

# *Rodeo-Chediski Fire*

## *Public Health Responses to an Environmental Emergency*

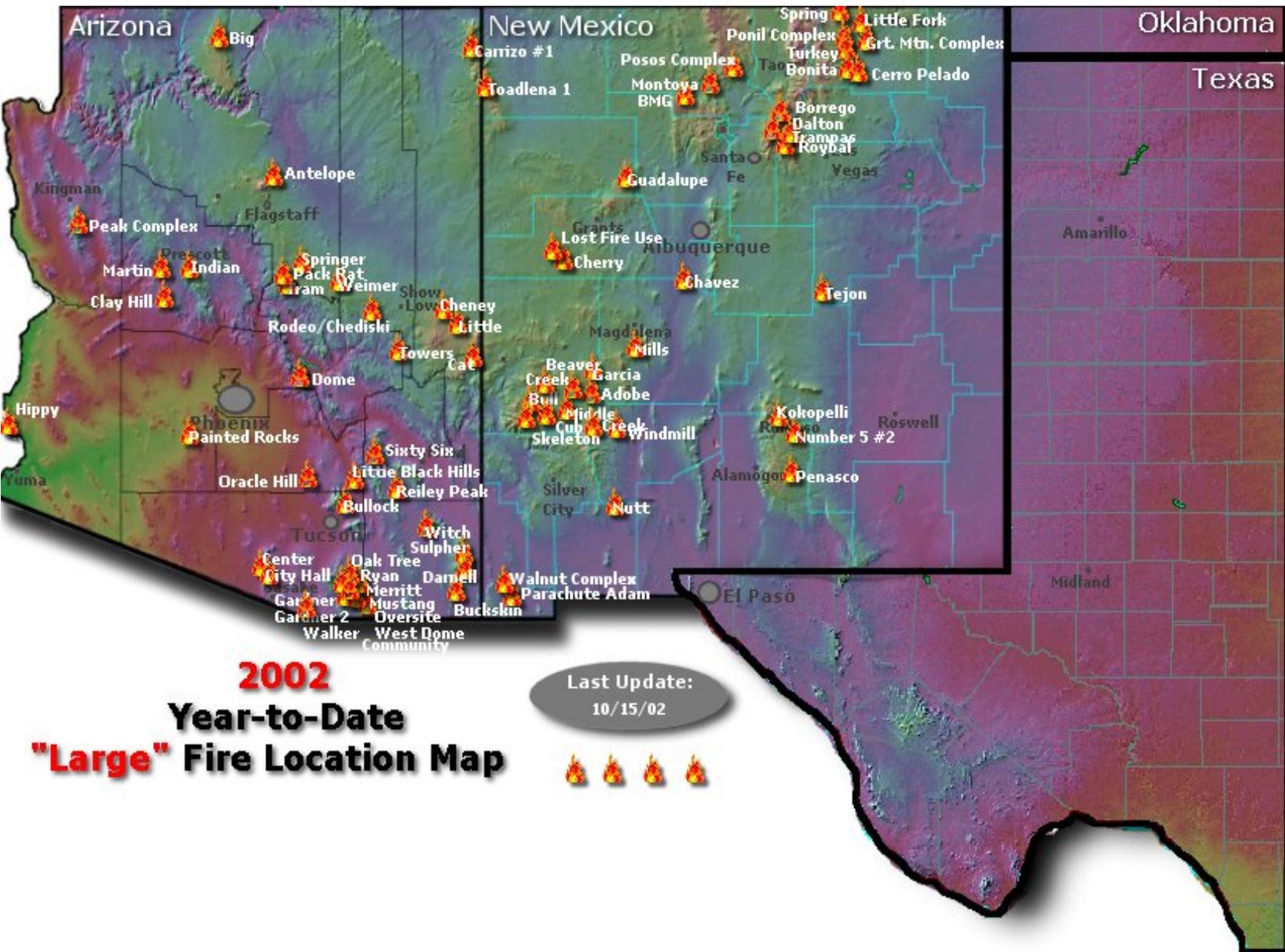
Will Humble, M.P.H.

Arizona Department of Health Services

Office of Environmental Health







**2002**  
**Year-to-Date**  
**"Large" Fire Location Map**

Last Update:  
 10/15/02



# *Public Health Response Categories*

- Environmental Health
- Epidemiological Investigation
- Behavioral Health Response

# *Environmental Health*

- Environmental Health Responsibilities:
  - Set up an air sampling program
  - Interpret air quality data
  - Issue Public Health Advisories & Warnings
  - Consider recommending evacuation due to smoke
  - Answer questions about air quality
  - Prepare for “re-entry” into evacuated areas  
(i.e. retardant, hazardous materials, asbestos etc.)

# *Air quality issues*



# *Portable PM 10 Monitor*



# *Downwind Particulate Matter (PM10)*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>1 Hr. Peak</u>	<u>Above 350 ug/m<sup>3</sup> ?</u>
6/20	Snowflake	289	No
6/21	Show Low	342	No
6/22	Snowflake	927	<b>Yes</b>
6/23	Holbrook	288	No
6/24	Snowflake	776	<b>Yes</b>
6/25	Snowflake	228	No
6/26	St. Johns	159	No
6/27	Snowflake	351	<b>Yes</b>

# *Unexpected environmental health concerns*



# *Environmental health risk communication*



# *Environmental Health (continued)*

- Ensure good sanitation at evacuation centers
- Monitor food safety at shelters and other food establishments
- Help prepare for potential “re-entry” food safety problems
- Answer public health and practical questions

# *Environmental evacuation issues*



# *Shelter environmental health issues*



# *Special needs populations*



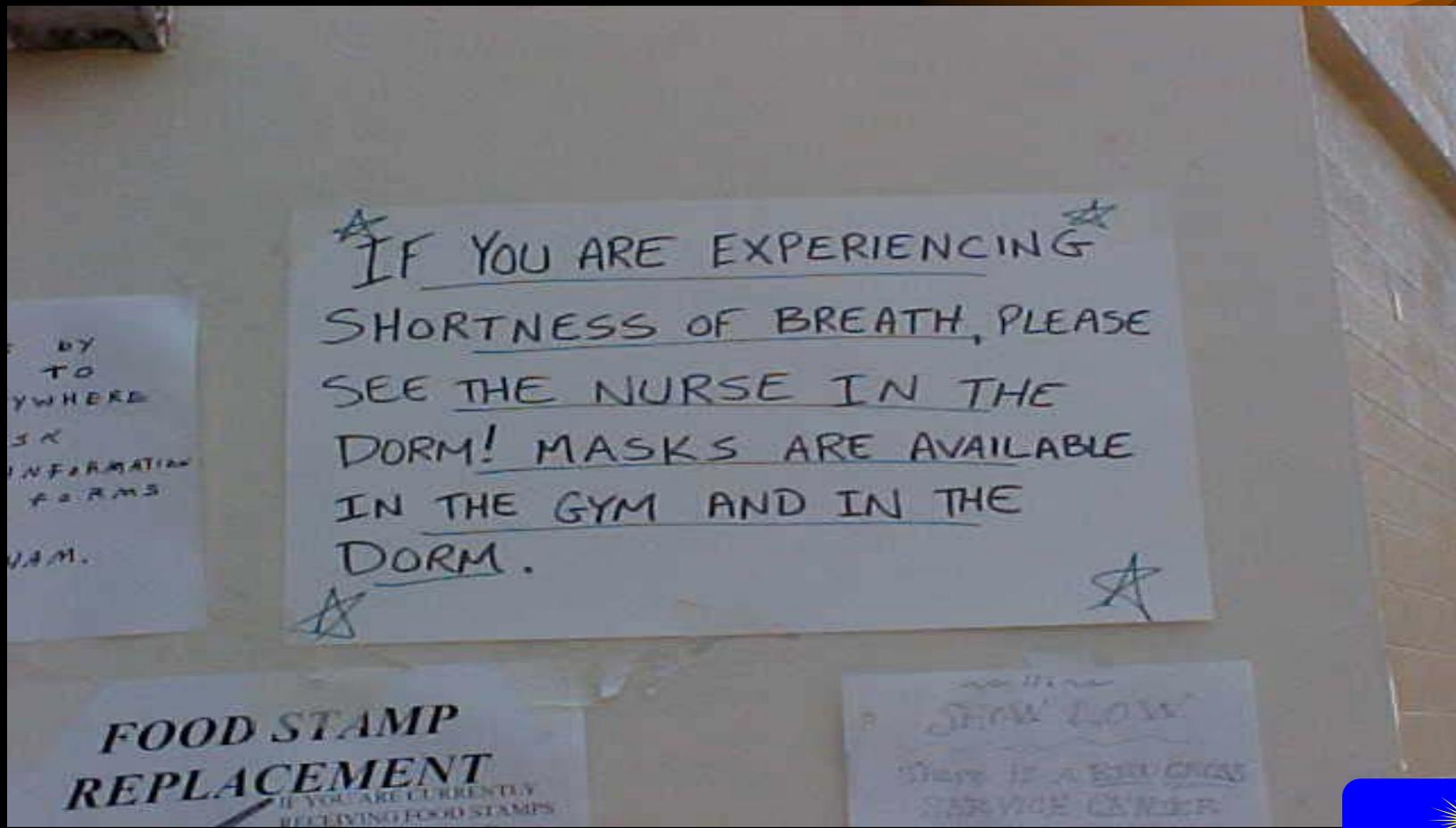
# *Shelter food safety*



# *Air quality at shelters*



# To mask or not to mask?



# *Vector and animal control*



# *Epidemiological Investigation*

- Monitor infectious diseases and foodborne illnesses at shelters
- Ensure adequate vaccine supplies (tetanus etc.)
- Conduct a survey of health effects

# *Environmental epidemiology team*



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# *Epidemiological results*

- 400 downwind residents surveyed about health problems
  - 40% reported a “significant amount” of stress
  - 33% reported at least one health symptom
  - 66% of asthmatics reported worse symptoms
  - Asthma symptoms were worse in those not evacuated
  - CDC to publish a final report

# *Behavioral Health*

- Behavioral health issues are the most significant long-term public health impact
  - Psychiatric consultation services
  - Grief counseling
  - Substance abuse prevention
  - Domestic violence prevention

# *Grief counseling*



# *Behavioral Health*

- ADHS Behavioral Health Services applied for and received federal funding (FEMA) to provide behavioral health services
  - Long term commitment
  - Regional Behavioral Health Authority provides the services
  - Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority

# *Behavioral Health Services Provider*

- Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA)

Member Services Representative:  
1.800.640.2123

[www.narbha.org](http://www.narbha.org)

## *Community Counseling Centers*

- **Holbrook**
  - 105 North Fifth Avenue
  - 928.524.6721
- **Winslow**
  - 209 East Third Street
  - 928.289.4658
- **Show Low**
  - 2500 Show Low Lake Road
  - 928.537.2951

