

NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP
SAFETY & HEALTH WORKING TEAM

SAFETY GRAM

ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SUMMARY; FATALITIES AND ENTRAPMENTS 94-01

The following data indicates the 1993 major accidents and entrapments associated with wildland fire suppression. There were 8 fatalities and 38 firefighters entrapped. The information was collected by the NWCG Safety & Health Working Team, with confirmation from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE OF ACCIDENT	ORG.	ENTRAPPED	SHELTER DEPL./NOT DEPL	FATALITIES	INJURIES
01/31/93	Lufkin, TX	Heart attack	Volunteer			1	
03/10/93	Putnam Cnty, FL	Burn over	State	1 person	Not deployed		Burns
04/22/93	San Ysidro, NM	Burn over	USFS	16 persons	4 depl./12 not	1	None
05/27/93	Coronado NF, AZ	Burn over	USFS	1 person	1 deployed		None
06/17/93	Coronado NF, AZ	Burn over	USFS	1 person	1 deployed		None
07/09/93	Monhiggan Lake, NY	Heart attack	Volunteer			1	
08/15/93	Florahome, FL	Heart attack	Volunteer			1	
08/20/93	Angeles NF, CA	Burn over	L.A. County	9 persons	5 depl./4 not	2	Burn/inhalation
09/06/93	Forest Grove, OR	Apparatus roll	Volunteer			1	
10/23/93	Bodfish, CA	Burn over	USFS	2 persons	Not deployed		Burn
10/27/93	L.A. County, CA	Burn over	L.A. City	4 persons	Not deployed		Burn
11/02/93	Malibu, CA	Burn over	CDF	4 persons	1 dep./3 not		Burn/inhalation
11/15/93	Howell, NJ	Struck by vehicle	Volunteer			1	

These accidents reinforce the need for being continually alert to the "Situations That Shout Watch Out" and ensuring that all of the "10 Standard Fire Fighting Orders" are followed before initiating tactical operations.

A simple concept to remember and share with crew members is: "L.C.E.S." The acronym stands for Lookouts, Communication, Escape Routes and Safety Zones. If a fire crew has these four areas fully established and understood, then they can anticipate a safer assignment.

The Safety & Health Working Team would appreciate notification from agencies that experienced other entrapments or major accidents in 1993. Please forward to:

National Interagency Fire Center
NWCG/SHWT - Stan Palmer
3905 Vista
Boise, Idaho 83705