



# SAFETY GRAM 2018



**Fatalities, Entrapments and Accident Summary for 2018** (<http://www.nwccg.gov/committees/risk-management-committee/resources>) The following data indicates the fatalities, [entrapments](#), [burnovers](#) and [fire shelter deployments](#) during calendar year 2018. The information was collected by the [Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center](#) and verified by the NWCG Risk Management Committee.

## Fatalities

| Date | Incident Name<br>Jurisdiction<br>Location                                 | Activity                      | Agency/Entity<br>of Personnel<br>Involved | Type of<br>Accident        | Number<br>of<br>People | #<br>Shelters<br>Deployed | Fatalities | Injuries/Treatment  |
|------|---|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------|---|
| 1/26 | <a href="#">Puerto Rico Pack Test Fatality</a><br>San Juan<br>Puerto Rico | Work Capacity Test<br>Arduous | Local Government                          | Medical                    | 1                      |                           | 1          | Cardiac Arrest  |
| 2/28 | <a href="#">Water Tender Accident Fatality</a><br>New London<br>TX        | Initial Attack                | Local Government<br>VFD                   | Vehicle                    | 3                      |                           | 1          | 2 injured, 1 fatality                                     |
| 3/10 | <a href="#">Grass Fire Fatality</a><br>Ellinger<br>TX                     | UNK                           | Local Government<br>VFD                   | UNK<br>(Suspected Medical) | 1                      |                           | 1          | Incident date: 3/10<br>Deceased: 3/23                     |
| 3/12 | <a href="#">Hazard Tree Mitigation Fatality</a><br>Olympic NF<br>WA       | Chainsaw<br>Operations        | Federal<br>USFS                           | Medical                    | 1                      |                           | 1          | Fell unconscious,<br>transported to<br>hospital. Deceased |
| 3/15 | <a href="#">Grass Fire Fatality</a><br>UNK<br>OH                          | Initial Attack                | Local Government                          | Medical<br>Heart Attack    | 1                      |                           | 1          | Fell ill and collapsed<br>on 3/16.<br>Deceased: 3/16      |

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|------|---|------------------|---|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------|--|
| 4/12 | <a href="#">Shaw Fire</a><br>Cheyenne<br>OK   | Initial Attack   | Local Government                          | Entrapment          | 2                      |                           | 1          | 1 fatality; 1 FF with 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree burns.  |
| 4/18 | <a href="#">Rocky Mount Fatality</a><br>VA  | Initial Attack   | Local Government<br>VFD                   | Medical             | 1                      |                           | 1          | Neck and back pain on 4/18.<br>Deceased: 4/19  |
| 4/21 | <a href="#">Training Hike Fatality</a><br>CA Dept. of Corrections<br>CA             | Fitness Training | State<br>CDC                              | Medical             | 1                      |                           | 1          | Collapsed, treated on scene. Deceased  |
| 6/6  | <a href="#">Scenic Loop Complex Fire Fatality</a><br>UNK<br>TX                      | Extended Attack  | Local Government                          | Medical             | 1                      |                           | 1          | Firefighter was medevaced via helicopter and then fixed wing and died en route to hospital |
| 7/4  | <a href="#">Hague VFD Fatality</a><br>Hague Volunteer Fire<br>Department<br>NY      | Travel           | Local Government<br>VFD                   | Medical             | 1                      |                           | 1          | Firefighter became ill and collapsed.  |
| 7/14 | <a href="#">Ferguson Fire Dozer Rollover Fatality</a><br>Sierra N.F.<br>CA          | Initial Attack   | State<br>CAL FIRE                         | Vehicle Rollover    | 1                      |                           | 1          | Fatal Dozer rollover   |
| 7/26 | <a href="#">Carr Fire Entrapment Fatalities</a><br>California Northern Region<br>CA | Dozer Operations | State<br>CAL FIRE                         | Entrapment          | 7                      |                           | 2          | Multiple separate entrapments involving burn injuries and the two fatalities.              |
| 7/29 | <a href="#">Ferguson Fire Hit by Tree Fatality</a><br>Sierra N.F.<br>CA             | UNK              | Federal<br>NPS                            | Hit by Tree         | 1                      |                           | 1          | IHC Captain hit by tree  |
| 8/9  | <a href="#">Carr Fire Vehicle Accident Fatality</a><br>Northern Region<br>CA        | Driving          | State<br>CAL FIRE                         | Vehicle Accident    | 1                      |                           | 1          | Trauma from vehicle accident.  |

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|------------------------|---|----------------|---|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---|
| 8/13                   | <a href="#">Ranch Fire Fatality</a><br>California Northern Region<br>CA | UNK            | Local Government                          | Hit by Tree         | 1                        |                           | 1                    | Task Force Leader hit by tree.  |
| 8/27<br>DOD 9/4        | <a href="#">Horns Mountain Fire Fatality</a><br>Colville N.F.<br>WA     | UNK            | Contractor                                | Medical             | 1                        |                           | 1                    | Firefighter found unconscious day after returned from Horns Mountain Fire (8/28). Diagnosed with pneumonia which became septic. Date of Death: 9/4/2018 |
| 10/20                  | <a href="#">Earling FD Fatality</a>                                     | Initial Attack | Local Government                          | Medical             | 1                        |                           | 1                    | Fell ill on scene.  |
| 10/24                  | <a href="#">CA OES Fatality</a>   | UNK            | State<br>OES                              | Medical             | 1                        |                           | 1                    | Acute medical emergency during meeting.   |
| <b>Fatality Totals</b> |   |                |   |                     | 27<br>People<br>involved | 0<br>Shelters<br>Deployed | <b>19 Fatalities</b> |   |

### Fatality Summary

|                   |                              |                   |
|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Vehicle 3</b>  | <b>Burnover/Entrapment 3</b> | <b>Aviation 0</b> |
| <b>Medical 11</b> | <b>Hazard Tree 2</b>         | <b>Other 1</b>    |

### Non-fatal Incidents

| Date | Incident Name<br>Jurisdiction<br>Location                                     | Activity                      | Agency/Entity<br>of Personnel<br>Involved | Type of<br>Accident              | Number<br>of<br>People | #<br>Shelters<br>Deployed | Injuries/Treatment  |
|------|---|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| 5/27 | <a href="#">Horse Park Entrapment</a><br>Montrose BLM<br>CO                   | Scouting                      | Federal<br>USFS                           | Entrapment                       | 3                      |                           | Three firefighters were entrapped; one fire shelter was removed from case but not fully deployed  |
| 6/27 | <a href="#">Initial Attack Engine Burn Damage</a><br>BLM<br>UT                | Initial Attack                | Federal<br>BLM                            | Entrapment<br>Equipment Burnover | 3                      |                           | Type 6 engine damaged, no injuries  |
| 7/5  | <a href="#">Klamathon Fire Engine Entrapment</a><br>Northern Region<br>CA     | Engine Operations             | State<br>CAL FIRE                         | Entrapment<br>Equipment Burnover | 2                      |                           | Type 3 engine damaged, two firefighters suffered burn injuries transported to hospital  |
| 7/26 | <a href="#">Carr Fire Entrapment</a><br>California Northern Region<br>CA      | Scouting<br>Engine Operations | State<br>CAL FIRE                         | Entrapment<br>Burn Injury        | 8                      | 1                         | 3 Dozers, 1 Engine Crew, and 2 overhead were entrapped at separate locations. One dozer operator deployed shelter after receiving burn injuries. Total number of firefighters hospitalized or treated unknown |
| 7/28 | <a href="#">Grassy Ridge Fire Shelter Deployment</a><br>Idaho Falls BLM<br>ID | Firing Operations             | Federal                                   | Entrapment<br>Burn Injury        | 1                      | 1                         | Firefighter received burn injuries, then deployed shelter on two-track road. Treated on scene.  |
| 8/11 | <a href="#">Grass Valley Fire Entrapment</a><br>Okanogan County<br>WA         | Engine Operations             | Local Government                          | Entrapment<br>Burn Injury        | 1                      |                           | Separated from engine and received burn injuries. Transported to burn unit  |
| 8/15 | <a href="#">Stone Fire Initial Attack Incident</a><br>Modoc NF<br>CA          | Initial Attack                | Federal<br>USFS                           | Entrapment                       | 16                     |                           | Six Helitack and ten engine crew members were entrapped and extracted by helicopter. No injuries  |
| 8/16 | <a href="#">North Eden Fire Entrapment</a><br>Rich County<br>UT               | Initial Attack                | Local Government                          | Entrapment<br>Equipment Burnover | 3                      |                           | Two fire engines destroyed, no injuries   |

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|--------------------------------|--|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 8/18                           | <a href="#">Sheep Creek Fire<br/>Entrapment</a><br>BLM<br>NV                           | Initial Attack    | Local Government<br>VFD                   | Entrapment<br>Equipment Burnover | 2                               |                                  | Type 4 engine damaged, two firefighters suffered burn injuries transported to burn center                              |
| 8/19                           | <a href="#">Mendocino Complex -<br/>Ranch Fire Burn Injuries</a><br>Mendocino NF<br>CA | Firing Operations | State and<br>Local Government             | Entrapment<br>Burn Injuries      | 6                               |                                  | Six firefighters were entrapped. All received burn injuries, one dislocated shoulder. All were transported to hospital |
| 10/22                          | <a href="#">Brushy Mountain RX<br/>Engine Burnover</a><br>Mendocino County<br>CA       | Engine Operations | State<br>CAL FIRE                         | Equipment Burnover               | 0                               |                                  | Type 3 engine destroyed, no injuries   |
| 11/8                           | <a href="#">Camp Fire Multiple Burn<br/>Injuries</a><br>Butte County<br>CA             | Firing Operations | State<br>CAL FIRE & CDC                   | Entrapment<br>Burn Injuries      | 3                               |                                  | Three firefighters were entrapped. All received burn injuries and were transported to medical care                     |
| <b>Serious Accident Totals</b> |  |                   |   |                                  | <b>48</b><br>People<br>Involved | <b>2</b><br>Shelters<br>Deployed |  |

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 on this form: [PMS 405-1 Fire Entrapment / Fatality Initial Report](#). 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 to the above information [please click here](#).