



SAFETY GRAM 2017



Fatalities, Entrapments and Serious Accident Summary for 2017 (<http://www.nwcg.gov/committees/risk-management-committee/resources>) The following data indicates the fatalities, [entrapments](#), [burnovers](#) and other life threatening accidents and injuries associated with wildfire during calendar year 2017. The information was collected by the NWCG Risk Management Committee and the [Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center](#). Confirmation of the fatalities is verified with data from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). This information is final as of 2/23/2018.

Date	Incident Name Jurisdiction Location	Activity	Agency/Entity of Personnel Involved	Type of Accident	Number of People	# Shelters Deployed	Fatalities	Injuries/Treatment
2/7	UTV Rollover SC	Prescribed Fire	UNK	Vehicle Rollover	1			Injured Wrist/ Soft Cast
2/13	UTV Rollover SC	Prescribed Fire	UNK	Vehicle Rollover	1			First Aid
2/14	Brush Fire Bassfied MS	Structure Protection	Local Government VFD	Medical Heart Attack	1		1	Suspected Heart Attack
2/17	Ringling Fire Ringling OK	Initial Attack	Local Government	Burnover/Entrapment	1			2 nd and 3 rd degree burns. Sent to burn center
2/19	Dozer Transport Tire Failure Davie Crocket NF TX	Prescribed Fire	Federal/USFS	Vehicle	1			Minor

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2/28	Project Work Injury CalFire CA	Chainsaw Operations	State/CalFire	Hazard Tree	1			Numerous, Hospitalized
3/13	Tree Cutting Injury USFS MO	Chainsaw Operations	Federal/USFS	Hazard Tree	1			Separated shoulder, Hospitalized
3/23	119 Road Fire Entrapment Seminole OK	Initial Attack	Local Government VFD	Burnover/Entrapment	3			1 with 1 st and 2 nd degree burns, 1 with bruised ribs
4/3	Arizona Engine Rhabdo AZ	Fitness Training	UNK	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo, Hospitalized 5 days
4/6	New Mexico IHC Rhabdo NM	Fitness Training	Federal	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo, Hospitalized 8 days
4/16	Doubleside Fire Tractor Plow State FL	Initial Attack	State/Florida Forest Service	Burnover	1			UNK
4/24	Tractor Burnover w/ Injuries McIntosh County GA	Initial Attack	State/Georgia Forestry Commission	Burnover	1			1 st and 2 nd degree burns. Transported to local hospital
5/1	IHC Heat Related Illness Sierra NF CA	Fitness Training	Federal/USFS	Medical Heat Illness	1			Heat related injury, Hospitalized
5/2	Marion County FL	Aviation Helicopter	County/Marion County Sheriff's Department	Aviation	1			UNK, Hospitalized

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5/4	IHC PT Rhabdo Wasatch Cache NF UT	Fitness Training	Federal/USFS	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo, Hospitalized
5/7	West Mimms Tractor Plow Entrapment Okefenokee NWR GA	Line Construction	State/Georgia Forestry Commission	Burnover	1			Operator evaluated at hospital. No reported injuries
5/9	CA Type 1 Crew Rhabdo CA	Fitness Training	Local Government	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo, Hospitalized 3 days
5/14	Crane Island Fire Tractor Plow Burnover Okeechobee District FL	UNK	State/Florida Forest Service	Burnover	1			UNK
5/20	Kern County FD Fatality Kern County CA	Post-Wildland Fire Training	County/Kern County FD	Medical	1		1	UNK
5/21	UTV Floorboard Fire Alaska Fire Service AK	Prescribed Fire	Federal/BLM	Vehicle	UNK			None reported
5/23	South Dakota Engine Rhabdo SD	Work Capacity Test Arduous	UNK	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo, Hospitalized on 2 occasions
5/24	Ishi Incident Fatality Six Rivers NF CA	Fuels Management	State/CalFire	Hazard Tree	2		1	Crewmembers struck by falling tree. 1 fatality
5/24	Utah IHC Rhabdo UT	Fuels Management	UNK	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo, treated and released same day

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5/26	Oregon Smokejumper Rhabdo OR	Fitness Training	Federal/USFS	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo, Hospital visit
5/29	Memphis VFD Fatality Memphis MO	Initial Attack	Local Government VFD	Vehicle Rollover	2		1	1 fatality, 1 transported to hospital
6/9	Boundary Fire Broken Leg Coconino NF AZ	Structure Protection	Federal/USFS	Medical Fracture	1			Broken Leg, Hospitalized
6/10	Temple Fire Burn Injury Northwest CO Interagency CO	Line Construction	Federal/BLM	Medical Burns	1			Burn Injury, Hospitalized
6/12	Dead Dog Fire Vehicle Accident BLM WY	Driving At Incident	Federal/BLM	Vehicle	2			None reported
6/13	Highline Fire Rhabdo Tonto NF AZ	Line Construction	Federal/USFS	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo, Hospitalized 1 day
6/21	Golden Fire Burn Injury BLM NM	Initial Attack	Santa Fe County	Medical Burns	1			Burn Injury, Hospitalized
6/22	Nara Visa VFD Entrapment Fatality Obar NM	Initial Attack	Local Government VFD	Burnover/Entrapment	2		1	1 fatality, 1 burn injury
6/22	Oregon Type 2IA Rhabdo Location UNKN	Mop-Up	UNK	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo, Hospitalized 2 days

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6/24	Cable Fire Dozer Swamper Close Call San Bernardino County CA	Initial Attack	Federal/USFS State/CalFire	Heavy Equipment	1			Minor injury to right hand
6/24	Type 2 Crew Rhabdo UT	Line Construction	UNK	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo, IMT Medical Unit treatment
6/25	Medical Emergency in Travel Status Shoshone NF WY	Driving Responding to Incident	Federal/USFS	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Hospitalized, later diagnosed with rhabdomyolysis
7/1	Crescent Fire Burn Injury Plumas NF CA	Extended Attack	Federal/USFS	Medical Burns	1			2 nd Degree burns, Hospitalized at burn center
7/5 DOD: 7/11	Lakeside Chainsaw Incident Fatality Lakeside CA	Chainsaw Operations	State/CalFire	Other Chainsaw Operations	1		1	Chainsaw cut, hospitalized for 6 days then passed away
7/7	Utah Engine Rhabdo Case UT	Mop-Up	UNK	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo and heat related injury, Hospitalized 1 day
7/8	Six Rivers Physical Training Fatality Six Rivers NF CA	Fitness Training	Federal/USFS	Medical	1		1	1 fatality. First Aid and Medevac
7/8	Parkfield Fire Entrapment San Luis Obispo CA	Initial Attack	State/CalFire	Entrapment	1			Burn injuries, transported to hospital
7/8	Whittier Fire Chainsaw Cut Los Padres NF CA	Chainsaw Operations	Federal/USFS	Other Chainsaw Operations	1			Chainsaw cut to hand, Hospitalized

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7/16	Demob Vehicle Accident USFS WA	Driving Returning from Incident	Federal/USFS	Vehicle	1			None reported
7/19	Florence Fire Fatality Lolo NF MT	Initial Attack	Contractor	Hazard Tree	1		1	Transported to hospital. Deceased after arrival
7/21	Martin Fire MVA Black Hills NF SD	Initial Attack	Federal/USFWS Federal/USFS Federal/NPS	Vehicle	6			6 transported to hospital for evaluation, none admitted
7/24	Preacher Fire Entrapment Carson City District BLM NV	Extended Attack	Federal/USFS	Entrapment	1			Transported to hospital then burn center for airway assessment
7/24	101-1 Fire Heat Related Illness Palo Pinto County TX	Mop-Up	State/Texas Forest Service	Medical Heat Illness	3			Heat related injuries, 3 transported to hospital
7/28	IMT Demob Vehicle Accident MT	Driving Returning from Incident	State/IMT	Vehicle	1			Lower back injury, transported to hospital
7/28	Flat Top Mountain Fire Rhabdo OK	Initial Attack	Local Government VFD	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Rhabdo, Hospitalized overnight
7/31	Stuart Fire Smokejumper Injury Lolo NF MT	Initial Attack	Federal/USFS	Medical Fracture	1			Fractured pelvis and two broken ribs, Hospitalized
8/1	Devils Lake Fire Hit by Tree Fremont-Winema NF OR	Chainsaw Operations	Federal/USFS	Hazard Tree	1			No reported injuries, transported to medical center

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8/1	Pole Creek Fire Heat Related Illness Elko BLM NV	Mop-Up	State/DOC	Medical Heat Illness	1			Heat related injury, flown to hospital
8/2	Lolo Peak Fire Fatality Lolo NF MT	Chainsaw Operations	Federal/USFS	Hazard Tree	1		1	1 fatality on-scene
8/3	Sandy Fire Hit by Tree Shasta-Trinity NF CA	UNK	Contractor	Hazard Tree	1			Neck and shoulder pain, transported to hospital
8/4	Minerva Fire Hit by Tree Plumas NF CA	Chainsaw Operations	Federal/USFS	Hazard Tree	1			First aid and medevac
8/4	Devils Lake Fire HRI Fremont-Winema NF OR	UNK	Federal/USFS	Medical Heat Illness	1			Heat related injury, hospital visit
8/10	Lightning Strike in Camp Swan River State Forest MT	Fire Camp	UNK	Medical	3			Headache and neck pain, transported to medical center
8/18	Chetco Bar Fire Engine Entrapment Rogue River-Siskiyou NF OR	Structure Protection	State/DNR	Entrapment	3			None reported
8/23	Rice Ridge Fire Burn Injury Lolo NF MT	Fire Camp	UNK	Medical Burns	1			Burn injury to feet, transported to hospital then to a burn center
8/27	Chetco Bar Fire Entrapment Rogue River-Siskiyou NF OR	Extended Attack	UNK	Entrapment	4			None reported

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8/27	Miller Fire Complex Engine Rollover Umatilla NF OR	Driving At Incident	Contractor	Vehicle Rollover	3			Driver: serious back injury, ankle, and lower leg; Crewmember #2: knee injury. Crewmember #3: neck abrasion. 3 transported to hospital
8/30	Pleasant Fire Dozer Burn Over Northern Region CA	Initial Attack	Contractor	Burnover/Entrapment	1	1		Smoke inhalation and dizziness, transported to hospital
8/31	Los Padres NF Vehicle Accident Fatality Los Padres NF CA	Driving Returning from Incident	Federal/USFS	Vehicle	1		1	1 fatality on-scene
9/2	Liberty Fire Entrapment Flathead Agency MT	Extended Attack	Federal/USFS	Entrapment	3			None reported
9/2	Jade Creek Fire Tree Strike Okanogan-Wenatchee NF WA	Chainsaw Operations	Federal/USFS Federal/BLM	Hazard Tree	1			First aid and medevac, transported to hospital
9/3	Whitewater Fire Faller Hit by Tree Top Willamette NF OR	Chainsaw Operations	Federal/USFS	Hazard Tree	1			Laceration and bruised shoulder, transported to hospital
9/3	Pyramid Peak Fire Medical Extraction Wallowa-Whitman NF OR	Initial Attack	Federal/USFS	Hazard Tree	1			UNK

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9/4	Railroad Fire Burn Injury Sierra NF CA	Mop-Up	Local Government	Medical Burns	1			Burn injury to hand, transported to hospital
9/6	Chetco Bar Fire Cardiac Event Rogue River-Siskiyou NF OR	Fire Camp	Contractor	Medical Heart Attack	1			Collapsed then CPR and medevac, transported to cardiac center
9/10	Norse Peak Fire Burn Injury Okanogan/Wenatchee NF WA	Mop-Up	UNK	Medical Burns	1			Burns to both hands and wrists, transported to hospital
9/11	Jolly Mountain Fire Water Tender Rollover Okanogan-Wenatchee NF WA	Driving At Incident	Local Government	Vehicle Rollover	1			Minor facial lacerations
9/12	Rice Ridge Fire Entrapment Lolo NF MT	Structure Protection	Federal/USFS	Entrapment	2	1		None reported
9/12	Hauser Road Engine Rollover Montrose Dispatch CO	Driving Returning from Incident	Federal/USFS	Vehicle Rollover	3			One broken rib and minor cuts, treated and released
9/23	Kelsey/Jones Fire Faller Hit by Branch Willamette NF OR	Chainsaw Operations	Contractor	Hazard Tree	1			Hit by branch, treated and released
9/26	Engine Wheel Stud Malfunction Princeton OR	Driving Returning from Incident	Federal/BLM	Vehicle	4			None reported

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10/2	Liberty Fire Excavator Tip Over Flathead Agency MT	Post-Suppression	Contractor	Heavy Equipment	1			None reported
10/7	Brian Head Fire BAER Fatality Utah DNR UT	Post-Suppression	Contractor	Other Struck by Object	1		1	Blunt force trauma from falling debris
10/14	Work Capacity Test Rhabdo Virginia DOF VA	Work Capacity Test Arduous	Local Government	Medical Rhabdomyolysis	1			Fatigue, tight chest and headache, treated at hospital
10/16	Nuns Fire Water Tender Fatality Napa CA	Driving At Incident	Contractor	Vehicle Rollover	1		1	1 fatality on-scene
10/19	Mendocino Lake Complex Vehicle Rollover Novato CA	Driving	Local Government	Vehicle Rollover	1			Fractured collar bone and minor laceration, treated and released
10/26	Coyote RX Fire Entrapment Coconino NF AZ	Prescribed Fire	Federal/USFS	Entrapment	6			None reported
11/3	Work Capacity Test Heart Attack Huron Manistee NF MI	Work Capacity Test Arduous	Federal/USFS	Medical Heart Attack	1			Short of breath, staggering then collapsed, transported to hospital
12/5	Creek Fire Dozer Rollover Los Angeles County CA	Initial Attack	City/Los Angeles FD	Heavy Equipment Rollover	1			Laceration to the head and multiple contusions to the upper torso

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12/9	Thomas Fire Entrapment Los Padres NF CA	Firing Operations	State/CalFire	Burnover/Entrapment	68-est	3		None reported
12/9	Tom's Mill Fire Hit by Tree Ozark-St. Francis NF AR	Chainsaw Operations	Contractor	Hazard Tree	1			Three fractures to his pelvis. Four days in the hospital
12/11	Oklahoma VFD Vehicle Accident Fatality OK	Driving	Local Government VFD	Vehicle	1		1	Transported to hospital. Passed away on 12/14/17
12/14	Thomas Fire Entrapment Fatality Fillmore CA	Extended Attack	State/CalFire	Entrapment	1		1	Fatal thermal injuries and smoke inhalation
Total					186	5	14	

For calendar year 2017 there have been **14** fatalities:

(4) **Vehicle**

- (1) Fire apparatus rollover
- (2) Vehicle collisions
- (1) Water tender rollover

(3) **Medical**

- (1) Heart attack
- (1) Post-wildland fire training
- (1) Fitness training

(0) **Aviation**

(2) **Burnover/Entrapment**

- (1) Fell from the back of firefighting apparatus
- (1) Entrapped while suppressing spot fires

(3) **Hazard Tree**

- (1) Struck by green tree
- (1) Struck by tree
- (1) Faller struck by tree

(2) **Other**

- (1) Laceration from chainsaw
- (1) Blunt force trauma from falling debris

The Risk Management Committee would like to request any Fire Agency/Organization that experiences a fatality(s), or entrapment(s) to follow the guidance provided in [National Mobilization Guide](#) , Chapter 10, page 8 Wildland Fire Entrapment / Fatality. In the event that a wildland fire entrapment or fatality occurs, it should be reported immediately to the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC). A Wildland Fire Entrapment/Fatality Initial Report should be completed and mailed to NICC electronically or by fax machine within twenty-four (24) hours.

Annual Incident Review Summaries from the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center can be found at:
<https://www.wildfirelessons.net/viewdocument/annual-incident-review-summaries>

Many specific accident investigation reports/reviews/analysis may be found at the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center repository at:
<http://www.wildfirelessons.net/IRDB>

For corrections, [please click here.](#)