



SAFETY GRAM 2020

Fatalities, Entrapments and Accident Summary for 2020 (<http://www.nwcg.gov/committees/risk-management-committee>) The following data indicates the fatalities, [entrapments](#), [burnovers](#) and [fire shelter deployments](#) during calendar year 2020. The information was collected by the [Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center](#) and verified by the NWCG Risk Management Committee. This information is updated through 1/22/2021.

Fatalities

Date	Incident Name Jurisdiction Location	Activity	Agency/Entity of Personnel Involved	Type of Accident	Number of People	# Shelters Deployed	Fatalities	Injuries/Treatment
2/23/2020	Indianola Volunteer Fire and Rescue Fatality Indianola Volunteer Fire Department Indianola, NE	Initial Attack	Local Government VFD	UNK (Medical)	1	0	1	Firefighter collapsed after initial attack.
5/21/2020	Salmon-Challis National Forest Firefighter Fatality Salmon, ID	Fitness Training	Federal USFS	Medical	1	0	1	Firefighter complained of left arm numbness during PT, was hospitalized to treat a heart condition, and passed away from an

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								apparent heart attack.
7/07/2020	Polles Fire Helicopter Crash Tonto National Forest Payson, Arizona	Helicopter	USFS Contractor	Aviation	1	0	1	UNK
7/30/2020	Bishop Fire SEAT Fatalities BLM Nevada Ely District Caliente, NV	Fixed-Wing	BLM Contractors	Aviation	2	0	2	UNK
8/11/2020	Stagecoach Fire Fatality Big Pine Volunteer Fire Department Kern County Big Pine, CA	UNK	Local Government VFD	Medical	1	0	1	Firefighter suffered a medical emergency, was transported to the hospital, and passed away from an apparent heart attack.
8/20/2020	Hills Fire Helicopter Crash Fresno County, CA	Helicopter	State Contractor	Aviation	1	0	1	UNK
8/24/2020	White River Fire Helicopter Crash Mt. Hood National Forest Wamic, OR	Helicopter	USFS Contractor	Aviation	1	0	1	Pilot fatally injured when helicopter impacted terrain during bucket/suppression operations.
8/31/2020	August Complex – Tatham Fire Fatality Mendocino National Forest Tehama County, CA	Extended Attack	USFS Contactor	Burnover/Entrapment	3	0	1	An engine backed up and off the road and was burned over. 1 firefighter suffered fatal thermal injuries. 1 firefighter was transported to a burn center for treatment.

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9/17/2020	El Dorado Fire Fatality San Bernardino National Forest CA	UNK	Federal USFS	Burnover/Entrapment	1	0	1	UNK
9/18/2020	Archie Creek Fire Fatality Umpqua National Forest OR	UNK	UNK Contractor	UNK	1	0	1	Skidgeon operator was found unresponsive in his vehicle at a fire staging area.
9/22/2020	Schill Fire SEAT Fatality Idaho BLM Emmett, ID	Fixed-Wing	BLM Contractor	Aviation	1	0	1	Firefighters on the scene rendered medical aid and called for life flight, but the pilot did not survive his injuries.
					14	0	12	

Fatality Summary

Vehicle 0	Burnover/Entrapment 2	Aviation 6
Medical 3	Hazard Tree 0	Other/Unknown 1

Non-fatal Incidents

Date	Incident Name Jurisdiction Location	Activity	Agency/Entity of Personnel Involved	Type of Accident	Number of People	# Shelters Deployed	Injuries/Treatment
6/13/2020	Sheep Fire Engine Entrapment and Burnover Major County, OK	Initial Attack	Local Government VFD	Burnover/Entrapment	2	0	Firefighters taken to a local hospital where they were treated for smoke inhalation and released.
7/20/2020	Gold Fire Shelter Deployment CAL FIRE Lassen Modoc Unit Adin, CA	Initial Attack	Local Government	Burnover/Entrapment	2	2	Firefighters transported to a local hospital. One was treated for smoke inhalation. One was later flown to a burn center.
7/24/2020	Badger Fire Entrapment Benton County Kennewick, WA	Initial Attack	Local Government VFD	Burnover/Entrapment	4	0	No injuries.
8/21/2020	Woodward Fire Extraction Point Reyes National Seashore CA	Scouting	Local Government VFD	Burnover/Entrapment	2	0	No injuries.
9/5/2020	Bridger Foothills Entrapment and Shelter Deployment Custer-Gallatin National Forest Bozeman, MT	Extended Attack	State	Burnover/Entrapment	3	2	3 firefighters deployed in 2 shelters. All 3 were able to walk from the deployment site for medical evaluation and transport.
9/7/2020	Inchelium Complex Burnover Colville Agency Inchelium, WA	Initial Attack	Federal BIA	Burnover	2	0	Vehicle burned. No injuries.
9/8/2020	Dolan Fire Entrapment Los Padres National Forest CA	Extended Attack	Federal USFS	Burnover/Entrapment	15	12	4 firefighters were medically treated, 3 were hospitalized with burn and smoke inhalation.
9/9/2020	North Complex West Zone Shelter Deployment CAL FIRE Butte Unit	Extended Attack	State	Burnover/Entrapment	15	12	2 firefighters were transported for medical evaluation, 1

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	Oroville, CA						received follow up treatment at a burn center.
9/27/2020	Glass Incident Shelter Deployment Napa County, CA	Initial Attack	State	Burnover/Entrapment	6	2	2 firefighters were evaluated by paramedics who confirmed no injuries.
10/26/2020	Silverado Fire Entrapment Orange County CA	Initial attack	Local Government	Burnover/Entrapment	2	0	2 firefighters sustained burns and are receiving treatment.
Serious Accident Totals					53 People Involved	30 Shelters 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: [Wildland Fire Fatality and Entrapment Initial Report, PMS 405-1](#). 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](#).