



SAFETY GRAM

Fatalities, Entrapments and Serious Accident Summary for 2012 (<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 2012. The information was collected by the NWCG Risk Management Committee, with confirmation of the fatalities from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Incidents with reports available are hyperlinked (blue underlined text), click on incident name to view report.

Date	Incident Name Jurisdiction Location	Activity	Agency/Entity of Personnel Involved	Type of Accident	Number of People	# Shelters Deployed	Fatalities	Injuries/Treatment
1/04	Cuesta Camp San Luis Obispo Unit Cal Fire CA	Training Physical Fitness	State/CAL FIRE	Medical Emergency Unknown	1		1	
1/08	Marshfield Grass Fire State of Missouri, Forestry MO	Mop Up	City/Marshfield Fire Department	Hazard Tree Falling limb (8" to 12")	1			FF received severe head injuries
2/28	Blue Eye Fire Southern Stone County AR	Initial Attack	State/Arkansas	Hazard Tree Struck by falling tree	1			FF found unconscious, transported to hospital
3/2	Prophetstown State Park Lafayette IN	Training WCT Arduous	State/Indiana Department of Natural Resources	Medical Emergency Arterial blockage	1			FF collapsed on the trail, CPR & AED used to revive, then transported to hospital

Date	Incident Name Jurisdiction Location	Activity	Agency/Entity of Personnel Involved	Type of Accident	Number of People	# Shelters Deployed	Fatalities	Injuries/Treatment
3/19	Heart Strong Fire Yuma County CO	Initial Attack	State/Wages VFD	Entrapment	3			3-FFs received 2 nd degree & 3 rd degree burns, transferred to burn center
4/3	LA County FD Camp14 Santa Clarita CA	Training Physical Fitness	State/Los Angeles County Fire Department	Medical Emergency Heart Attack	1		1	
4/9	Pine Barrens Fire Manorville NY	Initial Attack Engine Operations	State/Manorville VFD	Entrapment Engine became disabled and FFs retreated to the back	3			1 FF received 1 st & 2 nd degree burns to hand, face and ears. 2 FFs treated for smoke inhalation
4/12	Grass Fire Casper, Andrea Lane WY	Driving Responding to fire	State/Natrona VFD	Medical Emergency Stroke	1		1	FF died 4/18
4/15	109 Lonetown Road Redding CT	Driving Responding to fire	State/Redding VFD	Medical Emergency Heart Attack	1		1	
6/3	White Rock Fire BLM Ely District NV	Aviation Initial Attack Retardant drop	Contractor	Aviation Air Tanker 11 crash	2		2	
6/8	Montezuma Fire Papago Agency, Sells, AZ	Driving Extended Attack En route to fire	Federal/BIA	Driving Engine rollover	3		1	1FF treated and released. 1 FF hospitalized
6/27	Clay Springs Fire Oak City UT	Initial Attack Engine Operation	State/Oak City Fire Department / VFD	Entrapment	3			3 FF treated at local hospital for 2 nd degree burns. 2 FF transferred to burn center in SLC, UT

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7/1	White Draw Fire Black Hills National Forest SD	Aviation Extended Attack	North Carolina Air National Guard	Aviation MAFFS C-130 air tanker crash	6		4	2 crewmen were treated at regional hospital
7/7	Burn Unit 233 Apalachicola National Forest FL	Prescribed Fire Firing Operations	Federal/FS	Entrapment	1	1		No injuries sustained
7/10	Briley Mountain Fire; Oregon Dept. of Forestry; Highway 126E Near Prineville OR	Driving Responding to fire	Contractor Type 2 contract crew	Driving Crew van collided with tractor/trailer	10			9 FF treated and released from hospitals. 1FF remained in hospital; accident occurred at 0215
7/14	Flat Fire Shasta-Trinity National Forest CA.	Extended Attack Line Construction	Federal/FS	Entrapment	4			No injuries sustained
7/20	Border #14 Fire ½ mile inside Mexico Cal Fire CA	Initial Attack Line Construction	State/CAL FIRE	Medical Heat Illness	2			FFs transported to hospital, 1 FF stayed overnight, 1 FF stayed two days
7/24	Ash Creek Fire Custer National Forest NE	Extended Attack Fireline ATV operations	Federal/BLM	Driving ATV rolled backward flipping onto operator	1			FF received broken bone (clavicle) and bruises
7/25	Penn Fire Skunk Ranch Road Cal Fire CA	Initial Attack Engine Operation	State/CAL FIRE	Driving Engine Struck by civilian vehicle	1			FF received a major lower leg injury
7/28	Ridge Top Fire Fort Hall Reservation ID	Extended Attack Fireline ATV operations	Federal/BLM	Entrapment	1			FF treated at local hospital for 1 st & 2 nd degree burns and referred to burn center in SLC, UT

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8/12	Steep Corner Fire Nez Perce–Clearwater NF Orofino ID	Extended Attack Line construction	Federal/FS	Hazard Tree FF struck by falling tree	1		1	
8/12	Holloway Fire BLM Winnemucca District McDermitt NV	Extended Attack Line construction	Federal/BIA	Entrapment Retreating to safety zone, FF was separated from crew and deployed shelter	1	1		FF received minor (quarter size) burns to leg, forearm and experienced smoke inhalation
8/15	Taylor Bridge Fire Southeast Region, Washington DNR WA	Extended Attack Line construction	State/Local Fire District	Entrapment	1			FF received 3 rd degree burns to face and hands
8/18	Buck Fire Cal Fire, Southern Region CA	Pre-Suppression Preparing for day's assignment	State/CAL FIRE	Medical Emergency Heart Attack	1		1	FF was found unresponsive, transported to hospital ICU. FF died August 19
8/20	Chips Fire Plumas NF CA	Extended Attack Mop Up	Contractor Faller	Hazard Tree Falling limb (5")	1			FF treated for concussion and released from local medical facility
8/23	MM 71- I-84 Fire BLM- Boise District ID	Initial Attack Engine Operation	Federal/BLM	Medical Emergency Burns	1			FF received burns to wrists and elbows, treated & released from regional hospital
8/25	North Pass Fire Mendocino NF CA	Extended Attack Holding Line	CAL FIRE /CA Municipal FD	Entrapment	5			One engine burned, crew of second engine sheltered in vehicle. No injuries.

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8/25	Trinity Ridge West Fire Boise NF ID	Extended Attack Mop-up	Federal/BLM	Hazard Tree During bucking operation a 24"dbh 40' log rolled over FFs	3			2 FF were treated and released to full duty and 1 FF treated and released home
9/5	Likely Fire BLM- Northern California District CA	Initial Attack Line construction	State/CAL FIRE	Entrapment FFs passed through the flame front to safety zone	3			3 FF received 1 st & 2 nd degree burns to nose and face, treated and released
9/17	Klone Fire Okanogan/ Wenatchee National Forest WA	Extended Attack Line Construction	Contractor/Timber Faller	Medical Emergency Heart Attack	1		1	
10/11	Saddle Salvage Natural Fuels Kootenai National Forest MT	Prescribed Fire Firing Operations	Federal/FS	Medical Emergency Fuel spill, burns	1			FF received 2 nd /3 rd degree burns to 20% of body. Referred to Seattle burn center
11/11	Fort Wayne Intersection Fort Wayne IN	Driving Responding to brush fire	Volunteer/ Washington Township FD	Driving Water tender rollover	1		1	
11/13	State Highway 68 Southwest of Taos NM	Driving Returning from incident	Federal/BLM & FS	Driving Crew carrier rollover	9			2FF seriously injured & hospitalized, 7FF treated and released
12/20	Florida Center for Wildfire Training Brooksville, FL	Training Chainsaw operations	State/Florida Forest Service	Hazard Tree Felling Operation S-212 Training	1			FF received head &neck injuries, abrasions and numbness to right side, airlifted to hospital
TOTAL					77	2	15	

For calendar year 2012 there were 15 fatalities:

Nature of Event	Number of Occurrences	Number of People Involved
Driving	2	1 FF died when an engine left the roadway and rolled over. 1 FF died when water tanker failed to make right hand turn and rolled over several times
Entrapment/Burnover	0	
Medical Emergencies	6	2 FF suffered medical emergency during physical training. 1 FF died while responding (driving) to brush fire. 1 FF suffered a stroke when responding (driving) to a grass fire, died 6 days later. 1 FF was found unresponsive and died of an unknown medical emergency one day later in CA. 1 timber faller became ill on the fireline.
Hazard Tree/Snag	1	1 FF died when a burned out spruce tree fell over on its own.
Aviation	6	2 retardant aircraft contractors, pilot and co-pilot died when aircraft struck the ground on approach to drop area. 4 National Guard crewmen died when a C-130 struck the ground following a retardant drop.
Other	0	

Noted non-fatal trends:

Nature of Event	Number of Occurrences	Number of People Involved
Entrapment	10	25
Hazard Tree	5	7
Burns	2	2
Heat Illness	1	2

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 20](#) page 48 Wildland Fire Entrapment / Fatality. In the event that a wildland fire entrapment or fatality occurs, it should be reported immediately to National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC). A

Wildland Fire Entrapment/Fatality Initial Report should be completed and mailed to NICC electronically or by fax within twenty-four (24) hours.

Many specific accident investigation reports/reviews/analysis may be found at the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center [Incident Review Database: http://iirdb.wildfirelessons.net/main/Reviews.aspx](http://iirdb.wildfirelessons.net/main/Reviews.aspx)