



SAFETY GRAM

Fatalities, Entrapments and Serious Accident Summary for 2013 (<http://www.nwcg.gov/branches/pre/rmc/>)

The following data indicate the fatalities, entrapments, burnovers and other life threatening accidents and injuries associated with wildfire in calendar year 2013. 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
2/06	Mark Twain NF MO	Training Work Capacity Test	Federal/FS	Medical Emergency Compartment syndrome	1			Surgery on legs
2/24	Brush Fire Church Hill TN	Post Suppression	State/Carters Valley VFD	Medical Emergency Unknown	1		1	
3/03	Mackay Island Fire Mackay Island NWR NC	Initial Attack	State/Knotts Island/VFD	Medical Emergency Unknown	1		1	
3/10	Horseford Road Fire Francis Beidler Forest St. George SC	Driving Responding to fire	State/Dorchester County Fire Rescue	Driving Injuries sustained when vehicle left roadway and struck a tree	1		1	Injuries sustained when vehicle left roadway and struck tree
3/28	Prescribed Fire Lebanon-Stanton Road Hunterdon County NJ	Prescribed Fire Roadway operation	State/New Jersey Forest Fire Service	Struck by vehicle Visibility obscured by smoke	1		1	

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3/28	Traffic Accident State Highway2 Wilburton OK	Driving Returning to headquarters	State/Oklahoma Forestry Services	Driving Type 6 Engine struck by civilian vehicle	1			Treated and released with sore left shoulder
4/11	Traffic Accident St. Johns NWR SR 407 Brevard County, FL	Driving Patrolling and familiarization for detailed crew	Federal/ FWS	Driving Type 6 Engine struck by civilian vehicle	2			No injuries reported
4/16	Training Hike Boise NF Idaho City ID	Training Physical fitness hike	Federal/BLM	Medical Emergency Rhabdomyolysis	1			Treated at hospital overnight and released
6/10	Saddleback Fire South Warner Wilderness Modoc NF CA	Initial Attack	Federal/FS	Hazard Tree FF was struck by a falling limb	1		1	
6/13	Thompson Ridge Fire Bernalillo District NM State Forestry NM	Extended Attack	Federal/BLM-EFF	Medical Emergency Rhabdomyolysis	1			FF overnigheted at hospital, restricted to light duty, released to normal duty 6/24
6/16	Big Meadows Fire Rocky Mountain NP CO	Extended Attack	Federal/FS	Medical Emergency Cardiac arrest	1			FF collapsed, AED used to resuscitate FF, then transported to a Denver hospital
6/27	Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP Three Rivers, CA	Training Physical fitness run	Federal/NPS	Medical Emergency Heat illness	1			FF collapsed, then transported to a Fresno hospital. Later diagnosed with Rhabdomyolysis.
6/30	Yarnell Hill Fire Phoenix District AZ State Forestry AZ	Extended Attack	City/Prescott City Fire Department	Entrapment	19	19	19	

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7/05	Training Run Sawtooth NF ID	Training Physical fitness run	Federal/USFS	Medical Emergency Heat stroke Rhabdomyolysis	1			FF hospitalized for four days
7/06	Brush Fire Loris County SC	Post Suppression	State/Loris Fire Department	Medical Emergency Stroke	1		1	
7/08	Pardee Fire BLM- Coeur d'Alene District ID	Initial Attack Dozer operation	Contractor	Medical Emergency Heart attack	1		1	
7/21	Bradley Fire Salmon-Challis NF ID	Initial Attack Engine operation	Federal/FS	Medical Emergency Hot water burns	1			1 FF sprayed by hot water from pump, 1 st /2 nd degree burns to chest
7/24	Northern Pueblos Agency Ohkay Owingeh NM	Training Work Capacity Test	Federal/BIA	Medical Emergency Heart attack	1		1	
8/01	Fire 398 Deschutes NF OR	Initial Attack Felling operation	Contractor	Hazard Tree FFs struck by top of tree they were felling	2		1	1 FF treated and released with shoulder injury
8/06	Big Windy Complex BLM- Medford District OR	Driving Water tender returning to ICP	Contractor	Driving, rollover Water tender	1		1	Operator pronounced dead at scene
8/08	Highway 450 Thunder Basin Grassland WY	Driving Responding to fire	Federal/FS	Driving, rollover Type 4 Engine	3			3 FFs treated at hospital and released
8/10	Grassy Mountain Fire BLM- Vale District OR	Extended Attack Supporting dozer operation	Contractor	Medical Emergency Heart attack	1		1	

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8/24	Little Fire San Bernardino NF CA	Extended Attack Line construction	Federal/FS	Entrapment	4	3		
8/25	Nabob Fire Siskiyou NF CA	Rehab operation	Contractor	Medical Emergency	1		1	
8/29	Kelly Fire BLM-Twin Falls District ID	Extended Attack Suppression operations	State/ Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry	Medical Emergency Heat illness	1			FF Treated at hospital, diagnosed with Rhabdomyolysis
8/30	Schoolhouse Mesa Incident Santa Fe NF NM	Driving Responding to a reported fire	Federal/FS	Driving ATV crash in rough terrain	1		1	FF located 9/6
8/31	Windy Fire Tule River Agency-BIA CA	Initial Attack	Federal/BLM	Medical Emergency Hard parachute landing	1			Broken femur, emergency surgery, full recovery is anticipated
9/02	Raft Fire Payette NF ID	Extended Attack Line construction	Contractor	Driving Dozer rollover	1			Operator was transported to hospital in critical condition
9/7	Rim Fire Stanislaus NF CA	Extended attack Mop up	Federal/State	Medical Emergency Burns	1			FF stepped in stump hole, 1 st /2 nd /3 rd degree burns to lower leg
9/27	Smokejumper Accident Smith Prairie ID	Smokejumping Research & development	Federal/BLM	Smokejumping Parachute failed to deploy properly	1		1	
10/17	Springboard Fire Washington State DNR Arcadia District WA	Extended Attack Suppression operations	State/Washington State DNR	Hazard Tree	1		1	A burned tree fell into FF (not a tree felling incident)

Date	Incident Name Jurisdiction Location	Activity	Agency/Entity of Personnel Involved	Type of Accident	Number of People	# Shelters Deployed	Fatalities	Injuries/Treatment
TOTAL					56	22	34	

For calendar year 2013 there have been (34) fatalities:

- Driving: (3) 1 FF died in a vehicle/tree collision while responding to a fire in SC. 1FF died when contract water tender left roadway and rolled down embankment in OR. 1FF died in an ATV crash in NM.
- Entrapment/Burn over: (19) 19 FFs died in a fire in AZ.
- Medical Emergencies: (8) 1 FF died following a response to a brush fire in TN. 1 FF died on initial attack in NC. 1 FF died when struck by vehicle on a NJ prescribed fire. 1 dozer operator died while building fire line in ID. 1 FF died after returning from a brush fire in SC. 1 FF died while taking WCT in NM. 1FF died while constructing dozer line in OR. 1FF died while rehabilitating fireline in CA.
- Hazard Tree/Snag: (3) 1 FF died when struck by a falling portion of a tree in CA. 1 FF died after being struck by snag in OR. 1FF died when struck by a burned out tree (not a felling incident).
- Aviation: (1) 1 FF died when parachute failed to properly deploy during a research & development jump.

Noted non-fatal trends:

- (4) Entrapments/burn- over
- (4) Vehicle/Equipment and ATV accidents
- (0) Hazard Tree Related Injuries
- (2) Burn Related Injuries
- (7) Medical Emergency:
 - (1) Cardiac arrest
 - (1) Stroke

(5) Rhabdomyolysis

(1) Compartment syndrome

(1) Broken femur

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 the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC). A Wildland Fire Entrapment/Fatality Initial Report should be completed and sent to the 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 repository at: <http://www.wildfirelessons.net/IRDB>