



Hoosier National Forest Highlights

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Indiana Interagency Coordination Center



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The Indiana Interagency Coordination Center (IICC) serves as the focal point for mobilization of specially trained personnel and equipment for emergency assignments, including wildland fire. Indiana resources are dispatched nationwide as well as in-state through the Coordination Center. The Center dispatch process allows state and Federal agencies to make one phone call to contact Indiana fire resources.

The center also collects intelligence data such as resource availability, fire danger indices, staffing levels, potential assessment reports, fire occurrence, and fire weather. This information is put into one report and forwarded to the Eastern Area Coordination Center (EACC). The EACC then compiles all of the reports from centers located throughout the 20 state Eastern Region and sends it to the National Interagency Coordination Center located in Boise, Idaho and other interested parties.

The idea of an Indiana Interagency Coordination Center began in January 2001 when several agencies agreed to locate the center on the Hoosier National Forest at the Tell City Ranger District. Those agencies included:

- Hoosier National Forest;
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources;
- National Park Service;
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and
- Department of Defense.

An operations plan and agreement was finalized and the IICC began operations in the spring of 2001. The National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agreed to jointly fund a position for a dispatcher. The Hoosier National Forest provides a Fire Center Manager to manage day-to-day operations. Funding was also received to construct a 5,000-square foot facility to house the Coordination Center and provide space for Forest Service firefighters and equipment.

Over time the Forest hopes to expand other agency involvement to include The Nature Conservancy and Indiana Department of Homeland Security

Today the center houses:

- Two Type 6, 4x4 wildland fire engines;
- a portable cache trailer with firefighting tools;
- exercise equipment;
- a conference room;
- office space for five fire fighters and the Fire Management Officer;
- office space for dispatch of initial attack and Indiana resource(s) deployment; and
- a kitchen area, bathrooms and shower facilities.

In 2012 the Indiana Interagency Coordination Center processed over 80 requests for resources on different incidents. Request for interagency resources included, individual assignments for leadership or staff positions, fire engines, crew, equipment, and supply requests. Indiana interagency resources were sent to various incidents across the nation. Incidents included: wildfires, prescribed burns, training, hurricane response, and other risk incidents (ie. BP oil spill).

A breakdown of resource orders filled by the Coordination Center in 2012 includes:

Fire Engines: 1 to Nebraska	1 to Pennsylvania
1 to Wyoming	9 to Missouri
1 within Indiana	6 to Michigan
1 to Colorado	

2 Equipment Requests for Montana

Supply orders: 2 for Indiana, 1 for Montana, 1 for Minnesota

20-person Firefighting Crews: 1 to Montana

93 Leadership/Staff positions to:

Arizona	Louisiana	New Mexico	Virginia
California	Michigan	New York	Washington
Colorado	Minnesota	Oklahoma	Wisconsin
Florida	Missouri	Oregon	Wyoming
Idaho	Montana	South Dakota	
Indiana	Nevada	Utah	

The establishment of the IICC has streamlined emergency response in the state of Indiana. This has resulted in much quicker, more efficient, and more effective emergency response at both the state and national levels.

For more information on the IICC contact Maggie Schuetter, Center Manager at 812-547-9245 or by email at mschuetter@fs.fed.us.



The IICC in Tell City is shown here with two of wildland engines parked inside.



The IICC includes a cache of fire gear to outfit fire fighters deploying from the center.