



What makes us TICC?

Mission The Texas Interagency Coordination Center, located in Lufkin, is a cooperative effort of the Texas Forest Service, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, the US Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Nature Conservancy. TICC is one of twelve centers in the Southern Area, and plays a vital role in the national incident management system developed to coordinate and provide support in emergency situations and for planned events like training and prescribed fire.

History Since opening in 1998 TICC has mobilized more than 38,000 emergency response personnel and hundreds of aircraft and pieces of equipment from all over the United States to support disaster relief efforts in Texas. Wildland fires are the most common type of incident requiring additional resources, but other events such as a major timber blow-down, recovery of the Shuttle Columbia, hurricane recovery, tornadoes, floods and ice-storms all have required resources coordinated by TICC. In addition, hundreds of Texans are dispatched by TICC each year to wildfires and other events across the country.

Cache A warehouse of emergency equipment and supplies is maintained at TICC for support of an incident anywhere in the state, and a mobile Incident Management Team Support Cache is available to be deployed to any event. In addition, small mobile caches are placed at strategic locations throughout the state.

Cooperators TICC's cooperators include state and federal organizations like the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Emergency Management, Army National Guard, Department of Public Safety, Civil Air Patrol, Salvation Army, Department of Criminal Justice, US Geological Survey, Department of Transportation, National Weather Service and Nature Conservancy. Local fire departments, emergency management coordinators and industrial fire departments complete the picture.

Website The Texas Interagency Coordination Center website, at <http://www.tamu.edu/ticc>, is designed to provide the fire community with easily accessible information that will be a valuable asset in daily operations. Fire weather forecasts, fire risk assessments and drought indices are some of the tools that may assist in critical decisions; volunteer fire departments will benefit from the services described under the VFD Assistance link and the state-wide mutual aid plan is readily available; the Information Directory provides links to various publications, safety information, employment opportunities, training calendars and NWCG taskbooks. On-line schedules and registration are available for the Texas Interagency Wildfire Academies.

Space Shuttle Columbia Recovery TICC was a key element in the recovery effort in 2003 when it was decided that NWCG management teams accustomed to coping with large wildfires would be invaluable in managing an incident of this magnitude. Over a four-month period, twenty-one Type 1 and Type 2 Incident Management Teams, 600 20-person crews and over 5,000 other individuals were activated through the national incident management system. TICC's expanded dispatch personnel coordinated the mobilization of more than 17,000 personnel, numerous aircraft, hundreds of vehicles and truckloads of supplies

2005/2006 Fire Season This unprecedented fire season began in the spring of 2005 and the Incident Command Post was finally closed on September 18, 2006. More than 4,300 fires burned 2.2 million acres. Nineteen lives were lost, 639 homes were destroyed and property losses were estimated at \$623 million. Four thousand persons from 45 states, Washington DC and Puerto Rico, responded to the state's need for assistance.

2008 Fire Season Fire activity began as a typical Texas winter fire season, however spring green-up was short-lived and fuels quickly began drying again. By June 95% of the state was in some stage of drought and air and ground resources were strategically located to provide a quick response. Federal, State and local firefighters responded to almost 14,000 fires for a total of more than 1.5 million acres. Three thousand four hundred personnel worked an estimated 775,000 hours; 70 aircraft flew more than 3,000 hours and dropped 5.3 million gallons of water and retardant and 125 dozers and 110 engines were mobilized from around the country. After seven months relief finally came as a series of weather fronts brought moisture to most of the state.