

# Dan Wallace – Background

Red Card, FFT1 and FFT 2

Squad Boss qualified 2008

Wildland Fire Sawyer level C, Level A & B instructor

Controlled burn volunteer and paid crew for 20 years

Participated in over 180 controlled burns

Past burn leader for Dane County Parks, Friends of  
Brooklyn, private landowners and WI DNR

Assisted instructing introductory fire classes

Board of Directors member for Friends of Sylvania,  
Friends of Brooklyn SWA and Wisconsin

Prescribed Fire Council

(1/2013)





# **A Sleeper Lake Wildfire Experience**

**A controlled burner shares experiences,  
pictures and lessons learned from the  
2007, 19,000 acre, Sleeper Lake Wildfire  
in Michigan's UP.**

**Dan Wallace - Wisconsin Prescribed Fire Council,  
Friends of Brooklyn SWA, Friends of Sylvania**

**Jan 31, 2013**

**Friends of Brooklyn  
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# **Special Thanks and Acknowledgements**

**Nancy Braker – Previous WI TNC Fire Manager and mentor**

**Jack McGowan-Stinski (MI TNC) – Squad Leader - Pictures**

**Matt Kleitch (MI TNC)**

**Rodolfo Zuniga-Villegas (MI TNC) - Sawyer**

**Emily Hohman (MI TNC)**

**Bill Bogenhagen (WI TNC volunteer)**

**Dan Wallace (WI TNC Volunteer)**

**Paul Charland - Pictures**

**Lee Osterland – Safety Officer - Pictures**

**Thomas Proulx - Pictures**

**Anthony Kuckeberg, FLt Trish Barker and Sgt. Jerry Mejia**

**US Army NG flight crew – Pictures and videos**



MCMMAHON LAKE



DEDICATED TO THE PROTECTION AND  
STUDY OF OUR NATURAL HERITAGE

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY  
MICHIGAN CHAPTER

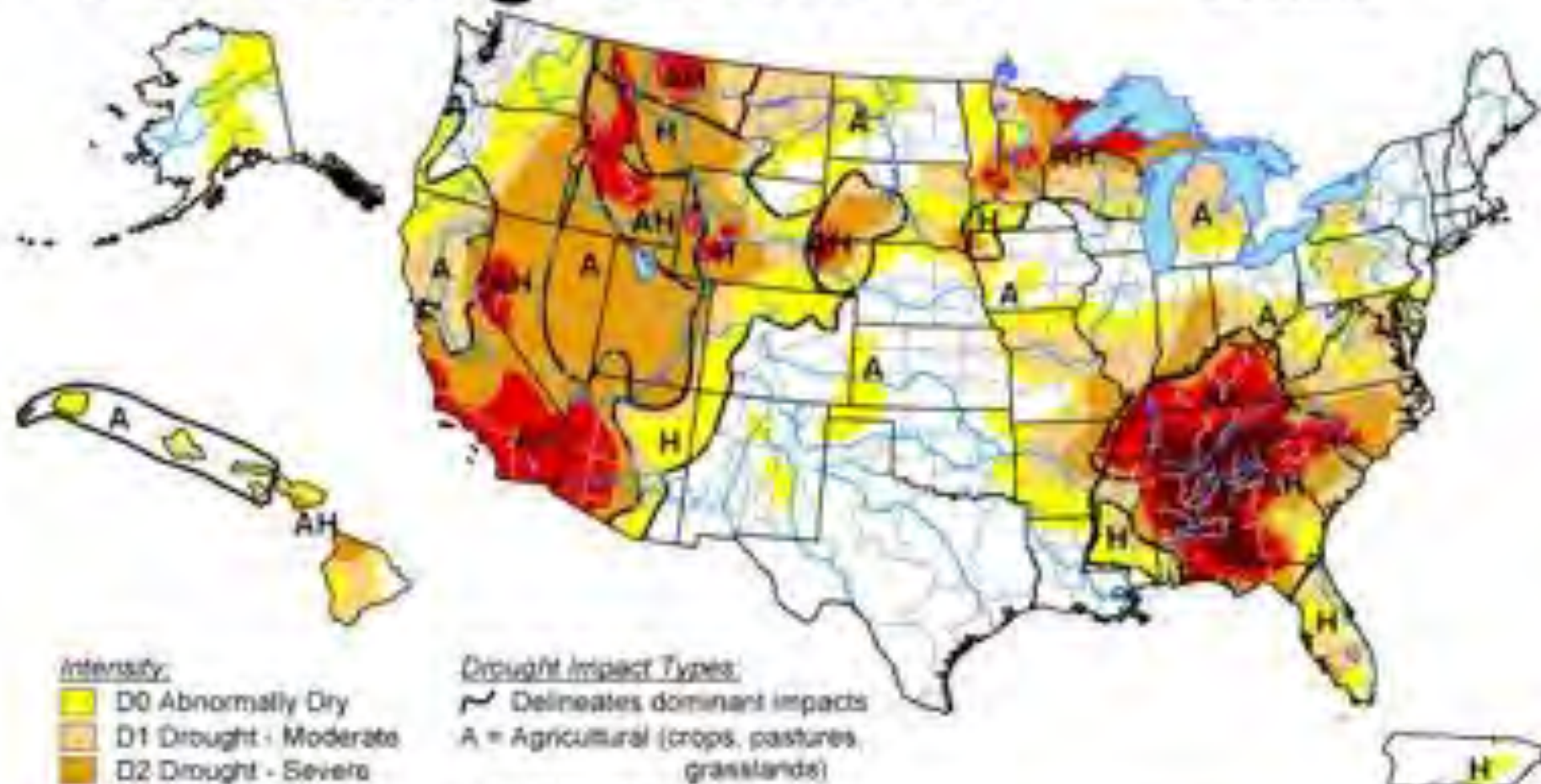
BENNINGHOFF TRACT





# U.S. Drought Monitor

August 21, 2007  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



## Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

## Drought Impact Types:

- Delineates dominant impacts
- A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
- H = Hydrological (water)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



Released Thursday, August 23, 2007

Author: Richard Heim/Jay Lawrimore/Liz Love-Brotak,  
NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>

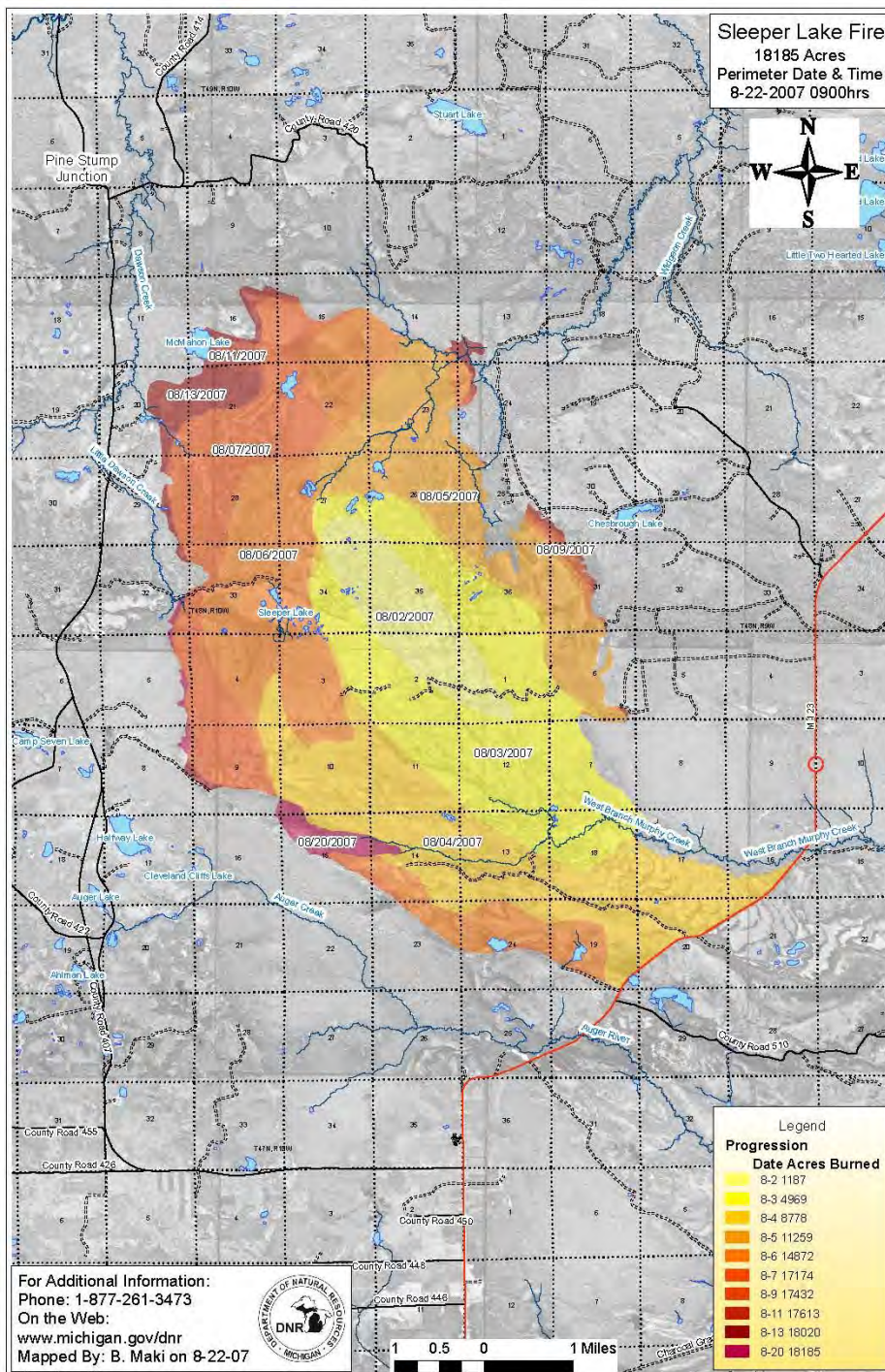


GOES-13 VIS 18:15Z 03AUG2007



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**Approximate  
final fire size  
Aug 22, 2007  
18,185 acres**

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# **Sleeper Lake Wildfire Details**

**About 19,000 acres of dried out marsh, bog and upland  
burned – mainly Fuel Models 2, 5, 8 and 9**

**2 abandoned cabins burned**

**At second day end ~ 5,000 acres involved, 1 mph ROS  
~ 239 firefighters on site**

**1 Dehydrated, disoriented and lost firefighter – 3<sup>rd</sup> week**

**Final fire size ~ 9 miles by 5 miles**

**Estimated fire cost \$7.5 million**

**Helmet colors: Red & Green Bad, Yellow best from air  
Air Filters**



# **Sleeper Lake Wildfire Rough Timeline**

**Aug 2, 2007 Lightning Strike in wetland just east of  
Sleeper Lake, NW of Newberry, Mi.**

**Aug 6 4 UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters begin water  
drops**

**Aug 10 2 CH-47 Chinook helicopters begin drops**

**Aug 12 Dan Wallace – Drives 8 Hr to Newberry, Mi**

**Aug 13 Dan Wallace – Starts assisting Mi TNC crew**

**~Aug 18 Dan Wallace demobilizes - helicopters end  
water drops**

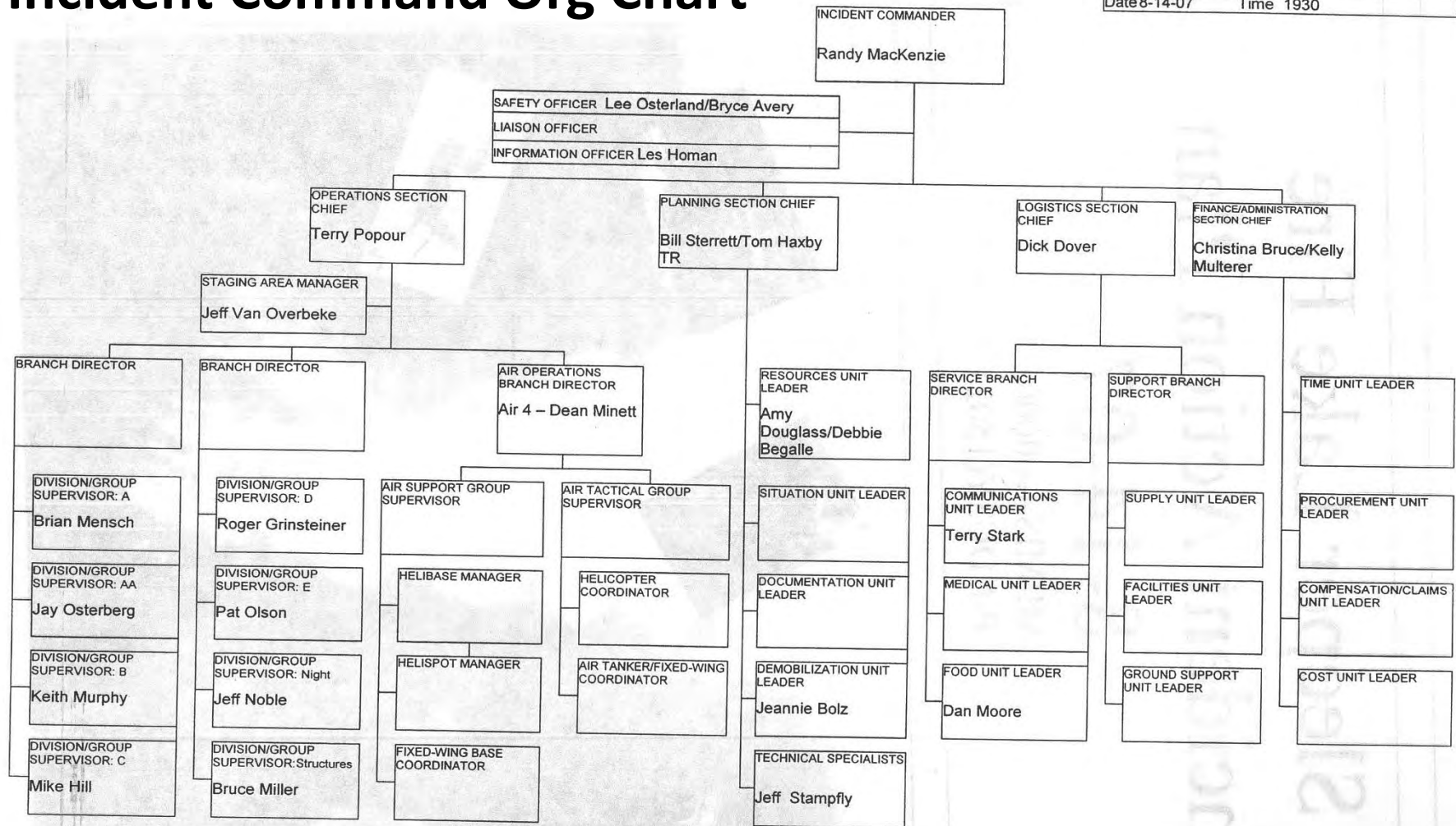
**Sept 3, 2007 Remaining fire hit with 10 inches of rain**

**Oct 26, 2007 Sleeper Lake Fire Declared Out**



# Incident Command Org Chart

Incident Name	Sleeper Lakes
Operational Period	0700-2000
Date	8-14-07
Time	1930



# INCIDENT OBJECTIVES

1. INCIDENT NAME  
SLEEPER LAKE FIRE

2. DATE  
PREPARED  
8/13/07

3. TIME  
PREPARED  
18:30

## 4. OPERATIONAL PERIOD (DATE/TIME)

8-14-2007

## 5. GENERAL CONTROL OBJECTIVES FOR THE INCIDENT (INCLUDE ALTERNATIVES)

- 1.) PROTECT PUBLIC AND MAINTAIN FIREFIGHTER SAFETY.
- 2.) PROTECT STRUCTURES ALONG THE FOSSITT, WIDGEON, AND SOUTH CHESROUGH LAKE ROAD SYSTEM EAST OF THE FIRE, AS WELL AS COUNTY ROAD 407 TO PINE STUMP JUNCTION, AND EAST TOWARD STUART LAKE.
- 3.) KEEP FIRE WEST & NORTH OF M-123, AND EAST & NORTH OF COUNTY ROAD 407, AND SOUTH OF COUNTY ROAD 420
- 4.) KEEP EQUIPMENT OUT OF FLOWING STREAMS.
- 5.) PROTECT NATURAL RIVER VALUES OF THE TWO HEARTED RIVER SYSTEM.
- 6.) HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS AS NEEDED AND APPROPRIATE.

## 6. WEATHER FORECAST FOR OPERATIONAL PERIOD

### WEATHER FORECAST:

...Isolated rain showers and thunderstorms ending by 1400...

**WEATHER:** Mostly Cloudy becoming Partly Cloudy in the afternoon

**MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES:** 76 degrees

**MINIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY:** 50 percent

**20 FT WINDS:** Southwest at 4-8 becoming Southwest 5-10 with gusts to 20 mph after 11 am and then shifting to the Northwest 5 to 10 mph in the evening.

**HAINES INDEX:** 4...Low potential for large plume-dominated

**STABILITY/INVERSION:** Inversion to 500 feet AGL breaking by 1100.

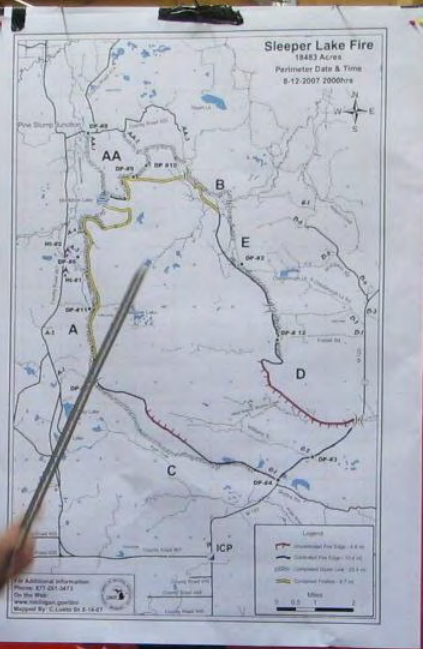
**MIXING HEIGHT:** Rising to 5000 feet AGL by 1400.

### OUTLOOK FOR TUESDAY NIGHT:

UNIT LOG page 1		1. INCIDENT NAME Fire# PND43Y Sleeper Lake Fire	2. DATE PREPARED 8/21/07	3. TIME PREPARED 9 AM
4. UNIT NAME/DESIGNATORS TNC Hand Crew		5. UNIT LEADER (NAME AND POSITION) Jack McGowan-Stinski		6. OPERATIONAL PERIOD
7. PERSONNEL ROSTER ASSIGNED				
NAME		ICS POSITION		HOME BASE
Jack McGowan-Stinski				Mi TNC
Matt				Mi TNC
Emily				Mi TNC
Ro				Mi TNC
Bill Bogenhagen		FFT2		Wi TNC
Dan Wallace		FFT2		Wi TNC
8. ACTIVITY LOG (CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE)				
TIME	MAJOR EVENTS			
7/24/07	Winding Down on GM Removal, Middle of Knapweed Removal Started Intensive physical Training			
8/7/07	Step Test Completed DNR - Tower Hill - Scott Lancaster - learned of Sleeper Lake Fire from Scott Lancaster - Gave B			
8/9/07	E-mail & phone from Nancy Braker, opportunity with Mi TNC crew on Sleeper Lake Fire, started Red Card process Contacted Jack M-S.			
8/10/07	Finished Major Project at paying job. Gave Notice of leave			
8/11/07	Received notification of Crew Assignment on Sleeper Lake Fire while pulling Knapweed & Carly Dock at Brooklyn SWA. Continued pulling till ~ 5 PM to complete important area			
8/12/07	Attempted to Reorganize Sylvania Saw Crew with Jan & others - Decided to drop original Crew & trip.			
8/12/07	Reorganized new Sylvania Saw Crew to start 8/17 to 8/21 with Anne Heloley & 2 Kids (Evelyn & Chris)			

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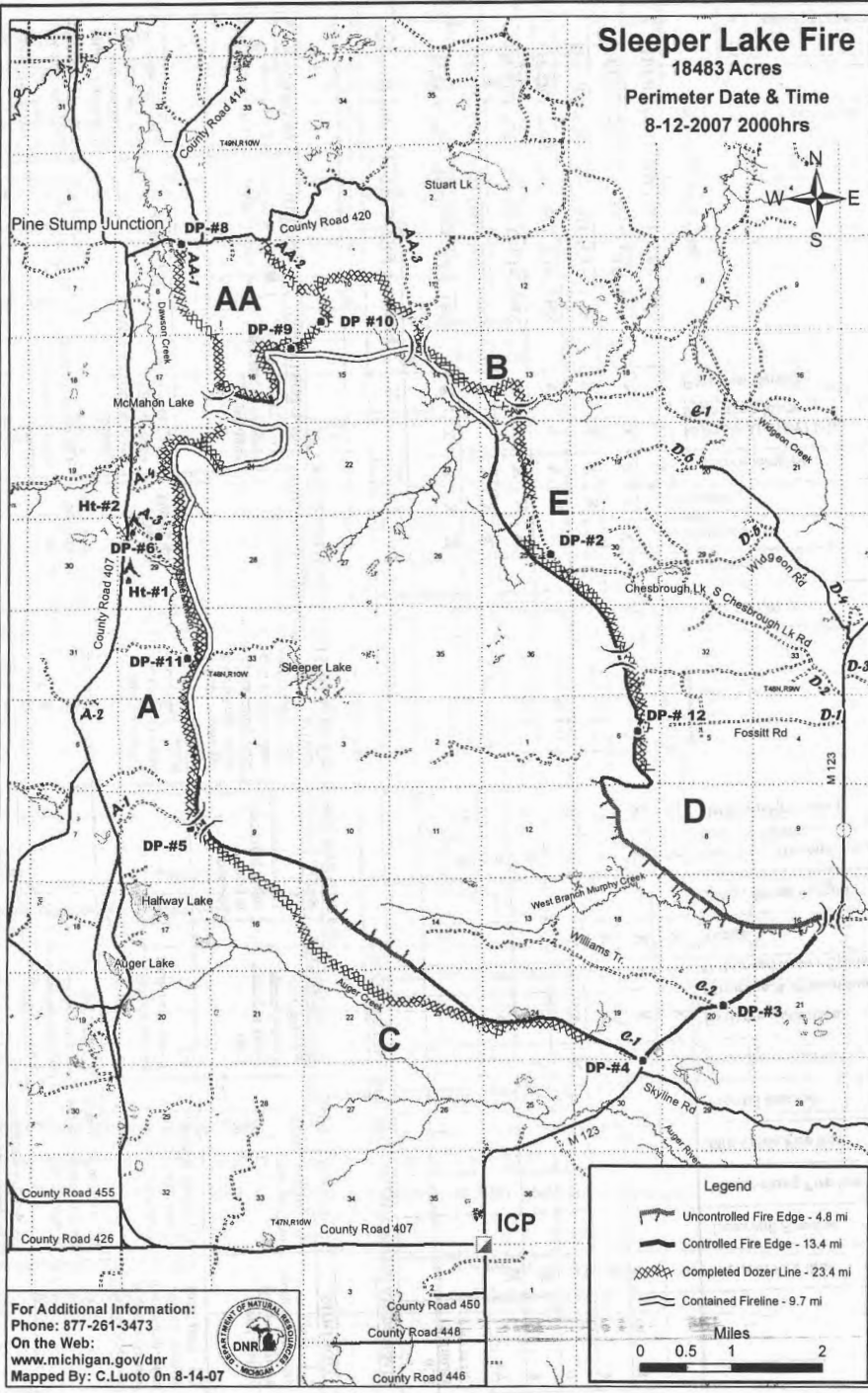
# Sleeper Lake Fire

18483 Acres

Perimeter Date & Time

8-12-2007 2000hrs

**Aug 12, 2007, 2000 hrs**



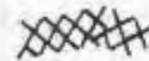
## Legend



Uncontrolled Fire Edge - 4.8 mi



Controlled Fire Edge - 13.4 mi



Completed Dozer Line - 23.4 mi



Contained Fireline - 9.7 mi

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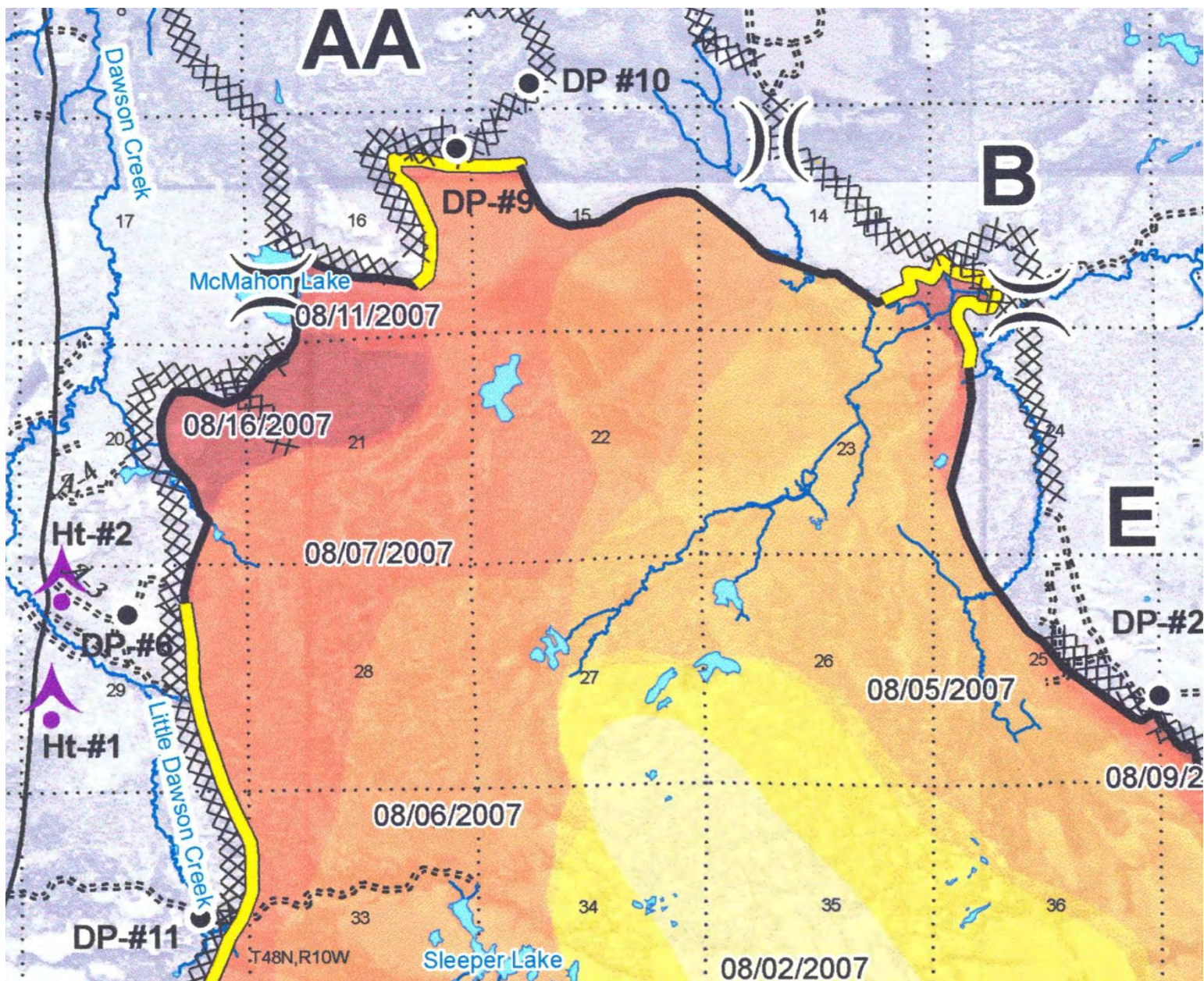




**Safety Officer - Aug 13, 2007, ~500 Burnout**

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**Aug 16, 2007, 1600 hrs**

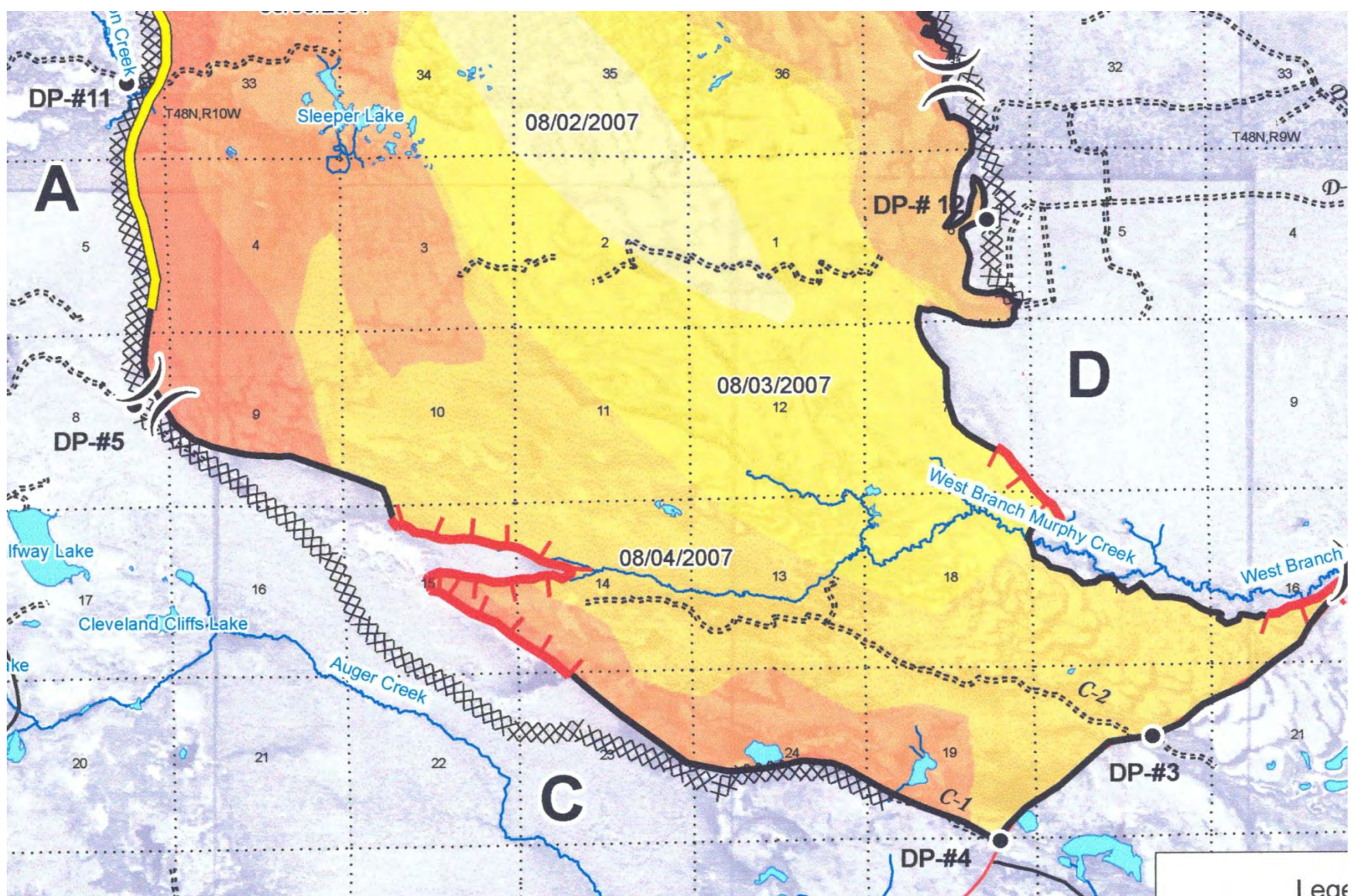
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**Finger Burnout – McMahon Lake Aug 14, 2007**  
**Helo-Torch Jet Ranger from Canada**







**Aug 16, 2007, 1600 hrs**

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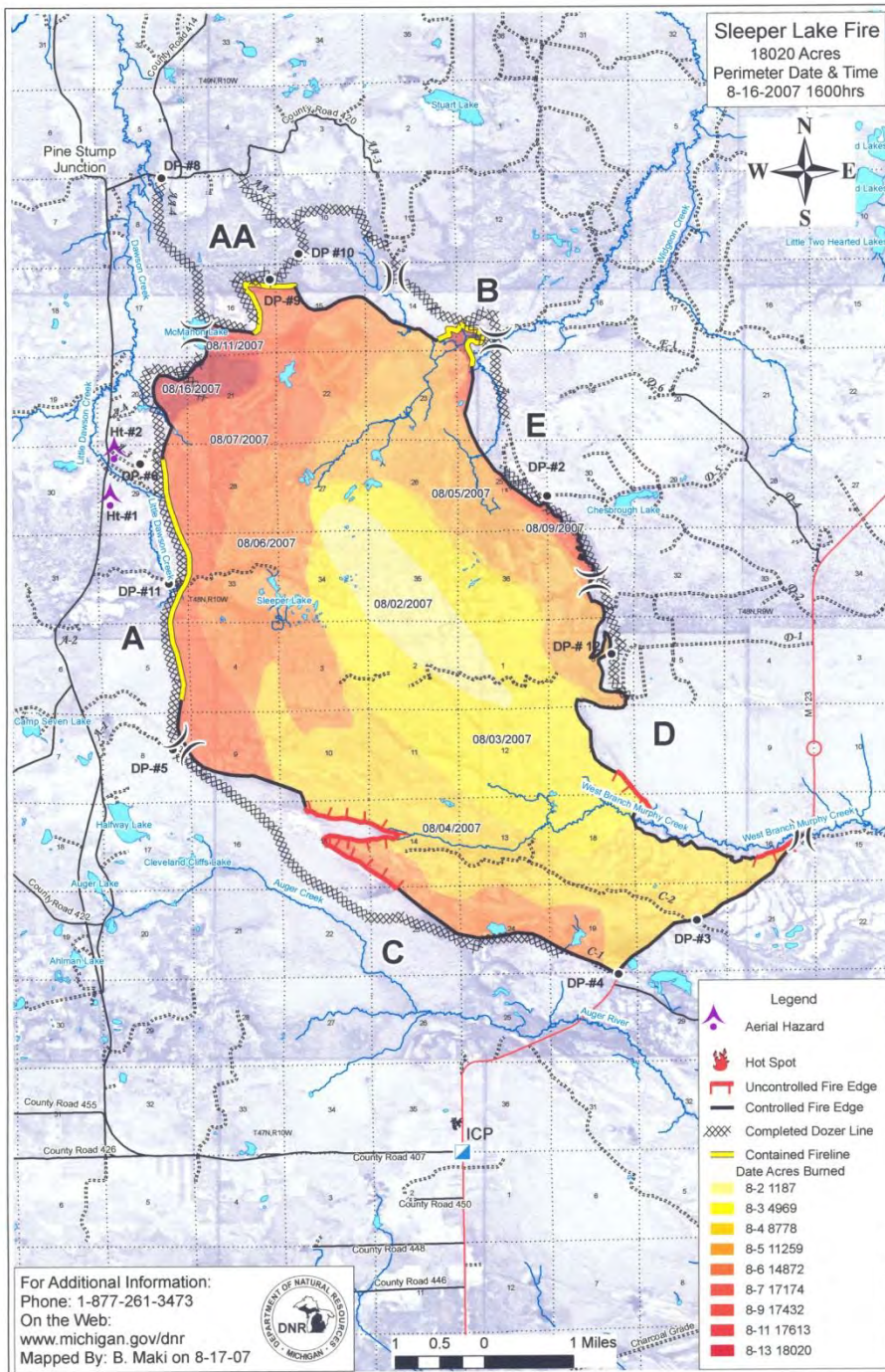












**Aug 16, 2007, 1600 hrs**

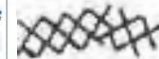
## Legend



Uncontrolled Fire Edge - 4.2 mi



Controlled Fire Edge - 21.7 mi



Completed Dozer Line - 23.4 mi



Contained Fireline - 5.2 mi

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# **Sleeper Lake - Air Operations ( my estimate )**

**1 SEAT – Air Ops coordinator – ( 800 Gallons capacity )**

**1 CL 215 – Scooper Water Bomber – 1,300 Gallons**

**1 Helo-Torch Jet Ranger from Canada**

**From Michigan Army national Guard – Abrams Air Field,  
Lansing Mi:**

**8 UH–60A Blackhawk helicopters – 760 Gallons**

**2 CH-47 D Chinook Helicopters – 2,000 Gallons**

**When on site Helicopters averaged 10 bucket drops / hour  
Helicopters dropped a total of 1.6 million gallons of water  
in about 10 days**

**“Most unique and fulfilling” Helicopter crew**

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