



SAFETY GRAM

FINAL

Fatalities, Entrapments and Serious Accident Summary for 2011 (<http://www.nwcg.gov/branches/pre/rmc/>)

The following data indicate the fatalities, entrapments, burn-overs and other life-threatening accidents and injuries associated with wildfire in calendar year 2011. The information was collected by the NWCG Risk Management Committee, with confirmation of the fatalities from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

Date	Incident Name Jurisdiction Location	Activity	Agency/Entity of Personnel Involved	Type of Accident	Number of People	# Shelters Deployed	Fatalities	Injuries/Treatment
1/06	Fire # Five Oklahoma State OK	Initial Attack	State/Oklahoma State Forestry	Vehicle (rollover) Dozer	1			Operator suffered a broken shoulder blade
1/29	Pepper Ridge Fire Oklahoma State OK	Initial Attack	County/VFD/ Rogers County	Burnover Medical (burns)	1	0		FF received 2 nd and 3 rd degree burns to his hands
1/29	Smokey Hill Wind Farm Fire Lincoln County KS	Initial Attack Engine operations	County/VFD	Burnover Type 6 engine stalled, FFs burned while retreating to safety zone	2	0		FFs moved to burn unit, received 2 nd & 3 rd to face, neck, hands, and arms
2/17	Scotts Chapel Road Fire Kentucky Division of Forestry, KY	Initial Attack Line Construction	State/Kentucky Division of Forestry	Hazard Tree Struck by rolling 11"dbh snag, rolling him into fire on 9/7/10	1		1	FF received severe brain injuries and 2 nd degree burns to legs. Died due to the brain injuries.

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2/21	McCormick Highway Fire Lincoln County GA	Initial Attack	County/VFD Martins Crossroads	Burnover Medical (burns)	1	0		FF received 2 nd & 3 rd burns to 26% of body, transferred to Augusta Burn Center
2/24	Post Wildland Fire Training Exercise Westport, KY	Post Wildland Fire Training	County/VFD Westport	Medical (heart attack)	1		1	2 hours following fire training FF dies at home
2/28	Snyder Creek Prescribed Fire Unit Lakeview, OR	Prescribed Fire Driving	Federal/BLM/Lake view District	ATV Accident	1			ATV operator suffered broken tibia after being thrown over front of ATV and ATV landed on leg
3/01	Iron Horse Fire Brevard/Volusia Counties FL	Initial Attack	County/VFD Mims	Burnover Medical (burns)	1	0		FF received 2 nd degree burns to face, transferred to burn unit
3/13	Georgia Shrimp Fire McIntosh County GA	Initial Attack Tractor/Plow burn over	County/ McIntosh	Burnover Medical (burns)	1	0		FF received flash burns to eyes & 1 st degree burns to eye lids
3/30	Hike San Jacinto Ranger District, San Bernardino NF CA	Fitness Training	Fed/ FS	Medical (heart attack)	1			FF collapsed, was gave CPR and transferred to local hospital
4/9	Road U Fire Moore County TX	Initial Attack	County/VFD Cactus	Burnover	4	0	1	FF received 3 rd degree burns over 60% of body and died 4/20/11
4/15	East Sidwynicks Fire County Road 323 Eastland County TX	Initial Attack	County/VFD/Eastlan nd	Vehicle Struck By (FF was seeking safety and was struck by a vehicle)	2	0	1	FF died from blunt force trauma from being struck by vehicle

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4/22	Theford Fire NE	Initial Attack	County/VFD/Valentine	Entrapment (fire truck & crew entrapped, escape route blocked at gate)	2	0		FFs treated at local hospital and one FF transferred to burn unit
4/29	Bull Fire Coronado NF AZ	Line Construction (located at helispot)	Federal/FS	Burnover	2	0		FFs transported to hospital, both FFs received 2nd degree burns
5/6	Paynes Bay Fire Alligator River NWR Manteo, NC	Initial Attack	Federal/FWS	Burnover Truck & Marsh Master received extensive damage	2	0		No injuries reported
5/22	Miller Fire Gila NF Silver City, NM	Mop-Up	Federal/FS	Medical (burns) (FF stepped in burned out stump hole)	1			FF received 2 nd and 3 rd degree burns on calf, transferred to burn center in PHX
5/24	YT Ranch Fire TX	Initial Attack	County/VFD / Kermit	Burnover	1	0		FF airlifted to University Burn Center in Lubbock
6/7	Horseshoe 2 Fire Coronado NF AZ	Line Construction	Federal/FS	Entrapment (en-route to safety zone FFs took refuge in rock cabin)	2	0		FF cut his hand while making entrance to cabin
6/16	Hastings Fire Alaska Division of Forestry Fairbanks, AK	Mop-Up	Federal/FS	Hazard Tree (fire weaken tree fell on its own, striking FF in head & back)	1			FF sustained head, shoulder, and rib injuries
6/17	Abilene, TX	Driving/Responding to Incident	Federal/BLM & FS	Vehicle/Struck By (private vehicle)	3			One team member received spinal injury
6/20	Blue Ribbon Fire Hamilton County FL	Line Construction (Tractor/Plow units got stumped)	State/Florida Division of Forestry	Burnover (operators died en-route to safety zone)	4	0	2	2 FF sustained smoke and heat related injuries

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7/4	Mt. Emma Road Angeles NF CA	Driving, Returning to quarters after completing recon	Federal/FS	Vehicle Rollover (crew carrier left road way and rolled down embankment)	9			7 FFs treated & released from local hospital, 2 FFs admitted for further evaluation
7/7	CR 337 Fire Texas Forest Service Mineral Wells, TX	Mop-Up	Federal/BLM	Medical Hyperthermia	1		1	
7/7	Chickasha Fire OK	Initial Attack Fire apparatus operations	Local/VFD /Pocasset	Burnover	2	Unknown		2 FF treated for 2 nd and 3 rd degree burns
7/24	Diamond Fire Fort Apache Agency AZ	Initial Attack	Federal/BIA	Medical Heart Attack	1		1	
7/29	Road 160 Fire Noble County OK	Initial Attack	Local/VFD / Perry Fire Department	Medical Hyperthermia	1		1	Stopped breathing on fire, received CPR & ALS, died at hospital
8/11	Coal Canyon Fire Black Hills NF SD	Initial Attack	State/South Dakota	Entrapment	3	3	1	2 State FFs evacuated by life flight, treated at hospital burn unit
8/28	Roads 32 & 39 Jasper County TX	Initial Attack (recon of 2 fires)	County/VFD/ Angelina River Fire Dept.	ATV (collided with pickup truck)	1		1	
8/29	Salt Fire Salmon-Challis NF ID	Line Construction	Contractor	Entrapment (dozer operator & transport driver used a fire shelter as shield from intense heat)	2	1		No injuries reported, tractor /trailer destroyed by fire

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9/11	Jessieville-Winona- Fourche Ranger District Ouachita NF AR	Prescribed Fire	Federal/FS	Entrapment	1	1		FF suffered 2 nd degree burns on face and hands, transported to burn unit in Little Rock
9/12	Pagami Creek Fire Boundary Water Canoe Wilderness, Superior NF MN	Evacuation	Federal/FS	Entrapment (wilderness rangers' escape route was cut off and deployed shelters for protection)	6	6		Minor injuries and smoke inhalation reported
9/21	Local High School Track Chequamegon-Nicolet NF	Work Capacity Test Arduous	Federal/FS	Fitness Testing	1			FF diagnosed with "Compartment Syndrome" and Rhabdomyolysis"
10/02	Grindstone Fire BLM-Twins Falls District ID	Initial Attack (scouting for dozer line)	Federal/BLM	ATV Roll Over	1			FF diagnosed with a cervical strain, strained muscles in neck & back and bruised left knee
10/05	Highway 47 Fire BIA-Lower Brule Agency SD	Initial Attack	County/VFD/ Kennebec Rural Fire Department	Burnover	2	0		FF received burns to face, ears, hands and smoke inhalation. FF treated at hospital
10/05	Unknown Fire Name Eastern SD	Initial Attack Engine Operations	County/VFD/ Unknown Department	Entrapment	2	0		FFs suffered minor burns to necks and faces. Engine was a total loss.
10/05	Unknown Fire Name Hutchinson County Tripp, SD	Initial Attack Engine Operations	Local/VFD /Tripp Fire Department	Entrapment	2	0		One FF twisted ankle, One FF received 2 nd degree burns to face and arms treated at hospital

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TOTAL					70		11	

For calendar year 2011 there were (11) fatalities:

Medical Emergencies: (4) One FF had a heart attack two hours following fire training. Two FFs died from hyperthermia. One FF found deceased from a heart attack.

Entrapment/Burnover: (4) One FF was entrapped and received severe burns and succumbed to injuries 11 days later. Two FFs were burned over while conducting tractor/plow operations. One FF was burned over during initial attack.

ATV: (1) One FF died when ATV collided with pickup truck.

Hazard Tree/Snag: (1) One FF received severe brain injuries and 2nd degree burns to his legs when he was struck & rolled downhill by a snag.

Other: (1) One FF was entrapped and was trying to seek safety when struck by vehicle on road.

Aviation (0)

Noted non-fatal events:

- (17) Burnover / Entrapment
- (5) Vehicle / Equipment and ATV accidents
- (1) Hazard tree related injuries
- (1) Burn related injuries
- (1) Heart attack
- (1) Heat related illness; Rhabdomyolysis

The Risk Management Committee would like to request any Investigation Reports from agencies that experienced the above or other fatalities, entrapments, and major accidents in 2011 or previous years. Safety Gram reporting criteria can be found at <http://www.nwcg.gov/branches/pre/rmc/safety-grams.htm>. Specific accident reports/reviews maybe found at the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center repository at: <http://iirdb.wildfirelessons.net/main/Reviews.aspx>

Please mail reports to the following address or email them to Stan Palmer: s80palme@blm.gov
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