

Staff Ride

Resources



Wildland Fire Leadership Development Program

Loop Fire – Audio Transcript

Interview With George King, Stand #5

[Interviewer] These are excerpts from a December 2003 interview with Gordon King, who was the El Cariso hotshot superintendent at the time of the Loop fire.

[Gordon] Don't ever take anything for granted. The most seemingly innocent event can be tragically deadly. You have more control over a firestorm than you do, thinking that you're in the clear, and not preparing yourself for it. That's basically what I think. I wasn't prepared for what happened, because I wasn't in that mode. I was thinking cold trail, down the bottom hill, no big deal. Just work our way down slowly. Don't get hit by the rocks, and we'll be out of here in a couple of hours.