season will probably occur earlier than normal due in part do the dry conditions.

Wildfires have already hit parts of California, burning 40,000 acres so far this year, much higher than the average 1,200 acres. [A representative from CalFIRE stated](#) "These are conditions we should be seeing in July and August."

The InfoGram is distributed weekly to provide members of the Emergency Services Sector with information concerning the protection of their critical infrastructures.

The outlook goes on to breakdown each geographical location to provide detailed regional-specific forecasts. An updated forecast will be released by NIFC in June.

(Source: [NIFC](#))

NG9-1-1 Guide for Law Enforcement

The [National 9-1-1 Program Office](#) developed a new guide to give law enforcement agencies a better understanding of Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) and how to plan moving from an analog system to NG9-1-1. The majority of 9-1-1 centers in the U.S. are operated by law enforcement; "[Next Generation 9-1-1 for Leaders in Law Enforcement](#)" (PDF, 1.4 Mb) offers help for agencies planning to transition or currently in the process.

The guide discusses the complicated issue of funding a new system, illustrates how NG9-1-1 enhances departmental operations, showcases departments who have already converted to NG9-1-1, and describes how it may change departmental response to various incidents for the better.

According to the Department of Transportation [NG9-1-1 page](#), "The overall system architecture has essentially not changed since the first 9-1-1 call was made in 1968." Growing use of mobile technology, internet phones, text messaging, and the public's increasingly mobile lifestyle means 9-1-1 systems need to be able to receive communications from more diverse means and be able to pinpoint locations of calls.

Upgrading current 9-1-1 systems to be able to handle information coming from newer technologies helps meet the changing needs of the population and increases capabilities for first responders.

(Source: [911.gov](#))

New: Fire Adapted Communities Brochure

The Fire Adapted Communities Coalition recently published their first brochure: [An Introduction to Fire Adapted Communities](#) (PDF, 1.6 Mb). This brochure provides an overview of fire adapted community concepts for homeowners, and presents fire departments an opportunity to connect with the population they serve by providing vital life and property safety tips.

The Fire Adapted Communities program stresses a community-based concept, understanding that all community members have a role in mitigating the potential damage a wildfire can cause. The program discusses things like protecting homes from and preparing for wildfires, engaging with fire departments about wildfire, and getting involved with various wildfire preparedness programs and tools.

The Fire Adapted Communities Coalition is a group of partners committed to helping people and communities in the wildland urban interface adapt to living with wildfire and reduce their risk for damage, without compromising firefighter or civilian safety. The coalition provides information and expertise on the development of activities related to Fire Adapted Communities. Brochures can be downloaded, printed, or ordered (packs of 25, maximum of 4 packs). More resources and information are available on the [Fire Adapted Communities Web site](#).

(Source: [Fire Adapted Communities](#))

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