



Impact of Broadband on First Responders

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Using Commercial Broadband as a First Responder

WILDFIRE APPLICATION

Pros

- ▶ Near-real time sharing of data
- ▶ Ability to transfer large volumes of data quickly
- ▶ Two-way HD-video
- ▶ When MCV finally available, increased coverage.

Cons

- ▶ Cost
 - Equipment
 - Use of System
- ▶ Security
 - Slows transfer speeds
 - Can't easily add users
- ▶ Capacity Constraints
 - Bugged down when needed most

I don't know what I don't know.....





Applications

- ▶ Applications that enhance capability of Wildland Firefighting
 - ESRI Collector App
 - Geographic Information Systems
 - Automated Flight Following
 - Fire Response Dispatching Software
- ▶ Broadband data effects to apps
 - Faster, more reliable GIS-data transfer
 - Resource tracking – Air, Ground, Equipment, Supplies





Oklahoma Winter Fires 2005-2006



- OFS IMT establishes ICP in Shawnee
- Active for 83 days
- Six geographic Divisions
- Approx. 2,800 fires
- 600 personnel from 33 states
- 35 Aircraft
 - Large Airtankers
 - Single Engine Airtankers
 - ANG Helicopters
 - Lead Planes
 - Air Attack Platforms





Future Use of Network

- ▶ How a robust network enhances capabilities
 - Wildland Fuels Information
 - Wildfire Detection
 - Access to Risk Assessments and Structure Protection Plans
 - Evacuations (Plans & Notifications)
 - Wildfire mapping
 - Access to fire weather data & forecasts
 - Statewide, centralized dispatch





Conclusion

- ▶ Day-to-Day impact of Broadband on wildland fire management may be significant when system is fully functional.
- ▶ Possible impacts during an Incident:
 - Data transfer
 - Fire maps (fire location, progression, evac.
 - Fire weather
 - Remote briefings
 - Personnel, equipment, and aircraft tracking

