



Recipients of the 2019 Wildland Fire Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Awards Announced

NWCG announces the recipients of the 2019 Wildland Fire Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Awards. The NWCG Emergency Medical Committee (EMC) annually recognizes individuals and groups who have demonstrated outstanding actions or accomplishments that are above and beyond the expectation of one's normal job duties or mission. The 2019 awards honor eleven individuals and one crew:

Jon Thomas – *Outstanding Wildland Fire EMS Distinguished Service Award*

Mr. Thomas serves as Program Coordinator for the Alaska Fire Medic Program. Under his leadership, the program mobilized, outfitted, and supported an unprecedented number of medics during 2019, often in remote locations with critical needs for immediate, professional emergency medicine. This exemplary support of firefighting services during a busy season kept people safe and delivered the care they needed throughout the state of Alaska.

Zachary Hartshorn – *Outstanding Wildland Fire EMS Individual of the Year Award*

Mr. Hartshorn has served as the Operations/Training Officer for the Bureau of Land Management's Wyoming Emergency Medical Service Program since 2012. His efforts training EMTs, coordinating with the medical director, updating protocols, and reviewing patient contracts shows a passion and dedication for the program that has made firefighters safer in Wyoming and across the country.

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Fire Crew – *Outstanding Wildland Fire EMS Crew of the Year Award*

While working on a wildland fire near a highway, this crew responded to a motor vehicle accident. Their initiative and quick actions prevented further injury to victims and bystanders while also limiting additional wildland fire spreading from the scene.

Russel Dean, Brian Deck, Corey Ferrell, Phil Gerhardson, Nathan Gilmore, Brent Johnson, Ryan Mungall, Bob Schober, and Shannon Orr – *Award of Excellence in Wildland Fire EMS*

While conducting a prescribed fire near Huntsville, Texas, this module of firefighters from the Great Basin Smokejumpers and the Alaska Fire Service responded to a helicopter crash. Their assistance with patient assessment, communications, fire suppression, and more demonstrated exemplary service exceeding the normal duties of wildland firefighters.

Congratulations to all the awardees. Through leadership and initiative, they made significant contributions to the safety of the wildland fire community. These awards are well deserved.

More information about the awards program and a link to the nomination form can be found on the NWCG EMC webpage, <https://www.nwcg.gov/committees/emergency-medical-committee>.